

January 2004: Happy New Year!

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

BLOOD DRIVE

Please mark your calendars **on Saturday, January 24 for Harding Township's Annual Blood Drive**. It will be held at the Christ the King Church on Lee's Hill Rd. from **8:30 AM till 2:00 PM**. The American Red Cross needs your blood to provide a safe and adequate supply of blood to local hospitals. We need your support to meet the challenge of saving lives. Please call Sue Sameth at 973 267 0552 or Barbara Gill at 973 538 8944 to schedule an appointment for January 24th and/or to volunteer your time to help with this worthy cause.

THE LIBRARY

Programs for Children...Storytime for ages up to 5: Tuesdays, January 20 and 27 at 10:30 a.m. Stories, films, and an age-appropriate craft will be offered. **Talk It Up Book Club** for children in grades 3-5 on Thursday, January 22 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. to discuss *The Giggler Treatment* by Roddy Doyle. Copies for borrowing are available at the Library. Children's programs are held in the Court Room of the Kirby Municipal Building. To register, please call the Library at **973-267-8000, Ext 32**.

Under the weather and cannot get to the Library but desperately in need of something diverting to read? The Library offers a **Homebound Library Service**. Community volunteers will drop off and return Library materials for patrons. For more information, contact the Library.

Library Closing...on Monday, January 19 in recognition of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Annual Meeting of HTHS takes place on **Thursday, January 29 at 7:30 p.m.** at the New Vernon Fire House. Following a brief business meeting at which dessert, coffee and tea will be served, Dr. George Chorba of the New Vernon Presbyterian Church will speak about "Religious Roots in Harding's History." As the longest serving pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Dr. Chorba has recently published a book about its history, touching upon personalities and events that reveal a parallel picture of the changing times in New Vernon. Admission is free for HTHS members. Non-members will be charged \$5.00 per person. Seating is limited to 100 and reservations can be made by calling (973) 984- 5590.

Harding Township Civic Association—Notice to Amend Bylaws

Please be advised that the Harding Township Civic Association shall, on **February 2, 2004, at 7:30 p.m.** at its annual meeting at the Kirby Municipal Building in Harding Township, conduct a vote to amend its bylaws.

Article X, Section 4 now states: If the Association is dissolved, all its net assets shall be distributed to the Township of Harding or, if the Township of Harding is no longer in existence, solely to organizations qualified at that time as exempt organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States internal revenue law). The distribution required by the preceding sentence shall be made by the Council or, to the extent not made by them, by a court of equity of competent jurisdiction.

That section would be replaced with the following: Upon the dissolution of the Association or the winding up of its affairs, the assets of the Association shall be applied first to the payment of all liabilities and obligations of the Association and the remainder shall be distributed as directed by the Council exclusively to (i) organizations which then qualify as exempt organizations under the provisions of Code sections 501(a) and 501(c)(3) and which are organized and operated for charitable, religious, scientific, literary, and/or educational purposes, and/or (ii) to any State or local government for a public purpose.

The primary purpose of this new section is to remove the requirement that all remaining assets of the HTCA, after its dissolution, be distributed to Harding Township. The new section would allow the HTCA, upon dissolution, to distribute any assets remaining after the payment of existing liabilities to a 501(c)(3) entity or to a governmental entity.

The amendment is proposed in contemplation of the creation of a new entity to be called the Harding Township Civic Association Inc. That entity will seek 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code. It is the intent of the current HTCA to dissolve itself and then transfer its remaining assets to the Harding Township Civic Association, Inc., once tax-exempt status is obtained.

Copies of the proposed Bylaws of the Harding Township Civic Association, Inc., as well as its Unanimous Consent of Board of Trustees in Lieu of First Meeting of Board of Trustees and its Certificate of Incorporation will be available on the HTCA website, www.hardingcivic.org.

Do you have a nominee for “**Citizen of the Year**”? The Civic Association awards this honor to an individual who has made a significant contribution to Harding Township in a voluntary capacity. Awards have been made in the past to Richard Walter, John Bocchi, J.J. Pierson, Father Corre, Leslie Cooke, Ben Josephson, Marianne Morris, Frank DeMotte, Ellie and Jay Smith, George Baldwin, Harvey Page Jr, to name only a few. Perhaps you know someone who quietly and modestly contributes to our town. Maybe not many other people know what that person does, and you do. Please let us hear from you with your suggestion.

