

**February 2004**

**UPCOMING EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There have been public announcements of a **February 26 cocktail reception for (former Township Administrator) Rich Wiedmann, 5PM to 9PM** to celebrate his retirement. Although the RSVP date was February 10, please call Linda Peralta, 973 267-8000 x18, if you want to attend. The cost is \$35 per person (cash bar), which includes a contribution for a gift for Rich. The event will be held at the Fair Winds Basking Ridge Country Club, 185 Madisonville Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920.

**Harding Township Historical Society**

The first Open House of HTHS takes place at the Tunis-Ellicks House on **Sunday, February 15** between 1 and 4 p.m. when two representatives of the Great Swamp Watershed Association speak about the geography and geology of the Great Swamp. Learn what Harding residents can do to preserve its integrity and how the well being of each is dependent upon the other. The program is sure to interest an audience of all ages, and is entertaining as well as informative. Open-hearth cooking takes place throughout the afternoon.

Also mark your calendars for the second Open House of the year on **Sunday, March 7 from 1 to 4 p.m.** when rug hookers Janet Barrett and Jean Barry, both residents of New Vernon, demonstrate the intricacies of this traditional American craft. They will have frames and sample yarns for anyone who would like to try their hand. Members of HTHS will cook on the open hearth.

The **New Vernon Garden Club** and the Town and Country Garden Club of Chatham invite the public to **“Everything’s Coming Up Roses”, Thursday Feb. 26, 10 AM**, at the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon on Lee’s Hill Road. The talk will be given by Stephan Scaniello, a nationally recognized rose expert, who will present an historical perspective on the development of modern roses, as well as pointers on the successful growing of roses. Seating is limited, and reservations at \$5 are requested. Please call 973 285 1790 for reservations or more information.

**THE LIBRARY**

**Programs for Children...Valentine Storytime** for ages up to 5: Tuesday, February 10 at 10:30 a.m. Stories, songs about love, and a Valentine craft will be offered.

**Presidential films and stories** for children of all ages on Tuesday, February 17 at 10:30 a.m. to celebrate Lincoln’s February 12<sup>th</sup> and Washington’s February 22<sup>nd</sup> birthdays. Both programs meet in the Court Room of the Municipal Building.

**Talk It Up! Book Club** for children in grades 3-5 on Thursday, February 26 from 4:30-5:30 p.m. to discuss *Because of Winn Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo, the One Book New Jersey 2004 selection for older readers. One Book New Jersey is a statewide reading program sponsored by the New Jersey Library Association. Copies of the book are available for borrowing at the Library. In the Court Room of the Municipal Building.

**A Mardi Gras After-School Program** for children in grades K-2 on Thursday, March

4 from 4:00-5:00 p.m. in the Conference Room across from the Library. Enjoy a Mardi Gras celebration while learning the history of this holiday. To register for children's programs, please call the Library at **973-267-8000, Ext 32**.

**Stormy weather**...may close our doors (temporarily). A reminder that when the Harding Township School closes because of inclement weather, so does the Library. Getting away from it all? Need something to read en route? Be sure to visit the Library's well-stocked Book Sale cart, where bargains abound!

## **HARDING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

### **Cancer Screening Programs**

The Health Department has announced its schedule of cancer detection clinics for the first part of 2004. The **female cancer detection** program will be held on **Thursday, March 18 from 8:00 AM to noon** at the Municipal Building. The **male cancer detection** program will be held on **Tuesday, March 30 from 5:00 to 6:00 PM**. The programs include testing, examination and education. Registration for the screening programs is open to Harding Township residents, eighteen years of age and older. There is no fee. You can register in person at the Health Department offices on the second floor of the Municipal Building or by calling (973) 267-8000 ext 25 between 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

### **Well Water Testing Required for Leased Properties**

The New Jersey Private Well Testing Act requires that landlords who lease property that is served by a private well must have the water tested by March 14, 2004 and the written results of the tests must be given to the tenants. After the first test, the well must be retested every five years. The landlord must also provide copies of the latest testing to any new tenant. For more information on the rules and a list of certified laboratories, you can contact the NJ Department of Environmental Protection PWTA hotline at 1-866-479-8378 or visit their website at [www.nj.gov/dep/pwta](http://www.nj.gov/dep/pwta).

