6,000 Year Old Discovery at WRA Site

The excavation and construction for the new the $40 million Wastewater Reclamation Authority Combined Sewer Solids Separation Facility (CSSSF) was temporarily halted for some very historical reasons. State archaeologists have discovered the remains of a human body believed to be between 6,000 and 7,000 years old.

State Archaeologist John Doershuk stated, “It is a rather unique site, not only in Iowa, but in the Midwest. The site overall is definitely one of the earliest that’s been excavated in Iowa. For comparison, this time period pre-dates the construction of the Great Pyramids by nearly 2,500 years.”

The data recovery by the archaeologists was completed in June but monitoring continues. Artifacts discovered to date consist of spearheads, fire-cracked rock, remnants of hearths, and other associated items. Archaeologists believed a spearhead found onsite was once used by Native American ancestors to kill game.

Archaeologists have named the site “the Palace Site” and it is numbered 13PK996 in the State of Iowa Archaeological Site File. All the artifacts will be placed in a repository with the state archaeologists and will likely be displayed for the public to see after the CSSSF is completed.

In the meantime, construction has resumed for a new WRA facility which is under a deadline by state and federal agencies to be completed by December 31, 2013. Barring any further disruptions and based on an accelerated construction schedule, the new WRA facility should be completed on time.
Dan Dusenbery, a 38-year veteran of the Des Moines Police Department, had a brush with death that changed his life. On April 28, 2010, he suffered a sudden cardiac arrest while on duty; “My cardiologist estimated that I was dead for about 5 minutes,” said Dusenbery. “Two fellow police officers and 6 firemen performed CPR and delivered shocks to my heart with an A.E.D. Their efforts and the A.E.D. saved my life,” he said.

An Automated External Defibrillator (A.E.D.) is a medical device with a built-in heart rhythm analyzer. It checks the victim’s heart rhythm and detects an abnormal heart rhythm which needs defibrillation (electric shock).

Dusenbery’s second chance at life has set him on a quest to help save the lives of others. He is working to raise money to purchase A.E.D. units for all 80 police squad cars. He spoke before the Des Moines City Council on May 23rd and gained their support for his one man crusade. He has made presentations to individuals and organizations. By late June, the Central Iowa American Red Cross chapter announced a donation of 57 A.E.D.s to the police department. “I was extremely excited when I heard about the donation. Fundraising has been slow. I was literally like a kid at Christmas when the Red Cross said they would provide 57 units. We are more than half way, 57 down and only 23 to go,” he said. Dusenbery is determined to equip every squad car so his fundraising efforts continue. Each A.E.D. costs an estimated $1,295.00. He needs to raise approximately $30,000. Tax-deductible contributions are being accepted by:

**Des Moines Police Burial Association - A.E.D. Fund**
Des Moines Police Officers’ Credit Union
423 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50309
For more information please call the Police Department at 515-283-4084 or visit the website at www.aeds4dmpd.org.
COMING TO THE FAIR HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

New conveniences like print at home tickets, expanded and discounted DART State Fair Park & Ride service make it easier than ever to attend the Iowa State Fair.

Buy your discounted admission tickets now and save up to 30%. Adult tickets (ages 12 and over) are just $7, children ages 6-11 are $3. Children ages 5 and under are FREE every Fair day.

THREE WAYS TO PURCHASE:

· NEW! Print at home, without fees. Visit iowastatefair.org to get started.
· Purchase online and have them mailed to you (shipping and handling fee applies).
· Beginning July 1, tickets will be available at participating Hy-Vee and Hy-Vee Drugstores, Dahl’s Foods and Fareway Stores or, beginning July 11, the State Fair Ticket Office. Without fees and while supplies last.

NEW! SAVE 50% OFF DART STATE FAIR PARK & RIDE

Show your advance admission ticket at one of DART’s three State Fair Park & Rides and receive half-off your roundtrip fare. Parking is free at all locations.

Discounted prices are $1 for adults and 50 cents for ages 6-10, seniors (65+) and disabled persons. Children 5 and under are free. Cash only; exact fare required.

Hop on the #1 Fairgrounds Route or catch it from one of the three Park & Ride locations: Center Street Park ‘n’ Ride (with expanded hours 8:30 a.m. to Midnight every Fair day), Southeast Polk High School and the State Capitol. For more details on locations and times, visit iowastatefair.org.
Building a Quality Community

The 2011 construction season is in full swing across Des Moines as crews work on everything from streets to sewers to buildings. The impact of wet weather during the last two construction seasons has meant a longer to do list and city crews and contractors are moving full steam ahead to get it all done.

The most visible are large scale projects like Franklin Avenue Library renovation, Fleur Drive Viaduct, SE Connector and the Wastewater Reclamation Authority Combined Sewer Solids Separation Facility (CSSSF). However, there are dozens of other projects in your neighborhoods and downtown — pavement widening and resurfacing; storm sewer reconstruction, bridge rehabilitation, street overlays, curb and median repairs and concrete pavement restoration. Details of all city projects can be found online at www.dmgov.org. Below is a quick glance of some of the construction underway.

