

Issue # 77 August 2010

Table of Content

BIRTHDAY	77-2	BIRTHDAY	77-9
BIRTHDAY	77-3	TODAY IN HISTORY.....	77-9
JESSICA AND CHRIS WEDDING.....	77-4	9-AUG-10 4:22PM 89°.....	77-9
2:34 PM	77-4	BIRTHDAY	77-9
BIRTHDAY / EVENT LIST	77-5	READABLE CLUTTER	77-9
5:26PM 83°	77-6	DE-CLUTTER PROJECT.....	77-10
DE-CLUTTERING	77-7	DE-CLUTTERING	77-11
ELECTRICITY	77-7	SUBSCRIPTION.....	77-11
CONSTRUCTION UPDATES	77-8	DE-CLUTTERING	77-12
7:30PM	77-9	DE-CLUTTERING	77-13

1-Aug-10 8:24am 67°

Good morning and welcome to August 2010! Today has brought us a little fog early this day. It is mostly burnt off now as I can see the sun shining out there now. March come in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Will August come in with fog and go out the opposite?

Today I have to go shopping in Crystal Lake. I need to go to Sams Club and get printer ink and see if they have any good deals on cameras. I want a new camera but I have to find the one

for me and I do not want to have mortgage it either.

I may stop at Best Buy too. Sometimes they have what I want and sometimes they have a good price. I checked Wal-Mart and they have almost nothing to show me. Really there was nothing on their display rack the last three times I was there.

I really need to get the lawn cut. I have been very lazy this year. I know it is good and easy exercise. I could cut it every week and it would look nice.

I keep coming with these reasons so I do not have to get off my behind. I am reading this book

called "Clutter, be gone!" I also need to read a book named "Excuse, be gone!"

Birthday

Happy Birthday Trent!

3-Aug-10 noon 81°

Yesterday I decided to make my long overdue trip to find a new camera. I went to Wal-Mart and looked over what was available and I found this one nice camera. So I picked it up and brought home and put it on the charger and started looking through the manual.

It used the same size memory but a little different battery. I didn't want another expensive battery to buy.

I plugged it in so I could go through the settings to get a feel for how it worked. It was a Sony so it made the learning it much easier.

When there was some charge on the battery I started taking some pictures. I took a couple in the dark, in the house, outside and close up to see what the pictures looked like.

It makes super pictures.



Onion Flower



Snake Plant from Marge

I took a few more pictures. There was that muddy mess next door at the school where they are prepping for the new parking lot. Today they were getting the equipment stuck so they are doing nothing today.





Unfinished parking lot

I have this plant growing in one of the garden boxes that I do not know what it is. Do you know what it is? Please Help!



Mystery Plant! What is it?

Other than reducing the size of these pictures they are unaltered. I like the picture quality of this camera.

The controls are on the tough screen. I normally don't mind that because I don't make a changes to the setting that often.

The camera I am replacing has buttons for all the settings.

The problem is that the whole back is display screen and just the act of holding the camera you bump the screen and change the setting or block the screen and can't see what you are taking a picture of. The touch screen is just too touchy for me.

You see there is no room for my big thumbs.



New Camera (Sony T90 back)

I took one more picture. It is a close up of a remote for my.

Yes it is the **RETURN** key. I returned it. If those touch screens are going to be in the way I will look for another model that is easier for me to use.



I didn't like to other cameras Wal-Mart had in stock. I will stop at Sam's Club or Best Buy the next time I am in Crystal Lake.

In the mean time I got my old one working a little.

Birthday

Whoops I forgot to check my birthday list yesterday. I missed you birthday Pat. Happy day after your Birthday Pat!

Jessica and Chris Wedding

Kim sent me pictures from Jessica & Chris's Wedding.



Bill, Jessica, Chris, Kim

4-Aug-10 12:44pm 81°

After breakfast with Cork I was sitting around here doing a little de-cluttering. I noticed it was getting noisy outside. After a while it was very noisy out there.

I went outside and I see they are going head strong working on the parking lot at the school. At last count there were eight diesel machines all running at once. There are at least two of them I am not sure of what they do.

It looks like one is spreading dirt for the next machine to picking up dirt and laying it back down. I think it is de-clumping and mixing. There is another one that

goes behind and compacts. There is a water truck that I have only seen hooked to the big machine that was doing the spreading. And there is a big road grader and two skid-steers doing the small areas.



This is some of the machines working one the parking lot at the school.

At times all of these machines are moving around the parking lot all at once. Either they are lucky or they all are good drivers and know where they are going. Earlier when I was watching there were a few guys out there on foot picking up big rocks at the same time. Those guys are brave!

It gets noisy again so I best go see what's happening.

