

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

March 2010

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

**NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT Soup Contest** -- It's time once again for the Auxiliary sponsored "Home-made Soup Contest", on **Sunday, March 21**, 5:00-6:00 PM; Fire House, Village Rd; Cost: \$6.00 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 call Connie Cherrillo @ 973-539-9383 or Pat O'Reilly @ 973-919-2183 to enter a soup or for more information.

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

The Health Department is having a free Female Cancer Screening on **Thursday, March 25, 2010**, from 9am to 11am at the Municipal Building. The screening includes an exam by a doctor, PAP test, blood pressure, and educational materials.

Male Cancer Screening will be held on **Tuesday, April 13, 2010**, from 5 pm to 6:30 pm in the Municipal Building. The screening includes; an exam by a physician, blood pressure, PSA blood test, and information material.

A free Adult Health Fasting Bloodwork clinic will be held on **Thursday, April 29, 2010**, from 8am to 11am at the Municipal Building. ***Appointments are necessary for all screenings;*** to schedule an appointment for the above clinics, please call 973-267-8000, ext.125.

The Health Department is also collecting unused eyeglasses. These can be dropped off during any of the above clinics, or as convenient during office hours.

The annual **Children's Fishing Contest** will be sponsored by the Township of Harding at Bayne Park, Blue Mill Road, on **April 10, 2010**. The start time will be at **8 a.m.** and go

to 12 noon. The contest is open to all kids up to the age of 13. Prizes will be provided by Bernardsville Hardware Store, Morristown Road, Bernardsville, NJ.

**WHO ARE OUR DISTINGUISHED CITIZENS? Let us hear your ideas**

The Harding Township Civic Association is now accepting nominations for its Distinguished Citizen award, which will be presented during the annual Memorial Day ceremony following the parade. Nomination should include the individual's name, contact information, and details pertaining to his or her good citizenship and community involvement. Nominations must be received by **April 30, 2010** and can be submitted to Scott Shipley by e-mail at [shipleys4@verizon.net](mailto:shipleys4@verizon.net), or by postal service to 14 Beech Lane, Morristown, NJ 07960. Nominations can also be submitted to any other Harding Township Civic Association Trustee.

The **First Presbyterian Church of New Vernon** is sponsoring an **Exercise Class** on **Tuesday mornings from 8:30 to 9:30**. The class, which is held in Fellowship Hall, is led by Rachel Matthews and features range of motion, balance and core-strengthening exercises. The cost is \$8 per session. Participants are asked to bring 5 to 7 pound weights. The classes are open to the public. For more information, please call Patti Wood at (973) 425-0878.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 43 USED BIKE DRIVE**

Come and join us on **April 17th, 2010, Saturday 1pm-4pm** at the First Presbyterian Church located on 2 Lee's Hill Road, New Vernon. We are asking for adult and kids bikes along with a \$10 donation for shipping cost. These bikes will be sent to the developing countries for the needy. Please come and donate for a good cause. Our troop needs your supports to make this event a successful one. All donations are tax deductible.

**HARDING ALLIANCE AGAINST SUBSTANCE ABUSE** 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 our meeting schedule and useful links to a variety of resources, can be found at <http://hardingalliance.hardingnj.org>.

**Save the Date! Monday, May 10, 7 PM at the Kirby Municipal Building-** Parents and teens are strongly encouraged to come to the information session

addressing ***new Graduated Driver License (GDL) Laws*** recently enacted in NJ. Current provisional/permit holders are ***not*** grandfathered. Presented by Pamela Fischer, Director, NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety. Make sure you know the law surrounding new drivers. A useful summary of these provisions can be found at: NJteendriving.com. Harding Alliance members are concerned citizens, police, health and school professionals. Next meeting: **Wednesday, April 21 at 8:45 AM** in the Guidance Office of Harding Township School. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Judy Malloy, Chairperson, at [judymotown@comcast.net](mailto:judymotown@comcast.net).

