

City of Auburn, Maine

Office of the City Manager



TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Howard Kroll, City Manager
RE: Weekly Report
DATE: Week Ending June 19, 2015

Auburn Public Library

- Our first Spring Online Auction was a success. We offered 37 items, had 84 bidders, and took in more than \$4,700. Plans are already underway for next year. We could not have done it without our generous donors and our trustees' support. Thank you all!
- Aaron Wardwell of Auburn has started as our part-time reference associate. Aaron brings experience in customer service, working with teens, and technology to the job.
- The Board of Trustees held their regular monthly meeting on Weds., June 17th, at 7:30 a.m. Among the items discussed were the success of the online auction, annual financial statements preparation, and strategic planning.
- In order to ensure compliance with the Child Internet Protection Act requirements of our Maine School and Library Network provided Internet connection, the Library held a public meeting on Thurs., June 18th, from 5 to 6 p.m. for comments on our Internet Acceptable Use Policy.
- The Library will be closed on Fri., July 3rd, and Sat., July 4th, for the Independence Day holiday.
- Upcoming programs include:
 - KIDS! Messy Art Workshops: Heather will lead kids from three- to-seven years in three messy, artistic projects in the Maggie Trafton Room on June 24 and 26th at 9:15 or 10:45, June 27th at 9:30 and July 1st at 9:15 or 10:45. Registration is required. Please register for only 1 session. Call the children's room at 333-6640 ext.3 for more information and to register.
 - Teens! Q+A with Outright L/A: Weds., 6/24, at 3 p.m. This summer, the Auburn Public Library has partnered with Outright L/A to offer Queers + Allies (Q+A), an exciting, youth-driven, and educational program where LGBTQQAI, identifying students and straight allies can work together to create a positive, fun space. Q+A will create the opportunity for an open and relaxed atmosphere where you can share in self-expression, exploration, support, and advocacy for political and social change. We will have awesome games, art projects, guest speakers, field trips and more! This program is part of the "Unmask!" Summer Reading Program, exploring the hero in

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you, is open to youth ages 13-18 (including recently graduated seniors), and meets in the Androscoggin Community Room.

- Teens! Media Club: Thurs., 6/25, at 4 p.m. Movies! Music! Graphic arts! If you can imagine it, you can create it in our Media Lab. Teens (ages 12-18) can join our Media Club. Make trailers, podcasts, and more that we'll post on our website. In the CREATE! Media Lab, second floor.
 - Meditation Class: Sat., 6/27, at 11 a.m. Take advantage of this free meditation class to help rejuvenate your mind and body after a busy week. This program takes place on the second floor in the local history room.
 - KIDS! Happy Birthday America: Thurs., 7/2, at 10 a.m. Our friends the Wallace family will present our annual "Happy Birthday America" story time with cake and a parade. Please call the library at 333-6640 ext.3 to register for this very special story time.
 - Auburn Page Turners: *Netherland* by Joseph O'Neil: Mon., 7/6, at 1 p.m. The Auburn Page Turners continue with their monthly book discussions with spirited comments on the novel *Netherland* by Joseph O'Neil. In a New York City made phantasmagorical by the events of 9/11, Hans--a banker originally from the Netherlands--finds himself marooned among the strange occupants of the Chelsea Hotel after his English wife and son return to London. Alone and untethered, feeling lost in the country he had come to regard as home, Hans stumbles upon the vibrant New York subculture of cricket, where he revisits his lost childhood and, thanks to a friendship with a charismatic and charming Trinidadian named Chuck Ramkissoon, begins to reconnect with his life and his adopted country.
- Follow the Library on Facebook or link to our website at www.auburnpubliclibrary.org for more information about all of our programs, new books, and more library news.

City Clerk

- Certified 6 petitions validating 120 signatures.
- Began entering the Voter Participation History for the June 9, 2015 election
- Worked on the June 15, 2015 minutes
- Prepared the agenda packet for the June 24, 2015 Appointment Committee meeting
- Issued 5 birth certificates, 74 death certificates, 6 marriage certificates, 6 marriage licenses, 11 burial permits
- Business licenses – received 2 new business license applications and 7 renewal applications. We issued 26 renewal licenses and 9 new licenses
- Issued 10 garage sale permits

Fire

- Staff had to deal with the re-occupancy of a building which had been placarded as uninhabitable by several city departments. No permits had been pulled for any of the work done to this building and no C of O had been issued. Staff is working with the new owners to insure the safety of the occupants.
- FPO O'Connell, City Electrician DeAngelis and City CEO Bourget investigated an accidental discharge of a fire suppression system in a local restaurant. Staff assisted the owners in re-opening the establishment before lunch time service began.
- Firefighters conducted Life Safety Inspections with our probationary firefighters as part of their training, to multiple businesses and multi-family occupancies.

