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The Wayne Herald

Thursday, September 22, 2022 146th Year - No. 51

Daily updates on the Web at www.thewayneherald.com

Property purchase, parking on council agenda

By Clara Osten,
clara@wayneherald.com

A public hearing in regard to the purchase of real estate was among the items

Ameritas Life Insurance Corporation Parking Lot at 517 Logan Street.

Following the public hearing, council members went into executive session to discuss the possible purchase of these two

Council members rescinded a 2021 resolution in regard to the purchase of a vehicle for the Wayne Police Department and replaced it with Resolution 2022-62, which approves the specifications and authorizes

other agency turned it down. Chinn said it could take six months to a year to build this vehicle.

A second resolution was also approved for a vehicle for the police department.

This resolution approves the specifications and authorizes the purchase of a 2023 Ford Explorer through the state bid system. Both are being purchased through Sid Dillon Fleet.

Considerable time was spent debating the area that would be affected by a parking ordinance in the southwest quadrant of the city.

Ordinance 2022-17 prohibits parking from midnight to 5 a.m. on Chicago Street and South Lincoln and received final ap-

proval at the meeting.

Debate centered on whether or not to include several blocks of Lincoln Street in the ordinance.

City Planner Joel Hansen and Police Chief Chinn spoke to the council on an area in which vehicles are parked on the street for a considerable length of time. This makes it difficult for city crews to clean streets in the area.

Information was shared on a possible agreement between the Wayne Community Schools and the city of Wayne in regard to the Community Activity Center (CAC).

Council member Matt Eischied, a mem-

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(Photo by Clara Osten)

Travis Rasmussen (left) and Anaka Brasch were introduced as new members of the Wayne Volunteer Fire Department by Jordan Widner, Assistant Fire Chief, at Tuesday's City Council meeting.

Wayne City Council's agenda.

No one spoke during the hearing, which was in regard to two parcels of land which include the Ameritas Life Insurance Corporation building at 513 Main Street and the

properties.

After 45 minutes of debate, council members voted to contact an engineer to determine the cost of remodeling versus the cost of building a new building.

the purchase of a 2023 Chevrolet Tahoe through the state bid system.

Police Chief Marlen Chinn said the original order had been canceled by the factory and this vehicle came available after an-



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Julie Schultz has assumed the duties of Extension Educator, 4-H and Youth Development for Wayne County. She was introduced by Amy Topp, who has assumed the duties of Engagement Zone Coordinator for Zone 5 with Nebraska Extension.

Commissioners approve grant applications

By Clara Osten,
clara@wayneherald.com

Commissioners approved American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant funding to two fire departments in the county and discussed how much of the money allocated to Wayne County should be kept for county projects during Tuesday's Board of Commissioners' meeting.

Grant applications of \$111,783.16 from the Carroll Rural Fire District 1 for fire equipment, new gear and pagers and \$248,350.00 from Wayne Rural Fire District 2 for a 2,000 gallon tanker/pumper combination were approved. The possibility of an application for funds from the Hoskins Rural Fire District was discussed.

Sandra Hansen, who has been responsible for working with these entities said that should the Hoskins request come in at the amount anticipated, there would be approximately \$876,673 left in the amount allocated to the county.

In other action, Amy Topp with Nebraska Extension, introduced Julie Schultz, who has assumed the duties of Extension Educator for Wayne County.

Schultz, who resides with her husband in Pierce, has seven years of experience as an Extension Educator and has worked with First Lego League for nine years.

Schultz's office will be located in Wayne County and she will also have 4-H duties in Pierce County.

On a related note, the Extension office requested permission to purchase a SPIKE Prime Robot and Expansion Kit for the First Lego League. It will replace a robot that was purchased in 2018. The \$505 purchase was approved by the commissioners.

Todd Greunke, representing the Wayne County Agriculture Society, shared infor-

mation with the commissioners on the Ag Society's website.

He said that the Ag Society has brought in people to look at the website and a number of modifications have been made. He told the commissioners that photos and videos have been added to the site.

Commissioner Terry Sievers asked about the listing of times and events in the 4-H/FFA portion of the fair and it was found that under a different category, these events are included on the website.

Additional work will be done to make the website easier to navigate.

Commissioners approved the county officials' personal property inventories for 2021-2022 and set the minimum rate for personal property inventories for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Anything that is worth more than \$500 needs to be recorded by each office.

Highway Superintendent Mark Casey updated the commissioners on several items, including the list of roads and bridges that will be submitted to the engineering firm of Mainelli Wagner for a future bond project.

There are three bridges on the list in District 1, two bridges in District 2 and three in District 3.

Casey told the board that the surveys and wetland information should be completed before the end of the growing season.

He also discussed funding options for the projects and time frames with federal guidelines.

Jon Canon, Executive Director of the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO), updated the commissioners on a number of items his office is involved with at the present time.

He told the commissioners that he is currently visiting with county boards across

the state and a number of common issues are being discussed.

These include inheritance tax and legis-

See Applications, Page 4A



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Bo Armstrong and Laura Hasemann were all smiles after being crowned 2022 Homecoming King and Queen for Wayne High School.

Royalty crowned at Wayne High School

Laura Hasemann and Bo Armstrong were crowned Homecoming Queen and King on Sept. 16 during halftime of the Wayne High-Raymond Central Football game.

Laura is the daughter of Scott and Mary Kay Hasemann and Bo is son of Kevin and Heidi Armstrong;

Queen candidates this year included Jaycee Bruns, daughter of Chad and Kim Bruns; Candace Heggemeyer, daughter of

Lowell and Terri Heggemeyer; Brooklyn Kruse, daughter of Dan and Tracy Kruse; and Sierra Mutchler, daughter of David and Alexis Messinger.

King candidates included Sedjro Agoumba, son of Darius and Endia Agoumba; Eli Barner, son of Todd and Becky Barner; Daniel Judd, son of Daniel and Rachel Judd; and Brooks Kneifl, son of Scott and Jennifer Kneifl.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Burnout - literally

One of the contestants at last week's Burnout Competition had the tires on the car on fire during the 60-second competition. A total of 20 vehicles took part in this year's event, which also included a Dino competition for gas and diesel vehicles, a bounce house, food and vendors. Dustin Soden (with the green flag) was one of the organizers of both the Burnout and the monthly Cruise Main in Wayne event. More photos can be found on page 3A of today's Herald.



(Photos by Clara Osten)



(Photos by Clara Osten)

Checking horsepower

Vehicles of all ages, both cars and trucks, competed in the Dino portion of Saturday's events on South Main Street. Vehicle owners from throughout the area took advantage of the opportunity to have their vehicles tested during the morning prior to the Burnout in the afternoon. (below), a pickup truck is nearly lost in smoke during the competition.



Taste of Victory

Six celebrity chefs took part in this year's Taste of Victory Tailgate prior to Friday's football game. Proceeds from the event will go to the Wayne Community Schools' Foundation. Entries ranged from wings to macaroni and cheese and monster cookie bars.



(Photos by Aubre Miller)

Bressler-Fest

More than 100 people gathered at Bressler Park on Sunday to listen to music provided by Teagan Nissen. This was the second of four Bressler-Fest events, with additional performances set for Sunday, Sept. 25 (Good Morning Bedlam) and Sunday, Oct. 2 (the Mark Vyhldal Orchestra). The event is free and open to the public and runs from 5 to 7 p.m. each Sunday.



Wayne Police responds to fatality accident

The Wayne Police Department responded to an injury accident on Saturday (Sept. 17).

At approximately 6:25 p.m. an accident was reported on the east edge of Wayne, near the intersection of Seventh Street (Highway 35) and Centennial Road involving two vehicles.

A 2005 Honda motorcycle trike driven by 71-year old Warren Habrock of rural Emerson was westbound on Seventh Street. A 2008 Ford Focus driven by an 18-year old female from Council Bluffs, Iowa was eastbound on Seventh Street and began turning north onto Centennial Road in direct path of the

motorcycle.

The motorcycle collided with the passenger side of the vehicle, ejecting the motorcycle driver from the bike. The driver of the motorcycle and an 18-year old female passenger of the car were transported to Providence Medical Center by ambulance and the driver of the car was transported later by private vehicle to the hospital.

The driver and passenger of the car were treated and later released from the hospital after receiving treatment for their injuries. The driver of the motorcycle trike succumbed to his injuries shortly after arriving at the hospital.

Traffic was routed around the scene for several hours while accident investigators documented the scene to re-construct the accident.

The investigation is ongoing.

Wayne Police was assisted at the scene by the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Wayne Fire and Rescue and Providence Medical Center Ambulance personnel.



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There are special rules for valuing a gift of stock. The value of a charitable gift of stock is determined by taking the mean between the high and low stock price on the date of the gift. Mutual fund shares are valued using the closing price for the fund on the date of the gift.

You can visit Nebraska Community Foundation's Gift Planning website – www.ncfgift.org – to begin the process of making a gift of securities. You can also find details on other out-of-the-box giving methods beyond cash. Nebraska Community Foundation is also always available to point you in the right direction at (402) 323-7330 or info@nebcomfund.org.

Nebraska Community Foundation unleashes abundant local assets, inspires charitable giving and connects ambitious people to build stronger communities and a Greater Nebraska.

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Foundation serves communities, donors and organizations by providing financial management, strategic development, education and training to a statewide network of 1,500 volunteers serving over 270 communities.

In the last five years, 45,915 contributions have been made to NCF and its affiliated funds. Since 1994, NCF has reinvested \$423 million in Nebraska's people and places. For information, visit NebraskaHomeTown.org.

Wayne Area Legacy Foundation harnesses the power of giving to make the Wayne area a great place for all ages to live, work and play for generations to come.

We invite you to be a part of the legacy of promoting progress in our area by giving to the unrestricted endowment. Similar to a community savings account, unrestricted endowments are an important tool to keep hometowns across Nebraska growing, thriving and improving future generations. A portion of the income earned by the endowment is granted annually to fund projects and programs to benefit the community, the principal remains intact and grows every year.

The Wayne Area Legacy Fund (WALF) has invested over \$50,000 back into the Wayne Area community since the inception of the fund. The WALF is an affiliated fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. All contributions to WALF are tax-deductible. Visit WayneAreaLegacyFund.org for additional information. Be sure to like us on Facebook @WayneAreaLegacyFund.



(Contributed Photo) Louie, a therapy dog, and Nan Rix read to students during a recent school visit.

Dogs provide therapy, services to the community

Among the projects conducted by The Order of Eastern Star (OES) is the Service and Therapy Project involving specially trained dogs.

Nan Rix with Order of Eastern Star will be in Wayne on Friday, Sept. 23 with one of the dogs. She will make a presentation during the weekly Chamber Coffee at 10 a.m. This week's coffee will be held at Bressler Park.

Service dogs assist persons with disabilities to break down barriers in self confidence and self-reliance, and create greater control of their environment. Many people with disabilities depend on them every day to help them live their everyday lives. They differ from therapy dogs and comfort or support dogs as they are trained to assist just one person.

Therapy dogs also receive specific training and must meet standards to be registered and participate as a therapy dog. They provide comfort and assistance to several people within a variety of settings. Unlike service dogs, therapy dogs are encouraged to interact with a variety of people while they are on duty, including petting the therapy dog.

A special committee was appointed by the Nebraska Grand Chapter in 2017 and the Service and Therapy Dog Committee was added as a standing committee for the Order of Eastern Star in Nebraska in 2018.

OES Star Dogs of Nebraska, Inc. was formed in 2020 to build a broader base of support and ultimately meet the needs of a larger group of individuals and group through service and therapy dogs. It was formed as a (501c3) organization.

For more information or to make a contribution to the Star Dogs of

Nebraska program, email Oesstar-dogs@ne@gmail.com

Since 2017 the Order of Eastern Star has placed and/or helped fund 10 dogs who are currently serving in a therapy or service capacity.

The average cost of a trained Service Dog is approximately \$35,000. These are dogs that are trained to specifically take care of one person, such as seeing eye dogs, diabetic alert dogs, epilepsy alert dogs, hearing impairment, mobility assist, search and rescue, and many more.

The average cost of a trained Therapy Dog is about \$3,500. These dogs are owned by one person and they work as a team in the community, bringing comfort to those around them. They are encouraged to interact with a variety of people in many different situations. Places the dogs can be invited to include schools, hospitals, nursing homes, crisis centers, hospice, libraries, and other places where they are needed.

Training programs are available to certify a dog that has the disposition to be a therapy dog. These are regulated and maintained by the American Kennel Club. The current certification program being used is the Canine Good Citizen Certificate, this is a program that stresses obedience, working well with your partner, and training in meeting and greeting people in public situations.

Currently Nan works with Louie, a nine year old Goldendoodle who is certified in the AKC Canine Community Good Citizen program. She started his training the day she got him and it continues every day.

"We have learned to work together and look to each other to know if we are in a good working situation. Louie is a gentle soul whose strength lies in his ability to sense who needs his attention. He has become the face of the Star Dog Committee and Charity. We travel across the state speaking to groups about the benefits of these dogs and the ways they can improve the lives of those in need," Nan said.

She noted that the dogs have gone into libraries where children read to them, visited nursing homes and have been to schools to provide comfort to students who need them.

Applications

From Page 1A

lation being discussed to reduce the amount collected by counties. He told the commissioners that if the amount of inheritance tax collected goes down, property taxes would likely go up to make up the difference in revenue.

Canon also told the board that there will be at least 16 new senators in the Legislature for the next term.

He also discussed several NA-CO conferences planned in coming months and activities taking place at these events.

His final topic for the board was that of cyber security in county offices.

County Clerk Deb Finn said Wayne County has already taken measures to protect information in both the courthouse and other locations in the county.

The Wayne County Board of Commissioners will next meet in regular session on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 9 a.m. in the courtroom of the Wayne County Courthouse.



(Photo by Clara Osten)

Anniversary celebration

Diane Bertrand, Senior Center Director, spoke during last week's Chamber Coffee. She and (from left) Library Director Heather Headley, Adult Services Librarian Sharon Carr and Youth Services Director Kim Warner thanked the community for its support over the last 25 years the building has been in existence.

Agenda

From Page 1A

ber of the Facilities Committee, told the council that the group had met with school officials on options such as selling the CAC or partnering with the school on using the facility.

Eischied said among the concerns with the issue was what the city would do if the school purchases the CAC and the swimming pool as the school has no interest in running it. Discussion included the fact that a number of upgrades are needed to the CAC and where another facility could be built if the current building is sold.

Council member Chris Woehler said he was against selling the CAC as it was paid for with city sales tax and would "cost lots more to build a new one."

Mayor Cale Giese said among his concerns was what would happen to city recreation programs should the building be sold.

