



WEST BRANCH IOWA

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE:

STAFF SPOTLIGHT- 2

CITY NOTES- 3

HOOVER SITE & HOOVER'S
HOMETOWN DAYS- 4-5

PARKS & RECREATION- 6-7

PUBLIC LIBRARY- 8-9

COMMUNITY NEWS
AND EVENTS- 10-12

IF YOU'D LIKE TO BE ADDED TO THE EMAIL
DISTRIBUTION LIST, OR WOULD LIKE TO SUBMIT
AN ENTRY FOR THE FALL NEWSLETTER, PLEASE
CONTACT STAFF@WBPL.ORG

110 N POPLAR ST
WEST BRANCH, IA 52358
319-643-5888
WWW.WESTBRANCHIOWA.ORG

STAFF SPOTLIGHT



JAMIE TUCKER



**PARKS & REC ASSISTANT/
CONCESSIONS MGR.**

From: Born and raised in West Branch

Previous jobs: Ignite Volleyball Coach, Herb N Lous, and West Branch Times

Family: In my immediate family I have my parents, 2 sisters and 1 brother, 2 brother-in-laws, and 1 sister-in-law, and have 5 nieces and 4 nephews.

Hobbies: My hobbies include making crafts with my cricut, reading, hanging with friends and family, being outdoors and sports.

What you like most about the job: Being born and raised here I have a love for this town and the people in the community.

Why West Branch? I like most about my job because I get to work with kids from toddlers age all the way to middle schoolers. Helping kids grow and achieve their goals with any sport or programs we have is a great bonus of the job.

From: I grew up in the country just outside West Branch and graduated from West Branch High School in 2013.

Previous jobs: I have previously worked for S&S Flatwork pouring cement based out of West Branch for 4 years. From there I went to City of Tipton Public Works for a couple years, then to West Branch Public Works going on 2 years ago.

Family: I have a wife named Jamie whom I have been married to for 4 years, a daughter Quinn who is a year and a half old, and three Beagles Penny, Dutch, and Dixie.

Hobbies: I enjoy hunting, golfing, and spending time outdoors with my friends as well as soaking up as much time as I can with my family.

What you like most about the job: I chose to come back to West Branch because I grew up here and I like the town and people. I knew through Public Works I would have the opportunity to help maintain and improve our town while also enjoying my job.

Why West Branch? I like the people we have working on behalf of the city. It is a good group of people who are dedicated and hardworking who care about making the best decisions for the city's future. It's nice to see that we all want the same thing and that's for the members of the community and the community itself to thrive and grow.

MAX KOBER



**PUBLIC WORKS-
MAINTENANCE**

FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

What is a Capital Improvement Plan? A Capital Improvement Plan is a fiscal management tool used to coordinate the location, timing and financing of capital improvements over roughly a five-year period. Last quarter, I wrote about a tight upcoming fiscal year. One way we will work on being better prepared for tough fiscal years is to have a disciplined Capital Improvement Plan for each department. This summer, we are starting at the top with City Council's major projects.

A few months prior to my arrival, City Council formed their goals, and it has been my job to coordinate with our Financial Advisor, Engineer, Finance Director, and appropriate City staff. This summer we anticipate City Council will approve the following items (weather permitting):

- Wastewater lagoon system upgrade; construction starts this summer.
- Herbert Hoover Highway roundabout; construction starts this fall.
- Wapsi Creek widening project; construction starts this fall.
- Eastside reconstruction project; upcoming spring construction.
- Cedar-Johnson Road reconstruction; 2027-2028, when old debt is paid off.

As we get through Council's goals, Administration staff will start working with other departments on their plans. If you have more questions about the Capital Improvement Plan or how the City prioritizes its limited resources, please contact adam@westbranchiowa.org or (319) 643-5888.

CITY NOTES TO KNOW

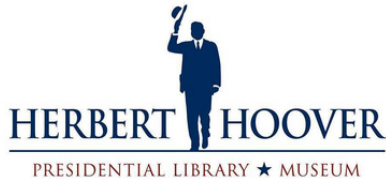


City Brush Pile Dumpsite

The old dumpsite is currently closed due to the waste water lagoon expansion project. City staff are kindly asking you to not dump your brush and yard waste in the right of way of the dumpsite, or throw it over the fence. Please bundle your sticks and brush and place them in a brown disposable bag Sunday night, and Public Works will come pick up your brush Monday morning. Disposable bags can be picked up at any store or can be purchased at the City Office at 110 N. Poplar St.