The Harding Township Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) will hold its 2004 Spring Fashion Show, “Spring Times: Yesterday and Today”, at the Spring Brook Country Club

in Morristown, on **Saturday, March 27, 2004, 11 am to 2 pm**. Approximately 200 people will attend the event, the proceeds from which have in the past built a new, state-of-the-art playground for the children, as well as funding several other school improvements. Tickets should be purchased ahead. If you wish to attend and need an invitation, please call Lynn, 973 605 8929. **Those who wish to donate, please call Lisa at (973) 984-7579 or Michelle at (973) 984-8590.**

This year's Fashion Chair and former Costume Director for New York City Opera, Bettina Bierly, is planning a fashion retrospective using costumes as well as current fashions to highlight Spring fashions from the past through today. The show will again use Harding Township School faculty and family as models, and Ms. Bierly plans to increase the number and variety of fashions from previous years. Fashions from the 50's, 70's and the turn of the century will be featured and will be linked with music from each era. A number of local shops will be providing clothing and accessories for the show, including *Time after Time* (Clothing from the Past) in Madison, New Jersey.

"The commitment and support of the Harding parents, teachers and Harding community for this event has been tremendous, and we are looking forward to working with Spring Brook to make this year's event another success," said Kim Macaulay, this year's Fashion Show Chairwoman and former PTO President. The event will again include a silent auction of gift baskets featuring items and services from area businesses and organizations.

Arriving in your mailbox soon! A district survey of Harding Township School will be showing up in your mail this month. Please don't miss this golden opportunity to provide input to our Board of Education. Information gathered will have a long-range impact on future BOE decisions. The survey is part of our "school district evaluation" which is done by the state once every 7 years and will cover a variety of issues. Please take 5 minutes to tell us your opinions. If you have any questions, or don't receive a survey, please call Jennifer McCulloch at 973-410-1660. (Ed note: Ms McCulloch is Chair of the Harding School Vision Council, a volunteer citizen advisory board to Dr Pallozzi, school superintendent)

TOWNSHIP NEWS **Township Committee**

Richard Wiedmann, after 17 years as Harding's first and only administrator, has left our town. Wiedmann retired, and will move to a horse farm in North Carolina. Township Committeeman Lou Lanzerotti called the retiring administrator "unflappable" and able to handle any situation with aplomb. Lanzerotti said Wiedmann has been "fantastic for the town" and has helped to keep Harding the way it is. "He really understood the history and origins of Harding and our philosophy of government here," Lanzerotti said. "And he was very good at articulating it to residents especially new ones who may have come here from other places with different styles of government."

Many changes have occurred over the years. Wiedmann said he was especially proud of how the residents have worked to maintain the rural character of the town. He will be sorely missed.

The new Township Administrator will be Lyn Evers, effective January 5, 2004.

Great Swamp Protest. A group of residents are protesting the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge's proposed use of a 15-acre tract on Pleasant Plains Road for a new visitors' center. Brian Matthews is one of the spokespersons for the group; see his letter on this matter below. The Group contends that developing the proposed visitors' center will generate more traffic through the area and lower their property values. According to refuge manager William Koch, there are no plans to add or destroy any buildings on the tract. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which operates the refuge, hopes to turn an existing farmhouse into a first stop for people or groups visiting the Great Swamp, he said. The present indoor riding arena would be used for informational displays and exhibits. However, unlike other property owners, the wildlife service is not subject to local or state restrictions regarding use of their property. There was a public meeting on December 30 to discuss the future development of the site, but Matthews was unable to attend. All comments at the meeting were from Township Officials and representatives of various environmental groups who expressed support for the proposed facility. The Township official response is no surprise, given the power of the federal Government, but is still sad, according to the Pleasant Plains residents.

The property is now owned by Lynn Kurdzialak, a local Realtor. According to Matthews, Kurdzialak has been negotiating to sell it for about \$2.65 million to the Trust for Public Land (TPL), a private, nonprofit organization that works to acquire land for various public agencies. In this case, TPL is negotiating on behalf of the wildlife service. Matthews said residents would be happy to see the wildlife service own the property, but they don't want it used for a visitors' center. They want to see a deed restriction on the property, preventing the land from being developed in any way.

The following letter was received from **Brian Matthews**, The Pleasant Plains & Lee's Hill Rd. Association, Dec. 19, 2003.

