

**September 2001**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

*As Thumbnail goes to press, all of us are still stunned by the recent terrorist events in our country. All of us have friends and neighbors, or relatives who are missing. Our prayers are with the families who have been ruptured by the tragedy, and with our government leaders who will act for us in response.*

The Township Committee issued the following statement on September 12, 2001.

“The impact of Tuesday’s incredible tragedy is being deeply felt by Harding’s residents and our thoughts and prayers go out to all who have suffered personal losses. We believe that continuation of the duties of governance is the strongest statement we can make against the goals of disruption and defeat. The Township has already committed resources to the rescue effort and will continue to do so as additional opportunities arise. The grief that has been forced on our community is almost overwhelming. We believe that coming together to carry out our normal tasks in a respectful way helps us to comfort each other. Therefore, during this emergency Harding Township will maintain the full range of municipal services and functions for its citizens.”

**Annual Fire Department Auction Saturday, September 30th**

The New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department will hold their Annual Auction on **Saturday, September 29th** at the Firehouse on Village Road.

Volunteers from the Fire Company, First Aid Squad and Auxiliary have been busy for weeks organizing the special items that will be brought to the auction block. In addition to the auction ten individual areas at the sale contain sporting goods, bicycles, clean used clothing, books and tapes, flea market, white elephant and a food concession.

The auction begins at 9:00 AM sharp, rain or shine, with an auction preview beginning at 8:00 AM. Parking will be open at 6:30 AM and grounds will open at 7:00AM. All proceeds from the auction benefit the New Vernon Volunteer Fire Company and Volunteer First Aid Squad. Donations of sale items are gratefully accepted. For information on donating items please contact J. Miller at 973-267-2514.

**Harding Township Annual Curbside Clean-Up**

The Harding Township Committee announced that the annual curbside clean-up will commence on Monday, October 1st. Materials that will be collected include furniture, refrigerators (doors must be removed), rugs, small appliances and toys. Materials that will not be collected are tires, building material, garbage, stones, concrete, soil, brush, yard debris, toxic chemicals, propane bottles and tanks, 55 gallon drums (empty or full), oil tanks and oil based paints.

Lawn mowers and other gasoline powered equipment must have the gas and oil drained. Hot water heaters and water conditioners must be drained. Swing sets and similar equipment must be dismantled. Pipes and single pieces of lumber must be cut or

bent into sections four (4) feet or less in length. Latex paint cans must be open with any paint dried out.

Resident may place items at the curbside in front of their property no sooner than 10 days prior to the October 1st collection date.

### **BOARD OF HEALTH EARLY DETECTION PROGRAM**

The Harding Township Department of Health will hold an Early Detection - Adult Health Screening Program for community residents 18 years of age or older. All residents are welcome to take advantage of this program once each year.

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2001**

8:00 a.m. – noon

HARDING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
KIRBY HALL MUNICIPAL BUILDING

FREE tests include:

- SMAC Blood Chemistry - one blood sample analysis will include tests for cholesterol, glucose, blood cell counts and others.
- Blood pressure testing
- Eye screening and glaucoma testing

Prior registration is necessary for this screening. To register, call the Health Department between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:00 PM starting September 17, 2001. You may register yourself and one other person. Information needed at registration includes name, address, age, weight, personal physician, and any chronic illness. For more information, contact the Health Department at 455-7296.

### **FLU VACCINE CLINIC**

While a shortage of flu vaccine is not anticipated this year, there may still be delays in production and distribution. As in the past the Health Department will offer flu shots free of charge to eligible residents, however the dates cannot be determined until the delivery of the vaccine. Once the dates are determined the health department will post notices in the Municipal Building, at the Post Office and on public bulletin boards in establishments around town. Notices will also be sent to the *Thumbnail*, the *Daily Record*, the *Observer-Tribune*, and the *Star-Ledger*.

### **HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Dorothy Zufall, Health Educator for Harding, Hanover and Morris Townships will present a program on Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment. It will be given at 7:00 PM, **Wednesday, October 10, 2001** at the Municipal Building on Blue Mill Road. The program is free but registration is required. For more information or to register call the Health Department at 455-7296.

