

Mondamin's

SEPTEMBER 2024



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

CITY COUNCIL NEWS

At the regular August city council meeting held on August 5, the council had several important items on their agenda. There was a resolution to approve and authorize issuing taxable water revenue capital loan notes and to pay these notes of \$2,908,000 in connection with the new water treatment plant and readable meter project. There was a second reading of the Mondamin Code of Ordinances 2024 to be adopted. After reviewing applications and conducting interviews the council voted to hire Mike Kelley of Mondamin to take the public works position which is being vacated by current employee, Steve Hinkel, who is retiring at the end of August. The rest of the agenda items concerned the survey of the city's ash trees and their condition, and a report from Mondamin's building inspector, John Harrison. He has indicated that the town has several abandoned houses.

The water treatment plant contractor informed the council that it may be at least six months until the completion of the plant due to needing an essential part that has been back ordered. The last item was in regard to the progress being made on street repairs.

The next city council meeting is scheduled for September 9.

Splash Pad Closing Soon

Mondamin's Splash Pad has provided hours of fun for area children this summer, but it will be closing for the season the week after Labor Day. See you all next summer!

COMMUNITY NEWS

American Legion Fish/Chicken Dinner is back! Saturday, September 7 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. come to the Mondamin Community Center to enjoy a delicious meal and visit with friends you haven't seen all summer.

The next fish fry will be October 5.



It's apple picking time! **Small's Fruit Farm opened on August 31** for pick your own apples and pumpkins.

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. Canned fruit and vegetables along with personal hygiene items are always needed. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

Mondamin Community Partners welcomed the West Harrison Staff back to school with a small treat to let them know they are appreciated for all they do for our students.



Call the **Loess Hills Lavender Farm** for more information on these events:
Saturday, September 7 at 12:00 p.m. - Open Tea Party

We're trying something new! It doesn't matter how many are in your group, come experience a tea party at the farm! Meal includes appetizer, 3 finger sandwiches, vegetable, potato, homemade lavender honey ice cream, lavender hot tea, and lavender lemonade. A presentation on lavender is included. Cost is \$22 per person plus tax and reservations are required!

Sunday, September 8 at 2:00 p.m.- Craft Class

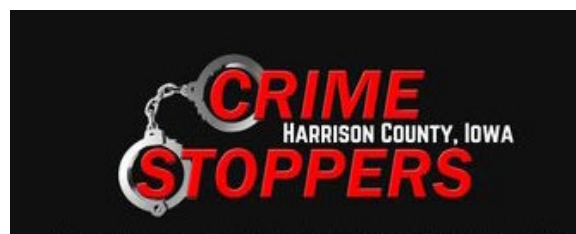
It's National Grandparents Day so come to the farm and paint a clay pot! Grandparents and grandkids can both participate to make something to decorate your patio or porch. You'll finish it off with a solar light.

From the Loess Hills Lavender Farm's web page.

Each Monday afternoon bring your own beverage and stop by the Jimmy King Shelter in the park at 1:30 p.m. to meet friends for fun conversation.

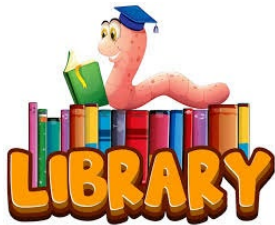
**Harrison County Welcome Center
Farmer's Market**
2931 Monroe Avenue
Missouri Valley, Iowa 51555

Thursdays, May 16th to
October 17th, 2024
3:30 – 6:30 p.m.
Local produce, baked goods, eggs,
honey, and crafts.



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

Harrison County Crime Stoppers holds a monthly meeting the first Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



LIBRARY NEWS

If you have a 3rd or 4th grade student who likes to read, the Mondamin Public Library is organizing a book club for West Harrison students in those grades. Information was handed out at Back to School Night, but if you have questions, contact Christine at the library.

Bonnie Castillo, head of Harrison County Emergency Management, met with Mondamin residents at the library on August 21 to discuss emergency preparedness and answer questions from the public. The group will meet again on September 12 at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is invited; bring your questions and be informed in case of an emergency.



The latest selection chosen by the book club is *The Dutch House* by Ann Patchett. "At the end of the Second

World War, Cyril Conroy combines luck and a single canny investment to begin an enormous real estate empire, propelling his family from poverty to enormous wealth. His first order of business is to buy the Dutch House, a lavish estate in the suburbs outside of Philadelphia. Meant as a surprise for his wife, the house sets in motion the undoing of everyone he loves."