## **THE LIBRARY**

**The most frequently asked question** around town these days is, “When will the new Library open?” Bottom line: after we have a Certificate of Occupancy in hand. Finishing touches are being made, the book shelves and furniture are in place, and final inspections are winding down. When we receive the go-ahead, the Library will have to close its doors for a week while we transition from old quarters to new. Two Eagle Scouts have made it their projects to plan, oversee, and carry out the moves of the children’s and adult materials. We are delighted to have their enthusiastic help—and that of their crews! Keep checking our Web site ([hardinglibrary.org](http://hardinglibrary.org)) for up-to-the-minute news bulletins. The moment *is* finally coming! (*Editor’s note: see below article for more!*)

**Story Time** will continue to be held Tuesdays at 10 a.m. The following are themes for each week: March 23, *Pizza and Spaghetti*; March 30, *Bunnies*; April 6, *Rain*; April 13, *Spring*; April 20, *Alligators and Crocodiles*; April 27, *Bugs*. For children ages 1-3. We listen to stories, sing songs, make a themed craft, and have a thoroughly good time!

**Wednesday Evening Book Group** will meet on March 24 at 7:30 to discuss *The Thirteenth Tale* by Diane Setterfield. This fascinating novel considers truth telling and how a novelist and her biographer confront the ghosts that have haunted their lives for decades. Please join us! April’s selection is *The Botany of Desire*.

### **Sneak Peak at the New Library**

*The Thumbnail* was recently treated to a tour of the new Kemmerer Library...OUR new Library. Even unfinished, it looked inviting—the word cozy immediately springs to mind. It clearly will be a great asset to the community.

Entering through the main door, a visitor is in a foyer, future site of a donor wall, still in the design phase. (There's still time to get your name up there if you hurry!) On this main floor is the largest room that comprises the circulation desk, Director's office, teen section, computer banks, tables, easy chairs, and book stacks. To the right is a children's room graced with lots of light and air, bookshelves, and kid-sized furniture, and computer stations. On the opposite side of the main floor is the adult reading room—a home-like space with gas fireplace, a lovely bay window facing Bayne Park, more stacks, racks for periodicals, glass display cabinets, and comfortable seating.

The lower level has one large multi-purpose room with capacity for 85 people. A second meeting room, which can accommodate 72, sports a big pull-down screen for presentations, large tables with stacking chairs, and wireless access. There is also a "lounge" for small group meetings and study sessions. Because of the topography, there is walk-out access to the outdoors, so no danger of "basement feeling."

The upper floor is for staff, storage, processing new arrivals and packing inter-library loan books, archives, IT room, shelving for seasonal materials, offices, and a small conference room for Board meetings.

In style and materials, the exterior aesthetics complement Kirby Hall nicely. The New Vernon Garden Club has generously prepared a landscaping plan and agreed to plant and maintain it for the next few years.

Although the Township has leased the land to the Library for a nominal annual fee, virtually all funds came from private donors: to date, just a tad under \$6 million. Fundraising is now focused on creating an endowment of about \$3 million to cover operating expenses into the future. So the Library, like our Fire Department and First Aid Squad, was built and will run without benefit of tax dollars, fueled solely by the generosity, hard work, and civic mindedness of donors and volunteers. **Donations for the Library can be made to "Enriching Our Community," PO Box 283, New Vernon, NJ 07976-0283.**

*Friends of the Library-Save the date of May 14th, 7-10 pm for the Grand Opening Party to celebrate Harding's new library! Plans in progress, volunteers needed to help with the celebration. Call Carol Conger-Vellekamp at 973-539-9531 or e-mail at [carolrconger@yahoo.com](mailto:carolrconger@yahoo.com), for information.*

**A Message from Chief Kevin Gaffney, Harding Township Police Department**

*Harding Township Police Department and Morris County Communications expands Emergency Notification for Public Communications during Emergencies*

The Harding Township Police Department wants residents to be aware that the county emergency communicator is now ready to accept cell phones for emergency messaging. Utilized by public safety agencies across the county, the Emergency Notification System swiftly and accurately alerts personnel and communities-at-risk during emergencies and other time and safety sensitive events. The System provides quick and easy selection of targeted geographic areas requiring rapid, accurate communication. The seamless integration of digital, street-level maps with the most accurate phone data available enables the immediate delivery of incident-specific information or potentially life-saving instructions. Whether alerting local residents of a fast approaching storm front, a missing person or mandatory evacuation, the technology quickly distributes important, timely information to everyone inside user-defined call-out areas.