2:34 pm

Those guys are still playing in the dirt next door. With all that dust and dirt I am going have to



wash my car for the second time this year. ☺

5-Aug-10 7:54am 71°

If you see me today and you think I act different it may be because my nerves are shot. With all that heavy diesel machinery making all the noise all day yesterday it was a little unnerving. The vibration was so strong that the whole house shook many times. I had some stuff rattled right off the shelves.

The noise wasn't too bad. With the windows and doors closed to keep the dust out it also kept most of the noise out too.

The dust was from the Portland they were spreading and mixing into the dirt to make it stiff for to pave over a hard surface.

Yesterday they spread Portland cement then mixed it in to the dirt. Then another machine would level it little and compact it 2 or 3 times. There was a road grader passing over the parking lot and making the soil very level.

Oh yes, there were a couple machines working doing prep work that the big machinery could not because of their size.

Not finished they are working out there again today. At least they are not spreading that Portland so there is a not all that

dust. Now if I can get all of that dust off the car.

Birthday / Event List

A few days I updated the birthday list and I see the count is up to two-hundred ten. I hope I am getting you birthdays and events in my list correctly. With so many it is hard to get them all correct the first time.

I just now fixed one on Aug. 8th. I knew it was the 9th because that is Tammy's. For now she has the 9th all to herself.

Since it was a new addition to my list I could go back and see what it should have been.

06-Aug-10 7:49am 66°

Well they are making noise next door again. This is different noise. Yesterday when I returned from lunch they were laying down black top. When they left around five o'clock they had half of it finished.

I don't really mean finished, finished, I mean finished with the first layer. I am sure they will be doing that Saturday or Monday. I don't know about asphalt if the first coat needs to cure before the finishing coat.

This morning the workers have parked the personal

vehicles on the newly laden asphalt.

5:26pm 83°

It has been a fantastic day today. Even those pavers next door were going head strong putting down that asphalt.



On 08/04 it was still a little muddy and quit messy



School parking lot 08/05/10 at 9:30am

You see this started as a very muddy mess. It was not ready for that pavers yet the next day. I

didn't about taking pictures much before Wednesday.



The paving begins around 2:15pm

After Aunt Annie and I finished lunch we stopped by to see how they were getting along with the prep work for the pavers. I was very surprised that had started paving already yesterday.



Before they left for the day at 4:20pm half to the base layer was in place

I was doing things around the house and it got quite. I went in and looked out the window



and saw they had half covered already.



On 08/06 they were parking on yesterday's asphalt at 7:45am

While all of this asphaltting was going on they were many trucks delivering things into the school.



At 5:30pm they had the base complete and half of the finishing layer of the asphalt layed down

The black top is installed from that light post in the middle of the picture right.

West (left) of that spot needs the finish coat. I think they

finish tomorrow. That is if they work Saturday.

7-Aug-10 7:47am 68°

I just got home from Starbucks and they are already working on the parking lot. I see them measuring out the part they finished yesterday. Looking again they were marking it out for the stripping. Before this day is finished I think they might be finished.

De-Cluttering

This morning I was reading more about de-cluttering. This part is talking about the clutter we wear or maybe I should say the clutter we don't wear.

My closets have many things in there that need to go. Clothes that don't fit or I never wear.

While read the book I thought first of all those 'T' shifts that I have received over the years as awards or gifts. I found nine on the shelf in one spot. One of then goes back to 1997, never worn! Never!

Some homeless person might like them. They will go in the donate pile today.

Electricity

Damn! My energy usage almost doubled since last month. The bill is 60% higher too! It is the highest amount since I started

watching and recording it in the two years.

In August 2008 I used 1,168kWh this bill was 1399kWh. The bill 2 years ago was \$136 this one is \$160.

It is all the A/C! When The A/C is on I use using about 5.5 kilowatts. When it is off like now I am using less than a kilowatt.

July and August have been HOT! That is why I have been running the A/C. Now the question is, is the A/C working correctly. If it is working right then do I need to rethink how I keep cool?

Wait, I have all this weather data. It shows heating and cooling degrees days. I will have to compare these numbers and see if it tells me anything that would help me with the A/C usage.

Another wait... I have a monitor on the AC power usage. Let's see what I used since I hooked it up. I don't have a full month of data for this yet. July shows 684 kWh for the whole house and 208 kWh for the A/C only. Need a few weeks before August data is ready.

8-Aug-10 8:47am 68°

I hung my laundry out to dry before going out for breakfast. I thought it might dry before the rain hit. I brought the clothes in and stuck them in the dryer.. I think it is too damp out there this morning. No rain yet but damp anyway.

