

# Mondamin's

## November 2024



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

### CITY COUNCIL NEWS

At the October 7 regular monthly Mondamin City Council meeting the Harrison County EMA director, Bonnie Castillo, presented information to the council about emergency disaster preparedness. As a tornado disaster preparedness issue for Mondamin, the council asked Director Castillo for the county's help in finding a new generator to replace the current one that is to operate the tornado siren. The current generator is outdated and parts are no longer available to make repairs. Ms. Castillo also said that she has met with interested residents at the town library to explain ways families and individuals can prepare for emergency evacuations due to a variety of disasters.

Other council business involved discussing tree removal bids, passing a resolution directing the city clerk to write off uncollectible utility accounts, purchasing new locks for the library and the Jimmy King Shelter, and purchasing new lights for the city shed and the city hall shop.

The council accepted the resignation of Mondamin Public Library Director, Christine

Hussing. They approved a job summary for the library director and a starting wage. The open position will be advertised and interested persons should contact the city clerk at 646-2431 for an application. Applications need to be given to Alyx Hirst by November 14 for scheduling interviews.

Another matter for council discussion was about future development of the city land at 501 Cedar Street. Council member Seago is checking on initial steps for developing this area for possible housing and green space.

The city clerk received verbal and written comments from the public about young children playing in the streets. Drivers have expressed concerns about the difficulty of seeing the small children from their vehicles in time to stop to avoid hitting a child. Contact will be made with parents advising them to talk to their children about safe play.



Lastly the council has set the date for a fall city-wide clean up day as November 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. A large dumpster will be placed just north of the library near the recycle bins to receive items from Mondamin residents only.

## COMMUNITY NEWS



**Election Day is NOVEMBER 5!** Mondamin voters can cast their ballots at the Mondamin Community Center from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Be sure to bring a form of identification with you. If you requested an absentee ballot, it must be returned to the County Auditor's office by 8:00 p.m. on November 5. That ballot will not be accepted at your polling location. The auditor's office will be open on Saturday, November 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for early voting.

### GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

Persons interested in learning about the do's and don'ts of writing grants are invited to attend a workshop hosted by Iowa State Extension. Grant sources will also be listed to assist community organizations fund projects. The workshop will be held November 10 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the Moorhead Community Center.

### COFFEE WITH CASTILLO

**Harrison County EMA Director Bonnie Castillo has been holding meetings** with interested community members to discuss preparing for disasters especially if an evacuation order is made. One of the first things to do is pack a bag with essential items such a medicines, identification papers, and insurance policy information.

She also explained what the different responses can be immediately after a disaster. Red Cross and other humanitarian aid groups will help provide shelter, water and food. FEMA has different responsibilities such as assessing damage to provide evidence that a disaster declaration needs to be made. FEMA funding has various criteria for disaster victims to meet before qualifying for financial aid. The group also wondered if the town has designated tornado shelters for residents to go to if there are tornado warnings. The next Coffee with Castillo meeting will be held at the Mondamin Library on Thursday, November 14 at 9:00 a.m.

The annual **Community Thanksgiving Service** will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 24, 2024, at the Little Sioux Church of Christ. The collection taken at this service goes to the emergency benevolence fund to assist those in need.



**On the first Sunday in November, clocks are set back one hour** at 2:00 a.m. local Daylight Saving Time (which becomes 1:00 a.m. local standard time). These dates were established by Congress in the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

**What a wonderful afternoon on October 6 for Mondamin Community Partners to host BOO BASH!** We think the nearly 60 children

plus parents and grandparents would agree. It was great to see so many youngsters playing games and enjoying the beautiful afternoon in the Mondamin City Park.

The kids enjoyed a scavenger hunt, Simon Says, and a number of other games like bean bag toss and ring toss.

Ella won the giant jar of candy corn by guessing closest to the number of pieces that were in the jar. The jar held 911 pieces and her guess was 900. Great guess, Ella!

Adrienne, Adilynn, and Alaina won the scavenger hunt by finding all 20 items in the fastest time. I guess if you need something found, just ask this group to find it for you. Congratulations, girls!

Simon Says had a tough group! No one wanted to mess up as our Simon (Mike Liljedahl) read the commands. Finally, we just called the game and gave prizes to the final 4 participants. They wanted to keep on playing until a true champion was crowned, but they also didn't want to miss out on refreshments!

We appreciate the community members who supported our raffle and those who donated items. Thank you very much! Here are the winners:

1/3 cord of wood donated by Lickity Split Firewood - Gary Smith, 2 tickets to Skinny Bones in Blair - Jaysa Lawrenson, 2 tickets to Vala's Pumpkin Patch - Sandy Lycan, and a fall blanket - Gregg Beam.