Following Tuesday's discussion, the council indicated they would be willing to continue discussion with the district.

"This is so complicated. There is

no easy solution," Eischied said.

In other action, applications from Anaka Brasch and Travis Rasmussen were approved for membership on the Wayne Volunteer Fire Department.

Brasch, a Wayne High School graduate, is currently a Wayne State College student and told council members she "wants to give back to her community."

Rasmussen has previously been a member of the Falls City Fire Department and now that he is employed in Wayne is able to serve on Wayne department.

The two new members bring the number of volunteers on the Wayne department to 28.

Ordinance 2022-19 was approved on first reading. It authorizes the release and abandonment of a 14 foot utility easement between two lots in Vintage Hill Third Addition.

Nick Junck made the request to the city as he plans to build a house on the two lots. City staff said there are no existing utilities on the property.

A contractor's application for payment in the amount of \$3,508.62 to

Kay Contracting, Inc. for the 2022 Golf Course Sanitary Sewer Extension Replacement Project. Also approved was the certificate of substantial completion for the project.

A pay application in the amount of \$12,442.00 to OCC Builders, LLC was approved. It is for work done on the Freedom Park Trailhead Project.

Also approved was a Certificate of Payment No. 4 in the amount of \$273,176.69 to Robert Woehler & Sons Construction, Inc. for the Chicago Street Improvement Project. City staff reported that storm sewer has been installed and street paving is more than half completed. Several changes had to be made with the project and it is anticipated that it will take two to three weeks before the pedestrian trail is re-opened in that area.

City Attorney Amy Miller told the council there are no updates in regard to the Bradley J. Woehler and Bradley F. Roberts vs. the City of Wayne litigation matter.

The Wayne City Council will next meet in regular session on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 29th

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Softballers take two at home

The Wayne High softball team improved to 8-3 on the season with a pair of wins in a home triangular Tuesday, defeating Boone Central 10-9 and Pierce 13-1.

In the win over Boone Central, Wayne rallied from a six-run deficit with four in the third and five in the fourth to claim the win.

Wayne got four in the third with the help of an RBI single by Mackenzie Nissen and a bases-clearing double down the left field line by Kierah Haase, pulling Wayne to within one at 6-5.

Boone Central put up three more runs in the top of the fourth, but a two-run error and a wild pitch brought three runs home, setting up Liberty Titiml for the game-win-

ning single to center, scoring Nissen and Reagan McGuire to give Wayne the win.

Haase's double highlighted a six-hit effort by six different batters. Nyla Bolles and Taytem Ellis each scored two runs in the win. Nissen got the win in relief of Sami Gubels.

Against Pierce, the visitors scored a run in the first, but Wayne responded with seven in the second and six in the third to post the blowout win.

Rylin Hall's triple opened up the floodgates for Wayne, as she scored on a single by Haase. Haase came home on a Titiml single, and she scored on a double by Ellis. Delaney Kruse brought home Ellis and

later came home on an error to cap the inning.

In the third, RBI doubles by Hall and Nissen and an RBI single by Ellis highlighted the inning. Wayne scored two unearned runs off a Pierce error and another on a fielder's choice.

Ellis and Hall each had two hits and Ellis had four RBIs to highlight the offensive effort. Bolles, Ellis, Kruse, Haase and Logan Miller each scored two runs. Nissen tossed a three-inning one-hitter.

The Blue Devils hosted Ponca on Tuesday and will host Wisner-Pilger in their home finale Thursday before going to the Hastings Invitational on Saturday.

Kowalczyk earns honor for football

Wayne State College sophomore linebacker Alex Kowalczyk was named last week's Northern Sun Conference Football Defensive Player of the Week following his play in a 13-6 victory over Northern State.

Kowalczyk led the Wildcat defense with 12 total tackles, one interception and two quarterback hurries in the defensive-dominated victory. The 5-foot-11, 205-pounder had nine solo tackles and three assisted stops while leading a WSC defense that forced four turnovers.

Through two games this season, Kowalczyk leads Wayne State and ranks third in the NSIC in total tackles with 20.

LCC boys fifth, TCNE girls third at Pender

PENDER — The LCC boys cross country team had two top 10 medalists and came away with a fifth-place team finish at Thursday's Pender Invitational.

Tyler Olson and Carter Korth led the way for the Bears, finishing seventh and eighth, respectively. Preston Rose followed in 22nd and Kolby Detlefsen was 42nd.

Also running for LCC were Kolby Hansen (53rd) and Taner Stanley (54th).

The Tri County Northeast girls finished third and had three top 15 medalists on the day. Rhyanne Mackling led the Lady Wolfpack with a third-place finish, while Bre Millard (10th) and Alejandra Hermosillo (13th) both earned medals with personal-best performances. Rounding out the TCNE scoring effort was Shantel Miller in 28th place, while Jenni Olson finished 30th.

Other area runners competing included TCNE's Gabe Franklin (44th) and LCC girls runners Addy Hoepfner (17th) and Kate Tasler (24th).

Pender Invitational Boys Team Standings
Lyons-Decatur 51, Yutan 57, Humphrey St. Francis 68, Oakland-Craig 68, LCC 72, Homer 75, Pender 79, Cedar Bluffs 125, Winnebago 143.

Area Results
LCC — 7. Tyler Olson, 19:06.88; 8. Carter Korth, 19:13.05; 22. Preston Rose, 21:05.29; 42. Koby Detlefsen, 23:53.05; 53. Kolby Hansen, 25:42.97; 54. Taner Stanley, 26:01.00.


TRI COUNTY NE — 44. Gabe Franklin, 23:58.67.

Girls Team Standings
Homer 22, Oakland-Craig 28, Tri County NE 46, Yutan 59, Lyons-Decatur 90.

Area Results
LCC — 17. Addy Hoepfner, 25:29.91; 24. Kate Tasler, 27:33.99.

TRI COUNTY NE — 3. Rhyanne Mackling, 22:51.87; 10. Bre Millard, 24:29.99; 13. Alejandra Hermosillo, 25:00.63; 28. Shantel Miller, 28:57.18; 30. Jenni Olson, 30:10.37.

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NOTICE

For the next several weeks, the Wayne County Assessor's Office will be doing review work throughout the county in accordance with Nebraska Statutes. We will be driving either a blue Ford Escape or a county pickup, which will be clearly labeled on both sides as Wayne County Assessor. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our office. Thank you!

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Wakefield wins wild one over Wolfpack

EMERSON — It was a wild area matchup Friday in Emerson as Wakefield was able to come away with a 34-28 win over Tri County Northeast.

The Trojans never trailed, getting a pair of Cade Johnson touchdown runs to take a 13-0 lead, but the host Wolfpack wouldn't go away quietly.

Brayden McCorkindale got the Wolfpack on the board on the first play of the second quarter, scoring from five yards out to cut the deficit to 13-6.

Wakefield answered with Johnson's third touchdown run of the evening, but that advantage was short-lived as Hudson Morgan took the ensuing kickoff 77 yards for a score. McCorkindale's two-point conversion run made it 20-14 with 8:58 to go in the first half.

At the end of the first half, Johnson found Isaac Walsh for a 16-yard touchdown pass, then hit Hunter Schultz for two more points to make it 28-14 at intermission.

The Wolfpack came back in the second half and came within striking distance of tying the game. Joe Grone scored on a three-yard run midway through the third, and McCorkindale found the end zone for the second time with 9:46 to go. The Wolfpack weren't able to convert either point-after attempt, and those misses would come back to haunt them.

After McCorkindale's second scoring run, Wakefield answered with Johnson finding the end zone for the fourth time from four yards out. The missed PAT gave the Wolfpack hopes of maybe tying the game, but they were unable to do so as the visiting Trojans came away with the exciting win.

"Tri County gave us everything we could handle," Wakefield coach Mike Hassler said after the game. "I thought we came out flat, lacked emotion, were inconsistent with our physicality, and made way too many mental mistakes. With that being said, I've got a bunch of fighters on this team. No matter what has happened this season, this group of young men just keep swinging for the entire four quarters and have given themselves a chance to win every week."

"We are proud of our boys and took steps in the right direction this week," TCNE coach Evan Colfack said. "The boys are itching for another taste of victory. We look forward to a great matchup with Homer next week."

Wakefield racked up 396 yards in total offense in the win. Johnson carried 22 times for 148 yards and four scores and was 8-of-13 passing for 125 yards and another score. Tim Kaufman ran 14 times for 123 yards.

Schultz was the Trojans' leading receiver with 92 yards on six catches, while Walsh had 33 yards on two receptions.

Defensively, Johnson had 17 tackles, Cael Johnson added 15 stops, Kaufman had 10 tackles and Walker Lundahl recorded nine stops.

For the Wolfpack, Grone had 135 yards on 24 carries and McCorkindale ran for 86 yards on 22 tries. Dylan Boyle ran for 16 yards, Morgan had 15 yards on two attempts and Michael Dickens ran for 13 yards on three carries and was 1-of-4 passing with a 7-yard pass to Ben Jorgensen.

Defensively, the Wolfpack were led by Colton Stallbaum's 13 tackles and an interception while Morgan added 11 and Dickens and Hunter Heikes each had nine. Grone had eight stops.

Wakefield hosts Hartington-Newcastle on Friday while the Wolfpack travel to Homer.

Wakefield 34, Tri County NE 26
Wakefield 13 15 0 6 — 34
Tri County NE 0 14 6 6 — 26

Scoring Summary
WAKEFIELD — Cade Johnson 21 run (PAT failed)

WAKEFIELD — Johnson 33 run (Jose Rodriguez kick)

TCNE — Brayden McCorkindale 5 run (PAT failed)

WAKEFIELD — Johnson 1 (Rodriguez kick)

TCNE -- Hudson Morgan 77 kickoff return (McCorkindale run)

WAKEFIELD — Isaac Walsh 16 pass from Johnson (Hunter Schultz pass from Johnson)

TCNE — Joe Grone 3 run (PAT failed)

TCNE — McCorkindale 2 run (PAT failed)

WAKEFIELD — Johnson 4 run (PAT failed)

Metzler nets 1,000th assist for Trojans

Wakefield setter Jordan Metzler recorded her 1,000th career assist to highlight the Trojans' week on the volleyball court.

The milestone was achieved during Thursday's 25-21, 25-17, 25-18 home win over Pender. She had 22 in the win, with Alex Arenas recording 11 kills, Alli Brown and Daveigh Munter-McAfee adding seven each and Brianna Martinez recording three. Arenas, Metzler, Munter-McAfee and Laken Rahn each had two ace serves.

Defensively, Isabella Andrade had 11 digs, Arenas added 10 and Munter-McAfee recorded six.

Last Tuesday, Wakefield lost

on the road at Howells-Dodge in four sets, 25-22, 25-18, 19-25, 25-23.

Munter-McAfee recorded 17 kills, Arenas added 15 and Martinez, Brown and Rahn each had four. Metzler had 39 assists along with three kills.

Defensively, Munter-McAfee led with 19 digs, Arenas added 17, Andrade had 11 and Metzler had 10. Rahn had three blocks.

Wakefield (9-7) plays three road triangular this week, starting with Walthill on Tuesday before going to Wynot on Thursday and Wausa next Tuesday. They are back home Sept. 29 to host Crofton.

Blue Devil netters drop two

It was a tough week for the Wayne High volleyball team, as they dropped a pair of games at home.

On Tuesday, the Blue Devils fell in straight sets to Guardian Angels Central Catholic, 25-10, 25-17, 25-9.

Haley Kramer led the net attack with three kills and Emma Forsythe added two. Gabbi Judd had two blocks. Kramer recorded 10 digs, Kate Hill added six, Jacen Hasemann had four and Judd had three.

The Blue Devils played Lutheran High Northeast tough on Tuesday, but fell in a three-set match, 25-17, 25-12, 25-19.

Hill led the way with seven kills, Kramer added four and Amelia Legler put three away. Isabelle Francis had 15 assists. Defensively, Kramer had 26 digs, Hill added 21, Faith Powicki had 20 and Jaycee Bruns recorded 13.

TCNE netters drop two

The Tri County Northeast volleyball team lost two home matches last week, losing to LCC (25-16, 17-25, 25-19, 25-21) and Wausa (25-14, 25-11, 25-18).

In the loss to the Lady Bears on Tuesday, Brianna Bousquet recorded 13 kills, Mica Tornez added six and Rylinn Mitchel put four away. Brianna Novak had 18 assists and two ace serves, and Mica Tornez added three ace serves.

Defensively, Sydne Baker had 17

digs, Tornez added 14, Bousquet had 13, Myleah Mackling had 11 and Novak and Getsamani Ferrusca each had 10. Mitchell had three blocks.

Statistics were not available at press time in Monday's loss to Wausa.

TCNE plays in two triangulars this week, going to Lyons-Decatur on Thursday and Ponca on Tuesday. They are back home for a triangular on Sept. 29.

WAYNE COUNTY CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU Grant Guidelines

The Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau may provide financial assistance to organizations that submit a completed application, and follow up with supporting reimbursement documentation. These funds shall be used to promote, encourage and attract visitors to come to the county and use the travel and tourism facilities within the county.

All those interested in receiving grant money from Wayne County Convention & Visitors Bureau must adhere to the following guidelines:

Grant applications will be considered quarterly.

THE REQUEST MUST BE SUBMITTED PRIOR TO THE EVENT.

- For October meeting - application MUST be submitted prior to September 30.
- For January meeting - application MUST be submitted prior to December 31.
- For April meeting - application MUST be submitted prior to March 31.
- For July meeting - application MUST be submitted prior to June 30.

REMINDER: the grant applications are due Sept. 30.

The group meets 4 times a year. Next deadline is December 31.

Questions, please contact Deb Finn, 402-375-2288.



BOWLING RESULTS

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City League		
Week #2 of 32 — 9/13/22		
White Dog	27	13
PMC Scrubs	26	14
#Rookies	24.5	15.5
Wildcat Lanes	23	17
Wildcat Cubs	22	18
Harder & Ankeny	22	18
Pin Pals	22	18
Half-Ton Club	21.5	18.5
One Office	21	19
Wayne Country Club	19	21
Pigg Farms	18	22
Klein Electric	15	25
Grossenburg Impl.	10	30
Ghost	9	31
Women: Jessi Jensen - 223, 203, 212, 638; Jamie Janke - 200, 233, 582; Kayleen Roberts - 180, 189, 226, 595.		
Men: Doug Rose - 246,619; Kelly Hansen - 205; Kyle Kempf - 228, 607; Darin Jensen - 225, 214, 632; Trent Beza - 244, 613; Joel Ankeny - 219; Michael Denklauf - 224, 216 623; Lukas Clark - 209, 200; Zane Sherman - 233, 216, 639; Mark Klein - 210; Tony Lawyer - 202, 214; Tay Guill		

Hits N Misses		
Week #2 of 30 — 9/14/22		
Sterling Computer	5	3
Ruwe Farms	4	4
State Nebr Bank & Tr	4	4
Wildcat Lanes	4	4
Dixon Elevator	4	4
Smokin' Diesel Repair	3	5
High Game: Tonya Janke, 200; Andi Belt, 192; Tabitha Belt, 191; Jamie Janke, 190; Candy Guill, 189; Deanna Thompson, 183; Renee Saunders, 180.		
High Series: Jamie Janke, 558; Tabitha Belt, 554; Tonya Janke, 539; Andi Belt, 527.		

