MONDAMIN'S



September 2026

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

CITY COUNCIL NEWS

The Mondamin City Council meeting was called to order on August 3, 2026 at 7:03 p.m. by Mayor Richard Proskocil. The agenda, the minutes of the July 8 meeting, and claims presented were all approved.

Lewis Dominiack was present to fulfill his requirement for his Eagle Scout Badge which was to ask a member of his local government about a community issue, what is being done about it, and how young people can help. Lewis wanted to discuss the abandoned properties that were discussed at the June council meeting, asking whether they are still an issue in the town. The council stated that yes, these abandoned homes are still an issue and are currently in the court system so there isn't anything young people can do to help. Most of these abandoned properties are dilapidated, so it would be dangerous for young people to be on the property or in the houses.

The community center manager's report which was included in the council's packet stated that the rentals have been slow with only two last month.

Marla Rife passed along her report to the council that patron visits have been increasing especially young people who have been visiting to play with the new additions to the library. She is looking forward to the Library Crawl which starts in September.

There was no report from the Fire Department.

As of June 18, 2026, the city has taken ownership of the abandoned property at 301 N. Main St. Clerk Hirst stated that the council should view the property and consider what they would like done to it. John Harrison outlined several options. Harrison also reported that the property at 409 Pine St. has been demolished and that the council should consider what they would like to do with the lot. Harrison also reported on the property at 410 N. Main St. Hirst also mentioned that some properties need a weed notice sent out.

New business included a building permit for 202 N. Clark St. The building permit request for 210 N. Main St. was postponed until a later date. L.O. Sandbar's liquor license was renewed.

J. Glennie said he would check to find the best price for propane. Clerk Hirst would let him know how much credit was left on the Heartland Coop accounts.

Waste collection alternatives have been investigated, but since the city is satisfied

with the service from R & S Waste and their prices match other services, there is no reason to change.

The council voted to replace solenoid valves on the splash pad approving a quote from Commercial Recreation Specialists of $569.24.

The new vinyl flooring in Kings' Court Unit#1 has been installed in the kitchen and bathroom. The trip hazards have been resolved. The refrigerator has been delivered, the ceiling has been painted, and the painter was starting on the walls. The apartment should be ready for move-in by next week.

Options were discussed as to what to do with the newly acquired property at 301 N. Main. Ideas discussed were to sell it or apply for another grant to tear down the house. No action was taken.

The council agreed that they want to sell the lot at 409 Pine St. for residential housing. Clerk Hirst was asked to consult the city attorney to discuss the next steps.

The council approved the idea to survey the ground around the water plant for the future sale of lots.

Discussion took place as to whether another public comments section was needed under New Business to allow residents to speak on matters that were voted on. The group decided to leave the agenda as it is.

Mayor Proskocil had no report.

Clerk Hirst thanked Danyell Peasley for helping fill in for her and hopes she will do it again. Year-end reporting and other projects need to be completed.

In the Public Works report Mike stated that the new street signs are assembled and he would have help from Dave Rife this fall to install them. The person who was originally going to bail the area around the water plant was no longer interested. Repairs had to be made to the skid loader. He thanked Brad Hopkins who had subbed for Mike allowing him to take a vacation at the beginning of the month. Mike stated that he had repaired a small sink hole that had been noticed by one of the council members.

There were no commissioner reports.

The council needs to discuss ideas for the King Grant Application coming this fall.

The next meeting will be September 9, 2026, at 7:00 at the Mondamin City Hall.

Just a note: In addition to the *Harrison County Times-Reporter* you can also find the minutes of the Mondamin City Council at www.iowapublicnotices.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS



It's almost here! The first American Legion Fish Fry of the fall is scheduled for Saturday, September 12th at the Mondamin Community Center starting at

4:30 p.m. Make sure you put it on your calendar now. Come have a delicious meal and visit with friends.

Fall Decorating Contest

Mondamin Community Partners announces its first-ever fall decorating contest. In recent years, the houses in Mondamin have looked very festive during the fall season and especially prior to Halloween. So, we are having a decorating contest! A prize will be given in each of the following two categories: Best Traditional Fall Display and Best Halloween Display. Each of those winners will receive a $50 gift certificate to the Jiffy Mart in Mondamin. Judging will take place the evening of October 25, 2026, so be sure to have your pumpkins glowing and your lights turned on!

Winners will be announced via Facebook and in the Mondamin November newsletter.

Kids for Christ

The Little Sioux and Mondamin Churches of Christ will begin after-school youth group (Kindergarten through 5th grade) on **September 15th**. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5:00 p.m. Students will be picked up after school and taken to the Mondamin Church of Christ (207 N. Noyes). They will be dismissed at 5:00 p.m. Parents may pick up their children at the church.