### **Tetanus Vaccine Shortage**

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has notified all local health departments of a nationwide shortage of tetanus and diphtheria toxoid. Vaccine usage is temporarily restricted and based on established priorities and emergencies. All routine

booster shots for adolescents and adults should be delayed. Hospital emergency rooms and wound care centers should have an adequate supply. Should any resident have any question concerning the tetanus vaccine shortage, please call the health department at 455-7296.

**THE LIBRARY:** Welcome back from wherever you spent your summer and get ready for a host of fall activities. The Library was so busy in July and August that it was difficult to recognize it as vacation time!

**Storytime** has started again: on September 4<sup>th</sup> for Preschoolers and September 7<sup>th</sup> for Toddlers at the Methodist Church in Green Village (thank-you, Rev. David and Kerri Fox!). Come and meet our new storyteller, Jill Fitzpatrick. Themes for September are: *Teddy Bear Picnic, Family Stories, Welcome Autumn!*, and *Jewish Folk Tales*. October starts with a *Pajama Party*.

<b>Preschooler Time</b>	<b>Toddler Time</b>
<i>Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.</i>	<i>Fridays at 9:30 a.m.</i>

Please note that the **Morning and Afternoon Book Clubs** have also started. Books for these discussion groups are in the Library. For further information, call Peggy Bruen (Morning group) at 822-1887 and Helen Twomey (Afternoon group) at 292-4728. On September 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m., Susan Hertog's biography of *Anne Morrow Lindbergh* was discussed; on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m., Seamus Haney's translation of *Beowulf* is the featured reading.

**New at the Library**...for junior readers, we have the entire seven-volume Lemony Snicket series and several American Girl History Mysteries. Visit the new and improved Read-Along section. Check the children's display of award winners and seasonal books. There are new titles each month in both the adult and children's collections. If you don't see what you want, we will be happy to help you find it (*see below*).

*A reminder that you can request library books from the Harding Township Library on the Internet...*As a member of the Morris Automated Information Network (M.A.I.N.), the countywide system of libraries that share titles through an interlibrary loan network, HTL will be happy to process your requests or forward them to the appropriate library. With your current HTL card, you can go online at [web2.morris.org](http://web2.morris.org) to locate the title you want (up to six per week). We can usually fill your request within a week if it is not a best seller. See Lynn Hughes or Anne Thomas.

**Save the date: Evening at the Library, Wednesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 p.m. in the Court Room. Be prepared to be dazzled by the Imperial Easter Eggs of Tsarist Russia.

Interested in joining or forming your own **SMALL SCALE ORGANIC AND NATURAL FOODS CO-OP?** Come to an informational meeting **Monday October 1 10:00-11:30am**, at 6 Sand Spring Lane. Bring a healthy snack or beverage to share, children welcome. Call 451-1097 or e-mail [betsychina@aol.com](mailto:betsychina@aol.com) (RE: co-op) to register. Limited to 30 only if weather is inclement. Bring a blanket or chair if weather is fine.

**Harding Township Historical Society**

The first Open House of the season is off to an exciting start with Antiques Appraisal Day at the T-E House on **Sunday, October 7 from 1 - 4 p.m.** David Cowell of Lovely Living Antiques in Caldwell, a well known figure from previous appearances at this event as well as the annual antiques shows, anchors the appraisal team. His enthusiasm and expertise guarantee an afternoon of discovery and enlightenment. Visitors are limited to three pieces per person. A donation of \$5.00 is requested. Look for more information next month on the **Antiques Weekend Nov 9-11.**

**The Harding Township Educational Foundation: Tennis ,Golf Fundraising Events**

The Harding Township Educational Foundation invites you to participate in its upcoming tennis and golf fundraising events. This year the events will be held on separate dates in new locations. The first annual tennis tournament will take place at The Morristown Field Club on Wednesday, September 26 from 8:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The format will be round robin doubles. Solo players are welcomed to play; the committee will match you with a partner. The cost for tennis and a picnic lunch is \$100 (\$50 tax-deductible). The cost for spectators staying for the picnic lunch is \$60 (\$30 tax-deductible). Space is limited and advanced reservations are required. Please call Donna Miller at (973) 644-9389 or Kim Zsitvay at (973) 425-0755 with questions and/or to receive an invitation.

