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FROM
CITY HALL
TO YOU

FastNews March 28, 2014

F_N HDRC is Looking for Input

Welcome to your online recap of City actions and vital stories for folks who care about Auburn. Found twice monthly at the corner of City Hall and your smartphone, tablet or computer.

Upcoming April Dates

Chamber Forum Meeting 1st at 7am

Planning Commission/ HDRC 1st at 6pm

Chamber Forum Meeting 8th at 7am

City Council Meeting 14th at 6pm

Chamber Forum Meeting 15th at 7am

At the City Council's regular meeting on Monday, March 24, the Historic Design Review Commission (HDRC) reported back as requested on their powers and duties. The insightful report and recommendations for educational materials, recognition processes and signage were well received, and the viewing audience was treated to a website created specifically for the HDRC that, once properly vetted, will ultimately be linked to the City's website. In the meantime, the HDRC would like your input as you cruise around the suggested website. Please consider visiting the live online demonstration by clicking [here](#) and send feedback to Community Development Director Will Wong at wwong@auburn.ca.gov.



F_N Nextdoor.com has come to Auburn!

Nextdoor.com is a free, private social networking website for defined neighborhoods that allows neighbors to talk online about recommendations, safety issues, lost & found, free items to give away, etc. Nextdoor neighborhoods have grown across the country since 2011 as the site helps citizens strengthen local ties and improve neighbor-to-neighbor communication. It differs from other sites like Facebook in that there is a boundary established, only folks who live within that boundary can join, and all must use real names. Many local governments encourage residents to join since it promotes community building and it's a handy communication tool for programs like Neighborhood Watch, but it's not a city project and the city government does not have access to the community conversation. At this time, about 200 homes throughout six Auburn neighborhoods have been set up by neighborhood resident "leads" in Aeolia Heights, Dairy Road, Montecielo, Falcon's Point, Grand Oaks & the Arbors, and Old Auburn. If you are interested in finding out more about the benefits, requirements and how to join your Nextdoor neighborhood or start one, check out www.nextdoor.com.

AUBURN'S *Fast*NEWS

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F_N News You Can Use?

In true **FastNews** form, this information came across our desks in City Hall and we want to pass it along, just in case you or someone you know can use it. The Small Business Administration (SBA) has specific loans for drought-impacted small businesses that are not primarily agricultural but caught in the domino effect of our current conditions. Despite intermittent rain, water supply fears are still prevalent in the state, so follow this [link](#) for more info from the SBA.

F_N League of Women Voters Holds Educational Forum on Proposition 218

In 1996, Articles XIIC and XIID of the California Constitution were amended by “Prop 218” (as it has come to be known) as it relates to property assessments. As a result, local governments must have a vote of the affected property owners for any proposed new or increased assessment before it can be levied. On Thursday, April 3, the League of Women Voters of Placer County will hold an educational forum on Special Districts and Property Assessment with guest speakers Kris Berry, Executive Director of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and Placer County Clerk Jim McCauley. Kris will discuss oversight and governance of special districts such as those providing parks, water, and fire services in Placer County. Jim will explain how Prop 218 ensures taxes and fees imposed on property owners are subject to voter approval, as well as the upcoming Prop 218 sewer assessment notification being mailed soon to Auburn property owners.

The forum will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Max’s at the Holiday Inn, 110 Grass Valley Highway. The public is welcome and reservations are not necessary. Lunch is available for a \$15 charge. For more information, visit www.lwvplacercounty.org or contact Bernadette O’Keefe at firstvp@yahoo.com.

F_N (Don’t Read This Until April 1st!)

Maybe you saw the media melee a month back under the heading, “California Couple Finds \$10M Buried Treasure in Back Yard” or tuned in to the Auburn Journal’s “Treasure shows up in the darndest places...”? The California couple is trying to remain anonymous after finding old cans on their property filled with rare coins in uncirculated, mint condition, dating from 1847 to 1894. We wish them luck. Apparently, energetic Auburnites have been hiking and hunting and making holes looking for some of the same historic good fortune... and finding it! Latest investment reports in City Hall showed a rapidly declining price of gold on the commodities market as a result of this productive bee hive of activity. If you are one of the many, please remember to “Think Auburn First!” and spend it here. (Oh, yes, and have a Happy April Fool’s Day!)