It cost the city roughly \$60,000 to chip the branches and clean the area in preparation for the waste water lagoon system upgrade. It also interferes with staff workflow when clean up is required after facilities are misused.

Staff is working with our attorney on drafting a temporary brush site drop off location. Until then, all drop off dumpsites are closed.



HERBERT HOOVER NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

GOT PLANS FOR MEMORIAL DAY OR FOURTH OF JULY?

Spend your holidays at the National Park site in your backyard! The visitor center and historic buildings at the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site will be open from 9:00 – 5:00 on Memorial Day and Fourth of July.

For Memorial Day, the park is offering short ranger talks on the :15 of each hour, from 9:15 -3:15 at different locations throughout the park. The exception will be the 2:00 hour, so that everyone can enjoy the Iowa Brass band playing on the Village Green from 2:00 – 3:00.

Kids are the focus this Fourth of July! Come and enjoy family-friendly crafts, games, and junior ranger activities throughout the day.

As always, the park grounds are open 24/7 for your enjoyment. Picnic shelters are available on a first-come, first-served basis, or for reservation.

For more details on things happening at the park this summer, check out our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/HerbertHooverNHS), our website (www.nps.gov/heho), or give us a call (319- 643-2541).

COME WALK IN AN IOWA TALLGRASS PRAIRIE

June 4

Join staff from the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site for a walk in the park’s prairie to celebrate National Trails Day on June 4. The hike will cover less than two miles, over uneven terrain, starting at 10:00am at the Tallgrass Prairie trailhead (down the hill from the Hoover gravesite). The prairie changes throughout the summer. We will be looking for and identifying what’s new!

Please bring plenty of water, and wear sunscreen, a hat, and insect repellent.



LIVING HISTORY IN WEST BRANCH

The Blacksmith Shop at the Herbert Hoover National Historic Site is open for the season! Watch history come alive as ranger-blacksmiths fire up the forge and share the story of Jesse Hoover, an 1870s blacksmith and father of the 31st President of the United States.

Blacksmith demonstrations are Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 10am - 3pm, May through October (weather permitting) at Jesse Hoover’s blacksmith shop located just a few feet away from Herbert Hoover’s birthplace cottage.



Photographs courtesy of MP Coburn Photography and the West Branch Times

HOOVER'S

Hometown Days

August 5th & 6th, 2022
 West Branch, IA
hooverdays.org



FIREWORKS
 ★
LIVE MUSIC
 ★
MAYOR'S PARADE
 ★
HOOVER-BALL
 ★
**SHOPPING, VENDORS,
 AND FOOD TRUCKS**
 ★
**FUN AND GAMES FOR
 ALL AGES!**

Scan the QR code for
 more details!



Sponsored by:



Director Melissa Russell
 113 N 1st Street, PO Box 218,
 West Branch, Iowa 52358
 melissa@westbranchiowa.org 319.643.5888
 westbranchiowa.org/wbpr
 www.facebook.com/West-Branch-Parks-and-Recreation

CITY OF
WEST BRANCH
 IOWA
PARKS & RECREATION

West Branch Parks and Recreation
Summer Camp

Activities:

- Guest speakers
- Painting
- Arts & craft
- Fun games
- Music & dance
- Field trips
- Water play
- Outdoor play
- Small groups

Camp weeks
 July 11-15
 July 18-22
 July 25-29
 August 8-12

Full camp-\$180 a week
Mini camp-\$100 a week
Limited scholarships may be available.

Don't miss out on summer fun!