The fourth annual golf tournament will be held at the Somerset Hills Country Club on Monday, October 22. Please call George Hanley at (973) 540-0825 for additional information. Look for a golf invitation to arrive shortly in the mail.

The Harding Township Educational Foundation, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, established in 1996 to secure and distribute resources for programs and projects to benefit the students of the Harding Township School. Profits from the tennis and golf events will be applied towards grants in the 2001-2001 school year. Please call HTEF president Ellen Wraith at (973) 425-1004 for additional information.

**Harding Twp. Municipal Alliance for a Drug Safe Community** wishes to announce that Oct. 23rd - Oct. 31st is National Red Ribbon Week, commemorating the deaths of two young drug enforcement officers who lost their lives in the war against drugs. Community members of all ages are encouraged to wear and post red ribbons symbolizing their commitment to a drug free community, and to discuss the issues with their families. Watch for the sale of red ribbons throughout the community, and thank you for your support. The Harding Twp. Municipal Alliance Committee is a community based organization of volunteers dedicated to providing a drug safe community. Anyone interest in joining should contact Sue Nobleman at 973-301-9104. Meetings for the 2001-2002 year will be held at the Harding Twp. School at 8:45 am on the following dates - Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 27, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar 12, Apr. 9, May 14, and Jun 11.

**SUPPORT Homeless Solutions, Inc.**

**(Formerly the Morris Shelter)**

**& SAVE \$ SHOPPING AT SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE SHOPS ON THE COUNTRY MILE IN HARDING**

Homeless Solutions, Inc. is a private, non-profit provider of homeless services in Morris County. For 18 years we have helped thousands of your neighbors, working poor families, as well as single men and women transition from homelessness to independent housing. You can help support Homeless Solutions while saving \$ at your favorite stores here in Harding. **Here's how you can help:**

- Purchase a \$12.00 ticket to the Special Shopping Days (Oct 5, 6 & 7). THE ENTIRE \$12.00 IS DEDICATED TO Homeless Solutions, Inc. On those special shopping days, tickets can be purchased at participating establishments on The Country Mile (see list below) **or to save time, purchase through the mail by using the form below.**
- Upon presentation of the ticket, the purchaser is entitled to special offers such as 20% off all purchases at The Garden Cottage, current stock at The Prince's Knoll, The Jeweler's Gallery and women's & men's clothing at Four Seasons of New Vernon; 20% off Oriental Rugs in Stock & wall-to-wall carpeting ordered 10/5 & 10/6 at Bedrosian's of Harding, 15% off at Anson Newton, The Depot, Flowers from Hannah, and Coverings, 15% off most items at The Eagle's Nest, The Rose Trellis, & current stock at Giorgio's Pappas Furs; 15% off all greenhouse plants and ceramic pottery at Country Mile Gardens, 15% off a buffet lunch at Pierre's, 15% off manicures & pedicures at Jolie Moi Salon, 10% off gifts at F. Gerald New, 10% off selected items at Robert Fountain Antiques, 10% off -storewide at Bayberry in the Cottage, 10% off dine-in lunches at The Minuteman. Other participants include Talbots, and The Country Store. **A special note: F. Gerald New, Anson Newton and The Country Store are also donating a generous percentage of their weekend's receipts to Homeless Solutions, Inc. so don't forget to stop in!**

**Please return this portion no later than Friday, September 21st.**

Yes, count me in! I want to enjoy three days of discounts while supporting Homeless Solutions, Inc.. Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ticket(s) at \$12.00 per ticket. I understand the entire amount will go to Homeless Solutions, Inc.. **Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ made payable to Homeless Solutions, Inc.** Please mail my ticket(s) to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your check and this form to: Mary Van Kirk (973) 425-01145  
38 Lake Trail West, Morristown, NJ 07960

## **TOWNSHIP NEWS**

### **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### **Hunter Safety Meeting on August 22, 2001**

The first Hunter Safety session of the season took place on August 22 in the Municipal Building. The session was conducted by Sgt. Dan Irons of the township police department. Some 25 persons attended. Topics covered were coordination by the police department of contacts between qualified hunters wishing to hunt in Harding and private property owners looking for hunters, hunting laws, hunter safety, hunting in Harding Township and the dates of this year's hunting season.

