

WAUKEE RANKED NO. 1 CITY FOR HOME OWNERSHIP

NerdWallet, a consumer advocacy website, recently conducted a study to find the best places for homeownership in Iowa – and Waukee ranked first. NerdWallet says it wanted to give potential homebuyers a look at the current housing market and based its rankings on the following criteria:

- Homeownership rate
- Selected monthly homeowner costs
- Monthly household income
- Population growth

According to NerdWallet, Waukee has the highest homeownership rate of any place in the top ten, at 89.3%, and median monthly homeowner costs are \$1,599. Waukee also experienced the largest population increase, growing by 14.7% between 2010 and 2012.

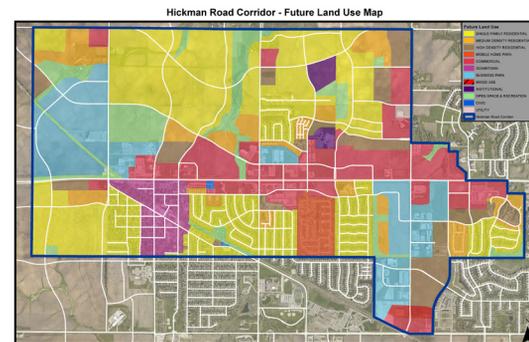
Just 17 miles from downtown Des Moines, Waukee is becoming a top destination for homebuyers and employers alike. Waukee's businesses see the benefits of Iowa's low property and sales taxes, which could be the reason for the city's low unemployment rate of 0.5%, according to U.S. Census Bureau surveys. For more information, visit www.waukee.org.

WAUKEE CITY COUNCIL APPROVES HICKMAN ROAD LAND USE PLAN

At the August 4, 2014, Waukee City Council meeting, the city council passed a resolution approving the Hickman Road Corridor land use strategy. The resolution is a part of the Waukee City Council's comprehensive planning for the Hickman Road Corridor. City staff presented the proposal for future development of the corridor including a land use map and accompanying strategies. The plan's strategies are:

1. Continue to build relationships with property owners within the corridor
2. Business park planning
3. Alice's Road development
4. Downtown reinvestment
5. Pedestrian access and open space development
6. Corridor enhancement

To read more about the strategies and see the official resolution, visit www.waukee.org.



A map showing possible land uses along the Hickman Road Corridor

THE MAYOR'S CORNER - BACooN Ride funds Presented to Two Groups

The first BACooN Ride was a great success, not only for the ride organizers, participants and the many towns along the way— its success also impacted Waukee in a meaningful way. The Waukee Foundation determined prior to the 2014 BACooN Ride that the profits from the ride's pre-party beverage garden would be split into thirds equally between the Trailhead Art Project, Amphitheater Project, and the City of Waukee to cover additional expenses of the event. Representatives of the Trailhead Art Project and Amphitheater Project were presented with checks in the amount of \$1,643.71 each at the city council meeting on August 4, 2014. I would like to extend thanks to all of our residents for supporting these civic groups through the 2014 BACooN Ride.



Mayor Peard



Waukee City Council Member Rick Peterson presents checks to (left) Jeff Harder and Brian Conway with the Waukee Leadership Institute and (right) Heather Behrens and Jim Miller with the Waukee Trailhead Art Project.

WAUKEE'S YOUNGEST RESIDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE DURING CAMPS

Some of Waukee's youngest residents gave back to the community and experienced nature with the Waukee Parks and Recreation "Explore the Outdoors and More" and "Youth in the Parks" camps this summer. More than 25 children aged 9-12 began by planting trees in Grant Park, but they didn't stop there. The pint-sized volunteers also chipped in with these civic-minded tasks:

- Landscaped the nature playground at Brenton Arboretum
- Packed more than 8,000 mac 'n cheese meals for Meals from the Heartland
- Planted six trees along the Heart of the Warrior Trail
- Landscaped ropes courses at the ISU Extension's Adventure Learning Center
- Landscaped flower gardens and facility entrances at Spurgeon Manor

The camp attendees had a lot of fun in their down time with bowling, laser tag, an Iowa Cubs baseball game, the Adel Aquatic Center and more. Registration for Waukee Parks and Recreation programming starts on September 1. Get the youngest members of your family signed up today! Go to www.waukee.org/parksandrec for more information.



Waukee's youngest residents giving back to the community

"PLANT SOME SHADE" PROGRAM COMES TO WAUKEE

Waukee is proud to announce their partnership with MidAmerican Energy and the Iowa DNR to offer the "Plant Some Shade" program. The program allows MidAmerican Energy Company customers in Iowa to purchase up to two trees for just \$30 each, with the remaining cost funded through a grant from MidAmerican Energy. Waukee is now one of the 11 communities in Iowa who are offering this program and any MidAmerican Energy customer can participate.

Order your trees through the Waukee Parks and Recreation department on September 5-26 by visiting www.waukee.org/plantsomeshade or by calling 515-978-0007. Prepayment and advance orders are required. Trees must be picked up on October 2 between 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Waukee Public Works building at 805 University Avenue. The Iowa DNR will conduct a "Tree Planting and Care" workshop on October 2 from 6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. at the pick-up site for residents.

WAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY HELPS DALLAS COUNTY READ

The Waukee Public Library along with 11 other libraries in the Dallas County Library Association are banding together to offer their first county-wide reading program called "Dallas County Reads 1 Book" September 22 – October 23. The featured book is the award-winning "Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger. Books are available for checkout or for purchase at a discounted price of \$5.00. Check the library website at www.waukee.org/library for a complete calendar of events, including a visit from the author.



Notifications

• The City of Waukee phone numbers will be changing over the next several months. The current phone numbers will continue to roll over to the new numbers during this transition. Please take note of the following phone number changes:

- City Council and City Hall: 515-978-7900
- Fire: 515-978-7990
- Police Department: 515-978-7979
- Public Library: 515-978-7944
- Public Works: 515-978-7920

Waukee Community Center Activities

675 Walnut Street

- **CONGREGATE MEALS ARE NOW SERVED AT SUGAR CREEK SENIOR HOUSING:**
1600 L.A. Grant Parkway
- **CRIBBAGE AND CARDS**
Saturdays; 7:30PM
Call Dolores at 987-5981 with questions.
- **POTLUCK AND BINGO**
Friday, Sept. 5; 12:00PM; Bingo at 1:30PM
Potluck catered by Fareway. \$4/meal;
Bingo cards are 10¢ each.
Please contact Waukee Parks and Recreation at 978-0007 with questions.
- **TRIAD**
Wednesday, September 29; 12:00PM
- Any Questions please call the Waukee Police Department at 515-978-7979.

Reminders

- **Waukee's High School football season begins on August 29 and runs through October 24. Watch for increased traffic on Friday nights near the football stadium and Waukee High School.**
- **Registration begins for Waukee Parks and Recreation Department's fall and winter programming on September 1. Check www.waukee.org/parksandrec for more details.**
- **NIXLE allows the Waukee Police Department to instantly connect with residents by text message and email about important safety alerts. Sign up for this free service by registering at www.nixle.com.**