

Auburn

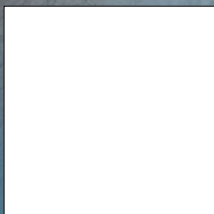
MAGAZINE · WINTER 2024

Small Repair, Big Difference

How Auburn's Housing
Repair Program Helps
You Stay Housed

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LOOK BACK AND
THANK GOD
FOR PROTECTING YOU



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SUMMER EXCHANGE PROGRAM



The Kent Auburn Tamba Sister Cities Association (KAT) is now recruiting Youth Ambassadors scheduled to travel during the summer of 2025.

Each year, youths from Auburn and Kent, Washington are selected to serve their communities as Youth Ambassadors to our sister city of Tamba, Japan. These ambassadors travel to Tamba for 8 to 10 days in the summer. There they live with host families, giving them a personal experience of Japanese culture. Upon their return, they host their Japanese “brother” or “sister” in their home in Auburn, or Kent for 8 to 10 days. Strong friendships are formed and the youth from both countries benefit from learning what makes us the same and what makes us unique.

Youth Ambassadors serve a 2 year commitment.

WHAT IT TAKES?

1. Students must have an interest in Japanese culture and be willing to travel.
2. Students must be in 8th, 9th, or 10th grade. They will travel to Tamba in the summer of their second year as Youth Ambassadors.
3. Students must live or attend school in Kent or Auburn, or have parents who work in Kent or Auburn.
4. Students must have a current United States Passport prior to leaving for Japan.
5. Students and their families must attend monthly meetings, help plan, organize, and run our yearly fundraising events for 2 years.
6. Families must pay up to half the cost of the airfare and provide spending money to their student.
7. Families must be willing and able to host a Japanese student in their home.

CONTACT US

chair@katsistercities.org
ya.chair@katsistercities.org

VISIT US ON THE WEB

katsistercities.org
Sister Cities Program - City of Auburn (auburnwa.gov)
Kent Sister Cities | City of Kent (kentwa.gov)

Auburn

MAGAZINE • WINTER 2024

Auburn Magazine is a quarterly publication produced by the City of Auburn.

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Where Castoffs Go to Heal and Grow

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City of Auburn Directory

Address

Unless otherwise noted, departments are located at City Hall, 25 W Main Street

CITY OFFICES

City Attorney
253-931-3030

City Clerk
253-931-3039

Community Development
1 E Main St, 2nd floor
253-931-3090

Emergency Management
1 E Main St, 3rd floor
253-876-1925

Engineering Services
1 E Main St, 2nd floor
253-931-3010

Finance
1 E Main St, 2nd floor
253-931-3033

Human Resources/ Risk Management
253-931-3040

Innovation & Technology
1 E Main St, 3rd floor
253-804-5078

Maintenance & Operations
1305 C St SW
253-931-3048

Mayor's Office
(Mayor, City Council and Administration)
253-931-3041

Office of Equity
1 E Main St, 2nd floor
253-876-1924

Parks, Arts & Recreation
910 9th St SE
253-931-3043
auburnwa.gov/play

Police
340 E Main St, Suite 201
253-931-3080
Emergency: 911
Non-emergency:
253-288-2121

Public Works
1 E Main St, 2nd floor
253-931-3010

Records Clerk
253-931-3007

Utilities (Billing)
1 E Main St, 2nd floor
253-931-3038

HOTLINES

Code Compliance
253-931-3020 opt. 4

Graffiti Hotline
253-931-3048 opt. 7

Pothole Patrol
253-931-3048 opt. 1

Spills and Water Pollution
253-931-3048 opt. 8

OTHER NUMBERS

Auburn Golf Course
29630 Green River Rd SE
253-833-2350
auburngolf.org

Auburn Municipal Airport
(Dick Scobee Field)
400 23rd St NE
253-333-6821

King County District Court—South Division
340 E Main St
800-325-6165 ext. 59200

Mountain View Cemetery
2020 Mountain View Drive
253-931-3028
mtviewcemeteryauburn.com

Senior Activity Center
808 9th St SE
253-931-3016
auburnwa.gov/seniors

Valley Regional Fire Authority
1101 D St NE (HeadQs)
253-288-5800
Call 911 in case of emergency
vrfa.org

White River Valley Museum
918 H St SE
253-288-7433
wrvmuseum.org

Auburn Mayor & City Council



Nancy Backus
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Deputy Mayor
lbrown@auburnwa.gov



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Councilmember
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Kate Baldwin
Councilmember
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Clinton Taylor
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Tracy Taylor
Councilmember
tjturner@auburnwa.gov



Cheryl Rakes
Councilmember
crakes@auburnwa.gov



Yolanda Trout-Manuel
Councilmember
ytrout@auburnwa.gov

Official City Council MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council Meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

Council Study Sessions are held on the second and fourth Monday each month at 5:30 p.m.

Meetings can be viewed live at auburnwa.gov/gatv.

Happy New Year!



Nancy Backus
Mayor of Auburn
nbackus@auburnwa.gov
253-931-3041

As we wrap up the year, it's time to reflect on what we've accomplished together and what lies ahead. Looking back at 2023, I can't help but think about the progress we've made in the city – progress in critical areas like public safety and the region-wide issue of housing the most vulnerable in our population. Despite the ever-present need for more – more affordable housing, more police officers on our streets – I'm proud of our city and the way we care and look after one another.

We kicked off the year with action by formalizing the creation of our Anti-Homelessness department, which will grow in 2024 with new staff. It's led by Director of Anti-Homelessness Kent Hay, who has made a meaningful and positive long-term impact on homelessness within our city in just a few short years. His team continues to connect with hundreds of unhoused people across the city, and the results are not only measurable, but they're also apparent. Throughout the year, he's been hosting livestreams on our City of Auburn Facebook page (QR code left), and you can see the results of his team's hard work with your eyes. There's still much to do, and I know he'll be the first to admit it. That's why we're looking for solutions wherever possible – like in tiny villages ([more on page 6](#)).



Speaking of progress, let's remember the Postmark Center of the Arts, which opened in September! Can you believe that? In that short period, the center has welcomed hundreds of guests through its doors, some for the first time in decades. The Postmark is beautiful, and the programming within is genuinely inspiring – you can [read more about it on page 18](#). And I hope this year you get a chance to see it first-hand.

I hope you've had a chance to catch our "That's so Auburn!" podcast – we're well into our second season. In my opinion, scheduling a half-hour or more to chat with unique humans in our community is time well spent. In 2023, I was able to catch up with our outgoing Junior City Council, reflect on Postmark and the yearslong journey to the grand opening, talk with our organizers of the Veterans Parade, and chat with Lucas Fernandez, who helped light up the tree in City Hall Plaza after our annual Lighted Santa Parade in early December.

This year-end is also bittersweet. We'll soon bid farewell to outgoing Councilmembers James Jeyaraj, Bob Baggett and Robyn Mulenga. I'm incredibly grateful for all the hard work these three have produced for this beautiful city, and I wish them the best in their future endeavors. Their passion for our city and our residents has not gone unnoticed, and Auburn is truly lucky to have them fighting in our corner. You'll have many opportunities to meet our newest councilmembers in the upcoming months – Tracy Taylor, Hanan Amer, and Clinton Taylor.

As we wind down the year, a heartfelt thank you – to you – for reading our magazine. Our staff takes pride in bringing you info about our community and local government that's educational and entertaining to read. Being a community means learning and growing - together.

Thank you for being part of Auburn – here's to more shared stories in the coming year!

With warm regards,

Nancy Backus

Finding solutions to homelessness can take a village -- in this case, a very small one

By Kent Hay, City of Auburn Director of Anti-Homelessness

Like most things in life, the best wisdom and lessons are learned when you step outside of your immediate surroundings. Why should solutions to end homelessness be any different?

Over the past few months, several cohorts of City of Auburn elected officials and staff have made a short trek southward to a small enclave of houses in Orting, Washington. Their goal is simple: find a housing option that works for folks who are never going to go into the type of housing that's currently available. The types of people who like living in an outdoor atmosphere. The types of people whose needs are not met by brick and mortar and hallways and linoleum.

The Orting Veterans Village, a permanent supportive tiny house village for homeless veterans in Orting that opened its doors in the spring of 2021, might just be that example – of the types of housing solutions for homeless people in Auburn, either transitional or permanent.