#### **Action Plan for 2001/2002 Hunting Season**

While the 2000/2001 hunting season brought good results, complaints by residents about deer damage are increasing! In addition more and more properties are being fenced in. This increases the pressure on the unfenced properties and, just as importantly, does considerable damage to the rural character of Harding. Efforts must therefore be increased to reduce the number of deer in the township.

- ◆ The township has again requested a modification of the existing Fish and Game regulations to permit hunting in Harding Township simultaneously with the hunt in the Great Swamp, November 28 - December 1, 2001;
- ◆ An initiative is under way to qualify an additional meat packer to process venison for the NORWESCAP food bank for the hungry. This will facilitate for hunters the disposal of deer they do not wish to keep for their personal consumption.

#### **PRIVATE PROPERTY OWNER COOPERATION NEEDED TO COPE WITH DEER PROBLEM!**

While these measures will enable our hunters to increase the deer harvest, their potential will not be fully utilized, if we do not increase the number of private properties open for hunting or at least for drives. The Wildlife Management Committee will therefore make a renewed effort to obtain the cooperation of additional property owners. In the meantime, property owners looking for qualified hunters should call the township Police Department ((973) 455 0500 to have hunters referred to them. Ask for Sgt Daniel Irons.

**The Harding Township Police** wants to inform our residents of the dates of the hunting seasons: **Fall Bow and Arrow**, September 8- October 26, 2001. **Permit Bow and Arrow**, October 27- December 31. **Permit Shotgun**, November 19, 20, 21, December 3-8, and 12-14; January 5-31, 2002; February 1-16, 2002. **Six day Firearm Season**, December 3-8, 2001. **Permit Muzzleloader Season**, November 19, 20, 21, December 3-8, and 12-14; January 5-31, 2002; February 1-16, 2002. **Winter Bow & Arrow**, January 1-31, 2002 and February 1-16, 2002.

## **HARDING LAND TRUST**

**Waterman Meadow, Loantaka Lane North.** During the summer, the Harding

Land Trust and Harding Township have undertaken several projects on this 18-acre property which they acquired in March and own jointly. Most obvious is the renovation and restoration of the Pump House, a small shingle building designed and built by John V. Corbet around the period 1919-1924. The Pump House contained a pump and a maze of pipes used to supply water to a swimming pool built on the property by Marcellus Hartley Dodge. It has a remarkable foundation of local field stone and an underground freshwater cistern accessed through a trap door in the floor. A woodburning stove, water tank and brick chimney, evidence of one of many efforts to warm up the frigid artesian well water that supplied the pool, have also been preserved. The Pump House is an excellent example of a rural multifunctional outbuilding and will serve as an historical icon for the next 100 years. The renovation and restoration work was done by John McFadyen and his team and funded privately by contributors to the Harding Land Trust. The swimming pool and adjacent bathhouse, which have fallen into disrepair, will be removed by the Department of Public Works and that area will revert to a more natural pond and wetlands. All residents will be invited to the formal dedication.

**Frelinghuysen Fields, James Street.** The wetlands enhancement project on the West side of James Street is well established, with native vegetation now covering the berm built to help maintain optimal water levels for bog turtles and other threatened species. A post and rail fence has been erected to prevent use of the area by "U-turners" from Route 287. Across James Street, 10-15 acres at the back of the fields owned by Harding Land Trust will be developed into an area of warm season grasses, to improve the habitat for field nesting birds. This project will be funded through a matching grant from the Natural Resource Conservation Service's Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP).