Registration is limited! Sign up today

For more information:
westbranchiowa.org/wbpr
 Melissa Russell 319.643.4212
 melissa@westbranchiowa.org

| Session | Dates | Field Trips | Days/Times | Cost |
|----------------------|-----------|---|--|----------|
| Session 1 -Full camp | 7/11-7/15 | Swimming, Tom and Jerry Movie, Bloomsbury Farms and Splash Pad | M-F 8:30-4:30 | \$180.00 |
| Session 1-Mini Camp | 7/11-7/15 | No field trips | M/W 8:30-4:30 T/Th 8:30-11:30 No camp on Friday | \$100.00 |
| Session 2-Full camp | 7/18-7/21 | Shelter and Fire Building,Swimming, Bowling, Dubuque River Museum, Crystal Lake Caves | M-F 8:30-4:30 | \$180.00 |
| Session 2 Mini Camp | 7/18-7/21 | No field trips | T/W 8:30-4:30 Th 8:30-11:30 No camp on Monday or Friday | \$80.00 |
| Session 3-Full camp | 7/25-7/29 | Johnson County Fair, Clifford the Big Red Dog Movie, Camp Courageous-Monticello | M-F 8:30-4:30 | \$180.00 |
| Session 3 Mini Camp | 7/25-7/29 | No field trips | M/W 8:30-4:30 T/Th 8:30-11:30 No camp on Friday | \$100.00 |
| Session 4-Full camp | 8/8-8/12 | Swimming, Trampoline Park, Fun City in Burlington | M-F 8:30-4:30 | \$180.00 |
| Session 4 Mini Camp | 8/8-8/12 | No field trips | M/Th 8:30-4:30 T/W 8:30-11:30 No camp on Friday | \$100.00 |

RED CROSS SWIM LESSONS - TIPTON AQUATIC CENTER

9:00am Monday-Friday from June 20-July 1, 2022 *Registration is due June 1st

- If you registered for bus service, the bus will begin loading at the West Branch Public Library at 8:15am and return around 10:30am.
- Lessons will be indoors!
- Please have your child wear a coverup or towel over their swimsuit. They will not be changing before or after swim lessons in the locker room.
- More information and online registration available at westbranchiowa.org/wbpr



PARK NEWS

- **Beranek Park:** 2 new horseshoe pits!
 - Reserve the shelter online at westbranchiowa.org/wbpr
- **Wapsi Park:** 2 sets of bags (cornhole) boards!
- **Cubby Park:** pickleball reservations available soon!

FALL SPORTS

Registration forms can be found at

westbranchiowa.org/wbpr

Schedules still subject to change, check the website or Facebook for the most up-to-date information!

Youth Volleyball

- \$60 fee
- Registration July 1st-August 8th
- 3rd/4th grade-Games will be Saturday mornings in mid September-end of October in various communities.
- 5th/6th grade-Games will be Sunday afternoons and evenings mid September-end of October in various locations.
- Practice schedule determined by coaches

Flag Football

- Registration July 1st-August 8th
- More information available July 1st

Preschool-Kindergarten; 1st-2nd grade Flag Football

- \$50 one time fee if you need to purchase a jersey; \$25 fee if you already have a jersey.
- Game/practice day Monday, Tuesday or Thursday at 5:45 or 6:30 (subject to change)
- 4 week schedule; mid September-mid October

3rd/4th Grade Flag Football Scrimmage League

- \$60 fee



Youth Basketball

Preschool-2nd grade basketball

- Registration opens in September and closes 4 weeks before 1st session.
- \$50 one time fee if you need to purchase a jersey. \$25 fee if you already have a jersey.
- Game/practice day Sunday afternoons (subject to change)
- 4 week schedule; November and December

3rd-8th grade boys basketball leagues

- More information available in August

Adult Co-Ed Kickball League

- July 25-September 23 (tentative dates)
- Weeknight games-1 game a week
- \$150 team fee
- Registration June 21st-July 11th
- Minimum 6 teams.

VOLUNTEER COACHES ARE NEEDED FOR ALL SPORTS!

Contact Melissa if you're interested.

melissa@westbranchiowa.org or 319-643-5888

west branch public library
wbpl
BOOK BIKE
 Want a visit from the WBPL book bike this summer?
 Tell us where it should travel at wbpl.org/bookbike

WALKING WEDNESDAYS!

May-September at 11am at WBPL

Join West Branch Public Library and Parks & Rec as we improve our mental and physical health, and maybe meet some new friends along the way!

