

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

MAY 2009

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Bicycle Collection Pedals for Progress Sponsored by: Boy Scout Troop 43
Saturday, May 16, 2009, 9-12; First Presbyterian Church Parking Lot
Donate your used bicycle (in repairable condition). These will then be distributed to developing countries worldwide. From pick-up to delivery, the cost is \$35 per bike. A cash donation is needed; suggested minimum \$10. Call Jane at 973-301-0810.

The **Harding Township Recreation Association (HTRA)** will be holding its annual meeting on **Monday, May 18th, 7:30 PM**, in the Harding School Library This organization sponsors many of the team sports programs for Harding kids. In order for HTRA to continue with its success we are always in need of new faces and ideas. There are some positions available on the HTRA Board and we really would love your support. Find out where your gifts and talents could help the HTRA. Any questions please contact Donna O'Connor at dpl000@aol.com.

STEAK & LOBSTER DINNER. **Friday, June 5th 6-10pm**, rain or shine at the firehouse on Village Rd, New Vernon. (Please no strollers).
Steak Dinner \$19 Lobster Dinner \$23 Chicken Dinner \$15
Dinners include salad bar, fries, bread, beer, wine, soda, coffee, dessert. Also available: clams, corn on the cob, and burgers for kids. Please come out and support your New Vernon Volunteer Fire Department for a fun community event.

IMPORTANT PRIMARY ELECTION, TUESDAY June 2, 2009. Harding Township Municipal Building. There is a contest on the Republican ballot this year. Three candidates, Marshall Bartlett, Barbara Brennan, and Ned Ward, are competing for two seats. Bartlett and Ward are incumbents. *(Full Disclosure: Brennan is a current Trustee of the Civic Association, publisher of the Thumbnail).* **All three candidates have sent Thumbnail a statement of their qualifications and goals, and these are printed within this issue; see below at pages 4-7.** The Civic Assn is also sponsoring **MEET THE CANDIDATES NIGHT** on **Wednesday, May 27, 7:30 PM**, New Vernon Presbyterian Church, where you can come to see and hear the three candidates.

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. Questions, please 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.*

HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY welcomes you to the Tunis-Ellicks Country Store on Memorial Day, immediately after the conclusion of the Parade. In addition to the traditional lemonade and cookies, visitors will also find a tempting array of penny candy – the wonderful old-fashioned kind such candy necklaces, wax bottles, circus peanuts and more – just waiting to be enjoyed. And that's not all. Our local Girl Scout and Brownie cadettes will be on hand to help, not just with a selection of their classic cookies but to distribute a brochure which they have researched and printed about the history of Harding. Admission and refreshments are free of charge, as is the brochure. Bring a few pennies, nickels and dimes for the candy but not much more.

Thumbnail now available electronically

Be the first to receive new issues: if you would like to receive an email notifying you when a new issue is available, signup for automatic email notification at the Thumbnail page on our website, <http://www.hardingcivic.org>. When a new issue is posted on our website, you will receive an email informing you that a new issue is available. You may unsubscribe to this service at any time.

The New Vernon First Aid Squad will be conducting a mass casualty incident simulation on the morning of **Saturday, June 20**. The incident will simulate the collapse of a section of bleachers at the Harding Township School with volunteers playing the parts of victims. The drill will take place at the Harding Township School, with emergency vehicles being deployed from the New Vernon Fire House on Village Road. Residents should expect to see extra ambulances, fire vehicles and police cars in the vicinity during the simulation. Emergency vehicles from nearby communities will start arriving early in the morning, and the mass casualty incident drill should be completed by noon.

Bayne Park volunteers urge you NOT to feed the birds in Bayne Park.

Please help us and all the birds in Bayne Park by not feeding them! Bread, crackers and popcorn are BAD for these birds. This food can make them sick and can cause nutritional deficiencies and physical ailments. Ample natural food is available. If not, the birds are free to seek food elsewhere. Feeding geese and swans will attract them in large numbers, encourage them to stay and can cause them to become

aggressive toward people, all things that will make the birds unpopular and put them in jeopardy. If you do see birds in the park, appreciate them by observing them, photographing them or drawing them, all great activities for kids and adults alike. But for the good of park goers and the birds, please don't feed them! It's also illegal. Because of the importance of this issue, there is a Township Ordinance against feeding wildlife on Township property, with a fine of up to \$100.