### **Registration of Rental Properties and Notification of Tenancy**

In addition to the water testing requirements, state law requires that landlords of other than owner-occupied buildings must register with the municipal clerk. Furthermore, owners of all accessory structures that are being used as a residence for family, employees or tenants should also register with the town so that emergency services are aware of all inhabited buildings. For more information contact Linda Peralta at 973 267-8000, extension 18.

## **HOUSE NUMBERS**

Linda Peralta, Deputy Clerk, has asked Thumbnail to tell folks in Harding to make an effort to keep the letter that they were sent that identified their street number and name within the new numbering system. The NJ DMV offices need documentary proof of change of address in order to issue licenses, registrations and the like. Mayor Murray has also commented that anyone needing such documentation from the town will be able to obtain a letter by calling the Clerk's office 973 267 8000, ext 18.

### **The Harding Township School Vision Council is conducting a community survey of the school district**

on behalf of the Board of Education, in compliance with the NJ State requirement to assess quality every 7 years. The Vision Council members include people

connected with the school such as parents, school educators, administrators and teachers, school board members, and also residents with no current students enrolled. Your input into this process is important, not least because the public school budget is a large percentage of the tax burden of the Township citizenry. Please think about the questions and send in your responses.

Don't forget, 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**. Questions? please call Lisa at (973) 984-7579 or Michelle at (973) 984-8590.

#### **NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

#### **Soup contest - It's time once again for the Auxiliary - sponsored "Home-made Soup Contest"**

Date: **Sunday, March 28**  
Time: 5:00 to 6:00 PM  
Place: Fire House, Village Road  
Cost: \$5.00 for soup, bread, coffee

Homemade desserts and soda will be available for sale. Come early!! Vote for your favorite soup. Prizes will be awarded. If you would like to enter a soup in the contest, entry is free, please contact Pat O'Reilly 973 301-2151 or Connie Cherrillo 973 539-9383.

#### **THE HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION held its Annual Meeting, on February 2.**

A large gathering heard the speaker, Mayor John Murray, present a lively talk on the state of the Township. Mayor Murray covered the progress of the Village redevelopment. There are two sites in contention for the Post Office location, one at the former Cook property, and the other on Ortman garage site. Both are privately owned, and the owners are negotiating with the USPO. The Township would prefer the Ortman site, but delays for remediation might influence the Post Office decision to the other location. Another issue is the location of the library and the related ongoing investigation chaired by Committeeman Lanzerotti as to the feasibility of moving the DPW building away from its Village site. Murray said no decision yet, but possibly some public information would be available at the Township Committee meeting on Feb 25. He also discussed the more aggressive role the Township is playing in the acquisition of open space and/or public lands, by investigating many sources of funding, including grant application to private foundations as well as the more unusual sources of public funding. He indicated that the Township would be seeking public approval for an increase in the Township open space tax in the future. He pointed out that the Scudder property on the top of Post House Road was preserved by the contributions of a coalition of many donor organizations. The Township has also funded open space purchases through Bond issuances.

In reply to a floor question about Historic Preservation, Murray commented that the Demolition Delay Ordinance passed in 2003, provides more flexibility for the Township. There has been a document defining "Historic Properties in Harding, and that plans are underway to communicate the conclusion to the population at large. One of the items on his "wish list" is

whether the Township could establish a "Historic Park", where buildings otherwise orphaned or scheduled to be demolished, could be moved and collected. In response to another question about any contemplated changes to the minimum zoning lot size, he indicated that the current work of the Environmental Committee has involved the ongoing study of the carrying and recharge capacity of the land for the underground water source/supply, and that this study is directed to the question of whether the lot sizes are adequate for the land.

At the same meeting, the Civic Association amended its bylaws in the process of converting itself into a new entity to be called the Harding Township Civic Association Inc. That entity will seek 501(c)(3) (tax-exempt) status under the Internal Revenue Code.

The Officers for the Civic Association for 2004 are Lynn Hughes, President, Peter Saulnier, VP, Fred Palace, treasurer, Kim Magnell, Secretary, and Hesna Pfeiffer, Thumbnail Editor. New members include Gwen Claytor and Sal Capizzi.