Kids for Christ will meet on the following dates: **September 15, 22, 29; October 6, 13, 20; November 3, 17; and December 1.** For more information you can call Pastor Wayne Bahr at 712-646-2644.

Embrace the Hills Bike Ride



The annual Embrace the Hills bike ride is scheduled for Saturday, September 19, 2026. This annual supported cycling event based out of the Mondamin Community Center in Mondamin showcases both the scenic and challenging terrain of the Loess Hills. You can choose rides of 28 miles, 36 miles, or 48.5 miles. Riders are supported with morning snacks, roadside treat stops, and a post-ride meal. For complete information and to register call the number on the poster or go to the official Facebook page – Embrace the Hills.

The poster and some information were taken from the Embrace the Hills Facebook page.

BOO BASH

Is Back!



MCP's annual BOO BASH will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2026, beginning at 2:00 p.m. in the Mondamin City Park. This year will feature new games along with some of your favorite old ones. (Have you ever played Granny Pants? It will be a hoot! Can you balance candy corn on a popsicle stick? How about stacking apples?) Prizes will be given!

Just for fun, come dressed in your Halloween costume! Try to guess the weight of a very, very large pumpkin! Raffle tickets will be available for some great prizes! (A $50 Gift Certificate donated by Family Fare Grocery Store, a Beverage Basket, and 2 Passes to Valla's Pumpkin Patch.) The Post Prom Parents will be selling warm chocolate chip cookies. Other refreshments (popcorn and bottles of water) will be available free of charge.

Bring your family and friends and join the BOO BASH fun! We will start promptly at 2:00 p.m. so don't be late.

Military Appreciation Night to Be Held on September 4 during the MV/WH vs. Lo-Ma Football Game

Woodmen Life is partnering with the schools to honor local veterans, active-duty military members, and family members of deployed service personnel from Missouri Valley, West Harrison, and Logan-Magnolia. These individuals are invited to participate on the field to honor our nation by holding a large American flag donated by Woodmen Life during the playing of the National Anthem.

A practice session will be held at 5:30 p.m. prior to the football game on Friday, September 4. **If you are interested in participating and you are from the West Harrison School District, contact Troy Maasen via email at tmaasen@w-harrison.k12.ia.us or call (712) 646-2231.**

Mowing Request

Mondamin city residents: Grass clippings DO NOT belong on the city streets! Please keep them in your yard. Excess grass on the streets can plug the sewer system.

Just to Make You Laugh



Why did the apple pie go to the dentist?

Because it needed a filling!

What reads and lives in an apple?

a bookworm

How do bees get to school?

on the school buzz

What do you get when you cross a cow with a trampoline?

a milkshake

What do you call a pig that knows karate?

a porkchop

How do trees get on the Internet?

They just log on.

When is a door not a door?

When it is ajar!

Labor Day Declared a Holiday

Although some states celebrated Labor Day as early as 1885, Labor Day became a legal federal holiday on June 20, 1894, when Congress declared the first Monday in September of each year as its day of celebration to honor American workers.

Bizarre State Laws

There are some crazy, bizarre state laws that exist in the United States. Maybe they made sense when they were written, but now we wonder why they were ever created. Here are some examples:

- In Alabama it is illegal to drive blind folded.
- In Alaska you can't put an animal in the back of an open vehicle.
- A donkey can't sleep in a bathtub in Arizona.
- In Arkansas you can't honk your horn near a sandwich shop after 9:00 p.m.
- You can't whistle for your lost canary before 7:00 a.m. in California.
- In Colorado it is illegal to put a couch on your porch.
- In Connecticut a pickle must be able to bounce.
- If you are in Hawaii, you can't place a coin in your ear.
- In our home state of Iowa, it is illegal to throw a brick or any other dangerous item onto a highway or street unless you have written permission from the city council.

Of course, there are many more ridiculous laws with some of them still on the books, but give some thought as to why you think these were ever created.

Ladd, Kara. *50 Craziest State Laws from around the United States,* 2020.



Michelle Lewis

Loess Hills Lancers 4-H Club Leader

"I pledge My HEAD to clearer thinking, My HEART to greater loyalty, My HANDS to larger service, and My HEALTH to better living, for My club, My community, My country and My world." Those words are the 4-H Pledge. How many times to you suppose Michelle Lewis has said those words along with the members of the Loess Hills Lancers in her fifteen years of being a 4-H leader? How many young people has she guided to live out the 4-H motto – "To Make the Best Better"?

After fifteen years of being an assistant leader or the leader of the 4-H club, Michelle has decided to retire from that

position. Her own children have all finished the 4-H program so she thought it would be good to allow other parents to take over.

