

## Letters To The Editor

### Homeowner asks to keep zoning residential

To the editor:

As an affected county homeowner along the west side of I-69 corridor, I want to applaud the members of the planning commission who voted to maintain the county zoning recommendations for the ETJ areas by keeping it zoned R-1, thus aligning county and city planning.

These zoning recommendations now go to Auburn City Council for approval. As county residents in the affected areas, we lack representation on Auburn City Council and are requesting that Mayor Yoder and all Auburn City Council members follow the county and city planning commission's recommendations for the ETJ areas. They should vote to keep these areas zoned R-1, as this is what our representatives voted would be best for our community, and approve the plan as submitted to council.

The mayor, The Auburn Planning Commission and City Council duties include not only to plan for future industry, they also include protecting current

county residential neighborhoods adjacent to city boundaries. Homeowners should not be penalized for poor planning in the past nor penalized now for something that might or might not be needed in 20 years.

The mayor's fears that industry will not come to Auburn due to lack of industrial zoning is unfounded. The S.R. 8 and I-69 corridor has many sites available for industry, including the expanding Garrett Industrial Park, which is located next to the ETJ. Additionally, the Auburn Planning Commission just rezoned a large amount of land located south of S.R. 8 along C.R. 19 as light industrial.

Thank you, Planning Commissioners, for listening to affected homeowners. Thank you for doing a difficult job well. DeKalb County is not nor will it become a dwindling community due to lack of industrial zoning of land along I-69. It will, however, become an undesirable place to purchase a home if county and city residents have to live in fear of conflicting zoning.

**Barbara Harty, Jeffrey Harty  
Garrett**

### Help bring sculptures back for an Encore!

To the editor:

Do you remember how much fun it was when the sculptures were on the square? Summer 2007: People came downtown, walked around, chatted with neighbors and ran into people they hadn't seen for years. Kids sat on the bench with the ladies in Courtyard Park and patted the big black dog on the courthouse lawn.

The people of DeKalb County have an opportunity to have that wonderful, family-friendly experience again. The Auburn Arts Commission Inc. is planning an Encore! exhibit of the works of J. Seward Johnson. We are currently raising the funds needed to bring back these wonderful sculptures. In order to book the show for summer 2010, we must have the first payment collected by June 30, 2009.

We realize that this is a very ambitious project. We are relying on donations from local organizations, businesses and individuals in order to make this Encore! a reality. Every

donation, no matter how small, is necessary and important.

Did you have a good time watching your grandchildren explore the arts through this hands-on experience? Was it fun showing off the sculptures and your community to out-of-town guests? Did you go out of your way to drive through town just to see what was happening? If so, I invite you to join us in recreating this experience.

As chair of the Sculptures on the Square 2010: Encore! project, I want to encourage everyone to make a donation to this community effort. You can collect all the change you have lying around, have the kids sell lemonade or write a generous check. Every contribution is important. Your tax-deductible donation can be sent to Auburn Arts Commission Inc. Post Office Box 172, Auburn, IN 46706.

We are very excited about this Encore! production and feel it is just the thing to showcase this great community.

**Kathie Swaim, project chair  
Sculptures on the Square  
2010: Encore!**