

Mondamin's

JUNE 2024



Mission: To help residents learn what is happening in town and around the area.

CITY COUNCIL NEWS

The council has been busy with meetings. On April 29 the council had a special meeting to meet the state's deadline for towns' budgets. At the public hearing for the proposed FY2024/2025 Budget, the council had a brief discussion, but there were no public comments or written public comments received by the council or the city clerk. The public hearing was closed, and then the council voted to approve the budget.

The regular monthly council meeting was held on May 6. At this meeting bills were paid for the new water treatment plant construction expenses. The next phase of the water project is to install new water meters and meter pits will be installed at residences that do not already have them. This will allow meter readings to be done remotely.

The council voted to pay Heritage Day events' invoices with last year's Baked

Goods Auction proceeds. Also approved was the contract with Harrison County Law Enforcement FY2024 /2025 to continue its services and presence to Mondamin. Some residents have noticed and appreciate the deputies' increased presence in town.

After the recent severe weather with nearby tornadic activity, the council is again concerned about the effectiveness of Mondamin's antiquated tornado siren. The current siren was made in the 1990s. It no longer turns as it is supposed to, so residents report that in various parts of the town they do not hear it. Because of the siren's age, parts are no longer available to make repairs. An electrician from AM Electric was contacted to see if he could do a repair to make the siren turn again. City Clerk, Alyx Hirst, will do research to see if there are grants that the town could apply for to buy a new tornado siren if needed.

A special meeting on May 13 was called for the council to accept Councilman Terry Coyle's resignation. His years of serving on the council and various committees such as the Rural Housing Improvement are very much appreciated. Thank you, Terry, for serving the residents of Mondamin for seven years.

To replace a council member's position the County Auditor, Susan Bonham, stated the town must either hold a special election which will cost the town \$1000 or appoint a resident willing to serve out the term of the open seat. The council members will be contacting residents to appoint. The new member would begin the term after the council votes to approve their appointment at the next regular council meeting held on June 6.

The splash pad in the Mondamin City Park will open for the Memorial Day weekend.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Mondamin's Heritage Day

The Mondamin Community Center Board and the newly formed Mondamin Community Partners have joined forces to sponsor Heritage Day 2024. The groups have worked very hard to provide a fun day for all ages starting with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at the Church of Christ followed by the parade beginning at 10:30 a.m. If you are in the parade, you can register starting at 9:00 a.m. in the West Harrison parking lot.

After the parade everyone is invited to the Mondamin City Park for games, face painting, a magic show, a horseshoe tournament, vendors, the MidStates Bank Money Tree, pedal tractor pull, delicious food, sno-cones, popcorn,

train rides, a car, tractor and motorcycle show, and much, much more. Bring your lawn chairs, sit and chat with your neighbors and friends, and have a great time!

A complete schedule is attached to this newsletter.

Spring Clean-Up Day

Mondamin City Council is sponsoring a clean-up day just in time to spruce up the town before the annual Heritage Day. The date for the city-wide Spring Clean-up Day is **June 2 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.** Dumpsters will be by the Mondamin Public Library next to the recycle bins.

If you have questions about an item you'd like to dispose of, contact Alyx Hirst, City Clerk, at City Hall (646-2431) **before June 2** to arrange for pickup of large items. She can answer your questions about what can be put in the dumpsters and what can't.

Please, no early dumping! Use this opportunity to help clean up Mondamin!

Primary Election is June 4 in Iowa

Area residents will head to the polls June 4 to vote in primary elections for Congress, state legislative seats and countywide positions. At a primary election the voter must choose a party and get a ballot for just one of the

parties: Republican, Democrat, or Libertarian parties.

The party winners in the primary elections will appear on the ballot for the November 5 general election.

By the time this newsletter is printed, there will be just a few days left to go to your auditor's office for in-person voting. That must be done by June 3.

Absentee ballots must be received in the county auditor's office by the time the polls close on Election Day at 8:00 p.m. to be eligible for counting.

Absentee ballots **cannot** be delivered to a polling place on Election Day. If you have not returned your absentee ballot on Election Day, you have the following options:

- Deliver your voter absentee ballot to the county auditor's office before the polls close on Election Day.
- Surrender your absentee ballot at the polls and vote a regular ballot.
- Vote a provisional ballot at the polls if you cannot surrender your voted absentee ballot.

If you haven't registered to vote by Election Day, don't worry. You can register at your polling place. Bring proof of identity and residency, like a utility bill, paycheck or lease.