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- 9.23 WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY**
4:00PM WILDCAT CLASSIC
- 9.23 MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY**
4:45PM WILDCAT CLASSIC
- 9.24 FOOTBALL**
6:00PM VS. CONCORDIA - ST. PAUL

(POSTGAME FIREWORKS)
- 9.25 WOMEN'S SOCCER**
1:00PM VS. BEMIDJI STATE

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Wildcats roll over Blujays

WALTHILL — Winside's offense racked up more than 300 yards and the defense forced three turnovers to help the Wildcats to a 50-6 win at Walthill Friday afternoon.

Wayne used a pair of long touchdown runs by Dax Behmer and Kaden Hunt to build a 14-0 first-quarter advantage, then extended it to 30-0 at intermission with a pair of short runs by Behmer.

Winside kept things going in the second half with scoring runs by Aaron Sellin, Cooper Behmer and Tucker Bruns to finish off the easy win.

Hunt led the Winside offense

with 152 yards on nine carries, Dax Behmer had 70 yards on four carries and Cooper Behmer rushed eight times for 81 yards. Sellin had 21 yards on four carries.

Defensively, Cooper Behmer had eight total tackles, Mason Topp had six and Korbin Carlson and Mace Magwire each had five. Topp, Magwire and Devon Offner each had two quarterback sacks. Hunt and Cooper Behmer each had an interception.

The 3-1 Wildcats are back home next week to host Humphrey St. Francis.

Winside 50, Walthill 6

Winside	14	16	8	12	—	50
Walthill	0	0	6	0	—	6
Scoring Summary						
WINSIDE	— Dax Behmer 54 run (PAT good)					
WINSIDE	— Kaden Hunt 66 run (PAT failed)					
WINSIDE	— Behmer 2 run (PAT good)					
WINSIDE	— Behmer 1 run (PAT good)					
WINSIDE	— Aaron Selin 6 run (PAT good)					
WALTHILL	— 47 pass (PAT failed)					
WINSIDE	— Cooper Behmer 6 run (PAT failed)					
WINSIDE	— Tucker Bruns 2 run (PAT failed)					

Winside runners at O'Neill

The Winside cross country teams competed in the O'Neill Invitational on Friday.

In boys action, Myles Kampa ran a time of 24:21 to finish 48th as the only Wildcat competing.

The girls race saw Megan Gnirk come home in a time of 29:24.10, good for 37th place.

Next action is the Boone Central invitational on Friday in Albion.

Wayne VB reserves play at Wisner

Wayne played in the Wisner-Pilger C Team tournament on Saturday, going 1-2 on the day with an opening loss to David City (14-25, 14-25), a three-set win over LVSS (15-25, 25-17, 15-5) before dropping a two-set match to Pender (12-25, 8-25).

Scoring/Aces vs. DC: Kadence Rees 1/0; Bella Fregoso 6/2; CiCi Stashkiw-Risor 1/0; and Adrienne Anderson 1/0.

Scoring/Aces vs. LVSS: Reginae Menyweather 3/1; Addison Sharpe 4/3; Kadence Rees 11/3; Bella Fregoso 2/0; CiCi Stashkiw-Risor 8/4; Adrienne Anderson 3/0.

Scoring/Aces vs. Pender: Reginae Menyweather 2/0; Addison Sharpe 1/0; and CiCi Stashkiw-Risor 1/0.

Winside splits home volleyball triangular

Winside split a volleyball triangular at home last week and handled Walthill in straight sets to improve to 6-7 on the season.

Last Tuesday, Winside lost to Homer (21-25, 25-20, 25-21) and beat Osmond (25-7, 25-17) in a triangular at Winside High School.

In the Homer match, Anslee Watters led with 10 kills, Hannah Gubbels added five and Natalie Kruger recorded four to go with 18 assists and five ace serves. Jerzi Carlson added three aces.

Defensively, Watters had 24 digs, Gubbels added 13 digs, Carlson had 11 and Kruger and Samantha Gubbels each had five. Rande Haase had two blocks.

Against Osmond, Watters led a balanced net attack with six kills with Haase, Aubrey Russell and Hannah Gubbels adding four apiece. Kruger had 15 assists. Hannah Gubbels had three ace serves and Carlson and Watters both had two.

On defense, Watters had 12 digs, the Gubbels sisters each had 10 and Micah Stenwall added seven. Russell had three blocks and Stenwall, Watters and Carlson each had two.

Monday, the Wildcats had no problem with Walthill, posting a 25-

12, 25-11, 25-8 win.

Watters had 10 kills, Kruger added five along with 20 assists, Russell and Hannah Gubbels each had four and Stenwall and Skye Schultz both had three. Watters recorded

a career-best 11 ace serves, Emily Jaeger added four, and Russell had three.

Defensively, Watters had seven digs, Carlson and Hannah Gubbels had five apiece, Stenwall, Kruger

and Samantha Gubbels each had two and Schultz and Skylar Spann both had one.

Winside hosted Wausa on Tuesday and will host Pender on Monday.

WSC golfers set marks at meet

The Wayne State College women's golf team set four new school records on their way to a second-place finish at the season-opening Golden Bear Classic, held Monday and Tuesday at Victory Links in Minneapolis, Minn.

The Wildcats shot a team score of 612 to finish second, just 14 shots behind Minnesota State at 598. Tournament host Concordia-St. Paul was third at 613. Rounding out the team standings in the 36-hole, two-day event were Bemidji State at 679 and Upper Iowa with a 712.

As a team, the 297 recorded by the Wildcats on Monday is a new single-day team school record. The old mark was 308 set Oct. 8, 2021 at the Norfolk Country Club at the Nebraska Intercollegiate Invite. The 36-hole total of 612 by the Wildcats is another school record, surpassing the 624 shot at the Mustang Invita-

tional in Marshall, Minn., September 25-26, 2021.

Junior Jazmine Taylor set new individual school records for 18-hole score and 36-hole score to lead the Wildcats, capturing individual medalist honors with rounds of 71 and 72 for two-day total of 143. The rounds of 71 and 72 broke the previous single day school records of 73 set twice by Taylor last season. The 143 total for 36 holes is another new school record, eclipsing the previous mark of 150 set by Taylor Oct. 8-9, 2021 at the Norfolk Country Club.

Saffire Sayre, a freshman from West Des Moines, Iowa, followed in a tie for ninth overall with rounds

of 73 and 81 for 154. Junior Abbey Kurmel and sophomore Abigail Brodersen each tied for 13th place with scores of 158 as Kurmel shot scores of 77 and 81 with Brodersen recording rounds of 76 and 82.

Tricia Hemann, a junior from Chanhassen, Minn., tied for 19th overall at 165 with rounds of 84 and 81.

Viktoria Bortkiewicz-Hamelin, a junior from Montreal, Quebec, played as an individual and shot rounds of 82 and 81 for a 163.

Wayne State will compete again this weekend at the Mustang Invitational, hosted by Southwest Minnesota State in Marshall, Minn.

Nebraska Beef Passport concludes Sept. 30

The 2022 Nebraska Beef Passport program will be wrapping up another successful season marking the end of the five-month long program. The last day to collect stamps will be Sept. 30.

The Nebraska Beef Passport program is sponsored by the Nebraska Beef Council and highlights over 40 restaurants across the state that serve outstanding beef menu items. During the summer months, passport holders were encouraged to visit the participating restaurants, order beef items and earn stamps. Each earned stamp qualifies as an entry into the drawing for one of two beef bundle give-a-ways valued at \$250 each. Additional prizes will be awarded to participants who reach milestones of five, ten or 30 stamps as well as a special prize drawing for acquiring digital stamps through the new mobile passport.

"It's been another great year for the Nebraska Beef Passport program," said Adam Wegner, director of marketing for the Nebraska Beef Council. "We've seen over 2,500 stamps already collected just through the digital platform alone. Most of the printed passports will be submitted over the next few weeks."

Stamps collected on printed passports must be submitted to the Nebraska Beef Council postmarked by Oct. 5. Winners will be announced by Oct. 31, 2022.

For additional information, visit www.GoodLifeGreatSteaks.org or contact the Nebraska Beef Council office at 1-800-421-5326.

Five Nebraska Nature Nerd Trivia Nights scheduled Oct. 19

Grab your fellow nature nerds and join the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission as it hosts five Nebraska Nature Nerd Trivia Nights across the state on Wednesday, Oct. 19.

Get your teams of no more than five players and be ready to compete for prizes. These events are for adults only and are free to attend with a purchase from the host brewery.

The trivia nights, which begin at 7 p.m. local time, are at:

Wayne - Johnnie Byrd Brewing Company, 121 N. Pearl Street;

For more information and or questions, email monica.macoubrie@nebraska.gov.



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Start your holiday shopping now!

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Request For Proposal

Wayne Community Schools, Wayne County School District No. 17, is requesting proposals for snow plowing and removal for a two-year period commencing with the 2022-23 school year to be submitted no later than Monday, October 3, 2022, at 2:00 PM in the Office of the Superintendent.

Successful bidder will provide snow plowing and removal for parking lot areas and main entry driveways to the elementary, and junior/senior high school facilities.

Bids should be submitted considering a per hour/per equipment basis. Please contact Jordan Widner, Director of Maintenance, Wayne Community Schools, (402) 375-3150, to arrange a time to inspect the parking lot and driveway areas in preparation for making a proposal.

Wayne Community Schools reserves the right to accept or refuse any or all bids, not necessarily the lowest bid. Notification of the winning bid will follow.

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Allen News

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ALLEN SENIOR CENTER Menu

Thursday, Sept. 22: Baked potato bar, fruit, milk.
Friday, Sept. 23: Tater tot casserole, fruit, juice, milk.
Monday, Sept. 26: Tuna & noodles, peas, fruit.
Tuesday, Sept. 27: Sweet & sour meatballs, rice, peas, milk.
Wednesday, Sept. 28: Tater tot casserole, corn/green beans, side salad, fruit, milk.

Events
Thursday, Sept. 22: FROGS
Friday, Sept. 23: Health Presentation.
Tuesday, Sept. 27: FROGS.
Thursday, Sept. 29: FROGS.
Friday, Sept. 30: Game Day; Tailgate at Fire Hall 3:30 - 7 p.m.

Allen Consolidated Schools Book Fair is BACK!

The Scholastic Semi-Annual Book Fair will take place in the library Sept. 20 - 26. Hours are 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. daily! (Closed from 10-10:50 a.m. due to Junior High English Class that Mrs. Anderson teaches)

Open until 7 p.m. during Parent Teacher Conferences on Thursday Sept. 22.

Proceeds from the Book Fair go towards books and other educational materials for our school's library and classrooms.

The book fair could be open by appointment from 4:45-6 p.m. most school days. Email canderson@allenschools.org to schedule

Wayne Farmers And Allen Farmers

Team Up To Direct Donations To Rural Nonprofits And Schools

The America's Farmers Grow Communities program, a Bayer Fund program, partners with farmers to provide grants to local nonprofits and schools to help their communities.

Through the program, farmers enroll for the chance to direct a \$5,000 donation to a local eligible nonprofit organization or school of their choice.

Local farmers Jay and Holli Jackson recently directed a \$5,000 Bayer Fund America's Farmers Grow Communities donation to Allen Consolidated Schools. Allen Consolidated Schools will use the funds to help support the local FFA chapter.

"This is a great opportunity for Allen Consolidated Schools and specifically our FFA chapter. We have a great community that is supportive of the school and our activities. We cannot thank the Jackson family enough for thinking of our school and our students" said, Mike Pattee, Superintendent.

In 2022, Bayer Fund revamped America's Farmers Grow Communities program, making it easier for farmers across the country to find and fund the organizations and institutions that keep their communities thriving. This included doubling the individual donations to \$5,000, up from \$2,500 in previous years to provide a greater impact to local rural communities.

For more than a decade, Grow Communities has partnered with farmers to direct funds to programs



Queen Shaylla Snyder and King Jaylen Jackson. Shaylla is the daughter of Jesse and Miriam Snyder and Jaylen is the son of Jay and Holli Jackson, all of Allen.

and organizations that contribute to their communities' health and vibrancy, such as food banks, schools and youth agriculture programs. Since the America's Farmers programs began in 2010, the initiatives have awarded nearly \$65 million to such programs.

"Each year we hear from several nonprofit and school leaders, as well as farmers, about the ways Grow Communities has made a difference," said Al Mitchell, Bayer Fund president. "Bayer Fund is proud to work side-by-side with farmers to identify local nonprofit organiza-

tions and schools that are improving rural communities in the areas of health and wellness, food and nutrition, and STEM and ag education."

Farmers can now enroll for the opportunity to direct a 2023 Grow Communities donation. To learn more about the enrollment process and how America's Farmers programs are making an impact, visit www.Americasfarmers.com.



The 2022 Allen Community Schools Homecoming Royalty included (front) Flower Girls ZoThea Hergott and Ainslee Gensler and Crown Bearers Bryan Roeber and Jason Warner. Middle row, stand-in for the 2021 Queen Cheyenne Keil, Sarah Papke, Madison Roach, Queen Shaylla Snyder, King Jaylen Jackson, Joe Grone and Brody Floyd. Back row, Junior Escorts, Olivia DeKok, Landon Monteith, Shantell Miller, Michael Dickens, Ava Anderson and Andrew Hogue; Master of Ceremonies, Joey Waldo and Caidan Gregg and 2021 King Gabe Reinert.

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FARM Safety & Health



The agricultural sector is among the most dangerous in terms of workplace injuries and fatalities. To help raise awareness during the busy fall harvest season, the third week of September is recognized as National Farm Safety and Health Week each year.