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.

**BLOOD DRIVE** Thanks to all the donors and volunteers who participated in the Harding Blood Drive on January 24th at Christ the King Church. We are all grateful to 70 Donors who took the time to share this gift. This was very much appreciated by the American Red Cross and by the recipients of this blood because the Blood Bank was extremely low on inventory after the holidays.

#### **Harding Township/Green Village Bridle Path Association**

*It's time to renew your 2004 Bridle Path Association Membership!*

With spring just around the corner and excellent riding weather approaching, we need to continue our momentum as an Association and encourage all members to *renew their Memberships for 2004*. We will be issuing our Annual Membership Renewal Letter shortly, so please look for it in your mail. Questions, call Dorothy M. McCann, Secretary, 973-443-0622

#### **HTRA Day Camp News**

The HTRA Day Camp is looking forward to another summer of fun and we hope that you will be able to join us. Miss Dee Klikier, who served as the Executive Director of the camp for the past 8 summers, is passing the torch to LuAnn and Pat Romano. They will be the new Directors. ***Thank you, Miss Klikier, for your many years of dedicated service to the HTRA. You will be greatly missed!*** Please note that the new phone number for the Day Camp Office is (973) 605-5866.

Camp will once again be held for four weeks beginning June 28<sup>th</sup> and ending July 23<sup>rd</sup>. We will be closed on Monday, July 5<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day. Registration materials will be mailed to all campers who attended camp last summer, and will be sent home via the backpacks to children in grades K-5 who attend Harding School. Brochures can be picked up in the offices of the Harding School and the Municipal Building after February 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are

not on our mailing list and would like to receive a brochure, please call the Day Camp Office at (973) 605-5866 and leave your name and address.

A limited number of openings for Counselors and Counselors in Training (students who will be entering Grades 7 & 8 in the fall) are available. Students who are interested in working as Counselors and CIT's, including those that have worked previously, should send a letter of intent to Mr. Pat Romano at P.O. Box 753, New Vernon, NJ 07976, as soon as possible. Applications will then be mailed out in late February. All inquiries should be directed to the Camp Office at (973) 605-5866.

**The HTRA** (Harding Twp Recreation Association) announces its **Spring sign-ups for Baseball and Softball** are underway, Applications are available at the Harding School offices, as well as the Post Office; applications can be mailed to HTRA Baseball/Softball, Box HTRA, New Vernon NJ 07976. The season will run from mid-April to mid-June. Questions? Call Ralph Ercole, 973 455 7855.

## **TOWNSHIP NEWS**

### **Township Committee**

At the **Wednesday January 7, 2004** meeting of the Harding Township Committee, all the elected members of the Committee were present. Ms. Epsy Farrell and Ms. Mary Prendergast were sworn into office after their earlier reelection to the Township Committee.

Ms. Farrell then nominated Mayor Murray as Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Dinsmore seconded the nomination and Mayor Murray was then unanimously elected and sworn in as Chairman. Dr. Lanzerotti was elected Vice Chairman State Senator Tom Kean, Jr. and State Assemblyman John Bramnick, from the 21<sup>st</sup> District were in attendance and congratulated the Committee members on their appointments and thanked them for their service. The Committee unanimously approved the following Standing Committee Appointments:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>	<b>Vice Chair</b>
Planning, Zoning & Legal	Farrell	Prendergast
Finance & Insurance	Murray	Lanzerotti
Public Safety	Dinsmore	Murray
Public Works & Building	Lanzerotti	Dinsmore
Personnel & Recreation	Murray	Farrell
Freeholder Liaison	Prendergast	Dinsmore

### **Awards**

Chris Allyn received a special award for service to Harding Township, in particular for his work with the GIS system and the new house numbering system.

### **Resolutions**

Several resolutions were unanimously approved including the following:

TC-04-1	Regular Township Committee meetings to be held on the first and second Wednesday of the month.
TC-04-2	Appointment of Township Officials. The following appointments were offered and adopted.