Thank you to all the volunteer workers: Carol Birdsall, Tonya Radil, Ed Radil, Ava Garcia, Evie Cline, Hannah Crowley, Kim

Nunez, Tony Nunez, Jaysa Lawrenson, Nolan Birdsall, Tylar Stirtz, Gregg Beam, Jim Rains, Blake Lawrenson, Mike Liljedahl, Jeff Seago, Richard Proskocil, and anyone else who helped in any way with the event. We hope we didn't miss anyone!

The delicious cookies were provided by Maggie Rains, Peggy Smith, Peggy Eyberg, Sharon Shelton, Susie Perry, Zeta Proskocil, Donella Pauli, and Mary Seago.

Thank you from the MCP committee: Mary Seago, Maggie Rains, Dustin Wallis, Zeta Proskocil, Lacie Rife, and Donella Pauli.

**On Saturday afternoon November 30 from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Mondamin Community Partners will host the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Light Up the Park** to kick off the Advent and Christmas season. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be making a stop at the park to turn on the light displays again this year at 5:00 p.m. Come for a special surprise. You won't want to miss this!

Santa will be hungry for cookies and hot cocoa so the committee members will be looking for volunteers to donate cookies or bars to serve to all who attend. **(If you are willing to provide cookies/bars, contact Maggie Rains at 712.420.6036.)** Again this year donations of canned or non-perishable food and personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, or toothpaste will be accepted to stock Matthew's House Food Pantry for the holidays.

MCP will be looking for sponsors of any new light displays, financial donations and volunteers to help put up decorations possibly on November 22<sup>nd</sup> or the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The

day and time to meet to decorate will depend on the weather. Watch for the details on the **City of Mondamin's Facebook page**. Please come help decorate the park!

**American Legion Fish Fries are over** until March 1. Other dates in 2025 for the delicious "All You Can Eat" meals are April 5, September 6, and October 4. Mark your calendars so you don't forget!



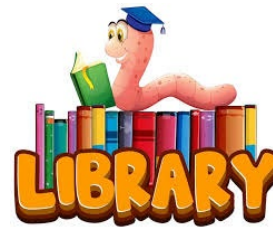
### **Thanksgiving**

by Donella Pauli and Maggie Rains

There is much written about the Thanksgiving holiday, yet the day kind of gets lost between Halloween and Christmas. It is the biggest food holiday of the year when Americans consume 40 million turkeys, spend \$96 million just on stuffing, and 35% of us prefer pumpkin pie. Compare those costs to the fact that Americans spend \$3.5 billion on candy for Halloween!

Maybe this year we can all put a bigger spotlight on Thanksgiving: its meaning and history. Enjoy your meal wherever you eat, whatever you serve, and enjoy the company of those with whom you spend the day. And if pumpkin pie isn't your favorite, maybe there will be cherry or pecan for you!

"The warmth of Thanksgiving comes from the laughter and love shared around the table."



### **LIBRARY NEWS**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade book club** met on October 21 for activities and discussion of Hank the Zipper's *Niagara Falls, or Does It?* If you have a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grader who would like to join the group, just stop by the library and talk to Christine. The next book the group will read is *Dexter the Tough* by Margaret Peterson Haddix. When his teacher tells the class to write a story, Dexter writes about how **tough** he is—and how he's already gotten into a fight. Is any of Dexter's story true?

**Mondamin Public Library Director, Christine Hussing**, has announced her retirement effective December 31, 2024. Thank you to Christine for her 8 years of service to the city of Mondamin and the entire West Harrison community. Christine was instrumental in starting new library programs and continuing to provide library services to people of all ages. When she started at the Mondamin Public Library, it was a tier 2 library and through her work, the library has been upgraded to a tier 3.

"If you can read, thank a teacher. If you can find something to read, thank a librarian!"

Best of luck in your retirement, Christine!

**The book club** will meet again on January 22, 2025, to discuss *If You Tell*, a true crime story, by Gregg Olson.



**Just to bring a little smile . . .**

What's a running turkey called?

**Fast food.**

What sound does a turkey's phone make?

**"Wing, wing."**

Why was the turkey asked to join a band?

**He could bring his own drumsticks.**

What's the official dance of Thanksgiving?

**The turkey trot**

What's one thing that you'll have in common with a teddy bear on Thanksgiving?

**You'll both be filled with stuffing.**

What was the turkey suspected of?

**Fowl play**

## **DID YOU KNOW?**

When you take the time to find out why the month of November is so special, the two obvious celebrations come to mind: Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Day. Most of us realize why those two days are important to Americans. When you dig a little deeper you find things like World Vegan Day on November 1 and National World Toilet Day on November 19. November has a diverse array of significant days that celebrate achievements, raise awareness, and honor important figures. Since we aren't familiar with a vegan diet

and we aren't sure we want to learn about World Toilet Day, let's devote some time to November 13, World Kindness Day.

