

June-July 2003

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Township annual Memorial Day parade was held May 27. The Citizen of the Year, Richard Walter, was honored. “Dick” Walter, who served as a Marine from 1954-1956, joined the New Vernon Volunteer Fire in 1963. Over the years, he held the positions of chief, president, trustee and on virtually every committee in the department. He was also a founding member of the Harding Township Recreation Association, a co-founder of the Harding Township Shade Tree Advisory Committee, of which he is still an active member; has served on the Township’s Juvenile Conference Committee; is currently serving on the Township’s Re-Development Advisory Committee; has coached kid’s softball; and has spent many a freezing night flooding the skating rink at Bayne Park.

The Winners in the Harding Township Civic Association Essay Contest 2003 were announced at the Memorial Day Parade. They are 1st & 2nd - **Holly Claytor**, Harding Township School; 3rd & 4th - **Erica Jacobs**, Far Hills Country Day; 5th & 6th - **Lauren Ginarte** Harding; and 7th & 8th- **Charlie Cotton**, Harding. The Civic Association salutes all the fine young people who worked hard to enter the contest, and congratulates the winners, who will be receiving a \$100 savings bond as their prize.

NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

The New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department would like to invite all Township Residents to our Wetdown **on Saturday July 12 from 3-5 pm** at the Firehouse on Village Road. A Wetdown is a party to celebrate new apparatus. This is actually a triple wetdown – we have a new Ambulance, a new Tanker and a new Command Vehicle. This is a great opportunity to meet your friends and neighbors who volunteer 24/7/365 to keep Harding safe. It’s also an opportunity for the kids to explore all of the ‘Fire Engines’ Food and drinks will be served – we look forward to seeing you there!

HARDING TOWNSHIP/GREEN VILLAGE BRIDLE PATH ASSOCIATION

The **Family Fun Show is scheduled for July 12**, on the Horse Show Grounds, Sand Spring Lane and Sand Spring Road corner. There will be a Dressage show at the same venue in early fall. Please check their website at www.bridlepath.org, or email to bridlepath@att.net, the president is Scott McElroy.

THE LIBRARY *Happy Summer Reading!*

Holiday closings: The Library will be closed on Friday, July 4 *and* Saturday, July 5. It will reopen on Monday, July 7 at 10:00 a.m.

Evening hours suspended...There will be no late Thursday hours during July and August. On Thursday, July 3, the Library will close at 4 p.m. as it does on the other four

weekdays. The Library will continue to be open on Saturday mornings from 10 o'clock until noon. *Thursday evening patrons*: please complete the request for information sheet on the Library desk so that we may better meet your needs. Thank you.

Can you spare six hours per month (in two three-hour shifts) to perform a useful public service (and have fun in the process)? If so, you will be made most welcome at the Harding Township Library. Training on the M.A.I.N. computer system and HTL library procedures cheerfully provided. Help during the summer will be particularly appreciated, as a number of our regulars go away during July and August. Please call the Library (973-267-8000) or Anne Thomas (973-267-9424) with queries or to volunteer for a time slot.

We announce with regret the departure of Lynn Hughes as of 21 June. Please welcome Amy Nagle, a resident of New Vernon, who will take over as Circulation Supervisor. Amy comes to us with extensive experience in the Somerset County Library System and is presently studying for her MLS degree at Rutgers, specializing in Youth Services.

THE GARDEN CLUB has once again been recognized by the Garden Club of NJ for its horticultural and design contributions both locally and statewide. The following trophies were presented at the recent annual meeting: **Ringwood Garden Club Trophy** for outstanding decoration of a public building, "decorating the Village of New Vernon for the Holidays, Caron Menger, chairman; The **Pine Lakes Garden Club Trophy** to Mary Jane Turnbull, the highest rated novice Blue Ribbon winner in a standard flower show; **Certificate of Merit** for an Excellent Yearbook, Pam Sharples, project chairman; **Certificate of Merit** for comprehensive study of indoor/outdoor horticulture, New Vernon Junior Gardeners, Martha Coy and Mary Jane Turnbull, chairmen. The standard flower show held in May 2002 was recognized for excellence, Caron Menger and Justine Kovacs, chairmen.