### **Position**

### **Individual**

Township Administrator  
Acting Township Clerk  
Acting Township Registrar of Vital Statistics  
Acting Chief Financial Officer  
Deputy Township Treasurer  
Administrator for Municipal Court  
Deputy Court Administrator  
Acting Court Administrators

Lyn Evers  
Linda Peralta  
Linda Peralta  
Lyn Evers  
Timothy Day  
Brenda Zimmerman  
Pamela Kelly  
Ann Naylor  
Vicki Mangulson  
Lisa Conover  
Kenneth Noetzli  
Tracy Toribio  
Gary Wilshaw  
Tracy Toribio  
Karen Zaborsky  
Noreen Morris  
Linda Peralta  
Gary Annibal  
Hosea Harvey

Chief of the NVV Fire Department  
Superintendent of Public Works  
Assistant Superintendent of Public Works  
Principal Public Works Manager  
Board of Adjustment Administrator  
Planning Board Administrator  
Assessment Search Officer  
Dog License Officer  
Zoning Officer

TC-04-4 Appointment of Professional Service Providers

**Position**

Township Attorney

Township Engineer

Prosecutors

Insurance Brokers

Professional Planners

Bond Counsel

Township Legal Counsel

**Individual/Firm**

Roger S. Clapp/  
Cooper, Rose & English  
Robert Fox/  
Apgar Associates  
Thomas A. Shepard, Jr.  
Daniel R. Coburn  
Thomas Westfield  
Staffeld Vantage Insurance Group  
Grinspec, Inc.  
Susan C. & Duggan A. Kimball  
Roger S. Clapp  
Frederic M. Knapp/  
Laufer, Knapp, Torzewski &  
Dealena

TC-04-5 Fixing Fees for Delinquent Taxes

TC-04-6 Model Cash Management

TC-04-7 Designation of Official Newspapers – Daily Record and Observer Tribune

Mayor Murray singled out the Observer Tribune for fair, balanced and in depth coverage of Township news.

TC-04-8 Planning Board Appointments

TC-04-9 Board of Adjustment Appointments

TC-04-10 Board of Health Appointments

- TC-04-11 Historic Preservation Commission Appointments
  - TC-04-12 Environmental Commission Appointments
  - TC-04-13 Local Assistance Board Appointments
  - TC-04-14 Appointment of Community Development Revenue Hearing Committee Representatives
  - TC-04-15 Tax appeal Block 49 Lot 48
  - TC-04-16 Adoption of Temporary Budget (to cover the first three months of 2004)
  - TC-04-17 Transfer of sewer payments
- The following resolutions were passed but not by unanimous approval**
- TC-04-18 Appointment of Edward Delasandro, Jr. as Public Defender was opposed by Ms. Prendergast and Ms. Farrell (no public reasons were given).
  - TC-04-19 Appointment of Timothy Vrabel of the firm Dickinson, Vrabel & Cassells as Auditor of the Township was opposed by Dr. Lanzerotti. It is Dr. Lanzerotti's opinion that the Township should make it a practice to change Auditors periodically. The Committee will consider this in the future.

**Ordinances**

- 1-04 Compensation for Assistant Superintendent of Public Works was set at \$83,800 and was approved unanimously. The salary for this position will be frozen at that level for an indefinite period.

**Public Discussion**

Meetings are beginning in February to discuss the feasibility and desirability of relocating the **Department of Public Works**. Dr. Lanzerotti has been meeting with the DPW and there are sub groups looking at the possible sites, facilities and financial implications.

The **Fire Department** has recommended to the **Harding Township School** that they install another cistern for fire protection. The School has approached the Township Committee through Ms. Farrell and Dr. Lanzerotti for help with the project as they feel Township property owners will also benefit from the new cistern. Dr. Lanzerotti, as head of the Water Committee, will meet with Fire Department officials to better understand who will benefit from the cistern and if implementation would result in insurance premium reductions.

The **Dodge Foundation** has decided not to pursue purchase of the **McAlpin Estate**.

Plans for the redevelopment of the old "**New Vernon Coach Works**" into a site to include the post office are being submitted by developers to the US Postal Service.

At the **Wednesday January 21, 2004** meeting of the Harding Township Committee, Ms. Prendergast, Mayor Murray and Mr. Dinsmore were present. Dr. Lanzerotti and Ms. Farrell were traveling and could not attend.

