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VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR
FOR MARVEL STUDIOS

MILES NIELSEN
MUSICIAN & SONGWRITER

KEN SCHMIDT
MARKETING GURU & KEY TO
HARLEY-DAVIDSON'S COMEBACK

KARA COONEY
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JEFFREY MORRIS
FILMMAKER, DIRECTOR, & VISUAL ARTIST

_efren Ramirez
“pedro”

_JON GRIES
“uncle rico”

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Visit us on the web at www.wdm.iowa.gov
The Mayor’s Column

West Des Moines has a fascinating history as a progressive railroad town that isn’t afraid to reinvent itself in the face of economic adversity or natural disasters.

Known in its early days as Valley Junction, our city was home to a pioneering group of leaders who embraced wooden sidewalks, gas and water mains, telephone service and electricity—all services considered cutting-edge at the time.

Fortunately, that “can do” spirit is alive and well today. As the heart of our City, Valley Junction provides a unique space for everyone to enjoy a one-of-a-kind experience for shopping, dining and socializing.

Your elected leaders have worked hard to make sure this area stays active by launching innovative redevelopment programs that are making a difference. We’re supporting locally-owned businesses with programs such as our Property Improvement Fund, the Regulatory Compliance Fund, the Property Tax Rebate Program and the Upper Story Housing Program.

From the start of the Property Improvement and Regulatory Compliance Fund programs, 161 jobs have been created/retained with nearly $6 million in capital investment. The city’s contribution to eligible projects has been approximately $1.4 million.

Between January 2018 and June 2019, the city’s financial contribution was $727,262, which yielded more than $4.3 million in capital investment and created/retained 63 jobs. This accounts for over 70 percent of the programs’ activity with a return of more than 450% on the city’s investment.

As a result, the City now has hard evidence of improved property valuation. In the lifespan of the programs, the average project’s property valuation increased by 66%. One project property has experienced a valuation increase of 214%.

With everything happening in this area, it’s no wonder Valley Junction was re-designated as an Iowa Great Place and a Cultural & Entertainment District by the Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs.

This announcement came just as Jim Miller, the executive director of the Historic Valley Junction Foundation, announced he was leaving to take on a new challenge in Cedar Rapids. Jim has been an enthusiastic advocate for Valley Junction, and we will miss his passionate presence in our community.

The entire district offers residents and visitors a great gathering place to connect with each other and enjoy the benefits of a diverse, thriving community. It’s exciting to see so many new options succeed in Historic Valley Junction.

Mayor Steven K. Gaer
These two examples show that the City does not receive the entire amount you pay for property taxes every March and September. We receive just the City's portion of your tax bill, and we have no say in how other entities set their tax rate. We only control our tax rate, and in the last few years, we've reduced the City's tax rate three times.

If you own property, you know the City's tax rate is expressed as an amount per $1,000 of property valuation. After LOSST passed in Dallas County, we lowered the City's rate from $12.00 to $11.79 per $1,000 of valuation. When LOSST was approved in Polk County, we lowered the City's tax rate again from $11.79 to $10.99 per $1,000.

That's a total reduction of $1.01 per $1,000 of valuation, which is an overall 8.4 percent decrease in the City's portion of your property tax rate.

Along with this property tax reduction, City leaders also agreed to spend the remaining 50 percent of the one-cent sales tax revenue on public safety (hiring 7 new police officers and 5 firefighters), public infrastructure improvements for transportation, traffic flow and flood control, quality of life initiatives such as the Five Waters project, and a major renovation of the public library.

I'm pleased to report we're making progress with all our plans for these initiatives. The passage of the one-cent sales tax reduces the tax burden on residents and allows visitors to our community to help pay for these items.

We kept our promise about providing property tax relief for our residents and we will continue to use your tax dollars wisely.
Thank you for entering this year’s Eye on West Des Moines Photo Contest. The judging has been completed and the winners have been determined.

We will be offering this contest again next year, so keep shooting those pictures and send us your entries as you collect them!

For complete details and rules, interested photographers can call 515-222-3441 or email Mark.Brewick@wdm.iowa.gov.

**BEST OF SHOW WINNER**

Deb Shoning

*Riding the Trails, Raccoon River Park*

**CATEGORY WINNERS**

**LIVING - WILDLIFE**

Sarah Ellis

**LIVING - PLANTS**

Marie Elg

**SEASONS IN WDM**

Ruth Hummel

**LIVING - ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**

Stefanie Curry

---

**Sign up for Snow Parking Ban TEXT MESSAGES!**

To sign up for text alerts when snow parking bans are issued, visit our eNotification page for alerts at www.wdm.iowa.gov/eNotification and follow these simple steps:

1. Click on the red text that says “Sign up here to receive text messages when Emergency Snow Parking Bans are issued.”
2. Enter your cell phone number, your email address (so we can send you a confirmation email), and your first and last name.

3. Check the box to the left of “Subscribe to all SMS Messages.”
4. Check the box confirming that you are not a robot and click SUBMIT.

Remember to activate your request by answering our confirmation email. If you don’t receive this email, make sure you check your junk folder so that you can confirm your request and activate our texting service.

---

**How Can You Report a Non-Emergency Issue to the City?**

You can report an issue anonymously, BUT...

By logging into the YourGOV app using your name and email address, you will receive updates on the status of your request. If contact information is not supplied, City staff is unable to follow up to ensure issues are resolved.
Winter in West Des Moines

With an estimated population of over 65,500 (which doubles during the daytime), more than 810 lane miles of streets and high expectations from the motoring public, the City takes a serious approach to the problems associated with snow and ice control.

Priority of Snow Removal

1. Major arterial streets
2. Collector streets
3. Residential streets, public sidewalks
4. Cul-de-sacs, alleys and City trails

Snow Emergency Parking Ban

If there’s snow, there is likely a PARKING BAN to accomplish the effective removal of snow.

We don’t want to tow your car when it snows. You can be proactive!

When snow is forecast, park your car off the street. If you’ll be gone during the winter months, don’t leave your car on the street.

$50 Ticket and/or Tow

A snow plow can’t clean the street with a car parked here!