When Michelle was asked what kinds of changes she has seen in 4-H during her years as a leader, she mentioned that state guidelines and the paperwork involved have changed. She has seen declining numbers in the local clubs especially since Covid. All the clubs in Harrison County lost members during the time of the epidemic. (Currently the Loess Hills Lancers have 25 members including 9 who belong to the Clover Kids with leader Jeena Hall.) The number of clubs in Harrison County has also decreased over the last few years.

When Michelle was asked specifically about changes that she has seen in the members while she was the leader, she said, “I have witnessed the members come out of their shells. Those members who participate in public speaking and those who talk to judges seem to be more mature and have more confidence in speaking to adults and to their peers.” They gain that confidence each year of their participation with their exhibits.

Building relationships with the members is one of the things Michelle enjoyed the most during her years as a leader. The kids were able to see her as someone who could have fun with them, not just be their leader.

Of course, there are many memories associated with the Harrison County Fair. Michelle remembers packing up things around the campers so the wind didn’t blow them away and dealing with riding out the storms that rolled through the fair -grounds. Those storms seem to happen frequently during fair week!

The Loess Hills Lancers are known for doing several community service projects each year and Michelle hopes the club will continue doing those projects.

Michelle will miss working with the members and the other leaders. They have built lasting relationships and work together like a big family.

When Michelle first started as a leader, she worked with other leaders: Roseanne King, Ruth Utman, Stephanie Millikan, Rob and Regina Rains, and Jennifer Thomas. She thanks them for helping her get started.

So, what happens now for the members of the Loess Hills Lancers 4-H Club? Amanda Lawrenson, Jill Higgins, and Doug Cooper, along with Jeena Hall with the Clover Kids, will be leading the club next year. But if they happen to have a question, Michelle Lewis will certainly be close by to give them a bit of help, but she just won’t be at the Harrison County Fair chasing items blown around by the yearly storms!

Thank you, Michelle Lewis, for your devotion to the Loess Hills Lancers. Your time and work have been appreciated!

DID YOU KNOW!

According to the Alzheimer's Association more than 7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's. This year alone an estimated 900,000 people will develop the disease; it's likely that people among our friends and family will be affected. By 2050, this number is projected to rise to nearly 13 million. Because of this fact and many other reasons, the Alzheimer's Association has designated September 21 as "World Alzheimer's Day which is a global effort to raise awareness and challenge the stigma around Alzheimer's disease and other dementia."
Alzheimer's is a brain disease that causes a slow decline in memory, thinking, and reasoning skills. Here are 10 warning signs and symptoms:

- Memory loss that disrupts daily life may be the first symptom noticed. A person may forget important dates or events or ask the same question over and over.

- Challenges in planning or solving problems such as an inability to develop and follow a plan is another symptom. A person may not be able to follow a recipe or pay the monthly bills like they did before.

- Difficulty completing familiar tasks like driving to a well-known place, mixing up the grocery list, or playing a familiar game can be an indicator of Alzheimer's disease.

- Those living with Alzheimer's may forget where they are or how they got there. They lose track of dates, seasons, and time.

- Some people with Alzheimer's or dementia could have trouble with balance, reading, determining color, or other vision issues.

- With Alzheimer's a person may develop new problems with speaking or writing. They may repeat themselves or call an object by the wrong name.

- An Alzheimer's patient may put things in strange places, lose things, not be able to retrace their steps to find them, and in the later stages of the disease accuse others of stealing those items.

- Poor judgement may enter into the symptoms such as keeping themselves clean or paying attention to grooming.

- There will be changes in social activities, hobbies, and they may not be interested in their favorite teams or activities.

- Individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementia may have personality changes. They can become moody, confused, suspicious, depressed, anxious or fearful.

Don't automatically think you or your loved one has Alzheimer's; some of these symptoms can be typical age-related changes or dementia. They are typical if they happen once in a while; from time to time; sometimes; occasionally; you forget, but then you remember; or you get confused, but then figure it out later.
If these symptoms or changes in behavior happen most of the time, it is time for you or your loved one to see a doctor.

Alzheimer's Disease Research notes that progress is being made in the research of medicines to help with Alzheimer's disease. In 2025 a new blood test was developed to help doctors figure out how far the disease has progressed to in turn help them decide what the best treatment should be for the patient. Early detection is extremely important.

Much more information can be found at https://www.alz.org/ to help the patient and the caregiver. You can also call their 24/7 helpline: 800.272.3900 to get answers to your questions.

Information for this article was taken from https://www.alz.org/ and Alzheimer's Disease Research.

NOW YOU KNOW!



