WAYNE COUNTRYSIDE GARDEN CLUB NEWSLETTER

March 2026

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear WCGC Members,

It is with great excitement that I write my first entry for the WCGC newsletter as the new President! Although I am somewhat new to the Club myself, I grew up in Wayne and I absolutely love this community. I look forward to serving in this position for the next two years and will do my best to uphold the standards and expectations of this role.

I'm thrilled to announce that Tina Aronson, our Vice President, has put together a fabulous year of programs for 2026. Several will take place at the Little Home Church, and we also have a few field trips planned as well. We'll start with the potluck/kickoff meeting at the enchanting home of Emily Miller, who has kindly volunteered to host again. This is the perfect opportunity to not only spend time with your fellow garden club members, but also to sign up for the many endeavors that our organization champions. We hope you can attend!

Please be sure to review the calendar of events. In addition to the monthly programs, there are many other activities to participate in throughout the year. Your presence at Flag Day, A Day in the Country, Pumpkin Patch, Trunk or Treat and Tag Days would be welcomed!

On behalf of the Wayne Countryside Garden Club, I appreciate your membership and encourage you to roll up your sleeves and get your hands dirty...literally or figuratively!

Thank you and let's make it a fabulous year.

Best,
Jessica Alex-Lampugnani

2026 Garden Club Events Schedule

(There are more details about each program in your yearbook)

March

- **Mar 19th @ 11:30 a.m. Annual Kick-off Potluck Luncheon, At the home of Emily Miller.**
- **Mar 26th @ 6:30 p.m. Making Spring Centerpieces at Little Home Church.**

April

- **Apr 16th @ 6:30 p.m. Reducing Climate Change through Backyard Composting at Little Home Church.**

May

- **May 16th @ 9 a.m. Spring Civic Clean Up at Old Town Hall on Railroad Street, Wayne.**
- **May 21st @ 11 a.m. WCGC Spring Luncheon at Dunham Wood Riding Club.**

June

- **Jun 18th @ 6:30 p.m. Transitioning your Home Garden to Native Plants (and Reduceing your Lawn!) at Little Home Church.**
- **June 14th @ 4 p.m. Wayne's Annual Flag Day Parade. Line up outside Village Hall.**

July

- **Jul 16th TBD**

August

- **Aug 20th @ 10 a.m. The Farmacy Farmstead Tour and Picnic at 7260 Oakbrook Road, Newark, IL.**

September

- **Sep 17th TBD**

October

- **Oct 15th @ 11:30 a.m. Cantigny Garden Tour at 1s151 Winfield Road, Wheaton, IL.**
- **Date TBD - Pumpkin Patch**
- **Date TBD - Trunk or Treat**

November

- **Nov 19th @ 6:30 p.m. Election of Officers and Potluck Supper at Little Home Church.**

December

- **Dec 3rd @ 10 a.m. Holly Hanging and Potluck Lunch at Little Home Church**

2026 Club Leadership

OFFICERS

President: Jessica Alex Lampugnani
Vice President: Tina Aronson
Corresponding Secretary: Laura Long
Recording Secretary: Chris Spradlin
Treasurer: Angela Heathman

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Budget: Angela Heathman & Melinda Keck
Civic: Doreen DeFilipppis & JoAnne McElroy
Courtesy: Jessica Alex Lampugnani
Fundraising: Angela Heathman, Bobbi Higham & Melinda Keck
Garden Therapy: Kathie Connolly
History & Bylaws: Debra Galloway
Holly Hanging: The Board
Hospitality: Debra Galloway
Membership: Melissa Bowers & Carol Kohley
Newsletter: Karen Kaluzsa
Nominating: Gayle McCain
Photographers: Denise Figurski, Anne Gardner, Gayle McCain & JoAnne McElroy
Programs: Tina Aronson
Publicity: Tina Aronson
Website: Angela Heathman & Gayle McCain
Yearbook: Laura Long

Gratitude is the fairest blossom which springs from the soul.

Spring Potluck

The annual kick-off to the garden club's new season

March 19th @ 11:30 a.m.

At the lovely home of Emily Miller

33w460 Thorncroft Drive, Wayne, IL

Dine with your fellow garden club members, catch up after the winter, get your yearbook and be part of our first meeting of the year!

Bring a dish (and recipe) to share and please RSVP by March 12th to Laura Long by phone, text, or email.