2011 Citywide Critical Sanitary Sewer Lining: $4 million – This project addresses a critical need across the city to line deteriorating sanitary sewers. The installation of a liner will restore the structural integrity of the pipe to prevent failures and also reduce the groundwater infiltration into the system.

Grandview Golf Course Clubhouse: $2.2 million – A 12 month construction project is about to begin on the new 6,600 square foot clubhouse. The facility features include a multi-purpose room for events, pro-shop and snack bar. A basement will provide storage for the golf carts and there will be parking for about 100 carts.

Lower Union Park Sewer Separation: $4.3 million – Construction began in August 2010 and should be completed in 2011. This project is located in various streets between E. University Avenue and E. Euclid Avenue, from E. 9th Street to York Street. New storm sewers ranging in size from 12” diameter to 60” diameter are being constructed. The new storm sewers and intakes will replace intakes which are now connected to combined sewers. The project will include about 12 blocks of street removal and repaving.

Court Avenue & Water Street Sewer Separation Project: $3.9 million – This is the construction of storm sewer along Court Avenue from Water Street to 2nd Avenue and along 2nd Avenue north to Grand Avenue which then continues along Grand Avenue from 2nd Avenue to 3rd Street. The project will separate storm water flow from the sanitary sewer system and will also provide an outlet for storm water during high river elevations.

Court Avenue & Water Street Storm Water Pump Station: $5.7 million – This project, located on the southeast corner of Court Avenue & Water Street includes the construction of a storm water pump station and incorporates the gatewell structure previously constructed. The pump station will provide an outlet for the storm water during high river elevations, additional features to the flood protection for the downtown business district, and various architectural features to coincide with the Riverwalk kiosk building being constructed on the northeast corner of Court Avenue & Water Street.
(above) Fire Department Training and Logistics Facility: $8.1 million – Located at 2715 Dean Avenue, this project is a new 50,000 square foot facility that will house the Fire Department Administration, maintenance, Quarter Master warehouse, training bays and training classrooms. The facility should be ready for use in the fall of 2012.

Jackson Avenue Detention Basin Pump Station: $5.8 million – The construction of a storm water pump station at the Des Moines River levee to rapidly empty the Jackson Avenue Detention Basin into the Des Moines River during high river flows. It also includes re-grading, drainage flumes and sub-drain in Jackson basin along with a 14 foot by 5 foot reinforced concrete box just west of SE 14th Street and north of Hartford Avenue, as well as some 42” storm sewer near SE 6th which will both improve storm drainage in the area of the detention basin.

Fire Station No.1 Replacement: $8.1 million – The current central fire station, built in 1933, is functionally obsolete and structurally in need of significant repairs. The new fire station, to be located at 13th and Mulberry Street, will be approximately 20,000 square feet and include drive-thru apparatus bays, sleeping quarters, locker rooms, kitchen, training room, other building support spaces and parking.

E. Indianola – Phase 2 from SE 16th Court to McKinley Avenue: $3.4 million –

This is the second phase of the E. Indianola Avenue Widening project. It will reconstruct E. Indianola Avenue from SE 16th Court to McKinley Avenue to increase traffic capacity, improve safety, and provide pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. Also included in this project is a multi-use trail along the southwest side of the road, which passes through a tunnel under East Indianola Avenue and enables a future trail connection between Ewing and Easter Lake Parks. This project has been designed as a “complete street” that includes facilities for not only vehicular traffic, but also pedestrians, commuter and recreation bicyclists, and other recreational users.

Bicycle Friendly (Continued from page 1)

and fun way to fit exercise into a daily routine. There are environmental benefits from bicycling. When choosing to ride a bike instead of driving a vehicle, cyclists prevent green-house gases from entering the atmosphere. The result is cleaner air and healthier lungs. Biking supports the city’s goal to be a “Green Sustainable Community” which states, “Des Moines will be a leader in setting policies and practicing service delivery innovations that promote environmental sustainability. Des Moines will offer safe, reliable and convenient transportation alternatives that reduce reliance on automobiles and parking facilities.”

The economic benefits from bicycling are threefold: (1) cyclists benefit from saving on gasoline, parking, and vehicle maintenance; (2) taxpayers benefit from reduced wear and tear on the road network (bicycles are much lighter than cars) which results in reduced road maintenance costs; (3) the local economy benefits from bicycle shops and restaurants as well as other businesses that welcome the cycling community; plus property values increase when located near recreation trails. To experience these benefits and the many bicycle friendly attributes in Des Moines go take a bike ride today.

Spectator and Road Closure information online at desmoinesmarathon.com

Run the IMT Des Moines Marathon!