This is an adult only activity, however children in strollers are allowed. No pets, please. In the case of inclement weather, walking will be cancelled for the day. Register at westbranchiowa.org/wbpr.

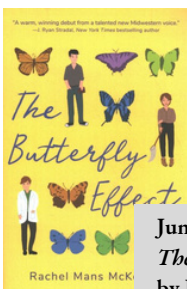
WBPL BOOK DISCUSSION

Third Tuesday of the month, 7pm at the Public Library and on Zoom

It's a book club anyone can join! We read a wide variety of entertaining and informative books, from mysteries to memoirs and everything in between.

Looking for a good book? All adults are welcome to read along, even if you can't make it to our meetings!

Contact the library to reserve a copy of this month's book.



June 21
The Butterfly Effect
 by Rachel Mans McKenny



July 19
The River at Night
 by Erica Ferencik



August 16
A Backpack, a Bear, and Eight Crates of Vodka
 by Lev Golinkin

READ BEYOND THE BEATEN PATH

west branch public library
with **wbpl**

SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM FOR ALL AGES!

Reading, events, activities,
contests, and more!

KICKOFF PARTY- BOOT CAMP!

JUNE 3RD AT 6:30 PM AT WBPL

Beyond the Beaten Path... onto the
obstacle course!

Free snow cones and cotton candy!

CAMPFIRE STORIES

JUNE 14TH AT 6:30 PM; HOOVER PARK SHELTER

S'mores and stories with the National
Park Rangers.

FONZIBA DRUMS

JUNE 28TH AT 6:30 PM

Interactive African Drum Circle and
African culture display.

ABSOLUTE SCIENCE

BUTTERFLY ENCOUNTER

JULY 12TH AT 6:30 PM

Observe and interact with live
butterflies up close!

BEYOND THE EATIN' PATH

JULY 26TH AT 6:30 PM

CEDAR VALLEY PARK SHELTER 1
Family Trail Hike and picnic with
Cedar Co. Conservation.

BIGFOOT SIGHTINGS

THROUGHOUT JUNE & JULY

Can you spot Bigfoot around town?
Bring us proof & get a prize!

THURSDAY THEATER

THURSDAYS AT 1:30PM

Movies at the library for all ages

SUMMER STORYTIME

FRIDAYS AT 10:15AM
FOR ALL AGES!



TEEN PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAYS AT 1:30PM

Activities just for teens 6th grade
and up every week in June & July

ADULT PROGRAMS

TERRARIUM

JUNE 10TH AT 7PM

Adult craft night! Make your own desert
path in a jar.

LIBRARY... AFTER HOURS MOVIE

JUNE 24TH AT 7PM

We're the Millers movie night for adults!

ROCK PAINTING

JULY 8TH AT 7PM

Adult craft! Paint rocks to keep or to hide
around town.

GARDEN SWAP

JUNE & JULY

Bring your houseplants, garden plants,
fruits & veggies to share, and maybe find
something to take home!

REGISTRATION BEGINS AFTER MEMORIAL DAY AT WBPL!

VISIT WBPL.ORG/SLP FOR
DETAILS

EAT. SHOP. EXPLORE. EXIT 254.

WEST BRANCH, IOWA

mainstreetwestbranch.org

Summer Kickoff

JUNE 3-4, 2022

FRI & SAT ---- SIDEWALK SALES -- 11-5pm/11-6pm

FRIDAY - SUMMER READING PROGRAM -- 6:30pm

SATURDAY ---- SELTZER STROLL ----- 3-6pm

SATURDAY ----- BEER GARDEN ----- 5-11pm

SATURDAY ---- FREE LIVE MUSIC ----- 7-10pm

Jarrood Hogan & South 55



A Main Street Iowa Community



Marcy Willier

@TheBailsTeam

Emilie
Walsh

REALTOR®

kw LEGACY GROUP
KELLERWILLIAMS REALTY



D·R·HORTON
America's Builder



WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP



A Main Street Iowa Community

SUMMER KICKOFF IN WEST BRANCH!

Join West Branch Community Development Group to Kickoff Summer with a weekend of fun! Come out to Main Street West Branch to Eat, Shop & Explore on Friday, June 3 & Saturday, June 4, 2022. The festivities will include sidewalk sales, live music in the street, a "seltzer stroll", beer garden & more!

