



From the Mayor's Desk

By Mayor Jay Nolan



New signs along busy Harvard roads direct residents and visitors to Harvard's downtown shopping district and to destinations including the Metra station and City Hall. The green and gold signs and their poles and brackets were paid for by the Harvard Economic Development Corporation and installed by the City of Harvard. We hope you like them.



Richard D. Crosby Elementary School will be dedicated on October 4. The event will begin with a ceremony at 5:45 p.m., followed by tours of the building until 7:30 p.m. The new school is a valuable addition to our community. I hope you will join us as we celebrate the project's successful completion and the role that the Harvard community played in making it happen.

Winter will be here before we know it and, no doubt, snow won't be far behind. Like most municipalities, the City of Harvard is working very hard to maintain services in the face of decreasing revenues. City streets will be cleared after it snows, but it may take a little longer than it has in the past. Crews will focus on emergency routes, school routes and intersections first and then plow residential areas.

Thank you in advance for your patience. Safety is our primary concern.



Richard D. Crosby Elementary School

EFFORT GROWS TO MEET NEED

The Harvard Food Pantry and Senior Center is a busy place these days.

According to its new website, the combined food pantry and senior center serves 360 individuals a week or nearly 1,600 people over the course of a month. It is open on Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Individuals can access food pantry services twice in a 30-day period due to high demand, meaning that about 750 different Harvard area residents receive assistance each month.

The organization is raising money to fund the construction of its new facility on Harvard Hills Road, just north of Route 173. The larger building will provide more storage room, so that items can be bought in bulk at lower prices from nearby food banks. There will be more room for unloading trucks and for volunteers to work and have better restroom facilities. Many of the Pantry's core group of volunteers are older adults. Last year, supporters donated more than 61,000 hours of their time and talents to the pantry.

The building will also have an expanded area for Harvard senior citizens to meet, eat lunch and to

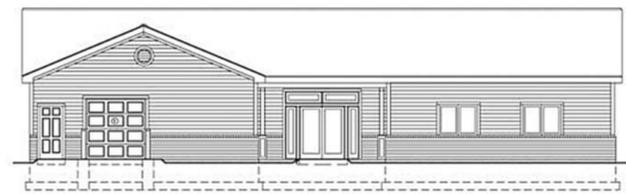


Existing Pantry

participate in activities. The Senior Center may also be used by other community groups.

Donations to the Food Pantry and Senior Center and its building fund are tax deductible and can be made at Castle Bank, Harvard Savings Bank and The Harvard State Bank. Donations can also be mailed to the Harvard Food Pantry and Senior Center, 101 Church St., Harvard IL 60033.

Visit the group's new website at <http://www.bakery.com/harvardfoodpantryandseniorcenter/>



Rendering of the Front of the New Pantry

FROM YOUR LIBRARY

By Karen Sutera, Director

Fall is in the air and the crisp coolness and hint of color in once-green trees may be triggering an urge to get away. If you're planning a weekend trip to take in the fall colors, let our travel books be your guide. For some unique sights to see along the way, check out 'Off the Beaten Path Illinois: A Guide to Unique Places'. This nifty little book suggests lots of interesting places that the crowds often miss. If you like mixing in a little history on your trip, check out the Great Lakes States edition of 'The Smithsonian Guide to Historic America' to help find historic sites along your travel route. If you're in the mood for some really unusual places to visit, try 'Weird Illinois', a handy little guide that will point you in the direction of some very haunting sights that are all within a day's drive.

Staying close to home this season? The Diggins Library has a number of interesting events on its calendar. Bella, our favorite tail-wagging patron, stops by on Monday afternoons to enjoy stories read to her by young readers. 'Uncommon Movie Night' kicks off on Thursday, October 7 with a showing of 'Butterfly', a Spanish film with English subtitles which explores the friendship between a shy, young boy and a compassionate teacher who helps him find his way in an increasingly frightening world. On October 14, Harvard native Andy Spitsen returns to the library to share his music with us.

These are just a few of the events that are scheduled at the library in the coming weeks. Visit our website at www.harvard-diggins.org for a complete calendar of activities. You'll discover that you don't have to travel far from home to find a great way to fill your free time.



Harvard Diggins Library
900 East McKinley Street
Harvard IL 60033
815-943-4671
www.harvard-diggins.org

NEED TO KNOW ...

Leaf Vacuuming Schedule

Leaf vacuuming will tentatively occur from October 1 through November 30, depending on weather conditions and when leaves begin to fall. Please rake your leaves to the curb, NOT INTO THE STREET. Marengo Disposal will vacuum leaves through the end of November, weather permitting. Contact them at 943-4939.

Hydrant Flushing Schedule

The City's Utilities Department will be flushing dead end hydrants during the week of October 11-15. Hydrant flushing may create rust and brown-colored water. The water is safe to drink but will stain any clothes that are washed in it. If you experience rusty water, let your faucet run until clear.

Preparing for the Snow Season

Due to budget and manpower cutbacks, the City has made changes to its snow removal operations. Residential streets will be plowed with one pass in each direction after a snowfall. Once all City streets are open, snow will be plowed to the curb. The Business District and all emergency routes and school areas will be plowed to the curb on the first pass and salted. Intersections and steep grades will also be salted. All other City streets will be plowed only.

The downtown business district poses a different challenge. Snow will be plowed to the center as normal, but clean up and removal will be completed after all City streets are open. The removal will be done as soon as possible, but it may take a few days. Please be patient and please drive with extra caution this winter.

Winter Parking Restrictions

All vehicles must be removed from City streets immediately following the declaration of a snow emergency. This allows City workers to plow and salt the roads quickly. A snow emergency can be declared before an expected snowfall of two inches or more and will be posted on the Community Sign as soon as possible. If there is any question as to whether an emergency had been called or terminated, call the Public Works Department at 943-0301 or the Police Department at 943-4431.

