

Mondamin's

March 2025



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

CITY COUNCIL NEWS

The Mondamin City Council met February 3 in city hall. Their agenda included

discussion about a spring clean-up day. It was mentioned that residents are seeing several old appliances/junk in people's yards. If you can haul your items to the dump area on the cleanup day, the city will make sure they are disposed of properly. If you need help, ask. There may be help available to move your unwanted items.

The Spring Clean-Up Day is set for May 18 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. More information will be included in following newsletters, but if you have questions about what can be taken to the dump area, call city hall.

The council has been working with Iowa's DNR Urban Forestry and they have developed a very in depth management plan for the city. This group was first asked for help in deciding which ash trees needed to come down because of the ash borer. The DNR surveyed all the city's trees to offer a plan. Council member Mary Seago was at the forefront of this project. The council will take this information under advisement for future planning.

The water treatment plant is in its final stages and should be started and online within the next couple of weeks. Seeding of grass will take place this spring when possible. The water meter improvement project is substantially completed. If any problems arise, they will be addressed this spring.

Because speeding vehicles have been noticed going through town especially before and after school, the council voted to ask the DOT to install speed signs asking motorists to slow down if they are exceeding the speed limit. The signs will be put in Mondamin at no cost, but the city must comply with the DOT's terms. The signs have been ordered, but no date was given for their installation.

Clerk Hirst updated the council on the preliminary budget for the city. This will continue to be an agenda item for the coming month.

The council set the public hearing date for the FY25/26 property tax rate for April 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mondamin City Hall.

Initial discussion continues about residential development on the 8-10 acres near the new water treatment plant.

COMMUNITY NEWS

National Day of Unplugging is celebrated on March 3rd; this day encourages people to take a break from screens. Do you think you can do that? It might be really tough, but give it a try!



Remember you can drop off dry cleaning at the Jiffy Mart. Drop you items off by Tuesday and they will be back by the next Tuesday.

Just some reminders to recycle in your Harrison County Area Bins!

Aluminum and Metal

- Aerosol cans
- All metal food and beverage containers
- Clean aluminum foil and trays
- Pie plates

Cardboard Boxes, Paperboard, Etc.

- Brown paper and brown grocery sacks
- Cardboard boxes – flattened
- Paperboard-cereal, cake, cracker, and snack boxes, frozen or refrigerated food boxes
- Kleenex and cosmetic boxes, shoe, toy, game, and gift boxes

Mixed Paper

- Computer paper, envelopes, folders, magazines, catalogs, newspaper, notebook paper, phone books, and wrapping or tissue paper.

Plastic Containers and Cartons

- All #1 - #5 plastic containers that fit inside your recycling bin. Please rinse them.

- Cartons – milk and juice cartons, rinsed.

Glass Containers

- All unbroken glass food and beverage containers – please rinse.

If you have a question about recycling, contact the Harrison County Landfill at 1-800-672-3093.

“Beware the Ides of March.”

You have undoubtedly heard that expression. It just means the 15th of March and is one of the most famous quotes from Shakespeare’s play, *Julius Caesar*. In the Roman calendar it was convenient to mark the halfway point of the month, called the Ides. Every month has one. The Ides of March was the day that Julius Caesar was assassinated, supposedly having been warned and predicted for that day by a fortune teller. Caesar did not heed the warning in the play or in real life!



American Legion

Jesse Strong Post #378

David Tallon, Commander

By Donella Pauli

“Founded by an Act of Congress after World War I, the American Legion fiercely advocates for the unique needs of every generation of veterans, service members, and their families who pledge to protect our nation.”

<https://www.legion.org>



The American Legion is the largest U.S. veterans' organization with more than 1.6 million members made up of those who have served or are serving in the armed forces of the United States. Currently, one small part of that larger organization is the twenty members of Mondamin's Jesse Strong Post #378 which received its charter on January 23, 1920, when it had 15 original members.

Jesse Strong was a young World War I army corporal from Mondamin who was in the 7th Division, 56th Infantry Regiment. He was killed in action on November 8, 1918, in France. Jesse was awarded the World War I Victory Medal and the Purple Heart for giving his all in the line of duty. His sacrifice continues to be remembered by Legion Post #378 bearing his name.