Agricultural & Rural Roadway Safety

The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports transportation incidents as the most common cause of fatalities in private sector agriculture. To help reduce the risk of accidents, tractor and equipment operators should always observe speed limits, stay alert and follow these safety tips:

- Always wear your seatbelt, and avoid speeding.
- Make sure all farm vehicle lights and flashers are working properly.
- Turn on lights and flashers even during daylight hours, and avoiding night travel when possible.
- Remember to always use turn signals.
- Install wide mirrors in order to see traffic behind you.
- Stay mindful of farm equipment height to avoid power lines and other overhead dangers.

- It is recommended allowing a following distance of three seconds or more on paved rural roads, and six seconds or more on gravel roads.
- Use slow-moving vehicle (SMV) emblems on all equipment.
- Apply reflective tape on the widest points of equipment.
- Add red taillights to towed equipment.
- Look out for passing vehicles when making left turns.
- Avoid distractions, and avoid driving when fatigued.

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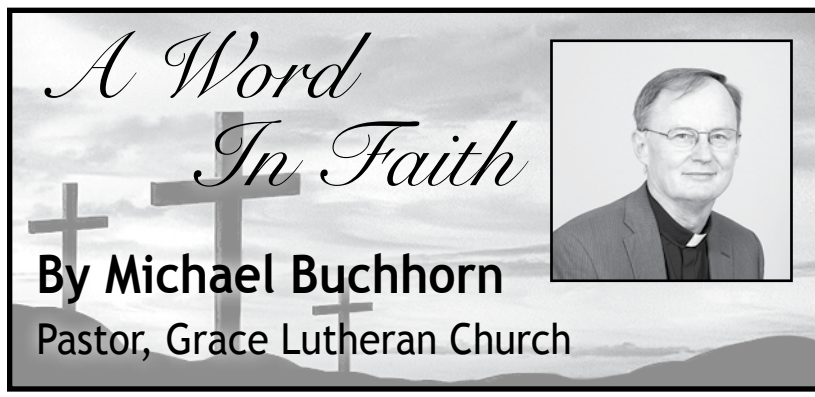
Prayer is conversation with Jesus

I love a good story. Stories of rescue. Stories of a heroic adventure. Stories of LIFE! I suppose that is why I love movies so much.

But what is even better than a movie is a real-life story of humanity... of love! That's why, when I read another newspaper article from a Pastor named Matt Furse, I knew I wanted to share the story he told. It's a story of faith and trust, and it is a story I think we should all hear.

A man's daughter called the local church one day and asked the local pastor to come and pray with her invalid father. When the pastor arrived, he found the man lying in bed with his head propped against up on two pillows. An empty chair set beside him. The pastor honestly assumed the man had been informed of his visit.

"I guess you were expecting me," he said.



"No. I wasn't." The old man replied. "Who are you?"

"I'm the new pastor at your church" the pastor responded. "When I saw the empty chair, I figured you knew that I was coming to see you."

"Oh yeah, the chair," said the bedridden man. "Would you mind closing the door?"

Puzzled, the pastor did as requested.

"I have never told anyone this, not even my daughter," said the man. "But after receiving faith in Christ, I struggled with how to pray. At church, I used to hear people pray, but I thought it was way too formal. I never tried to pray in that way."

The old man continued, "I abandoned any attempt at prayer until one day, about four years ago, my

best friend said to me, 'Prayer is a simple thing. It's simply a conversation with Jesus. Here's what I suggest: Sit down in a chair and place an empty chair in front of you. In faith, imagine Jesus sitting in the chair. It's not weird or anything because Jesus promised, 'I will never leave you, nor forsake you.' So just speak to Him in the same way that you're doing with me right now."

The father continued, "So I tried it out. I liked it so much that I do it a couple of hours every day. I have to be careful though. If my daughter ever saw me talking to an empty chair, she'd either have a nervous breakdown or send me right off to the funny farm!"

The minister was deeply moved by the story and encouraged the old man to continue his praying. He prayed with him and then he left.

Two nights later, the daughter called to tell the pastor that her father had passed way that afternoon.

"Did he die peacefully?" he asked.

"Yes. When I was leaving for the store, he called me over to his bedside. His last words to me were, 'I love you.' And then he kissed me on the forehead. When I returned from the store he was gone. But there was something strange about his death. Apparently, just before Dad died, he leaned over and rested his head upon the empty chair beside him. What do you make of that?"

The pastor slowly wiped a tear from his eye said, "I wish we could all go like that."

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life: the one who believes in me will live, even though he die.'" (John 11:25)

As we begin a new year of school and sports, and as 2022 ends with Christmas awaiting, I pray that you would know the Resurrection and the Life. For He is here for you,

and eagerly invites you to seek His mercy and love! Together we can grow in faith trusting He will hear our prayers and ever respond in His amazing grace!

Word in Faith is a collaboration of Wayne Association of Congregations and Ministers (WACAM), an organization partially funded by the Wayne Community Chest.

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September 20, 1962

Terrace Hall selects the "Most Aggressive Girl"

The fall social season had something new last week at Wayne State as Terrace Hall men staged an all-school party. Its highlight was selection of the "most aggressive girl" during the dance. Terrace men, observing the dancers, nominated several candidates. Finally, the names were tossed into a hat, and the winner drawn out. Master of Ceremonies Harold Larson looked at the name, gulped, and managed to announce the most aggressive "woman"- Mrs. Esther Prather, house mother of Morey Hall. Queen Esther, chuckling on her throne, received from Ed Humpal a rope ladder souvenir and a baseball bat for a scepter.

September 21, 1972

Band Day participants drop simple routines

Band Days have changed in recent years. Wayne State's annual Band Day Saturday demonstrated again what has developed in both music and marching. The 24 high school bands and the college band treated spectators at the morning parade to something more intricate than the simple marches that used to be the main marching fare. Many of them played music of concert complexity. March routines also looked fancier when some of the bands broke into steps one might see on the dance floor. And the fancy maneuvers seemed not to hinder the quality of music. Once they arrived in guidance, the bands had only an hour to put their show together on the WSC football field. There were two problems to be solved by the Wayne, Dr. Lee Mendyk, college band director, first, getting on and off the field in quick, orderly manner; second, rehearsing the music and keeping so many musicians on the beat in so large a formation. Both problems were solved. Wayne's Chamber of Commerce and the City of Wayne contributed to the day's success by providing lunch for the band in the Willow Bowl.

September 23, 1982

'Me and my Teddy Bear'

Kindergarteners of Wayne's West Elementary School combined learning fundamentals with fun last week during a special teddy bear unit. Teacher Joan Hansen said the 45 kindergarten students listened to stories about bears, counted teddy bears, lined the bears in order of size and were taught teddy bear finger plays. The students also made blue teddy bear cutouts which they used as place mats. Friday was Teddy Bear Day and the youngsters brought their own teddy bears from home to accompany them throughout the school day. Members of the afternoon class are Todd Koeber, Mark Lentz, Andrew Metz, Amy Cowgill, Troy Jeffrey, Heather Mau, Adam Bebee, Damon Wiser, Ryan Newman, Brent Geiger, Robbie Heier, Jason Starzl, Kelly Soden, Jessica Tannehill, Jason Peck, Melissa Struve, Tammy Teach, Heather Nichols, Jenny Thompson, Mark Roland, Trevor Schroeder and Mary Ewing.

September 18, 1992

Residents help rebuild home for Louisiana storm victims

Two Northeast Nebraska residents are grateful for being given an opportunity to help a Louisiana couple rebuild their home - and family. Kaye McAfee of Allen and Myron Olson of Wakefield returned home last week from LaPlace, La., where they spent three days helping construct a new home for Robert and Deborah Prine and their two young daughters, one-year-old Karen and four-year-old Heather. The Prines were living in a trailer and in the process of remodeling a house when a tornado spawned by Hurricane Andrew destroyed them both. The young couple had no insurance and were ineligible for government rebuilding funds because the property is owned by Mrs. Prine's father, who also doesn't qualify because he doesn't live there. Myron and Kaye's trip to Louisiana was organized by the Rev. Robert Johnson, pastor of the Evangelical Covenant Church in Stromsburg. They were among a group of 15 persons in three vehicles who drove 23 hours nonstop to LaPlace. The Nebraska residents left Sept. 3 and returned home on Sept. 8.

September 19, 2002

Lifetime resident to celebrate milestone

For anyone, living to be 100 years old is quite an accomplishment. But, for Willie C. Kay, who will observe his 100th birthday on Sept. 19, this is even more impressive because he lives alone in his own house southeast of Wayne and for the most part, takes care of himself without a lot of help. Willie was oldest of four sons born to August and Martha Kay. He is the only one left, as one of his brothers died of polio when he was 2 1/2 years old and his brothers John and Rudolph have also died. "When I was two years old, my parents bought this farm from my grandparents and I have lived on the same place for the past 97 years," Willie said. Kay remembers attending District 47 for schooling. Although he attended school until he was 17 years old, he never got through the seventh grade because after he was 12 years old, Willie only went to school in the winter months and stayed home to help on the farm during the rest of the school year. Willie intends to remain in his own home as long as possible, although he does acknowledge that living in a nursing home may be a possibility. "I don't know how much longer I will live. I just take care of myself and take one day at a time."

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Questions Call 402-644-8300



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For a complete listing of job requirements and application procedures, visit our Website at www.wsc.edu/hr, call 402-375-7403 or email hr@wsc.edu. WSC is an EOE.

Carhart Lumber in Wayne is hiring for full-time or part-time yard help

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Responsibilities:

- Deliver construction materials to and from job sites
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PO Box 667, Pender, NE 68047-0667.
Positions open until filled.
EOE Non-Profit Agency





1700 S. Beemer St., West Point, NE

Interested parties can pick up an application and apply at:



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Or apply on-line at: www.northstarservices.net



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Opportunities**

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- Student Activities Coordinator
- Director - Counseling Services
- Admissions Counselor
- Athletic Trainer

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FOUR BEDROOM market rate Rent-To-Own home at 910 Mando Drive in Wayne will be available for rent in October. Monthly rent is \$1100 plus all electric utilities. No pets, no smoking. Text Lowell Johnson at 402-369-4254. 9/22

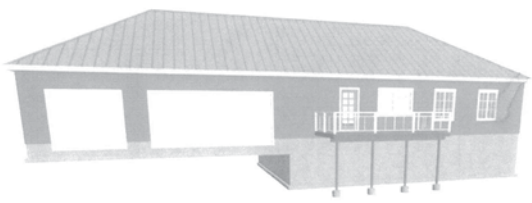
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603 CEDAR Street - LAUREL - \$325,000

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608 E Second Street - ALLEN - \$495,000

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504 Cedar Street - Laurel - \$185,000

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Chuck & Kathy Rutenbeck

Thank you to everyone who called, mailed, texted and emailed wishes for my 75th! I am so grateful God led me to Wayne 10 years ago and am glad to call Wayne home! God bless you all.
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713 Pearl Street, Wayne \$169,900

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OFFICE OF DEBRA FINN, WAYNE COUNTY CLERK
WAYNE, NEBRASKA

Notice is hereby given that on Tuesday, the 8th day of November, 2022, at the designated polling places in the precincts of Wayne County, Nebraska, an election will be held for electing candidates to various offices and for voting on measures. The polls will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 8:00 p.m.

CONGRESSIONAL TICKET	NONPARTISAN TICKET	NONPARTISAN TICKET	SCHOOL TICKET
For Representative in Congress District 3 - Two Year Term Vote for ONE Adrian Smith - Republican David J. Eise - Democratic Mark Elworth Jr. - Legal Marijuana NOW	Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Six Year Term Shall Judge Michael G. Heavican be retained in office? Judge of the Supreme Court District 3 - Six Year Term Shall Judge William B. Cassel be retained in office? Judge of the Court of Appeals District 3 - Six Year Term Shall Judge Francie Riedmann Weis be retained in office? Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court Six Year Term Shall Judge Daniel R. Fridrich be retained in office? For Secretary of State Vote for ONE Bob Evnen - Republican For State Treasurer Vote for ONE John Murante - Republican Katriona Tomsen - Libertarian For Attorney General Vote for ONE Mike Hilgers - Republican Larry Bolinger - Legal Marijuana NOW For Auditor of Public Accounts Vote for ONE Mike Foley - Republican Gene Siadek - Libertarian L. Leroy Lopez - Legal Marijuana NOW For Public Service Commissioner District 4 - Six Year Term Vote for ONE Eric Kamler - Republican	Northeast Nebraska Public Power For Board of Directors - Subdivision 1 Two Year Term - Vote for ONE No Filings Northeast Nebraska Public Power For Board of Directors - Subdivision 4 Six Year Term - Vote for ONE Paul J. Bodlak Stanton County Public Power Dist For Board of Directors - At Large Six Year Term - Vote for TWO John R. Gall Douglas Coertwich Educational Service Unit No. 1 For Board Member - District 7 Vote for ONE Tucker Hight SCHOOL TICKET Pender School District 1 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE J.J. Maisie Mandy Johnson Matt Peters Norfolk School District 2 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE Leann Widholm Jake Clausen Teri Bauer Lindsay Rohleder-Dixon Leonor Fuhrer Cindy Booth Pierce School District 2 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE Kevin L. Flesner Adam Venteicher Ted Krienke Todd S. Wragge Ryan Collison Wayne School District 17 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE Jodi Puller Sylvia Ruhl Justin A. Davis Michael J. Carnes Jarret Harmer Wisner-Pilger School District 30 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE David Raabe Mike Stuhr Andrew Scholting Randolph School District 45 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE Paul Schmit Sandra R. Owens Lucas J. Miller Laurel/Concord/Coleridge Dist 54 For Board of Education Vote for up to FOUR Jay Hall Scott L. Taylor Daniel Kuhlman Angela Johnson Grant M. Pettit Cade Sohler	Winside School District 95R For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE Jonathan Jaeger Kate Falk Tarrin Quinn Wakefield School District 560 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE Jeff Keagle Sherri Lynn Lundahl Bree Brown CITY TICKET Wakefield City Mayor Vote for ONE Steven Henry Greve James Lehmkuhl City of Wakefield For Council Member - Ward II Vote for ONE Matt Brenn J. Dave Rusk Wayne City Mayor Vote for ONE Cale Giese B.J. Woehler City of Wayne For Council Member - Ward 1 Vote for ONE Karen Granberg Clayton W. Bratcher City of Wayne For Council Member - Ward 2 Vote for ONE Matthew Eischeid City of Wayne For Council Member - Ward 3 Vote for ONE Jason Karsky City of Wayne For Council Member - Ward 4 Vote for ONE Jill Brodersen City of Wayne For Municipal Airport Authority Six Year Term - Vote for up to TWO Travis Meyer David R. Ley VILLAGE TICKET Carroll Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to TWO Dalton H. Dunklau Tamara Webb Hoskins Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE James Miller Richard Doffin Jr. Andrew Beckman Tyler Classen Sholes Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to TWO Michelle Greene Chris Rath Winside Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE Teresa Walters
COUNTY TICKET For County Clerk Vote for ONE Debra Finn - Republican For County Assessor Vote for ONE Dawn Duffy - Republican For County Sheriff Vote for ONE Jason Dwinell - Republican For County Treasurer Vote for ONE Lisa Lindsay - Republican For County Attorney Vote for ONE Amy K. Miller - Republican For Clerk of District Court Vote for ONE Debra K. Allemann-Dannelly - Republican For County Surveyor Vote for ONE Terry L. Schultz - Democratic For County Commissioner District 1 - Vote for ONE Terry Sievers - Republican For County Commissioner District 3 - Vote for ONE James Rabe - Republican	For Member of the State Board of Education - District 06 Vote for ONE Sherry Jones Danielle Helzer Wayne County Weed Board For Board Member - Urban Position Vote for up to TWO Thomas L. Sievers Northeast Community College For Board of Governors - District 1 Vote for ONE Delbert J. Ames Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources Dist For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 1 Vote for ONE Chad Korth Byron Unselnd Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources Dist For Board of Directors - Subdistrict 5 Vote for ONE Garry A. Anderson Kris M. Loberg Lower Elkhorn Natural Resources Dist For Board of Directors - At Large Vote for ONE Joel J. Hansen James Aschoff Cuming County Public Power Dist For Board of Directors - Subdivision 1 Six Year Term - Vote for ONE Brad Petersen Becky McGuire		

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2023 Calendar
We are working on our 2023 Calendar and would like you to help us with submitting pictures we can use! We are doing a "Kids Do The Darndest Things!" theme this year ... so we would be happy to use any of your kids doing funny things!!!