Special Recreation Fun

Do you know someone with a disability who would like to get out, have fun and make new friends? NISRA (Northern Illinois Special Recreation Association) provides year-round recreation activities and Special Olympics for residents with disabilities of all ages and ability levels. A few programs are located in Harvard and

transportation is available to programs in nearby communities. Pick up NISRA's catalog at City Hall, view it at www.nisra.org or call (815) 459-0737 to have one mailed to you.

Help ID Illegal Connections

It can be tempting to connect the output from sump pumps or roof downspouts directly into the sanitary sewer system. Unfortunately, this results in huge problems at the sewer plants. When it rains, a very large amount of excess flow enters the system - even from a single downspout or sump pump. This increases the cost of plant operation (electricity and chemicals to pump and process the extra water) and has the potential to result in costly damage to lift stations and the sewer treatment plant during heavy rains, which can lead to potential backups into homes due to an over-capacitated system.

Hookups like these are illegal and should be disconnected immediately. If you are unsure whether your sump pump is illegally connected, contact the City of Harvard at 943-6468 and we will assess it for you without risk of penalty. The City will soon implement a door-to-door program to locate illegal connections. We will not impose fines on those who cooperate. This is an important part of controlling sewer costs for all residents and businesses.

From the POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Police Chief Dan Kazy-Garey



The Harvard Police Department routinely receives reports of attempted fraud. Even the most cautious people can become targets, but you can make it more difficult for someone to victimize you.

Remember: If it sounds too good to be true it probably is. Never give out your Social Security number or bank information to anyone who calls or emails you, promising a 'windfall' or an incredible offer.

One of the common types of reported fraud is when a victim receives a letter in the mail or an e-mail announcing that they have won a sweepstakes, a large rebate or have money due to them for some other reason. The victim is instructed to send money for the transaction to proceed. The victim sends the requested funds to the originating party, receives a check in return and deposits the check into their bank account. The check is subsequently dishonored and the victim is not only out the funds that they sent to the originating party, but frequently has also spent their 'windfall' before the check bounces.

Another common variation of this fraud is known as the Nigerian Letter Fraud, in which the victim is contacted by letter or e-mail and asked for bank account numbers or other personal information so that they can share in funds that are being transferred out of Nigeria. Eventually money is also requested.

Contact the local FBI office or the Federal Trade Commission if you receive either type of letter. Their websites are shown in the boxed area. We have also posted this

information on the City of Harvard website at <http://cityofharvard.org>, along with some other websites that you may find helpful.

Senior citizens are often targeted by offers specific to their generation. These phone and email offers are often related to medical equipment, prescriptions, health and life insurance, funeral and cemetery arrangements, anti-aging products, reverse mortgages and investments. Seniors should always consult with trusted relatives or friends before making any commitment or providing any personal information. Each of us should ensure that our older friends and family members are aware of the fraud that can occur.

Other forms of fraud victimize everyone on a daily basis, including credit card fraud, check fraud, identity theft, home repair fraud, counterfeit documents, pyramid schemes and Internet fraud. Don't carry your Social Security number with you or have it printed on your driver's license or your checks. Shred old bank statements and other documents that are no longer needed. Protect your Internet access and bank accounts with strong passwords that are changed on a regular basis. Keep important papers in a locked box or in a safe deposit box at the local bank.

Awareness is always the best protection. Make sure that everyone in your family knows how to be safe from fraud.

Fraud Protection Websites

Federal Trade Commission - Consumer Sentinel Network
<http://www.ftc.gov/sentinel/>

FBI - Dept. of Justice
<http://www.justice.gov/criminal/fraud/>

Upcoming City Events

- Oct. 3-9 National Fire Prevention Week - 'Smoke Alarms: A Sound You Can Live With!'
- Oct. 16 Community Movie Night
- Oct. 23 Jr. Hornets Intramural Basketball Sign-Up/Practice
- Oct. 31 Halloween Trick or Treat
- Nov. 7 Daylight Savings Ends
- Nov. 20 Community Movie Night
- Dec. 4 Christmas in Harvard
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Kid's Bash
- Jan. 22 Chamber of Commerce Recognition Dinner
- Jan/Feb Open Gym on Wednesdays



Municipal Information

www.cityofharvard.org

Mayor Jay Nolan
City Treasurer Beverly Meseck
City Clerk Andy Wells

Aldermen
Ward 1 Chuck Marzahl
..... Brian Leyden
Ward 2 Phillip Ulmer
..... Debra Szczap
Ward 3 Scott Logan
..... Rick Adams
Ward 4 Carl Oppen
..... Darrell Perkins

Municipal Staff
City Administrator Dave Nelson
Chief of Police Dan Kazy-Garey
Administrative Assistant Lori Moller
Supt. Public Works Jim Kruckenberg
Supt. Utilities Jim Grant
Supt. Parks & Recreation Bob Burkart

Building Department
Community Development
Director Steve Santeler
Code Enforcement Officer Clayton Brennecka

City Phone Numbers
City Hall 943-6468
..... Fax: 943-4556
Dial-A-Ride 943-7700
EMERGENCY Dial 9-1-1
Police Dept. (non-emergency) 943-4431
Fire/Rescue (non-emergency) 943-6927
Harvard Diggins Library 943-4671
Public Works Dept. 943-0301
Public Works Garage 943-4161
Swimming Pool 943-4300
WWTP 943-6626

City Council Meetings are held at City Hall on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

THE ILLINOIS FUNDS



Electronic Payment Services Program

Check the City's website at www.cityofharvard.org to e-pay water bills and parking tickets.

There is also a drop box located in front of the new City Hall building at 201 W. Diggins St.