If a prediction for snow or winter weather conditions exists, check the City’s website at www.wdm.iowa.gov, call the Snow Hotline at 273-0766, or check the City’s Facebook or Twitter accounts to see if there is a Parking Ban in place! All are available 24/7.

Vehicles must be removed from all City streets, alleys and city-owned parking areas when a Snow Emergency Parking Ban is in effect. Vehicles parked in these areas are subject to being towed and/or a $50 ticket. The parking ban is effective from its proclamation through 5:00 p.m. the following day, unless it is extended by an additional proclamation due to the length of the storm or large volume of snowfall.

Now is the perfect time to make a plan for when an Emergency Parking Ban is in place and parking is not allowed.

My vehicle was towed during a Parking Ban. What do I do?

- Go to the Police Dept., 250 Mills Civic Pkwy (Open 24/7)
- Provide ID showing the vehicle is yours or you were the driver
- Ask for an impound release (no charge)
- Go to Roy’s Towing, 155 S. 13th St., WDM
- Pay Roy’s Towing fees (such as towing, storage) and pick up your vehicle
- If a City ticket has been issued, that fee is due at City Hall, 4200 Mills Civic Pkwy (Finance Dept.) Open Mon-Fri, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Be proactive in the future by keeping vehicles off the street during winter weather

Citizen Responsibilities

Snow can be beautiful, but it can also create hazards. When residents fail to clear sidewalks, falls and injuries may occur. Please place the snow on private property or adjacent to the right of way, not in the street.

A helpful hint for residents — clear your sidewalks after the snowplows have completely finished plowing the street to the curb. If your sidewalk is icy, please apply sand or applicable deicer product to alleviate the hazard and reduce pedestrian injury.

Mailboxes

The City will plow the snow within the confines of curb line to curb line of a street. During extreme winter events there may be times when City plows cannot physically place the snow onto the public right-of-way (commonly referred to as the “parking”). During these times the resident will be responsible for clearing the snow around their mailbox to ensure delivery of mail.

It is also the resident’s responsibility to ensure that their mailbox is properly installed with the face of the door six to eight inches behind the face of the curb. The post should be at least 24” away from the face of the curb, and it should be adequately constructed to withstand snow clearing efforts but meet “breakaway” criteria. In the fall of the year, staff conduct pre-season inspections of mailbox placement throughout the community. If a mailbox is found to be out of compliance, staff will notify the resident with a door hanger so the proper corrections can be made before winter begins. Damage to mailboxes that have not been repaired or brought into compliance will not be eligible for a claim adjustment.

The City’s responsibility is to conduct winter maintenance activities expediently, efficiently and safely.

Would you like to “walk in the shoes” of a WDM snow fighter? View a video on the City website at: www.wdm.iowa.gov/snowfighting.

“I saw a snowplow go down my street and thought I could park there now!”

Depending upon storm and road conditions, plows may make additional passes down your street. Please go by the expiration date and time from the Snow Hotline at 273-0766 to avoid a ticket or tow.
Frequently Asked Questions About Snow Control

How do we know when the Snow Emergency Parking Ban is in effect?
2. Check the home page of the WDM website: www.wdm.iowa.gov
3. While on the WDM home page, sign up for eUpdates to automatically receive notices of snow emergency parking bans by email or text
4. “Like” the City of West Des Moines on Facebook
5. “Follow” the City of West Des Moines on Twitter

Can’t the city remove the snow they put in my driveway or sidewalks?
Unfortunately, we cannot. When you consider the number of driveways and sidewalks throughout the City, it would be very expensive to taxpayers for us to provide this type of service. The City has over 810 miles of public streets to plow during storm events and we typically do this with approximately 18 operators per shift. While we try our best to minimize the amount of snow that is placed on these areas, it can’t always be avoided.

Who do I call to get the public to shovel their sidewalks?
City ordinance requires property owners to shovel their sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of a storm. You may report unshoveled walks to Community Compliance at 222-3480 or by using YourGOV.

May I shovel/plow/blow the snow from my sidewalk or driveway into the street?
No. City ordinance prohibits this activity due to the hazardous conditions it can create in the street. Violators may be fined. See City Code Sections 7-1-4 and 7-1-5.

I am elderly or disabled. Can the City help clean my sidewalk?
West Des Moines Human Services offers a Handyman program to remove snow for income-qualified households in the event of 2 inches or more of snow. This service is available to WDM elderly (70+) and medically disabled household who are at or below 185% of federal poverty guidelines and prioritized according to the following criteria:
#1 – low-income disabled households (medically verified), or
#2 – low-income elderly

Households must pre-qualify through an application process with Human Services staff requiring income and/or medical documentation.
Staff hours for the snow removal program are Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Because of the number of homes on our list, there is no guarantee that our one employee will have your snow removed within 24 hours.

For more information concerning this program, please contact WDM Human Services at 222-3660.

When will my street be plowed?
The City has established priorities for the various classifications of streets. Major arterial streets that must be kept open to provide a transportation system for emergency vehicle units will be our highest priority. Depending on storm conditions, crews may have the opportunity to start plowing some residential streets before the storm ends.

For More Information, Please Contact

The City of West Des Moines:

By phone:
Snow Hotline 2730-SNO (273-0766)
Public Services 222-3480
For Emergencies 222-3321
Human Services 222-3660
Sidewalk Violations 222-3480

iPhone or Android:
To report concerns, install YourGOV App

Web: To report concerns, YourGOV
Facebook: “Like” the City of West Des Moines

Twitter: “Follow” the City of West Des Moines

WDM City Code

The following is the City’s regulation on snow emergency parking bans which is being published in accordance with the City Code regulation:

6-6-7: SNOW REMOVAL:
No person shall park, abandon, or leave unattended any vehicle on any public street, alley, or city owned off street parking area during any snow emergency proclaimed by the mayor, public works director, or their respective designees. A snow emergency parking ban shall continue from its proclamation through five o’clock (5:00) P.M. the following day. The mayor, public works director, or their respective designees may extend the duration of the parking ban if conditions require additional time to clear the snow and ice. Notice of an extension shall be posted in the same manner as a proclamation of snow emergency and shall contain the date and time the parking ban shall expire. Such a parking ban shall be of uniform application. The city shall publish information regarding the responsibilities of vehicle owners under this section in the fall and/or winter editions of the WDM Magazine distributed to city residents, as well as post such information on the city of West Des Moines website in the fall and/or winter of each year. When predictions or occurrences indicate the need, the mayor, public works director, or their respective designees, shall proclaim the snow emergency and direct the appropriate city employee to post said proclamation on the city of West Des Moines website and forward notice of the proclamation to at least two (2) radio and two (2) television stations that broadcast their signals into the city of West Des Moines. Such emergency may be extended or shortened as the emergency warrants or when conditions warrant. This section shall not be construed as suspending parking limitations or restrictions imposed by any other section of this title. In addition to enforcement of this section by police officers, code enforcement officials and public works employees have the authority to enforce the provisions of this section. The code enforcement officials and public works employees shall have the power to issue citation-complaints for violations of this section and impound vehicles found in violation of this section as provided in subsections 6-6-15A and G of this chapter. (Ord. 1844, 10-5-2009)

West Des Moines City Code is available 24/7 on the City’s website at www.wdm.iowa.gov.

Ongoing weather conditions and the number of vehicles obstructing plow maneuverability in the roadways have a major impact on the effectiveness of the operation. Please keep in mind that crews may be coming down your street more than once to fully plow the snow to the curb. The City’s goal is to have all paved streets completely plowed within 24 hours after the storm has ended.
Thanksgiving Fire Safety

Did you know Thanksgiving is the peak day for home cooking fires? Almost half of Thanksgiving Day fires occur between 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, when many people are preparing their Thanksgiving dinner. With friends and family around, it’s easy to become distracted and not watch what is cooking. Unattended cooking is the leading contributing factor in cooking fires and fire deaths. Take these steps to keep your family safe:

• Keep children and pets away from the stove.
• Make sure electrical cords are not dangling off the counter.

If a fire breaks out, you need to handle it carefully.

• Turn off your heat source.
• On the stovetop, smother the flames by sliding a lid over the pan.
• For an oven fire, keep the door closed until cooled.
• If there is a grease fire, never use water!
• Spray the base of the flames with an ABC fire extinguisher.
• Leave the house and call 911 if you lose control of the fire.

By practicing these fire safety tips, you can enjoy times with your loved ones and keep your family safe.

Five dangers of deep frying a turkey:

1. Never use a deep fryer on a wooden deck, under a patio cover, in a garage or in an enclosed space.

2. Deep fryers can easily tip over spilling hot oil across a large area.

3. An overfilled pot will cause oil to spill over when the turkey is placed inside.

4. Never place a frozen turkey in a deep fryer. Even a partial frozen turkey will cause hot oil to splatter.

5. The pot, lid and handles of a deep fryer can get dangerously hot and cause burn injuries.

WDM PUBLIC ARTS

8th Annual ART ON THE CAMPUS Temporary Exhibit

Make sure to visit the WDM City Campus to view the selected artworks in the 2020 Art on the Campus exhibit. The exhibit begins on April 15 and ends on November 15. Ten art pieces are part of this year’s exhibit. You can learn more about the artwork and vote for your favorite at www.wdm.iowa.gov/AOC.

WATER QUALITY PUBLIC ART

The WDM Public Arts Advisory Commission planned to reveal a one-of-a-kind work of temporary art, “Blossoms on the Water,” at Illumifest that was to be held in September. The event was to also feature 3-D chalk art. Unfortunately, due to poor weather conditions, Illumifest was cancelled. However, the reveal of “Blossoms on the Water” and 3-D chalk art will still happen! Look for information and further details in the next edition of the WDM Magazine. The reveal and chalk art will be a part of the 2020 Earth Day Family Fun event on the City Campus.

If you are interested in serving on the West Des Moines Public Arts Advisory Commission, please contact the West Des Moines City Clerk at 515-222-3603 to request an application.

HOW IS PUBLIC ART FUNDED?

Annual funding for public art in West Des Moines comes from hotel-motel tax revenue dedicated by the City Council for that purpose.
SUPPORTING QUALITY OF LIFE

The West Des Moines Community Foundation (WDMCF) was created in 2007 in order to make a positive impact in our community. To date, the Foundation has received and is managing over $1 million from families, individuals, businesses, the City, and Polk and Dallas Counties for our various funds to support artistic, cultural, recreational, historic, social and natural resources.

Grant Submissions Reviewed Quarterly

The Foundation serves as a catalyst for specific community projects and a champion for promoting quality of life within our city.

Non-profit organizations serving citizens in West Des Moines are eligible to submit a grant to the WDMCF. Grants are reviewed on a quarterly basis by the WDMCF Board of Directors, and awarded on a selective basis, according to established bylaws and policies.

Donations (of any size) Always Welcome

Donations to the WDMCF are accepted through the Community Foundation of Greater Des Moines, which also administers and manages the five funds. No donation is too small.

WDMCF funds:
- General Pass-through Fund
- Special Interest Fund: Arts and Culture
- Special Interest Fund: Recreation and Trails
- Endowment Fund – maximum of 5% of endowment funds are available on an annual basis
- Quality of Life Fund

Donating to the WDMCF is a wonderful way to give back to the community and will help to preserve and improve the quality of life in West Des Moines for generations to come.

Questions:
Contact Helen Eddy, WDMCF Board Chair, at helenbikes@msn.com
Donation Form and Grant Application can be found at: www.wdmcf.org

Donating to Children & Families of Iowa

Guided Public Tours of the Historic Jordan House Museum
Plan a tour of the Jordan House, the historic home of one of West Des Moines’ first settlers. Learn about James Jordan, his family, his legacy, and his involvement in the Underground Railroad. Guided tours are one hour in length and doors open fifteen minutes before the listed tour times. The Jordan House is closed during the month of January.