THE LIBRARY

The Library is deeply grateful to the **Friends of HTL** for another splendid ***Art in Bloom!*** The Board also wishes to acknowledge the hard work of the many volunteers who helped make this such a happy and successful event. We hear constantly how much people enjoy *Art in Bloom*. Thank you, Friends!

Evening Book Group will meet on **Wednesday, May 27** at 7:30 p.m. to discuss ***The Brain that Changes Itself*** by Dr. Norman Doidge. Do not miss this fascinating look into how our thoughts can change the structure and function of our brains, even into old age! All are welcome.

Fairy Tale Forests ~ Saturday, June 13, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Jennifer Carlin and performers from Harding Township School will delight a young audience with magical re-enactments of classic fairy tales. Bring a pillow or a blanket.

Get ready for the **Children's Summer Reading Program 2009**. This year's theme is "Get Creative at your Library." Our Librarians, Lotte Newlin and Jen Carlin, will be visiting the Harding school in late Spring to talk about the Summer Reading Program. Also watch for details at the Library.

Back by popular demand: **American Girl Doll Picnic, Saturday, July 12th from 4:00-5:30 p.m.** on the municipal lawn. Bring your doll for a picnic, tie-dying aprons for you and your doll, decorating cupcakes, and a trivia game.

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. More information, including useful web links 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. The next meetings are Wednesdays, June 3 and Sept. 16, at 8:45 AM at Harding Township School Guidance Office. The June 3 meeting will present the 2010 budget and planning for Red Ribbon Week 2009.

Following are Statements Received by Thumbnail from the three Republican candidates for Township Committee. June 2 Primary Election

Marshall Bartlett Statement

“A Harding with low taxes and a high quality of life”

My wife Margaret and I live on Young's Road and are 25 year residents of Harding Township. I have served the Township for 18 years in various organizations, including the Civic Association (President for two years) the Planning Board (Chairman for six years), and three years as a member of the Township Committee. I have also served as trustee of the Great Swamp Watershed Association (vice-chair for one year) and as trustee of the Harding Land Trust. I have a strong record of dedication to the preservation of Harding's special character and to service to its citizens.

TAXES --I continue my pledge to keep our taxes low. Township officials are obligated to conserve the Town's resources and to restrain, to the maximum possible extent, tax increases for all citizens. Our Township Committee accomplished a timely sale of bonds with an average interest rate of less than four per cent covering most of the township debt. This action has laid a foundation for a stable future with low interest rates.

OPEN SPACE -- I have strongly supported the Von Zuben and Anderson open space projects which will provide lasting benefits to our Town at low cost. I have been the Township Committee liaison to both the Harding Open Space Trust Committee and to the Planning Board. Although we need to conserve funds, open space efforts must continue to pursue the many fine opportunities available. This year I have supported a reduction in the open space tax to reduce the burden of other tax increases during these difficult times.

COMMUTER PARKING – My effort in this area has produced 15 non-resident slots in Madison available to Harding residents. Our next objective will be a large parking garage within easy driving distance from Harding, financed by federal and state funds.

GLEN ALPIN -- While the purchase of land was excellent, managing the house has presented difficulties. My personal objective is to exit the Glen Alpin involvement without damaging our Town's credibility. Specifically, I want to preserve the six acres of open space in front of Glen Alpin, and insure historically correct rehabilitation of the building, while finding a new owner or long-term lessee.

MORRIS TOWNSHIP FIELDS -- Morris Township requested construction of ball fields on a 15 acre tract between Route 287 and the Mt. Kemble office complex. While I concluded that Morris Township had made sufficient concessions (such as no

artificial turf, no sound systems, and no bleachers) to continue discussion of the issues and to maintain good relations with our neighboring town, a majority of the Township Committee voted against lighting, which had been a key condition of Morris Township. The project appears dead at this moment.