Partnering with the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs and the Puget Sound Veterans Hope Center, the Orting Veterans Village stands on 5+ acres at the Washington Soldiers Home in Orting and serves up to 35 homeless veterans.





The village is also anything but low barrier – it's structured, with a lease and rules, meaning people can be evicted just like an apartment. There is a no drug-use policy, with staff on site to ensure services are provided and that people contribute.

Since its inception, the Orting Veterans Village has continued to grow and evolve. Among the recent additions are a VA coffee support group, meeting twice a month in the village's dining room, and a monthly visit from the Pierce County Library, offering a selection of books and DVDs tailored to residents' preferences.

Walking through the area, the benefits are obvious and apparent. Each cabin is equipped with heating, electricity and a small bathroom, including a shower. Tenants, who are required to be sober, pay 30% of their income in rent each month, and keep their cabin clear of clutter. They use a communal kitchen nearby.

If you've spent time in the quiet corners of Auburn, you've likely noticed something remarkable: areas once filled with people camping on the fringes are now empty. It's no accident – a concerted, coordinated effort by City of Auburn outreach workers and police officers has led to the successful housing of hundreds of homeless people, with dozens more moving to shelters and on the path to permanent supportive housing.

But for the people the current system cannot supported – those who live outside the shelters, moving from camp to camp – a tiny home village might just be the answer they need. No more going from structure, to structure, to structure. A permanent house they can call their own.

Meaningful, long-term solutions are difficult to come by in the battle against homelessness, which is why it's important to keep an open mind. Examples abound – **are we ready to look wherever we can?**

Winter lineup of exciting programs and events
for *active* and *entertaining* experiences!



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with *recreation* and *fun!*



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A focus on health and wellness this winter might be the only resolution you need

By Kjerstin Lange, Recreation Coordinator - Fitness at Parks, Arts & Recreation

One day...or day one. The New Year is about new beginnings. It's a time for reflection, a time to set goals and plan for the future – often, those ambitions revolve around health and wellness. While it's not uncommon for people to set a goal of weight loss in the New Year, studies show a focus on good health leads to far greater benefits and long-term sustainability versus a weight loss emphasis alone.

In no particular order, here are six great ways to focus on your total health in 2024:

1. **Begin or continue an exercise routine.** Aim for 30 minutes a day most days. Most importantly, find an activity that you enjoy. Ask a friend or family member to join you for support and mix it up; try new activities and classes to keep variety in your routine. If you're not sure where to start, try joining a class at the Community Center and let our instructors run you through a range of activities.
2. **Get enough sleep.** You'll need seven to nine hours of sleep every night! Ensure quality sleep by turning off your electronics, doing light yoga or stretching before bed – or simply do something relaxing.
3. **Eat more fruits and vegetables.** Five to nine servings per day is recommended by the USDA. Getting adequate fruits and vegetables promotes a long and healthy life! Sneak extra servings into foods that you're already enjoying.
4. **Drink water.** Be sure to get enough water – at least 60 ounces per day. Staying well hydrated can improve your energy, control your calorie intake, hydrate your skin, and improve your kidney function.
5. **Build a strength training program.** Adding a strength training program to your fitness routine offers many important benefits, including: increased bone density, improved strength, supported joints, and improved sleep.
6. **Be social!** Maintaining social connections is an important part of good mental health. Participating in fitness programs at the Community Center allows members and participants an opportunity to meet new people, share goals and cheer for each other along the way.

Auburn Community Fitness has been helping Auburn stay active with several options to participate. 34 fitness classes each week are offered in at the Community & Event Center. Class offerings are available for a wide range of fitness levels so wherever you are in your fitness journey, there's a class to suit your needs. Whether you're just starting out or looking to mix up your current routine our instructors can offer you an excellent program. Additionally, a full fitness center is available for unlimited use and daily open gym programs like pickleball, and volleyball are available for a fun, social fitness experience.

Fitness Membership has many benefits including unlimited access to fitness classes; access to the Virtual Fitness Library of recorded classes; open gym programs; full access to the Fitness Center and drop-in childcare. Perhaps the most important benefit is the opportunity to be active with your friends and neighbors- fostering connections while growing strong and healthy. Auburn Community Fitness strives to provide a supportive and welcoming environment with a team of instructors to lead the way to a healthy life.



For more information:

Scan QR Code or visit:
auburnwa.gov/fitness

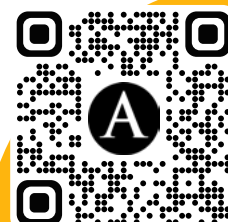




Photo courtesy of Joan Beard

Where castoffs go to heal and grow

An Interview between Auburn artist Marita Dingus and White River Valley Museum Director Rachael McAlister

See Dingus's Art on Exhibit at the White River Valley Museum Feb. 7 – May 26, 2024



It's a sunny fall day and I'm sitting outside with artist Marita Dingus, her six-toed cat and a handful of chickens. We are chatting at a patio table covered with small tools and bits of this and that in front of her childhood home, now art studio, she lovingly calls "Mommy's House." The suburban sprawl feels miles away here atop a hill nestled in the woods, surrounded on every side by Marita's sculptures. From the chicken coop to the kitchen, the living room, and the yard, you share space with her work – after all, you're in their home, too. Each piece feels as if it's always been exactly where it is. Yet every time I visit, I see something new, it's hard not to.

Marita is smiling, wearing one of her signature monochrome – upcycled and handcrafted – ensembles. This one is all blue; next year she'll be wearing all reds. A video camera is rolling to shoot a short documentary.

Today we talk about her life as an artist – and make preparations for her exhibit at the Museum in 2024.

This interview has been edited for clarity and length.

Can you tell us about your life and growing up here in Auburn and your experiences as a woman, an artist, and a person of color?

Auburn has, what was, a little racist community. The very fact that my family is sitting on this land here, this was outside the city limits of Auburn so when we bought out here, this (was) because this was outside the city limits of Auburn. They actually had a little, a very tiny little black community out here where there was about maybe five black families, out here that all had land. The Fields (family) which you guys already feature at the Museum, Leroy Fields and his, I think his mother's name was Kora, I remember his father was Mr. Fields. So, they were our neighbors and then there was Mr. Steele and Mr. Richardson and Mrs. Coleman, so these were all different black families that were out here they were our neighbors because we were unincorporated King County. (It was) Maybe 20, 30 years that Auburn Incorporated this area but then it's all so built, up I mean you've got this gorgeous high-end you know neighborhood right here on in back of us here. But anyway, the black families left and we stayed because we've, I've, always loved this place my mother's always loved this place.

It was rough because they bought the land in 1950 and then my dad put up this kind of shack made out of wooden pallets I think my mother had maybe three of us three children there was a total of seven so I think there was maybe three of us born by then and so she they lived in this Shack made out of wooden pallets while he constructed this house. He was an engineer he got hired by Boeing, so every paycheck he would buy a load of bricks and then I remember his name was Al, someone named Al who went to our church Holy Family, he would help my dad do the bricks 'cuz he was a brick layer so my dad and Al built the house the house didn't get finished till '56 which was the year I was born.

But I remember there was a small black community here, but everyone started leaving and I think Mr. Fields and our family were the last families up in here, and then Mr. Fields died, and his family sold the land to the cemetery. There wasn't hardly any black families here so I laugh now because I would walk down the streets of Auburn and I would see black people everywhere and I think going "wow" this is something else you know, if this was the way it was when I was a little girl I wouldn't had to go run into Seattle for you know my friends and my whole peer group thing. You know I could have just come into Auburn and hung out and I would have been in the neighborhood, so it's funny how Auburn has changed, and I smile to myself because (who) would have thought.

Tell me about your art career, where it started.

You know I announced to the family I was going to go to college and study art and nobody batted an eye, which people tell me that's kind of unusual 'cuz most families they wouldn't want their child wasting money going to college for art, but my family apparently was progressive enough to you say "you know if that's what she wants to do that's fine".

I went to University of Washington, Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia, went to Rome, Italy, after undergraduate school went to Morocco, then went to San State University for graduate school so I have eight years of art which is a lot of college devoted to art, but that's what happened. Before graduate school I was just painting and drawing, but in graduate school I had gone to Morocco and decided my art

needed to have more of a African focus to it, because Morocco is on the continent of Africa, and I clearly saw that Moroccan art didn't look like anything I saw in Rome. So I say, well since I am not of European descent, I'm of African descent I should do art that's in keeping with what comes off of the continent of Africa.