**Appointment of New Police Officer**

Louis Pirrello was sworn in by Linda Peralta as the newest officer of the Township's Police Department. In attendance were many members of Officer Pirrello's family as well Chief Gaffney and the other members of the Department. Officer Pirrello's father, a retired Officer with the Montclair Police Department pinned the police badge on his son's uniform. Mayor Murray expressed how happy the Township was to have hired Officer Pirrello and how much the Township valued his experience and expertise particularly in educational programs for children.

Mr. Dinsmore read a letter from the Ramapo New Jersey Police Department thanking the Harding Township Police Department and in particular Police Officer Thomas Downs and Sergeant Daniel Nunn for their role in assisting in the apprehension and conviction of a perpetrator of a homicide in Ramapo.

#### **General News**

The Committee reported that the Pleasant Plains Bridge has historic status as it is one of only a few remaining bridges of its type that has not been substantially altered, and that it will likely be preserved. Maureen Soder reported that the Historic Preservation Commission would apply for a grant to study Glen Alpin. Lyn Evers reported that work has begun on a personnel manual for employees of the Township. An accounting review is underway with the goal of better tracking expenses

#### **Shade Tree Commission**

Caron Menger reported to the Committee that 26 permits for the removal of shade trees were issued to homeowners since the adoption of the Ordinance, and the process seemed to be working well. Ms. Menger reported that significant time was spent with two builders (particularly Lancor) to ensure their compliance with the Ordinance. The Shade Tree Commission is working on plans to preserve specific trees and groves of trees, define specimen trees and make the Ordinance more flexible to allow for “swaps” to further the goal of the Ordinance.

#### **Great Swamp Visitor Center**

Several Township residents from Pleasant Plains Road were in attendance to speak about the proposed Great Swamp Visitor Center. Susan Helwig expressed the concern that before the North Bridge was closed, it was used as a “commuter cut-through” and if it were reopened it would bring traffic from Route 287 into the Township. The Township Committee agreed to look into the matter, as it was their understanding that the Bridge would not be opened during commuter hours.

Brian Mathews spoke about the possible impact of the Center and the traffic it is expected to bring on the Lees Hill Road area. Mr. Mathews said the Township Committee should be concerned with the impact of the proposed project on the Township as a whole and it was not just an issue for residents of Pleasant Plains Road. He suggested that a traffic study and other studies be done before the project moved forward. Mayor Murray responded that the Township had no legal recourse to require such studies, but that any project would need to meet Federal standards that in many cases were more stringent than the Township's.

Eddie Bernstein, spoke about moving to Harding and Pleasant Plains Road for the natural beauty of the area and felt that the proposed project would have a major negative impact. Several in attendance felt that the creation of a large visitor center was at odds with the Great Swaps strength as a quiet natural preserve, and suggested that a new visitor center and offices be accommodated at the existing Meyersville Road location.

Eugenie Beutler of Pleasant Plains Road spoke and showed the Committee a letter she sent to Bill Koch, Refuge Manager of the Great Swap, questioning the feasibility of the development's plans to accommodate a large number of visitors with minimal disruption.

Mayor Murray offered to arrange a meeting with Bill Koch for a Wednesday night in February to share more information on the proposed project and discuss concerns. There is a Draft Environmental Assessment describing the proposed project on the Great Swamp



website. Go to <http://greatswamp.fws.gov>. Click on "Important Messages" in the upper left of the homepage.

#### **PLANNING BOARD, January 26**

Please note that meetings start at 7:30 PM, rather than 8PM. The McShane/Gutjahr/Lancor application for a 6-lot subdivision at the top of Cherry Lane, off Dickson Mill Road was still incomplete due to a late filing of the Environmental Impact Statement, so no public meeting could be conducted on the application. Applicants were granted waivers for the NJ state EPA "LOI", Letter of Intent, and for the topographic elevation map showing each 100'x100' building envelope. The Planning Board also had its annual reorganization; Barlett is still the chair, Olcott the vice-chair. A brief update from the Historic Properties subcommittee was heard, and discussion about the next special public meeting, but no date has been set. The Board also voted on to approve and send back to the Township Committee a miscellaneous zoning ordinance.

