

March 2005

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

HARDING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Cancer Screening Programs

The Health Department has announced its schedule of cancer detection clinics for the first part of 2005. The **male cancer detection** program will be held on **Tuesday, March 8** from 5:00 to 6:00 PM. The **female cancer detection** program will be held on **Thursday, March 17** from 9:00 AM to noon at the Municipal Building. 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 125 between 9:00 AM and 3:30 PM.

Broadway Comes to Harding

This season the Harding Township Middle School will perform the musical "Guys and Dolls Jr." The show will be presented on **March 17, 18, 19** at **7pm** in the Matthew C. Sellitto gymnasium. For tickets and information, visit the Harding Township School website at <http://hardingtwp.k12.nj.us>.

NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Soup contest – it's time once again for the Auxiliary – sponsored "Home-made Soup Contest" Date: **Sunday, March 13**

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 973-539-0383.

THE LIBRARY

Evening at the Library...Wednesday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Court Room of the Municipal Building. We promise you a spellbinding evening when our own Lou Lanzerotti informs us about *Science Politics and the Politics of Science: The Case of the Hubble Space Telescope*. Not to be missed!

Other Library News:

Children's Coin Collecting Grand Finale...We're almost there—Harding children have raised close to \$1,500 in coins to enhance the Library's juvenile and teen collections. Now it's time to finish the job and celebrate! Join us on Monday afternoon, March 7 from 3:30 to 4:30 at the Harding Township School Cafeteria for fun, prizes, and activities. Please don't forget to bring your loose change.

Children's Storytime...*Planting a Rainbow* anticipates Spring with songs, stories, and crafts. We will be reading about leprechauns and other springtime joys on Tuesday, March 8 and Wednesday, March 16. Both sessions meet at 10:30 a.m. in the Kirby Municipal Building.

Adult Evening Book Discussion Group...will meet on Wednesday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. Title to be determined. Please contact the Library for further details at 973-267-8000, ext. 132.

Keep current on Library matters by regularly checking our Website:
hardingcivic.org/library.

Easter Sunrise Service Sunday March 27, 6:15 a.m.

The entire community is invited to gather at the pond in Bayne Park with ministers from First Presbyterian Church and the Church of Christ the King, as we proclaim the joy of Easter.

Fishing Contest Bayne Park, April 9

The Harding Twp Game Protective Association announces the annual fishing contest, **Saturday April 9, 8-10 AM** in Bayne Park, for children 13 or younger; cash prizes will be awarded.

Call for Nursey School Enrollment, School Year 2005-2006

The New Vernon Presbyterian Nursery School is having open enrollment through April 1 for the coming school year. The school provides a quality program to stimulate the development of pre-school age children. In September 2005, the school will again be held in Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon. If you want to visit, request registration materials, or require further information, please call Tatiana Barboza at 973 538 3966.

Announcement from the Township: Registration of Rental Properties and Notification of Tenancy

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 118.

FROM THE HARDING POLICE

Identity theft occurs when a thief obtains personal or financial information about you and then appropriates it without your knowledge to commit a fraud or theft.

You can prevent identity theft from happening to you by taking these precautions:

- * Shred ALL discarded personal information including anything with your name, address, and social security number, pre approved credit applications etc.
- * Do NOT reveal personal identifying information about yourself unless you initiated the telephone call.
- * Guard your mail from theft. Deposit outgoing mail directly at the post office; do NOT use unsecured mail boxes.
- * Use caution when making credit card purchases made over the internet. Do NOT use debit cards for these purchases.
- * Guard your pin number at all times while at ATM machines and pay point locations.
- * Obtain a copy of your credit report every six months.

A Few Words from Your New Vernon Volunteer First Aid Squad

Would you know what to do if you suspect someone may have swallowed a poison, whether it is a drug, soap, or a poisonous leaf? Pick up the phone and dial 1-800-222-1222 -- we suggest you put this number on your phone or in your telephone directory under Poison Control -- to reach **New Jersey Poison Information & Education System**, which is manned by highly trained personnel and active 24/7. **Then** dial 911 if you are directed to do so or believe further assistance is necessary.