#### **Township Committee** (July, August 2001)

The following resolutions were introduced and unanimously passed on roll call vote:

- (1) public hearing and adoption of ordinance no. 14-01 Bond And Capital Ordinance Authorizing Various Capital Improvements In And For The Township Of Harding In The County Of Morris, New Jersey appropriating \$173,000 therefor and authorizing the issuance of \$108,300 bonds or notes to finance part of the cost thereof.
- (2) Public Hearing and Adoption of Ordinance No. 15-01 - "An Ordinance (Land Use and Development) Of the Code of the Township of Harding".
- (3) Public Hearing and Adoption 16-01 - "An Ordinance Amending Chapter 105 (Land Use and Development) of the Code of the Township of Harding".
- (4) Authorizing Re-advertisement for Bids for Fall Clean-Up.
- (5) Authorizing Execution Of Membership Renewal Agreement For Morris County Co-Operative Pricing Council.
- (6) Approving investments and reinvestments of Certificates of Deposit.
- (7) Authorizing Execution of Statement of Consent Treatment Works Approval

Application - Block 52, Lot 3.

(8) Approving Professional Services - Arnold K. Mytelka, Esq. as Township attorney.

Public hearing on Ordinance No. 16-01. "Limited Lot Coverage" The Township Planner reviewed the Ordinance and its intended purpose, which was to require that new building and driveways on a 3 acre lot cover no more than 10% of the land. The current ordinance require a limit of 3 to 4 %, for buildings only. Sheepfield Farms resident Alex Gatella spoke in opposition to the Ordinance stating that he viewed it as an unwarranted invasion on property owners rights. He felt that the lot coverage limitation was an arbitrary percentage. Committeeman Lanzerotti addressed the issue of the 1st coverage limitation established by the Ordinance. He stated that he had researched this matter to the point where he felt that this is a reasonable figure. He cited reports on the subject including a Maryland study on the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. He also pointed out that option of filing for a variance for those who did not meet the lot coverage permissible maximum. After further discussion, the Township Committee voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance No. 16-01.

The Township Committee discussed the issue of accessory structures with the Chairman of the Planning Board's Advisory Review Committee Gerald O'Loughlin. Mr.O'Loughlin spoke on the current requirements and the need to review issues including a ill-advised Ordinance. The Township Attorney addressed the constitutionality issue stating that he felt that the Ordinance was within the scope of the Municipal Land Use Law. The Mayor spoke on the process that had been followed thus far in considering the concerns that had been expressed by residents. He stated his view that the Ordinance was a satisfactory compromise.

Mr. Becker expressed his feeling that the Tree Preservation ordinance would not stop the practice of clear cutting on property. The Township Attorney addressed the constitutionality issue stating that he felt that the Ordinance was constitutional under the Municipal Land Use Law. Lanzerotti explained that he had thought long and hard about the Ordinance and said that he was initially uneasy with some of its requirements. He indicated his agreement with Mr. Becker that the Ordinance as drafted would not prevent clear cutting but he did feel that it would encourage retention of trees to help in the regeneration of the aquifer. He felt that the Ordinance balanced the individual property owner rights with the conservation aspects.

Long Hill Road resident Hal Scaff, Jr. stated his strong opposition to the Ordinance indicating his feeling that there is not a tree removal problem in the Township. He voiced his feeling that the Ordinance was intrusive on his personal rights. New Vernon Garden Club President Linda Meister indicated her support of the Ordinance voicing her opinion that the Township has more residents and needs more trees. She felt that the Ordinance will encourage the development of an educational process to inform residents of conservation needs. Mr. Scaff voiced his concerns in reference to the lack of an overall exemption for agricultural property. The Township



Attorney explained that the Ordinance did provide an exemption if an individual had an approved agricultural management plan and continued by stating that a farmland assessed property would not automatically have an agricultural management plan and therefore, would not automatically be exempt from the requirements of the Ordinance. No one further wishing to be heard, the Mayor closed the public hearing.

Before voting in favor of the Ordinance, Lanzerotti stated his feeling that it considered both individual rights and conservation. Before voting in favor of the Ordinance, Farrell spoke on the efforts of the individuals involved in its development. She felt that the Ordinance maintained a balance that reflects community values and the rights of property owners. She added that implementation of the Ordinance will have to be closely monitored to ensure that the process does not work to the detriment of residents. The Ordinance was adopted unanimously upon roll call vote.

