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Gary R. Dodson (440) 320-6464

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\$234,900 372 Springbrook Cir., Elyria

4 bed, 2.5 bath, 2600 sq. ft. Colonial open concept floor plan. Large country kitchen, morning room. Master Suite w/private bath & walk-in closet. All bedrooms are oversized. Second floor laundry. Full basement w/possible bath. Garage is attached and has an extra 2 feet added, plus water in garage. Large lot and rear yard which is completely fenced, storage shed 10'x8'.



oward



\$64,900 414 ILLINOIS, LORAIN



\$359,000

700 GREENLAWN AVE., AMHERST



\$5,000,000 7451 TERMINAL DR., LORAIN



\$110,000 140-142 AXTEL ST., AMHERST



\$120,000 138-142 N MAIN ST., AMHERST



\$115,000 647 MILL ST., AMHERST



\$100,000

555 CHURCH ST., AMHERST



\$234,900 717 PARK AVE., AMHERST



\$175,000 164 EDGEWOOD DR., AMHERST



\$35,000 1429 W 18TH, LORAIN

- St Rt 511 Brownhelm 2.69 acres \$59.900 **Firelands Schools**
- 37 Acres Industrial, Terminal Dr. Lorain
- 27 Acres on St. Rt. 58 & St. Rt. 20 Commercial (3) 1.5 Acre Lots Brownhelm Township
- 1 Buildable Lot Stonebridge in Amherst \$79,900
- 1.43 Acres St. Rt. 58 Oberlin Commercial
- 4 Lots Reserve Ave. Oberlin .5 acres
- V/L Highbridge Rd. Vermilion 1.5 Acres \$45,000
- V/L Rosecliff Estates \$125,000

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\$99,900

Property could have many uses. BUY A LEGEND. This would be great for a restaurant to grow the herbs and flowers they need. There are living quarters in the business plus another home that could be rented out. This property has been maintained. It would also make a great place that cares for your plants in the winter. Wonderful business that has been operational for a long time. This includes the real estate, business fixtures, and an additional home that can be rented out. Beautiful working Green House. Call us for an appointment to view.



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Learn about DIY home security

Homes are a safe haven and comfortable retreat for individuals and families. Home invasions can compromise that feeling of safety and security, making people feel uncomfortable and unsafe in their own homes.

Although the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics indicate property crime rates have seen a significant decline in the last few years, there are still roughly 2.5 million burglaries a year, 66 percent of which involve home break-ins. Break-ins are 6 percent more likely to occur between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., when people are out at work or running errands than at other times of day. Homes without a security system are 300 percent more likely to be burglarized, according to the National Council for Home Safety and Security.

Installing a security system may be the goal of homeowners looking to protect themselves and their belongings. Thanks to availability of new, user-friendly products, do-it-yourselfers can, in many instances, install their own home security systems.

Safety.com says smart home integration, mobile apps and wireless connectivity are hallmarks of modern DIY home security systems. Many have the same components as traditional home security systems, but do



not require professional installation or monitoring, even though such options are available.

When shopping for home security systems, people can look for the following features to compare offerings.

Sensors: Sensors will detect motion and activity in the house. Sensors also may be attached to doors and windows to determine if either are open. Some systems are designed to send alerts to a phone when triggered.
Cameras: Working in conjunction

Did you know?

A flashlight is an invaluable part of any disaster preparedness kit, and it's a handy tool to have on hand in a car, at home or when traveling. You never know when you might need a flashlight, and it's helpful to have many on hand. When stocking up on flashlights for emergency kits, choose ones with light-

emitting diode, or LED, technology. According to Popular Mechanics, LED flashlights are 70 percent more efficient than incandescent models. That means the batteries powering the light have the potential to last 10 times longer. Furthermore, LEDs do not have any fragile parts like incandescent bulbs. That makes them more likely to withstand shock or even endure being dropped. with sensors, cameras can provide an eye on activity in and outside of a home, adding another layer of protection.

• Smart features: With smart home connectivity, security systems can be engaged and turned off from remote locations.

Many DIY versions of home security systems work wirelessly and can be set up in a relatively short period of time. While wired systems use existing electric and telephone lines to connect security components, wireless systems connect components to a main panel via radio frequency. One of the benefits of wireless tech is that it enables DIYers to add components and replace them as needed without major hassle. In addition, wireless security systems do not require construction during the installation process.

More and more homeowners are embracing DIY home security systems to keep their homes safe.

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7 things to consider when buying a shed

Backyard sheds can be useful assets. Sheds can create storage space in the garage, basement or other areas of the house that have become gathering spots for gear typically used outdoors. Sheds are ideal for housing mowers, tools and even pool-care equipment. But they can be put to other uses as well, such as being key spots to engage in hobbies or even as a child's clubhouse.

Various factors should be considered before building or buying a shed. A storage shed can be a significant investment. Once placed, sheds may remain in their dedicated spots for years to come. That means careful thought should go into the planning process.

1. Check your local building codes first. Before you accumulate building materials or order a shed, be sure to know the ins and outs of shed codes. The codes may impact the shed's placement, construction, the materials used, size, and numerous other factors. It's much easier to amend plans beforehand than to face the hassle and expense after learning you did things incorrectly.