Construction Updates

Raffal Road

I went by the Raffel Road work and I see they have put the strips on the road there. There is a lot of work that isn't finished so the road is still closed.

Dean Street

It looks like the Dean Street job is a ways from being finished. They only have the base coat of asphalt laded. For now avoid Dean from Dean Street School to South Street.

The Parking Lot



Yesterday at 10:30 they were striping.



They are almost finished with the parking lot. They didn't finish striping yesterday. The black top seems to be finished. They are still working on some of the cement work on the other side.

All in all this went very fast. I know have a nice new parking lot to look at out my bedroom window.

McDonalds

I drive by McDonalds all the time and keep forgetting to look to see what is happening. When I looked last they have the bricks work done and were doing the stone face work. None for the parking lot work seems to be started other than the curbs and there is only gravel. I didn't look inside during a drive by.

At this time I wonder if it will get ready to open in September as they said last April.

7:30pm

Well the parking lot strippers came back today and finished off the parking lot.

Birthday

Both Lulu and Mikaela B. are having birthdays today. Happy Birthday Lulu and Mikaela!

Today in History

Did you remember that on Aug, 8th 1988, that is 08/08/88 the light went on a Wiggly? If I

remember the story it rained a the game was delayed 8 hours.

9-Aug-10 4:22pm 89°

It started off very humid today then as the fog left it was nice for a while then the humidity came back and it got yucky again.

I had Tom over here working on the A/C for a while today. It wasn't putting out very much cold yesterday. It is much better now but It is taking much longer than I feel it should to cool the house. We'll have to wait until he comes back to see what he has to say about it.

Birthday

Happy Birthday Tammy!

Readable Clutter

Now that the house is a little cooler I decided to do a little more de-cluttering.

When I was reading a little more in my book it was telling about all the clutter in and on our cars. Mine isn't too bad now days. There is a little. The glove box might have all the insurance and registration cards since day one. I know there is a dried up bottle of touch up paint in there. You just know I need that.

The car will wait. I am working on the house first. Right now I am taking a break. I saw the box full of RV magazines I get free

in the mail. I think they came with my lifetime membership to Good Sam Club. I might keep getting these magazines well after my life is over. I am not going to stop them because I do read them usually within a week of receiving them. What I cannot say for sure why I saved them. I counted them while I was bagging them to be recycled. I stopped counting at 95! Even with that I think I might find more I didn't put in that box.

That makes one more empty box of clutter!

10-Aug-10 7:34pm 83°

I sliced up and eat my only large tomato from my garden tonight.



It is amazing how well this tasted and it was grown from twelve year old seed in a five gallon pail.

It was so much better that what I get in the restaurants with my sandwiches.

I have 3 large Egg Plants that have bear no fruit. There have been many blossoms but no fruit. I was thinking it might because I kept them in the greenhouse. The bees didn't come in and pollinate them. The Egg Plant is the only

thing that had flowers on it in the greenhouse. I moved them outside tonight. It may be too late for this growing season.

De-clutter Project

Today I went through a stack of newsletter I get every week. These were email newsletters that I used to print out. You know I never looked them after I read them. They were all very old 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.

Like the magazines yesterday they are in the recycling.

I wonder what I will attack next. Yes I am attacking clutter.

Oh I also went through two large boxes and made two smaller boxes and getting rid of some of the stuff. I was emotionally linked to some of it. At another time I will break my affection and it will go too. Just not today!

12-Aug-10 6:01pm 94°

I don't about you but I ready to move to Arizona or somewhere cool. I need a break from summer.

Well for now I am still working on the clutter. I am not trying to do it all at once. I just work on it when I feel I will spend an hour or two on de-cluttering. Today I went



through some computer stuff and old paper work. The paper work was from the last century. I got rid a half of a box.

I thought my first notebook computer still worked. I couldn't make it work. In 1980 I paid a bunch for it. Now if working it might be worth about fifty bucks. Now it is going to cost me bunch to get rid of it.

This was my second computer ever. I have been emotional attached to it. That kind of clutter is hard to let go of. I am ready for this to go.

Does anyone want a TRS-80 Model 100 notebook computer? It may just need a new BIOS battery. It worked long enough for me to set the date and time. Then he display became intermittent. I am thinking the may be the BIOS battery is pulling the power down and causing the unit to stop display. I have a floppy drive, hard case, the manuals, printer cable, and a barcode scanner and some software.

It is ready for a good home.

14-Aug-10 9:12am 73°

Yesterday was Friday-the-Thirteenth. Nothing bad happened to me. What about you?

I ran around town with Marge and Aunt Annie. We had lunch, did some shopped, and some sightseeing the construction sites. You know McDonalds, Dean Street repaving and those kinds of things.