After introduction of Ordinance No. 12-01, the Committee discussed the need to amend the Township Code as it applied to the powers of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee to reflect the duties and responsibilities set forth in Article XVIII-B of the Code. Lanzerotti voiced his objection to the introduction of an Ordinance to amend the Code on such short notice. He felt that the Committee should wait until the next Township Meeting to introduce such a measure. Murray indicated his feeling that, with the adoption of the Tree Preservation Ordinance, the Ordinance to amend the powers and duties of the Shade Tree Advisory Committee and thus to be in conformance with the adopted Tree Preservation Ordinance should be introduced at this time. Ordinance No. 13-01 was introduced with Committeeman Lanzerotti voting against introduction.

Lanzerotti provided an update on the recent meeting of the Harding School Vision Council. He also discussed his recent meeting with members of the Water Advisory Committee, James Halsey and Rich Wiedmann, to discuss the continuing effort to improve the system of water sources for fire fighting purposes.

Concerning the recent request from the lawyer representing the Ploetners, the owners of an approved subdivision off of Glen Alpin Road, for the Township Committee to approve the name of Ploetner Drive for the subdivision's private roadway, Committeeman Murray stated that, if the rest of the Committee agreed, he would draft a letter to the Ploetner's attorney citing the Township's past practices for road names. The rest of the Committee agreed to have Mr. Murray circulate such a letter for their review and to make the final product a part of the Minutes along with the request letter from the Ploetner's attorney.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION, 2001** no report

**Planning Board, Summer 2001:**

*Follow up on the Chase ATM.* The application for a 24-hour ATM by the Chase Bank on Village Road had been denied in 1998 after much controversy and testimony. This summer, in July 2001, an ATM was installed which was acceptable to the township, located inside the bank, and open from 7am to 10 pm, with its lights dimmed after 10 PM. The revised plan also omitted provisions for a ramp for handicapped accessibility.

DeCarlo, #5-01, Tempe Wick Rd (corner Rt 202), Block 34, Lots 1 and 1.01; for minor subdivision with variance. Adjourned to September 24.

BRB Custom Homes, BI 21, lots 10 and 10.01, Glen Alpin Rd, hearing.

### **Board Of Adjustment, summer 2001**

Mr Murray Forbes was appointed to replace Mr Richard Cassie as of 8.16.01.

Resolutions Approved: #12-01 Arnie Harris(part I), to permit enlargement of applicant's non conforming residence by constructing a second story addition with a limited enlargement of the building footprint having a minimum setback of 42'. Blok 17, lot 45, Long Hill Rd

#16-01 Charles and Catherine Boyer, St Clair Rd, BI 26.01, lot 34, to permit deck and patio additions to the rear with a limited portion having a setback of less than 100' from the SW side lot line.

#19-01 Tawnya Kabnick, 1 Beach Trail, BI 38, Lot 1, to permit second story addition, deck and patio, a fence with the 16' setback to the non conforming residence.

Pending Applications:

#12-01 Arnie Harris(partII) Long Hill Road; Proposal to replace barn/shed with new structure. Size is significantly reduced from original proposal. Same footprint as old structure. Height would be increased to max allowed. Variance requested to build on 5.2% of building area. Plan approved for resolution.

#18-01 Belle, 2 Pumphouse Lane, There is an environmental easement on property. Chris Allyn of the Environmental Commission gave testimony that the increase in size of dwelling will cause constriction of drip line to large trees. Buffer line will be compromised. Rusty Shomer, engineer on project said that a silt fence will be installed during construction. Variance requested for set back.

New Application:#20-01 Ganning Tall Pines Rd; Request for set back variance to complete pool apron. Would be a 14% increase to lot coverage, exceeding the 10% allowable lot coverage, and within the 100' setback. Board asked for revision of plans with a compromise

#21-01 Klaus Jepson / McChesney, Bailey's Mill Rd, Request for variance on non-conforming structure for a 3 car garage. Site inspection date was 8-21-01.

