City of Harvard Community Newsletter Spring 2013







From the Mayor's Desk By Mayor Jay Nolan

The City of Harvard is very proud to be a Governors Home Town Award winner. Our community was honored for its role in bringing the **Harvard Community Center** and Food Pantry project to



project, donating 4,560 man hours and nearly \$70,000 in donated materials and services. Organizers raised more than \$186,000 in private donations. Signs promoting the statewide award are being installed around town, so that visitors and residents alike will be aware of Harvard's strong community spirit.

Warmer temperatures will soon bring more people to town, and finding more residents out on the streets in the evenings and weekends. Watch for children who are playing in or near the streets and for increasing activity by the parks.

Harvard Milk Days festival returns on May 31 and June 1-2. This year's theme is '72 and We're Still Farming Too!'. You can learn more about this year's event at www.milkdays.com

The Tri-County Pro Rodeo will be back in Harvard this summer July 26-27. Last year's event drew visitors from throughout the region and a good time was had by all. Get your tickets early this year to avoid disappointment. Visit www.tricountyprorodeo.com for details or follow the rodeo on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TriCountyProRodeo

THE ILLINOIS FUNDS



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 City Hall building at 201 W. Diggins St.

READ IT ALL ONLINE AT WWW.CITYOFHARVARD.ORG

New Disposal Services Coming

The City of Harvard will be extending their residential waste disposal agreement with MDC Environmental Services, Inc. Effective immediately, residents will be able to put one bulk item out, per residence, per week for curbside collection at no additional expense.

Bulk items are discarded items that will not fit into the disposal tote such as beds, sofas, tables, chairs, dressers and other household furniture and small household appliances. Bulk items will follow the same restrictions as in the past and do not include tires, hazardous materials, 'white goods' such as washers, dryers and other large appliances, or 'E-Waste' — all of which require separate notification for pickup and an additional cost to the resident.

Residents will also soon be issued a 35-gallon covered recycling bin with wheels to make

curbside recycling easier, and to help prevent recycled items from being scattered about in the street. There will be no additional charge for the

Residents who are 62 and older are eligible to receive a discount on trash collection if they use the 35-gallon bin. If you are a senior citizen and are not already receiving the senior rate of \$6.69 per month, please come to City Hall, 201 W. Diggins St., to apply for the discount. You must apply in person and bring your ID with proof of age and a copy of your bill.

MDC has a new toll-free customer service number which replaces the former 'local' Harvard number. Call (888) 775-3691 with questions about rates, service or billing. The company's main contact number of (815) 568-7274 will remain

Parks & **Recreation News**

Community Pool Opens May 25

The Parks and Recreation Department is gearing up for the summer season. Opening weekend for the pool will be May 25-27. The pool will be closed May 28-31 and then re-open for the summer season on June 1. Lifeguards are still being hired.

Complete details for opening day, pool pass information, pool hours, swimming lessons and pool parties will be available on the City's website at www.cityofharvard.org. Information will also be available at the Parks and Recreation Department booth at Harvard Expo on April 6.

Park shelters operated by the City are available and open to the public on a first-come, first-serve basis. Use of any park shelter is considered to be non-exclusive and if there is a conflict with any scheduled or reserved activity, you will be required to vacate. If you would like to reserve a pavilion for your event, please contact City Hall at 943-6468.

For additional information on park programs, contact Superintendent Mike Clingingsmith at 943-6468 or via e-mail at clingingsmith@cityofharvard.org





FROM YOUR LIBRARY By Karen Sutera, Director

Summer is just around the corner and so is a very exciting change

The library will expand its service hours, effective on June 1. Beginning on that date, the library will be open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The new schedule will make the library available to residents an additional seven and a half hours each week.

The new, earlier opening time will correspond better with the hours of Harvard schools and businesses. Internet access, including both public computers and wi-fi, will also be available six full days a week.

You are the reason for this exciting change! In looking at usage data, it became clear to both the library staff and the library board that

Harvard residents value and use the library. Library usage was up significantly in 2012 over the prior two years. Computer usage is strong,

and especially wi-fi service. Books and movies are being checked out in volume. E-book and E-audiobook usage is increasing with each month.

It became clear that, in order to continue to serve the community well, the library needed to extend its hours. Watch for more information online, on the library's website

at www.harvard-diggins.org, where you can also learn about new services and find a calendar of upcoming library activities.



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

NEED TO KNOW ...

Brush Pickup Schedule

The City of Harvard picks up brush in May, July and October. Pickup begins on the second Monday of these months (May 13, July 8 and October 7) and will continue until all wards have been picked up.