2. Choose placement wisely. Spend several days assessing the yard and thinking about the uses for the shed. If you plan to store pool floats and chemicals inside of the shed, it should be located close

enough to the pool to be convenient. Look at the lay of the land. If there is a soggy patch of land that can turn swampy under the shed's foundation, that is a poor location choice. If you need access to electricity, placing it far away from the house could necessitate running expensive wiring.

3. Consider the design. Just because a shed is for storage doesn't mean aesthetics should be overlooked. Choose a shed style that complements your home. You may also want to match certain architectural features, like arched doorways or dormers. Design also may relate to practicality. For instance, storing a riding mower inside may necessitate dual doors that open widely.

4. Invest in quality materials. Spending a little more and using quality materials can ensure it lasts long enough to be cost-effective. The right materials will be resistant to splitting, cracking, decay, and insect damage.

5. Prepare the site well. A proper foundation for the shed is almost as important as the shed itself. You cannot just drop the shed on the lawn and leave it, as the shed can sink or structural issues may arise if it is placed on a weak base.

6. Blend into the environment. Surround the shed with shrubs or plants so that it blends into the



yard and complements the space.

7. Deck out the interior. Use every storage tool at your disposal to maximize floor, wall and even rafter space for storage. Plan where items will be kept and customize the storage options around those locations.

Sheds can be an asset and improve storage capability in the backyard.





637 Reid Ave., Lorain

Nice looking colonial home downtown Lorain across from Library and near several churches. Outside has newer siding, windows and roof. Inside needs work to bring it back to it's old town charm. **\$25,000**

www.Barck.com



How to Create a More Functional Laundry Room

(Family Features) A laundry room may be one of the spaces that you use the most, but cramped quarters and clutter can hinder your productivity. Eliminate the excuses and get your laundry room under control with these tips to add function to your washing routine.

Use space wisely. Your laundry room may not have a big footprint, but you probably have more usable space than you realize. Install shelves or storage units on the walls and consider the ceiling as a spot to hang a floating drying rack. Don't overlook the back of the door, where you can mount a storage system or use an over-the-door alternative.

Maximize storage. Many laundry rooms suffer from a lack of storage, which hinders space to fold and manage laundry while making the room less pleasant overall. A durable, attractive organization system like Dimensions by ClosetMaid can add instant organization and style to your laundry room. The system provides numerous design options, convenient accessories and configurations of cabinets and drawers, accommodating virtually any space.

Resist wrinkles. Prevent unsightly wrinkles by hanging garments straight out of the dryer. A hanging rod is easy to install and lets you take advantage of vertical space in smaller rooms. Be sure to also stock up on hangers of various styles so you always have an ample supply ready when the buzzer sounds that another load is ready for your attention.

Promote ventilation. Another common issue in laundry rooms is limited ventilation, which can promote mold, affect air quality and hinder air drying for special garments. A clever way to enhance ventilation while increasing your storage space is ventilated shelving that helps keep air flow moving. For example, ClosetMaid's Premium Wood Kits feature sturdy slatted shelves to stash your laundry essentials and can include accessories like hanging rods.

Create a folding station. One of the biggest laundry pitfalls is folding and putting away clean clothes. A clear, clean space in the laundry room can help nudge you toward completing the task more efficiently. If you have front-loading machines, it may be as simple as adding a counter or sturdy shelf above them. If you use top-loaders, you may need to get more creative. If there's room, a laundry sorter with a flat top is a good solution. Or if floor space is at a premium, you might consider a shelf that mounts to the wall and folds down when you need it.

Get inspired with more ideas to make your laundry room work for you at ClosetMaid.com.

Safety a vital component of DIY projects

Many homeowners enjoy DIY projects around the house. Weekend warriors should recognize that having the right tools and using them in a correct manner is essential to successful, safe projects.

Tools are vital for projects, but without proper understanding and usage, they can cause grave injuries. Studies published by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Consumer Product Safety Commission found that certain tools are more likely to cause injuries than others. Power nailers, for example, are among the most dangerous tools DIYers can use. Chain saws, table saws, circular saws, and riding mowers are some additional tools that have very high injury rates.

The following are some safety guidelines all DIYers should heed when using power tools.

• Use tools that are the right size and right type for the job. If you are uncertain about which tools to use, watch online tutorials, contact tool manufacturers or seek advice at home supply stores.

• Always wear eye protection and the right safety equipment when manufacturers recommend doing so. Gloves, sturdy work boots, hearing protection, and hard hats can protect DIYers from injury.

• Keep cutting tools sharp and in good condition to reduce kick back and potential injuries.

• Regularly inspect tools to make sure they are in working order.

• Never carry tools up a ladder by hand; use a bucket or bag to hoist tools.

• Never leave tools lying out in any area where they can present a hazard. Unplug power tools when not in use.

• Secure work with a clamp or vice grip when appropriate to keep things from slipping.

• Ensure that the handles of tools like hammers and axes fit tightly into the head of the tool.

• Keep work environments tidy to avoid clutter, as cluttered workspaces can contribute to accidents.

• Read the manual and operate the power tool as instructed.

• Do not force open a safety on a power tool or modify a tool to override safety features.

• Cut away from yourself when using chisels and other edged tools.

Let common sense prevail when using tools. If it doesn't seem like a good idea, it probably isn't. Safety is important to avoid injuries and help prevent delays on the job.

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