ATTENTION VIETNAM WAR VETERANS

As they have done for World War II and Korean War Veterans, the Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders is commissioning a Vietnam War commemorative medal for individuals who served Honorably on active duty between 31 December 1960 through 7 May 1975. In conjunction with the County program, the Harding Township Committee will be holding a presentation ceremony for the Township's Vietnam War Veterans similar to the recently held ceremony for World War II and Korean War Vets. All individuals who served Honorably during the above noted period are asked to submit a Vietnam War commemorative medal registration form to the Morris County Veterans

Service Office. Forms are available at the Harding Township Municipal Building or can be obtained by calling the County's Veterans Service Office at (973) 326-7286.

HARDING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Residents are reminded that with the warm weather we can expect increased mosquito activity and the chance of increased transmission of West Nile Virus. To reduce the risk of mosquito bites, residents are advised to wear pants and long sleeve shirts when outside; use insect repellent in accordance with label instructions; eliminate standing water around the outside of the house, especially in flowerpots, birdbaths, buckets, pools and roof gutters; repair window and door screens and avoid outdoor activities at dawn, dusk and evening hours. As in years past, the prevalence of West Nile will be monitored through dead crow surveillance. Residents are asked to report any dead crows or kestrels to the Health Department. Reporting of other dead birds such as songbirds, starlings or grackles is not necessary. Further information about mosquitoes and West Nile Virus is available on the state website, www.state.nj.us/health or from the Health Department at 973 455-7296.

NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRST AID SQUAD

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) just released new blood pressure guidelines. Under these new guidelines, a blood pressure that you thought was normal may now be considered high – placing you at risk for heart disease and stroke. (See the chart below for the complete guidelines.)

Blood Pressure Classification	Systolic BP mmHg		Diastolic BP mmHg
Normal	<120	and	<80
Prehypertension	120–139	or	80–89
Stage 1 Hypertension	140–159	or	90–99
Stage 2 Hypertension	160	or	100

Ask your physician what your blood pressure is at your next visit and discuss strategies to lower your blood pressure if it is high. Strategies to lower blood pressure may include: Maintaining a healthy weight; being physically fit; following a healthy eating plan; reducing salt intake; exercising moderation in alcohol consumption; taking prescribed blood pressure medication as directed. *For more information, visit the NIH website at <http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov>*

TOWNSHIP NEWS

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

The Township Committee, in cooperation with the Civic Association, is providing Ordinances for publication on the Harding Civic website. They can be reached by clicking "Ordinances" on the navigation bar at the left. All of the posted ordinances are listed on one page and can be searched, the same as the entire web site by keyword. This does not serve as the "official" or "legal" posting of the ordinances, but it is hoped will serve as an important function to the citizens. A few caveats: the language of the Ordinances as first introduced is not Final, so can change. However, the preliminary text provides important information so that the citizenry can decide the impact and attend or comment on the ordinance at an appropriate stage if desired. The Civic Association is planning to provide information regarding the Township committee agendas in advance to afford some notice of pertinent items for discussion. Meanwhile, check out the Civic Association website: <http://www.hardingcivic.org>.

Rich Wiedmann, Township administrator, has informed the Township Committee of his intent to resign as of December 6 2003. A search for his successor is underway, and a consultant has been hired to aid in the selection process. The job will be posted and publicized in due course.

The sign "For Residents" in Bayne Park has been painted over. The Township was threatened by a Rutgers law school litigation clinic to be included in a statewide class action lawsuit regarding public access to park lands. Harding Township officials had responded to the Rutgers threat by pointing out that there was in fact no ordinance restricting access to Bayne Park, and there has never been any actual exclusion, only the sign, which was intended to recognize Howard Bayne, the donor of the park land. Nonetheless, the sign was painted over earlier last month. Township officials have commented that the threat of the lawsuit was a nuisance but one on which the Township did not want to make a stand on principal.