We'd like to have your pictures by October 15, please!

To Submit a Photo to go on our Calendar email to alyce@wayneherald.com or bring in and we can scan it for you! We can use either color or black & white photos!

Contact one of our Sales Staff to have your ad placed on our 2023 Calendar
The Wayne Herald • 402-375-2600
Tracy • sales@wayneherald.com
Talesha • whads@wayneherald.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
		5	6	7	8	9
		10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19
		20	21	22	23	24
		25	26	27	28	29
		30	31			

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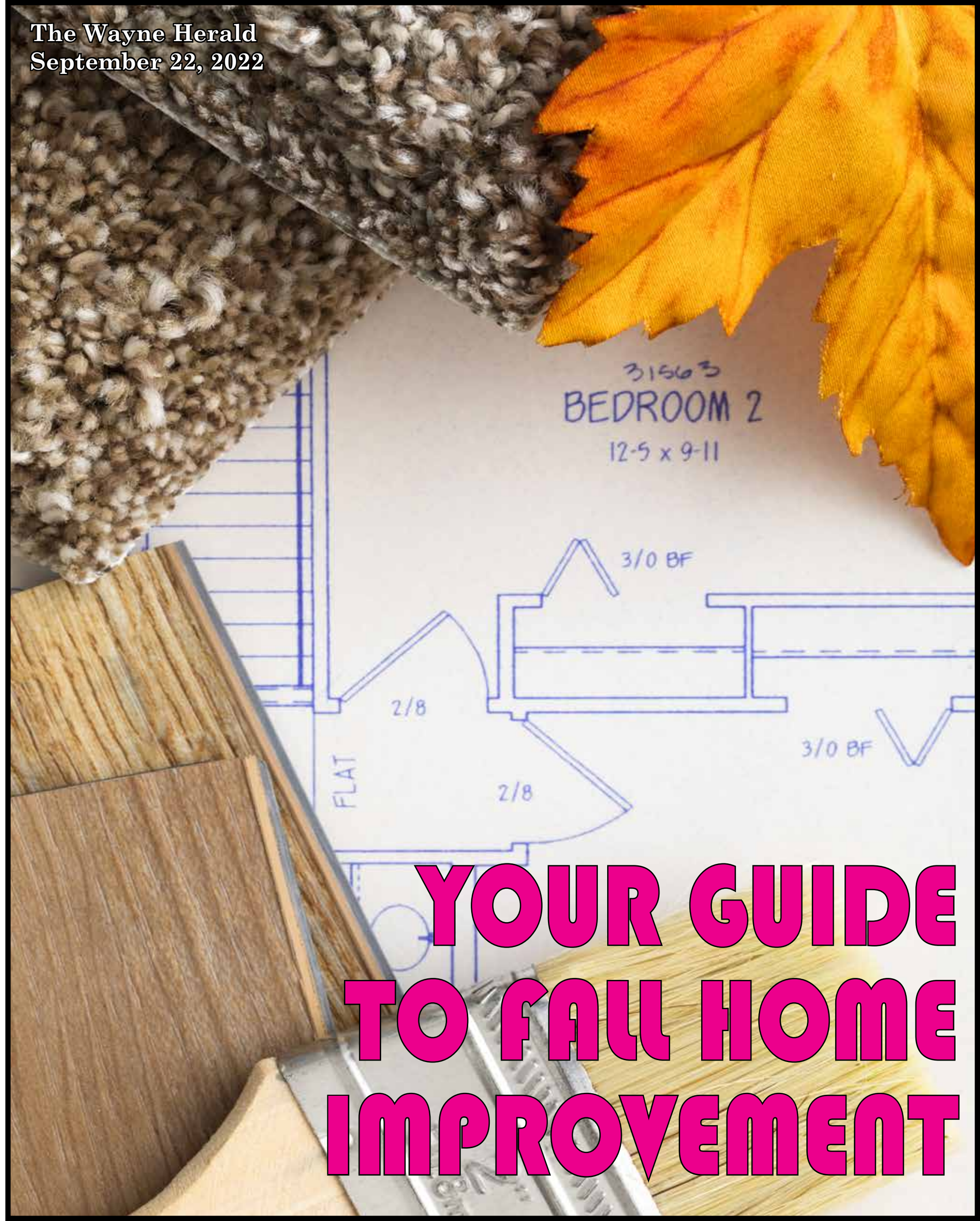
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The Wayne Herald
 September 22, 2022



YOUR GUIDE TO FALL HOME IMPROVEMENT

Wayne Community Housing Development works to provide affordable housing

Since 1996, the goal of Wayne Community Housing Development Corporation (WCHDC) has been to provide affordable housing. Through construction of apartment buildings, houses, rehabilitation of houses, and by offering down payment assistance (DPA), WCHDC has striven to make living in Wayne possible for families buying their first homes or affordable for those who may not have the funds for a down payment. All in all, the organization has funded rehab, down payments, and new construction for over 200 families in Wayne and surrounding Counties including the communities of Carroll, Emerson, Wakefield, Winside, and Wisner.

As a non-profit organization, the activities mentioned are not possible without the help of the community and local businesses. By working together we have matched funds with different grants from the state and federal programs, as well as received local funds from generous donors.

The support WCHDC receives helps with the operational costs of employees who work diligently in the office to run the organization as a whole as well as create a pool of money that helps with DPA and rehab projects. Other services the organization offers include: education classes; private consulta-



tions on homeownership; management of rental assistance apartments at Meadowview Estates; rental consultations; working with contractors; working with the various entities in Wayne and outside of Wayne (i.e. WSC, WCS, banks, real estate companies, city governments; social services, etc.); everyday office procedures of payroll, paying bills, fundraising, researching, and etc.

Community support is vital in helping the organization continue to help individuals and families find a place to call home in our community.

Among the programs available through the WCHDC is the PURchase/

Rehab/Resell Program (PPR). It utilizes HOME funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide down payment assistance to any homebuyers who meet income eligibility requirements and wish to purchase a single-family residence.

The WCHDC works with eligible homebuyers to identify housing units that need improvements to bring them in line with current housing standards. WCHDC will purchase the property, perform the necessary improvements in cooperation with the family's wishes and then resell the residence to the family. WCHDC will provide down

payment assistance to help make first mortgage financing possible.

The maximum amount of assistance allowed by P/R/R is \$20,000 or up to 20% of the final sale price of the rehabbed residence, whichever is less. The selling price plus rehab costs shall not exceed \$157,000.

The applicant is required to provide a minimum of \$500 cash investment.

The P/R/R assistance is a deferred, 0% interest loan. The loan payment is due upon resale of the home, when the primary mortgage is paid off and with any transfer of the property.

All P/R/R applications will be approved on a first-come, first-serve basis. Eligibility for this program is determined by family size and household income.

To qualify for this program, the home must require a minimum of \$1,000 in improvements and must be a single-family residential property within the service area of WCHDC (Wayne, Thurston, Cuming, Burt, Dodge and Washington counties).

No property, or portion thereof, assisted through the program may be retained for rental purposes of any kind.

The property chosen must be priced

See HOUSING, page 3A

DIY projects that can conserve energy around the house

Home renovation projects can pay numerous dividends. Renovations can have a positive effect on resale value, make homes more livable for residents and, in some ways, make homes more affordable.

Renovation projects that aim to conserve energy can save homeowners substantial amounts of money. Such projects don't often require considerable effort or even sizable financial investments, which can make homeowners skeptical as to just how much they can save after completing the project. But the scale of a project may have little to do with how much homeowners will save.

For example, the U.S. Department of Energy notes that a relatively effortless task like turning back a thermostat between 7° and 10° F for eight hours per day can save homeowners as much as \$83 per year. A more labor-intensive task like planting shade trees saves homeowners an average of between \$35 and \$119 per year.

When looking for ways to conserve energy around the house and save money, homeowners need not necessarily commit to expensive projects. The DOE notes that the following are some energy-saving projects and details what homeowners can expect to save after completing them. While each individual project may not result in jaw-dropping savings, homeowners who follow many of these recommendations may end up saving more than \$1,000 per year.

Project: Install exterior low-e storm windows.

What is it? Low-e windows reflect infrared heat back into a home. Such windows are coated with an ultra-thin layer of metal that improves the window's insulation ability.

How much can I save? Homeowners

who install low-e windows can save between 12 and 33 percent on their annual heating and cooling costs.

Project: Seal uncontrolled air leaks.

What is it? Air leaks let cool air in during winter and warm air in during summer. Caulking, sealing and weather stripping all cracks and large openings can cut back on air leaks

near your home, it will begin to shade your windows within a year of being planted. Depending on the species of the tree and the home, the shade tree will begin shading the roof within five to 10 years. The DOE notes that shading is the most cost-effective way to reduce air conditioning costs.

How much can I save? Properly planted shade trees can reduce air conditioning costs by anywhere from 15 to 50 percent.

Project: Insulate the water heater tank

What is it? New water tanks are likely already insulated. But homeowners with older hot water tanks can insulate their tanks with a water heater insulating blanket kit.

How much can I save? Insulating a water heater tank can save homeowners as much as 16 percent on their annual water heating bills.

Even the smallest DIY projects can produce big savings. More information about energy-saving home improvement projects can be found at www.energy.gov.



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LOW TREE ZONE

Avoid planting within 20 ft. of power lines. If planting is unavoidable, only plant shrubs and small trees that reach a mature height of 15 ft. or less.

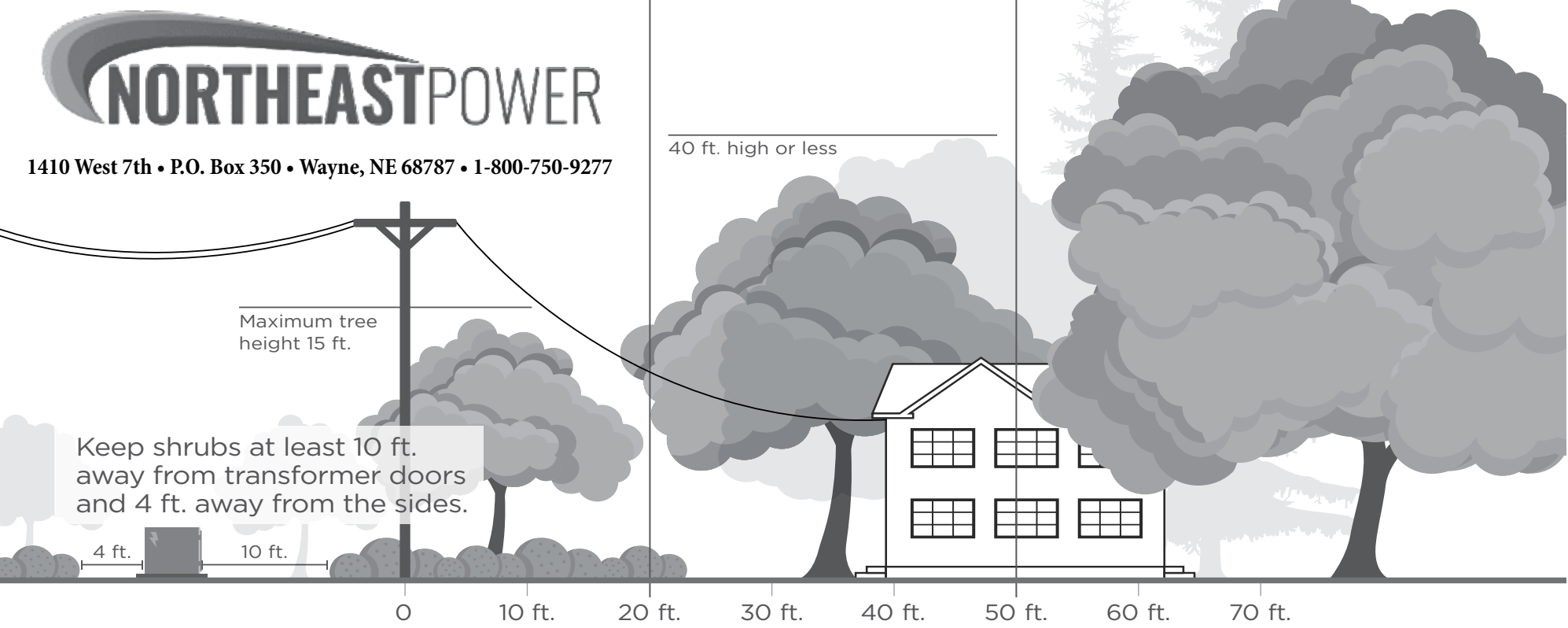
MEDIUM TREE ZONE

Plant medium trees (under 40 ft. when mature) at least 25 ft. away from power lines.

LARGE TREE ZONE

Plant large trees (over 40 ft. when mature) at least 50 ft. away from power lines.

Over 40 ft.



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What to do with a home office after going back to work

The number of professionals working remotely skyrocketed in 2020, when businesses were forced to close their offices in an effort to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. As the world transitions from the pandemic phase to an endemic phase, many office workers also are transitioning back to their offices.