Painter Jacob Lawrence said to me you know you're a really good artist but you're making it harder on yourself by not painting and I knew what he was talking about and it's very true painters will get far more recognition and shows and blah, blah, blah. I've actually done really better than I thought I would I mean I am shocked when people get what I'm doing.

Where do you see yourself now in your career and where do you think it will go?

I say this to people, and they say "no, no it can't be true" but I really do think I'm towards the end of my career and it's okay. I taught for 40 years. I've been a professional artist for probably 35 years, 30 years probably, I've taught art a ways, meaning I started teaching when I was 19. It was my work. It was a steady job and I taught at Rotary boy's club. So, I started teaching art before I actually became an artist. So, you know to me 30 years as an artist that's pretty good and 40 years teaching art that's really good. It's okay and also, I am aware that I need to back-up and give the young people their stage because I have had my turn and they need to have a turn.



I do want to keep this house, as you know maybe the Marita Dingus Museum or gallery or whatever so this whole idea of my legacy, that's still important to me but as far as me being out there you know getting projects, getting work, I'm ready to back off.

But Marita does have one big exhibit coming up at the White River Valley Museum in 2024...

I'm so happy to be doing this in Auburn. I've been here all my life, and my entire art career has been in Seattle. I've always said you know the folks in Auburn they don't know who I am or what I do you know, and they probably don't care and that's all right but I'm glad finally I get to you know introduce myself to Auburn and do something out here in Auburn. This is my home, this is my community, so I'm really grateful and happy that you're giving me this venue this opportunity.

Can you tell me about the title of your upcoming exhibit?

Where castoffs go to heal and grow, and I initially think of the houseless population because they are definitely castoffs, and if there was some place where they could heal and grow, you know heal and fix themselves. You know we are all broken in one way or the other and some more broken than others. So you know for me castoffs, almost is like human beings that are cast off you know and when I make my art I have this statement about Africans were used during the institution of slavery and then discarded after the institution was over, and then I think about Mexicans you know we want them over here to pick our apples are asparagus, but you better go back to Mexico when you're done. So this idea of using people and then discarding.

What do you do with broken things, I mean in a lot of societies you throw them away, but in some societies, you try to fix them. So, you know I consider fixing clothing, fixing art.

If you could fix one thing, what would it be?

If I could fix one thing, oh gosh in our society? Racism that, that's a bad one.

We end up killing people again and again and you know it's happened throughout history, where because someone is different or someone acts different, in the case where you're broken, or whatever and then it's like you know you've got to get rid of it. I think what happened in Germany I mean that that was in our lifetime, well our parents' lifetime. That you would deem a group of people as being broken or inept or whatever and then you just get rid of them. Are some people worth saving and other people are not worth saving? So, if we could just appreciate you know, everybody where they are and truly try to fix things that would be nice.



Where Castoffs Go to Heal and Grow Opening Reception:

Feb. 7 | 5-7 p.m.

Marita Dingus Artist Talk: Feb 29, 2 p.m.

R.S.V.P for these programs at wrvmuseum.org

White River Valley Museum

918 H Street SE, behind the Auburn Library

Open Wednesday – Sunday, noon- 4 p.m.

Admission is Free!



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Hot Lunch - Week Days

The Auburn Senior Activity Center hosts a weekday lunch program on site that is operated and managed by Catholic Community Services.

Chef Deb serves delicious, cooked from scratch, balanced meals in a welcoming dining room setting. Lunch is held Monday-Friday in the dining room.

11:30 a.m. | Dining Room Opens
Noon | Meal served

\$4.50 suggested contribution;
\$6.50 for those under 60

AUBURN SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

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- In-home Assistance

Auburn Senior Center
Pacific Senior Center
Federal Way Senior Center

South King County Senior Center Hub

Hub Hotline: 253-470-2098

skchub@auburnwa.gov



King County

Veterans, Seniors & Human Services Levy

That's So Auburn!

A podcast with
Mayor Nancy Backus

Join Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus as she discusses all things Auburn! She'll help you get to know the best place in South King County and she hopes you'll listen in with open hearts and open minds.



To listen scan QRCode
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Search "That's So Auburn"




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DID YOU KNOW?

State law provides two tax benefit programs for senior citizens and the disabled: **property tax exemptions and property tax deferrals.**

Yet more than 26,000 qualified seniors and disabled persons have yet to register for the exemption, and only 1 in 100 of those eligible for deferrals are currently enrolled. Details of these two programs are provided below. The process of applying is fairly simple. Under certain circumstances, you may be eligible for a property tax deferral or exemption.

Senior Citizens/Disabled Exemption Qualifications:

- Annual household income of \$58,423 or less
- Own and occupy a house, mobile home, condo or co-op
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- Retired because of disability, or
- Veteran with a 100% service-connected disability
- You are a widow, or widower, or state registered domestic partner at least 57 years of age whose spouse or state registered domestic partner had an exemption at the time of death.

Once qualified, you continue to benefit from the exemption but any change in circumstances must be reported to the assessor to avoid penalties. For information, call 206-296-3920 or the Senior Center.

THIS MEANS YOU!

APPLICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANCE FILLING OUT THE FORMS AVAILABLE AT AUBURN SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER

808 9th St | 253-931-3016 | auburnwa.gov





Small repair, big difference

How Auburn's Housing Repair Program kept a woman from losing her most prized possession: her independence

By Jonathan Glover, City of Auburn Communications Manager

At nearly nine decades old, Colleen Reece has something at her age most people don't: complete autonomy.

Because for most, independence is a fleeting privilege – you're born without it but quickly grow into it. You covet it, at times making it a part of your personality and perhaps a defining characteristic. You can be fierce about it or mutually reliant. But eventually, time wins. People grow old, and their homes that once stood as a testament to productivity become monuments to stillness.

But not for Colleen. She's home, today, at the same one she's had for years with no plans to vacate anytime soon. And all she needed was a little help from family and neighborly assistance down the road. And unexpectedly – a visit from the City of Auburn's Housing Repair Program.

"There's no way in the world I could be here in my house," Colleen says. "Not without this."

To the program's administrators – coordinator Joel Asbjornsen and

boots-on-the-ground technician Harold Showers – swooping in just as things are getting dour is par for the course. Fact is, Colleen isn't alone – annually, the program helps about 60-70 households across Auburn, and not a penny is exchanged.

The decades-old program provides eligible homeowners grants up to \$9,999 for emergency minor home repairs. Leaky roofs, unsafe stairs, floor repair, access for individuals with disabilities, and heating system repairs – all in a day's work. Should a resident meet the program's qualifying standards, Joel or Harold will conduct a thorough assessment of the home and tailor the improvements from there.

"We're able to help people who are really in need," says Harold. "A lot of people struggle."

To be eligible, residents must own a single-family home in Auburn city limits, have lived there for at least a year, meet the income requirements of the program which for one person must be below \$47,950 a year, and

provide proof of ownership.

After that, there's no saying where things might head. For Colleen, meeting Joel and Harold was complete happenstance – a random chance on a forgetful day that instead sticks in memory because of what happens next.

Two years ago, during a particularly intense heatwave, Puget Sound Energy was out to check on potential problems with Colleen's power. And when they came out to investigate alongside city workers, they noticed a particularly large step down from her dining room to her garage.

"I asked if she wanted another step and a grab bar," says Joel. "She said, 'Oh yes, I never even thought of that.'"

A small step for a man, but a giant leap for a woman in her late 80s who now had safe and easier access again to her garage – a privilege she'd learned to live without for several years.

"All of a sudden I could go in and out without fear of falling," Colleen says.



Then last year around November, Colleen was out raking leaves, an activity she loved dearly. She came in feeling under the weather and by morning, she had chills and a fever. She tested for COVID, and while negative, knew something wasn't right. It wasn't like any sickness she'd had before.

But she did what she always did – she powered through and persevered. Even as the little voice in her head cautioned her otherwise.

"I kept thinking every day that I'd get better," Colleen says. "But I just didn't."