The Morris County Emergency Notification System has been in use since 2004, utilizing landline telephone listings. As of today, residents can now register their cellular phones for notifications tied to their address. By logging into the website, <https://morriscounty.onthealert.com/>, they can sign up to receive emergency notifications based upon their home or business location in Morris County. In the event of an emergency in the area, an "EMERGENCY ALERT" phone call may be initiated by your local police or emergency management department, which will continue to call wired, location specific phones as well as up to three cellular phone numbers per location for those who have registered. Any questions please call the Harding Township Police Department at 973 455-0500.

#### **NOTES FROM YOUR FIRST AID SQUAD (NVVFAS)**

Are you interested in helping your neighbors and willing to learn new things? If so, please consider joining the **New Vernon Volunteer First Aid Squad**. The Squad can claim one of the most thorough training programs of any volunteer organization. Our First Aiders come from all walks of life: from those still active in business to retirees, teachers, clergy, and medical professionals. The training is free, interesting, and invaluable.

Responding to 911 calls 24/7 throughout the year, each of us serves on a crew for twelve hours once a week, daytime or night to fit our schedules. To learn more about our exciting group, please call Rachel Matthews today at 973-425-0343. You'll be glad you did!

**HTRA Summer Day Camp** – enrollment is now open!

The Harding Twp. Recreation Association is pleased to offer its Summer Day Camp program this year from June 28<sup>th</sup> - July 23<sup>rd</sup>; (closed July 5<sup>th</sup>) Campers can enroll for as many weeks as they wish. Camp hours are from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Programs for children age 3-12 years of age, at the Harding Township School in New Vernon. The Polliwog program is offered for 3 and 4 year olds and runs from 9 am – Noon, with the option to enroll for the extended day program which runs till 3 pm. Enrichment program and swimming for an additional fee. The Camp Director, LuAnn Romano is an Elementary School Teacher and has been with the HTRA Camp for over 30 years. More information and forms on website [www.hardingtowshipdaycamp.com](http://www.hardingtowshipdaycamp.com), or email to [promano59@comcast.net](mailto:promano59@comcast.net) or call at 973-605-5866.

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

In its efforts to control the Canada geese population in Harding Township, the Wildlife Management Committee is asking residents to help identify locations where Canada geese might be nesting in the Township. Volunteers are ready to assist by treating eggs so that they will not hatch (called addling), using methods approved by the Fish & Wildlife Service.

If you have a body of water on or near your property, or have seen goslings in prior years, it is likely that you will have nests again this year. Harassing birds during the nesting season, or removing eggs from nests is counter productive, because it will encourage the birds to re-nest out of sight, where eggs can't be found or effectively treated.

Early identification of bird pairs and nesting sites does much to assure the process. Migratory geese will leave the area by the end of March. Resident bird pairs will then be more visible, usually claiming an area and keeping other pairs away. If you think your property is a potential nesting site, if you see obvious pairs, would like to learn more about what to look for or to help in spotting or treating nests, please contact the Committee at [khmeister3@aol.com](mailto:khmeister3@aol.com), (973) 605 8274 or [r.a.shields@att.net](mailto:r.a.shields@att.net), (973) 906-8357.) A property conducive to nesting should be monitored weekly throughout the nesting season, which starts in late March and ends mid May. For help and best results, please call us sooner rather than later. Addling eggs controls the growth of the goose population. Done properly, it is both, humane and effective!

## **HARDING HUMANE SOLUTIONS**

Harding Humane Solutions urges residents to take the simple steps necessary to reduce the likelihood of conflicts with wildlife. Key among these is not to feed wildlife, intentionally or unintentionally. Casually storing untreated, unsecured food garbage outside near your home or on screened porches invites trouble. Please always store garbage in tightly sealed containers and put cans out just before collection, not the night before. Tamper resistant containers are available. Spilled bird seed or easily accessible feeders invite everything from rats and mice to black bears to come for a visit. Especially now through Fall, when bears are most active, birds can get along fine without supplemental feeding. (Seed now on hand can be donated to the Raptor Trust!) Even when our intention is to draw "just small animals" to a site, their larger predators inevitably follow. A dirty barbecue grill invites bears and others to your home.

The impact of any of these visits on humans ranges from mere nuisance to a traumatic encounter. With a little effort, both can be avoided. Bottom line is whenever wildlife is drawn closer to people, wildlife loses. For more information, email: [hardinghumanesolutions@att.net](mailto:hardinghumanesolutions@att.net)

## **TOWNSHIP NEWS: Township Committee Meeting – no report this month**

### **PLANNING BOARD MEETING- FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

Roll Call: Marshall Bartlett and David Dietz absent.