To ensure that your brush is picked up, have all branches by the curb before pickup begins but no earlier than one week ahead of time. All branches must be a minimum of three feet long and the longer the better. Please stack branches with the cut end to the street. Stumps, bushes, plants, leaves and weeds will not be picked up by the City. The time limit for chipping brush piles is 20 minutes. After 20 minutes, the resident will be charged \$125/hour, with a minimum charge of \$50.00.

Storm damage brush should be put to the curb for pickup. The City does not pick up brush on private property.

Hydrant Flushing Schedule

The City's Utilities Department will be flushing dead end hydrants April 15 through April 30, as weather permits. Hydrant flushing will disrupt the water in the

The 3rd Annual Tri-County Pro Rodeo will return to

scheduled on both Friday and Saturday night at 7:30 p.m.

Milky Way Park on July 26-27 Performances are

Part of the International Professional Rodeo

Association tour, the Tri-County Pro Rodeo features

bull riding. The popular event is coordinated by the

Harvard Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the

For more information and advance ticket locations,

visit the rodeo website at www.tricountyprorodeo.com

Harvard Events Committee.

bareback riding, barrel racing, saddle bronc riding and

main and may create rust or 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 and do not wash any white clothes while flushing is occurring in your Ward. Hydrant flushing signs will be out. You can also call City Hall to find out where flushing is in progress.

Preparing for Building Season ... Before You Install!

Spring is here and many homeowners are considering constructing sheds, fences, pools or even home additions. Permits are required prior to placing or erecting any of these structures. Permits are available at City Hall, are generally processed over the counter, and are available in a day or two, at the longest. If you are using a contractor for your project, they must be licensed by the City of Harvard. Licensing assures both the City and the homeowner that the contractor has adequate liability insurance and coverage. Please call the Community Development Department with any questions that you may have on building or zoning codes and requirements.

e-mail at <u>info@tricountyprorodeo.com</u>. Information on the

2013 event can also be found on the rodeo's Facebook

page, at http://www.facebook.com/TriCountyProRodeo



Upcoming City Events

April 9 **Election Day**

April 15 - 30 Hydrant Flushing

May 13

Brush Pickup Begins

May 31, June 1-2 72nd Annual Milk Days Festival

Opening Day at the Pool

July 26-27 Tri-County Pro Rodeo



www.cityofharvard.org

Mayor Jay Nolan
City Treasurer Deb Szczap
City Clerk Andy Wells
Aldermen
Ward 1 Chuck Marzahl
Brian Leyden

Ward 1	Chuck Marzahl
	Brian Leyden
Ward 2	Phillip Ulmer
	Crystal Musgrove
Ward 3	Scott Logan
	Mike Clarke
Ward 4	Carl Opper
	Vacant

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...... Mike Clingingsmith

Building Department Community Development

Steve Santeler Code Enforcement Officer .. . Clayton Brennecka

City Phone Numbers

City Hall	943-6468
Fax	: 943-4556
Dial-A-Ride	943-6468
MERGENCY	Dial 9-1-1
Police Dept. (non-emergency)	943-4431
Fire/Rescue (non-emergency)	943-6927
larvard Diggins Library	943-4671
Public Works Dept	943-0301
Public Works Garage	943-4161
Swimming Pool	943-4300
VWTP	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.

From the **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

The Harvard Police Department has compiled and submitted our Uniform Crime Report for 2012. Harvard's statistics reflect a national trend of declining crime rates. That's what we like to see.

There are various theories on why crime rates drop or remain in check. Numerous factors influence crime rates. In Harvard our crime rates have remained in check over the years thanks to conscientious residents, community involvement, City of Harvard initiatives, and partnerships and collaboration with other community agencies. Our city's dedicated police officers certainly also deserve credit for keeping our residents and community safe.

The Harvard Police Department will be initiating two new reporting programs to aid our partnership with the community. The first reporting program will be an online reporting system, which will allow residents to report minor crimes and provide information to the police department at their convenience. This program will also reduce the cost associated with sending a uniformed officer out for reports of minor incidents. It will also increase the amount of

By Police Chief Dan Kazy-Garey

information that the department receives from the community.

.Round Up A Good Time at the Tri County Pro Rodeo

The second program is an accident reporting system provided by Docview. The new program will allow online access to accident reports, making them more readily available when needed. It will also provide a timely, cost effective and time efficient distribution of accident reports to insurance companies and eliminate the need for citizens to come to the department to obtain a report. Accident data will also be directed transmitted to the Illinois Department of Transportation, saving on manual inputting costs. We are working to make it possible for Docview data to also be transferred directly to the City's CAD system, which would provide additional savings for the Department.

The Harvard Police Department will announce the dates that these programs will become available on the City of Harvard website at www.cityofharvard.org.