

ANKENY REGISTER

Coming Friday

House District 70 candidates share their views on several issues.

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 Ankeny Christian Academy students dress down to pump up homecoming spirit. **Page 2**
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Thursday, October 2, 2008

City details vision for Uptown Ankeny

Written guidelines will help ensure historic buildings are not sold to individuals who would raze them to build new.

 By **GUNNAR OLSON**
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A plan that could significantly alter Uptown Ankeny is nearing completion, the city's top planning official said Monday.

Among other things, the Uptown Neighborhood Plan would establish guidelines as to how the city would sell off some of its properties there, including the old fire station, water plant and street shop, as well as the

existing police station once the new one is completed.

City officials have said they don't want to sell the properties to just anyone. They would prefer they go to an owner who would use it for a kind of business that would increase the vitality of Uptown Ankeny.

"That's why my hope continues to be," that the city will carry through with that vision, said Kevin Harrington, president of the Uptown

Ankeny Association.

The plan establishing the city's selling guidelines should be ready for the association's review by November, said Planning and Building Director John Peterson.

"What I'd like to do is produce a document with options for what that area could be," he said at a joint planning session of the Plan and Zoning Commission and the City Council.

A finalized plan could reach the commissioners in December and the council members by January, he said.

"That's the game plan," Peterson said by phone Tuesday, noting that much of the work was done but that it needed to be put in the form of a report.

Uptown Ankeny is roughly defined

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PATRONS GET REVVED UP FOR ART CENTER



LEE NAVIN/FOR THE REGISTER

Ankeny businessman Dennis Albaugh's private car collection was the backdrop on Saturday for the Ankeny Art Center Enrichment Gala. Those who attended included, above from left, Laurie and Cliff McClure of Ankeny and Zane and Janan Smith of West Des Moines. They're standing next to a 1965 Goldwood yellow-colored Corvette convertible. Albaugh's collection of more than 100 vehicles includes a 1951 Chevrolet 3100 pickup (Texaco delivery truck), the nameplate of which is shown below. At right, Rich Dereus and Misty Busick of Ankeny stand by the 1964 Corvette Stingray Coupe.



Michelle Phillips and Ankeny Art Center assistant director Brent Houzenga stand among the classic cars. At right, Matt Parkinson of Ankeny points to a rally red Corvette convertible from 1967, the year Parkinson was born.



CHIP MATHIS/SPECIAL TO THE REGISTER

A new water tower is changing Elkhart's skyline. Installation started in early September and should be finished this fall.

Elkhart adds water tower to prepare for growth

The tower will sport the city's name and North Polk school district's logo and will be paid for through tax increment financing.

 By **KRISTIN DANLEY-GREINER**
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Elkhart's new water tower may help guide the city's growth as well as change its skyline.

City Clerk Julie Unger said officials began considering the feasibility of a new water tower shortly after Andrew Cory was elected mayor in January 2006.

Cory said the project was just a thought back then but new development has impressed upon the city the need for the tower.

The new structure, which is on the city's west side near the old tower, was installed in early September and could be finished this fall.

"How far the development could go hinged upon how big the water tower was. From my understanding, the water tower already there could take care of a development up to the street where it's built now, but to go farther we would need to replace the water tower," he said.

Unger said the water management company in charge of the tower had recorded heavy-usage days where the city's water capacity was close to maxing out.

"The public never noticed anything, but it was something that the water operator kept an eye on and tracked," Unger said.

Thorpe Water Development of Ankeny oversees Elkhart's water tower. Company owner Tom Thorpe said they like to

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