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Des Moines' morning essentials from the publisher
of CITYVIEW and the Iowa Living magazines

the**daily**umbrella



Thursday, June 22, 2023

Good Thursday Morning to You!

Welcome to an extra edition of the mailbag where you will find some of the comments, questions and ideas sent recently by subscribers of this newsletter or our publications. They are edited for space and clarity.

“Shane, I enjoyed reading your column about the use of the non-metric system in the U.S., and I wanted to share part of my experience (Metric system, [June 6, 2023](#)). I started working in equipment manufacturing at John Deere Des Moines Works in 1968. Beginning in 1973, John Deere's CEO announced that John Deere Company would begin the transition to the metric system. Eventually, as new Deere equipment was designed and manufactured in U.S. and Canada, it would use only the metric system of measurements.



In 1978, all John Deere employees were given 16 hours of teaching/training on the how the metric system would be used in our manufacturing processes. The United States' national effort was halted in 1982, but that didn't stop global manufacturers and many other industries from continuing to use the metric systems. Medicine dosages for humans and animals use metric volumes or weight. Most water and soda bottles are 1/2 liter but are marked 16.9 ounces in the U.S. Wine is sold worldwide in 750 ml or 1.5 L, and if you want to go big, you can buy a 3.0 L jug or box. Every farmer, mechanic or do-it-yourselfer must have two complete sets of wrenches and sockets, standard and metric. The first vehicle I owned with heads-up display on the inside of the windshield was a 2003 Buick. It could be switched to display your speed in either miles or kilometers per hour. I had a lot of fun with the backseat

drivers' reaction to the display showing me driving 100 km/h in a 60 mph zone. Water freezes at 0 and boils at 100.

How can it get simpler than that? It would just take some patient mental processing to get it in perspective, just as we have historically done with the imperial system. Students today must learn both systems if they plan on a career in most professions. So maybe in another 50 years, the argument against the metric system won't include the cost to switch because we will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to do both.” - Merle

You are probably right, Merle, and I appreciate the examples of how things have changed. Even so, I am sticking with the imperial system. - Shane

“Hi, Shane! I always like to read your thoughts. And we have similar things on our minds this week! I started using subtitles while watching films in French (Subtitles, [June 8, 2023](#)). As a French instructor, I wouldn't advise my students to do this because it's important that they focus on more than the words and immerse themselves in the experience. I'm the exception to my own rule because I am bilingual, and I can already understand the dialogue. But I'm to a level where there are teeny, tiny grammar things I am needing to double down on memorizing, and there are new words that pop up that I'd like to commit to memory by seeing how they are spelled and hearing them in context. Once the subtitles are on, they stay on. Recently I realized I was binging 'Pretty Little Liars' with them on. It bothered me that I wasn't looking at the characters, so I turned them off. But then I wouldn't understand what someone was saying, so I turned them on again. I kind of loathe this compulsion, and it sent me into a deep-thinking frenzy!” - Belle

At least you know how to turn the subtitles off. - Shane

“I always enjoy reading your thoughts. In reference to eating out 'back in the day,' being raised on a farm and not rich dollar wise, we seldom ate out also (Tipping, [June 12, 2023](#)). My fondest memories, though, are of a hot summer day baling square bales of hay and putting them in the hay mow. I was allowed to drive the tractor on the baler before I was 'big' enough to throw bales. On a few Saturday nights, after a long, hot day in the field, Dad would take Mom and me to the A&W for a Papa burger and ICE COLD root beer! Man, what a treat that was! Just thinking of it now, I can almost taste this and feel the warm summer breeze blowing through the rolled-down car windows (no AC in those days). Thanks for the memories!” - Alan

Gotta love that frosty mug taste! Thanks, Alan! - Shane

“So what is it that makes someone a professional (A pro, [June 13, 2023](#))? Yes to all on your list plus consistency, reliability, showing up, truth, inner strength, being calm, stepping up when others hesitate; loyalty, willing to help others without being asked, a sense of humor, compassion, and being able to see the big picture. This

was a good mental exercise. Thanks.” - Rex

Once again, you nailed it. Thanks, Rex. - Shane

Have a thoughtful Thursday, and thank for reading.

Shane Goodman

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CITYVIEW's Best Of Des Moines

CITYVIEW announced its 2023 Best Of Des Moines readers' choices Jan. 31. You can find all the results from the poll in the February issue of [CITYVIEW](#) magazine!



Best Drake Area Store

1. Groovy Goods Daydreams
2. Ancient Ways
3. Zumi

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89	90	89	87	85	87	83
66	68	66	64	62	64	



Your Clear Mortgage forecast from Jason Parkin

The heat continues in our forecast into the weekend. Rain chances move back in Saturday through Monday, with the best chances coming Saturday night into early Sunday morning.

For help with preapprovals or refinancing, get in touch with Carrie at carrie.mortgage.

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Featured Home For Sale

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\$475,000
5708 Harwood Drive,
Des Moines, IA 50312

Wonderful Family home located in the Waterbury Neighborhood. Spacious and light fills this Brick home. There are gleaming hardwood floors throughout. The open living room/Sunroom has a fireplace and great new windows with views of the backyard. The large open kitchen has newer appliances and a charming St Charles cabinetry with an eating area.

