



# HARLAN MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

## Mr. Tom's Neighborhood— *"Baby, it's cold outside"*

### Additional Energy Rebate Programs Added

HMU has expanded our energy efficiency rebate program to include more Energy Star rated appliances, weatherization and lighting. Watch for details in the Harlan newspaper, at [harlannet.com](http://harlannet.com) and in this newsletter.

#### See us on the web:

- [www.har-tel.com](http://www.har-tel.com)—for information on HMU telephone, cable TV and Internet.
- [www.HMU-harlan.com](http://www.HMU-harlan.com)—for questions on electric, gas, water, billing, administrative and HMU Board information.
- [www.harlannet.com](http://www.harlannet.com)— local weather, local and regional links, emergency messages, Harlan Theater listings.

This month's theme song comes from the song catalog of composer Frank Loesser. I think Franks summed up the recent weather pretty well. Snow and brutally cold weather has paralyzed parts of the Midwest.

Harlan has, so far, been fortunate to avoid major storm related outages seen in other parts of Shelby county and the state. We did see blinks at times but these were caused by disturbances to transmission lines outside of Harlan.

I attribute our good fortune to several factors. We have a very aggressive tree trimming program. If limbs should get weighed down by snow and ice and break off, they should fall clear of lines. Also, we can

see the benefits of having lines underground and away from falling limbs or ice build up. I must admit a little good luck was in the mix too.

We are planning on the next phase of the overhead to underground conversion and work should begin in 2010. Not only will the upgrade help with decreasing the likelihood of storm outages, it will be more energy efficient.

I'd like to acknowledge the HMU employees for their efforts during the recent cold weather. I am privileged to work with people willing to jump in and do what's necessary for the benefit of the utility and our customers. There are a lot of 'what if' discussions and contingency planning before major storms. I

know we had employees working in the cold and snow over the holidays to help keep our facilities and parking lots open, trucks serviced and ready to go, testing the diesel generators, sweeping snow from satellite dishes, digging out fire hydrants, trudging through deep drifts to read meters and checking to ensure all services stayed active and available.

I'd also like to give kudos to our City of Harlan employee brethren. I am always impressed with the job they do to keep our streets clear and passable.

Forecasters are predicting above average snow this year. Let's hope Frank was wrong when he penned the song "Spring Will Be a Little Late This Year."

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HARLAN'S PREMIER  
PROVIDER OF ELECTRIC,  
GAS, WATER AND  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS.



## Cold weather and utility services

The recent snow and brutally cold weather affect your utility service.

- Please do not intentionally blow or shovel snow on to or near any electrical, gas, water or telecom boxes or facilities. Doing so could cause damage leading to an outage or result in slower than needed response times in times of outages.

- One reason to keep facilities like transformers or telecom boxes uncovered is to prevent them from being hit by snowplows or front

loaders removing snow. **WHEN OPERATING PLOWS OR POWERED SNOW REMOVAL EQUIPMENT WATCH FOR BOXES ALONG ALLEYS, CORNERS AND DRIVEWAYS.** Know where the boxes are before you start.

- Our meter readers would greatly appreciate it if you could clear snow from around your meters and make a small path to your meter. Keeping meters clear ensures accurate billing.

- In case of electri-

cal outages, HMU does not supply emergency generators. If you have a critical need for electricity, consider buying a back up generator or prepare a contingency plan.

- Check any furnace intakes or outlets to make sure they are not covered by drifts or plugged by snow. Plugged outlets can lead to the build up of carbon monoxide inside the house.

## New channels on HMU cable

- Channel 205 - Retro TV - A sister channel to WOI-TV, Des Moines RTV features classic TV shows.

- Channel 511 - IPTV-World - More quality programming from PBS and Iowa Public Television.

- Channel 145 - MSNBC-HD - News and commentary from NBC in HD.

- Channel 167 - CNBC-HD - Business and commerce news from NBC in HD.

- Channel 168 - Planet Green HD - See what's new and green in HD.

- Channel 169 - Science

Channel HD - The wonders of science in HD.

In order to add the new channels, it was necessary to change the Expanded Basic cable line up.

- Bravo is now on channel 55.

- E! Entertainment is now on channel 56.

- CSPAN-2 can be seen on channel 68.

- GSN moved from channel 56 on Expanded Basic to channel 249 on the HD/Digital tier.

- QVC moved from channel 68 on Expanded Basic to

channel 279 on the HD/Digital tier.

- A sister channel to KPTM-TV, Omaha, THIS network is on channel 210 on the HD/Digital tier.

Customers with Expanded Basic cable but without a set top box should be able to view channels 68 and below. You may need to perform a channel scan on your TV to place the channels in your line up.

Customers that have a Standard set top box, the Gateway Service and the HD/Digital tier of service should be able to see channels 205, 249, 279 and

511.

Customers that have an HD capable set top box, the Gateway service and HD/Digital tier of service should be able to view all of the channels.

Standard and HD top boxes, the Gateway service and the HD/Digital tier are optional purchases at additional charges.

Customers that have an HD TV or a TV with a built in digital tuner and have the cable attached directly to the TV need to perform a channel scan to see Retro TV on channel 5.2 and IPTV-World on Channel 88.15.