Sunday, October 16, 2011
Marathon | Half Marathon | Marathon Relay | 5K Road Race | Kids Run
Register online at www.desmoinesmarathon.com
Plastic bags are the worst contaminant in the recycling cart. They damage the equipment that sorts your recyclables. Reuse them as trash bags or return them to the bins you see at grocery stores.

Ziploc® and GladWare® food containers and convenience store plastic cups should be reused or trashed. For now, the only plastic accepted in the recycling cart are those with twist-off lids (regardless of the number on the bottom), plus yogurt and margarine containers. Be sure to remove the lids and empty the contents, too.

Shredded paper is too small to sort and falls through the slots of the sorting equipment—and eventually ends up in the landfill (or your neighbor’s yard when the cart is emptied). Be a good neighbor and steward, contain shredded paper in a closed paper bag or cereal box before you toss it in your cart.

Plastic bags are the worst contaminant in the recycling cart. They damage the equipment that sorts your recyclables. Reuse them as trash bags or return them to the bins you see at grocery stores.

Clothing is not accepted in the recycling cart. Donate it to your favorite charity instead.

Ceramic, china, dishes, mirrors, Pyrex®, porcelain and window glass don’t go in your recycling cart. They contaminate the accepted glass jars and bottles.

While the packaging may state these materials are recyclable, they aren’t accepted in the recycling cart and sadly, must go in the trash.
Neighbors of the Franklin Avenue Library are eager to celebrate the reopening on Sunday, August 21 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM at 5000 Franklin Avenue. Just in time for back-to-school activities, the library will offer residents a wonderful “green” environment. Dozens of special events are in the works, including a visit by IPTV’s Dan Wardell who will entertain kids on Saturday, August 27 at 1:30 PM.

The Des Moines Public Library is applying for Platinum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification, the highest rating available, for the renovated building. LEED certified projects cost less to operate and maintain, are energy and water efficient, and contribute to better health and productivity. Library users will enjoy the environmentally-friendly features that have been added, ranging from solar thermal collectors and a roof-based photo-voltaic electrical system (capable of producing nearly 50 kilowatts on an average day), to environmentally-friendly furnishings and programs. Staff members are already planning how to compost library waste for a neighborhood community garden and how to maximize use of renewable and recyclable resources. The parking lot will even sport three car-charging stations for drivers of electric cars! Take a drive by the library to check out its nifty new exterior or view new photos of the interior on the library’s web site at www.dmpl.org.

Library’s Marketing Department Honored with Public Relations Awards
Des Moines Public Library received the 2011 Best of Show award in two categories in its respective budget range: Special Programs and Events for its AVID (Authors Visiting in Des Moines) Series and Bibliographies and Booklists – Print for the library’s newly-designed, online reader’s advisory called Need a Good Book. The recognition is from the Library Leadership and Management Association (LLAMA), a division of the American Library Association. The organization reported that the “judges were impressed with the high caliber of the work and that hundreds of entries were received from across the U.S. and Canada.”

Visit the DMPL on Your Mobile Phone!
The Des Moines Public Library is one of 40 libraries in the nation to test a new mobile web site program called Library Anywhere. The new mobile web site lets library customers search the catalog for books, movies, and music, place items on a wish list, request and renew materials, and more. Features for the mobile web site continue to be added including the library’s event calendar, an Ask a Librarian feature, and direct links to eBooks. Visit us at www.dmpl.org.

2011 CITY RECOGNITIONS
Des Moines has the “Highest Real Income” in the nation. US News and World Report, June
#2 Forbes Magazine - The Best Places for Business and Careers, June
America’s #1 City for Young Professionals, Forbes Magazine, July
Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, July
#5 on Parenting Magazine’s 2011 list of Best Cities for Families, June
Des Moines ranks #2 among Best Midwestern Cities for Small Business. The Business Journals, April
Greater Des Moines ranks #5 among Best Food Show Towns. Midwest Living, March
Des Moines ranks as a top “Cool City” in America. Men’s Journal, March
Des Moines ranks #5 in buying markets for homes. Realtor.org, March
Des Moines ranks #29 in Top 100 Cities for Men. Men’s Health, March
Des Moines is #2 on Safest Cities list. The Farmers Insurance Group, February
Des Moines ranks #18 for a Blissful Place to Work. Career Bliss, February
For a complete listing of city awards and recognitions visit: www.dmgov.org/Pages/CityAwards.aspx

Visit the DMPL on Your Mobile Phone!
The Des Moines Public Library is one of 40 libraries in the nation to test a new mobile web site program called Library Anywhere. The new mobile web site lets library customers search the catalog for books, movies, and music, place items on a wish list, request and renew materials, and more. Features for the mobile web site continue to be added including the library’s event calendar, an Ask a Librarian feature, and direct links to eBooks. Visit us at www.dmpl.org.
They can hold back water, but not tears of joy.

This is your time. Do something you will always remember.

Register at HY-VEETRIATHLON.COM