A recent survey from the Pew Research Center found that 59 percent of workers in the United States are

now working from home all or most of the time, while 22 percent are rarely or never working from home. In 2020, 70 percent of workers were working from home all or most of the time, while 17 percent rarely or never worked from home. Those figures reflect that work life, albeit gradually, is returning to pre-pandemic norms.

As individuals find themselves going back to the office with increased frequency, they might be wondering what



to do with their home offices. If space inside a home is at a premium, then repurposing a home office into a space that can be used more frequently is a great way to make better use of the existing square footage. The following are some ways homeowners can transform home offices created during the pandemic into more useful spaces.

- Go back in time. Perhaps the easiest thing to do with a home office that is no longer needed is to return the room to its pre-pandemic state. Because the shift to remote work was so sudden, many homeowners were forced to turn washrooms, breakfast nooks or areas of their basements into home offices. Returning those spaces to their initial functions can make a home feel less cluttered and add more room for residents to relax and get around.

- Create a new entertainment area. Many homeowners converted a spare bedroom into a home office during the pandemic. In such instances, guest beds and other furniture might have been moved into storage or even sold or discarded. Either way, that means the office was cleared of bedroom furniture. Now that the room no longer needs to be an office and now that

homeowners have made due without the extra bedroom, the room can be converted into an entertainment area. Swap out the desk for a foldout couch that can still accommodate overnight guests when necessary. Then mount a flatscreen television on the wall and utilize the room as a gaming room for kids or a film room/man cave for mom or dad.

- Create an in-law suite. The pandemic separated families, as people living in different households were advised to avoid gatherings to stop the spread of the virus. Individuals with aging parents may have felt particularly heartbroken by this forced separation, especially if their elderly parents were living in nursing homes that were stretched thin by staff shortages and other challenges. In the aftermath of the pandemic phase, families may want to invite aging relatives to live with them. Home offices can be repurposed into in-law suites so aging parents don't have to confront the isolation and loneliness many felt during the height of the pandemic.

As professionals return to their offices with greater frequency, they can transform their offices into spaces they're likely to use more often.

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Seven characteristics of modern houses

Homes contain a variety of components that appeal to homeowners with different ideas about the perfect place to call home. That starts with the style of a home.

Buildings are classified according to share components. A Craftsman style home will have a covered porch with a set of wide base columns, while a Cape Cod home is often defined by a gabled roof and dormer windows. Modern houses, which are sometimes called contemporary homes even though the terms are not interchangeable, will have their own sets of unique characteristics. Here's a look at seven features that make modern homes unique.

1. Minimalist approach: Contemporary and modern homes both employ an approach that leans toward minimalism, including clean design lines. Spaces are open and airy without the clutter of too many ornate architectural details. While modern homes may have some curvature to their design, contemporary ones are all about an angular look.

2. Neutral color palette: Modern homes tend to utilize a neutral color palette. Modern homes may use "earthy" elements, such as wood and brick, in ways that do not look rustic. Contemporary homes rely on a color palette of black and white with shades of gray or other neutral colors.

3. Geometric shapes: Modern homes have strong horizontal and vertical elements that showcase geometric shapes in their designs. Contemporary homes often have flat roofs, while modern homes may not.

4. Large, unadorned windows: Most modern homes showcase a lot of natural light by utilizing large windows that are not covered up by heavy window treatments or elements like shutters and thick trims. Large windows are the focus of the interior and shift attention to the view outdoors.

5. Open floor concept: A hallmark of modern interior design, the open concept floor plan removes many of the walls that tend to separate common areas of a home. This helps to foster the spread of natural light and

maintains the emphasis on simplicity of design.

6. Smart elements: Thanks to the proliferation of smart technology, smart homes are cropping up with greater frequency. While smart devices can be included in any home style, they tend to feel like they were designed specifically for modern homes. In a similar vein, modern homes may include environmentally friendly elements, such as solar panels, upcycled materials, added insulation, and energy efficient

lighting.

7. Updated kitchen spaces: The clean lines and attention to technology and open space generally extends to modern kitchens. Modern kitchens tend to feature efficient, top-tier appliances with additional storage and space amenities that keep the room from feeling cluttered.

While some may consider modern homes austere, many others are right at home among their clean lines and airy spaces.

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Housing

(continued from page 2A)

in a way that the necessary improvements can be funded and the final sale price will remain under the maximums set forth by this program and/or HUD.

Applicants must complete a homebuyer education course as defined by the WCHDC prior to the closing date on any home purchase.

Mytzy Rodriguez-Kufner is the executive director of WCHDC. She and her family moved to Wayne in 2013 and she has been involved in all aspects of Wayne community life.

She is an educator by training and lives by the motto of "life-long Learner." Her interest in half individuals find affordable housing led her to pursue this position in June of 2020. She is

also bilinguql, which is an asset to the organization.

Mollie Young is the "friendly face at the front counter." She has worked for WCHDC since 2019.

Wayne Community Housing Development Corporation sponsors include Wayne Area Economic Development Corporation, Nebraska Investment Finance Authority, Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District, NeighborWorks Northeast Nebraska, the city of Wayne and the Wayne Green Team.

For more information on services available through WCHDC email wchdc@waynetworks.org or call (402) 375-5266.

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Three factors to consider before converting an attic

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, many homeowners suddenly found themselves in need of more usable square footage in their homes. Required to work from home due to social distancing recommendations, millions of working professionals suddenly found themselves setting up shop at kitchen tables or islands, in alcoves, garages, or even walk-in closets. Those makeshift offices were never supposed to be permanent, but

as companies loosen workplace policies and embrace full remote or hybrid working arrangements, professionals are seeking more permanent home office solutions. Home additions are a possibility for homeowners who need more usable square footage, but add-ons may not be the right option for everyone. If adding on won't work, homeowners may want to look up ... at their attics. Attics with ample space can make



on where homeowners live, but that 7-7-70 guideline is generally the minimum requirement. An attic that fails to meet such requirements won't necessarily be a lost cause, but it might be costly to make adjustments that ultimately align with local codes.

2. Access: Access is another aspect that must adhere to local safety guidelines. Many attics are accessible only through pulldown ladders, but that will have to change if homeowners repurpose their attic spaces. A staircase that complies with local laws will need to be installed, and contractors can work with homeowners to build that and estimate the cost. Homeowners who simply want to put desks in their attics without going with full-fledged conversions are urged to adhere to local access requirements anyway, as they're intended to ensure residents can safely escape attics in the case of a fire or another emergency.

3. Climate control: Attics are converted to provide residents with more livable space. Converted space is only livable if the climate within the attic can be controlled so it's cool in the summer and warm in the winter. An existing HVAC unit needs to efficiently heat and cool an extra room. If it can't, bills might spike because the rest of the home likely won't be as comfortable, forcing homeowners to adjust thermostats to offset that discomfort. That also could affect the unit's life expectancy.

for ideal home offices, as they're away from the hustle and bustle of a home's main floor. That can make it easier to concentrate when everyone is in the house and reduce the likelihood that video calls with colleagues and clients will be interrupted by kids and pets.

Attic conversions are not always possible, and the following are three important factors homeowners may need to consider before they can go forward with such projects.

1. Dimensions: Both the renovation experts at This Old House and the real estate experts at UpNest indicate that at least half of a finished attic must be a minimum of seven feet high and seven feet wide and 70 square feet. Requirements may differ depending

Before going forward with an attic renovation, homeowners should contact HVAC professionals to determine if attic spaces can be serviced with the existing units and ductwork, or if an alternative arrangement must be worked out to make the spaces livable.

Attic conversions can be great ways to make existing spaces more livable. Homeowners considering such projects should pay attention to three important variables as they try to determine if attic conversions will work for them.

Advice offered to upgrade bathroom safety features

Bathrooms can benefit from updates that improve their form and function. While styles and color patterns may inspire bathroom renovations, improvements to safety also should be considered.

Bathrooms can be one of the most dangerous rooms in a house. Bath and shower areas account for about two-thirds of accidental injuries in these spaces. Many other injuries involve the toilet. A thorough investigation of bathroom dangers conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that mishaps near

Another option is to invest in risers that can be attached to an existing toilet.

•Grab bars: Seniors may use towel holders as grab bars, which don't have stability and can dislodge from the wall. Install secured side grip bars by the toilet and inside the shower to make maneuvering easier.

•Water temperature: Seniors may be vulnerable to hot water temperatures. Lower the water temperature setting on the hot water heater. StaySafe.org recommends 120 F.

•Faucets: Change faucet handles

and fixtures with rounded corners. Should a senior fall against something, the rounded corner may prevent serious injury.

•Shower benches and transfer seats: Benches and transfer seats make it easier getting in and out of the shower. Also, sitting while showering reduces the risk of becoming light-headed or losing balance.

•Walk-in tubs/showers: Minimizing the threshold to the shower or bathtub is an important safety feature. Some manufacturers make walk-in

tubs with doors that secure and make watertight seals. Showers that don't have a lip or tub to scale also are better for seniors.

•Lighting: Eyesight weakens over time, so improve lighting with combinations of overhead lighting and softer side lighting. Night lights or soft-glowing toilet lights can make it easier to get around the bathroom in the middle of the night.

These are just some improvements that can create safer bathroom environments for seniors.



the bathtub, shower, toilet, and sink caused an estimated 234,094 nonfatal injuries in the United States among people aged 15 years and older.

Seniors are particularly vulnerable in the bathroom due to reduced mobility and flexibility, visual impairment and other factors. However, some key modifications can make bathrooms much safer for aging populations.

•Raised toilet seat: Install an ADA-compliant raised toilet seat. Standard toilet seats are roughly 15 inches high, but elevated seats can raise the bowl an additional two to four inches.

to paddle-style handles rather than knobs. Knobs can be challenging to grip for those with arthritis in their hands. Also, handles that are easier for seniors to use can reduce the risk of the elderly losing their balance as they attempt to gain leverage to turn the water on and off.

•Nonslip mats: Nonslip mats or tape strips can be used in showers and tub bottoms, as well as outside of the shower to reduce the risk of slips and falls. Rugs should have rubberized, slip-resistant backing.

•Rounded corners: Choose counters

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Simple ways to improve a kitchen pantry

People have been spending more time at home than in years past, and certain projects around the house have become a priority. One home improvement idea that serves the double benefit of creating organization and making cooking at home more efficient is to reimagine the kitchen pantry.

A pantry is a room or closet where food, beverages and linens or dishes are stored. Pantries can be highly useful spaces that provide ancillary storage in kitchens. Many modern homes are equipped with pantries, but older

homes may require some modification to create more useful pantries. Whether starting from scratch or modifying an existing pantry, these tips can help projects go more smoothly.

- Maximize vertical storage. Utilizing vertical areas can help increase storage capacity. Build in extra nooks by investing in undershelf storage baskets. These baskets can instantly create designated areas for different types of ingredients. Homeowners also can look for ways to use the inside of cabinet doors or add extra shelves on

walls or in eaves.

- Consider your needs. Figure out which items you would like to store in the pantry and then shop for corresponding storage systems. For example, storage solutions may feature wine bottle racks, baskets for potatoes and other produce, shelving for small appliances, and even pull out racks for baking pans or cutting boards.
- Use clear storage. Put ingredients in clear, airtight containers of similar dimensions so that you can easily find items you need. Transfer bulky items, like cereals and baking supplies, to storage containers for uniformity.
- Store bulk items elsewhere. Bulk shopping can be cost-efficient, but bulk items can quickly eat up real estate in the pantry. Designate another area for non-perishable bulk products, like paper goods or canned items, such as in a garage or utility room.
- Pull out drawers are convenient. Pull-out drawers can reduce the need to seek and reach for items. These



drawers conveniently roll out so items in the back can be accessed without disturbing foods in the front. Drawers can be custom built for any pantry space.

- Make it accessible. Think about who will be taking items from the pantry. Put children's snacks on the bottom pantry shelf where they can reach them, and then organize other shelves for adults in the home.

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Easy ways to clean up leaves

Autumn is marked by colorful foliage and plummeting temperatures. Once those leaves reach peak color, they fall from the branches and collect on lawns, necessitating cleanup projects.

For homeowners with big yards, such a project can be tiring and time-consuming. However, there are ways to make leaf cleanup easier.

One of the easiest ways to clean up leaves is to reach for a lawn mower rather than a rake. The mower will cut leaves down to smaller sizes, creating an effective mulch that can add nutrients back into the lawn. Mowed leaves also can be collected in a mower bag and added to garden beds or compost piles.

For those who prefer manual raking, select a rake with tines that will not skewer the leaves in the process. Big rakes also can make faster work of gathering leaves into piles.

The home improvement resource The Family Handyman advocates for the use of a lawn sweeper. This is a manual device that has a rotating sweeping brush that gathers up lawn debris and leaves into an attached hopper bag. Like mowed leaves, the bag can be emptied into a compost pile or distributed where needed.

Raking leaves onto a large tarp is another option. Once it's full, the tarp can be taken to the curb where many towns will collect the leaves seasonally. Otherwise, the tarp can be used as a funnel to put leaves into a gardening bag or another appropriate receptacle.

Leaf blowers remain a fast option for cleaning up yards, but they require electricity or gas and can be noisy. Still, they are a popular choice for large landscapes or when quick work needs to be made of leaf clean-up.

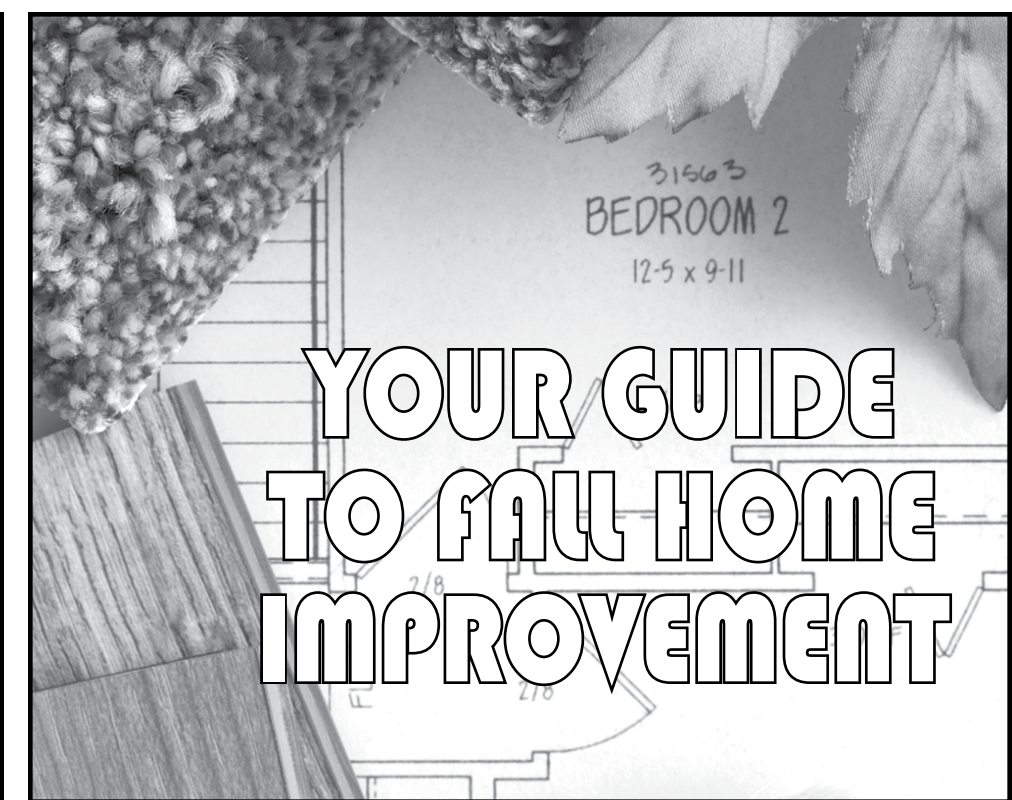
Leaves will fall in autumn, but luckily homeowners have various methods at their disposal to tame the mess.