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

- **Sidewalk Sales on Main Street from 11am-5pm**
 - Explore the charming and historic Main Street district while shopping at locally owned boutique shops for gifts, home decor, vintage, antiques, clothing, handmade items & more!
- **WBPL Summer Library Program Kickoff**
 - All ages can sign up for the summer library program at the library. There will be a boot camp obstacle course for kids, and free cotton candy and snowcones!

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

- **Sidewalk Sales on Main Street from 11am-6pm**
- **Seltzer Stroll 3-6pm**
 - Stroll around downtown and enjoy FREE tastings of the season's newest hard seltzer flavors while you Eat, Shop & Explore Main Street West Branch! 21+ only.
- **Beer Garden 5-11pm**
 - Eat, Shop & Explore on Main Street before you kick back to relax in the Beer Garden on North Downey Street. Hosted by Herb N Lou's & The Down Under with tap takeover by Big Grove Brewery. Food & Beverage specials available at all our local eateries!
- **Live Music in the Street 7-10pm** featuring Jarrod Hogan & South 55
 - Upbeat rocking country music from artists of yesterday and today with a splash of classic/southern rock... you're bound to be singing and dancing along to some of your forgotten favorites as well. Free admission, all ages welcome. Bring your own lawn chairs!

3RD THURSDAY AT HOOVER'S

Third Thursday of the month at 6pm
online via Zoom



On the third Thursday of each month, the Hoover Presidential Foundation and the Hoover Presidential Library and Museum present a special evening program, currently free on Zoom. Topics include everything from the history of the National Park Service to the Christmas Eve fire at the White House, and all are family-friendly.

Registration required. Co-sponsored by the West Branch Public Library.

Visit [hooverpresidentialfoundation.org](https://www.hooverpresidentialfoundation.org) or [wbpl.org](https://www.wbpl.org) (look under Events) for more information and to register!

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



Weeks beginning:
June 13, 20, 27
July 11, 18



\$275 per week

Weekly Themes

Mythical Creatures, Spy School, Under the Sea, Witches and Wizards, Alien Planets

1st-6th grades

Arts & Crafts

Daily Swimming

Imaginative Play

Farm Fresh Food

scattergood.org/summer-camp
(319) 519-1860 camp@scattergood.org
1951 Delta Ave. West Branch, IA

WEST BRANCH FIRE/RESCUE/EMS

West Branch Fire Department is currently accepting new membership applications!

If you have experience in Fire or Emergency Medical Services, or are looking to get involved, apply today!

The West Branch Fire Department is a **volunteer fire department**, servicing West Branch and surrounding areas, including a stretch of I-80 and a portion of the Cedar River.

WBFD serves as a **fire service** as well as a **first responder** non-transport service that responds to various call types including:

- Motor vehicle accidents
- Vegetation fires
- Hazmat
- Structure fires
- Medical emergencies
- and more

We **work closely with nearby services** such as West Liberty Fire and Ambulance, Tipton Fire and Ambulance, Atalissa Fire Department, Solon Fire Department, Johnson County Ambulance Service, Iowa City Fire Department, and many more!

We accept **various medical and fire certifications** such as Paramedic, Emergency Medical Technicians, Hazmat, and Fire I and II certifications.

For more information or to apply, contact us at wbfire@westbranchiowa.org



wbfire@westbranchiowa.org | (319) 643-2110 | 106 S 2nd Street, West Branch, IA 52558

West Branch Community Calendar



Join us! Post your Group's events and activities!

The calendar is free to join for all West Branch groups, businesses, and entities, and is provided by the West Branch Public Library.

Your free accounts can also do ticketing, payment, and registration for your events and activities.

Click **About & Join** at westbranchiowa.events to sign up!

WEST BRANCH FOOD PANTRY

1ST STREET BETWEEN TOWN HALL & LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS

319-643-2010 OR 319-359-7834



OPEN TUESDAYS FROM 4-5:30PM EXCEPT THE 3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH WHEN HACAP MOBILE FOOD PANTRY IS AT THE WB FIRE STATION FROM 3:30-4:30PM