

City of Harvard NewsNotes



Community Newsletter, Fall 2005

From the Mayor's Desk

By Mayor Jay Nolan

It was a very busy and productive summer in Harvard.

The City Council approved the appointment of Andrew Oparyk as Chief of Police in August. Andy has been with the Harvard Police Department for 20 years, beginning as a patrol officer in 1985 and promoted to Sergeant in 1989. He served as a Special Agent with the North Central Narcotics Task Force from 1994-1998 and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1998 to become second in command of that department. Andy served as Interim Chief following the retirement of the former chief in April 2005, and was chosen from over eighty candidates.



Andy is very community-oriented, and he plans to spend a lot of time on the streets talking with residents. That effort will go far to creating the high level of trust and understanding that should exist between a community and its police department.

The Harvard Fraternal Order of Police has kicked off an effort to fund a K-9 unit for Harvard. We hope that you will choose to support this program, which will benefit the entire Harvard community.

Another exciting community project is also underway. The Harvard Economic Development Corporations' (HEDC) proposal to construct an electronic community information sign was the winning entry in the city's 2005 Best Civic Project Award competition. The HEDC will receive \$10,000 toward the \$40,000 cost of the sign, which will be built at the southeast corner of Five Points on District 50 property. The Harvard State Bank and the City of Harvard each provided \$5,000 as co-sponsors of the competition. The balance of the project's cost will be paid by the HEDC and through donated services and materials.

The sign will be used to publicize City and School District events such as City Council and school board meetings, school band concerts, and city events such as hydrant flushings and brush pick up. It will complement the Chamber of Commerce sign, which is used to publicize Chamber and charitable events, and help foster community pride and communication throughout our city.

**SAY YES!
to
HARVARD**

Available Soon!

THE ILLINOIS FUNDS



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

A drop box has also been installed in the Police Dept. lobby to pay water bills.

www.cityofharvard.org

Upcoming City Events

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Oct. 3 | Fall Brush Pickup Begins |
| Oct. 9-15 | National Fire Prevention Week |
| Oct. 10-14 | Hydrant Flushing |
| Oct. 22 | Jr. Hornets Intramural Basketball Sign-Up/Practice |
| Oct. 30 | Daylight Savings Time Ends |
| Oct. 31 | Halloween Trick or Treat 5-8 PM |
| Dec. 7 | Jr. Hornets Traveling Team Basketball Tryouts |
| Dec. 9 | Christmas in Harvard |
| Jan. 28 | Chamber of Commerce Recognition Dinner |





City of Harvard
Municipal Information
www.cityofharvard.org

Mayor.....Jay Nolan
 City Treasurer.....Beverly Meseck
 City ClerkAndy Wells

Aldermen

Ward 1Chuck Marzahl
Brian Leyden
 Ward 2Phillip Ulmer
Joel Berg
 Ward 3Scott Logan
Vacant
 Ward 4Tom Hay
Darrell Perkins

Municipal Staff

City Administrator.....Dave Nelson
 Chief of Police.....Andy Oparyk
 Administrative Assistant.....Lori Moller
 Building InspectorJim Kruckenberg
 Building InspectorSteve Santeler
 Supt. Public WorksJim Carbonetti
 Supt. UtilitiesKeith Gibson
 Supt. Parks & RecreationBob Burkart

City Phone Numbers

City Hall943-6468
Fax: 943-4556
 Dial-A-Ride943-7700
EMERGENCYDial 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
 WWTP943-6626

City Council Meetings are held at City Hall every third Wednesday at 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

At The Harvard Diggins Library ...

It was a busy and eventful summer at the library! Our children’s Summer Reading Club had great participation. The variety of the events offered something for everyone and was a real incentive for our kids to come in for more books. We had several family and adult presentations as part of our Community Enrichment series, including a presentation on the use of dogs by law enforcement — a timely topic given current efforts to create a K-9 unit. More events are planned for fall and winter. Be sure to check them out!

The library has been publishing **Harvard Happenings**, a community news sheet and calendar, for nearly a year now. We hope you have seen copies in businesses and offices around the city, or read it on our website at www.harvard-diggins.org. This publication comes out every other Friday and provides information on events occurring in and around our community. The project began with partial funding from a grant from the Illinois State Library and is being continued with local funds. We need to know what your group or organization is doing so that public events can be included in the calendar. It’s easy to get publicized! Use the form for submitting information on the website, call the library at 943-4671, or stop in and submit your information in person. Keep up with what’s going on by reading **Harvard Happenings!**

The Library participated in a grant project with two other libraries, Nippersink in Richmond and the Woodstock Public Library, to purchase new materials to be shared by patrons of all three libraries. We have many new materials, books, videotapes, DVDs and audio books on special topics. Are you planning a trip to Australia or Hawaii? Are you planning on applying for college admission or preparing a Home School curriculum? Are you interested in ships and sea voyages or military history? We have new materials in these areas, as well as other new items in our collection, whatever your interests may be. Let us know what you would like to see.

There is a new feature in the library lobby that should interest all ages and which may entertain children while parents check out books. It reflects one area of our purchasing during the past year, and it should add a little ‘life’ and movement to our building. Come see what this new feature is!



Adults and children learned how dogs and handlers are trained for law enforcement on August 17.