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- Crews performed training in handling pediatric cardiac emergencies.
- Crews provided ongoing training for our 3 new hires with different areas covered each day.
- DC Allen and City Electricians DeAngelis and Soucy attended an 8 hour training program on electrical fires focusing on lighting fixtures and proper connections. This program was held in Yarmouth and was sponsored by the Maine Chapter IAAI
- FPO O'Connell was elected as the President of the Maine Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) for the 2015-16 year.
- Our previous probationary firefighters completed the final testing for their 1 year probationary status, and will soon be off probation.
- For the week of June 11th to June 17th, we responded to 78 calls for service. These include, but are not limited to: 3 Fire Alarms, 1 unauthorized burning, 53 Emergency Medical calls, 9 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 4 with injuries, 8 service calls, and 1 Hazardous Condition call. We provided 1 mutual aid call to Lewiston and 1 response to Poland, and received no mutual aid assist during this period. We provided 1 EMS Mutual Aid during this period.

Health and Social Services

- Our office has been approved to distribute Good Neighbor Vouches for the Goodwill industries of Northern New England for this coming fiscal year, this will be our third year having the vouchers. This past year we assisted 128 individual with \$2,560 value of coupons for the Goodwill stores.

IT

- Completed quality control on the planimetric mapping data for a pilot area, which includes Auburn's downtown. Overall, results were positive. Staff will work with the consulting firm to review and correct any QC issues, and the consulting firm will begin the complete planimetric update
- Responded to a request from the City Clerk's office to assist with a number of questions from the state regarding the relationship of a number of road sections to legislative district boundaries. Staff created an interactive mapping service that provided the clerk with the ability to research individual streets and addresses to determine which legislative district or ward to assign to the addresses.
- Staff worked with the planning department to develop a design model for an internal website that will provide a streamlined workflow, increased visibility, and improved document access for staff. The target audience for the website is the Planning Review Committee.
- Staff met with a locally-based audio/visual firm to prepare for the possible restructuring of the Great Falls TV operation.
- Staff met with the second of two candidates for the Database Inventory project. Both prospects have made excellent presentations, and either will serve us well, but they are very different organizations and will have very different approaches to the project. Department staff will need to meet with some of the other stake-holders to determine a selection
- The Department is making plans to accommodate three interns/temps for the summer. It's going to get a little crowded in here for the next few weeks...

Police

- The department handled 658 calls for service this week. Officers conducted 165 motor vehicle stops and 17 field interviews. Officers investigated 72 offenses of which, 11 of which

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were felonies, generating 13 arrests, 28 criminal summonses and 7 juvenile arrests. Officers responded to 45 motor vehicle crashes.

- Officer Don Cousins has been selected to be our next K9 Handler, replacing Officer Tyler Ham who has accepted employment in the private sector.

Recreation

- Want to keep playing pickleball this summer? Auburn Recreation has teamed up with Lewiston Recreation to offer Outdoor Pickleball. Now you can still play when the indoor season is over! Outdoor Pickleball is a tennis-styled sport that is played on a badminton sized court indoors or outdoors. The “Pickleball” is a plastic ball with holes that is served, volleyed, and rallied back and forth over a net using a wooden paddle. Beginning on June 25th, Pickleball will take place every Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30am-12:30pm at the Lewiston High School tennis courts on 156 East Avenue.
- Registrations continued for Flag Football, grades 1-2. Flag football is a fun game that introduces children to the basics of football. Participants learn the basics of offense, defense, the line of scrimmage, and other key elements of the game. Players will practice twice a week in preparation for games that begin in Early September and run through mid October.
- Registrations continued for Youth Football, grades 3-6. The Youth Football program is designed to develop the young players’ knowledge and skills of the game through instruction in proper techniques, fundamentals, conditioning, and terminology. Competitors participate in the Mid Coast Youth Football League (MCYFL) which is comprised of teams from: Bath, Brunswick, Gardiner, Lewiston, and Turner. Teams will have a weekly practice schedule beginning in early August, and a full game schedule which will run through the end of October.
- Registrations continued for Youth Football, grades 7-8. The Youth Football program is designed to further develop the young players’ knowledge and skills of the game through instruction in proper techniques, fundamentals, conditioning, terminology, and offensive and defensive schemes. Competitors participate in the Mid Coast Middle School Football League (MCMSFL) which is comprised of teams from: Turner, Oxford Hills, Brunswick, Bath, Mt. Ararat, Lewiston, Gardiner, and Mt. Valley. Teams will have a weekly practice schedule beginning in mid August, and a full game schedule which will run through early November.
- Registrations continued for Falcons Football Camp, grades 5-8. This week-long camp is a chance to dust off the cleats and hit the gridiron before the season begins! The camp focuses on football specific conditioning drills, skill and technique development, basic offensive and defensive schemes, as well as football terminology. This program is a great opportunity to prepare for the upcoming football season.
- Registrations continued for July Soccer Camp, ages 3-15. The GPS Portland Phoenix are coming back to Auburn this Summer! International licensed coaching staff and PDL players will work through a curriculum which includes: shooting, dribbling, passing, and control during this week long camp.
- Practice began for Youth Track & Field, ages 7-14. Coach Tom Menendez is back for his 21st season to guide the athletes through another fun-filled season. Tom brings to the program over 20 years of coaching experience at all levels. This program will provide instruction and training in traditional track & field events such as: sprinting, running, hurdles, relays, high jump, long jump and throwing events. Competition is offered through Maine USA Track & Field meets each Thursday beginning in late June. Five developmental