The Strong Family: Jesse, Dema, Gertrude, DC & Roain Strong.

Picture taken from Mondamin, Iowa 150 Years, 1868-2018 Compiled by Larry Stevens.

For a period of time Mondamin also had a Legion Auxiliary which was chartered on April 6, 1944. Due to low membership, this organization no longer exists.

Mondamin's post is very community oriented and focuses on local patriotic functions. Each year the post participates in parades, a Veterans Day program in conjunction with West Harrison Community School, and conducts Memorial Day services at the Calhoun Cemetery, Soldier Valley Cemetery, the Little Sioux Cemetery, and the Noyes Cemetery in Mondamin. In addition, the Legion tries to provide support to the veteran's family at the time of their loss by playing Taps, having a rifle salute, and a flag presentation to the family at the time of burial.

One interesting fact about the rifle salutes is that the guns used by Post #378 are World War II M-1 Garand rifles that are on loan from the army arsenal at Rock Island, IL. One of the rifles was even made by John Deere!

The American Legion is very thankful to former West Harrison student, Chance Sipple, who constructed the Veterans Memorial in the Mondamin City Park. The Jesse Strong Post continues to support this memorial by providing replacement flags when needed.

Another long-time benefactor to the Legion was Mondamin resident, Jimmy King. He helped them buy equipment and made generous donations to the Post. The Jimmy King Foundation continues Jimmy's generous spirit by helping the Legion with various needs.



Mondamin Memories

Submitted by Larry Stevens

Evening World-Herald

Omaha, Nebraska

July 5, 1922 page 1

One popular community project that the group has sponsored for several years is the Fish/Chicken Fry. Over the years they have accumulated equipment such as fryers, broasters, and even the popular ice cream machine! The American Legion will be putting on 4 fish/chicken dinners during 2025. **Mark your calendars for March 1, April 5, September 6, and October 4.**

Iowan Burned Pouring Powder in War Shell

Mondamin Man Taken to Bluffs Hospital After Injured in Celebration May Lose Eyesight

If you fly the American flag at your home or place of business and it becomes tattered and torn, what do you do with it? Mondamin's Legion can help with that too. Sitting outside their meeting room at the Mondamin Community Center is a depository where people can place worn flags. Once a year the group conducts a ceremony to retire them.

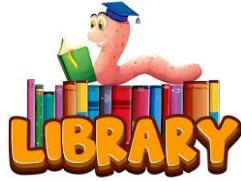
Clarence Peasley, 50, of Mondamin, IA, is in Edmundson hospital, Council Bluffs, with severe burns about the head and shoulders, suffered early yesterday morning while assisting George A. Shannon in firing the village's sunrise Fourth of July salute. He may lose his eyesight, it was said this afternoon.

Like all organizations, Post #378 is always ready to welcome new members to help them remain active in our community. If you are serving in America's armed forces or have served and have been honorably discharged, you are eligible and welcome to be part of Mondamin's American Legion Jesse Strong Post #378. If you are interested in being part of this patriotic organization or have questions, contact Legion Commander, Dave Tallon.

Peasley and Shannon had rigged up an old five-inch souvenir war shell in which to fire the salutes. Several had been set off and Peasley was pouring black powder into the shell for another when the powder, apparently ignited by a spark left from a previous discharge, flared up into his face.

Alfred Shaw, a companion, was also severely burned when he went to Peasley's aid and was beating out the flames.

Thank you to Dave Tallon and Larry Stevens for contributing information for this article.



Just to bring a little smile . . .

LIBRARY NEWS

The West Harrison elementary book club is reading *Wishworks, Inc.* by Stephanie Tolan. Max is handling his parents' divorce, his new home and school, and a big bully named Nick the only way he knows how: by running away. In his mind, he and his beautiful dog King have thrilling adventures in the woods; they conquer aliens and slay dragons; they embarrass Nick so he never comes near Max again.

The group will next meet after school on March 31.

Mondamin's book club will meet again on March 26 and they will be discussing *The Personal Librarian*. New members are welcome at any time. Just stop by the library and talk to Marla about joining.

There has been a slight change in library hours. **The Saturday hours will now be 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** Please note that change.

