

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

April 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

DON'T FORGET: SCHOOL BOARD AND SCHOOL BUDGET ELECTIONS,

TUESDAY APRIL 21, 2009, 2-9PM, Harding Township Municipal Building. There are no contested seats, and the budget is up 0.36%, resulting in a projected tax rate increase of 3.22% corresponding to a tax increase of \$13.60 per \$100,000 assessed value. See the report on the School Board, as well as a letter from Dr. Timothy Purnell, Superintendent Harding School, both below.

The Harding Township Environmental Commission, funded through a Clean Communities Grant, is sponsoring the annual Harding Clean Up Day on **Saturday April 25th at 9:00am-11:00am**. Those interested in helping to clean up the town should come to Bayne Park where they can get their assignment, some bags, a Tee Shirt (while they last) and refreshments. We need your help to keep our town beautiful. Harding, Think Green. The rain date will be Sunday the 26th.

HARDING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adult Health clinic on **Thursday, April 30, 2009, from 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.** at the Municipal Building. This program will include, blood pressure, fasting blood chemistries; including cholesterol typing and information on nutrition. There will also be a representative from the Dental Association of Basking Ridge who will provide information on oral cancer. **Registration for this clinic** 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 office located on the second floor of the Municipal Building or by calling 973/267-8000, extension 125 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

The Health Department is also *collecting any unwanted eyeglasses*. These can be dropped off to the Health Department (2nd Floor) or brought to the Adult Health Clinic on April 30th.

Don't forget the Harding Township's Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony

to be held on Monday, May 25, 9:30 AM. The Parade will begin promptly at 9:30 AM and the ceremony will begin immediately afterwards. Any Township group or organization interested in participating this year should contact the Parade Chair, Scott Shipley, at 908-406-1402. *In case of rain, the parade will be cancelled, however, the ceremony will be held in the Sellitto gymnasium at Harding School.*

The **ESSAY CONTEST** subject is “*Write a letter to Sasha and Malia Obama, describing your ideas about being a good American citizen*”. All Harding children grades 1-8, are eligible to enter. Entries can be turned in to teachers at the Harding Township School or to Scott Shipley, at 14 Beech Lane, Morristown, NJ 07960. The deadline to turn in the essays is **Friday, May 1st**.

Bayne Park volunteers are asking if you can join them in the effort to humanely **control the Canada Geese population** at Bayne Park this summer. **Just sign up to be “on call”, at 10AM or 2PM, on any day from May 15th thru July 4th.** We'll call you minutes before your selected time slot & tell you if geese are present at the park. If so, you will come to the park to join 2 or 3 others to chase the geese away. It will take no more than ½ hour of your time. You will be using proven techniques, under the guidance of a trained volunteer. The birds learn quickly, and after the 1st few weeks, they rarely return.

Modest physical effort is required; primarily, the ability to walk across the park at a reasonable pace. All equipment is supplied. Shoes that can get muddy & long pants are suggested. This Township approved effort, so successful last year, was featured in “Goose Tracks 2008”, a nationwide publication of the Humane Society of the US and in the magazine of the NJ League of Municipalities. This precisely timed “harassment phase”, for which we are recruiting now, is just part of a longer carefully planned scenario grounded in principles of goose behavior. Come be part of a trend setting project that started here! Contact: Roberta Shields, r.a.shields@att.net, (973) 267-5673 or (973) 906 8357.

ENROLLMENT continues FOR THE HTRA SUMMER DAY CAMP

**For more information, contact (973) 605-5866 , e-mail to
promano59@comcast.net or website www.hardingtownshipdaycamp.com**

(JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Anyone entering grades 7 and 8 wishing to be a CIT or anyone age 14 and older looking for a counselor position should contact Pat Romano or obtain job application forms on website).