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Three features to focus on when designing an entertainment room

It might not take a home theater to enjoy the big game with friends or fire up family movie night, but a spacious entertainment room can certainly enhance such experiences.

That's especially true when homeowners give considerable thought to designing entertainment rooms. Film buffs and sports fans may have different notions of the ideal entertainment room, but the following are three design features that merit consideration by all looking to upgrade their entertainment spaces.

1. Screen

It's easy to be overwhelmed by the sheer abundance of options when choosing a screen for an entertainment room. Televisions have long been a go-to choice, but projector screens merit consideration as well. If the room will be devoted exclusively to entertainment, then a television or a fixed projector screen might be homeowners' best bets. Fixed projec-

tor screens are installed on the wall and projectors are typically hung from the ceiling. Semi-fixed projector screens provide a similar viewing experience but can be pulled down or retracted when residents are not watching a movie.

Semi-fixed can even be installed in front of a television so residents can stream a movie on the projector and then watch television through a cable box when it isn't movie night. Projectors often provide much bigger screens for a fraction of the cost of equally sized televisions. However, sports fans may prefer televisions, as live streaming sports has not yet caught up to streaming movies and TV shows in terms of reliability or even availability. As a result, many sporting events remain available via cable television only, while even those that can be streamed tend to have a few hiccups during the game.

2. Sound

Though televisions and projectors tend to come with built-in audio, the quality of that sound often leaves much to be desired. So homeowners will want to choose a sound system that provides theater-quality sound.

If the room is being renovated from scratch, such as a full basement remodel, installing speakers in the ceiling can create a genuine theater experience. Ceiling speakers also can be installed in existing rooms, though that will likely cost more and extend the time it takes to complete the project. Surround sound is a must in any entertainment room. Homeowners worried about wires need not fret, as modern wireless surround sound systems are available at many different price points. Some systems are better suited to small rooms than others, so homeowners should measure the room and choose a system that best suits its dimensions.

3. Seating

Whether you're using the space to watch the big game or fire up the latest blockbuster (or both), chances are you're going to be spending considerable time sitting in your new entertainment room. A modular sofa might be ideal, as it can be reconfigured depending on what you're watching and how many people are watching along with you. Comfort is indeed important, but you'll also want seating that provides ample support so you aren't battling any aches and pains once you leave the room. That support also can keep residents and guests from dozing off.

Everyone has their own ideas on what makes the ideal entertainment space. But sports fans, movie buffs and others can all agree that an entertainment room worthy of the big game or the latest blockbuster has a sizable screen, pristine sound and comfortable seats.

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How to approach a basement remodel

A fully finished and functional basement is a dream for many homeowners. Such a space, when completed, can serve as an entertainment space, a man cave, an artist's studio, or any number of additional functions.

Despite their usefulness, finished basements are something of a rarity. In an analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Construction, the National Association of Home Builders® found that only around 24 percent of single-family homes built in 2018 have basements. Homeowners who do not currently have a finished basement but are considering such a project can approach the remodel with a few key factors in mind. Careful consideration of these factors can ensure the project is budget-friendly and worthy of homeowners' investments.

Investment value: Conventional wisdom among home renovation and real estate experts suggests that a basement remodel is best if done to satisfy current inhabitants and not necessarily to appeal to prospective buyers once the home is put up for sale. Remodeling magazine reports that a midrange basement remodel costing around \$70,000 will provide a return of around \$49,000 (or 70 per-



cent) at resale. Though that's not a poor return on investment, homeowners who are remodeling a basement solely for the potential ROI at resale can find other projects that provide a greater return.

Foundation: The foundation of the home must garner ample consideration before beginning a basement remodel. Certain foundation issues, such as soft concrete, cracked or curved outside walls and cracks in the flooring, are

indicative of significant issues with the foundation. These issues can be costly to address, and they must be remedied before the basement remodel can begin.

Existing space: Some homeowners may have bought their homes with partially finished basements or even finished areas that they simply want to remodel. In such instances, a pre-remodel inspection from a licensed home inspector can save homeowners

lots of money and heartache over the long haul. Partially finished or even aging finished basements might not have been renovated in adherence to codes, which could lead to costly violations down the road. An inspection in advance of a remodel can give homeowners an idea of what they will need to do to bring the basement up to code. Local officials also can provide a list of necessary permits and a detailed description of requirements to ensure the remodeled basement adheres to code.

Soil: Soil surrounding the home should be tested prior to beginning the project. Radon is an odorless gas found in soil that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes can increase individuals' risk for lung cancer. Radon can seep into basements and increase that risk even further if it is present at elevated levels in the soil surrounding a home. Radon tests are simple and inexpensive, and no basement remodel project should begin without first conducting such a test.

Finished basements are valuable spaces. Homeowners who want to finish or remodel their basements should consider a host of factors before beginning the renovation.

Fireplace trends help create attractive, comfortable rooms

Fireplaces are useful features in a home. Fireplaces are sources of ambient heat and also add style to indoor spaces.

Fireplaces can complement just about any interior style. Fireplaces can be traditional and burn wood or connect to a home's natural gas supply for on-demand ambiance. What's more, fireplaces may come in vented or ventless varieties, depending on homeowners' preferences and what is allowed by community building codes. That means a chimney or flue may not be needed — expanding the list of rooms where a fireplace can be installed.

Certain trends have emerged among fireplace fans in recent years. Here's a look at what's getting consumers fired

up about these home decor elements.

Minimalist style: Many fireplaces are designed in neutral colors with minimal trim that directs focus on the fire and not the appliance. When the fireplace is not in use, it blends in with surroundings and will not compete for attention with other design elements.

Convertible fireplaces: Homeowners can choose between open or sealed fireplaces. A convertible fireplace enables homeowners to have the best features of these options. A convertible fireplace can be converted to wood from gas, or the opposite, in as little as 30 minutes.

Nature-inspired materials: Natural stone continues to be a material of choice in fireplace surrounds. Light colors work well for a fireplace,

and also fit with today's lighter color interior design preferences. Natural stone also works perfectly with both contemporary and rustic decor.

Vintage fireplaces: Vintage continues to be a buzzword in 2022, and the choice to go vintage also applies to fireplace styles. A room decorated in vintage elements can be complemented with a vintage fireplace or one designed to look vintage.

Integrate into wall decor:

Fireplaces that are built right into a wall save space. One can have a television and a fireplace on the same wall. These types of fireplaces work well in modern home designs. Other fireplaces may be built into bookshelves or other wall features.

Fireplaces can improve the appeal of a home. Various trends are popular this year, making fireplaces highly coveted features.



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Explaining the program

Ryan Hobza, building construction instructor at Northeast Community College, shows freshmen students two-student-built houses on the Norfolk campus. Students at Northeast construct two homes each year that are auctioned off and moved to new locations throughout the area. Classes offered at Northeast allow students to have on-the-job construction experiences.



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Affordable ways to make homes more appealing to modern buyers

Home trends come and go. Today's must-have items tend to become tomorrow's outdated features in the blink of an eye.

Homeowners who plan to stay in their current homes for years to come needn't prioritize modern trends over personal preferences. However, homeowners looking to sell their homes can consider these favored features to increase their properties' appeal to modern buyers.

- **Separate laundry room:** According to the National Association of Home Builders' 2021 What Home Buyers Really Want report, a separate room dedicated to laundry was the most desired feature among prospective home buyers. Though it might not inspire the awe of an outdoor living room or floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking a wooded backyard, a laundry room fills a direct and universal need. Perhaps that's why 87 percent of buyers want a room dedicated to laundry in a home.

- **Exterior lighting:** Drive through a modern suburban neighborhood at night and it won't take long before you realize the popularity of exterior lighting. And that's no coincidence, as homeowners everywhere appear to embrace exterior lighting. The NAHB report indicates that exterior light-



Side-by-side kitchen sinks are sought-after features among prospective home buyers.

ing is the most sought-after outdoor feature. The good news for prospective sellers is that exterior lighting is an inexpensive and instant way to transform a property at night. Some solar-powered lighting along walk-

ways and outside the front door can make a home feel more safe, while some uplighting of large trees in the backyard can produce a sight to behold once the sun goes down.

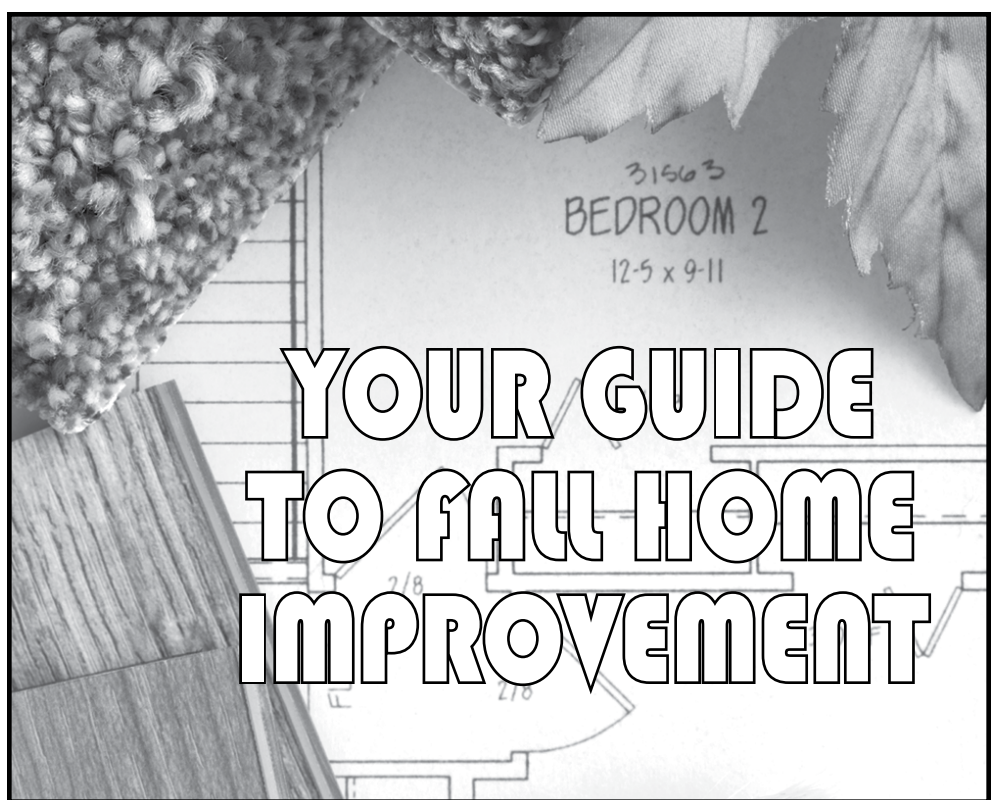
- **Energy-efficient upgrades:**

Inflation has driven up the cost of just about everything over the last year-plus, and energy is no exception. So it should come as no surprise that 83 percent of prospective home buyers are looking for energy-efficient windows and appliances in a home. These features save money and benefit the planet, making them a win-win among buyers.

- **Patio:** Patio spaces have long been popular, but that popularity reached new heights during the pandemic. When forced to stay at home for long periods of time, millions of people longed for ways to spend more time outdoors without breaking lockdown rules. Patios provide outdoor living spaces, and 82 percent of buyers indicated they wanted a patio with their next property.

- **Side-by-side sink:** A double or side-by-side sink is among the more affordable features buyers are looking for. At less than \$1,000 on average, a side-by-sink is an affordable way to make a home more appealing to modern buyers.

Modern buyers want a lot out of their homes, and sellers can do their best to meet those desires while getting the most money for their properties.



Wood floor installation dos and don'ts

Jaw-dropping features can sell a home in a heartbeat. A penthouse apartment with floor-to-ceiling windows and a panoramic view of a city skyline likely won't prove a hard sell, nor will a home with an infinity pool overlooking a landscape of rolling hills. As awe-inspiring as such features can be, some more subtle components, such as authentic hardwood floors, also can do much to make a home more appealing to prospective buyers.

Hardwood flooring is a sought-after commodity. Data from the National Association of Realtors indicates that 54 percent of home buyers are willing to pay more for hardwood floors. In fact, NAR figures indicate that 28 percent of buyers between the ages of 35 and 54 consider hardwood floors "very important" when looking for a home. Homeowners who are consider-

ing selling their homes, or those who simply want to upgrade their existing flooring, may want to consider installing hardwood flooring. Though it's a project best left to professionals, hardwood flooring can be installed by skilled DIYers. In such instances, homeowners may want to keep these dos and don'ts in mind.

DO hire a professional if you have limited or no DIY flooring experience. Hardwood flooring installation is not generally a project for novice DIYers. Hardwood flooring projects may present some common challenges, but no two homes are the same. So unless they have prior experience installing floors in multiple rooms or homes, homeowners may save themselves time, trouble and a significant amount of money hiring a professional to do the job.

DON'T ignore the subfloor. New hardwoods won't erase the problem of subfloors in poor condition. According to the home renovation experts at BobVila.com, squeaky floors could be an indication that the subfloor has begun to warp or twist. Sinking floors are another indicator of deteriorating subfloors. Subfloors should be somewhat level before new hardwoods are installed, so DIYers should inspect and address subfloor issues before installing new flooring.