#### **School Board News**

At the January 12th BOE meeting, Dr. Pallozzi and the Curriculum Committee reviewed the revised Gifted&Talented Program (Quest). The identification matrixes used to select students for the district's Quest Program were revised to incorporate the standardized and state assessment programs currently in place for grades 2-8. They also presented to the Board a written description of the district's guidance program. This was developed as part of the monitoring process and includes a general summary of activities/services provided by the guidance counselor. Dr. Rene Rovtar, Morris County Superintendent of Schools, notified the BOE that as a result of the evaluation process she is recommending to the Commissioner of Education that the Harding Township School District be certified for a period of seven years. This recommendation, after review by the Commissioner, will be submitted to the State BOE for consideration.

The school budgeting process is on track with no unexpected expenditures anticipated. The budget is expected to be at cap, not over. There was no public participation.

#### **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, January 15, 2004**

Application #24-03 - Christopher and Linda Backshall - Resolution to memorialize - approved. Pending Applications:

Application #21-03 - John and Muriel Windolf, Featherbed Lane, Block 16, Lot 18.01, R-1 "D" Variance.- Present for this application was Susan Kimball (township planner). A site inspection was made. The front yard setback as completed by Yannacone is 135.9 feet. The Harding Township Master Plan is dedicated to: Preservation (page 16-1) - In a 1990 postcard survey of township residents, 84% favored preservation. Zoning items (page 16-9) - zoning should not influence development out of character with historical patterns. Zoning should be flexible to preserve historical structures. Susan Kimball stated that the burden of proof is not the same as for normal situations. The questions must be asked: Is this a logical use of the structure and what is the relationship between the two structures? According to zoning regulations, the accessory residence has to be subordinate to the main structure. The key would be, is the change going to substantially alter this relationship? There is a president for

allowing the property to be subdivided. Historic structures are more likely to be preserved if they are part of the 6-acre lot. In this instance, the Board of Adjustment would always have to be consulted prior to any changes. By making the house livable now, it is more likely to remain standing in the future (not be torn down and replaced with a new home). Accessory structures are limited to 1200 sq. ft., according to the ordinance. This house will be 2800 sq. ft. when completed. The residence is currently 1900 sq. ft. One tree will have to be removed so the addition can be built. The Board of Adjustment would like to see some trees planted to compensate for the one that is removed and to soften the appearance of the landscape. The exterior siding for this structure will be cedar shingles and clapboard siding. Stone will not be used. The application was approved - and the Windolfs are encouraged to contact the Shade Tree Commission regarding suitable plant material for this property.

Application #26-03 - Peter Dorne and Celia DeHuff, Sand Spring Lane, Block 19, Lot 2, R-1. "C" Variance. A new site plan was proposed at the site inspection. The side yard setback will go from 98.5 feet to 42.8 feet on the east side and 42 feet to 41 feet on the west side. Lot coverage will be decreased from 14.57% to 13.6%. The building roof coverage will go from 3.2% to 5.35%, the current limit is 4%. The barn will be 2,968 sq. ft. and will include a greenhouse and potting shed on the 1st floor and will have a 2nd floor. All utilities are there now. None of the neighbors object to these changes. There is also a height issue for the accessory structure, which will be taller than the 25 feet allowed. The vote on this application was: yes (4), no (3). Application approved.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**, no separate report this month, but see references to this committee activity in other articles.

**HARDING TWP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, January 8, 2004**

- 1. Messuti/Billings Tempe Wick Road, Block 33, Lot 12**—Subject property is currently for sale. Gabe Messuti and Bob Lewis presented an application for demolition of the existing home on the property. They also asked the HPC for recommendations about types of structures that might be compatible with the historic streetscape as well as current lifestyles. Given the nature of the particular site, HPC suggested that a structure resembling a bank house or a converted barn might maintain the streetscape and be consistent with the historic and rural nature of the district. HPC suggested that part of the original home be retained to preserve the streetscape. HPC also suggested that materials such as stone and clapboard be used. Mr. Messuti agreed to return to the next HPC meeting with plans for the property.
- 2. Conrad, Millbrook Road, Block 15, Lot 33.01**—HPC approved owner's proposal to replace existing siding with vinyl siding ("four dutch-lap"). The main house will be dark gray and the trim will be light gray. Owner also agreed to HPC's suggestion to install light gray vinyl shutters. Three neighboring properties use that style of shutter and the shutters will fit the look of the historic district.
- 3. Gorman, Pleasantville Road, Block 17, Lot 23**—HPC approved owner's plans to replace a deteriorating, detached, metal garage with a nicely proportioned, historically

appropriate, wooden garage of almost the same size. Its materials will be similar to those used in her 1720-1730 vintage house and its design will complement the main house. The garage doors will appear “barn-like” even though they will be overhead doors. A stone foundation will be used.