#20-00 Darcy School, Sand Spring Road; Overview of project given by Kevin Page ,engineering consultant. 3 lot subdivision (2 residences,1 school) Showed site plan. Kristen Mullen made presentation to Board about the school. Showed rendering and gave general info about how the facility would be used. Special meeting set for Wednesday, September 12th. Expert testimony from traffic engineer, landscape

architect, planner, and environmental engineer.

In **June**, Wentz #4-01, (Block 13, Lot 5) of Miller Road was heard, application to remove and rebuild a home on a current 1-acre lot. The application requires a variance because of the 1-acre lot size. Because the homesite is in the Pleasantville Road historic district, the Hist Preservat Comm also discussed the application, and made suggestions regarding revisions to windows as more suitable to the appearance of the property. There is also a LOI necessary from the state DEP for the septic. The land on Miller Rd is nearly level in elevation with the Great Swamp and drains slowly. Schindler, #14-01 Spring Valley Rd, B2/L3, were granted a variance to add dormers for ventilation.

In July, the site plan of the Morris Animal Inn, #3-99, was scheduled to be heard, following preliminary approval earlier this year. However, this application has been postponed pending review at the Township Committee, to which a variance appeal has been filed by some local residents objecting to the Board of Adjustment decision. The Great Swamp Watershed Association had also filed an appeal, which has been withdrawn. The Animal Inn attorney had argued for removal of the appeal to NJ Superior Court, due to the conflict of interest between the Township and the Great Swamp Watershed Association (GSWA). Some of the citizen objectors, most of the Township Committee members and the Township attorney are also GSWA members. This matter is scheduled to be held in the Township Committee later this fall.

### **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Board of Education** meetings were held on June 25, July 30 and August 20. They dealt mainly with finance and hiring of teachers for the new school year. The school opened on time, despite the renovation project. A new reading curriculum focusing on phonics and an updated math program are among the highlights of the coming year.

There is a new superintendent, Arthur Travlos, previously in Dunellen school district, for the Madison school district, to which Harding sends about 80 tuition paying students in grades 9-12.

The 75th Anniversary Committee is moving ahead in its efforts to preserve the history of the Harding Township School with the publication of a book remembering the 75 years. Cost has been reduced from \$21,500 to a maximum of \$14,800. We have now raised approximately \$8,000. A new effort has been initiated: "75/75" to save on ad space which lowers the overall cost and adds in the appearance of the book. A special sponsor page for \$75 donors for the 75th Anniversary will be highlighted. The 75th Committee is looking for volunteers to help raise the additional money needed to publish this historical document. Thanks to all those who have helped with their time and money.

Harding school is looking for a part timer to work as a lunchroom aide, supervising the children (approx 2 1/2 a day, 2 - 5 days a week.) Call 267-6398 for info.

### **HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, June 14, 2001**

The House of Worship ordinance is being revised. At the Township Committee meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>, members of the Historic Preservation Commission voiced their concerns about the existing wording of the ordinance. Some points they made were: 1) no accessory building shall be in front of a point or a line drawn parallel to the front façade of the primary building; 2) consider deleting the wording “campus style” buildings; 3) concern that the proposed amendment reads that the maximum height of ‘all accessory buildings should be no more than 35 feet.’ Decision on the ordinance was postponed to the June 20<sup>th</sup> meeting to give HPC time to consider proper wording.

Interested parties held a meeting to discuss the Church of Christ the King new building plans. Members of the HPC presented their ideas to the group on how best to use the space currently available. It was proposed that the Millbrook House be renovated to accommodate a rectory. This proposal would then allow for a revamping of the current rectory (approximately 4000 sq ft) and a new 4,400 square foot addition to be attached to the east side of the rectory which would be on a smaller scale from the original plan submitted. The garage could be renovated to accommodate the Youth Ministry and improvements made to the current church basement. This proposal was met with an encouraging positive response from the audience.