(cell: 630-698-3906 or email: llong@bannerpersonnel.com)

We look forward to seeing you!

Want to Get More Involved in the Club?
(We Need Volunteers!)

Garden Guardians

Work in small teams to water and weed the village planters and gardens. Only takes 30 minutes on a weekend day.

Courtesy Committee

Send cards, flowers, thank you notes and make phone calls to members.

Program Hostesses

Set up refreshments before a program or meeting and help clean up afterwards.

Spring Luncheon

The highlight of the year! Help with ticket sales, invitations, a silent auction, centerpieces and more.

Fundraising

Help raise funds for the club through special projects approved by the Board.

Raffle Baskets

Pick a theme and create a basket to be raffled off at our spring luncheon,

A sign-up sheet will be available at the Spring Potluck.

Create a Spring Centerpiece Workshop

March 26th @ 6:30 p.m.

Little Home Church, Wayne, IL

Led by our own Anne Gardner, come sip, socialize and let spring come alive as you create a magical centerpiece surrounded by fellow garden lovers.

$50 materials fee

This is a members-only event and capped at 25 people

RSVP Required

Spots will fill quickly — reserve yours today!

Please register & pay via this link:

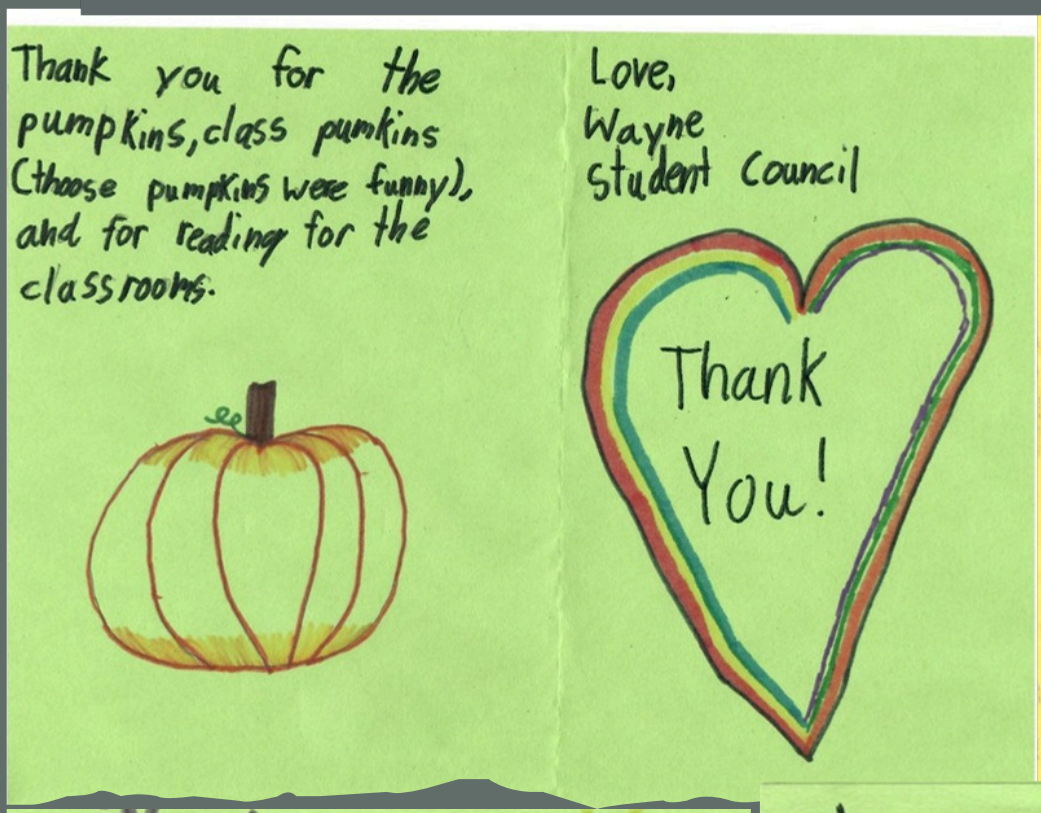
https://square.link/u/NfxnQyC

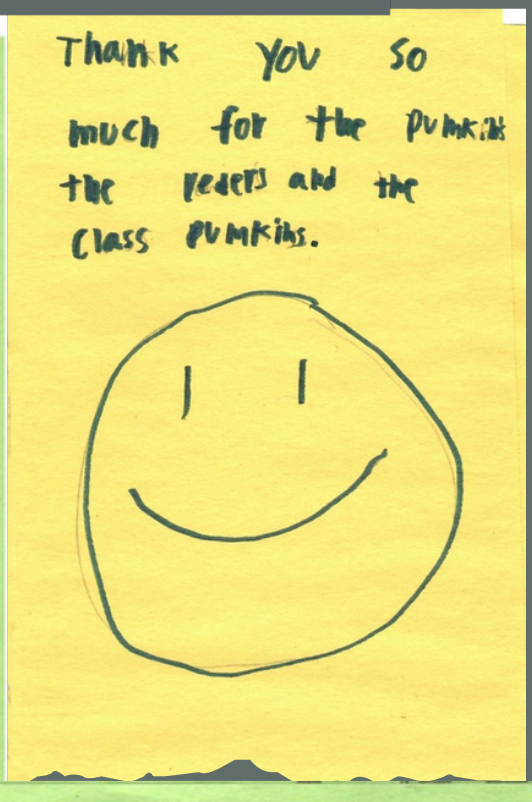
March in the Garden: Pruning

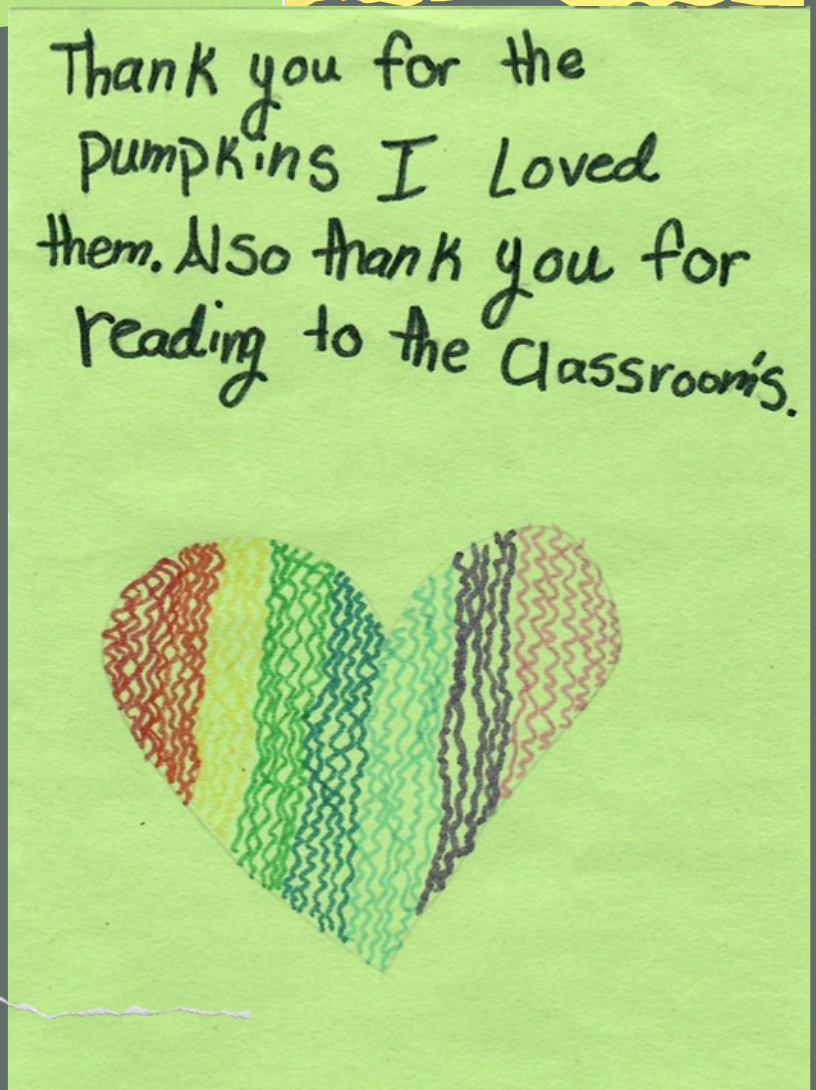
March is an excellent time to prune dormant trees, shrubs and perennials before they start actively growing. Remove dead, diseased or damaged branches to promote healthy growth and improve the overall appearance of your plants.