Tour Information
Days: Fridays & Saturdays
Fees: Ages 17+ $5
Ages 6-16 $3
Ages 5 & under Free

Holiday Open House
Step back in time and visit the Historic Jordan House Museum and the 1926 Bennett School on Sunday, December 1, from 1-4pm.
Admissant fee includes visits to both facilities. Light refreshments will be served at the Jordan House, and children can make a holiday craft at the Bennett School.
Fees: Ages 17+ $5
Ages 6-16 $3
Ages 5 & under Free

Tea Time at the Jordan House
Back by popular demand! Take time to enjoy tea with your family and friends at the Historic Jordan House this Valentine’s season. Whether you are a parent-child duo, a group of lifelong friends, or just want to spend time away from the office with your co-workers, you will surely delight in this charming hour filled with food, drink, crafts, and activities. Each registration includes a voucher for a future Jordan House tour. You can find registration information on pg. 14 of the P & R Program Guide.

Book the Jordan House for Your Next Meeting
The Jordan House and Bennett School are available to rent. Rentals include a tour of the building for your group. Call us today at 515.225.1286 for more details and to schedule your event today!
Give your glass new life!

The crash of breaking glass is usually not a welcome sound. For Ripple Glass Recyclers, it’s music to the ears.

Metro Waste Authority has partnered with Ripple Glass to place a glass only recycling container at the Metro Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes. Although glass is still accepted in your Curb It! recycling cart, glass that has been separated from your other recyclables has a lot more uses. Ripple Glass refers to it as “clean” glass when it hasn’t been mixed with paper or plastics. Based in Kansas City, Ripple Glass uses the clean glass they collect to make new beverage containers and fiber glass insulation. Just six beverage bottles produce enough fiberglass insulation to fill a standard wall cavity, and it can be recycled infinite times! The partnership is a great solution to a growing problem; too much ‘dirty’ glass and not enough recyclers.

All types of food and beverage glass are accepted in Grimes, just like the items currently allowed in your Curb It! cart. Examples include wine or beer bottles of every color, spaghetti sauce, pickle or baby food jars to name a few.

Just look for the glass only container at the Metro Northwest Transfer Station; your walls will be saying cheers!

Metro Waste Authority’s Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes is open year-round, providing a convenient location for our residents to drop off household hazardous waste or extra recycling.

Most everyone has hazardous waste in their home. This includes rechargeable batteries, paints and stains, garden chemicals, cleaning supplies, and much more!

While you’re there dropping off hazardous waste, bring your extra recycling too! At the Northwest Transfer station, you can bring all of the items accepted in the Curb It! program for free. There are dedicated containers for glass and cardboard, as well as a mixed container for everything else.

Finally, if you’re in the market for some Grow Gold Compost, it is sold by the bag for $4 at the facility in Grimes. The material is self-load, but all the equipment and bags are provided.

If you’re wondering where it should go, check out www.WhereItShouldGo.com or call Metro Waste Authority at 515.244.0021.

Household Hazardous Waste & Extra Recycling
Grimes — your location for convenient disposal options!

Drop-Off Hours — Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes
• 8:00 am – 3:00 pm – Tuesday thru Thursday Year Round
• 8:00 am – Noon – 2nd Saturday of the month March thru December
• By Appointment – Year Round

Appointments are often available same day and are only required to ensure certified staff is available to receive your hazardous material.

Visit us on the web at www.wdm.iowa.gov
Mission Statement: The WDM Public Library enriches the quality of life of community residents by providing convenient, timely and equal access to information and ideas. The library is committed to offering engaging activities, opportunities for personal and professional growth, promoting the love of reading and learning while remaining responsive to the changing needs of the community.

WDM Library Adult Programs

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Unless otherwise indicated, adult programs are free, held in the Community Room, for ages 18 & up, and require advance registration which begins at 9 am on the date in brackets; no registration date means register anytime. Register online, in person, or by phone.

reference desk | 515.222.3403 | wdmlibrary.org/calendar

ADULT WINTER READING CLUB (WRC)

Dec 1 - Jan 31
Beat the winter blues...curl up with a good book!
Sign up online or pick up a WRC log in the library. Turn in your log by Jan 31 to be entered for our prize drawings! See our website or the WDM Library Times adult programs flyer for more information. Ages 18 & up. Registration required.

COLOR CONNECTION: ADULT COLORING CLUB

2nd Tue 2-4 pm | Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 10 | Pond View Room
Guarded to cure rheumatism, chill blains, toothache, and warts! Okay, not really, but it IS relaxing and F-U-N! Bring your own supplies or use ours. Make the color connection! Sponsored by the WDM Library Friends Foundation. Registration preferred.

HOLIDAY CARDS

Fri, Feb 7 | 6:30-8:30 pm | 1/6
When you care enough to make it yourself! Make three Valentine cards for special friends or family. Friends sponsored. Ages 18 & up. Registration required.

PAPERCRAFTS C.L.U.B.

Sat 10 am-4 pm | Dec 7, Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 7 | Community Room
Be it scrapbooks, card making, or coloring, we welcome all papercrafters! Bring a project and your own supplies (no sales at the event). We’ll provide snacks and cutting tools. Sponsored by the WDM Library Friends Foundation. Registration preferred.

LETS TALK: ELL CONVERSATION PARTNERS

2nd Mon | 10-11 am | Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 9 | Community Room
Informal, fun, and free! For those who speak English but would like to practice talking and listening...along with native English speakers looking for conversation and friendship! Facilitator led. Offered by WDMCS and WDM Library. No registration!

SILENT CLUB READ

Mon | Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2 |
6:30-8 pm
6:30 pm: Social Time | 7:30 pm: Silent Reading • Pondview Room
Take time for YOU. We’ll have beverages or you may bring your own covered drink. Spend a few minutes chatting about books with other bibliophiles, then relax with the book of your choice. Give yourself permission to sit back and soak in the quiet. Registration preferred.

Let's Get Crafting for the Holidays!

Sun | 2:30-3:30 pm | Community Room
Winter is right around the corner, time to get that crafting done! Whether you’re new to crafting or a seasoned pro, we’ll have fun projects and activities to keep your hands busy and our minds occupied. Ages 18 & up. Registration required.