Try as she might, a hospital bed was calling, and by the time she'd checked in, she learned it was an infection. Weeks of IV bags full of antibiotics and nurses and doctors and calls with her insurance companies and calendars in Wesley Rehabilitation Center and lunch tray meals followed, capped off by the inevitability: it's time to return home.

But illness had other plans. Shortly after arriving, Colleen says she hit her head and back while in the bathroom, so it was back to the emergency room. And after round 2, and home again, she was barely able to walk across her short bedroom to the bathroom.

"Looking back, I don't think anybody, including me, knew how sick I was," says Colleen. "It was bad."

Colleen's niece remembered, though: those nice men who installed that step. Could they do something similar in her bathroom? A tub conversion into a

shower for easy access, and perhaps a rail as well?

Absolutely.

"They put a lot of urgency on getting some handrails installed," says Joel. "So that's what we did."

"We're able to help people who are really in need," says Harold. "A lot of people struggle."

If you visit her home today – and really, she'd be delighted – what you'll find is nothing out of the ordinary. And that's exactly the way it's meant to be. The newly-installed walk-in shower has sturdy handrails, blending with the wall as if they've always been there. The toilet is surrounded by a solid cage, meant to pull out when needed and be pushed back when not. Even the bathroom attached to Colleen's mother's room – which hasn't been occupied since 1992 – has a rail just in case.

What sounds minor to you or me is anything but to someone like Colleen. It's the literal difference between independence and reliance, the former being remarkably important for a woman who's had just that since first stepping into adulthood.

A writer by trade and a good one at that, Colleen is used to dealing with

editors and publishers and readers and the kind of block that only goes away when a good idea is cooking.

She knows what it's like to teach a group of adults how to put pen to paper in community education classes at Green River College, where she taught for many years starting in 1978, and for the Auburn Senior Center. She knows what it's like to have boyfriends and suitors, not one of them ever making the cut for a husband. She knows what it means to say confidently – and mean it – that nobody is responsible for me but me.

The clock is ticking, of course, and she'd be the first to tell you her days living at home, alone, are limited. As a woman of faith, she smiles and takes one day at a time. And for now, a little bit longer is just enough to make the biggest difference.

"It's all thanks to you," Colleen says. "To the City of Auburn."



For more information:
Scan QR Code or visit
auburnwa.gov/housingrepair

Postmark Center for the Arts | Gallery Exhibition

“Muckleshoot: Alive & Strong” | Jan. 17-March 22, 2024

By Allison Hyde, Parks, Arts and Recreation Arts Supervisor

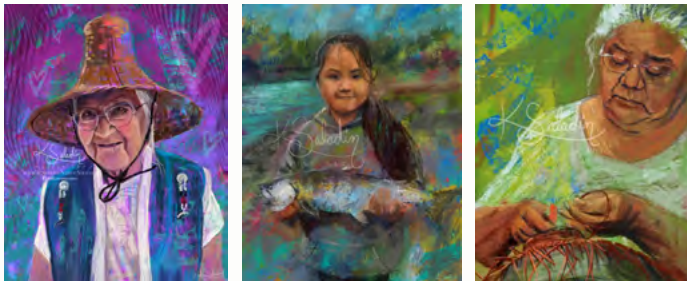
The Postmark Center for the Arts is proud to present “Muckleshoot: Alive & Strong,” a group exhibition featuring artists from the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe. The Postmark Gallery and Vault Gallery will be filled with artwork in a variety of mediums, sizes, and themes by many incredibly talented artists from Jan. 17 through March 22. A public open house and artist reception will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. for individuals to meet the artists and learn about their work.



Exhibiting artists showcasing work include:



Artists **Keith Stevenson** and **Tyson Simmons**, who work in a variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional media, will be showcasing their carvings and prints. These two talented artists are Lead Cultural Arts Educators for the Tribe, and are “committed to the support, cultivation, preservation, and sharing of cultural traditions.” Stevenson and Simmons have been instrumental in several collaborations with The City of Seattle and were commissioned to create site-responsive and -integrated permanent artwork for the South County Recycling and Transfer Station Project. Additional projects include commissions for the Burke Museum and a project for the Seahawks at CenturyLink Field.



Digital painter **Kim Saladin** often works with imagery of the Muckleshoot tribe in daily life - preserving Muckleshoot culture through depictions of family and tribe members beading, fishing, hunting, and canoeing. Saladin’s brightly colored portraits present an excited energy, that is softened by the subject’s outward gaze.



Founder of brand Generational Trauma, designer **Isiah Corwin** combines popular iconography with Indigenous symbolism to create designs that represent Native Peoples. Corwin is inspired by his personal and generational insight, and creates wearable artwork based on his passion to illustrate that experience.

“Generational Trauma came from an actual term used in therapy,’ says Isiah when asked what inspired the name. ‘Trauma that has been passed down from previous generations. That trauma may shape who you are and become today. As Native people, our ancestors experienced a great amount of trauma. That’s where it all starts. We are not weak people at all,’ he continues. ‘But it definitely has had an effect on how we live our lives today. Our brand acknowledges the trauma and struggles that many of our people have experienced.’”

– SlaughterHawk





Sam Obrovac, who works in a variety of media, will display artworks that draw from traditional Pacific Northwest and Coast Salish design. His work has been displayed at the Outlook Collection in Seattle and The Evergreen State College gallery. His designs have been featured on several collaborations including Turtle Fur and The Seattle Mariners. Obrovac is one of the many talented artists who had a hand in the creation of the carved cedar Welcome Figure that stands proudly outside the front of the Postmark Center for the Arts and was unveiled during the Grand Opening of the renovated building.

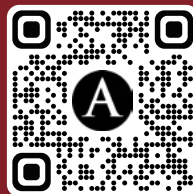
Weavings and beadwork by artists **Leila Sam** and **Joyce Starr**, along with prints and hand-painted objects by artist **Donny Stevenson**

The City of Auburn is thrilled to be partnering with these talented artists to represent Muckleshoot culture and the diversity of their contemporary art practices.

Make sure to check out the Postmark Center for Arts website, auburnwa.gov/postmark, for additional exhibit information, artist talks, classes and more during the upcoming exhibition.



A carved cedar Welcome Figure proudly stands at the entrance to Auburn's new Postmark Center for the Arts, bringing an iconic symbol of Muckleshoot culture into the heart of downtown Auburn. Grant funding from 4Culture's Creative Consultancy allowed the City of Auburn to collaborate with the Muckleshoot Tribal Culture Division and artist liaison Kathleen Fruge Brown to envision an artistically robust expression of Muckleshoot culture and land acknowledgement plaque at the new arts and cultural building. Artist carvers including **Sam Obrovac**, **Tyson Simmons**, and **Keith Stevenson** created a beautiful one-of-a-kind carved welcome figure that speaks strongly to the past and present cultural significance of the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.



For more information
Scan QR Code or visit
auburnwa.gov/postmark

Farewell, Civics Academy graduating class of 2023! Here's to looking forward to next year

By: Chris Lovings, Neighborhood Programs Coordinator

The smiling people you see to the right – that's the 2023 Graduation Class of Civics Academy at their graduation ceremony! These graduates now have more knowledge of how Auburn operates, how decisions are made, and how funds are spent in the city. Through 11 weeks and 15 sessions (including Thursdays and four Saturdays), the class offered residents and local community members the chance to look behind the scenes of Auburn city government.

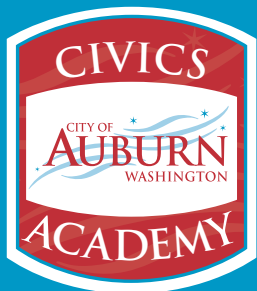
The ceremony, held in Council Chambers on Nov. 17, included a panel discussion about serving on a board/commission or in an elected capacity. We're so grateful to Aaron VanderPol (Planning Commissioner) and Councilmember Larry Brown (Auburn City Councilmember) for sharing their perspective and engaging with the graduates.

We're also grateful to the participants who are so invested in their city and local community! From activities that mimicked actual city decisions to field trips highlighting different areas around the city, along with some incredible food from local restaurants, the 2023 Civics Academy class has now seen different sides of municipal government, and we're excited to see them continue to support the Auburn community.



Civics Academy graduating class of 2023.

Want to learn more about the program, or be added to the mailing list for future classes? Reach out to Chris Lovings, Neighborhood Programs Coordinator (p: 253-876-1988 e: clovings@auburnwa.gov) or visit auburnwa.gov/civicsacademy.