To be eligible to vote in Iowa, you must:

- Be a U.S. Citizen
- Be a resident of Iowa
- Be at least 17 years old as long as you will turn 18 on or before Election Day
- Not be judged mentally incompetent to vote by a court
- Not claim the right to vote in any other place

All registered Iowa voters must bring ID with them when they go to vote at the polls. Acceptable forms of identification are an Iowa driver's license or a non-operator ID, a U.S. passport or military ID, a veteran's ID, tribal ID or an Iowa voter ID card.

Exercise your right to vote on June 4, 2024!

Some information taken from the [Des Moines Register](#).



If you see a crime, call **1-866-901-0357**.
Your report is anonymous.

Matthew's House Food Pantry is open to the public on Sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Wednesdays from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Mondamin Community Partners is hosting a Vendor/Flea Market at the Mondamin Community Center on July 13 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. If you are interested in having a table at this event, email mcp@abettermondamin.org to register. Please spread the word to other vendors.

Loess Hills Lavender Farm is planning several special events for the summer:

- Sunday, June 9 at 2:00 p.m. is Painting Lavender Craft Class.
- Sunday, June 23 at 2:00 p.m. is Make Your Own Fairy/Gnome Garden.
- Saturday, June 29 is Open Tour Groups of any size.
- Call the farm for details, reservations, and find out the cost for each event. Their phone number is 712 642-9016 or email them at lhlavenderfarm@gmail.com. You can also check out their Facebook page or website.

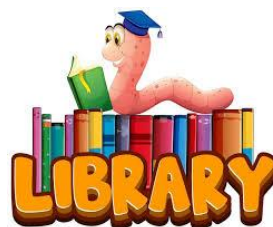
Their summer hours are
Wednesday – Saturday
(10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

Sunday
(1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

Mark your calendars now for July 20 & 21 for the LavenderStock Festival from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. each day. There will be music, food, craft classes, and much

more. Check out their Facebook for more details.

The Sandbar has Taco Tuesday each week and Pizza Night each Friday except the first Friday of each month which is Pasta Night. Pasta Night's menu features delicious shrimp scampi, tomato meat sauce over pasta, and beer cheese sauce over pasta with bread sticks. If you don't feel like cooking and want something yummy, stop in or give them a call to pick up an order.



LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Program

The Mondamin Public Library will sponsor a summer reading program, "Read, Renew, Repeat!" meeting every Wednesday in June from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Children of all ages are welcome to attend. Contact Christine at the library if you have questions.

Have you ever thought about doing a Kindness Project?

For the past three or four years at West Harrison, Amber Winther's student, David Kuhns, has done at least four Kindness Projects each year. His projects have included donations to the

Mondamin Fire Station, donations of planters for the Pisgah baseball field, a donation of supplies and homemade dog treats to the Harrison County Humane Society, sending Valentine's Day cards to the area nursing homes, creating clipboards for all teachers at West Harrison, and making breakfast for the West Harrison staff as a thank you.

This spring David decided to do a coin drive. David went to the PreK-3 classrooms to ask for coins for his project and those students helped David in a big way. Because they were so generous, David later returned to each classroom with popsicles for all students.

Because David likes books, he donated his money to the Mondamin Public Library. On Monday, May 20, David went to the library to present Library Director, Christine Hussing, with a check for over \$600. That is an amazing kindness project! Thank you, David, for donating the money from your project to the library. Many wonderful books will be purchased because of your kindness! David's parents, Ken and Char Kuhns of Logan, and his nurse, Michelle Moore, have been instrumental in David's success with his projects.

Oh, and for his kindness, David was given a *Curious George* movie which is one of his favorites!

Follow David's example and think about doing a Kindness Project!

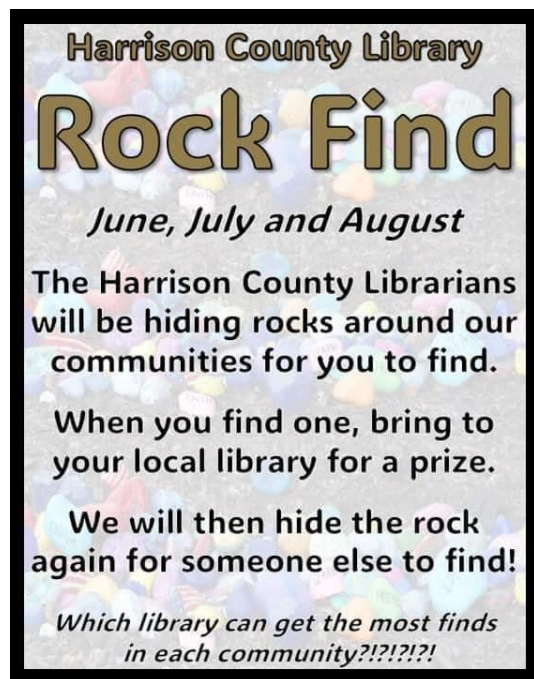


On May 20 Michelle Moore with David Kuhns presented a check to Library Director, Christine Hussing.