THE LIBRARY

Art in Bloom 2009! ☐☐ Gala Preview Party, **Friday, May 8** from 6-9 p.m., Church of Christ the King. Art Show and Sale continues on **Saturday, May 9** from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Join your neighbors, invite your friends ~ don't miss this every-other-year celebratory event! Sponsored by the Friends of Harding Township Library. ☐☐ ☐☐

Tuesday morning Storytime continues for children ages 1-3 at 10 a.m. **April 14:** *Rainbow Fish and Friends*; **April 21:** *Birds*; **April 28:** *Frogs*; **May 5:** *Insects*.
Evening Book Group: **Wednesday, April 29 at 7:30** to discuss *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, by David Wroblewski. An Oprah 2008 Book Club selection, the novel is a family saga set in remote northern Wisconsin.

Pirate Party (rescheduled) for children ages 5-6, **Saturday, May 2**, from 11 a.m. until noon. This program will include stories, games, a craft and snack, and will be held outdoors. Rain Date to be announced.

Young Readers ~ Hold The Dates! Upcoming Family Events at Your Library:
Sunday, June 2, *Fairy Tale Forests*, 4-5:30 p.m. Jennifer Carlin and performers from Harding Township School will delight young audiences with magical re-enactments of classic fairy tales. Bring a pillow or blanket! **Sunday, July 12**, 4-5:30 p.m. Back by popular demand: **American Girl Doll A Picnic on the Lawn**. Bring your doll for an afternoon of cupcake decorating, stories, and crafts.

HARDING ALLIANCE AGAINST SUBSTANCE ABUSE MEETING

Please come to the Mock Trial addressing DUI and Host Liability Issues **Thursday, May 28, 7PM**, *Harding Township Municipal Building Courtroom Starring Officers of the Court and Students and Parents from HTS All residents are welcome!*

The mission of Harding Alliance is to provide education and resources to promote healthy decision making and to avoid substance abuse and risky behaviors. More information, including useful web links and our meeting schedule can be found at <http://hardingalliance.hardingnj.org>. We are also seeking representatives for the Alliance that can help organize parent

programming. No fundraising! If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Malloy, Chairperson, at judymotown@comcast.net.

AN OPEN LETTER TO CITIZENS FROM DR TIM PURNELL, Superintendent, Harding Township School

"Since joining the Harding Township School district, I have been awestruck by our extremely talented educators and the commitment by our community to support our schools. Many residents move into Harding for our low taxes and successful small school atmosphere. They are not alone. Research indicates that small schools are safer for students and provide for more individual attention and instruction. Small schools cultivate better teaching practices, allow for higher expectations and equate to less bureaucracy. Unfortunately, both the low tax rate and our small school environment may be put in jeopardy by Governor Corzine's stated mandate of school consolidation/regionalization.

"According to the current state equalization formula, taxes will increase and Harding Township School with its assets will become property of the newly formed regional school district. The Harding Board of Education is working with me to understand all aspects and angles of the impact on Harding Township, its students and taxpayers of a possible regionalization or consolidation of its school system. We are committed to sharing that information and analysis as it is developed with all who are interested.

"Governor Corzine, why are you trying to remove a school district that has statistically provided exemplary education with an outstanding historical budget support from the community? John Murray indicated, at a recent Township Committee meeting, that the 'property tax rate of \$1.036 per thousand dollar of assessed value is the lowest in Morris County.'" Further, there is a lack of research to say that consolidation saves money and forced consolidation is NOT recommended in any local or national study!

"I look forward to working with the Harding Citizens to understand what paths lay ahead and which of those paths will enable us to continue our dual focus of putting children first and serving the residents of Harding Township in the most effective and fiscally efficient way. This is the single, most important issue facing Harding Township and requires your attention, Timothy Purnell, (<http://www.drpurnell.blogspot.com>)"

TOWNSHIP NEWS

THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Following is the tentative schedule of the agendas of future meetings:

04/15/2009: Regular Township Committee meeting: Introduction of 2009 budget ordinance; Discussion of potential 2009 Township capital expenditures

05/20/2009: Regular Township Committee meeting: Public hearing on 2009 budget ordinance; Introduction of ordinance for 2009 capital expenditures

06/17/2009: Regular Township Committee meeting: Public hearing on ordinance for 2009 Township capital expenditures.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING- MARCH 18, 2009

All Township Committee Members were in attendance.