Some days you have to take it easy and let the Friday-the-13th slip by without it sticking to you.

De-cluttering

I have a ton of clutter to work on yet. While I was working on this newsletter the paper ran out on the printer. I wasn't out of paper just the printer. I see I still have enough legal paper for printing the newsletter for 3 years. And if I would use my letter size paper for the newsletter I would have enough for 8 more years.

For now I do not need any more paper for the newsletter.

Subscription

I only print a few copies of my newsletter. I am thinking of selling subscriptions to my newsletter. This would mean you would receive Marty's Random Thoughts in the mail. It would save you printing them out.

I don't know if any of you would like to pay for my newsletter. There were 20 issues last year and this is the 14th for this year. The book version was 210 pages.

I don't know if any is interested so I don't know what the charge. I would be doing this to off set the cost of postage and the ink. The paper I have enough for a couple of years.

If you are interested in getting Marty's Random Thoughts in the mail let me know or email me at Thoughts@MartysRandomThought.com.

De-Cluttering

I went through another box full of old paper work. You know when you start shredding that it fills up the shredder bin quickly. I have two tall kitchen size trash bag size bags already for Tuesday.

Found Something

You know I found that blood pressure gauge that goes over your finger that I never liked. It still had batteries in is and it worked.

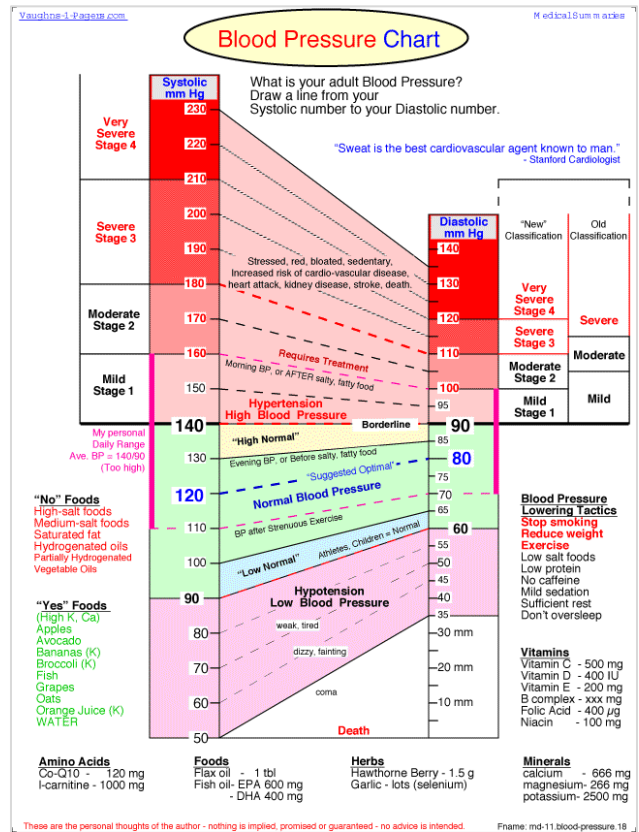
It says my blood pressure was 80/43. I'm retesting now. I say 90/50 this time. I think I better go check it on my wrist to see what that meter says.

This one says 166/96. I forgot what normal is so I will run this again too. This time it is 145/76. I better look up normal.

From this chart it looks like Stage One. Since 145/76 is kind of normal for me I am going to check it one more time.

I think it was a little high now because I am messing with the computer and it is getting near time for lunch and I am going out to get Aunt Annie and I am running out of time.

This reading is 124/74. That is even lower because I have enough of time to be on time.



Source: <http://www.vaughns-1-pagers.com/medicine/blood-pressure.htm>

15-Aug-10 8:40am 73°

73° is nice when the humidity isn't very high. This morning it had been high 69% when I last checked. From looking at the

I have a collection of newsletters I wrote for my amusement and gave to my friends and family for their enjoyment. I put them all in books.



You can preview these and other books at my store at www.LuLu.com/metr33

weather map I think it is going to get much less humid later today.

De-cluttering

I de-cluttered the garden a little. All four of my Cabbages were eaten by bugs and now in

the compost pile along with some of the Gourd and Tomato vines. The Gourds were taking over the back yard and the Tomatoes are about done.

Index

Aunt Annie77-6, 77-11, 77-12
Bill77-4
Birthdays
 Lulu 77-9
 Mikaela 77-9
 Pat 77-4
 Tammy 77-9
 Trent..... 77-2
Chris77-4
Corky.....77-4

Events
 Wedding
 Jessica and Chris.....77-4
Jessica77-4
Kim77-4
Marge 77-2, 77-11
Restaurants
 Starbucks77-7
Sam 77-3, 77-10
Tom.....77-9