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meets will be followed by a division qualifying meet and the state meet in early August. At this time, a total of 104 children are registered for the program.

- Registrations continued for Golf Lessons, ages 8-16. Bob Darling, Golf Pro at Fox Ridge Golf Club will teach the fundamentals of golf in this great instructional program. These lessons are designed with a focus on the beginner and intermediate golfer. Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about a sport that will last a lifetime!
- Registrations continued for Summer Day Camp, grades Pre K – 8. Each day, the Summer Day Camp offers campers structured activities, games, and arts & crafts. One day each week, campers will go on a beach trip, where they will enjoy organized activities and swimming. Additionally, campers will have an excursion day/special event each week. This season, camp will take place 5 days a week (Monday-Friday), and will begin June 29th and conclude on August 14th for a total of 7 weeks. At this time, 214 children are registered for the program.
- Tee Ball practices and games continued, with the conclusion of the program on Saturday. In this program, players will be introduced to the basic concepts of baseball such as hitting, base running, fielding, throwing and catching. Teams of ten to twelve players will be formed where everyone plays in the field, and everyone is in the batting order. Batters hit the ball off a "t" stand to get on base and there are no walks or strikeouts. Players will test their skills in Saturday games beginning in early May (weather permitting). A total of 52 players are registered for this program.
- Mini-lacrosse clinics continued, and will conclude on Sunday. In this program, young players will be focused on basic skills like cradling, catching, shooting, and teamwork that will build a foundation for more advanced skills in the lacrosse program. A total of 32 players are registered for this program.
- Youth Lacrosse, grades 3-8, continued with practices and games, with the conclusion of the program this weekend. Lacrosse has become one of the fastest growing sports in the nation, and teams can be found at the professional, collegiate, high school, and recreation levels all around the country. Players will be introduced to skills, drills, techniques, and rules of the game, in addition to a regular practice schedule and full game schedule beginning in late April. A total of 86 players are registered for this program.
- Another all-new program choice, Line Dancing, concluded on Thursday. This class is instructed by Rina, who has over ten years of experience in this upbeat and fun form of dance. This introductory course will teach participants the Arizona Freeze, Cowboy Boogie, Boot Scootin' Boogie, Cowboy Charleston, and other dances. A total of 92 dancers have participated thus far.
- Pickleball continued into week 36 of the program, with the conclusion of the indoor season on Thursday. Pickleball is a tennis-styled sport that is played on a badminton sized court indoors or outdoors. The "Pickleball" is a plastic ball with holes that is served, volleyed, and rallied back and forth over a net using a wooden paddle. As of Thursday, there have been 631 participants, with new members coming in each day of the program. Pickleball will take place every Tuesday and Thursday, 9:00am-11:00am in the Hasty Community Center Gymnasium. The fee is \$2.00 for Auburn Residents and \$3.00 for Non-Residents.
- Adult Summer Basketball continued. The league is comprised of an A division and B division, with a total of 14 teams, and approximately 140 players registered.
- Adult Softball (Players and Co-ed leagues) continued. A total of 29 Players League teams and approximately 435 players are registered this season. A total of 21 Co-Ed teams and approximately 315 players are registered this season.

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- Staff conducted summer day camp staff interviews.
- Planning for upcoming youth and adult programs continued.