The Harrison County Libraries are working together to host a LIBRARY CRAWL during the month of September. Just stop by the Mondamin Public Library, pick up a passport, then visit the other four libraries in Harrison County and be entered to win a prize. Talk to Marla for complete details. The adventure starts September 1st and it should be fun!



*Image taken from the Missouri Valley Public Library's Facebook page.

Mondamin Memories

From the files of Larry Stevens

FIRE DESTROYS MONDAMIN HOTEL

August 30, 1917

While the citizens of Mondamin were peacefully reposing during the wee small hours of the morning, they were suddenly awakened by the alarm of fire, which proved that the Commercial Hotel was in flames. The entire community seemed to arise in a body, as it were, and were soon on the scene of action. Joe Greer, the proprietor, Dr. Rosicky, two men from Mo. Valley, a traveling man, and the family of H. S. Scarr, the druggist, occupied the building for the night, but all escaped without injury. A large portion of the household effects of H. S. Scarr together with some of the office furniture was rescued before the building collapsed,

which was an old frame structure. Bucket brigades were formed and everything in their power was done to save the adjoining buildings, which together with the weather conditions undoubtedly saved a large portion of Mondamin from lying in ashes. The heat was so intense that it destroyed the windows in the rear of the I.O.O.F. hall on the east and the ice house located at the rear of the hotel. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is supposed that a kerosene lamp used to light the hallway exploded. It (the hotel) is the property of R. L. Gaines of Pisgah, who carried $5,200 insurance on the structure and contents. It is a great blow to Mondamin and it is too early as yet, to say whether it will be re-built.

Note: The Commercial Hotel was built in 1898 and was located where Ron's Café was later. It burned on August 28, 1917. Now that space is the vacant area west of the post office in Mondamin.



Matthew's House Food Pantry

If you are in need of assistance, the food pantry is open each Sunday from 11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 5:00 until 6:30 p.m. Donations are accepted during those times as well. They can always use canned fruit, cleaning supplies, and personal hygiene items.



Do you have items that need to be dry cleaned? Drop them off at the Jiffy Mart by Tuesday, the items will be picked up, cleaned, and returned by Tuesday the next week.



Every Friday night is PIZZA NIGHT at the Sandbar in Mondamin. Stop by or call 712.646.2300 to order your favorite pizza.

Did you hear these comments from your parents when you were growing up or have you said them to your children?

- Because I said so.
- Eat your food; there are kids starving.
- Don't sit too close to the TV!
- Money doesn't grow on trees!

SCHOOL NEWS

Tickets to School Events

To purchase tickets for events (Adult and student tickets are $7 for the regular season and $10 for WIC Championships.) go to **https://www.gobound.com/ia/conferences/wic**

At the event you may present a digital ticket, credit card, or cash for admission. The exact change would be appreciated.

(A change from previous years: Senate File (SF) 274, passed June 1, mandates Iowa public schools accept legal tender as a form of payment for entry into any extracurricular interscholastic athletic contest or competition.)

Interested in Streaming the MV/WH events this year on Hudl?

The Western Iowa Conference will be utilizing a conference streaming pass for the 2026-27 school year. The WIC information lists a $20 conference pass for all 2026-27 WIC events, as well as a $7 charge for an individual game/match option. For more information on streaming activities, go to **https://fan.hudl.com/**



West Harrison will celebrate homecoming September 13-19, 2026, with the following activities:

Sunday, September 13 -- Hall decorating at West Harrison and jersey auction in MoValley

Wednesday, September 16 -- Muscle VB/Powderpuff Football- There will be a meal before this event.

Friday, September 18 - - PK-8 pep rally at 10:00 a.m.
Parade 10:30 a.m.
HS pep rally in Mo.Valley
Football Game vs. Red Oak at 7:00 p.m.
Parking lot party/dance after game – until 11:30 at WH (MV & WH students)

Saturday, September 19 -- Dance @ MV (MV & WH students)

Check the school's webpage and Facebook page for times and more detailed information.



EVENTS

Thursday, September 3
First day of Preschool at West Harrison

Friday, September 4 5:30 p.m.
Practice for military individuals participating in the flag ceremony prior to the MV/WH vs. Lo-Ma football game at 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September 7
Labor Day – No School

Tuesday, September 8 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. PK-4th Grade Family Engagement Night - Families enjoy pizza and board games

Wednesday, September 9 7:00 p.m.
Mondamin City Council Meets at City Hall

Saturday, September 12 4:30 – 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Fish/Chicken Supper at Mondamin Community Center

Sunday, September 13 6:00 p.m.
Loess Hills Lancers meet at Mondamin Community Center

September 13th - 19th Homecoming activities at West Harrison

Thursday, September 17 4:30 -6:30 p.m.
WH Middle School STEM Night

Monday, September 21
World Alzheimer's Day