Letter to the Editor (Copies Sent To the Members of the Harding Township Committee)

"There is situation at hand that should be of great concern to Harding Township. Lynn Kurdzialak recently completed negotiations to sell her 15-Acre property to the Fish and Game, the operating entity of the Great Swamp Refuge and Wildlife preserved lands. The Great Swamp is intending to purchase the property to redevelop the historic home and outbuildings. Their development plans are quite extensive and very ambitious. The plans include the creation of a new Visitor Center, Gift Shop, Auditorium/Exhibit Hall, an additional Environmental Center as well as expanded administrative offices and permanent exterior installations. To do this major redevelopment the new landscape must include 1) new ingress/egress roads, 2) extensive parking lots will be required to accommodate School Buses, visitors and support staff, 3) new septic systems in place to

accommodate the reported 350,000 visitors a year 4) Major Electrical and Mechanical upgrades, as well as the addition of access gates.

“Our concern is the redevelopment only. If the property is deed restricted to be raw land (like most of the Wildlife lands) adjacent to the Swamp or to remain as its current use (single family residence) we would support the purchase whole heartedly.

“The reality is that this property is far from the dome of over development. This was a 50 acre working horse farm. For the most part the unimproved land either has defined wetlands or is in the flood plain. The low water table accounts for the lack viable septic locations.

“This situation is not too different from previous zoning litigation against New Jersey American Water and, the Pleasant Plains Rd “Kielbloch Farm” proposal. It is actually most similar to the recent proposal from the Darcy School to redevelop of Hilltop Stables property. The local impacts are all too similar to Darcy Protest. The key difference is that the Federal Government is not required to follow Municipal or State land use guidelines. If a contract is executed and closes, the property will become the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. Harding Zoning as well as state DEP ordinance will not apply. The Swamp can do as they wish.” Brian Matthews

New Library Site possible Officials are considering if the Dept of Public Works building on Millbrook Rd should be moved to a different township location to make way for a new public library. At the meeting Dec 17, a special group was empanelled to conduct a feasibility study. The site of the library has been a point of contention ever since the beginning of discussions regarding redevelopment of the Village area of the Township. Originally, the library was proposed to be built between the DPW and the Tunis Ellicks house. However, there have been objections to this location for a number of reasons. Some of those articulating opposition have been worried about the combination of traffic generated by both DPW and the library. Another site being discussed by those opposed to the Village location would be near the Township municipal building. Mayor Murray said that although no decision has been made, the DPW site would be a perfect fit for both the library and the Village redevelopment effort, as it would eliminate the noise dirt and traffic of having DPW in the village.

(Thumbnail is indebted to the Observer-tribune for the following article)

Harding Township has house numbers! Residents were notified by mail in late November about the town's new house numbering system. The letter informed township homeowners of their new house numbers, according to a system based on distance from key intersections.

The new system was designed to facilitate mail and courier deliveries, and was designed to make it easier for emergency services to locate homes where a 9-1-1 call has originated.

Recent changes in state Department of Motor Vehicle regulations also have made it necessary for drivers to have street addresses, complete with house numbers, on their driver's licenses. Some township residents have been less than enthused about the new house numbering system. Linda Peralta, Township deputy administrator, said she was receiving 45 to 50 calls a day immediately following the mailing. One of the main things people were calling about was to find out what the effective date is, Peralta said. Two issues are involved in the timing of the change. With regard to mailing addresses, the postal authorities are expecting the transition to be completed over a six to 12-month period, she said. The other issue is house numbering, which affects emergency response and courier deliveries. "We'd like to see people put their house numbers outside their homes sometime after New Year's Day," Peralta said. According to Mayor John Murray, most of the people who called town hall after receiving the letters were looking for clarification. But some objected to the inconvenience of having to change their address. "To these people, and the rest of Harding residents, we understand the frustration and regret the inconvenience," Murray said. "But at the end of the day, most citizens recognize that the benefits outweigh the inconveniences and those will last a lot longer." Murray said the assigned numbers are working well for the most part, but in a few cases, adjustments have been necessary.

"In a few instances there were relatively confined locations where residents had logically and consistently assigned a number that did not do damage to enhanced public safety, and Harding and the Post Office have been able to accommodate them," Murray said. The notifications were mailed in November so residents could notify friends, family and business associates of their change of address when sending out their holiday cards.

At the meeting on **December 17th**, veterans of World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War were honored at Town Hall in a special ceremony conducted by the Township Committee and the Morris County Freeholders. Those honored included Fenton Chaney, Bruce Chalfant, Richard Cook, Matthew DeGirolamo, Richard Zanoni, Ed Murray, Jim Doherty, John Menger and Richard J Burian. Mrs. Alberta Uhran accepted the commendation on behalf of her deceased husband Dr George Uhran.