Let’s Talk: ELL Conversation Partners

2nd Mon | 10-11 am | Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 9 | Community Room
Informal, fun, and free! For those who speak English but would like to practice talking and listening…along with native English speakers looking for conversation and friendship! Facilitator led. Offered by WDMCS and WDM Library. No registration!

Visit us on the web at www.wdmlibrary.org

Visit us on the web at www.wdmlibrary.org

WDM Library Adult Programs

WDM WRITER’S CLUB

2nd & 4th Sat @ 10 am
Informal meetings for accomplished or aspiring writers – share any form of writing and offer/receive constructive criticism. Call for details. 515.222.3413

THE IOWA FILES: A HISTORY SERIES

Sun | 2:30-3:30 pm | Community Room
The WDM Historical Society presents an Iowa history series at the WDM Public Library. Sponsored by the WDM Library Friends Foundation. Ages 18 & up. No registration.

Jan 19: SUE CLARK & THE END OF SEGREGATED SCHOOL IN IOWA
Presenter: Leo Lands

Feb 16: BUXTON, A BLACK UTOPIA IN IOWA?
Presenter: Rachel Chase

Mar 15: BONNIE & CLYDE – AFTER DEXFIELD PARK
Presenter: Rod Stanley

Adult Book Discussions

Sponsored by the WDM Library Friends Foundation

YA NOT CLUB READ

2nd Thu @ 6:30 pm | Dec 12, Jan 9, Feb 13, Mar 12 | Locations TBA
If you’re a “grown-up” who loves YA (Young Adult) books, WHY NOT join us for YA NOT Club Read – the not-so-serious book club? Books are distributed at the meetings. Remaining copies are available at the front desk. Anyone who has read the book is welcome. Registration required. courtney.bench@wdm.iowa.gov • 515.222.3403 • wdmlibrary.org

CLUB READ

1st Tue | 2 & 6:30 pm | Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 3 | Community Room
Books are distributed at the meetings. Remaining copies are available at the front desk or you may bring your own copy. Registration preferred.

CLUB READ SOCIAL

Tue, Dec 3 | 6:30-8:30 pm | Community Room
Make new friends! Discover new authors! Bring an appetizer or dessert to share and we’ll each talk about our top three reads since the last Social. Newcomers welcome. Registration preferred.

SUPPORT ADULT PROGRAMS WHEN YOU JOIN THE FRIENDS!

Friends memberships pay for many ADULT programs: Club Read; YA Not Club Read; Holiday Cards; Color Connection; Papercrafts C.L.U.B.; Adult Summer Reading Club; Reading Basics; Iowa Author Series; Music 792 & You; Tech: One-On-One; and more!

DONATIONS ARE TAXDeductible!

WDM Library Friends Foundation, 4000 Mills Civic Pkwy, WDM, IA 50265.
**EARLY LITERACY**

“Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they actually learn to read and write. It is not the teaching of reading, but is laying the foundation for reading so that when children are taught to read, they are ready.” – from Early Literacy Storytimes @ Your Library by Saroh Nadkarni Ghoting and Pamela Martin-Diaz

**Why is Early Literacy important?**

Acquiring early literacy (pre-literacy) skills before school leads to reading achievement and academic success. Children who enter school with well-developed early literacy and academic success are ready to learn to read, they are ready.” – from Early Literacy Storytimes @ Your Library by Saroh Nadkarni Ghoting and Pamela Martin-Diaz

**What are the Six Early Literacy Skills?**

1. Letter Knowledge – knowing the names and sounds of letters; recognizing that the same letter can look different (upper vs. lower case, different fonts)
2. Narrative Skills – being able to describe events and tell stories
3. Phonological Awareness – the ability to hear and play with the smaller sounds that make up words
4. Print Awareness – noticing print; the ability to handle a book; understanding how to follow the words on a page
5. Print Motivation – showing interest and enjoying books
6. Vocabulary – knowing the names of things

**Skills? What are the Six Early Literacy skills are ready to learn to read.**

School with well-developed early literacy and academic success. Children who enter school with well-developed early literacy and academic success are ready to learn to read, they are ready.” – from Early Literacy Storytimes @ Your Library by Saroh Nadkarni Ghoting and Pamela Martin-Diaz

**How can the WDM LIBRARY help?**

- Ask a librarian for suggestions
- Use our recommended reading lists to find materials your child may enjoy
- Check out library materials to use at home
- Attend age-appropriate library programs presented by our staff trained in early literacy and child development (see our Storytime Series)

**What can YOU do to help your child?**

- Allow your child time to talk while you listen attentively
- Encourage your child to handle books and “tell” you the story
- Provide an atmosphere that is fun and language rich
- Read often and make reading time enjoyable
- Read, sing, talk, and play with your child
- Write and color with your child to develop fine motor skills

**Storytime Series**

Advance registration is required [date in brackets] and begins at 9 am. Programs are held in the Library Storyroom unless otherwise indicated. Storytimes are FREE! Register online, in person, or by phone. youth services @ 515.222.3405 | wdmlibrary.org/calendar

**Daycares with more than five children, please call the Youth Services Desk for information about programming for groups.**

**MOTHER GOOSE TIME**

6 mo-2 yrs w/adult
Simple stories, gentle tunes, flannel boards, and nursery rhymes. Registration required.

**LAPSIT LAMBS**

1 mo-18 mo w/adult
Language rich activities designed for pre-walking babies. Includes play ideas that are easily integrated into baby’s everyday routine. Registration required.

**HISTORY WDM Magazine • Winter/Spring 2020**

Visit us on the web at www.wdmlibrary.org
**1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN**

0-6 yrs & Parents

Read to succeed! The best and the brightest have parents who read to them. Track the time YOU read with your child. When you reach 1000 books, pick up a free book for your home collection! Register anytime online.

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**WDM Library Youth Programs**

All youth programs are free and most require advance registration, which begins at 9 am on the date in brackets. Programs are held in the Library Community Room unless otherwise indicated. Many events fill quickly and have a waiting list. Please let us know a.s.a.p. if you are unable to attend a program. If you do not arrive within 10 minutes of the start time, your spot will be offered to the next person on the waiting list. Register in person, by phone, or online.