Township Business

An ordinance for salary ranges was approved. Also approved was a resolution to hire a senior bookkeeper, Leonard Ho, and a resolution for a contract award to Moderate Income Management Company, Inc to manage The Farm at Harding.

Bayne Park Committee

The Bayne Park Committee presented an overview of their Draft Operations Plan. The Committee members came from the environmental commission, recreation department, garden club, and Harding DPW. The Plan is a comprehensive living document that outlines the maintenance recommendations and provides best practices and standards for the park. The committee even researched the deed to the property to determine what Mr. Bayne would have wanted. Although the committee was to expire on 12/31/08, the Township Committee has extended their timeline so they can complete the initiatives that have been started. Improvements include new skating rinks, new lights, new electrical service, new garbage cans, cleaning of the picnic tables, and trimming of the trees and grass.

Budget Discussion

The municipal operating budget comprises only 25% of a home owner's tax bill and open space only 4.5%, so the township committee is working with approximately 30% of the tax bill. The remainder is made up of Morris County and the school.

A preliminary Budget Discussion was held outlining the changes for 2009. The township anticipates an increase in expenses of \$382K over last year and a decrease in revenue by \$44K. This would create a \$426K gap between last

year's spending and revenue.

Increased Expenses: The increase came from four items: debt service (\$245K), insurance, primarily health (\$200K), pension (\$128K), and salary (\$47). The numbers represent the increased amount not the total amount. Although the health insurance increase was 20% this year, it was pointed out that there was virtually no increase in 2007, and only a small increase in 2008. This resulted in an average increase of only 8% over the last three years.

There were two items that would decrease: reserve for uncollected taxes (\$190K), and an overlap when Harding switched to shared services (\$48K). The overlap is a one time occurrence that resulted from payments that have already been made. When these two items are subtracted from the increases above, the result is a net increase of \$382K.

Decreased Revenue: On the revenue side, state aid is decreasing by - \$51K, and township revenue is decreasing by -\$178K due to lack of construction. Increases on the revenue side include a surplus (+\$50K), delinquent tax receipts (+\$21K), and a one year COAH fee (+\$125K). The net revenue is a decrease of - \$44K. If the township were to fund the shortfall through taxes it would mean an increase for 2009 of 8.49%. This is in contrast to the increase in 2008 which was 3.77%. To maintain the 3.77% increase, the township needs to remove \$235K from the budget.

Five alternatives were presented:

Defer the Pension Plan payment, (\$239K), reduce Open Space from 4.5% to 3.5% (\$182K), fund half of the fire cistern and parking lot repayment (\$62K), reduce the capital budget from \$500K to \$450K (\$50K), and more aggressive added assessments on new construction (\$TBD). It was noted that deferring the Pension Plan payment was not a viable option because the township would have to pay an additional 8% when the payments were finally made. Currently the township can borrow money at 4%. As to the last choice, added assessments, it was decided they would not produce enough revenue in 2009, since they would not be effective until the 2010 tax year, however it was a good thing to look into for 2010.

This left reducing Open Space, funding half of the repayment, and reducing the capital budget. The general feeling was to reduce Open Space by half a percentage point (\$91K), not the entire percentage point, fund half of the repayment (\$62K), and reduce the capital budget (\$50K). If anyone has additional ideas, the Township Committee would like to hear from you.

GLEN ALPIN

Long Term Planning: Until a long term plan and use for the building can be developed, the township is considering mothballing Glen Alpin to preserve the building and reduce expenses. The township is looking at leveraging grants that are available to stabilize the building according to Department of the Interior guidelines. It was noted that the updates done so far include the roof, chimney repairs, and gutters. Grants would be needed for the heat and plumbing before the building could be rented.