Before you knock some department or someone down, learn about it. There might be a reason why something isn't getting done. Start with the Civics Academy Program.

- Pat D.

I wish people knew about the passion that the Auburn employees have about their jobs. I also think it's so important for citizens to meet the people doing these jobs to remind us that these services don't just happen, someone has to run things.

- Sheila C.

Neighborhood Programs is pleased to announce the 2024 Community Fund!

This program is designed for community members who live, work, or go to school in the Valley and Plateau areas of Auburn. The goal is to create connections between community members, their neighborhoods, and the city of Auburn. If you have ideas for a project in those communities that promotes community wellness, accessibility, inclusivity, and connectedness, you can submit them online or by connecting with Chris Lovings (Auburn's Neighborhood Programs Coordinator).

Ideas will be given by community members, the city will look at these ideas and choose ones that fit the scope of the program and present it to the community to be voted on. The voted project (or projects depending on the budget) will be completed by the city alongside community members. For more details and to submit your idea, visit speakupauburn.org/communityfund or contact Chris at clovings@auburnwa.gov.



P R O G R A M

WM Curbside Bulk Item Pickup Program

Waste Management Auburn residential garbage customers receive a FREE bulky item collection. Once per year, customers can schedule a pick-up of up to four bulky items.

ACCEPTABLE BULKY ITEMS:

Up to four (4) large items. No single item may weigh more than 300 pounds and easily lifted by two people. Limited to 8' in length and free of liquids, including oils and fuel. Please tape/tie closed any cords, etc. for easy handling.



- **Appliances** - Refrigerator or freezer (must be emptied), stove, cook top or hood range, clothes washer, clothes dryer, hot water heater, dishwasher, trash compactor, window or floor air conditioner, dehumidifier, water cooler, small furnace.
- **Furniture** - Sofa couch (no sleeper sofas), sectional sofa, loveseat, futon, recliners, lounge chair, ottoman, mattress & box spring (set counts as 1 item), bed frame & rails (set counts as 1 item), dresser, bookcase, desk, end table or nightstand (set), coffee table, dining table & chairs (set counts as 1 item), small entertainment center, filing cabinet.
- **Power Yard Equipment (Electric, motorized, or non-motorized)** - Trimmer, weed whacker, lawn mower (remove oil, fuels, batteries).
- **Large Power Equipment** - Table saw, chop saw, generator, snow blower, power washer. (remove oil, fuels, batteries).
- **Exercise & Recreation Equipment** - Treadmill, circuit trainer, rowing machine, exercise bike, elliptical, bicycle, basketball hoop (separate post from base), metal or wooden swing set (disassembled).
- **Miscellaneous**
 - BBQs (remove propane tanks, charcoal, ashes)
 - Rug or Carpet (rolls no longer than 6 feet by one-foot diameter)
 - Hot tub cover (only)
 - Ladder (6-foot limit)
 - Large plastic play toy & outdoor kiddie pool
 - Wheelbarrow
 - Microwave
 - Canopies (outdoor type pop-up or metal frame and no longer than 6 feet in length and 3 feet in diameter)
 - Vacuum cleaner
 - Child car seat or stroller
 - Artificial Christmas Tree

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:

This is not a complete list. For disposal options, visit www.auburnwa.gov/solidwaste Click on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Disposal (menu on left).

- **Garbage** - Household garbage, animal waste, food waste, tires, truck canopies, riding lawn mowers, hot tubs/jacuzzi tubs, etc.
- **Remodeling or Building Materials** - Doors, cabinets, bathtubs/tub walls, sinks, toilets, vanity's, countertops, carpets, flooring, sheet rock, insulation, roofing, cement blocks, decking, fencing, lumber, etc.
- **Hazardous Waste** - Batteries, fluorescent fixtures/bulbs, hazardous materials, propane tanks, chemicals, etc.
- **Electronics** - TVs, computer monitors, laptops, tablets, e-readers, portable DVD player, etc.
- **Vehicles & Parts** - Trailers, boats, seats, fenders, doors, canopies, engines, transmissions, etc.
- **Recycling** - Cardboard, paper, cans, bottles, etc.

Collection must be scheduled in advance and will occur on your regular service day. Be prepared to tell the customer service agent which bulky items you are placing at the curb. **Call 253-939-9792** to schedule your bulky item pickup.

For City of Auburn
Single-Family
Residents



Take charge and learn how to properly care for the batteries in your everyday electronics

By Kelly Hawks, VRFA Public Information & Education Officer

Did you know that lithium-ion batteries power most of the electronic devices we use every day? These batteries are essential for keeping us connected and on the move, from our smartphones and laptops to the latest e-scooters, e-bikes, hoverboards, e-cigarettes, smoke alarms, toys, and cars. Lithium-ion batteries add convenience to our lives with their ability to store a large amount of energy in a compact space. However, treating them with care is essential, as they can become hazardous if misused or damaged. While overheating, catching fire, and exploding are possible dangers, you can avoid these risks by handling your batteries carefully and ensuring they are in good condition.

If you notice an odor, change in color, too much heat, change in shape, leaking, or odd noises, stop using the battery immediately. If possible, move the device away from anything that can catch fire.



It is crucial to remember that you should never dispose of lithium-ion batteries in the trash. Instead, recycle them by taking them to a battery recycling location or contacting your local garbage service.

Safely Charge an E-Bike or E-Scooter

E-bikes and e-scooters have become increasingly popular as they provide a cost-effective and eco-friendly mode of transportation. Lithium-ion batteries typically power these devices, which could catch fire or explode if not charged properly. To avoid this, follow these safety tips while charging your device:

- Charge outside (when possible) in a flat, dry area away from direct sunlight
- Only use the battery and the charger designed for the device and stop charging once the battery is fully charged
- Only charge one e-bike or e-scooter at a time to prevent circuit overload
- Store e-bikes, e-scooters, and batteries away from exit doors and anything that can get hot or catch fire
- Only have repairs performed by a qualified professional

Reduce your risk of a lithium-ion battery fire or explosion by taking the following precautions:

- Purchase devices tested and certified by a qualified testing laboratory
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions
- Use only the battery designed for the specific device and install it into the device immediately
- Use only the charging cord that came with the device
- Do not charge the device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch
- Stop charging the device or battery once it is fully charged
- Keep batteries at room temperature, and avoid charging them at temperatures below 32°F or above 105°F
- Store batteries away from anything that can catch fire





Community Unity: Auburn Police and School District join forces to bring joy to 32 local students

By Kolby Crossley, Auburn Police Department Public Information Officer

They made their lists, checked it twice, and it turns out, everyone was nice – the expected outcome when dozens of deserving children are gifted a holiday shopping spree.

The Auburn Police Department, in partnership with the Auburn School District, recognized 32 eligible students at the annual “Shop with A Cop” event held at the Auburn Walmart on Saturday, Dec. 2. Each elementary school in the Auburn School District nominated two children from their school to spend \$100 each to purchase items for themselves, or gifts for their family.

Auburn Walmart donated \$3,000 to this year’s Shop with A Cop. In addition to the generous donation, they surprised each child with a blanket, a popcorn tin, and Santa was there to give each student a wrapped gift from under the tree.

The Shop with A Cop Officers included Auburn Police Department Commanders, Sergeants, Detectives, Officers, Animal Control and Parking Enforcement, Washington State Patrol Troopers, the Chief of Police and a Sergeant from Pacific and Officers from the Port of Seattle and Normandy Park who shopped one on one with the students.



As always, APD’s mascot, Chance, was there, taking pictures and helping Santa pass out candy canes and presents.

Once the students had made their selections, they stopped by the “Reindeer Food” booth where hot chocolate and snacks were waiting for them. The wrapping station was staffed by City of Pacific employees who wrapped items the students chose as gifts for their families.





Winter weather driving – what you need to know

By City of Auburn Public Works staff

El Niño conditions are expected for the 2023-2024 winter weather season, which means it is forecasted to be a warmer, wetter winter in Auburn. While snow gives us picturesque landscapes and the opportunity for fun activities, it also means navigating roads can become a challenge. Luckily, when the storms hit, your City of Auburn Maintenance and Operations (M&O) team has already been hard at work preparing equipment and material to be ready.