First, I want to make sure that the 25 acre parcel nearest our residents on Sand Spring and Blackwell stays green through a strict deed restriction as originally promised to Morris Township. Second, we need to recognize that the owner of the 15acre property in question is entitled to some use of his property. However, the current R2 zone designation is not ideal because the land is not well suited to residences. The only access is through an office complex in Morris Township, and there are no sound barriers shielding Route 287. Moreover, the construction of 12 homes would result in a net cost to Harding because the cost of services would outweigh the added tax revenues. Further, it would be logistically difficult for Harding to provide police, fire protection, and school bus services because of the need to travel through Morris Township to access the area. In conclusion, we must consider an alternative use, which will raise net tax revenues for our Town.

Barbara Brennan

“This year, you have a choice.”

My husband of 32 years, Tom, and I have lived in Harding for the past 20 years. I graduated with honors from Adelphi University, with both a Masters and Bachelors of Business Administration. I bring over 30 years of business experience to the Township Committee including 20 years of entrepreneurial and financial experience running my own company. In 1989 I started Prelude Computer Solutions, Inc., based in Parsippany, providing consulting services to the pharmaceutical industry, www.preludeinc.com. I am responsible for generating revenue as well as monitoring expenses.

I have attended the Township Committee Meetings over the past 2 years and will make these improvements:

1. **Maintain the Rural Character of Harding.** We need to be mindful when we rezone or approve variances what precedent we are setting and how that will shape future requests that deviate from the Master Plan and existing zoning. Changes must be considered in the context of how it will affect the entire town. We also need to protect our town's independence from State agencies and commissions that want to see towns like Harding merge with other towns because we are a small town. I will work to maintain the rural character of Harding by supporting the Master Plan and the existing zoning.
2. **Put Harding First.** The Township Committee needs to listen to its residents. When over 150 people express their views by coming out to meetings, writing

letters and e-mails, and signing a petition, the Committee should vote accordingly. I will encourage residents to get involved in the town governance and will listen to the residents and vote accordingly.

3. **Bring a Business Perspective to the Township Committee.** The Committee needs to evaluate projects for their long term financial, environmental, and neighborhood impact to ensure there is a clear plan defining the project, the costs, the timeline, and the anticipated results. I will bring a business perspective to the Township Committee.
4. **Manage and Control Spending.** By thoroughly inspecting projects from a business perspective, I will work to continue to keep Harding's municipal tax rate low.

I joined with other residents to create www.preserveharding.com, dedicated to maintaining the rural character of Harding. I am a member of the Harding Civic Association, Historic Preservation Commission, and Great Swamp Watershed Land Use Committee.

Our local elections have provided limited, if any choice. This year, you have a choice. For additional information please visit: www.brennanforhtc.com. I pledge to represent all the residents.

Edward A. Ward II Statement

"A lean municipal government that is highly responsible to the taxpayers"

My family has had a presence in Harding Township dating from prior to the American Revolution. Our homestead was on Miller Road I have lived and worked in Harding my entire life, with the exception of my college years and four years as a Naval Aviator flying jet fighters. My father started our real estate firm in 1947, and I joined him in 1960. From the privilege that I have of living, working, and playing in Harding, I hear all sides of every township issue from our local citizens every day.

In addition to serving the past three years on the Township Committee (this year as Vice Chairman), I have served as President of the Morris County Board of Realtors, President of the New Jersey Association of Realtors, Regional Vice President of the National Association of Realtors, a director of the National Association since 1982, and a charter member of the National Association's Hall of Fame. I was recently honored by the National Association with a scholarship in my name. I have been a trustee of The Pingry School and a founder of the Purnell School. I was also a founder (with Spike Billing and Walt Barrett), of the Harding Township Recreation Association.

Harding is a very special community, and the envy of many communities for its school, low tax rates, volunteerism, open space, and convenience to many job centers. These are all essential values that need preserving. I applaud those citizens

who have given of their time and monies for the new library. This is in my view a wonderful example of the citizens of Harding coming together for a very worthwhile cause.