Stop by the library to find out about the latest book the book club is reading. *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson was the winner of the 2022 Minnesota Book Award in Fiction. This book tells the story of Rosalie Iron Wing, a Dakota woman who, after surviving the foster care system to make a life of her own in the world, must confront the harsh realities of contemporary farm life. They will meet again on July 24, 2024, and everyone is welcome.

Have you found a rock yet?



Harrison County Library
Rock Find
June, July and August
The Harrison County Librarians will be hiding rocks around our communities for you to find.
When you find one, bring to your local library for a prize.
We will then hide the rock again for someone else to find!
Which library can get the most finds in each community?!?!?!?



Mondamin Community Partners by
Donella Pauli and Maggie Rains

After attending an ISU Extension workshop regarding revitalizing small towns, Mary Seago, city council member, and Maggie Rains, Mayor of Mondamin at that time, wanted to use the ideas from the workshop to form a nonprofit organization in Mondamin to be an avenue to raise funds for our community to host events and take on future projects.

Mary and Maggie enlisted the help of Dustin Wallis, Lacie Rife, Donella Pauli, and Ray Thompson to form the group.

(Thompson resigned a few months later.) Of course, the first order of business was to create a name for the group, to write a mission statement, and to do the paperwork necessary to become a 501c3 organization. The nonprofit organization, Mondamin Community Partners, was born with their mission statement: *“To enhance the wellbeing of our residents and to promote development of our community.”*

The first task taken on by the group was to find a way to purchase Christmas decorations for the Mondamin City Park. They asked for and received donations, both monetary and used decorations.

There was a great turnout to help decorate the park and then MCP planned a family event to kick off the Christmas season with Light up the Park on November 26th. The community was invited to come to the park for hot chocolate and cookies, to see the lights and to see Santa and Mrs. Claus and two of their reindeer!

For their next project, MCP joined forces with the Mondamin Community Center Board to help sponsor Heritage Day on June 8th. When asked why the group decided to help with the yearly event, Seago remarked, “It takes a village to organize, coordinate, and

knock on doors for an event such as Heritage Day.”



On July 13 MCP will be hosting a Vendor/Flea Market in the Mondamin Community Center from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tables are still available if you are interested in participating in this event. Contact the group at mcp@abettermondamin.org for details.

Some of the next plans include building a welcome sign at the east entrance of town. Remodeling or replacing the existing bathroom in the park. And the list goes on and on. If you have ideas to help maintain and make a better Mondamin or come across grant opportunities, email MCP at mcp@abettermondamin.org.

More information about MCP may be found on Facebook at Mondamin Community Partners or on their website at <https://abettermondamin.org>.

MCP would be happy to be your partner for the good of Mondamin and its residents!

There will be no newsletter in July!



Just to bring a little smile . . .

What do you call a snowman in June?

a puddle

Which word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?

short

What do you call two ducks and a cow?

quackers and milk

Why did the baseball coach put the frog in the outfield?

He's really good at catching flies!

Do fish go on vacation?

No, because they are always in school!



SCHOOL NEWS



“Summertime, summertime,
Let’s go out and play,
Time for fun and lots of sun.
I love these kinds of days!”

By Sarah Griffin

Catch a baseball or softball game this summer! Remember the high school softball girls are playing with Lo-Ma and the baseball boys are playing baseball with Missouri Valley! Their schedules have been posted on the City of Mondamin’s Facebook page or check West Harrison’s webpage at www.westharrison.school.

There are many younger groups of boys and girls playing baseball and softball this summer. Just ask one of them when their next game is. Baseball games are played in Pisgah at the Harvey Stueve Field & Orson Babe Memorial Stadium while the softball games are played in Mondamin at the West Harrison field.