**WINTER READING CLUB**

Dec 1 - Jan 31 | all ages

The WDM Library wants YOU to keep reading during winter break! Sign up online and track your reading to earn a prize. Register and get more information on our website.

**BABIES ON THE MOVE**

Thu | 10 am | Dec 5, Jan 9, Feb 6, Mar 5 | ages 1 mo - 12 mo

Parent/child programs. Playtime sessions offer multiple stations for active and sensory play. Registration begins 12/3.

**TEEN GROUP SERVICE PROJECT (GSP)**

1ST Wed | 3-5 pm | Dec 4, Feb 5, Mar 4 | ages 14-18

If you need volunteer hours, we need responsible students to do various library projects and tasks. No experience necessary, but positions are limited! For more information contact wdmlibraryvolunteers@wdm.iowa.gov.

**KIDS CLUB READ**

Thu | 4:15 pm | Dec 5, Jan 9, Feb 6, Mar 5 | ages 8-12

If you like to read and talk about books, this group is for you! Join us for discussion and activities related to each month’s book. For January, bring a food item related to your favorite book and hear about others’ favorite titles. Sign up at the Youth Services Desk.

**PARENT QUEST**

1st Fri 10 am | Dec 6, Jan 3, Feb 7, Mar 6 | Parents of babies-preschoolers


**TEEN OPEN HOURS**

Tue | 6-8 pm | Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 10 | ages 12-18

Open Hours is a monthly evening hangout for teens. It’s a little more structured than Word. We’ll have a specific activity, craft, or structure for each month, so we ask you to register so we have enough supplies (and sometimes snacks) for everyone! Registration required.

**TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB)**

2nd Wed (May-Sep) | 3-4 pm | Dec 11, Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 11 | ages 12-18

Earn volunteer hours AND make the library a better place for teens! Give input in teen activities and materials; host programming fundraisers; participate in community events; help with youth programs; and more. Stop by a meeting or pick up an application today! 515.222.3405 | youthservices@wdm.iowa.gov

**TALES WITH TAILS**


Sign up for a 15-minute reading session with a registered therapy dog from the Iowa Human-Animal Bond Society! Registration required.

**WESTRIDGE SINGERS WINTER CONCERT**

Fri, Dec 13 | 1:15 pm | all ages

Stop by the Library Community Room for a fun winter concert from the 5th & 6th grade chorus at Westridge Elementary. No registration!

**DROP-IN WINTER CRAFT**

Wed, Dec 26 - Mon, Dec 31 | ages 1-12

Come in to the Children’s Department any time during this week and we have a very special craft for you. (Note: Library closes at noon Mon, Dec 31.) No registration!

**WORD (TEENS)**


Word is a space for you to do homework, hang out with friends, talk, watch movies, or maybe even make something. It’ll be low-key, and you don’t need to register. You can come for the full two hours, or just drop in for a while—it’s up to you.

**FAMILY NIGHT AT THE LIBRARY**


Come one, come all to a fun family night at the library! Each month we will feature a different family-friendly activity. Please register all attendees (children and adults).
**WDM Library Children’s Programs**

**TEEN READ**
Tue | 4 pm | Jan 21, Feb 18 | ages 12-18
If you like to read and talk about books, this club is for you. Join us for discussion and activities related to this month’s book. Register anytime by calling 515.222.3405.

**SPRING CLEANING!**
Mon, Mar 16 | 1:30 pm | ages 4-12
Help the library clean out our craft closets just in time for spring! From pom-poms to craft feathers, beads to sequins, bring your creativity and make a fun project with us. Registration required [3/2].

**SPRING BREAK LEGO ADVENTURES**
Wed | 1:30 pm | Mar 18 [3/2] | ages 5-12
With LEGOs you can build anything, so have an exciting afternoon at the library. Who knows what you might create? Community Room. Registration required.

**VALENTINE CARD WORKSHOP FOR KIDS**
Wed, Feb 5 | 1:30 pm | ages 4-12
Make love-ly Valentines for friends and family at the library. Early registration!

**VALENTINE’S DAY STORYTIME**
Wed, Feb 12 & Thu, Feb 13 | 10:30 am | ages 1-6
Our Valentine story time including a puppet show, stories, rhymes, and songs! All you need is love...and stories! Registration required.

**SUPERHERO MOVIE MARATHON**
Tue, Mar 17 | 10 am - 6 pm | ages 12-18
Join us for a super hero movie marathon. Avengers? Check. Wonderwoman. We’ve got it. We’ll also have pizza for lunch and popcorn all day! Registration required [3/2].

**BREAK FRIDAY FLICKS**
Fri, Mar 20 | 1:30 pm
Wrap up your spring break with a fun Friday movie. Popcorn and water provided, or bring your own snack and covered drink (NO peanut products). Caregivers are responsible for determining if movies are age-appropriate. No registration.

**IF YOU ENJOY OUR YOUTH PROGRAMS, PLEASE JOIN THE FRIENDS!**

- **DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE!**
  WDM Library Friends Foundation, 4000 Mills Civic Pkwy, WDM, IA 50265.
  515.222.3407 • wdmlibrary.org/support-the-library

**HOTSPOTS**

Check out a “HotSpot” devices from the WDM Library! HotSpots provide password-protected wi-fi access in places where it might not otherwise be available, like road trips, campgrounds, and more. Available to WDM residents, ages 18 & up, with WDM Library cards in good standing (no lost items or fines). Users are financially responsible for lost or damaged HotSpots. 515.222.3403

**ONE PASS, FIVE ADVENTURES**

WDM Library users with a card in good standing may check out passes to four local attractions: The Blank Park Zoo, Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens, Living History Farms, Reiman Gardens, and Science Center of Iowa.

See our website for more information. wdmlibrary.org/advpass

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Visit us on the web at www.wdmlibrary.org
All services are free unless otherwise indicated.