Why not join the **New Vernon Volunteer First Aid Squad** and help others while helping yourself to be better prepared to handle emergencies? We are especially interested in getting stay-at-home parents and recently retired people. Call John Thomas at 973-267-9424 or Con Crowley at 973-656-0488 for further information. We will be happy to hear from you.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

Anyone interested in joining women's' softball for the 2005 summer season, please call Colleen Ercole--973-455-0455 or email delmom06@aol.com. Season is June 7,2005 - August 9,2005. Games are every Tuesday night from 5:30 to 8:00; fields are within a 5-mile radius. All towns are welcome to join the Harding team. All players from last year must confirm their commitment for the 2005 season. Team roster must be submitted to the league by April 1,2005. **No calls or emails will be accepted after March 30,2005.**

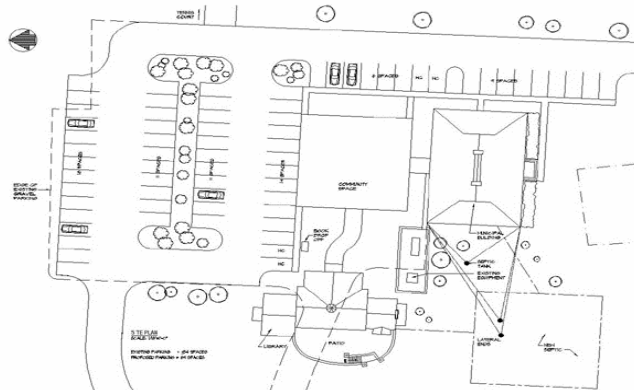
THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

This group has provided information regarding the proposed LIBRARY, answers to frequently asked questions:

1. Why do we need a library in Harding when there are others in nearby towns? Harding Township residents visit other libraries because ours is small and inadequate. We are able to use the much larger Morristown/Township and Madison libraries, for example, free of charge because Harding Township Library is a member of the Morris Automated Information Network (M.A.I.N.) consortium of Morris County libraries. We rely upon these tax-supported municipal libraries in other towns to meet our needs, and yet Harding is one of the wealthiest communities in the County.

If our Library were to close, Harding residents will have to buy annual memberships at other local libraries. A full-privilege card, usable at all Morris County libraries, costs \$145 per year. That translates to a total cost for all Harding card holders (approximately 1,600) of \$232,000! By contrast, our annual M.A.I.N. membership dues are about \$3,500, covering all Harding residents.

2. Where will the new library be built? The Township Committee has granted the Library a beautiful site adjacent to the Kirby Municipal Building on the Sand Spring Road side. This location will ensure ease of access in a convenient, central location with ample and safe parking for our patrons. Site plan, below: library is at center bottom:



3. How big will the new library be? The footprint of the building is 2,985 square feet—large enough to be a working library and small enough to retain its welcoming atmosphere. Comparatively, the footprint of the Municipal Building is

4,428 square feet. The Library's floor plan has been designed to accommodate all services on one level, enabling us to keep staffing costs to a minimum. See view of proposed front of building:



HARDING TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Schematic Design Presentation: October 27, 2004

4. Who is going to pay for the new library? Support for the Library will come primarily from private donations, fundraisers, and foundation grants. We are seeking to raise both building capital and endowment funds.

5. When will the Capital Campaign begin? It is already under way. We are currently in the “quiet phase” of the campaign: contacting individuals for their input and support. A community-wide appeal will be kicked off in the spring.

Art in Bloom 2005 will open with a Preview Party on **Friday, May 13** from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m, at the Parish Hall of Christ the King on Blue Mill Road. The Art Show and Sale will continue on Saturday morning, May 14 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. The show provides a time of family fun and an opportunity to collect the works of regional artists-all in support of the Harding Township Library.

HTRA Summer Day Camp and Field Hockey Camp Announcement

Calling all campers and counselors! The **HTRA Summer Day Camp** will be held from July 5 thru July 29 at the Harding Township School. Brochures and applications were mailed to all who attended camp last summer. They will also be distributed to all students in grades K-5 in the Harding Township School as well as children in the New Vernon Presbyterian Nursery School. Additional brochures will be available at the Harding Township Municipal Building and the Harding Township

School office.

Students entering grades 7 and higher who are interested in attending as CITs or working as counselors must send a letter or intent to Pat Romano at P.O. Box 753, New Vernon, NJ 07976. Applications will then be sent out.

HTRA Field Hockey Camp – Mr. Keating will also be conducting a summer Field Hockey Camp for girls entering grades 4-8. Camp will be held the 1st two weeks of August. Brochures will be mailed to those who attended previously and will also be available at the Harding Township Municipal Building and the Harding Township School office. If you should have any questions, please call the camp office at 973-605-5866.