When a winter storm is predicted to hit our community, our team goes into overdrive, working around the clock to keep our city functioning. Rather than waiting for bad weather to arrive, crews kick into action days in advance, pretreating many of our roadways when they are dry with sand or a de-icing agent to help slow ice from forming on the roads.

As the snow arrives, our team begins to plow and treat the streets according to priority. Most important are major routes throughout the city, allowing emergency vehicles to move through the city to help those in need of assistance. Once these routes are cleared, we move on to secondary routes, though many times during a typical two-to-four-day snow event the weather changes to rain and melts the snow before we can complete the secondary routes.

You will see maintenance crews all over the City during a major storm event, as they clear and treat roadways for all of us to travel. This means that crews may be working in shifts over a 24-hour period to keep Auburn moving, so you may hear plow trucks in or near your neighborhood during the night.

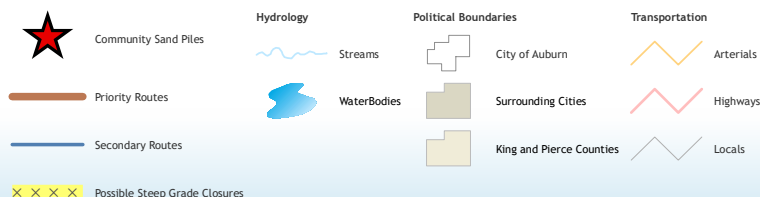
We would enjoy nothing more than to clear and treat every street in the City, including all the residential streets, but the reality is that we don't have enough staff or equipment to be able to accomplish a task that large. To serve the greatest number of residents as quickly as possible, we've developed

a plan to maximize our efficiency with the City of Auburn Snow and Ice Routes Map. This map shows what our priority and secondary routes are and where we will be focusing our resources. Once these routes are completely cleared and treated, we will then begin clearing the neighborhood collector streets (these are the roads that connect your neighborhood to the primary or secondary routes on the map) and only when these are completely cleared and treated will we move to the remainder of the neighborhood streets.

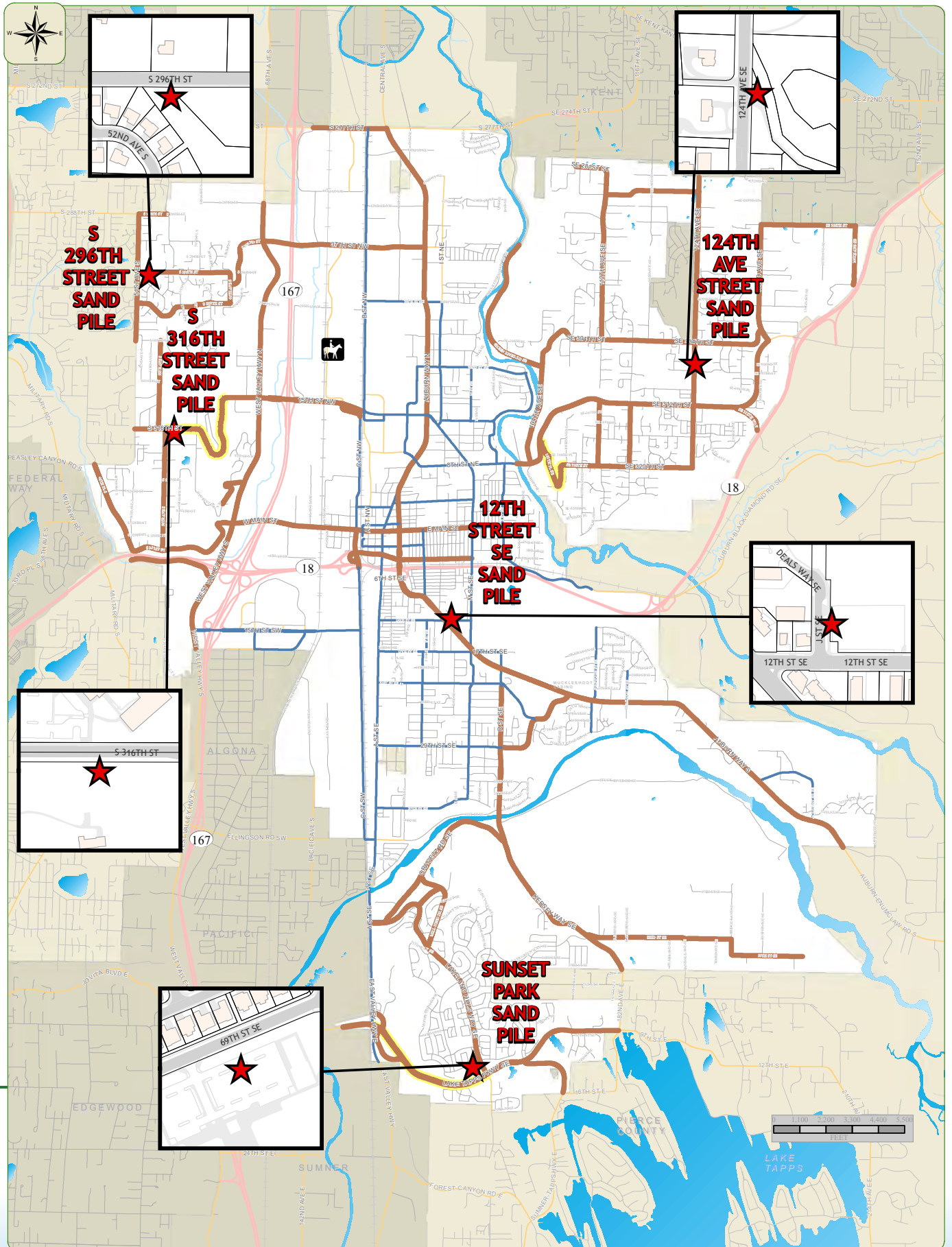


For more information about the City's Snow & Ice Routes Scan QR Code, or visit: www.auburnwa.gov.

type "snow route map" in search box and select the Snow and Ice Route Map PDF.



City of Auburn Snow & Ice Routes





Don't forget the sidewalks!

Did you know that per Auburn City Code 12.40 it is your responsibility to remove all ice and snow from the sidewalks abutting your property within 24 hours of a snow event? Make sure you stock up on your rock salt and snow shovels, and don't forget to clear the sidewalk so that you and your neighbors can safely get where you need to go!

Winter driving tips



Prepare your car

- Check your battery – battery power drops in cold weather.
- Check your lights.
- Make sure you have enough coolant.
- Make sure your windshield washer fluid reservoir is full of "winter" fluid with de-icer.
- Check that your wiper blades are working properly.
- Keep at least half a tank of fuel to avoid gas line freeze.
- Pack a winter emergency kit, including blankets, shovel, broom, ice scraper, jumper cables, abrasive material (sand or kitty litter), cell phone with charger, water, and food.

Before you drive

- Check the forecast, especially for long trips. If winter weather is coming, only travel if it is necessary. If you must travel, share your plans with someone before you leave.
- Clean your car's external cameras and side view mirrors so you can see what's around you.

Check the mountain passes!

If you're planning on traveling through any of Washington's mountain passes, make sure to check if it's open and the conditions. WSDOT provides up-to-date information about mountain passes and winter travel around the state. Visit their website at wsdot.com/travel/real-time/mountainpasses to find out more!

While driving

- Drive slowly, and make sure to accelerate and decelerate slowly.
- Increase following distance.
- Avoid using cruise control.
- If possible, don't stop when going uphill.
- As always, pay attention and avoid texting, social media, or using handheld devices while driving.

If you get stuck in the snow or a storm

- **Stay with your vehicle.** It gives you temporary shelter and makes it easier for rescuers to find you.
- **Don't overexert yourself.** If you are digging your car out of the snow, stop if you become tired.
- **Be visible.** Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled-up window to make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- **Clear the exhaust pipe.** A blocked exhaust pipe can cause carbon monoxide to leak into the car while the engine is running.
- **Stay warm.** Use whatever is available, including extra blankets, sweatshirts, newspapers, or even the floor mat, to insulate your body from the cold.
- **Conserve fuel.** If possible, only run the engine and heater long enough to remove the chill to help conserve fuel.