The Kirkinis decision should not be viewed as the yardstick for all historic sites. Rather, each application must be reviewed on its own merit for a possible historic easement. Therefore, future applications with historic homesites should not refer to the Kirkinis easement. Suggestions were made that a historic preservation easement amendment should be given an updated analysis.

New business:

Mr. & Mrs. Wentz (Block 13, Lot 5) of Miller Road submitted an application to remove and rebuild a home on a current 1-acre lot. The application requires a variance because of the 1-acre lot size. The HPC was asked to review the application because the homesite is in the Pleasantville Road historic area. The HPC felt the application had no adverse impact to the surrounding area/homes.

Sprint/Spectrum is proposing construction of a wireless telecommunications tower in back of the New Vernon Coachworks. A letter will be sent to the applicant to inform that this proposed construction is in a historic district.

Martin and Jane O'Connor (Block 9, Lot 10) have applied for an addition to their home on Blue Mill Road. HPC determined the application was not detrimental to the Silver Lake historic district streetscape and appreciated the sensitivity of the homeowners. HPC will forward a letter to the Board of Adjustment simply suggesting that similar building materials should be used.

Mr. & Mrs. DeCarlo (Block 34, Lots 1 and 1.01) at Tempe Wick Road and Route 202 are proposing a lot line change. HPC did not feel the application has merit and that the integrity of the historic property will not benefit from a lot line change.

Mr. & Mrs. John Limmer (Block 49, Lots 6 & 7) of Lee's Hill Road are requesting a lot line adjustment and a variance to renovate and remodel an old garage using historic plans. HPC will forward a letter to the Board of Adjustment in support of this application.

**Civic Association Call to Action!**

Are you interested in participating in the Civic Association?- we welcome new members to the executive committee, which covers and reports on civic affairs. None of us are "professional" reporters, just citizens doing a service for all of us who cannot attend meetings due to other commitments. Thumbnail was started over 50 years ago, in response to the lack of civic news coverage in the "regular" press, and the problem still exists. Please write The Harding Township Civic Association, PO Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976. We also thank you for your support of the Civic Association, in both your interest and comments, and with your financial contributions through dues.

The Civic Association has honored at least one "Distinguished Citizen of the Year" every year for over 30 years. Some were relatively unknown outside Harding, others have had national recognition. Our criteria for selection has been very broad, this should be a resident who is not an elected official, and who has made a contribution to the town worthy of note, perhaps which otherwise would be uncelebrated. If you have a name to suggest, please let us know. You should be an advocate for the person, providing a brief bio and reasons for your choice. We would especially ask that those of you who have been honored in the past, help us with nominations. The names of those selected in the past will be posted on our website, <http://www/hardingcivic.org>.

**EDITOR'S NOTE: The deadline for the next issue of the thumbnail is September 26.** You should EM or fax (typewritten preferred, please) to the editor, Hesna Pfeiffer, **973 605 1127, email [hesnaj@aol.com](mailto:hesnaj@aol.com)**. Call the editor if you have any transmission questions or ideas for articles, 973 540 8911. *The Thumbnail is copyrighted and published by the Harding Township Civic Association, and is mailed to every home in Harding Township.*

RECYCLING: Commingled recycling of plastics, aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles and jars, mixed paper at Municipal Garage every Wednesday, 7AM-Noon; and 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 9-12 AM. Residents are requested NOT to leave recyclable materials if the center is closed.

DATES TO REMEMBER, meetings at 8PM, unless as noted; special events in italic

Municipal Court (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)	6 PM	
Environmental Commission (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday)	7:30 PM	9/11, 10/9, 11/6
Seniors (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday)	11 AM.....	9/27, 10/11, 10/25
Planning Board (4 <sup>th</sup> Monday)	8 PM.....	9/24, 10/22
Hist Preservation Comm (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	8 PM	10/11, 11/8
Board of Health (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	8 PM	10/11, 11/8
Board of Education (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday)	7:30 PM....	9/24, 10/8, 10/22
Board of Adjustment (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	7:30 PM....	9/12, 9/20, 10/18
Township Committee (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed)	8 PM.....	9/19, 10/3, 10/17
Shade Tree (2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday)	3 PM	10/8, 11/12