Grant for Architectural Drawings of Entrance, and Removal of Paint on Puddingstone: As reported last month, the Glen Alpin Conservancy was requesting the township's approval to apply to the county for a grant for the entry way drawings and recommendations on the removal of the paint. The Conservancy would contribute \$4,150 and they were asking the county for \$16,600, for a total project cost of \$20,750. The Conservancy requires the township's approval since the building belongs to the township. In a split vote (3-2), the township voted not to submit the grant application. Voting to submit the grant application: Bartlett, Rybka. Voting against submitting the grant application: Egea, Ward, Lanzerotti. Bartlett felt the need to support the grant application in order to keep the Conservancy engaged. Rybka felt the monies in the county were already allocated, so Harding was just getting its share. Lanzerotti expressed concerns about the relevancy of the architectural work should a new owner decide to go in a different direction. He also felt there were too many "balls in the air". Ward did not see the relevance of doing this work now with no plan for the building. Egea had issue with the timing, not the plan itself. She wanted to see a multi year plan with goals and a timeline before spending any additional funds. She felt there were too many moving parts and it was time to stop and assess the big picture and long term objectives.

Board of Adjustment, February 19, 2009

Resolutions - Approved

The Huff Family Limited Partnership, LP, 599 Tempe Wick Road, Block 31, Lot 1.03, "C" Variance

Pending Application

John Sumas, 6 Lake Trail West, Block 41, Lot 3, Ordinance Interpretation/"C" Variance. After lengthy discussion the application was denied.

John and Muriel Windolf, 24 Featherbed Lane, Block 16, Lot 18.01, "C" and "D" Variance. The application was tabled until the next meeting so that a site inspection could be conducted.

Board of Adjustment, March 19, 2009

Resolutions – Deferred, John Sumas, 6 Lake Trail West, Block 41, Lot 3, Ordinance Interpretation/"C" Variance

Pending Application

Carmen and Grace Petti, 112 Village Road, Block 15, Lot 19.02

Request for Extension of Time Granted for one year,

McFayden/Tom Luciano Request for Extension of Time Granted for one year

John and Muriel Windolf, 24 Featherbed Lane, Block 16, Lot 18.01, "C" and "D" Variance, Adjourned for one month.

Planning Board Meeting- March 23, 2009

Roll Call: Marshall Bartlett, Thomas DePoortere, David Dietz, Robert Edgar, Louis Lanzerotti, Alf Newlin, Isobel Olcott, Peter Saulnier, Joe Schleifer. Absent: Virginia Moriarty.

Discussion/Reports: There was a report of the waste water management meeting. The county is taking over planning from the municipalities and the build out analysis of water and sewer requirements although the analysis won't be completed by April as planned. This will impact future development in Harding. Sewer systems of 2000 gallons per day or higher will need DEP approval.

The build out analysis subcommittee of Messrs. Saulnier, Lanzerotti, DePoortere and Dietz had an organizational meeting in January. At a meeting on February 9th the impact of the change to five acre lots in 2004 was discussed, and a March meeting was held to discuss septic carrying capacity. A meeting on March 11th was used to discuss the scope and cost of an analysis with consulting firms. A meeting will be scheduled with the Township Committee after completion of the budget analysis to decide whether the analysis is needed and what I would be used for.

The Board then discussed the proposed consulting agreement with Mr. Thonet. Mr. Hall had revised the agreement to reflect that Mr. Thonet should work with Mr. Fox to ensure no duplication of effort, and that the work to be done would be within the context of township ordinances and master plan and would not stray into other areas. A resolution to hire Mr. Thonet was then approved unanimously.