Fall 2005 Brush Pickup

Fall Brush Pickup begins on Monday, October 3 and will continue until all wards have been picked up. To ensure pickup, all brush must be placed by the curb *prior to October 3, but not more than one week ahead of time*. All branches must be at least three feet long with the cut end stacked to the curb. Branches are to be free of roots and dirt. The crew will not accept boards or wire, vines, evergreens or fir trees. There is a 20-minute time limit for chipping. After 20 minutes, the resident will be billed \$125.00 per hour with a minimum \$50.00 charge.

Tentative Leaf Vacuuming Schedule

Will take place Oct. 1 - Nov. 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 through the end of November, weather permitting. If you have any questions, please contact them at 943-4939.

Hydrant Flushing Schedule

The Utilities Department will be flushing dead end lines during the week of October 10 - 14, 2005. Hydrant flushing may create rust and brown-colored water. The water is safe to drink, but will stain clothes washed in it. If you experience rusty water, run your faucet until clear.

Parks & Recreation

Jr. Hornets

Intramural

Basketball

For all boys and girls in 3rd - 6th grade

Cost: In-Town: \$25

Out of City Limits: \$30

Sign-Up/Practice: Sat., Oct. 22

at Harvard Jr. High

3rd, 4th Grades: 8-9 AM

5th, 6th Grades: 9-10 AM



Harvard Jr. Hornets

Traveling Basketball Team

For 6th - 8th grade boys

Cost: In-Town: \$75 (\$60 if you have last year's uniform)

Out of City Limits: \$90 (\$75 if you have last year's uniform)

Tryouts: Wed., Dec. 7 at

Harvard High School

6th Grade: 6-7 PM

7th Grade: 7-8 PM

8th Grade: 8-9 PM

Contact Bob Burkart, Supt. of Parks & Recreation, at 943-6468 (office) or 943-4986 (home) for more information on either program.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

By Police Chief Andy Oparyk

Greetings! I would like to take an opportunity to thank everyone for their support in my quest to be named Police Chief. I am honored to have been appointed to the position, and I hope to develop a good working partnership with everyone in Harvard. It is my goal to make the Police Department a more proactive force that every citizen in Harvard can continue to be proud of.

I am sure most everyone has noticed the increased presence of foot patrol by officers in the downtown area. This type of activity is an effective deterrent to crime, and creates the atmosphere of community partnership that I want to establish between our citizens and their police department. If you have a problem and require police assistance, speak with any of us. Help us help you.

At full strength, the Harvard Police Department consists of 13 patrol officers, 3 shift sergeants, 1 detective and myself. We offer a good variety of services for a smaller department, including, but not limited to, patrol division, detective, community crime prevention, D.A.R.E. officer, gang officers, accident investigations, and evidence technicians. We also plan to add a K-9 Officer to the force next summer.

With the exception of the detective, all these specialties are performed by patrol officers in addition to their regular patrol shift/duties. The detective moves from one case to another,

depending upon the severity. Currently, patrol officers assist the detective with follow-ups. One of my goals is to increase the size of our detective division, in order to enable patrol officers to dedicate more time to proactive patrol and enforcement duties.



Chief Oparyk

Our department was awarded three grants this year that will give us a gaining edge on technology. A \$20,000 grant from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority enabled us to purchase four new in-squad video systems and four new portable radios for officers. A \$17,266 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice (Community Oriented Policing C.O.P.S.) is being used to purchase Live Scan fingerprint equipment, which will enable us to receive faster replies on fingerprint inquiries — potentially within 20 minutes. A \$51,200 grant from the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System (ILEAS) is being used to purchase eight Panasonic CF-29 computers for the squad cars. The laptops now in use do not run efficiently on the new high-speed wireless network utilized by McHenry County Enhanced 911 and the State Police IWIN network.

I welcome your feedback and look forward to serving you.



History Worth Celebrating!

150th Anniversary Original Village of Harvard 1856-2006

On November 25, 1856, Amos Page appeared before McHenry County Judge J.M. Stroede, who signed and sealed the Plat of the Village of Harvard as surveyed by George Tyler, Deputy Surveyor.

Mayor Jay Nolan has created a Sesquicentennial Committee comprised of local civic organizations, churches and interested residents to organize events celebrating this historic milestone next year. Look for upcoming announcements on the many activities which will be held throughout 2006 and during Milk Days weekend.

Anyone interested in participating in organizing or making a donation toward events should contact Chairman Jay Nolan at 943-6468. More information will also soon be available on the city's website at www.cityofharvard.org.

65th Annual – Harvard Milk Days

In the spring of 1942, a local war effort was underway in the stateline area to increase milk and food production for our servicemen in World War II. The first Milk Days was held on June 18, 1942 as a tribute to the dairy farmer. The farmers pledged to return the following year during June Dairy Month to renew their efforts to sell war bonds and support this area's war involvement.

Harvard Milk Days is the longest continuously running festival in the State of Illinois and, while locations and events have changed over the years, the essence of Harvard Milk Days remains the same. Planning is already underway for next year's event, which will be held June 2-4, as we continue to celebrate our heritage and tradition. Look for more information on the Harvard Milk Days website:
www.milkdays.com