MOBILE ACCESS
Browse the library catalog, hold or renew a book, check your account, find events, and more with any internet-connected mobile phone. Search your app store for West Des Moines Library and download. It's free! 515.222.3403 • wdmlibrary.org/app

RESEARCH
REFERENCE TOOLS
From our homepage, find links to great websites, listed by category: Life Links; Books, Music and Entertainment; Hobbies and Interests; Local Interest; Government; General Reference; and Travel and the Outdoors. Got a question? We can help! 515.222.3403 • wdmlibrary.org/reference

DATABASES
We have a variety of electronic resources available in the library; most are also accessible from home. We have 40+ online exclusive services to choose from on our website on a variety of topics. 515.222.3403 • wdmlibrary.org/databases

USING THE LIBRARY
E-CONTENT
The library has eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eVideo – plus digital magazines, graphic novels, and eComics! Bridges, Flipster, World Cinema Collection, InstantFlix, and more. Get details online or at the Reference Desk. 515.222.3403 • wdmlibrary.org

PUBLIC MEETING & STUDY ROOMS
Available for public use at no charge. Call for guidelines/reservation details. 515.222.3400 • wdmlibrary.org

Questions? Call 222.3400

HOMEBOUND DELIVERY:
WE MAKE HOUSECALLS!
If you are a WDM resident, unable to come to the library for health reasons, and interested in receiving regular monthly visits from a volunteer, give us a call. 515.222.3400 • wdmlibrary.org

BOOK CLUB COLLECTION
The library has multiple copies of past Club Read titles available for local book clubs to borrow. See our website for titles list. Advance reservations required. 515.222.3585 children's titles • 515.222.3410 adult titles • wdmlibrary.org

CALENDAR
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS
Check our online calendar for events and descriptions. Searchable by event type and age group. Selecting an event will link to the online registration form (if required). You may also register in person or by phone. 515.222.3400 • wdmlibrary.org/calendar

SUPPORT THE LIBRARY
FRIENDS FOUNDATION:
GIFTS & MEMORIALS
Honor friends, family, or special occasions through the Book Buy Book program. Your tax-deductible donation ($25 per book) builds a better library collection for all to enjoy. Larger gifts may fund a special project or the Friends endowment. Online donations accepted. 515.222.3407 • wdmlibrary.org/support-the-library/friends-foundation

FRIENDS BOOK SALE AREA
Find great bargains in the corner by the children's periodicals – from 10¢ magazines to $1 hardbacks – adult and children's titles. Coordinated by the Friends Foundation. Proceeds benefit library programs and collections. • 515.222.3400

VOLUNTEER
Applications available at our service desks or online. Reliable adult volunteers are needed, especially for homebound deliveries. Student applicants must be age 13 or older AND completed 7th grade. Summer applications available in early April; Group service projects during the school year. 515.222.3400 • wdmlibrary.org

ABOUT THE LIBRARY
MORE THAN BOOKS
Your library is more than a warehouse for books. It's a place to meet, discover, relax, and enjoy a variety of reading, viewing, and listening materials.

TECHNOLOGY & EQUIPMENT
Available for use in the library: photocopier, fax, interactive storybooks, word processing, free Internet and wireless access. Overhead projector and iPads available for checkout. Hate long lines? Try a 3M SelfCheck machine! 515.222.3400 • wdmlibrary.org

KIDS | TEENS | ADULTS
LIBRARY BLOGS
From our homepage, click on KIDS, TEENS, or ADULTS and select BLOG. Get the latest program updates, book lists, staff picks, reading/literacy tips, and more.

YOUTH SERVICES
Youth Services includes books for babies through 6th grade, as well as audiobooks, music, movies, magazines, puzzles, and puppets. Our kids' area is equipped with train, lightbox, and Lego Duplo tables which encourage creative play. You'll find Young Adult (YA) materials upstairs, along with comfy seating and study tables. For info on programs and activities, drop in or check out our website. 515.222.3400 • wdmlibrary.org/teens

WEBSITE
Visit us on the web at www.wdmlibrary.org
RAISES OVER $50,000

To help low-income, elderly and disabled residents

West Des Moines Human Services held its 10th annual “Sunday Supper In Our Town” fundraising event at Flemings Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar on September 29, 2019. More than 140 guests attended the dinner benefiting low-income, elderly and disabled residents in the western suburbs. Proceeds benefit the programs of West Des Moines Human Services. It was a wonderful evening of giving back to the community!

$2,500
Athene USA
Collins Aerospace
Davis Brown Law
ITA Group Foundation
R & R Realty Group Foundation

$1,000
Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.
Sam & Mary Bernabe
First National Bank
Foth
Steve & Sally Gaer
Generations Wealth Management
Brian & Elaine Gifford
Gilcrest/Jewett Lumber Co.
Althea Holcomb
HR Green, Inc.
LaMarca Law Group
Joel & Chris Magnuder
MidWestOne Bank
Northwest Bank
Principal
True North Companies
The Weresh Family
West Bank
Sue Wright

Special thanks to JM Impressions!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS...

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Jo & Dale Helling
Iowa Ortho
Knapp Properties
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Rick & Karen Riley
Stivers Ford Lincoln
Russ and Alana Trimble
Wright Outdoor Solutions

YOUR LIBRARY STORY
In 500 words or less, tell us how the WDM Library has made a difference in YOUR life. Selected stories will be featured on our website or promotional materials (with permission). For details, visit wdmlibrary.org/tell-us-your-library-story

WDM LIBRARY TALETRAIL
From the library through the tunnel to Ashawa Park, the TaleTrail features kiosks that slowly reveal a children's story. Sponsored by private donations and the WDM Library Friends Foundation in memory of Dr. Robert C. Brooks. New tales quarterly.