Applications

Application PB-02-09, Applicant Joseph and Arlene **Gonnella**, Block 34, Lots 6 and 7, Tempe Wicke Road, Minor Subdivision. Action: Consideration of Completeness Waivers. Given that this is a lot line adjustment and that no

construction is contemplated at this time, waivers were granted for (1) requirement of letter of interpretation from DEP, (2) topographic contours and slope information, (3) wooded area information, and (4) tree conservation information.

Application PB-01-09, Applicant **151 Madison Avenue Corp/Hudacek**, Block 4, Lot 15, 610 Van Buren Road, Minor Subdivision with Variance. Action: Commence Public Hearing; Set Site Inspection. Applicant proposes to make three conforming flag lots under the flag lot ordinance of 6-7 acres each from one lot of 22.3 acres. Currently there is a 60-foot side staff; under the new plan there would be three 20-foot staffs, but lots would share the current driveway. The existing house on the original lot has non-conforming setbacks which won't change; however, a pool and sheds will be removed to yield coverage of 11.4%. An LOI confirms no wetlands. Site inspection set for April 11th at 10am

Application PB-10-08, Applicant **Primrose Partners**, LLC, Block 46, Lots 6, 7.01, 8.03 and 10.04, Brook Drive South, Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision. Action: Continue Public Hearing. The Board approved a special meeting on May 6th to accommodate the Primrose application. Mr. Villa then reviewed changes to the plan since the last meeting: (1) elimination of Lot 37 (area added to lot 35) to resolve the issue of access to Lot 37 from Brook Drive South, leaving 13 lots in total, (2) shortening of a cul de sac at end of access road, adding landscaped dot in middle of cul de sac, adding shared driveway and four flag lots (33, 34, 30, and 31), (3) realignment of road at entrance to development, and (4) identification of critical trees to avoid with road and swales. Mr. Cosgrove then discussed storm water management and related items including the history of soil sampling on the property, infiltration testing and the determination of the ground water level, all deemed satisfactory. Mr. Cosgrove was asked to discuss issues relating to future lot disturbances where wooded areas are replaced with lawns. Future lot disturbance will be limited to areas outside of conservation easements, and Mr. Cosgrove indicated that storm water runoff calculations assumed that all non-environmentally constrained lands would be disturbed. The issue of storm water facility maintenance was discussed. While homeowners will be responsible for maintaining systems on individual lots, the homeowners' association and the township should have easements for storm water facilities which will give them right to enter the lot to maintain the facilities and assess the homeowner or the association, respectively. Annual reports on maintenance will be provided to the township engineer. Discussion then turned to permeable driveways, their construction, attributes and required maintenance. During public comment, Dr. Souza inquired about permeability testing, separation

between the infiltration system and the seasonal high water table, and whether the bio retention basins could accommodate excess runoff if trenches were eliminated. Arlene Maynard was concerned about the possibility of increased taxes relating to maintenance, the complex nature of the required homeowners' agreement, and the impact of storm water management given the problems with water caused by the construction of Route 287. Sally Rubin wondered who will monitor the effectiveness of the landscaping features used to manage water, and it was suggested that these features work even if not well-maintained.

HARDING OPEN SPACE TRUST (HOST) March 25, 2009. Attendees: Chair Loren Pfeiffer. Members: Ms Kovacs, Somers, & Ward. MSSRs Murray, Bartlett, Baumgarten, & Weppler. Staff Members: Ms McKane, & Gildersleeve. Harding Land Trust

guest: Ms. Bologna. Civic Association reporter: Ms Cutler.

APPROVED: Minutes of March 4, 2009 meeting.

HARDING LAND TRUST REPORT, (Ms Bologna). John Parke will present "Mastodon to Meadows" speech on April 28 at 6:30pm at New Vernon Fire House.

