

**WEDNESDAY**

**May 13, 2009**

**Weather**

Rain with a chance of storms today. High in the upper 60s. Heavy rain possible tonight.

Low in the 50s.

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**Pageant** Page A3

*7 seeking Relay For Life crowns Saturday*

**Track and Field** Page B1

*Two Barons capture titles*

# The Star



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## Zoning decisions worry mayor

### Yoder sees no sites for industry

**BY DAVE KURTZ**

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AUBURN — Homeowners who asked for residential zoning had their wishes granted by the Auburn Plan Commission Tuesday evening.

The commission also kept promises it made in April to change industrial zoning to residential in large areas south and

southwest of Auburn.

Afterward, Mayor Norman Yoder warned that the zoning decisions leave Auburn with no sites for new industry.

“What we’re doing is taking this corridor next to I-69 and making it residential,” Yoder said. “We’re sending a message: We don’t want industry, we don’t want jobs. ... I’m very fearful as we

look down the road 20 years.”

The mayor said other area communities have sites properly zoned and ready for new factories.

“It’s my job as mayor to point out that if we don’t recognize this challenge, we’re going to live in a dwindling community, and the opportunities



**Yoder**

are going to go away,” he said.

Yoder’s warning came after the Plan Commission approved zoning categories for its new extra-territorial zoning jurisdiction. The ETJ includes areas outside the city limits that became the city’s zoning responsibility a year ago.

Tuesday, the commission granted requests from owners of five residential properties who wanted to keep residential zoning. A proposed zoning map had called

**SEE ZONING, PAGE A8**



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## ZONING: Five homeowners have requests granted

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for changing one of those home sites to industrial and four others to commercial.

"It makes sense. They want it residential. There's residential houses on it. Leave it residential," said commission member Al Wleklinski.

Dr. David Liddell and Sunny Liddell were granted

residential zoning for their home on the east side of C.R. 23. The city had proposed industrial zoning.

Four homeowners on the east side of C.R. 427, south of C.R. 52, also gained the residential zoning they wanted. The city at first proposed commercial zoning to match the county government's zoning for land

behind them.

The Plan Commission also approved changes it promised four weeks ago, when it switched several other properties from industrial to residential zoning. Those changes affected homes along C.R. 19 and others south of C.R. 50, between C.R. 23 and C.R. 427.