Did you know that in 1998 the World Kindness Movement initiated World Kindness Day to highlight the importance of being kind and compassionate in a world that often needs more of both. You may have heard of Random Acts of Kindness which is celebrated on February 17 each year. The world can always use more stories of kindness. There are so many celebrations to acknowledge the importance of being kind; we all have the opportunity to treat others with respect, love and thoughtfulness each and every day. Even doing one tiny act of kindness can change your world and the world around you.



So what can we do to be kind? (Taken from the Berkeley Well Being Institute.)

- Give a warm smile to a stranger.
- Hold the door open for the folks walking in behind you.
- Be there to listen to someone who could use a friend right now.
- Genuinely compliment someone.
- Pick up trash (even if it's not always yours).
- Let someone in when they're trying to switch into your lane.

- Buy some food for the person asking for money outside of the store or tell them where they can go for help.
- Pick up something someone dropped and is having trouble reaching for it.
- Say thank you more often. Try saying it more to your family members especially your spouse.
- Write someone a card telling them what you appreciate about them.
- Donate books to the neighborhood library.
- When someone is talking about their passions, listen intently.
- Ask someone how they're doing and mean it.
- Say hello and/or welcome the new neighbors.
- Write warm messages on sticky notes and leave them in places others can find them (e.g., in your child's lunchbox, on top of a mailbox, or inside of a book).
- Volunteer your time to an important cause.
- Make a donation.
- See someone sitting alone? Invite them to sit next to you.
- Students, sit with the new student at school.
- Help clean up without being asked.
- Give yourself a mental break when you're feeling angry or sad.
- Think before you speak and when you do, speak with intention.
- Drop off flowers, get some food, or make a warm drink for someone who is recovering from an illness.
- Spend time with the people you care about.
- Respect how someone else is feeling even if you wouldn't react that way.

- Be just a little bit more patient.
- Help with a household chore.
- Share a yummy recipe with someone who may love it.
- Check in on your loved ones.
- Say I love you more often.
- Be kind to one another, friends, loved ones, and your inner self. Don't forget to be kind to yourself when you need it!

Being kind is such a simple act that we may often overlook, but can be so essential to improving our lives and the lives of those around us. Whether you try some of the ideas listed here or you already have your own, now you know that you can make a big difference with a little bit of compassion and care.

And if you are still interested, go ahead and look up National World Toilet Day!

- "Carry out a random act of kindness, with no expectation of reward, safe in the knowledge that one day someone might do the same for you." — Princess Diana
- "Be kind, for everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about." --- Wendy Mass
- "In a world where you can be anything, be kind." — Clare Pooley, "The Authenticity Project"

**NOW YOU KNOW!**



## SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to the high school students who helped with BOO BASH on October 6. Mondamin Community Partners appreciated your help very much!



The **West Harrison/West Monona music departments** will hold their fall 8-12 band concert and 9-12 choir concert at West Monona on November 7 at 7:00 p.m. Support our musicians!

**The schedules for the winter sports are attached.** Please keep them for future reference or check the school’s web page at [www.westharrison.school](http://www.westharrison.school) for the most current schedules. Support the Hawkeyes!



West Harrison’s annual **Veterans Day Program** will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, November 11, 2024. Everyone is welcome as we salute and thank our area veterans.

**Happy Thanksgiving!** There will be no school on November 27, 28, and 29 due to fall break and Thanksgiving Day.

## EVENTS

- November 3, 2024      2:00 a.m.  
Daylight Savings Time Ends
- November 3, 2024      6:00 p.m.  
Loess Hills Lancers 4-H Club meets at Mondamin Community Center
- November 4, 2024      7:00 p.m.  
Mondamin City Council Meeting  
City Hall
- November 5, 2024      7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.  
Election Day
- November 7, 2024      7:00 p.m.  
Band & Choir concert at Onawa
- November 10, 2024      2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
City-wide Clean Up Day
- November 11, 2024      1:30 p.m.  
Veterans Day Program at West Harrison
- November 24, 2024      6:00 p.m.  
Community Thanksgiving Service  
Little Sioux Church of Christ
- November 27, 28, & 29, 2024  
No school at West Harrison
- November 28, 2024



- November 30, 2024      3:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
Light up the Park  
Mondamin City Park

# 24/25 JUNIOR HIGH BASKETBALL

## BOYS (4pm unless noted)

Mon.	Nov	11	Boyer Valley	Dunlap
Tues.	Nov	14	Charter Oak-Ute	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Nov	19	West Monona	<b>Mondamin</b>
Thurs.	Nov	21	Westwood	<b>Mondamin</b>
Mon.	Nov	25	Ar We Va	Westside
Tues.	Dec	3	Woodbine	<b>Mondamin</b>
Fri.	Dec	6	Missouri Valley (3:45)	Missouri Valley
Tues.	Dec	10	Whiting	<b>Mondamin</b>
Fri.	Dec	13	West Monona	Onawa
Mon.	Dec	16	Siouxland Christian	Sioux City
Thurs.	Dec	19	E/EHK	<b>Mondamin</b>