Care of HOST properties: Waterman (Spring Valley Road) and Von Zubon properties (corner of James and Blue Mill Roads) will be farmed by end of May. Waterman meadow has been drained (paid by US Wildlife Service). Restoration of meadow by money received from Fish & Wildlife Service. Future tree work (50-50 of cost) will be done by Morristown Cooperative. Brush has been cleared on former Von Zubon property; a new post & rail fence will be underwritten by new owner, Mrs. Aimee Bloom. Bridal trail access to property will be gap in fence.

SUMMER INTERN (\$1800 to be paid jointly by HOST & HLT) will draft management plan for HOST property with advice and consent of Township Committee.

NEW MEMBER OF HOST; Mr. Nick Platt.

NEW BUSINESS: All Oaths of Office and Financial Disclosure Forms of HOST members have been received by Ms. Gildersleeve.

HOST committee considered assisting Harding Twp budget savings by decreasing Open Space tax by 1/3 cent.

Glen Alpin property needs management plan for work by Harding Twp DPW. \$1 million bond and additional expenses discussed. Ms. McKane, Twp. business administrator. She has submitted new grant application to Morris County to finance further work on Glen Alpin. Eggers lot now remediated successfully at cost of \$35,000.

Committee then went into Executive Session to discuss Primrose Brook subdivision and potential new acquisitions.

Board of Education: March 3, 2009

The Board of Education recognized the outstanding achievement of Mrs. Lisa Werner's 6th and 7th grade "Atlas" and "Prato" World of Free Enterprise QUEST teams, which won 2nd and 3rd place, respectively, at the WOFE competition on February 11, 2009. The QUEST teams had been given the design challenge of creating a car with new technology. The "Atlas" team, which created the first hydrogen fuel powered car, consisted of **Gregory Travers, Dorothy Lee, Aaron French, Emily Saulnier, Frances Coy, Elizabeth Turnbull, Crosby Kapp, Adin Makowsky and Olivia O'Loughlin**. The "Prato" team, which created an electric powered car with a wind turbine built with 10% biodegradable, recyclable product, consisted of **John Sciales, Patrick Bray, Chloe Schorr, Kelsey Dyer, Ari Goret, Kathleen Nagle, Ryan Lam, Caroline Fassett, Michael Ubertaccio and Holly Claytor**.

Dr. Purnell then presented the school's proposed 2009-2010 Budget, which totals **\$9,059,566**. This is an increase of **\$32,106 (or 0.36%)** over the 2008-09 budget of **\$9,027,460**.

Three revenue sources pay for the proposed budget: (1) Harding's proposed tax levy -- 95%; (2) state aid -- 4%; and (3) tuition, building use and interest -- 1%. Dr. Purnell noted that the state average for state aid as a percentage of total budget is 52%, but for Harding, the state's aid is very minimal and therefore only a very small part of its projected revenues.

If the budget is passed, Harding's tax levy would increase by **\$359,795** from **\$8,201,698** in 2008-09 to **\$8,561,493** in 2009-10 – which is a 4.4% increase. (Dr. Purnell explained that state law requires Harding to stay within a 4% cap but that the state has given Harding an automatic waiver adjustment for spending .4 above the cap to cover increased health benefit costs.)

Under the proposed budget, therefore, homeowners would pay **\$136** more for every **\$1 million** of assessed value. Specifically, the tax levy would be **\$4,478** for every **\$1 million** of assessed value. (Currently, homeowners pay **\$4,342** for every **\$1 million** of assessed value.)

Dr. Purnell explained that a key objective in building the budget was keeping class sizes low. In grades K-8, the average class size is between 17-18. In grades 6 to 8, the average class size is around 15-16. Keeping class size low, however, means that the cost of education per student is higher.

The **\$9,059,566 budget** will be allocated in the following ways: (1) 59.9%

toward instruction (42.8% toward regular instruction and 17.1% toward special education); (2) 12.4% toward facilities (custodial, maintenance, supplies); (3) 11.2 % toward employee benefits; (4) 11.1% toward transportation, co-curricular activities and athletics; and (5) 5.4% toward administration.