Harding Township School PTO Spring Fashion Show, Auction & Luncheon

The Harding Township School PTO presents its annual Spring Fashion Show on **Saturday, April 9, 2005** at Spring Brook Country Club. Please contact **Kim Caldwell at 973.539.9533** if you are interested in supporting our production either by donating a basket, writing a check or underwriting an expense. Mail any checks directly to: Mrs. Kim Caldwell, Post Office Box 58, New Vernon 07976. All checks should be made out to "The Harding Twp. School PTO".

News from CUB SCOUT PACK 43

The Pinewood Derby is an Annual Cub Scout event. The Cub Scouts make their own cars from a block of pine wood. They must adhere to some very rigid specifications. We rent an "official track" that is connected to a computer. The computer allows us to select the winners within milliseconds of each other, just like a real car race. This year's event was on February 4 and held in the HTS gymnasium. All 38 Cub Scouts submitted a car and participated in the Pinewood Derby. Over 125 Cub Scouts and family members attended. Stuart, Cindy, Spencer and Nathan Rice organized and ran the race. Chris McReynolds is our Pack Master. Dan Pallone and his Bear Pack hosted the evening. After 2-hours of fierce competition the winners were: (1. Matthew DiRuggiero, (2. Brandon Bernstein, (3. Jonah Mendez. Other winners were:

Best Paint Job: Jake Caldwell; Most Likely Done By a Kid: Angus McReynolds; Hottest Car: Nathan Rice; Most Creative: Kyle Hughes; Best Overall Car, Voted by the Cubs: Zack Evans

From the Harding Open Space Committee

"The Importance of Land Donations", provided to Thumbnail and written by Sally Dudley, Harding Open Space Committee Chair; to presented to residents for information:

“For residents, neighbors and visitors, Harding Township has a unique rural character. A vital element is that federal, state and county agencies, non-profits and property owners have preserved more than 5,500 acres, more than 40 percent of our total area. Whether a government agency, a non-profit or an individual own a specific piece of preserved land, the important fact is that the property will remain open forever.

“Both preservation and development affect land forever. Once buildings are put up, the land’s natural character disappears. And it’s virtually impossible (and highly unlikely) to restore developed land to its original natural character. Once land is preserved, with no further development allowed, its natural character is allowed to survive. Today’s challenge is to protect the meadows, forests, wetlands, streams and ponds that are important elements of the beloved Harding countryside. With the constant rising price of land, the Township has a diminishing capacity to purchase important properties for open space preservation.

“Generous open space donations started contributing to Harding’s special character in the 1930’s, when gifts created the Jockey Hollow section of the Morristown National Historical Park on Tempe Wick Road, Bayne Park on Glen Alpin, Blue Mill and Sand Spring Road, and the Equestrian Park on Sand Spring Road and Sand Spring Lane. Significant resident donations also made preservation of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge possible.

“More recently a number of generous Harding residents have donated land or agreed to sell scenic meadows, forested areas and wetlands at bargain prices to the Township and/or the Harding Land Trust. Thanks to those landowners’ generosity, anyone driving through Harding can view and enjoy the beauty of nearly 200 acres of meadows, stream corridors and forest on Blue Mill Road and James Street, along Primrose Brook on Tempe Wick Road and Bailey’s Mill Road, along Great Brook on Dickson’s Mill Road, and next to Loantaka Brook Park on Loantaka Lane North.

“Making it feasible for the Township and the Harding Land Trust to acquire land through gifts or sales upon favorable terms may allow a donor substantial tax advantages while the community receives a great benefit.

“Land preservation insures that important resources will be protected forever and contributes to the health of the township’s environment and the residents’ quality of life. The trees, plant life and soils on preserved natural lands play a major role in reducing air, surface and ground water pollution, since they absorb contaminants from automobiles, litter, pet waste, pesticides and fertilizers.

“Generous land donations also relieve the giver of the responsibility for maintenance and insure family land protection as a legacy for future generations.

“Land owners considering the protection or preservation of family lands through donations or favored sales should consult with their tax advisors to learn of the alternative approaches and important income and estate tax benefits they may

realize. Also helpful are *Preserving Family Lands, Books I and II* by Stephen J. Small, Esq., Landowner Planning Center (617-357-1644), *The Handbook of Land Owner Options* by The Nature Conservancy of NJ (908-879-7262) and The NJ Natural Land Trust (609-984-1339).

