

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

#### HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Don't Miss "**Political Cartooning: Then and Now**" which will be the topic at the Harding Township Historical Society's Annual Meeting to be held on **January 19th, 2012, at Christ the King Church on Blue Mill Road, New Vernon, starting at 7:30 p.m.** Light refreshments will be served. The featured speakers will be Ryan C. Hyman, the F. M. Kirby Curator of Collections at the Macculloch Hall Historical Museum in Morristown, and Paul Laud, the political cartoonist for the *Observer Tribune* and other Record Community Newspapers.

**NEW VERNON PRESBYTERIAN NURSERY SCHOOL** is now accepting enrollment for January Admission to the 2½ year old class. This is a nondenominational program that offers a warm and nurturing environment that helps your child prepare for kindergarten, and support for busy parents with optional early morning drop-off, Stay 'N Play until 3pm, Summer Camp and enrichment programs. Also accepting enrollment for our 2½, 3 and 4 year old classes for the 2012-2013 school year. The school is located in the Fellowship Building of the Presbyterian Church on Village Rd. at Lee's Hill Rd. Please call our Director, Laurie Ptalis at 973-326-9839 for a tour and visit our website at [www.nvpns.org](http://www.nvpns.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

#### **GIRL SCOUT TROOP 2264, HARDING TOWNSHIP:**

Six members of Girl Scout Troop 2264 received their Silver Award at a recent Harding Township Committee meeting. The Silver Award is the second highest award that can be earned in Girl Scouts. The following girls earned their silver award: **Danielle Del Pesce and Dorothy Lee:** *Red Collar Society, St. Hubert's Animal Rescue*; **Kathleen Nagle and Kylie Tevald:** *Invasive Plant Species in the Great Swamp*; and **Kelsey Mirabella and Samantha Reina:** *Sewing Across the Generations*. Also, the following girl scouts earned their *career and leadership awards* for work completed as Cadette Girl Scouts: **Danielle Del Pesce, Dorothy Lee, Mackenzie McClay, Kelsey Mirabella, Kathleen Nagle, Samantha Reina, Emery Sorvino, Elizabeth Sciales, and Kylie Tevald.** Several Girl Scouts from troop 2264 have been involved in girl scouts since kindergarten at the Harding Township School. The girls are now in 9th grade in local

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

public and private high schools and some are beginning the process of working towards their Gold Award, the highest award in Girl Scouts. The troop is lead by Amy Nagle and Kathleen McClay. For more information about Girl Scouts, visit: <http://www.gsnnj.org>

### **KEMMERER LIBRARY**

The Kemmerer Library Harding Township is very pleased to announce that **Lotte Newlin** has been chosen to be the Library's new director, beginning December 19. After an extensive search, Ms. Newlin was chosen from a group of very strong candidates. Newlin comes to Kemmerer Library from the Morristown-Beard School where she was Assistant Library Director. This month she will complete her Master of Library Science Degree from Rutgers University, and also holds degrees from the University of Copenhagen, Denmark. As a resident of Harding Township since 2000 and with several years of experience at the original Harding Library, Newlin has an intimate knowledge of the community. She and her husband are active members of the Township's civic institutions and send their children two children to the Harding Township School. Steve Balog, who chairs of the Library Board of Trustees, said "the search committee was attracted to Lotte's energy, enthusiasm and many fresh ideas to take us to the next level". After decades inhabiting a small corner of Harding's town hall, Kemmerer Library held its dedication in May of 2010. The entire construction cost was raised from private donors. The library serves the community with access to the all books in the Morris County Network as well as its own collection, and hosts a rich and growing slate of programs and lectures. Community groups and individuals may reserve one of several rooms to conduct meetings. Lotte Newlin said, "I'm looking forward to working with the team of volunteers and staff to make Kemmerer Library even more essential to the citizens of our beautiful Township."

**Challenge Gift will double your donation:** The Board of Trustees is thrilled to announce that **Jay Kemmerer** has established a \$100,000 challenge gift to support the Library. Jay has generously offered to match donations to the Library up to the value of the gift. Your donations will support the operating budget of the Library to maintain the collection and ongoing programs. Please accept Jay's challenge and make your donation today.

**Holiday House Tour and Boutiques** on December 8 was a roaring success thanks to the graciousness of the seven residents who opened their homes for the tour. Turpin Realtors and Pamela Barba at Coldwell Banker Realty, our two sponsors, helped

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

to make the event possible, as did the six floral designers who donated their time and expertise in beautifully decorating the homes. We thank David Mitchell Still Life, Jardineire Fine Flowers, Flowers From Hannah, Laura Clare, Garden Cottage, and Jerry Rose for dazzling us. We also owe part of the success to the profits earned from the beautiful boutiques held at the library. Most of all, many thanks to the wonderful committee who worked many months to make this event happen.

**Giving Tree:** Many thanks to patrons who fulfilled the Library's Giving Tree requests for an assortment of new books and magazine subscriptions. The items will soon be on the shelves with bookplates that acknowledge each donor's contribution.