## GIRLS (4pm unless noted)

Tues.	Jan	7	Whiting	Whiting
Mon.	Jan	13	Charter Oak-Ute	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Jan	14	Ar We Va	<b>Mondamin</b>
Fri.	Jan	17	Whiting	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Jan	21	E/EHK	Exira
Thurs.	Jan	23	Charter Oak-Ute	Charter Oak
Fri.	Jan	24	Missouri Valley	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Jan	28	Paton Churdan	Churdan 3:45
Mon.	Feb	3	Boyer Valley	<b>Mondamin</b>
Thurs.	Feb.	6	Woodbine	Woodbine
Tues.	Feb	11	Logan-Magnolia	
	<b>Mondamin</b>			

Boys Head Coach: Julius Michalik

Girls Head Coach: Andrew Stevenson



## ***West Harrison Hawkeyes JH Wrestling 2025***

Tues	Jan 21	MV/Glenwood/Kirn	<b>Mondamin</b>
Mon	Jan 27	WH/TC/?	Neola
Fri	Jan 31	WW/WB/Riverside	<b>TBD</b>
Mon	Feb 3	WH/MV/?	Missouri Valley
Mon	Feb 10	WH/WW/?	Sloan
Thur	Feb 13	WH/WM/?	Onawa
Mon	Feb 17	CAM/CRB/WB (RVC Quad)	<b>TBD</b>

Head Coach- Tony Nunez  
Assistant Coach- Cody Tyson

\*All Meets are a 4pm start unless noted\*



## **2024-25 JV/V Hawkeye Wrestling**

Sat.	Dec.	7	Treynor Tournament	Treynor
Mon.	Dec.	9	AL JV Tournament	C.B.
Sat.	Dec.	14	Riverside Tournament	Oakland
Mon.	Dec.	16	SB-L JV Tournament	Sgt. Bluffs
Fri.	Dec.	20	Glenwood JV Tournament	Glenwood
Sat.	Jan.	11	Tri-Center Tournament	Neola
Mon.	Jan.	13	LoMa JV Tournament	Logan
Sat.	Jan.	18	Griswold Tournament	Griswold
Mon.	Jan.	27	Harlan JV Tournament	Harlan
Sat.	Feb.	1	Audubon Tournament	Audubon
Thur.	Feb.	6	Atlantic JV Tournament	Atlantic
Tues.	Feb.	11	RVC Dual (WH/CAM/WB/CRB)	Woodbine
Sat.	Feb.	15	Districts	TBD

Head Coach: Tony Nunez

Assistant Coach: Cody Tyson

# WEST HARRISON HAWKEYES

## 2024-25 VARSITY BASKETBALL

Tues.	Dec.	3	Glidden Ralston	Glidden
Thurs.	Dec.	5	West Monona	<b>Mondamin</b>
Fri.	Dec.	6	Ar-We-Va	<b>Mondamin</b>
Mon.	Dec.	9	Tri-Center	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Dec.	10	Coon Rapids-Bayard	Coon Rapids
Fri.	Dec.	13	CAM	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Dec.	17	Paton Churdan (5pm)	<b>Mondamin</b>
Fri.	Dec.	20	EEHK (12:30pm??)	Elk Horn
Tues.	Jan.	7	Woodbine	Woodbine
Fri.	Jan.	10	Boyer Valley	Dunlap
Tues.	Jan.	14	Glidden Ralston	<b>Mondamin</b>
Fri.	Jan.	17	Ar-We-Va	Westside
Tues.	Jan.	21	Coon Rapids-Bayard	<b>Mondamin</b>
Thurs.	Jan.	23	Whiting	Whiting
Fri.	Jan.	24	CAM	Anita
Tues.	Jan.	28	Paton Churdan (5:15pm)	Churdan
Fri.	Jan.	31	EEHK	<b>Mondamin</b>
Sat.	Feb.	1	Missouri Valley	<b>Mondamin</b>
				2pm
			**JV Girls 11am / JV Boys 11:40am / Varsity Girls 12:30pm / Varsity Boys	
Fri.	Feb.	7	Woodbine	<b>Mondamin</b>
Mon.	Feb.	10	Boyer Valley (Senior Night)	<b>Mondamin</b>
Tues.	Feb.	11	Woodbury Central	Woodbury
			**Girls start at 6pm followed by Boys (approximately 7:30pm) **Curtain Caller JV games will begin at 4:15	

(Boys) Head Coach- Rowdy Evans / Assistant Coach- Andrew Stevenson

(Girls) Head Coach- Julius Michalik / Assistant Coach- Amy Stolz