“Harding’s Open Space Plan sets three major goals for land preservation.

- To protect surface waters, and environmentally sensitive and important features like forests, meadows, and stream corridors;
- To preserve scenic vistas and landscapes with historic features; and
- To provide for active and passive recreational needs including enhanced linkages between open space areas and bridle paths.

“The Harding Open Space Committee and the Harding Land Trust are working with the Township Committee to achieve these goals. We urge landowners who are interested in helping us preserve resources to contact the Open Space Committee (973-698-6990) and/or the Harding Land Trust (973-377-2176).”

TOWNSHIP NEWS

Township Committee

(This article thanks to the Observer-Tribune)

The Township Committee is gearing up to create a 2005 budget by initially approving an ordinance to raise the cap on budget expenses. A final vote and public hearing on the ordinance is set for Wednesday, March 2. The state imposes a 2.5 percent cap on all expenditures, which creates a hardship for municipalities, said Township Administrator Lyn Evers. However, the state allows municipalities to exceed the cap up to 3.5 percent if they pass an enabling ordinance. If the township wants to exceed the 3.5 percent, they must hold a public referendum, Evers said.

“It’s unrealistic to expect a municipal budget to come in under a two and half cap when you’re dealing with utilities, police contracts and other expenditures that exceed that,” said Evers, who said Harding is one of many townships passing such ordinances. The police contracts alone are coming in at an increase in the 4 percent range, which exceeds the cap, Evers said.

The state allows municipalities some budget leeway. If the municipality doesn’t use the money budgeted for items, it can be banked. If the budget exceeds what is expected, the municipality can draw on the so-called a “cap bank,” said Evers. Using the cap bank allows the municipality to expand appropriations without going to referendum, Evers said. But the banked money must be used within two years, Evers said.

Meanwhile, the committee voted to spend \$84,000 to purchase two squad cars for the police, a four wheel drive Dodge Durango for police and a Jeep Liberty to be used by Evers. Three of the cars were purchased through a state contractors

cooperative and the fourth was bought through a Morris County cooperative agreement. The purchase of the cars will keep the township "on schedule," she said. Evers was using an old squad car with 130,000 miles on it, she said. Last year, only one municipal car was replaced, she said.

PLANNING BOARD, February meeting Cancelled

A special meeting will be held **Monday March 14, 7:30 PM**. Next regular meeting **March 28**.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, February meeting Cancelled.

January 20, 2005 Report:

Resolutions:

#18-04 – Christopher and Jana O'Connor: The Board discussed how they will enforce the applicant to get a C.O. for the pool. It was decided that the applicant will have to maintain a full escrow balance until the C.O. is issued. The escrow balance will be \$500.00. The resolution was approved as amended.

Pending Application:

#20-04 – Brent and Leslie Wentz, 36 Miller Road, Block 13, Lot 5, R-1 "C" Variance. The plan was modified so that the neighbors will also be happy with the changes to the property. Everything will be moved back so that it will not be that visible from the street. Application approved.

#19-04 – Gloria Glatt, 55 Red Gate Road, Block 6, Lot 2.01, Zone RR "C" Variance. Request for a one month adjournment.

New Applications:

#21-04 – Howard Baldwin and Nancy Areson, 23 Glen Eagles Drive, Block 48, Lot 7.15, Zone R-1 "C" Variance

A variance is needed because this is a non-conforming lot. This is a one story structure. Applicant would like to open up the area and enlarge the existing kitchen with a 16 x 18 foot addition. A variance is being requested for set-back and coverage. Applicant will keep the additional coverage down by removing some of the existing driveway. The application was approved with the condition that new plans are drawn up showing how the driveway will be altered to maintain the existing lot coverage. Also, escrow will be held until the driveway is altered.

#22-04 – Huff FLP, LP, 559 Tempe Wick Road, Block 31, Lot 1.03, Zone R-1 "C" Variance.

Lot is 7.3 acres; however, it is long and narrow. There is a 35 foot driveway from Tempe Wick Road to the house. Original structure was built in the 70's.

Applicant needs variances for existing frontage on Tempe Wick and rear yard set backs. It will remain a 4 bedroom house. The addition will bring the total square footage of the house to 5,920 feet. The shed will be removed. A site inspection is

scheduled for February 12th at 9:00 A.M. with a snow date of February 19th.
#1-05 – Michael and Patricia Garguilo, 3 Holly Hill Lane, Block 6, Lot 9.01, Zone R-1,
“C” Variance.