At the meeting on June 4, the Township voted to contribute funds to aid in the purchase of development rights to the Nagro/Lobel Farm on Sand Spring Road, which was approved for consideration in the state Farmland Preservation Program in Morris County in April. The Township action gives the Township the ability to supplement funds for the transaction by making up the difference between the farmland preservation offer and the top appraisal. Other properties in Harding have applied for inclusion in the Farmland Preservation Program, Matty Devine on Lees Hill Rd, and Kovens, Dickson Mill Road, as well as Lyall, and Thebault along Sand Spring Road. The Township also voted to use open space funds to help preserve a 16-acre tract on James St (corner near Harter Rd) owned by Tim O'Connor.

PLANNING BOARD May 19 and June 23

At the May 19 meeting, there was discussion of a proposed ordinance, initiated by the “Advisory Review Committee” that a **Zoning Permit be required for all land uses not now covered by ordinances**. The Advisory Review Committee was said to have been acting on a request by the Zoning officer, and/or the building inspector and/or the Township administrator. The Planning Board decided that the draft ordinance for a “Zoning Permit” was not thought through. One of the problems was how to deal with “*de minimis*” uses which would be triggered by the language in the draft. Another was what was the ordinance attempting to solve. Was it proposed to stop cumulative incremental changes in patios and the like which eventually exceed the permitted minimums of impervious coverage? To prevent deer fencing which is currently largely unregulated? Jim Rybka, seconded by Isabel Olcott, made some very cogent criticisms in regard to the proposed ordinance, that yet another layer of ordinance and regulation was being proposed to solve a problem which really was an enforcement issue. Rybka said that if the Township can’t enforce the bounds of “impervious coverage” or whatever, then having a check on the people by asking them to get a permit for small changes such as a few patio blocks, a minor dog run or a fenced vegetable garden would place unnecessary burden on the people. The result, that the proposal was sent back to the committee for reconsideration.

At the Planning Board on June 23, Mary Prendergast, a member of the Advisory Review Committee and the Township Committee, reported to the Planning Board and the public that the “Zoning Ordinance” was still being reviewed by the Township Committee and therefore was on hold. She also reported the status of another proposed ordinance under discussion in the Advisory Review Committee which relates to “lighting of properties”. She quoted Mayor John Murray as saying that some of these proposals were too onerous to the property owner. She reported that the Zoning officer and the building inspector have been asked to keep track of applications and potential problems so that the question could be revisited in a few months. She also stated that there is some concern on the part of Mayor John Murray that enforcement of ordinances already on the books presents some confusion to residents and zoning officers alike. She offered the possibility that the Township would review the steps are necessary for a property owner to go through to make changes to e.g. patios or driveways, or to build improvements such as additions to the house. These include getting review by the Board of Health, and also include providing engineering plans for grading, tree conservation, and storm water management, etc. Sometimes the requirements come as an unwelcome surprise to property owners and necessitate postponement of construction and inconvenience to owners and contractors. Also, the rules are complex enough, that apparently it is complicated for the Zoning officers, who are part-time, to give consideration and provide timely and consistent decisions to applications. The situation has been complicated by personnel changes in recent years and consequent unfamiliarity with procedures and decisions of the past, as well as the many changes to the land use statutes in recent (e.g.

last 4 years).

A public hearing on the **Walker** application, #6-03, Block 5, lot 6, Van Buren Road, to subdivide a 9 acres parcel with two dwellings into two separate parcels, was given preliminary approval. Final approval was made contingent on the Applicant providing a storm water management plans for a "paper road" to the back lot. The need for a "paper road" in land use is to provide land for access and frontage on a road, rather than over an easement or by a "flag" driveway. In the case of Walker, the back property has a longstanding easement over the next door (right side of property) driveway, so the Planning Board did not require the road be built (land set aside for the use of the road on the right side of the property). However, the designation of enough land, with surveying and engineering plans was required, should the road to the back lot ever be built. The Township engineer Fox pointed out that the Planning Board should also require a storm water management plan for the paper road. While the Applicant questioned whether that was necessary at this time, the Board voted for the Engineer Fox position and withheld final approval.