Dr. Purnell reported that **\$670,000** was cut from staff and faculty requests in the proposed budget in order for the school to meet the state-mandated 4% cap. These budget efficiencies reducing proposed copiers (\$16,000); moving purchased laptops to lease (\$34,674); eliminating the summer math and reading program (\$5,000); reducing the number of curriculum consultants (\$2,000); lowering the legal budget (\$9,500); removing proposed additional cafeteria assistant (\$6,302); reducing the costs of policy consultants (\$4,145); lowering employment ad and print costs (\$2,000); and lowering custodial/maintenance costs (\$15,000).

Finally, the budget includes monies for two capital outlay projects: replacing the middle school bathrooms and replacing the amphitheatre doors to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. The school has applied for state ROD grants to pay for 40% of the costs of the projects.

Board of Education, March 30, 2009

At its March 30, 2009 meeting, the Board first commended the outstanding artistic abilities of **George Bierly**, whose artwork was selected for the school's Kindergarten Orientation t-shirts for 2009.

Next, the Board approved the 2009-10 school district budget, which was presented at the March 3, 2009 meeting. The complete budget is available at <http://www.hardingtwp.org/boefolder/boebudget/budgetnews.html>. Voting on the proposed budget will be **Tuesday, April 21st from 2 – 9 p.m.**

Dr. Purnell also reported on his "Reframing the School House" forum, which brought together area business leaders to discuss how to modernize public education, which, critics argue, has barely evolved since the days of the schoolhouse. The business leaders discussed educational failures they have encountered in their workforces and made suggestions – from a business perspective – on how to improve public school education.

Board President publicly thanked the faculty, students and parents involved with the play "Willy Wonka, Jr." for an excellent production.

THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION welcomes suggestions or nominations for "Citizen of the Year", to be announced at the Memorial Day Celebration. Please send name and any supporting information to the Thumbnail Editor, Hesnaj@verizon.net by April 30, 2009. (new date)

Civic Association DEADLINES FOR THE next 2 issues OF THE THUMBNAIL are May 8, and June 19, respectively. After the June issue, the next issue is September. Any really early September announcement might not get out as mailing reality means delivery about September 10 or later. We can post such announcements on our website if so requested anytime during the summer. Current and past issues of Thumbnail, as well as the Directory are also on our Website: <http://www.hardingcivic.org>. Send questions or comments about Thumbnail to editor, **email address: hesnaj@verizon.net**, or the Harding Township Civic Association, PO Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976.

TOWNSHIP RECYCLING

Commingled Recyclables: consists of all aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, and only plastic bottles and containers with the Recycling symbol, and #1 or #2. Try to crush plastic bottle to conserve space. Please remember no plastic or paper bags. **Commingled Mixed Paper recycling:** consists of all paper, cardboard, newspaper, office paper, magazines, and books. Please put loose or shredded paper in paper bag. Please flatten all boxes or fill with other paper products.

Other accepted items: Batteries; automotive (car) and household (rechargeable accepted); Computers and all related peripherals, i.e. printers and monitors; Automotive and light truck tires, (on or off rim) and Propane tanks (BBQ size only)

The Hours of operation are every Wednesday from 7AM. to noon (7– 9AM self service); and Saturdays: 4/18. 5/2, 5/16, 5/30, 6/13, and 6/27, 9AM to noon.

DATES TO REMEMBER, meetings as noted.

Municipal Court (1 st and 3 rd Tuesday)	3 PM
Municipal Court (2 nd and 4 th Friday)	11AM
Environmental Commission (1 st Monday)	7:30 PM
Seniors (2 nd and 4 th Thursday)Chrst KingCh	11 AM
Planning Board (4 th Monday)	7:30 PM
Hist Preservation Comm (1stThursday)	8 PM
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
Township Committee(3 rd Wed)	7:30 PM
Shade Tree (2 nd Monday)	3 PM
Harding Twp Civic Association (1 st Monday)	7:30 PM