The group will meet on October 9 to discuss this book.



West Harrison Faculty and Staff

Information from Keri King

Who's Who at West Harrison?

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Randy Wohlers, President
Julie Kuhlman, Vice Pres.
Hillary Stevenson
Kim Nunez
Lorraine Thomas
Tonya Radil, Secretary

ADMINISTRATION

Marty Fonley, Superintendent
Jackie Fonley, PK-12 Principal/Technology Director

ELEMENTARY TEACHING STAFF:

LITTLE HAWKS DAYCARE COORDINATOR

Tara Rife

PRESCHOOL

Janet Shearer

KINDERGARTEN

Holly Brock

FIRST GRADE

Laurie Maguire

SECOND GRADE

Laura Rife

THIRD GRADE

Michelle Lewis

FOURTH GRADE

Andrew Stevenson

INTERVENTIONIST/CLASSROOM SUPPORT

Halie Stirtz

Jami Sherer

Mary Cartmill

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Angie Smith

Sandi Zaiser

Amber Winther

VOCAL MUSIC K-4

Conni Anderson

PHYS. EDUC.

Amy Stolz

**MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL
TEACHING STAFF:**

READING/LANGUAGE ARTS 5-8

Gina Ruffcorn

Katie Cooper

SCIENCE 5-8

Tasha Haag

SOCIAL STUDIES 5-8

Tasha Haag

Katie Cooper

Gina Ruffcorn

Samantha Bieler

MATHEMATICS 5-8

Amy Stolz

Gina Ruffcorn

SPECIAL EDUC. 5-8

Nicole Melby

Sandi Zaiser

Amber Winther

ART EDUCATION 5-8

Emily Zima

HEALTH / PHYS ED 5-8

Troy Maasen

INSTRUM MUSIC 5-7

Dalton Glawe

VOCAL MUSIC 5-8

Conni Anderson

Dalton Glawe

INSTRUM MUSIC 8-12

Logan Merley

INDUSTRIAL TECH. 7-12

Todd Goodwater

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE 7-12

Stacey Clark

BUSINESS EDUC. 9-12

Shelly TerHark

MATHEMATICS 9-12

Benjamin Nuzum

SCIENCE 9-12

Julius Michalik

SOCIAL STUDIES 9-12

Samantha Bieler

LANGUAGE ARTS 9-12

Gina Birdsall

SPANISH 9-12

Carmen Palmero

ART 9-12

Chere Fox-O'Reilly

HEALTH / PHYS ED 9-12

Troy Maasen

VOCAL MUSIC 9-12

Logan Merley

SPECIAL EDUC. 9-12

Delaney Mentzer

Amber Winter

DRIVER EDUCATION

David Kuhl

AGRICULTURE ED

Todd Goodwater

WORK PLACE EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR

Todd Goodwater

STAFF SERVING

PK-12:

COUNSELOR

RaeLea Herman

LIBRARY/MEDIA

Gina Birdsall

SCHOOL NURSE

Deb Evans

TALENTED & GIFTED

Amy Stolz

**TEACHER LEADERSHIP:
INSTRUCTIONAL COACHES**

Halie Stirtz

LEAD TEACHERS

Gina Birdsall
Nicole Melby
Todd Goodwater
Halie Stirtz
Jami Sherer

MENTOR TEACHERS

Gina Birdsall
Nicole Melby

CLASSIFIED STAFF:

SECRETARIES

Keri King – MS/HS
Annette Kuhlman – Elem

BUSINESS OFFICE

Daniel Mikels – School Business Official
Tonya Radil – Board Secretary

TRANSPORTATION

Dave Kuhlman – Supervisor
Ben Nuzum
Cody Buck
Brad King
Jeff Anderson

MAINTENANCE/ CUSTODIAL/GROUNDS

Craig Birdsall
Tony Bridgeman
Cynthia Scheid

FOOD SERVICE

Kathy Glennie – Director
Cody Buck
Jeff Armstrong
Matt Fonley

ASSOCIATES AND PARAS

Nicole Pospisil
Amy Carey
Sabrina Bridgeman
Kylie Sharp
Kim Shepard
Bev Wallis
Tiffany Smith
Jessica Hopkins
Kathy Wright
Tara Rife
Aleta Archer
Jaime Martin



Just to bring a little smile . . .