SCHOOL BOARD NEWS

The Board of Education acknowledged Marissa Waldemore as the recipient of the 2003 Middle School Leadership Award, presented by the Morris County Association of School Administrators. Miss Waldemore, an eighth grader at Harding, was selected by the middle school faculty on the basis of her academic, athletic, extracurricular and community service accomplishments.

Annual Board Retreat - is scheduled for July. Board members use this time to discuss and outline plans which establish priorities for the forthcoming year.

NJ ASK/3 and NJASK/4, Manuals for these tests were reviewed by the Board. These are rigorous, times tests, developed under the requirements of the provisions of the federal "No Child Left Behind Act". The tests will assess language arts literacy, mathematics and science. Results will not be reported to the federal government this year, but will be used to establish baseline data.

Dr. Pallozzi reported that there are 43 students registered for Kindergarten next fall. Two of these students will be tuition students. This is the second consecutive year with a large enrollment in kindergarten.

Mary Jane Canose reported that she and Dr. Pallozzi met with Steve Swenson and Gary Annabel from the Health Department, to follow up on the septic issues.

Buildings and Grounds - There have been many requests for screens on windows, now that the weather has warmed up. Since the windows would require custom sized screens, the cost would be approximately \$13,000 for the 110 windows that would need screens. The school currently employs a univent system to circulate air in the building. In order for the univent system to work properly, windows should be kept shut. The system is regulated centrally, so teachers could not shut it down in their room

if they wanted to open the window. Other projects discussed were a security system for the school and repair and improvement of the playground blacktop. Dr. Pallozzi will discuss these projects with the P.T.O. to determine if there is an interest in getting involved.

Gym Sound Control - Sound specialists continue to be consulted to determine how to effectively reduce noise levels in the new gym. The design engineers for the systems will be on site to make sure rooftop units were installed correctly so as to reduce vibrations and thereby reduce reverberation.

Medical Insurance Premiums - Final costs for the district's medical insurance premiums are coming in at or close to projected amounts in the budget.

Personnel and Management: Resolutions were passed to renew contracts for tenured and non-tenured teachers (specific information on this will be on the school web site - www.hardingtwp.k12.nj.us).

Madison Board of Ed - Two new Board members were elected this spring. A new football coach was hired. The track project was delayed. A new roof will be installed on the school. Harding Township will be negotiating a new contract with Madison this month.

Board of Ed Meeting Notes - May 19, 2003

The BOE had a reception for Joan Graham, the new Supervisor of Student Services. Beginning on July 1, 2003, Mrs. Graham will replace Carolyn Swartz who is retiring at the end of this school year. She brings with her a wealth of experience that includes past positions as a child study team supervisor, a learning disabilities teacher-consultant, a special education teacher and an elementary education teacher. Mrs. Graham holds a BA in English, a Masters of Arts degree in education and is pursuing her doctorate at Nova Southeastern University.

Business Administrator, Mrs. Canose updated the Board on the progress in developing specifications to bid custodial service to take over the night cleaning of the middle school. This effort, linked with the elimination of three custodial positions is projected to save the district \$20,000 - \$30,000 during the next school year. Mrs. Canose is also working with the Educational Services Commission to develop the specifications for the bus service bid for the 2003 - 2004 school year.

The district has been approached by T-Mobile to consider installing a cellular tower on school property. The Board is currently collecting information to determine its feasibility. The tower would provide about \$24,000 per year in revenue to the school, offsetting the loss of state aid.

Mr. Santoro, BOE president applauded Harding Twp's Class of 2004 talent show production which was held on Friday May 16th. The 7th grade sponsored a very creative and successful talent show featuring K-8 students and raised \$2,000. Also, recognition was given to Ms. Klikier, Principal and the entire Harding School staff for all their hard work in helping to make it such a success.