IOWA DRIVER’S LICENSE RENEWAL KIOSK
Renew your license at the library! The DOT kiosk issues a temporary document; the new license or ID will be mailed. Credit/debit cards accepted; no cash. Available during library hours. See website for details and restrictions. wdmlibrary.org/using-the-library/iowadot-drivers-license-renewal-kiosk

WDM LIBRARY FRIENDS FOUNDATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE
Our community library is fortunate to have the support of the WDM Library Friends Foundation – a volunteer-based, non-profit organization. Each year, the Friends contribute $12,000 to library programming. Friends Memberships also funded these special projects:

- Rotating Outreach Collection
- Outreach Van • Tale Trail
- Charging Stations
- BookPage Subscription
- Laptop Lab • iPads • Artwork
- Summer Reading Clubs
- and More!

Contributions mean more programs and more books for YOU!

• YOUR DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE! •

WDM Library Friends Foundation, 4000 Mills Civic Pkwy, WDM, IA 50265. 515.222.3407 • wdmlibrary.org

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True North Companies
The Weresh Family
West Bank
Sue Wright

Special thanks to JM Impressions!

Visit us on the web at www.wdm.iowa.gov

Visit us on the web at www.wdmlibrary.org
WDM Human Services

“The ♥ of the Community”

WDM Human Services provides necessary assistance to qualifying low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in our service area. Basic needs such as food, clothing, transportation, and emergency financial assistance are a few of the critical services provided. To learn more, please visit our website or call 515-222-3660.

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
Financial assistance available to eligible West Des Moines residents who are facing an eviction or utility disconnection. Outreach staff assess the situation and work to ensure the needs of the household are being met.

DMARC FOOD PANTRY
Food and personals available on a monthly basis.

CLOTHING CLOSET
Free clothing, shoes and housewares for qualifying households.

TRANSPORTATION
Transportation available for elderly, disabled or low-income WDM residents for necessary medical appointments and other trips as time allows (i.e., grocery store, bank).

ENERGY ASSISTANCE
LIHEAP (Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program) provides a one-time annual credit on energy bill for eligible households. Program runs from October through April.

HANDYMAN SERVICES
Mowing, snow removal and minor home repair services available to income-eligible WDM senior and disabled residents.

FREE MEDICAL CLINIC
Basic medical care and management of chronic medical conditions to uninsured or under-insured individuals; all on-site services provided free of charge. The clinic is a member of Free Clinics of Iowa, the largest network of free medical clinics in the state of Iowa and a donor-supported, not-for-profit organization.

HOLIDAY ASSISTANCE
Variety of programs available to WDM residents to help alleviate the financial burden of the holiday season for qualifying households.

SKILL DEVELOPMENT CLASSES
English as a Second Language (ESL) classes and High School Equivalency (HISET, formerly GED) classes offered from September through May.

YOUTH RECREATION ASSISTANCE
Financial assistance to WDM youth participating in activities offered through WDM Parks & Rec.

Visit us on the web at www.wdm.iowa.gov

Partner with WDM Human Services to help our neighbors in need!

WDM Human Services Current Needs

Personal Pantry:
Each month WDM Human Services assists approximately 350 low-income households with personal care products. We need your help to meet the needs in our community. The following items are needed on an on-going basis:

- Laundry detergent
- Shampoo and Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Feminine hygiene products
- Toilet Paper
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Diapers
- Soap

Clothing Closet:
Our clothing closet is in need of new or gently used children’s, teen, and adult clothing and shoes. We also need towels, sheets, blankets, toys and small household items. Clothing Closet donations are accepted Monday through Friday, 8:30 am – 4 pm, at 139 6th Street in West Des Moines. Donations are also accepted on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Donation receipts are available.

Volunteer Today!
Volunteers are needed in the Clothing Closet, Food Pantry and for ESL classes at West Des Moines Human Services. Opportunities are available Monday through Friday between 8:30 am and 4:00 pm as well as on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Convenient location in Valley Junction neighborhood. Must be 14 years or older. To learn more, please contact Mindy Hotovec at 222-3663 or visit www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices.

ESL Classes at WDM Human Services
English as a Second Language classes for adults are offered at West Des Moines Human Services. The classes take place on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 am to noon in eight week sessions. Volunteer tutors are needed to assist with the classes. Volunteers will provide small group and one-on-one instruction for adult learners. Knowledge of a second language is not necessary to volunteer. We are also in need of childcare volunteers for the classes.

Call 222-3663 for more information or to register as a student or volunteer!
WDM Human Services
Holiday Assistance Program
Help your neighbors in need!

The holidays are just around the corner and you are invited to add one or more families to your holiday list by participating in one of West Des Moines Human Services’ holiday assistance programs.

West Des Moines Human Services is a non-profit organization that provides assistance to low-income, elderly and disabled individuals in our service area. Many of our community members are surviving on very limited incomes and struggle to afford even the most basic of necessities. The holiday season can be particularly difficult for these individuals and families.

Please consider partnering with us to assist these struggling members of our community. Gifts can be delivered directly to a family, or you may deliver your gifts to West Des Moines Human Services.

Following are the opportunities available:

Thanksgiving
Sponsors are needed to provide grocery gift cards.

Adopt-A-Family Program
Sponsors are matched with a WDM family in need and asked to provide gifts for the children in the household. A “wish list” for the family will be provided consisting of names, ages, genders and gift ideas for the children in the household. Sponsors may deliver the gifts directly to their “adopted” family or to WDM Human Services.

Giftland (formerly Toyland)
This program provides toys/gifts for kids who are not sponsored through the Adopt-A-Family program. Giftland will take place on December 13th at WDM Human Services. Donations of new, unwrapped toys/gifts and gift cards are needed for this event.

Monetary Gifts and Gift Cards
Monetary donations and grocery gift cards are also appreciated as this allows us to assist families during the holidays and throughout the year.

If you know of other individuals or organizations who may wish to participate, please share this information. We have many families and children who need assistance, and adopting a family is a wonderful tradition during the holidays. Please call 222-3663 for more information or visit our website at www.wdm.iowa.gov/HumanServices.

If you are interested in providing assistance, please complete the Holiday Sponsor Form by December 12th (November 21st for Thanksgiving) and send to:

West Des Moines Human Services
ATTN: Mindy Hotovec
139 6th Street, P.O. Box 65320
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265
Melinda.Hotovec@wdm.iowa.gov

Visit us on the web at www.wdm.iowa.gov