4. **Randazzo, Millbrook Road, Block 17, Lot 5**—Owners plan to demolish their existing home and build a new home consistent with setback and coverage requirements. The current home is too close to the street and neighboring homes, faces the fire department dumpster, and has a well in its basement. Owners wish to build a home that is easy to maintain but is in keeping with the character of the Village district and surrounding homes. Owners asked HPC for recommendations about architectural design and suitable materials to present to their architect. HPC agreed to respond by January 24.
5. **Dorne/DeHuff, Sand Spring Lane, Block 19, Lot 2**—Owners propose to increase significantly the size of their residence by adding a garage on the east wing and a major expansion on the west wing. Although the property is not a historic structure and is not part of an existing historic district, HPC thought some neighbors have begun to seek the establishment of an historic district that would contain the subject property. HPC was concerned with the appearance of the proposed expansion and thought that the streetscape would be impaired because the increased mass and bulk of the residence would be quite visible from Sand Spring Lane in all seasons. Owners also proposed an addition to the rear of the house and to add a large “barn” that would be used as a multi-car garage, studio, greenhouse and pool changing room. HPC believed those additions would be visible from Sand Spring Road during the leafless seasons. HPC asked to be involved throughout the review process.
6. **Backshall, Brook Drive North, Block 35, Lot 16.01**—Owners applied for a variance to expand an existing residence. HPC had no comment because the property is not a contributing structure and is not in a historic district.
7. **Lyll, Sand Spring Road, Block 25.02, Lots 10.04 and 10.07**—Owner proposes to subdivide a large, beautiful, hillside property into six lots. Although the property is not part of an existing historic district, HPC thought some neighbors have begun to seek the establishment of an historic district that would contain some of the subject property. The hillside is very visible in all seasons and HPC was concerned with the streetscape. The appearance of the proposed single family dwellings and other structures would impact the streetscape along Sand Spring Road and would be easily seen from more distant vantage points. HPC asked to be involved throughout the review process.
8. **Hurley, Youngs Road, Block 47, Lot 13**—Owners applied for a minor 2-lot subdivision variance. The subject property is a non-contributing property in a historic district. HPC had no comment.

**SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE** See report with Township Committee, above

**Civic Association asks please send your update the Harding Township Directory for 2004.** If you have responsibility for a listed service or organization, and haven’t done so yet,

please take a moment ASAP to review and update your listing.

The deadlines for the next 2 issues of the Thumbnail are February 27 and March 30. You should EM or fax articles (typewritten preferred, please) to the Editor, Hesna Pfeiffer, 973 540 8911, email hesnaj@aol.com. Call the editor if necessary, 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 2/21, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17 from 9-12 AM. Residents are requested NOT to leave recyclable materials if the center is closed.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**, please take note of the times.

Municipal Court (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday)	6 PM	
Environmental Commission (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday)	7:30 PM	3/2, 4/6
Seniors (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs at Pres Church)	11 AM .....	2/12, 3/11
Planning Board (4 <sup>th</sup> Monday)	7:30 PM ....	2/23, 3/22, 4/26
Hist Preservtion Comm (1stThursday)	7:30 PM	3/4, 4/1, 5/6
Board of Health (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	8 PM	
Board of Education (2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday)	7:30 PM ....	
Board of Adjustment (3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday)	7:30 PM ....	2/19, 3/18, 4/15
Township Committee (1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)	8 PM .....	
Shade Tree (2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday)	3 PM	
Municipal Alliance (3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed at Hardng Schl)	8:45 AM	
Harding Twp Civic Association	7:30 PM	3/1,4/5