From the School Board: The Board Notes from the May 12th and May 19th meetings are available on the official website, see the following:
www.hardingtwp.k12.nj.us/boefolder/boenotes/051203.htm; and
www.hardingtwp.k12.nj.us/boefolder/boenotes/051903.htm.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, May 15, 2003

Resolutions approved: #7-03 - A.T.& T. Wireless Services; #8-03 - Christine Cusano.

Pending Application **#5-03 - Mads and Sari Jepsen**, Bailey's Mill Road, Block 47, Lot 1, "C" Variance. Applicant is requesting a variance to add on to an existing structure. The impervious coverage on this property has been reduced to 9.6%, due to the removal of a shed. This is a 2-acre lot. The Board is concerned with the overall coverage (bulk of the house) on this lot. The size of the home currently is 3700 sq. ft and the proposed additions will bring it to 6,500 sq. ft. Public comments: David Dietz of Lake Trail East expressed a concern about the footprint and bulk of the house if it is expanded. Mr. Jepsen Sr., speaking on behalf of his son, commented that most houses in that area have a three-car garage and that the house next door is a comparable size. The Board denied this request. The applicant will have to submit a revised proposal in the future, if they want to proceed.

New Application - **10-03 - Neil and Leslie O'Donnell**, Lee's Hill Road, Block 17-Lot 55.04, "C" variance. Application is for an addition to an existing home. This house is located on a flag lot, off of Lee's Hill Road. The house is screened by a row of evergreens and is not visible from the street. Existing lot coverage is 11.97%. Proposed coverage will be 11.31% in a R1 area. Reduction in coverage will be achieved by removing a portion of driveway. There is an existing gazebo, patio and deck. New construction will be over the existing patio and deck, thereby not increasing coverage. Roof coverage with the addition would be at the maximum of 4%. The property is level, with no significant hills or slopes affecting run-off. The house complies with setbacks. The house would go from 6,000 sq. ft to 11,000 sq. ft. with the proposed addition. Roof height will be two feet higher with changes. The Board planned a site inspection on Tuesday, May 20th at 6:00 P.M. The footprint for the proposed addition will be staked out on the property for the site inspection.

New Application **#9-03 - Dean and Vivian Stephan**, 229 Blue Mill Road, Block 4, Lot 4, "C" Variance. (The Gardner house). Applicant is requesting a variance to increase the detached garage by 5 feet. The board voted to approve this application.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION,

Thumbnail has been asked to publish the following letter from Chris Allyn, chair, Environmental Commission. "Long Grass, Native Grass

"The Environmental Commission discussed an experiment in reduced grass

cutting that is under way on the grounds surrounding the municipal building and in Bayne Park. The lawns are being kept cut short only in the most visible and most highly used areas: near roadways, entrances and parts of the grounds that are frequented by visitors. In other areas, the grass will be allowed to grow and mowed only once, in late summer or fall.

“The new plan for lawn maintenance was suggested at the annual meeting of the Harding Land Trust during a question-answer period following a presentation by guest speaker, Anthony Sblendorio. The EC observed that close-cut lawn does a very poor job of absorbing rainfall (it has been called "green concrete") and that manicured lawn does not contribute to the "rural character" associated with Harding. The EC noted that reduced mowing has cost benefits, reduces stormwater runoff, increases recharge of rainfall into the aquifers, reduces the need for herbicides, pesticides and fertilizer, and reduces organic debris for disposal.

“Longer term, one aspect of grounds design could be to plant native grasses more compatible with a native meadow and support for song birds for at least a portion of the managed areas. The EC also noted that the grass growing experiment carries very little risk in the near term, as nothing is significantly changed. Should a decision be made to terminate the experiment, re-starting the mowing should bring the situation back as before.”

Meeting Report, May 6, 2003

Recycling: Nothing to report.

Little plants stream study has been terminated by DEP. The funding has been withdrawn.

Subcommittee on **Fencing:** Maps were presented showing wire-mesh, stockade, and metal fencing.