What do you call a lazy kangaroo?

a pouch potato

Why do you never see a deer hiding in trees?

Because they are really good at it.

What happens when an egg laughs?

It cracks up!

What do you call a pig that plays basketball?

a ball hog

You've been staring at that carton of orange juice for 30 minutes. What's the problem?

Sssh! It says concentrate!



SCHOOL NEWS

“The first day of school is the first step in a great adventure.” As the beginning of school approached, many parents and students could be heard saying, “Where did summer go?” Hopefully, you can look back at the great memories you made since the end of May when school was dismissed.

As the first day of school came, it was often a mixture of excitement and jitters for both students and their parents. By now families and students have settled into their school year routine with new backpacks, a new bedtime, athletic practices, school events, different teachers, homework, school lunch and everything else that will contribute to a successful year. May all West Harrison students and parents have a very successful year! And as Dr. Seuss says, "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose."

The athletic schedules for all fall sports are attached to this newsletter. Please tear them off for future reference.

Remember that admission to these events is cashless; you need to purchase

your ticket ahead of time by going to <https://www.westharrison.school> and click on **ATHLETIC EVENTS TICKETING SITE**. You can select the event you want to attend (both home and away events) and purchase your ticket.

Activity tickets for home events may also be purchased at this site. If you are 65 years of age or older, you may stop in the high school office to obtain a pass to West Harrison activities free of charge. Keri will help you.



Homecoming Schedule

Sunday, September 22

- Jersey Auction
- Coronation
- Community Pep Rally

Wednesday, September 25

- Muscle Volleyball
- Powder Puff Football

Friday, September 27

- Parade and Pep Rally 1:40 p.m.
- Football game vs. Siouxland Christian

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you wonder why school started on Friday, August 23rd this year? Do you remember when school didn't start until after Labor Day? Were you going to school in Iowa when school could not start until the week of September 1st?

So why have there been all these different start dates? Prior to 1985 Iowa school start dates varied from mid-to-late-August to after Labor Day. Iowa law required 179 instruction days so starting in September could mean the school year would run later in the spring especially if there were snow days.

The Iowa tourism industry argued that the early start dates interfered with summer vacations and travel causing Iowa to miss out on millions of tax dollars. In 1985 Governor Terry Branstad signed a bill that said school could not start before September 1st, but the bill allowed districts to file for an exemption to start before September 1st and the majority of school districts did this.

In 2015 the tourism and Save Iowa Summers lobbied to eliminate the waivers and not let schools start until after Labor Day. Of course, schools didn't like that idea so they compromised on a start date of August 23rd.

So why August 23rd? That isn't just some random date. It is the latest date that the Iowa State Fair may end.

Since the law passed in 2015, the issue was raised again in 2018, 2020, and even last year in the 2024 legislature. Suggestions have been made to change the requirement so that schools could start the first Monday or Tuesday following the Iowa State Fair, but those bills have not passed.

Chelsea Lerud, Iowa Travel Industry Partners Executive Director stated, "Every day in August that school starts earlier, that's over \$22.36 million that the state is losing out on revenue."

Until another law is passed, schools in Iowa won't start until August 23rd. Stay tuned for change!

Information taken from "Why Does School Start before Labor Day in Iowa." Bailey Cichon

NOW YOU KNOW!



EVENTS

Monday, September 2
Labor Day

Tuesday, September 3
PK-4th Family Night at West
Harrison

Saturday, September 7 4:30 -6:30 p.m.
American Legion Fish/Chicken Fry
Mondamin Community Center

Sunday, September 8 6:00 p.m.
Loess Hills Lancers meet at
Community Center

Monday, September 9 7:00 p.m.
Mondamin City Council meets at
City Hall

Thursday, September 12 9:00 a.m.
Coffee with Castillo at the
Mondamin Public Library to talk
about emergency preparedness.

September 22 – 27
Homecoming Week at West
Harrison. See schedule in School
News.