Transit route changes during snow events

When winter weather hits, transit agencies that serve Auburn – King County Metro, Sound Transit, and Pierce Transit – keep the public transit system running so you can get to your destination. However, during snow events, transit routes and service may change or be cancelled. The below map shows transit routes that serve Auburn and change to these routes that may occur during winter weather. For more details, visit King County Metro's website at kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro/rider-tools/snow-guide or call them at 206-553-3000.

Transit Alerts

As winter weather and storms approach, it is a good idea to sign up for transit alerts for the routes you regularly take. See the following websites or phone numbers to sign up for alerts or to learn more about route changes.

King County Metro:

kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro/rider-tools/service-advisories
206-553-3000

Sound Transit:

soundtransit.org/ride-with-us/service-alerts
1-888-889-6368

Pierce Transit:

piercetransit.org/StayConnected
253-581-8000

An update on Federal Way Link Extension, Sounder South Strategic Plan and fare compliance policy

By Melanie Mayock, Sound Transit Senior Engagement Specialist



Progress on Federal Way Link Extension

Our contractors have been hard at work on Federal Way Link, which will extend Link light rail from Angle Lake Station in SeaTac down to Federal Way. Three new stations will be located at Kent Des Moines (across from Highline College), Star Lake (at I-5 and S 272nd) and Federal Way Downtown (at the existing Federal Way Transit Center) with service scheduled to begin in 2026. New parking will be added at each station for approximately 3,200 stalls in total. Look at our latest flyover video to see all the progress, scan QR Code.



Federal Way Downtown Station platform under construction with Mt. Rainier in the background

Sounder South Strategic Plan survey receives over 5,600 responses

Thank you to everyone who filled out the Sounder South Strategic Plan survey! We appreciate your feedback about whether we should consider adding new midday, evening, or weekend trips on the S Line, or continue the current plan for longer trains during peak times.

We received over 5,600 survey responses and talked with hundreds more people at events last month. We are now compiling survey results and will publish an engagement summary in Jan. 2024.

We expect the Sound Transit Board to consider updating the Strategic Plan in spring of 2024. If the Board chooses to prioritize new trips, we will begin negotiating with BNSF Railway, which owns most of the tracks Sounder runs on. We'll use your input, along with research on future travel patterns, to inform the Board's decision. Learn more at soundtransit.org/sounder-capacity.

New Fare Compliance policy now in effect – remember to tap on and off!

On November 15, Sound Transit Fare Ambassadors began issuing warnings and citations to riders without proof of payment on Link, Sounder, and Tacoma Link. Under the Sound Transit Board-approved policy, riders without proof of payment will receive two warnings before

receiving citations on their third and fourth infractions. Passengers may receive a referral to the courts if they accrue five citations within a 12-month period.

Want to learn more about how to pay, including tapping on and off at ORCA card readers? We have a video for that! Scan QR Code to view video.



And don't forget, there are many options for free and reduced fares, including ORCA LIFT or a Regional Reduced Fare Permit for those who qualify. Plus, youth 18 and under ride free! Find the right fare for you: info.myorca.com.



Upcoming Events

Saturday, Jan. 20 | 7:30 p.m.

MICHAEL POWERS

PCA | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater



NW favorite Michael Powers plays Funk, Pop, Soul, Blues, Jazz and Latin! He is an innovative cross-genre guitar sensation who developed his skill by playing with all types of bands in a quest to play “any kind of music that featured a guitar as a solo voice.” Michael uses time honored traditional

technique to power his special high-tech instrument to play the sounds of saxophone, piano, harmonica, flute, voice and brass. Michael will perform music from his “Cinco de Michael” CD release along with other fan-favorites including his radio hit cover of Hall and Oates’ “Sara Smile”. Come and join Michael and his guitar for a night of amazing music!

Friday, Jan. 26 | 7:30 p.m.

JAN. COMEDY AT THE COURSE

GOLF | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater

Comedy at the Course will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone. Ages 18 and over only.

Saturday, Jan. 27 | 7:30 p.m.

NEW SENSATION - TRIBUTE TO INXS

GRCC | Tickets:\$23, Student/Senior:\$20 | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater

New Sensation is a Seattle based tribute to INXS that captures the high-energy late 80s/early 90s vibe of INXS. Performing INXS’ greatest hits, New Sensation re-creates the sights and sounds of INXS with hits like “What You Need”, “Need You Tonight”, “Devil Inside”, “Never Tear Us Apart”, “Suicide Blonde” and, of course, “New Sensation!”. Join these five seasoned musicians for an over the top, high energy live show.

Sunday, Feb. 4 | 7:30 p.m.

THE EVERLY SET - EVERLY BROTHERS TRIBUTE

APAC | Tickets:\$30, Student/Senior:\$25 | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater

In 1957, teens Phil and Don Everly supercharged the vocal sound of Rock’n’Roll with “Bye Bye Love” and “Wake Up Little Susie”, unleashing the sparkling vocal harmonies that would influence bands for decades, including The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, The Beach Boys, and countless others. Now, six decades later, two acclaimed singer-songwriters

with a mind-bending three-decade age difference combine millennial pluck with baby-boomer sass to present The Everly Set.

Friday, Feb. 16 | 7:30 p.m.

AUBURN SYMPHONY QUARTET

PCA | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater



The Auburn Symphony String Quartet presents an evening of beautiful music in the inspiring, intimate venue of the Postmark Center for the Arts.

Saturday, Feb. 17 | 7:30 p.m.

SOUL SACRIFICE - SANTANA TRIBUTE

GRCC | Tickets:\$23, Student/Senior:\$20 | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater



Soul Sacrifice, a tribute to the music of Santana has been voted one of the TOP 10 Tribute Bands in the Pacific NW, as well as the #1 Santana tribute in the PNW.

From Woodstock to Santana’s more recent hits, Soul Sacrifice performs with a passion and joy that engulfs the audience in the atmosphere of Santana’s music.

EVENT LOCATIONS

ACEC	Auburn Community & Event Center, 910 9th St SE
AMA	Auburn Municipal Airport, 2143 E St NE
APAC	Auburn Performing Arts Center, 702 4th St NE
ART	Auburn Riverside Theatre, 501 Oravetz Road
CITY	Auburn City Hall, 25 W Main St
GFP	Game Farm Park, 3030 R St SE
GOLF	Auburn Golf Course - Bogey's Public House Banquet Room, 29630 Green River Rd SE
GRCC	Green River College - Student Affairs Building (Cascade Hall) Building 12401 SE 320th St
LG GYM	Les Gove Gymnasium, 910 9th St SE
LG PARK	Les Gove Park, 910 9th St SE
MOF	Mary Olson Farm, 28728 Green River Rd SE
PCA	Postmark Center for the Arts, 20 Auburn Ave
TTAM	The Theatre at Auburn Mountainview 28900 124th Avenue SE
WRVM	White River Valley Museum, 918 H St SE

Friday, Feb. 23 | 7:30 p.m.

FEB. COMEDY AT THE COURSE

GOLF | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater

Comedy at the Course will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone.

Ages 18 and over only.

<https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=193517>

Saturday, Feb. 24 | 7:30 p.m.

GLOBAL HEAT'S MUSIC SOULSTICE

GRCC | Tickets:\$23, Student/Senior:\$20 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater



Global Heat has been called a "A nonstop funk rockin' soul experience!" tracing the roots and development of Soul music in America, from its Golden Age in the 1950s and 1960s, through its evolution into spin-off genres, all the way up to contemporary popular music. Global Heat performs the music of Ray Charles, Sam

Cooke, Aretha Franklin, and James Brown; the Motown sound of Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder; through to R&B from Earth Wind and Fire, Bootsy Collins and others; and up to Michael Jackson, Prince, and contemporary artists like Lizzo, Kendrick Lamar and Silk Sonic. This show has got it all!

Saturday, March 2 | 2:00 p.m.

BRAVO KIDS:JACK & THE BEANSTALK

LG GYM | All Tickets:\$12

auburnwa.gov/theater

Follow Jack's fanciful journey where a handful of beans really can produce magic, a goose really can lay a golden egg, and a beanstalk does indeed reach into the heavens where an immortal giant lives! StoryBook Theater's musicals are 55-mins geared to ages 3-10. Based on familiar fairy tales, each show focuses on a life lesson and has a happy ending. With catchy songs and clever stories, Jack & the Beanstalk is fun for the whole family!

March 8, 9, 15 & 16 | 7:30 p.m.