Planning board: Chris Allyn & Gary Annibal are on a sub-committee to study the New Vernon redevelopment plans. They are concerned with storm water and wastewater drainage. So far it appears that many properties will not be able to comply with the “no net” increase standards if redeveloped. They suggest that the current ordinance may have to be changed to make the “no net” waiver easier to comply with.

Walker, Block 5, Lot 6, on Van Buren road. An application to divide one lot into two and have a private road access was presented. No objections were made by this committee. Lancor, Block 55, lot 10 & Block 12.01 Lot 1, on Meyersville Road. Major concerns were raised because exceptional wetlands might be affected. A sub-committee including Justine Kovacs and Roger Greenway was formed and a note was sent to the Planning Board requesting they be informed as to when this issue will be heard.

Hurley, Block 47, Lot 13 on Young’s Road. He wants to create two lots. One of 3.07 acres and the other 6.35 acres. The LOI has not been responded to by the state.

Board of adjustments:

Jepson, Block 47 Lot 1 on Bailey’s Mill and Lee’s Hill Roads. An addition was proposed

as well as changing the driveway. There are coverage concerns and it appears the addition would make the house too big for the lot.

Stephan, Block 4 Lot 4, on Blue Mill Road (the Gardner property.) They want to enlarge the garage. No enviro issues were raised.

O'Donnell, Block 17 Lot 55.04, off Lee's Hill Road. They want to increase the size of the dwelling. There are coverage concerns. Board members will attend the Board of Adjustments meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Spatz and Mr. Danzic from Peachcroft Road attended the meeting and raised concerns about the development of the Misko property. They are worried about a proposed Barn and the potential affects of water runoff and coverage. The enviro committee is concerned about any further development of said land and will monitor the development.

An LOI and general Permit was granted to Antonaccio, on Woodland Road, Green Village.

The annual report has not been completed.

New Business:

King, Block 47 Lot 10.01, Lee's Hill and Young's Road: An LOI was applied for. There is concern that it may be difficult to build there because of exceptional resources.

Chris Allyn reported the Ten Town's Stormwater Seminar was great. Stormwater permits will be needed by town. Impact to Harding is minimal.

Harding Land Trust meeting was brought up and land stewardship concerns were raised. Portions of the grass in Bayne Park and the Municipal building will be left to grow to discourage geese and to allow for less water runoff. Mowed grass is roughly equivalent to pavement. Also, the grass will cut down on fodder for deer.

Chris Allyn will send a letter to the Governor regarding the concern of reduction in funding for environmental grants.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, June 5, 2003

1. Antonaccio, Woodland Road, Block 54, Lot 9—Owners want to renovate a 250 year old house near front of a 5 acre property and also replace a non-original, lean-to kitchen on the side of the house with a new 483 square foot addition which will contain a new kitchen and mudroom. A wrap-around porch will be added. The addition will use same white clapboard finish. HPC approved the plans because they keep the existing farmhouse structure and preserve the streetscape. HPC recommended use of 2 over 2 windows. Owners will appear before the Board of Adjustment on June 19 because of the house's proximity to the road and property boundaries. HPC will advise that Board that old houses were traditionally built near the road.

2. Spellman, Glen Alpin Road, Block 21, Lot 10.02--Owner seeks to build a very large house on a 3-acre property. Property is in a historic district but is non-contributing. HPC

will determine if the proposed house is visible from Bayne Park or from the road and would affect the streetscape. HPC will alert the Shade Tree Committee to possible ramifications.

3. T. Heston Allocco, Blue Mill Road, Block 19, Lot 11—Owner proposes to build a new house behind an older house that will remain standing. Owner will appear before the Board of Adjustment on June 19 to request 3 variances. Owner should be referred to the HPC when a building permit is sought and HPC would like to be present for the site inspection. HPC wants to advise on the specific building plans. HPC is concerned about the particulars of the windows, siding and roof. Also, HPC would like owner to find a use for the older structure so that it is preserved.