WEST HARRISON HAWKEYES



2024 CROSS COUNTRY SCHEDULE

Thur, Sept 5th	Logan Magnolia Invitational	Logan
Tues, Sept 10th (JH)	Treynor Invitational	Treynor
Tues, Sept 17th (JH)	Woodbury Central Invitational	Moville
Mon, Sept 23rd (JH)	West Monona Invite	Onawa
Tues, Sept 24th (JH)	Tri Center Invitational	Neola
Tues, Oct 1st	Denison Invitational	Denison
Mon, Oct 7th (JH)	Woodbine Invitational	Woodbine
Thur, Oct 10th	RVC/Boyer Valley Invitational	Dunlap
Mon, Oct 14th	OA-BCIG Invitational	Ida Grove
Sat, Oct 19th (JH)	Missouri Valley Invitational	Missouri Valley

State Qualifying Meet TBD

Head Coach: Julius Michalik

**** Junior High will be 2 miles in length ****

Times vary depending on who goes first for each host's schedule...

WEST HARRISON HAWKEYES



2024 VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Tues, Aug 27th	Heartland Christian/Tee Jay 5pm (TJ/HCS) 6pm (HCS/WH) 7pm (TJ/WH)	Council Bluffs
Thur, Aug 29th	Woodbury Central/Whiting 5:30 (WH/WC) 6:30 (WC/W) 7:30 (WH/W)	Mondamin
Sat, Aug 31st	Woodbine JV Tournament	Woodbine
Thur, Sept 5th	Whiting	Whiting
Thur, Sept 12th	Woodbine (RVC game)	Mondamin
Sat, Sept 14th	West Monona Tournament (9am)	Onawa
Tues, Sept 17th	Paton Churdan (RVC game) (5pm)	Mondamin
Thur, Sept 19th	Boyer Valley (RVC game)	Dunlap
Sat, Sept 21st	West Harrison Tournament (9am)	Mondamin
Tues, Sept 24th	CAM (RVC game)	Mondamin
Thur, Sept 26th	CRB (RVC game)	Coon Rapids
Thur, Oct 3rd	Ar We Va (RVC game)	Westside
Tues, Oct 8th	Glidden Ralston (RVC game) *Senior Night	Mondamin
Thur, Oct 10th	EEHK (RVC game)	Elkhorn
Thur, Oct 17th	JV RVC Tournament (4:30)	Woodbine
Sat, Oct 19th	RVC Tournament (9am)	Dunlap

Head Coach: Kathy Glennie

Assistant Coach: Amy Stolz

Conference RVC game times:

Freshman 6pm (30 min)

JV 6:35pm (45 min or 2 out of 3 whichever comes first)

**Varsity expected to start by 7:45 @ latest-Start early as possible from JV finish

WEST HARRISON / WHITING HAWKEYES



2024 Football Schedule

Friday, Aug 30th	East Mills	East Mills
Friday, Sept 6th	Newell Fonda	Newell Fonda
Friday, Sept 13th	Boyer Valley	Mondamin
Friday, Sept 20th	Ar We Va	Westside
Friday, Sept 27th	Siouxland Christian (Homecoming)	Mondamin
Friday, Oct 4th	Woodbine	Woodbine
Friday, Oct 11th	Griswold (Senior/Parent Night)	Mondamin
Friday, Oct 18th	Saint Mary's	Remsen

**Canceled in 2023 (Remsen took choice to host in 2024 per state guidelines)

Head Coach: Andrew Stevenson
Assistant Coaches: Craig Birdsall, Cody Tyson

**All Games will be a 7pm start time

WEST HARRISON / WHITING HAWKEYES



2024

JUNIOR HIGH FOOTBALL SCHEDULE (JV will be determined by team #'s)

Mon, Sept 9th	Boyer Valley	Mondamin
Mon, Sept 16th	Woodbine	Mondamin
Mon, Sept 23rd	CAM	Mondamin
Mon, Sept 30th	Ar We Va	Westside
Mon, Oct 7th	CRB	Coon Rapids

Head Coach: Cody Tyson
Assistant Coach: Jason Allen

All games will start at 4:30PM with JV to follow immediately with a short warmup period

2024 JUNIOR HIGH VOLLEYBALL SCHEDULE

Tues, Sept 10th	E/EHK	Mondamin
Thur, Sept 12th	Ar We Va	Westside
Tues, Sept 17th	Woodbine	Mondamin
Thur, Sept 19th	West Monona	Mondamin
Thur, Sept 26th	Charter Oak-Ute	Charter Oak
Tues, Oct 1st	Charter Oak-Ute	Mondamin
Thur, Oct 3rd	Westwood	Sloan
Thur, Oct 10th	Boyer Valley	Dow City
Mon, Oct 14th	Whiting	Whiting

Head Coach: Delaney Mentzer

All games will start at 4pm with 7th grade or B game first unless otherwise noted