Restoration and preservation of Glen Alpin is worth doing but with "private funds", not funds from the taxpayers of Harding Township. The Township does not have the monies, the manpower, or the expertise to execute and complete this huge restoration project. The tile roof alone cost the taxpayers over \$1,000,000.00 (one million dollars), and that is only the beginning of all the restoration that must be accomplished before the house can be occupied. The Township Committee is working diligently to find a qualified entity to take over this project to preserve Glen Alpin, and remove it from the responsibility of the taxpayers. There has been much discussion recently about all of the grants that might be wasted if they are not applied for; all grants have strings attached and cost taxpayer dollars (the Township Committee is committed to the use of the grants already obtained for restoration purposes). In addition to actual dollar outlays, the Township has also spent massive amounts of time (equating to taxpayer dollars) by the administration as well as by the DPW for grant monitoring and execution, snowplowing, mowing etc., not to mention the utility bills, to maintain this property. There is no free lunch!!!! I still maintain that the outcome of this purchase by the Township might have been different if a formal full home inspection carried out by a member of The American Society of Home Inspectors had been done prior to its purchase.

Some of the other challenges facing the Township are the Highlands, COAH, the state discontinuance of state aid and the state's attempts to merge smaller schools and municipalities. These actions by the state, if forced upon Harding, would have serious, adverse consequences for many of the local values that all Harding citizens cherish.

In summary, I stand for a lean municipal government that is highly responsible to the taxpayers, and will work with the Township Committee to accomplish this objective.

TOWNSHIP NEWS

THE TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE, April 15, 2009

Roll Call: All attending – Bartlett, Lanzerotti, Egea, Rybka, Ward

Future Agendas: **Budget Public Hearing 5/20**

Capital Budget Introduction 5/20 and June 10

Appointments: Board of Adjustment – Bonnie Gannon, Loren Sherin, Joe Schleifler; Harding Open Space Trust – Nick Platt; Historic Preservation – Dev Modi

Budget Introduction (Public Hearing on 5/20/09)

1. Approximately 41% of your taxes go to schools, 24% to the Harding municipal government, 25% to Morris County, 4% to Harding Open space and 6% to County Open Space. This presentation addresses only the 24% that funds HT municipal government.

Significant Drivers of Expense Increases for 2009 and the directional view of 2010 are as follows, (ND designates Non-Discretionary):

		<u>2009</u>		<u>2010 expectation</u>
a.	Pension	128K	ND	Up
b.	Affordable Housing	----	ND	Up
c.	Debt Service	245K	ND	Up
d.	Insurance	200K	ND	variable
e.	Loss of State Aid	50K	NND	uncertain

The expectation for State Aid is uncertain, even though HT has received no more state aid in 2008, is because the State may choose to retain a greater fraction (they already keep about half) of the utility taxes that it collects from HT residents. Years ago municipalities collected and kept these taxes themselves, and then Trenton took over and has been keeping more and more.

2. Significant Expense Savings for 2009 are as follows:

a.	Share Emergency Dispatch service with neighbor towns	\$48K
b.	Reserve	\$194.3
c.	Capital Fund	\$50K
d.	Fund half Fire Cistern Ordinance	\$62.5
e.	Reduce Open Space Tax from 4.5 to 4 cents	\$91.5

3. Salary and Wages, the largest expense component are to rise 1.5%

4. Other Expenses will drop 5.23%

5. Netting these increase and decreases, \$215.1K needed to be raised in taxes to balance the budget – a 3.65% increase. To put the \$215K budget gap in perspective, note that the total 2009 budget is \$8.939 million.

6. Changes in Tax Rates are as follows:

2009	2008	chg
------	------	-----

a.	Municipal	0.262	0.250	0.012	
b.	Open Space	0.040	0.045	(0.005)	
c.	Total Rate	0.302	0.295	0.007	-- 2.37%

increase

7. The \$8.939 million is spent as follows:

a.	Staff	34.3%
b.	Other	18.6
c.	Insurance	15.2
d.	Reserves	10.6
e.	Debt Service	9.0
f.	Miscellaneous	4.8
g.	Capital Improvements	5.0
h.	Utilities	2.3

8. The Staff Expenses of \$4.991 million (which your reporter realizes does not correspond to 34.3% of \$8.939 mm) fund the various municipal functions as follows:

a.	Police	30.1%
b.	Benefits	23.6
c.	Pension & Social Security	15.0
d.	Department of Public Works	9.5
e.	Code Enforcement	4.5
f.	Health Department	4.1
g.	Administration	4.1
h.	Finance & Tax	3.8
i.	Court	3.4
j.	Boards & Commissions	1.8