March 9, 10, 16 & 17 | 2:00 p.m.

AUBURN COMMUNITY PLAYERS:INTO THE WOODS

GRCC | Pre-Sale Regular:\$20; Pre-Sale Student/Senior:\$17

Door Sale Regular:\$25; Door Sale Student/Senior:\$22

auburnwa.gov/theater

All of your favorite storybook characters and come together in this timeless, yet relevant, piece which has become a rare modern classic. This Tony Award-winning show is both enchanting and touching. The story follows a Baker and his wife, who wish to have a child; Cinderella, who wishes to attend the King's Festival; and

Jack, who wishes his cow would give milk. When the Baker and his wife learn that they cannot have a child because of a Witch's curse, the two set off on a journey to break the curse. Everyone's wish is granted, but the consequences of their actions return to haunt them later with unexpected results.

Saturday, March 23

FAMILY FUN SOCK HOP

ACEC

Two Time Slot Options:

3:30-5:30 p.m. & 7-9 p.m.

253-931-3043 | Tickets: \$20/\$25

auburnwa.gov/events

Everyone come dressed in your best sock hop attire and enjoy an evening you will talk about all year! Join us for light refreshments, dancing, hands-on activities and a lot of fun! Memory Photo included. Space is limited. Pre-registration required for all attendees.

Friday, March 22 | 7:30 p.m.

MARCH COMEDY AT THE COURSE

GOLF | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater

Comedy at the Course will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone. Ages 18 and over only.

<https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=193527>

Saturday, March 23 | 7:30 p.m.

NEW AGE FLAMENCO

PCA | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater



The music of New Age Flamenco was influenced by the work of Gipsy Kings, Carlos Santana, Ottmar Liebert & others. Their sound reflects a strong Latin connection, with Mediterranean folk, European roots, jazz, and a Gypsy soul blended with the infectious rhythms of modern music. New Age Flamenco integrates these influences by combining them to create a new, personal sound of their own to bring you an exuberant stage experience!

Friday, March 29-

Monday, April 1

PETER COTTON TRAIL

253-931-3043 | auburnwa.gov/events

Grab your peeps and hop around Auburn in search of the elusive bunny, who's been hidden in various parks and trails. Find 10 bunnies and complete the on-line Bunny Scorecard for your chance to win some great prizes! Dawn to dusk.

Saturday, April 6 | 7:30 p.m.

WHISKEY RIVER - LYNYRD SKYNYRD TRIBUTE

GRCC | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17

253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/theater

For almost four decades Whiskey River’s musicians have thrilled audiences across America playing the music of the legendary southern-rock band Lynyrd Skynyrd. Whiskey River not only plays Lynyrd Skynyrd, they personify the group onstage by re-creating the image and the music that took the world by storm in the 1970’s. You will enjoy classics like “Sweet Home Alabama”, “Gimme Three Steps”, and many more, plus their phenomenal note-for-note performance of Lynyrd Skynyrd’s live guitar opus “Freebird”!

Saturday, April 13 | 7:30 p.m.

KALIMBA - THE SPIRIT OF EARTH WIND & FIRE

APAC | Tickets:\$30, Student/Senior:\$25

253-931-3043 | auburnwa.gov/theater

Kalimba - The Spirit of Earth Wind and Fire provides an experience so satisfying it transports audiences back to the excitement of the first time they heard these unforgettable songs. The show authentically replicates the signature high notes of Philip Bailey, the thick vocals harmonies of Maurice and Ralph Johnson, along with the grooving bass lines of Verdine White. Kalimba has the soul, spirit, musicianship, love and talent of the original – their energetic performance will leave you completely satisfied!

Friday, April 19 | 7:30 p.m.

ZAN FISKUM

PCA | Tickets:\$20, Student/Senior:\$17 | 253-931-3043 | auburnwa.gov/events



Zan Fiskum’s angelic voice soars over her soulful and ethereal storytelling. Reminiscent of artists Lana Del Ray and Brandi Carlile, she blends the lines between indie/pop and americana/folk as she writes about childhood trauma, the intricacies of

family dynamics, connection to the natural world as well as a fan-favorite:love. While staying true to her folk/pop songwriting she incorporates sounds of soul, dream pop, world percussion and indie rock into her music that is sure to captivate both fans and artists for years to come.

Saturday, April 20

CLEAN SWEEP

ACEC | 9 a.m.-Noon | 253-931-3043

auburnwa.gov/events

An annual community volunteering effort. Volunteers and community groups will work on various projects to beautify Auburn. Register in advance to be assigned to a project. Welcome and breakfast at the Auburn Community Center prior to projects starting.

Saturday, May 18 | 9:30-11 a.m.

DOG TROT – 3K/5K FUN RUN

GFP | 3030 R St SE | Ages 5 and up

auburnwa.gov/petpalooza

Registration Fee:\$20/person through Mar 31; \$25 (April 1-May 14); \$30 (On-site Fee)

A pet/owner 3K/5K Fun Run that kicks off the annual Petpalooza event. The routes will take you from Game Farm Park and along the White River Trail. FREE incentive item to first 100 pre-registrants!!



Registration includes T-Shirt (size guaranteed with early registration), race bib and finisher’s medal. The course is flat, easy and enjoyable for all ages and ability levels. Water will be available on the course

for both human and dog participants. Registration is per person. Each person participating on the course (other than children in strollers) must register and pay. Join us at Petpalooza after the Dog Trot from 10am - 5pm!

Saturday, May 18 | 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

PETPALOOZA

GFP | 3030 R St SE | FREE

auburnwa.gov/petpalooza



An event for pet lovers and a special day for your four-legged family member or other furry friend. The event kicks off with a

Dog Trot Fun Run at 9:30am. The event also includes live entertainment, an agility area, pet contests, face painting and other children’s activities, loads of vendor booths, pet adoptions, pet services, give-a-ways, food vendors and lots of activities to keep both humans and pets entertained.



Like Us on Facebook
[auburnpetpalooza](https://www.facebook.com/auburnpetpalooza)



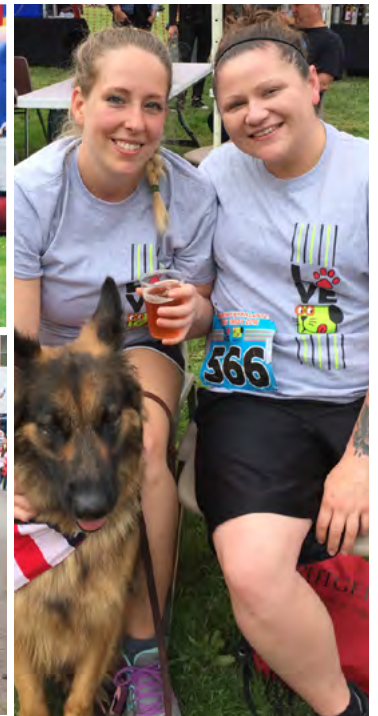
2024

Special event sponsor opportunities are available for the following major events:

**Petpalooza • KidsDay
4th of July Festival • Veterans Parade**

Other options for partnerships include:
**Peter Cotton Trail • Field Scoreboards
Youth Sports Leagues • Rec Programs
and many more!**

*Make your sponsor commitment before
January 19, 2024 and save 10%*



2024 EVENT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



City of Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation | 253-931-3043 | auburnwa.gov/events



It's fun, it's exciting, it's educational and it's maybe a little decadent.

Join hosts Jonathan Glover and Chester Boyd every other week as they talk about the things every Auburn resident should know.

To listen **scan QRCode** or find us on Spotify and search "Auburn on Main"



DROP-IN
CHILDCARE
\$40
ADULT +1 CHILD
MONTHLY

- Unlimited use of the fitness center
- Open gym programs
- Unlimited access to the full virtual fitness class library
- Drop-in childcare

Your health plan may entitle you to a free fitness membership! Check at the Community Center front desk for eligibility requirements.

DAILY DROP-IN

ADULT \$5
SENIOR/TEEN \$4

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

ADULT \$25/MONTH
SENIOR/TEEN \$20/MONTH

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP WITH UNLIMITED CHILDCARE

ADULT +1 CHILD \$40/MONTH
ADULT +2 CHILD \$55/MONTH
ADULT +3 CHILD \$70/MONTH



For more info
Scan QR Code or visit
auburnwa.gov/fitness