WH Athletics Golf Outing 2024

*June 29th, 2024 (10am Tee Time)

*18 hole 4 person Best Ball

*\$200 per team (Cart not included- Rentals for \$30 each)
Please let us know how many carts your team will need if the sign up email

*Free Will Donation Meal following the 18 holes

*\$100 Hole Sponsorship for interested Companies/Families
(email tmaasen@w-harrison.k12.ia.us if interested)

PLEASE REACH OUT TO TROY MAASEN AT THE EMAIL ABOVE TO SIGN UP YOUR TEAM. PAYMENT FOR YOUR TEAM WILL BE HANDLED THE DAY OF THE EVENT. WE ARE MAXED AT 20 TEAMS AND WILL BE HANDLED FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS. GET YOUR TEAM ENTERED TODAY!

**ALL PROCEEDS FOR THIS EVENT WILL GO TO THE WEST HARRISON ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES ACCOUNT.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

This golf outing will be held at the Logan-Missouri Valley Country Club.

Do something fun this summer! Enjoy!
School starts on August 23, 2024!

June is the month with the longest daylight hours of the year in the Northern Hemisphere.

DID YOU KNOW?



June 14, 2024

Historical Facts about the U.S. Flag

- **January 1, 1776:** The first United States flag, the “Grand Union,” was displayed by George Washington. It became the unofficial national flag, preceding the 13-star, 13-stripe version.
- **June 14, 1777:** The Stars and Stripes were adopted by the Continental Congress as the Flag of the United States.
- **June 14, 1877:** Flag Day was observed nationally for the first time on the 100th anniversary of the Stars and Stripes—and continues today.

- **June 14, 1937:** Pennsylvania became the first state in the United States to celebrate Flag Day officially as a state holiday.
- **July 4, 1960:** The new 50-star flag was flown for the first time—the flag that still flies today.

5 Flag Trivia Questions

Quiz your friends and family with these five flag questions; the answers are below the questions.

1. **Is it ever appropriate to fly the flag upside down?**
2. **How many versions of the American flag have been designed?**
3. **Can the flag touch the ground?**
4. **How many U.S. flags made it to the Moon?**
5. **Why must Old Glory be folded in such a specific way?**

Answers to Flag Trivia Questions

1. Yes, but only in an emergency. It means “Help Me! It’s an emergency! Call the police! I am in dire trouble and need immediate help!”
2. There have been 27 versions of the American Flag. However, the current flag—designed by a high school boy—has lasted the longest as no states have been added since 1959.

3. Despite the myths, the flag can touch the ground and still be washed and used. However, if the flag is torn or damaged beyond repair, the tradition is to burn it with dignity. If you have a damaged flag, the American Legion in Mondamin has a drop box outside its room on the west side of the Mondamin Community Center.

4. The U.S. flag has been placed on the Moon by an astronaut during six Apollo missions (11, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17).
5. Do you know how to fold a flag properly? The U.S. flag is folded into a small triangle made of 13 folds. Each fold has a special meaning and symbolism. For example, the first fold represents life, while the third honors the veteran who has departed, and the fifth is a tribute to our country.

Information taken from www.almanac.com

How well did you do?
Fly your flag on Flag Day.

NOW YOU KNOW!



JUNE EVENTS

Sunday, June 2 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Town-wide Clean-Up Day
(See article for details.)

Sunday, June 2 6:00 p.m.
Loess Hills Lancers 4-H Club
meets at Community Center

Monday, June 3 7:00 p.m.
Mondamin City Council meets at
City Hall

Tuesday, June 4 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Primary Election Day

Wednesday, June 5 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.
Summer Reading Program Begins
at Mondamin Public Library

Saturday, June 8 4:30 p.m.
Alumni Banquet at Mondamin
Community Center. (The building
opens at 12:30 p.m.)

Saturday, June 8 All Day
Heritage Day (Breakfast, parade,
activities in the park. See schedule on
last page of this newsletter.)

Friday, June 14, 2024
Flag Day

Sunday, June 16, 2024
Father's Day

Saturday, June 29, 2024 10:00 a.m.
West Harrison Athletics Golf
Outing at the Country Club

Mark your calendars now
for December 1, 2024
Light Up the Park
(Watch for details in the
November Mondamin Newsletter.)

**There will be NO
Newsletter in July!**

Questions about the sirens in Mondamin? Bonnie Castillo of Harrison County Emergency Management stated: "The sirens sound in Mondamin if there is a tornado warning or a visual report of a tornado anywhere in Harrison County. The sirens sounding are an indication that residents are to become immediately **weather aware** and take cover." She also encourages Mondamin residents to sign up for Alert Iowa and check the boxes for Mondamin area alerts. Stay safe in storm season!