“Never regret a day in your life: good days give happiness, bad days give experience, worst days give lessons, and best days give memories.”
Unknown



What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four-leaf clover?

A: A rash of good luck

What did the mother worm say to the little worm who was late?

A: Where in earth have you been?”

What do sheep do on a sunny spring day?

A: Have a Baa baa cue!

Why did the Oreo go to the dentist?

A: Because he lost his filling.

What does it mean if you find a horseshoe in Ireland?

A: Some horse lost its shoe!.

DID YOU KNOW?

The third week in March is National Poison Prevention Week! The theme for March 16-22, 2025, is “When the unexpected happens, Poison Help is here for you.” In 1961 Congress created this special week to increase knowledge about how to prevent and stop poisoning accidents. Today, poisoning remains one of the leading causes of injury-related deaths in the United States.

The goal of National Poison Prevention Week is to teach about the risks of poisonings at any age and increase everyone's involvement in poison prevention. By educating yourself and your

family about preventative steps in the home, at work, and in their lives, progress can be made in keeping our loved ones safe.

More than 2 million poisonings are reported each year to the nation's poison control centers. According to their records, 93 percent of the poisonings happen at home and 45 percent of poisonings involve children under the age of 6. The majority of fatal poisonings occur among adults, especially older adults.



Those statistics are astounding so what causes poisonings? Poisonings can be caused by swallowing, inhaling, absorbing through the skin, or injecting a poison.

SWALLOWING

- Medications - Taking too much of a prescription or over-the-counter medicine can be poisonous.
- Food – Food that is poorly prepared, moldy or contaminated with bacteria can cause food poisoning.
- Alcohol – Drinking too much alcohol too quickly can cause alcohol poisoning.
- Household products
- Any product marked poisonous

INHALING

- Carbon monoxide – Malfunctioning furnaces, fireplaces, or gas appliances can produce carbon monoxide, which can be poisonous.
- Fumes caused from mixing cleaners or other substances

ABSORBING THROUGH THE SKIN

- Household products such as bleach can be poisonous.
- Lead
- Some herbal remedies
- Products found on the farm or in the garden

STINGS AND BITES

- Stings and bites from venomous animals

Now that we have listed some of the items that cause poisonings, (Of course, there are others.) how do we prevent children and adults from getting these poisons?

- Especially if you have children, store household chemicals in locked cabinets.
- Keep medicines in their original containers and labels in locked storage.
- Once you are finished with a prescription and any is left, dispose of it properly. (Ask your pharmacy if they will take old medicine.) WalMart stores usually have a receptacle.)

- Never tell children that their medicine is candy!
- Supervise children and confused older adults.
- Use poison symbols to identify potentially poisonous substances.
- Do NOT use food containers to store household cleaners and other chemicals or products. (Someone may think it is food!)
- Keep laundry products up high and out of the reach of children.
- Avoid using household cleaners and disinfectants on hands or skin improperly.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors in your home.

End of Winter Near

By Catherine Pulsifer

Oh, March is finally here!
The end of winter is near;
Days get longer, temperatures climb,
Goodbye to frost and wintertime.

No more shoveling sidewalks clear,
Or dealing with ice we fear;
Hello to sunshine and warmth galore,
March, we welcome you once more!



SCHOOL NEWS

Congratulations to Erin Lewis and Kendel Baldwin for earning straight 1's on their acting ensemble, "Banquet of Friendship" at the State Large Group Speech Contest. Their speech coach is Gina Birdsall.

West Harrison's Builders Club and K-Kids are hosting a craft fair on April 5 in the west gym from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. If you are a vendor interested in having a table at this fair, contact Karen Breyfogle at kabrey56@icloud.com or call her at (712) 592-9979. The cost is \$10. per vendor.

Lunch will be available for a free will offering. Admission is \$1 or a can of food. All proceeds benefit Matthew's House Food Pantry. Come support the students on this worthwhile project.

These lists are just a start to help you keep your family safe. **Contact the Iowa Poison Control Center for emergencies or urgent questions 24/7. Call 1-800-222-1222.**

Iowa's Poison Control Center is located at 401 Douglas Street Suite 501, Sioux City, IA 51101. They can answer your questions or send you information to help you. Keep this phone number handy. Remember "When the unexpected happens, Poison Help is here for you."



