

Pardon me, but what day is it?

Okay, let me get this straight.
Today is Thursday—I think.

But it feels like Friday to me. And Mondays now seem like Tuesdays.

My confusion is the result of the new publication dates of *The Independent & Free Press*. Traditionally, the newspaper has been published Wednesday and Friday, but now has a Tuesday and Thursday publication date.

And man, is it ever messin' me up.

For decades I've been programmed to a Wednesday date, and when you're old like me, it's stressful to make changes—specially when it involves readjusting the days of the week.

If Monday is now Tuesday, when do I get Monday? I'm kinda thinking it might follow Tuesday, but that would actually seem like Thursday, 'cuz it's the day after the newspaper hits the street, meaning there should be one coming out the next day, which would ordinarily be Friday, but in truth is actually Thursday.

Does that make any sense?

On the same roll, what on earth ever happened to Wednesday? Or our beloved Friday? Did they suddenly get relegated to some other calendar?

Okay, I know I'm going through a phase here, and my 50-something set-in-my-ways brain will eventually adjust. I'm reminded of the days, maybe 20-odd years ago, when we had a Saturday weekend paper, followed by a Sunday paper.

Back then, I wasn't sure what day it was after Thursday.

I feel like I'm in a constant state of holiday deadlines, like Christmas time when none of us here have any idea what day it actually is.

This new date change is to accommodate the flyer people to allow them to have their ad inserts on the street a day earlier, when their sales actually begin. It also allows our carriers to deliver on Thursday instead of Friday when they might wanna do something with their family, like go

Ted Brown



away for the weekend, or have a hot date.

But I think I've figured out the REAL reason the dates were changed.

It's to mess up all the old guys like me in the office. Okay, looking around, I just realized I am the only old guy in this office. Oops, I just depressed myself, too.

Apparently this publication date change thingy isn't limited to our paper—it's a Metroland-wide trend, to better accommodate the needs of readers and advertisers.

That gives me a some comfort, knowing I'm not the only one wandering around in a state of duress, secretly questioning my lucidity, or perhaps even my sanity.

Is it 'Athletes of the Week' day? Is it column deadline day? Is it Friday yet?

I'm seriously thinkin' of taking a different approach to this days of the week thing, sort of like when my teachers at high school changed the timetables from Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, etc., to Day One, Two, Three, etc.—up to Day Six.

Back then, they told us it was to make our timetable a revolving schedule, so the last class on Friday didn't always land on a subject like instrumental music—you know, the one everyone skipped. I guess it made sense back then.

So from now on, I'm adopting the Day One, Day Two...approach, up to Day Five.

And when I get to Day Five, I know I've made it through the week, and it's time to head home and work at job number two.

But no matter what I do to the days of the week, I'm adamant one thing will remain for sure.

I ain't messin' with Saturday and Sunday.



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