PLANNING BOARD, Dec 15, 2003

Note: the next (Jan 26) and all future meetings of this Board will begin at 7:30 PM.

The Board discussed the Historic Committee Properties Report presented by Epsy Farrell. This was a very general discussion, as no ordinances have been proposed. Discussion therefore centered on the 4 talking points of the discussion held 10/29.

These were: 1. Should the township permit, without a variance, **additions to historic structures that do not conform to front setback** requirements, if certain criteria are met? 2. Should the township **exempt historic accessory structures** from certain zoning

requirements? 3. Should the township permit a historic structure to be converted to or used as an **accessory residence** on the same lot as a primary residence **regardless of the size of the lot**? 4. Should the township permit, without a variance, a historic structure to be used as a **rental accessory residence** as a means of encouraging historic preservation?

The key issue of the evening 12/15 was whether some variances which involve historic structures could proceed without full variance hearings at the Bd of Adjustment or the Planning Board. There was much concern with the concept of giving some people living in "historic structures" allowances to which others are not entitled. The administration of any changes would be within the jurisdiction of the Historic Preservation Commission. One of the problems with this approach is the very big question of what properties in the Township are "historic" whether defined by age (e.g. pre-1915? Or later?), location in historic districts (some very old structures are still not encompassed within the six historic districts as presently defined by the town). Wendy Montgomery, chair of the Hist Preservation Commission, presented a report identifying 233 properties in 6 districts, and stated that another 25-50 are in addition, out of any historic district. The total number of houses in Harding is about 1400, with about 300 having some contribution to the "historic" appearance of the township. This does include the "streetscape" look, which is not the same as the actual age of the structure. She also conceded that most of the properties are on small lots and have a great impact on the streetscape. There was some discussion of how this proposal would help avoid the onerous process of an official zoning hearing, and whether this would allow people to save historic properties. However, David Deitz commented that there should be great care taken not to give too much authority to the Hist Preservation Commission instead of the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment. Ms Farrell also acknowledged that most people, who have voiced opinions on the matter, do not want subdivision permitted on less than 3 acres, even to save historic structure. This thought was also supported by Ms Olcott, who commented that any density change troubled her greatly.

Another discussion then proceed, regarding the proposed work by a planning Board subcommittee, chaired by David Deitz, regarding a new lighting ordinance. This ordinance defined problem areas in need of regulation, for outdoor lighting: wattage, hours, location, visibility to roads or adjacent properties, and the purpose and use of landscape lighting. Although no ordinance has yet been drafted, the Planning Board moved to request the Township Committee recommendation as to whether the Planning should continue with their work in this area.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

DEC. 8, 2003

For the detailed records of the school board meetings, Superintendent and Business Administrator reports on district, facility and resolution updates, please refer to the school's official website: www.hardingtwp.k12.nj.us.

The BOE interviewed with candidates for the Board of Ed vacancy created by the recent resignation of Mrs. Nora Peyton. After interviews and Board discussion of the three candidates, Mrs. Regina Egea was selected to fill the seat. She will be formally nominated and appointed at the Dec. 15th meeting, and she will serve in this position until the annual school elections to be held on April 20, 2004. A vice president of Local Services and Access Management for AT&T, Mrs. Egea and her husband, Emilio, have two children attending the Harding Township School. A graduate of Montclair State University, Mrs. Egea also holds an MBA in Marketing from Fordham.

The other two candidates were David Weil and James Novotny. Mr. Weil has accepted the Board's invitation to serve on the Facility Planning Committee and Mr. Novotny has agreed to serve on the Vision Council. Their service on these two important school committees was welcomed. There was no public participation.

BOE Budget Update: In preparation for the April 20th School Board Election, the BOE reviewed the fixed costs that will impact the 2004-2005 school budget. Areas that were discussed included salaries, health benefits, insurance costs, tuition for Madison and other out-of-district special education placements, public and special education transportation contracts, utilities and maintenance contracts. Fixed costs will total approximately \$6 million, or 85% of the total operating budget. The Board has been researching ways to reduce fixed costs, and will be putting energy conservation project in place this summer to help reduce utility expenses.