NOW YOU KNOW!

The Builders Club made Valentine bags for all middle school students in February. K-Kids will be making pull toys for the Harrison County Humane Society. These groups stay busy with great projects!

West Harrison's Junior EMS program is in its 20th year of giving students real-life experiences for emergency events.

The Mondamin Junior EMS (Emergency Medical Services) program is open to all junior and senior students at West Harrison. The requirements to be a part of the program include a signed parent waiver, as well as a physical.

The course includes an introduction to proper procedures; CPR certification; C-Collar and backboard packaging; air splints and stair chair training; basic first aid; taking vitals; attending one regular monthly meeting with the senior members; search and rescue procedures; fire hose and fire extinguisher training; practice emergency rescues with senior members; learning legal and ethical issues; and knowledge of safety precautions around fire and rescue scenes. The junior members are also allowed to go on calls with senior members from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. (8 p.m. on school nights).

All members are required to keep a journal of their experiences with training procedures, meetings, and events. The junior members also participate in special events like firehouse, parades, and fundraisers (including the fireman's ball and pancake feed).

The Junior EMS program is a graded class in which students gain elective credits. Grades are based on attendance at trainings (or worksheets if missed) and the journals.

The parent of a former Junior EMS student had this to say about West Harrison's program, "What a terrific opportunity this is for so many careers students may choose. It was because of his training in Junior EMS that my son was hired for his 1st hospital job. The Human Resource person told him that the course on his resume spoke volumes about his interest and commitment as a young graduate."

This year the Mondamin Junior EMS program has a total of 17 members.



Front row L to R: Zoey McWilliams, Jerzey Kraft, Brooke Cooper, Izzy Ely, Cassidy Marshall, Rylee Evans

Back Row L to R: Austin Johnson, Payden Roberson, Hannah Crowley, Ava Garcia, Devyn Harris, Kendel Baldwin, Jason Barry, Sean Freet
Not Pictured: Abe Pavlik, Chloe Leinen, Ty Stirtz, Tyler Knuass

Tony Nunez, former West Harrison teacher and EMS member, is the instructor for the course.

Here is a typical schedule for the class:

2024-2025 Jr. EMS Schedule

Mon. Aug. 26- Emergency
Procedures/Protocols/Paper Work

Open House- Firehall & Vehicle Training

Sun. Sept. 8- Packaging/C-Collar/
Backboard/Splints

Sun. Oct. 6- CPR Training

Sun. Nov. 10- Basic First Aid

Sun. Dec. 8- Taking Vitals-BP/Lung
Sounds/Pulse/Response

Mon. Jan. 13- Fire/Rescue Meeting- 7:00
p.m.

Sun. Feb. 9- Search & Rescue Procedures

Sun. March 9- Fire Hose Training

Sun. April 6- Emergency Scenarios

Sun. May 4- Wrap-Up All Scheduled
meetings are mandatory! If a meeting is
missed, a worksheet will be assigned.

Starting time will be 5:00 PM (Unless noted
above)

CPR Training and Refresher will be
scheduled.

In every training session- safety is
emphasized!

Jr. EMS will also help with the "Firehouse,"
Pancake Feed, and the Fireman's Ball. There
may be other department events scheduled
at a later date.

There are opportunities to get certification
in CPR, EMT, and Fire Training.

If you have a son or daughter interested in
this program for next year, talk to Mr.
Nunez or Mrs. Raelea Herman, guidance

counselor. It might be a determining factor
in choosing a career.

EVENTS

Sunday, March 2 6:00 p.m.
Loess Hills Lancers meet at
Mondamin Community Center

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

Sunday, March 9
Daylight Savings Time Begins
Spring forward 1 hour

Tuesday, March 11 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Freshman Orientation at
West Harrison

Saturday, March 15
Individual State Speech Ames

Saturday, March 15
Beware the Ides of March

Monday, March 17
St. Patrick's Day

Monday, March 17
No school at West Harrison

Thursday, March 20 7:00 p.m.
Academic Awards Night
National Honor Society Induction
Ceremony at West Harrison

Thursday, March 27 8:00-2:30 p.m.
NHS Blood Drive at West Harrison

Monday, March 31
All-State Individual Speech Festival at
UNI