This property has frontage on both Holly Hill Lane and Blue Mill Road. Applicant wants to build a pool and a pool house. The pool house would be 20 x 20 with a 7 x 9 bathroom. The pool is 23 x 44 feet plus an apron. The septic system will have to be altered. Current impervious coverage is 10.96 %. With the improvements, the coverage will be 11.6%. Set-back from both the front and back of the house should be 150 feet. A site inspection is scheduled for February 12th and the property should be staked to show the foot print of the improvements.

The Board of Adjustment presented its annual report as required by N.J.S.A. 40:55D-70.1. There were 21 new applications file in 2004, plus carry-over applications from 2003. Reasons for the requested variances were as follows: Building setback – 17, nonconforming structure – 13, lot coverage ratio – 10; building area ratio – 9; Building setback less than 150 feet – 5; accessory structure in front – 2; accessory structure height – 1; total building area – 1.

The Board approved a number of applications only after amendments in response to the Board’s concerns reduced the extent of the requested variance relief or otherwise modified the proposal. Some of the modifications were substantial. The Board also imposed special conditions on a number of the approved applications.

One unusual application was the Coy application involving a deer fence, which was adjourned after discussion at the initial hearing to allow a request for consideration of deer fence regulations by the Planning Board.

Harding Township Historic Preservation Commission, February 2005

1. Wentz, 36 Miller Road – This property is not within a historic district nor is it a contributing structure. However, the HPC commented with regard to maintaining the “Rural and Historic Streetscape” of Harding Township. Revised location of the Garage (parallel to the rear wall of the house) is preferable. Also, the Main Ridge of the new Garage be oriented north/south in order to appear less tall than the house. As well as that any Dormers be limited to the side and rear of the structure so as to be more consistant with similar structures located in the immediate vicinity.

2. Grano, 84 Glen Alpin Road – No comment on this application.

3. Garguilo, 3 Holly Hill Lane --This property is located within the Silver Lake Historic District but is not a contributing structure. However, as the Historic Preservation Commission considers the impact of development with visibility from public roads to be rather significant in maintaining the “Rural and Historic Streetscape” of Harding Township, the Commission had suggestions. Due to the visibility of the existing house and the proposed pool house addition from Blue Mill Road, a natural landscape buffer (native vegetation in high density) should be

maintained and reinforced. It is not the intention of the Commission to suggest that non-natural Evergreen vision screens be installed. Also, the maintenance of the Bridle Path access is a feature considered important in maintaining the rural character of the Township. Lastly, exterior lighting should be limited and designed so as to protect Blue Mill Road from light pollution

Harding Township Civic Association

The annual meeting was held Feb 7. Chris Allyn, Environmental Commissioner, spoke on the state of the Township, in the absence of Mayor Murray. New Civic Association members are Jan Rizzo, David Hodgson, and Alf Newlin.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

The records of the school board meeting are found at Board Notes, on the school's official website: www.hardingtwp.k12.nj.us. Upcoming meetings are 3/28 and 4/11. All meetings at 7:30 PM in the Harding Township Middle School, Lee's Hill Rd.

HARDING TWP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION, ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION, No reports

EDITOR'S NOTE: THE DEADLINES FOR THE NEXT TWO ISSUES OF THE THUMBNAIL ARE *March 30 and April 28*, respectively. Please send copy 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**. 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/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 3/19, 4/9, 4/23, 5/14 from 9-12 AM. Please do NOT 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)	4 PM	
Municipal Court (2 nd and 4 th Friday)	11AM	
Environmental Commission (1 st Tuesday)	7:30 PM	4/4
Seniors (2 nd and 4 th Thursday)Chrst KingCh	11 AM	
Planning Board (4 th Monday)	7:30 PM ...	(special) 3/14, 3/28
Hist Preservation Comm (1stThursday)	8 PM	4/7, 5/5
Board of Health (2 nd Thursday)	8 PM	4/14
Board of Education (2 nd and 4 th Monday)	7:30 PM ...	
Board of Adjustment (3 rd Thursday)	7:30 PM ...	3/17, 4/21
Township Committee(1 st and 3 rd Wed)	8 PM	3/16, 4/6, 4/20
Shade Tree (2 nd Monday) 3 PM	4/11	
Harding Twp Civic Association	7:30 PM	3/7, 4/4