In a related matter, The Harding Township school district will save over \$50,000 next year on tuition costs for Harding students attending Madison High School under a new five-year contract agreement. The school boards in both Harding and Madison have agreed on a new way to calculate the tuition for the next five years, based on a flat fee instead of a per-pupil amount. According to Harding Board of Education President Angelo Santoro, Harding will pay a set tuition fee of \$1,212,995 for the 2004-05 school year, as long as the number of local students attending Madison High remains within a foreseeable range. The total tuition for the current school year is \$1,260,515. Under the new contract, the fee will increase by \$50,000 annually over the next five years in anticipation of normal enrollment growth.

At its meeting on **January 12th**, the Board will review the requests from the various departments and begin to prioritize needs as the next step in the budget development process. The Board's Finance Committee has also created a community Budget Advisory Committee to assist the Board throughout the process. The BAC held its first meeting on December 3rd and reviewed the budget guidelines and projected fixed costs. Members include Sally Dudley, Epsey Farrell, Dan Gallagher, Robert Mathews, Jennifer McCulloch, Peter Muratore, Candace Weeks and Ellen Wraith.

Facilities Planning Committee: To ensure that the school facilities continue to meet the educational needs of its children and the varying needs of other Harding Township community groups and programs, the Harding BOE invited community members to serve on a new Facilities Planning Committee. This Committee will 1)

review the facilities challenges facing the district in light of both the school's and the community's needs and requirements; 2) establish and recommend to the BOE priorities among these challenges; and 3) develop a strategy for how these challenges shall be addressed and financed on a timeline consistent with these established priorities. The first meeting was held on December 10th, present were: Jim Barry, Rene Castenschiold, Evelyn Douglas, Joel Harris, Joe Longo, Jim Morgan, Jane O'Keeffe, Peter Saulnier, Mary Ellen Sullivan, Hugh Symonds and David Weil, along with Superintendent of Schools Dr. Dennis Pallozzi and Business Administrator Mary Jane Canose. Mrs. Canose reviewed the major facility projects that have been completed at the school and explained the budgeting factors that impact school facility projects. She also updated the members on the facilities projects in progress, which includes a partial roof replacement of the middle school and an energy conservation project, both of which are eligible for state aid. A list of capital requests was presented for future consideration and planning, which includes renovation of the middle school second floor, renovation of the middle school first floor lavatories, athletic field improvements, brickwork and masonry repairs, parking area improvements, installation of an additional fire cistern, and the creation of additional storage areas.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, December 18

Application #10-03 Neil and Leslie O'Donnell. Request for Variance Withdrawn.

The following resolutions were passed:

Application #16-03 Terri and Kurt Eichler

Application # 19-03 Bradley and Beth Smith

Application #20-03 Douglas H. Nelson

New Application: #21-03 - John and Muriel Windolf; Featherbed Lane, Block 16, Lot 18.01; R-1, "C" Variances. Applicants have a 6-acre lot on Featherbed Lane. There are currently 3 structures on this property: a 5,680 sq. ft. home (main residence) a 731 sq. ft. garage and a 977 sq. ft. farm house (original "historic" structure on property). Applicants are requesting a variance to add 467 sq. ft. (foot print) to the farm house. Ordinance #105-198 regulates the size and use of accessory residences in the R-1 zone. Specifically, these structures are limited to 1,200 sq. ft.; 2 bedrooms and used for immediate family, domestic employees working on the premises and/or temporary guests. Applicants would like to make the "historic" home on this property more livable by adding a family room with powder room on the first floor and changing two closets on the second floor into a bedroom and adding a master bedroom, bathroom and closets in the bedrooms. The existing stone veneer would be removed and a brick fireplace would be added. The Historic Preservation Society would like to preserve this building and recognizes that homes that are livable are more likely to be maintained and preserved. The Town's master plan also recognizes the importance of historic houses. Site inspection scheduled for January 10th - snow date of January 11th.

New Application #24-03 - Christopher and Linda Backshall - Glen Alpin Road, Block 19, Lot 2, R-1; "C" Variances. This house formerly belonged to the Kreigers and is approximately 45 years old. The Backshalls would like to renovate the home, add a Dining Room and bedroom and enlarge a bathroom. The Backshalls have lived in New Vernon for 20 years. The property has a set back of 138 feet on the right side and 55 feet on the left side with a right of way running through it. The addition would go out the back of the house. The variance requested is for the setback from the front of the house. Setback with current square-footage is adequate. The additional square footage would require the front setback to be 150 feet. The requested variance is for a 106-foot setback for the front of the house. There were no objections from neighbors. Application approved.