Reports: Mrs. Olcott said that she will report back to the Board regarding the advisory Review Committee once an agenda is firmed up. Mr. Saulnier reported that the Build Out Committee will be digging into the country report, in particular the nitrate analysis. The Board confirmed that it still wanted to do an engineering training session for members.

Resolution: PB-01-10, **Applicant William and Richard Blanchard**, Block 26, Lots 13 and 13.01, 42 Glen Alpin Road, Amended Minor Subdivision. A revised resolution memorializing what was approved last month was approved.

#### Applications

PB-12-08, Applicant The Cutler Partnership, LP, Block 4, Lots 10 and 4, Red Gate Road, Minor Subdivision with Variances, Action: Extension on Board Approval. The applicant had been dealing with two obstacles. An issue with a shared drive had been resolved, but the DEP had not issued a wetlands approval. Extension approved.

PB-05-09, **Applicant Hartington J Trust**, Block 7, Lot 1.01, 1.02 and 4.02, Griffin Lane and Van Buren Road, Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision, Action: Continue Public Hearing. A site inspection was conducted on the property on February 13<sup>th</sup>. The applicant's engineer presented the plan and discussed several items including the improvement of Griffin Lane and the extension of the drive to the two new lots, shifting of the lot line between the Carey lots, transition area averaging plan clean up, and the shifting of the location of the cistern. The design of the driveways was extensively discussed, with the Board preferring "Plan B" where the left fork is eliminated and a new drive for Lot 4.02 off Griffin Lane is constructed. This would reduce impervious coverage. Mr. Fox reviewed his report which covered possible steep slope issues on Lot 1.02, wetlands and waterways, riparian buffers, the need for a flood hazard development permit, storm water management, use of an easement to connect two existing bridle paths, protecting the hedgerow between two of the lots, and the need for the Fire Department to review the revised plans. Public comment included concern about preservation of the tree line between the two new lots which can be covered with a conservation easement.

PB-02-10, **Applicant James and Dawn Didden**, Block 4, Lot 56, 12 Hartley Farms Road, Minor Site Plan, Action: Commence Public Hearing. The applicant was not represented at the meeting, but the board considered the completeness of the application. The Board waived the requirement for a Morris County Planning Board application, but did not waive Board of Health approval, showing historic districts on the plan, and showing existing Hartley Farms easements or covenants on the plan.

#### **Board of Adjustment, January 21, 2010**

The Board addressed its annual organizational details

*John McFayden / Tom Luciano, 147 Pleasantville Road, Block 14, Lot 3.01*

Request for Extension of Time Granted for one year

#### **Board of Adjustment, February 18, 2010**

Request for Extension of Time

*Carmine and Grace Petti, 112 Village Road, Block 15, Lot 19.02*

One year extension granted.

*The Huff Family Limited Partnership*

559 Tempe Wick Road, Block 31, Lot 1.03, Zone RR

One year extension granted subject to applicant moving the playhouse before June 1, 2010.

#### **New Applications**

*Eugenia Swift, 16 Meyersville Road, Block 12, Lot 9.01, Zone R-2, "C" Variance*



This application involves the construction of a single family dwelling. The property requires a variance for building area and possibly height. After a lengthy discussion, the applicant chose to reexamine its plans and will consider submitting revised plans. The Board advised that it will require a site visit once final plans are submitted.

*Frank Callea and Jacqueline Fellippello, 79 Meyersville Road, Block 55, Lot 2, Zones R-1 & R-2, "C" Variance*

This application involves the expansion of an existing non-conforming structure. The front yard setback does not comply with the ordinance. The application was recommended for approval.

**HARDING TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION**, no report this month

### **Civic Association News and Announcements**

**Civic Association:** *next month's deadline for submissions to Thumbnail is moved earlier, to APRIL 2, from April 9.* The DEADLINES FOR THE next 2 issues OF THE THUMBNAIL are April 2 (CHANGE!) and May 7 respectively. The June deadline will be JUNE 11, as the following issue is September 10, after Labor Day. 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](mailto: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 every other **Saturday: 9AM to noon.**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**, meetings as noted.

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