4. Blanchard, Glen Alpin Road, Block 49, Lot 12—Owner wants to place cedar siding on an existing breezeway between the house and garage. The house is in a historic district but is non-contributing. The proposed change has no impact on the streetscape and HPC saw no serious issues with the change.

5. Lancor, Meyersville Road, Block 55, Lot 12.01—Owner wants to move 1300 feet from one property to another. HPC anticipated further development and could not support the proposed change because the overall site plan had not been presented. That plan would show the mass of buildable areas, septic, access roads, etc. HPC could not determine how the changes would affect the streetscape or how many trees would be removed. Also, the proposed change might affect an existing lot on which a building plan had previously been approved.

6. Village Redevelopment District—HPC was presented with separate plans for Ortman's Garage, the Cook Property and The Academy. The HPC wants to be presented with an overall plan for the area so that it can determine how the plans for each property would interact. HPC thinks there should be a mix of looks and styles. In addition, HPC fears that the historic integrity of the older structures might be lost if too much "pseudo-historical" building is done around them.

a. Ortman's Garage—HPC thought the building proposed for the site of Ortman's garage was in more of an inappropriate colonial style than the historically veracious Victorian style. HPC thought the proposed building looked too cute and contrived. HPC thought the goal should be a building that looks like a house being used for another purpose. In addition, HPC recommended that the building be turned around so that the parking would be in the back.

b. Cook Property—HPC thought the proposed building was in keeping with the 19th century vernacular that is accurate to New Vernon's historical roots. HPC still wants to see a site plan so that it can determine how the building lies, its relationship to other buildings, and the location of parking.

c. The Academy—HPC thought the mass of the proposed building might be too large for the lot and too much was unclear from the plans. The gables at the end of the building are not appropriate. HPC wants to see a site plan. HPC could not determine the location of parking. The HPC supported the proposed new Harding ordinance allocating funds for

historic preservation. HPC wants to know who decides how the funds are spent, and whether funds can be accumulated over time for a particular project. The HPC is preparing a package of materials for each property applicant that would contain the forms needed for different types of projects. HPC is investigating ways to give incentives to people to maintain rather than destroy historic properties.

SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE No report this month

The deadlines for the next 2 issues of the Thumbnail are August 29 and September 29, respectively. *The next issue will be sent in early September.* Reportorial coverage of Town meetings continues throughout the summer, and you can continue to send in articles or announcements for publication in September. If you have any information to be included, please send to the editor, Hesna Pfeiffer. Most preferred format is by E-mail, **email hesnaj@aol.com**, as we don't have to re-type, but fax is also acceptable, to the editor's fax, 973 605 1127,. You can send items early! Call the editor if you have any transmission questions, 973 540 8911.

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<http://www.hardingcivic.org>.

RECYCLING: Commingled recycling of plastics, aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles and jars, mixed paper, corrugated cardboard and household batteries at Municipal Garage every Wednesday, 7AM-Noon, (7AM to 9AM self service); and 1st and 3rd Saturdays 7/12, 8/2, 8/16, 9/6 from 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.

Municipal Court (1 st and 3 rd Tuesday)	6 PM	
Environmental Commission (1 st Tuesday)	7:30 PM	8/5, 9/9
Seniors (2 nd and 4 th Thursday at Pres Church)	11 AM.....	
Planning Board (4 th Monday)	8 PM.....	7/28, 8/25,9/22
Hist Preservation Comm (1stThursday)	8 PM	8/7, 9/4
Board of Health (2 nd Thursday)	8 PM.....	8/14, 9/11
Board of Education (2 nd and 4 th Monday)	7:30 PM....	
Board of Adjustment (3 rd Thursday)	7:30 PM....	7/17,8/21, 9/18
Township Committee	8 PM.....	7/16, 8/13, 9/3, 9/17
Shade Tree (2 nd Monday)	3 PM	8/11, 9/8
Municipal Alliance (3 rd Wed at Harding Schl)	8:45 AM	9/17
Harding Twp Civic Association	7:30 PM	9/8