New Application #26-03; Peter Dorne and Celia DeHuff, Sand Spring Lane, Block 19, Lot 2, R-1. "C" Variance. Currently, this is a 3-bedroom house. The applicants would like to create 2 new bedrooms, enlarge the family room and master bedroom. Applicants would also like to center the driveway so that it goes to the front of the house, instead of running down the left side of the property. A two-stall barn would be added for horses (the existing barn is being used for cars). A pool house would be part of the barn, as would a potting shed and greenhouse. Also a bathroom would be added for the pool house. The variances would be for a nonconforming use. Side setbacks are 43 feet on one side and 72 feet on the other. Setback from the rear of the property would be 20 feet. The current impervious coverage is 14.59%. Driveway is gravel and will stay gravel. With additions, the coverage will be 16.04%. The coverage problem could be addressed by removing a portion of driveway from the barn to the house, which would reduce the total coverage to 12.81% after the additions. The building lot is 3 acres. A site inspection is scheduled for January 10th with January 11th as a snow date. Revised plans will be prepared and delivered by January 5th. Areas involved in variance will be staked for inspection.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

HARDING TREE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

HARDING TWP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

No reports this month

Civic Association News, Appeal for Annual Dues, Annual Meeting

Thank you for your generous response to our appeal for annual dues, as well as your appreciative notes about our efforts to continue with high quality reporting of civic events. ***You help us achieve our goals by joining as a dues-paying member.***

The **Civic Association Annual Meeting will be February 2, at 7:30 PM**, in the Township Hall. The program will be "An Evening with the Mayor". Mayor John Murray will make a brief presentation regarding developments in the Township this past year, and will answer questions from the floor.

Members attending will be asked to vote for new Officers, as well as on bylaw changes necessitated by the change of status of the Civic Association to a Section 501 (c) (3) organization, to conform to US IRS rules for tax deductibility. The nominees for new officers include Kim Magnell and Gwenn Claytor. The revised bylaws are posted on the Civic Association website, <http://www.hardingcivic.org>. The nominations for officers include Lynn Hughes, President, Peter Saulnier, VP, and Fred Palace, Treasurer.

If you would like to participate more actively in the Civic Association, please let us know who you are. We welcome new members to the Executive Committee, which covers and reports on civic affairs. We meet monthly, and also make a commitment to cover a Township meeting, sometimes as infrequently as bimonthly, sometimes semi-monthly, take notes on the proceedings, then send in a write up to the Thumbnail. By covering and disseminating information on the workings of the Township government, you serve others who cannot attend meetings, but who are vitally interested. If you are interested, send an Email to the editor, hesnaj@aol.com, or write The Harding Township Civic Association, PO Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976.

Call for updates to the Harding Township Directory

If you have responsibility for a listed service or organization, please take a moment to review and update your listing. Send it along to the Civic Association, either at the postal address -[**PO Box 72, New Vernon, 07976**]. Or **faxed to** Thumbnail editor at **973-540 8911**. **If you want an electronic copy of your organization's current listing in the directory in order to update, please send an EM requesting it to the editor, hesnaj@aol.com.** Please get updates to us as early as you can in 2004. Remember that it is your responsibility to ensure that your organization's listing is correct.

EDITOR'S NOTE: THE DEADLINES FOR THE NEXT TWO ISSUES OF THE THUMBNAIL ARE January 29 and February 29, respectively. 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, 973 540 8911**. You can send items early! Call the editor if you have any transmission questions, **973 538 0020**. *The Thumbnail is copyrighted and published by the Harding Township Civic Association, and is mailed to every home in Harding Township.* Current and past issues of Thumbnail, as well as the Directory are posted on our Website- check it out: <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 1/3, 1/17, 2/7, 2/21 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	2/3
Seniors (2 nd and 4 th Thurs at Pres Church)	11 AM.....	
Planning Board (4 th Monday)	8 PM.....	1/26, 2/23
Hist Preservation Comm (1stThursday)	8 PM	2/5, 3/4
Board of Health (2 nd Thursday)	8 PM	
Board of Education (2 nd and 4 th Monday)	7:30 PM....	
Board of Adjustment (3 rd Thursday)	7:30 PM....	1/15, 2/19
Township Committee (1 st and 3 rd Wednesday)	8 PM.....	
Shade Tree (2 nd Monday)	3 PM	1/12, 2/9
Municipal Alliance (3 rd Wed at Hardng Schl)	8:45 AM	1/21
Harding Twp Civic Association	7:30 PM	2/2