[See more about this listing.](#)

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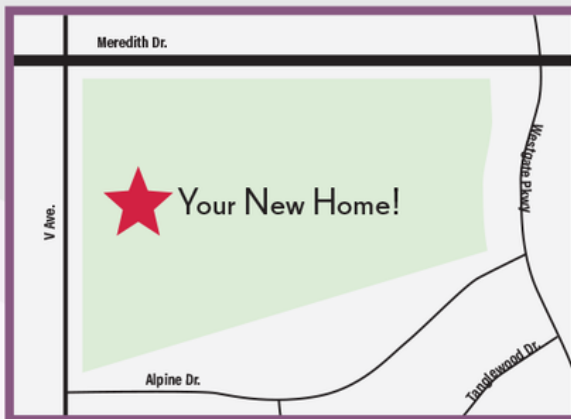
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Headlines

FROM KCCI: City removes homeless camp from Des

Moines' east side

DES MOINES, Iowa — The city of Des Moines says complaints pushed them to remove a homeless camp on the city's east side. KCCI was there Tuesday morning as crews got ready to clear out the camp along Dixon Street, north of Euclid. [..READ MORE FROM KCCI](#)

FROM WHO-TV: Arson arrest made in Des Moines church fire investigation

DES MOINES, Iowa — A Des Moines man was arrested Wednesday afternoon for allegedly setting a church on fire earlier this week. [..READ MORE FROM WHO-TV](#)

FROM WOI-DT Local 5: Clark, Purdy nominated for 2023 ESPYs: Here's how you can vote

LOS ANGELES — Watch the 2023 ESPY Awards live at 7 p.m. CT on Wednesday, July 12 on Local 5. Two of Iowa's best athletes are up for some worldwide recognition. Iowa Hawkeyes guard Caitlin Clark and San Francisco 49ers quarterback Brock Purdy, a former Iowa State Cyclone, have been nominated for 2023 ESPY Awards. [..READ MORE FROM WOI-DT Local 5](#)



Japanese divers have retrieved the first cases of sake aged in the Hokkaido seabed for 14 years. That process hopes to produce a smoother and milder tasting sake. It goes on sale next month.

BBC reports that food inflation has hit gluten-free dieters particularly hard. They say the cheapest gluten free options are now six times more expensive than those for traditional bread eaters.

Thursday means East 14th Street Tavern (3418 E. 14th St., Des Moines) has excellent Cuban sandwiches, and Sully's has \$13 steak dinners.

— Jim Duncan

CENTER STAGE

"Iowa Exhibited" is the 38th edition of our juried show featuring artists from the entire state of Iowa. June 22 - Aug. 10. Award Ceremony and Opening Celebration on Thursday, June 22 at 6:30 p.m. The Award Ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. This exhibit was juried by Brenda Jones, an art professor at Iowa State University.

<http://www.polkcountyheritagegallery.org/>

Olson-Larsen Galleries is now open at its new Valley Junction location (542 Fifth St., West Des Moines), and features its annual Landscape Exhibition. Check out the new digs, some beautiful artwork and savor the atmosphere.

<https://olsonlarsen.com/>

Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre presents the girls' coming-of-age play, "The Wolves," June 23-25 in the Tallgrass Theatre Company's theater.

<http://www.dmyat.org/thewolves>

—John Busbee, [The Culture Buzz](#)

On June 22 in history ...

1944. FDR signs G.I. Bill. On June 22, 1944, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs the G.I. Bill, an unprecedented act of legislation designed to compensate returning members of the armed services—known as G.I.s—for their efforts in World War II.

As the last of its sweeping New Deal reforms, Roosevelt's administration created the G.I. Bill (officially the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944) hoping to avoid a relapse into the Great Depression after the war ended. FDR particularly wanted to prevent a repeat of the Bonus March of 1932, when 20,000 unemployed veterans and their families flocked in protest to Washington. The American Legion, a veteran's organization, successfully fought for many of the provisions included in the bill, which gave returning servicemen access to unemployment compensation, low-interest home and business loans, and—most importantly—funding for education.

Read more at History.com.

Personalities

Her need for speed

Life is anything but a drag for Sydney Jones

By Darren Tromblay

Sydney Jones has an innate need for speed that belies her age.

The 12-year-old Indianola resident has never been your standard Barbie doll-loving little girl. According to parents Jerry and Michelle Jones, their Indianola Middle School student has a one-track mind when it comes to her first love: racing.

And it's easy to see why. Sydney's dad, Jerry, has been in various forms of racing since 1992. Currently, his car of choice is a 1981 Monte Carlo. But that doesn't matter to his daughter. To Sydney, it's all about the love of the racing, and has been since she began going to the track with her dad when she was 3 weeks old.

You read that right: weeks.

... [Read more in the June issue of Indianola Living magazine.](#)



Birthdays and Notables!

Happy Birthday Brandi Goodman!

These celebrities were born on this date: Amy Brenneman, Carson Daly, Chris Traynor, Clyde Drexler, Cyndi Lauper, Dan Brown, Donald Faison, Graham Greene, Jai Rodriguez, John Moreland, Kris Kristofferson, Lindsay Wagner, Meryl Streep, Tim Russ

SUBMIT: Send your birthday greetings and congratulatory notes to: tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com



Morning Chuckle

The answer to yesterday's riddle:

How do you make an introvert happy? CANCEL! - Gail Tomlinson, William Snyder



Today's Riddle

What do you call a flying monkey?

Have a guess? Email tammy@iowalivingmagazines.com



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