**Evening Book Group:** We are reviving our monthly book group, starting in January. This month's title is Margaret Atwood's classic novel, *The Handmaid's Tale*. Set in a dystopian future theocracy, the story portrays one woman's courage and resilience in the face of oppression. All are welcome **Wed., Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m.**

**Senior Yoga:** M.J. Turnbull's classes run every Monday morning. Mat work begins at 10:45am, and gentle seated yoga begins at 11:30am. Suggested donation is \$10 per session.

**Children's Story Time** schedule: Rhyme Time: Thursdays, 10:30am for children 4 to 24 months of age. Toddler Time: Tuesdays, 10:30am and Thursdays, 1pm for children 2-4 years old. Listen to stories, finger plays, felt stories and make theme-related crafts. After School Program for children in grades K-4: Wednesday, 3:45pm. Children will read to a special dog named Yuki.

**Game Night:** Wed., Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. Children of all ages and parents are invited. Snacks will be provided. **Pajama Night:** Fri., Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>, 6pm. Children of all ages come dressed in their favorite pajamas and listen to bedtime stories. **Fancy Nancy Party:** Sat., Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>, 12pm. Children ages 3 & up listen to fancy stories, enjoy snacks and make a fancy craft. **Teen Advisory Group:** Thurs., Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>, 7pm. Teens in grades 6 & up are invited to share ideas and help in the Children's Room.

Visit [www.hardinglibrary.org](http://www.hardinglibrary.org) to view new books on our shelves.

**FROM THE HARDING TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE: A CALL TO SERVE HARDING:** The Township Committee welcomes citizens willing to serve on the Boards, Commissions, and Committees that support the governance of Harding. If you are excited by the possibility of contributing your time and talents to your town, we need to hear from you. Service opportunities (and their meeting times -- usually monthly) are listed on both the

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

Township web site ([www.hardingnj.org](http://www.hardingnj.org)) and on the Harding Township Civic Association website ([www.hardingcivic.org](http://www.hardingcivic.org)). If you have children who enjoy hockey or ice skating, or are members of the Harding Huskies, consider signing up for the **Citizens Parks Advisory Committee**. And if the natural beauty and architectural history of Harding are your passion, you should know that the **Board of Adjustment, Environmental Commission, Open Space Trust Committee, Shade Tree Advisory Committee, Historic Preservation Commission** and the **Wildlife Management Committee are especially in need of volunteers**. Interested citizens should send a resume to Cindy Phillips, Administrative Assistant, at [cphillips@hardingnj.org](mailto:cphillips@hardingnj.org).

**THE HARDING TWP POLICE DEPARTMENT offers these tip for holiday or every day shopping:** 1. Make certain your children know to stay with you at all times while shopping and always CHECK FIRST with you or a trusted adult before they go anywhere. 2. If older children become separated from you while holiday shopping, have them meet you in a pre-designated spot such as the sales counter of the store or the mall's information booth. 3. If separated, teach younger children to look for people who may be sources of help within the store or mall such as a uniformed law-enforcement or security officer, store salesperson with a nametag, person with a nametag who is working in the information booth, or mother with children. 4. Make an outing to a mall a "teachable" experience in which children practice checking with you; locating the adults who may be able to help if they need assistance; and, for older children, going to the restroom with a friend. 5. Make certain to never leave children alone at public facilities such as video arcades, movie theaters, or playgrounds as a convenient "babysitter" while they are holiday shopping.

**HARDING ALLIANCE AGAINST SUBSTANCE ABUSE** Our mission is to provide education and resources to promote healthy decision-making and to avoid substance abuse and risky behaviors. Harding Alliance members are concerned citizens, police, health and school professionals. Our next meeting is scheduled for **January 18, 2012 at 8:30 AM** in the Guidance Office of Harding Township School.

Harding Alliance has identified **two volunteer leadership positions** to fill. **Vice Chairperson:** To represent township parents in identifying community needs for substance abuse awareness, and coordination of programming at HTS, and throughout Harding Township. Consensus building skills are helpful for working with various groups

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

in town, including Township Administration, Public Safety, Kemmerer Library, Harding Seniors, and Harding Township School. **Fundraising Chair/ Fundraising Committee:** To help Harding Alliance retain its independence, and to assist in its mission of substance abuse awareness, through identifying and developing fundraising opportunities in town. For more information: Judy Malloy, Chairperson, at [Judymotown@gmail.com](mailto:Judymotown@gmail.com). The **website** is <https://sites.google.com/site/hardingalliance/>; the blog is <http://hardingalliance.blogspot.com/>.