9. What Harding is Doing to Control Budget:

a. Aggressive Expense Management: Aggressive budgeting and Expense monitoring; Sharing services with neighboring towns and exploring new opportunities

b. Staff Control

i. Township Staff has trended towards part time

2006: 21 fulltime and 10 part time

2009: 18 fulltime and 12 part time

ii. Police Department

2006 16 full time; 2009 15 full time

c. Paying for Capital Improvements & equipment out of current revenues

d. Capital Project Planning – 6 year forecast to minimize surprises

e. Three year Projections

2009 Capital Budget Preliminary Introduction

The 2009 Capital Budget will be formally introduced on **May 20** at the TC meeting. Public input is welcomed. In 2008, HT spent \$519K while the budget shows capital spending items for 2009 at \$444.5K, 2010 at \$327.5K and 2011 at \$285K.

Significant items for 2009 around Kirby Hall are HVAC (\$190K), interior renovations (\$40K), on going improvements (\$25K), and continuing parking lot improvements (\$25K). Spending related to Dept of Public Works include firefighting lines and hydrants (\$25K), traffic light replacements (\$27K), road sealing and repairs (\$55K – roughly the same as 2008) and fuel dispensing and monitoring (\$20K).

The preliminary 2010 budget shows \$100K to replace the tennis courts. The TC requests public input on this larger items as well as the entire budget and its priorities.

Planning Board Meeting- April 27, 2009

Hearing on Application PB-12-08, **Cutler Partnership**, LP, Block 4, Lots 10 and 4, Red Gate Road, Minor Subdivision with Variances continued. No decision. Following the meeting, the Township scheduled a special meeting for **May 18, 7:30 PM** to consider re-opening proceedings on the subdivision of the Morris family on an adjacent property, Block 4, lots 11 and 12. The issues involve the number of access easements permitted on a shared driveway, the necessity for approval of all owners served by a shared driveway, and the problem with the width of the existing driveway notwithstanding the absence of the 12' minimum width requirement, as well as cistern placement.

A special meeting on **May 6** was devoted to effect of development on Primrose Brook by Primrose Partners; current proposal is for 13 lots for this development located on Brook Dr S.

HARDING OPEN SPACE TRUST (HOST). April 22, 2009

Ms. Bologna (HLT) announced the 2008 intern will be rehired for the coming summer @\$3600 to be paid 50-50 by HLT and HOST. Intern will develop management plans for Von Zuben, Waterman, Gatehouse, and Wilkerson properties. Intern will follow up by letter on violations to HOST properties as noted last summer. Open Space markers (of approved design) will be identified and placed as necessary.

Budget Discussion: HOST Budget share is \$808,000 gross including 10% debt service. Open Space Tax has reduced HOST share by 10%.

Old Business: Properties under easement or outright ownership by Harding Township must have management plan. Directed Donations to specific properties are subject to Township Committee approval. Work Order to proceed with tree cutting on Von

Zuben property. Trees for removal will be marked.

Board of Education: Meeting, April 13, 2009

A Resolution of Student Artwork was adopted recognizing seventeen students of Harding Township School whose work was selected for the 2009 Art Calendar, a newly formed initiative that will help raise funds for the school's Charity Water project. HTS Board of Education encourages student excellence in artwork and creativity of expression through the arts. As a result, the following individuals were honored for their outstanding abilities: Carter Shipley, Quincy Clew, Andrew McKittrick, Charlotte Scaff, Tessa Connell, Vivian Lee, Joseph Sciales, Jonathan Butler, Samantha Reina, Juliana Racanelli, Zachery Evans, Matthew DiRuggiero, Jessica Racanelli, Selena Fennimore, Megan Caldwell, Dominirose Muggeo and Frank Luliano.

In an ongoing effort to improve teaching and learning through redesigned curriculum development, the Instrumental Music Curriculum was presented to the Board for review. Allison Richardi discussed the process of benchmarking some of New Jersey's most accomplished academic programs in an effort to provide exemplary instruction and skill formation for all applicable grades.

The Board rescinded its March 30, 2009 motion to approve the 2009/2010 School calendar. A slightly revised calendar was then recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board. The recently approved calendar is now available on the school's website.