Be sure and use sharp, clean pruning tools and make cleaan cuts to minimize stress on the plants.

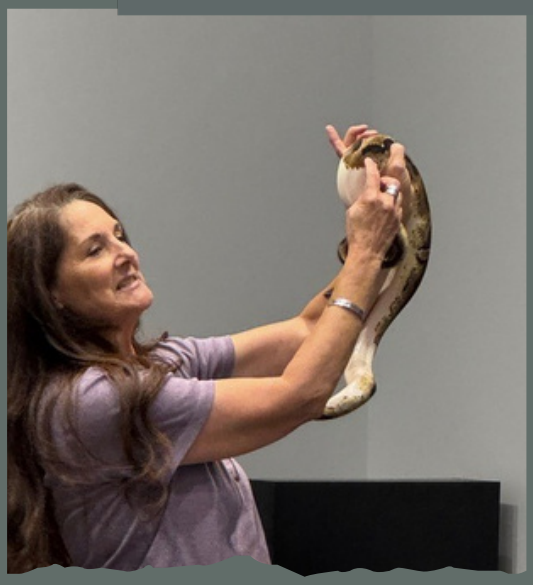
Pumpkin Patch Thank You Letters

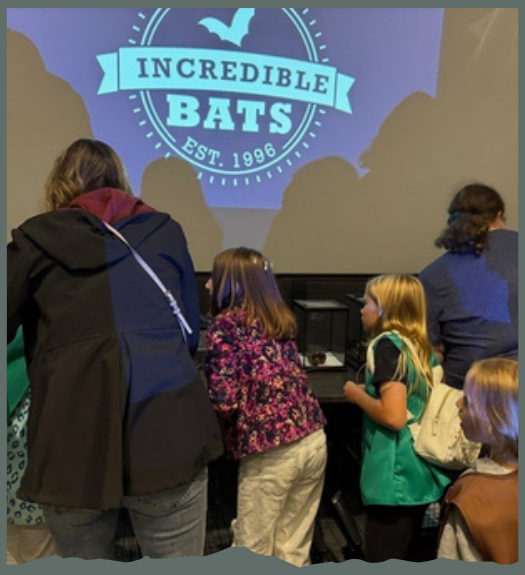




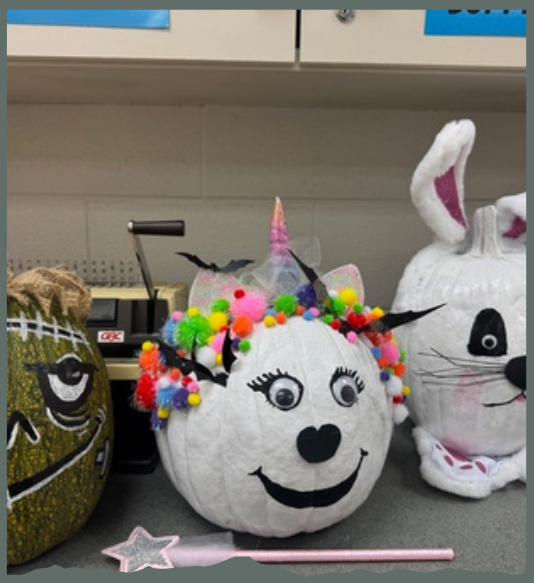


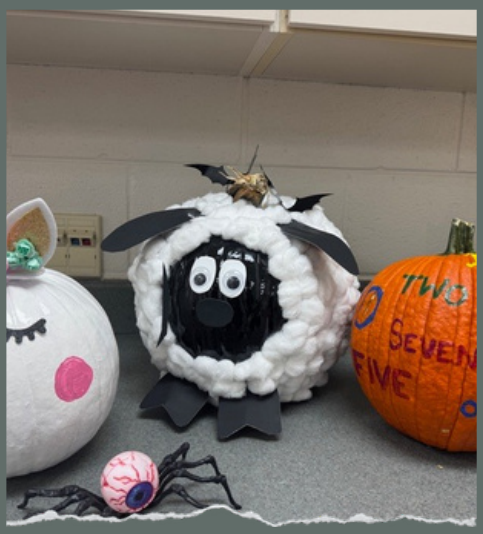
2025 Spooktacular Creatures Program





2025 Pumpkin Patch & Trunk or Treat





2025 Holly Hanging