DO expose wood flooring to the elements in your home prior to installation. The home improvement resource BuildDirect recommends acclimating hardwoods to the space where they will be installed. Skipping this important step could result in gaps during the winter and cupping over the summer. To acclimate hardwoods, open the boxes and spread them out for about a week while running the air conditioner or heater at normal levels. When storing hardwoods prior to

installation, avoid keeping them in potentially moist areas like a basement.

DON'T skimp on tools. A DIY hardwood flooring installation might be less expensive than hiring a professional, but homeowners should resist any temptation to increase those savings further by purchasing less costly tools or fewer tools than is necessary to complete the job. BuildDirect notes that DIYers will need at least a miter saw, table saw, cleat-nailer or stapler, finish nailer, compressor, jamb saw, chalk line, nail set, and tape measure when installing hardwood floors. Purchase all necessary tools and read product reviews to ensure each tool is up to the task.

Wood floors can be awe-inspiring. Some homeowners can install such flooring on their own, and the project can be much easier if they learn as much about installation as possible prior to beginning the project.

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Protect landscapes from wildlife and more over the winter

Landscapes are vulnerable to the elements during the cold weather months. Everything from de-icing products to hungry animals to the weight of snow can affect trees, shrubs and other plants. Just because certain greenery will go dormant during the winter doesn't mean landscape maintenance ends when the mercury dips. Homeowners can take certain actions to winterproof their properties and safeguard landscapes so they recover more readily

when spring arrives. **Utilize barriers and deterrents** When resources are scarce, animals will be on the hunt for anything that's edible, and that includes whatever greenery is growing on a landscape. Physical barriers in garden beds and around trees can help prevent damage caused by moles, voles and deer. Line the bottom and sides of garden beds with garden cloth to prevent ground-burrowing animals from getting in from beneath, suggests the gardening

resource I Must Garden. Wrapping shrubs in burlap or covering them in temporary netting can deter deer, who will seek accessible lattices to secure them so they'll be better able to withstand the weather, suggests Total Landscape Management, a commercial and residential landscap-



food sources over the winter. Erect fencing around new trees to keep deer away from the bark and lower branches.

Make the yard less attractive to deer and burrowers by opting for fat-based suet cakes to feed birds rather than loose seeds and berries in feeders, which herbivores will enjoy. Also, don't overwater or mulch landscapes too early. The loose soil and warmth of the mulch may entice moles and voles and other rodents to stick around in those areas and feed on plants.

Use a safer melting product Investigate options in snowmelt products, as traditional rock salt can injure buds and branches and kill lawns. In addition, avoid piling salted snow in one area of the landscape, as it will concentrate the salt in that spot. Spread out snow piles to help minimize the damage to delicate plants.

Secure saplings and juvenile plants Harsh winds and battering snow can damage young plants. Use stakes and

Erect a snow barrier Prior observation tends to educate homeowners about which areas of the landscape are most vulnerable to snow drifts and blustery winds. During the winter, winds often blow in from a northeasterly direction, but each homeowner can make his or her own assessment. Put up a tarp between two stakes to serve as a "snow fence" that protects vulnerable areas of the landscape from blowing snow.

Keep plants cozy Wrap plants in burlap, garden blankets and plant domes to insulate them from cold weather and some animals. Move container plants into a garage or shielded area for the winter.

Winter can place landscapes in peril. A few strategies can provide protection.

Advice offered for controlling Creeping Charlie

By Kathleen Cue, Nebraska Extension Horticulture Educator

Creeping Charlie, also known as ground ivy, (Glechoma hederacea) is a member of the mint family. In lawns this weed readily spreads, weaving between individual turf plants and sending out roots where nodes touch the soil. Creeping Charlie is the most aggressive in shady moist areas but will fill in lawn spaces in full sun areas too. Plants give off a minty odor when mowed or pulled. The leaves of creeping Charlie are round to oval, with scalloped leaf edges. The purplish/lavender flowers appear (usually) in May.

One of the best IPM management strategies for creeping Charlie is to have a dense stand of turf. A thick lawn discourages weed seed germination and naturally muscles out invading weeds. To

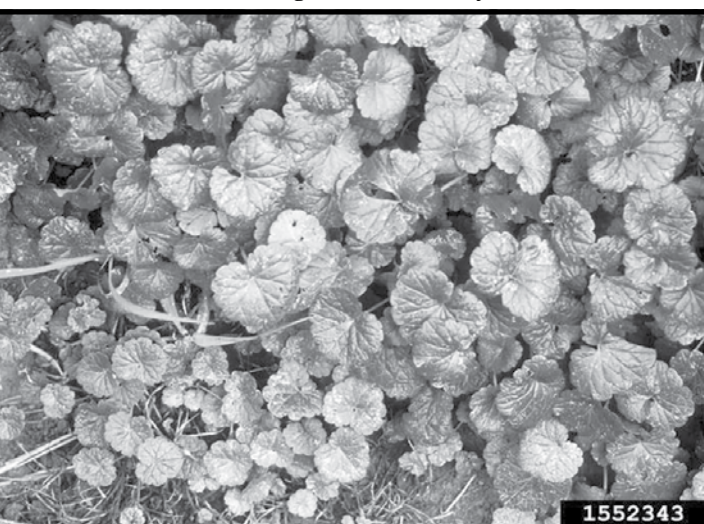


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Photo provided by Ohio State Weed Lab, The Ohio State University, Bugwood.org.

ing the lawn now builds a stronger turf stand. Another helpful practice is to raise the mowing height of the mower to 2.5 to 3 inches to give turf greater resiliency to compete against creeping Charlie. Fall is an opportune time to use a broadleaf herbicide to manage creeping Charlie and other perennial weeds such as dandelions and bindweed. Fall timing is important because perennial weeds are readying for winter by moving sugars produced in leaves for storage in the root system. We can use the weed's own physiology against it, making the translocation of herbicides to the roots highly likely and resulting in more effective management of the weed. Plan to get in two applications, spaced per the label directions, before Oct. 31. Herbicides effective in the management of creeping Charlie include 2,4-D, triclopyr, and quinclorac. Where past applications of 2,4-D alone have done little to manage creeping Charlie, a tank mix that contains 2,4-D and either triclopyr or quinclorac is effective. Stay away from any combination herbicide that contains dicamba, as this can be readily taken in by tree roots and causes long term, sometimes fatal, damage to trees. Read and follow all label directions. If you miss this window of opportunity to treat creeping Charlie, university research has some good news. This weed is also vulnerable to herbicide applications when plants are in flower.

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Planning ahead is vital to a successful renovation

Remodeling projects are significant undertakings. Homeowners must consider a host of variables before any such project can begin. While planning ahead may take time, it is essential to ensuring successful completion of a renovation project. Consider these pre-renovation planning pointers to help any job go smoothly.

mining if a project is a necessity or a luxury can set the time line and course of the project.

Is the roof leaking? If so, immediate action is necessary. Could the kitchen be a bit more functional? If the kitchen is still manageable, a homeowner may be able to wait a little bit to get better prices on appliances or contracting services.

Separating needs from wants helps homeowners map out a viable time line that maximizes productivity and

affordability. **Get professional advice** Many homeowners are under the impression that doing the work themselves can save a considerable amount

\$100 or less, and typically are based on a percentage of the anticipated cost of the project.

A permit may be issued the day the application is submitted, while other



of money.

This may be the case for homeowners with renovation experience. But by and large, professional contractors are an asset to any renovation. They can provide a realistic overview of the project, map out projected costs, point out areas that could be troublesome, and may have industry contacts that can keep supply costs low. Even if a homeowner will do a portion of the job, a contractor can do the bulk of the work and keep the project on budget.

Get necessary permits Permits are designed to ensure the work is being done to code and in a safe manner. However, they are not without additional costs and processing time, and that can cause some homeowners to skip this step. According to the home information site The Spruce, building permits cost anywhere from \$400 to about \$2,200 for new home construction. Building permits for smaller projects can cost

cities and towns may issue permits up to two or more weeks later. Factor permit fees and processing times into the renovation plan.

If it comes to light a homeowner did work without a required permit, he or she may face penalties; may have to tear out work done to have it inspected or redone; some may be unable to sell a home until permits have been obtained and work has been done to code. Homeowners insurance coverage also may be affected if homeowners do not obtain the proper permits.

Other considerations when planning a renovation include writing out a strict budget, gathering inspiration, drawing up to-scale renovation plans, pouring over material reviews, and getting recommendations for reliable professionals to do the job. While not every obstacle can be avoided, planning is a good way to start successfully.

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A beginner's guide to fall planting and maintenance

Spring and summer are perhaps the busiest times of year for gardeners. However, fall also is a prime time to tend to gardens.

The tree and bare root retailer Bower & Branch advises that soil temperatures in many regions of the country may still be warm enough to encourage root growth well into the start of winter. Furthermore, fall is often the

temperatures. Try new and interesting lettuce varieties and enjoy salads well into the fall season.

•Take inventory of the sun. Positioning a garden carefully means maximizing hours of sunlight, which begin to dwindle in the fall. Experts say gardens grow best in sunny locations that receive six hours of direct sunlight each day. This is where con-

weeds. Rather than bagging leaves, mow them with a grass catcher and then add the mix to a vegetable garden as an excellent soil insulator. The nitrogen and carbon will fertilize the soil, enhancing growing possibilities and limiting weed growth.

• Propagate plants in the fall. As temperatures gradually begin to cool, start taking cuttings from perennials, gathering seed pods from azaleas and rhododendrons and dividing hardwood cuttings, says the resource Gardening

Know How. Consult with a garden center or horticulturist on the proper ways to propagate stems using rooting hormone and other techniques.

• Continue to water plants. Water is essential in the fall and winter as roots can still be growing. Gradually reduce watering duration as plants go dormant.

Fall planting and maintenance can extend gardening season and improve the chances of growing a healthy spring garden.



ideal time to plant, fertilize and keep a garden going or to get a head start on next year's bounty.

Here are some tips to make the most of the fall gardening season.

• Think about fall annuals and bulb planting. Near the end of September, start planting cool-weather-loving pansies and violas for pops of color as summer flowers fade. Also, it's a good idea to stock up on bulbs that will bloom in the months to come before they sell out in stores. Wait until the temperatures really cool down before planting them in desired spots for spring sprouts.

• Sow salad seeds. Lettuce, spinach, radishes, and arugula tolerate cooler

tainer gardens can be helpful, as they allow gardeners to move plants into spots that will get ample sunlight.

• Fill in landscaping gaps. Some fall plants can add color around the landscape and brighten up homes to add curb appeal. In addition to pansies and violas, asters, kale and chrysanthemums are fall blooms. Keep in mind that mums can come back year after year. So take them out of those flower pots and get them into the ground. They can be enjoyed next year as well, sprouting in early spring and developing leaves and buds through late summer.

• Clean up unwanted growth. Fall is an ideal time to cut back spent vegetable plants and get rid of errant

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Options abound when shopping for home siding

Home improvement projects run the gamut from minor repairs to complete overhauls. Replacing exterior siding is one of the most significant home improvement projects homeowners can undertake. Such a project can give homes a completely new look, which is why choice of siding is such an important decision.

Homeowners have many siding options to choose from, and the following guide can help them make the best choice for their homes.

Vinyl siding
Vinyl siding is easily maintained and among the more budget-friendly siding options. According to the home improvement resource HomeAdvisor, vinyl siding is made from a PVC plastic that does not rot or flake. Siding professionals note that the technology used to create vinyl siding has changed considerably in recent years, making this option more diverse than traditional vinyl siding. So homeowners turned off by the potentially plastic look of vinyl siding might be surprised at how different modern vinyl siding looks compared to the vinyl siding of yesteryear.

Fiber-cement siding
The home improvement television network HGTV notes that fiber-cement siding has grown in popularity among

homeowners in recent years. This material does not require much maintenance and it's non-flammable and



resistant to termites. HomeAdvisor notes that fiber-cement siding can create the look of wood, stucco or masonry, making it a versatile option capable of creating various looks. In addition, fiber-cement siding is known for its durability, with some products coming with warranties lasting as long as 50 years.

Wood siding
Homeowners have many choices if they prefer wood siding on their



homes. Cedar, cypress, fir, pine, and spruce are just a handful of the many wood siding options homeowners can choose from. HomeAdvisor notes that cedar shingle siding offers a natural look that blends well in wooded and waterfront landscapes. Wood clapboard siding is another popular option, though it tends to require more

maintenance than cedar shingle siding. Homeowners who want wood siding should discuss their options with an experienced siding professional, as many factors, including the choice of wood, must be considered before making a final decision.

Stone and stone-veneer siding
Many homeowners fall in love with the natural appeal of stone, but the price tag, which tends to be costly, may not be as awe-inspiring. HGTV notes that stone can be difficult to add to an existing home, and doing so may drive the price up even further. Stone siding is durable, and there are many options, including solid stone and natural stone cladding, that make this an option capable of providing an array of looks. Stone-veneer siding is less expensive than natural stone and also comes in an array of styles. As is the case with wood, stone siding options are so extensive that homeowners are urged to discuss each one with a siding professional before making their decisions.

These are just a handful of the many siding options homeowners can choose from. Siding can give homes a completely new look, making choice of siding a significant decision worthy of careful consideration.

Differences between organic and inorganic mulches explained

The benefits of mulch are widely known among lawn and garden enthusiasts. By insulating soil from extreme temperatures, helping soil to retain moisture and preventing weed growth, mulch can help plants, trees and gardens thrive, even during periods when Mother Nature can make that very difficult.



Novice gardeners may find themselves a little confused when visiting a lawn and garden center to purchase mulch. That's because there are various types of mulches. One of the ways to simplify that is to break mulches down into two main classes: organic and inorganic. Learning to distinguish between these two classes can help homeowners choose the best mulch for their properties.

Organic mulch
Organic mulches are made up of materials that decompose over time. The experts at BobVila.com note that, because they decompose over time, organic mulches must be replenished on a regular basis. Hardwood and softwood chips are among the most popular and recognizable organic mulches.

Evergreen needles, leaves, grass clippings, and compost mixes also fall under the organic mulch umbrella. Many gardening enthusiasts prefer organic mulches because they help soil retain moisture, improve soil fertility and help to deter weed growth.

Inorganic mulches
Inorganic mulches are permanent because they do not decompose over time. Gravel, brick chips and crushed stone are examples of inorganic mulches. Homeowners who do not intend to plant after laying mulch may lean toward inorganic mulches, as they won't require much work, if any, after being laid. However, inorganic mulches do not improve soil quality. In fact, because inorganic mulches like rocks and stones absorb heat, they can be detrimental to plants in areas where weather tends to be very dry and hot.

The right mulch for a given property depends on a host of factors. Understanding the differences between organic and inorganic mulches is a great first step toward finding the right mulch for your landscape.

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