Meeting April 27, 2009

At its April 27, 2009 meeting, the Board of Education released the results of the annual election held on April 21, 2009. The General Fund Tax Levy of \$8,561,493 was approved by a vote of 310 to 92. Dr. Timothy Purnell noted that this was one of the highest passing margins in the State and was *the* highest in Morris County. Ms. Evelyn Douglas was re-elected to a three-year term (307 votes), and Mr. Norb Gambuzza was elected to a one-year term (300 votes). The Board then elected Ms. Douglas as President of the Board and Mr. Jim Novotny as Vice-President

Almost 20 members of the public were present, and eight (both parents and colleagues) spoke publicly in support of Ms. Elaine D'Addezio, who is a non-tenured fifth grade teacher who has been notified informally that her employment contract will not be renewed for the 2009-10 school year. Ms. D'Addezio was described as "one of the best teachers at Harding" (Ms. Ellen Wraith, parent); "truly amazing" and able to challenge her son to think in "innovative, creative ways" (Ms. Christine McKittrick, parent and college professor); "one of the finest educators" to come through Harding because of her "intense level of commitment," her "high expectations," and her "intelligence, talent and dedication" (Ms. Lisbeth DeCotiis, colleague); "unique," "very special" and able to "think out of the box" (Ms. Julie Varbaro, parent); willing to "roll up her sleeves" to teach a

new grade this year, committed to the school community and well-versed in the Schools Attuned program (Ms. Kathy Galdieri, colleague); “on par with the finest teachers I have seen in 26 years” in part because “her spirit is so inspiring to students” (Dr. Lauri Boylin, a psychologist, professional educator and parent); having “total control” over two difficult classes and having participated in the community (Ms. Terry Ducey, parent). Ms. Wraith called the school’s decision not to retain her as an “error in judgment.” Mr. Roger Berman cautioned the Board to think creatively about a solution to Ms. D’Addezio’s employment and to the great community response it has inspired.

Ms. Douglas then addressed the public, thanking them for their comments and for their involvement with the school, and explained Board Policy 3142 concerning the “Nonreview of Nontenured Teaching Staff Member.” Under this policy, the decision not to renew a staff member’s contract is made by the Superintendent, who has expertise to deal with personnel decisions. According to Policy 3142, if the Superintendent decides not to renew Ms. D’Addezio’s contract, she must be notified in writing on or before May 15. At that point, Ms. D’Addezio has the right to request a statement of the reasons for nonrenewal and also the right to appeal to the Board. It is only at that stage that the Board of Education becomes involved. Following this meeting, at the **May 4** meeting, the Board distributed a list of the tenured and non-tenured teachers who had been re-appointed for 2009-10. Ms. D’Addezio’s name was not on the list. Upon questioning, Dr. Purnell stated that she had not yet been given formal notification of whether her contract would not be renewed.

Meeting May 4, 2004

The Board’s May 4th 2009 meeting started with a celebration for the students and staff involved with the play, *Willy Wonka Jr.* Ms. Douglas congratulated its participants for a “tremendous performance.”

Business Manager Jim Minkewicz presented the Board Member Code of Ethics, ten rules which focus on the Board’s self-governance, including making decisions in terms of the educational welfare of children, confining action to policy-making, planning and appraisal, carrying out the responsibility not to administer the school, but to see that the school is well-run, keeping school matters confidential, etc.

Dr. Purnell discussed the protocols concerning children diagnosed with/suspected to have swine flu. After distributing a proposed Curriculum Review Cycle, Dr. Purnell explained that while Harding’s curriculum is revised formally every five years, its curriculum is really under constant review and revision. He also put forward the possibility of offering Mandarin Chinese to students.

A member of the public, Mr. Michael Muggeo, questioned the Board about the fees related to school busing, particularly in “hazardous route” areas. Dr. Purnell stated that the Finance Committee would discuss the issue, review the standards related to safety busing, and make a recommendation to the Board.

Board of Adjustment, no report this month

Civic Association DEADLINES FOR THE next 2 issues OF THE THUMBNAIL are June 19 and September 8, respectively. After the June issue, the next issue is September. Any really early September announcement will not be published. The Civic Association can post 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 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