### **FROM THE HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION:** **HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION SURVEY**

The Harding Township Civic Association completed an e-mail survey of residents on the Environmental Commission's proposal to limit certain street lighting to intersections only. The survey was sent on November 18<sup>th</sup> 2011 to the full database of e-mail addresses that we have collected from members totaling 493 addresses. A follow up was sent on November 24<sup>th</sup> to those who had not responded. In total 213 people responded (44% response rate) and the results of the survey were 68% in favor of the Environmental Commission's proposal and 32% against. Interestingly the comments were more balanced with 50% in favor and 50% opposed.

The HTCA posed a second question, designed to elicit whether this was considered a useful service, and we had a 99.5% positive response to the initiative. A number of comments indicated that attending Township Committee meetings was difficult for senior citizens and others to attend and that this forum for expressing opinions was very helpful.

There are some caveats when considering the survey results. While the response was very satisfactory, a number of people who received the survey did not respond. Additionally there are a larger number of people for whom we do not have current e-mail addresses or do not have e-mail addresses and therefore were not given an opportunity to respond. The demographics of the people who have provided us with current e-mail addresses may differ for other groups and influence the final results. We used the same database of e-mail addresses that we use to send other messages but an alternative service provider delivers the survey.

If you did not receive the survey it could be for any of the following reasons:

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

- You do not have an e-mail address
  - You have not provided the HTCA with your current e-mail
  - The e-mail was blocked in your spam collector
- For more information, including the comments and original study, visit us at <http://www.hardingcivic.org/>.

### **HARDING SCHOOL NEWS:**

Courtesy of the Harding Township Education Foundation, the school will be unveiling the newest and most generous addition to the curriculum – the **HTS TV Studio!** The HTEF Grant will include laptop computers, HD video cameras, state of the art video editing software, green screen technology and much more. The first episode of our student newscast should be posted on our website in late January/early February. In addition, this past year our world-famous Parent Teacher Organization has provided our students with a class set of tables for our Elementary School Art Room, a new mobile cart of laptop computers, new recess equipment and, as always, sponsored our annual *Battle of the Books*. Their support is very much appreciated.

### **TOWNSHIP NEWS:**

#### **Township Committee Meeting – November 16, 2011**

All Committee persons were in attendance.

#### **Discussion of Freak October Snow Storm**

Mayor Bartlett said that he was “proud of how the township worked.” The staff communicated well with JCP&L though the utilities response was “terrible” especially the information given by their automated calling facility. Harding’s new Emergency Preparedness Committee will have to decide and recommend a course of action which could include joining a lawsuit by Warren Township and other municipalities that is rumored to be in the works. The sense was that JCP&L (now part of an Ohio headquartered company) performed significantly worse than PSE&G (which is still

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

HQ'ed in NJ). Resident Mike Meade agreed that the Township "did a good job" and noted that the town's website was operational. Another resident, Alf Newlin, asked if the town could "get control of its own destiny" perhaps by subcontracting trucks from other towns. Committee man Nic Platt praised various departments: the Police for excellent outreach to residents and said the DPW; DPW for outstanding performance and Administration for "working their magic." He said residents need more accurate prediction of when service will be restored, even if the prediction is dishearteningly distant. The Garden Club is recommending that the town get advice from an arborist on tree maintenance. See additional article on Garden Club meeting on Trees.

There also seemed to be a consensus that getting information from PCP&L about the architecture of the electric grid in Harding would be helpful to help understand why certain locations are lit while others very close are dark. This could help to prioritize emergency services and reduce resident frustration.

Citizens park Advisory Committee voted to replace the unhealthy Christmas tree in Bayne Park with a new one. The exact location is to be determined but it will not be on Kirby Hall grounds.

Tax Appeals Settled. (1) 1200 Mt Kemble Road, formerly Dendrite. Reduction in taxes of \$82,795. Commercial buildings property taxes are a function of income generated not property value as with a residence. With the building 30% vacant, the tax owner, Alferi, made the successful appeal. (2) Gewelli, 72 Millbrook Rd, reduction totaling \$11,530 for two years 2010 and 2011.

Resident asked how much property taxes were lost due to the open space acquisition of the Primrose Preserve property. Estimate of \$160,000 – half of which will impact the school, and a quarter of which will come hit each of the Township and the County.

Appointments to Harding Open Space Trust – Tim Stevens (Harding Land Trust representative) and James Morgan (Environment Commission representative). Both these organizations have representation on HOST by statute.

Donation by Committeeman Lanzerotti accepted. \$700 annual donation to fund scientific data collection on the chemistry of Bayne Park pond to establish baseline conditions so in the future it we can know if the corrective actions had an effect.

Purchase of Emergency Generator approved. (Cost - \$60K , \$30-35k equipment and \$35-30K installation). The recent storms have shown the inadequacy of the current

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

35 year old generator, it broke down and will require costly repairs and only supports the Police Department and a small bank of outlets.

Operator for Sewer Pumping Station Hired. (Cost \$10,640 per year). Well qualified, with a network of technicians and based closer (E Hanover) than previous operator.

### **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, NOVEMBER 17, 2011**

Application # BOA-11-04; David and Mary Beth Lohuis, 4 Oxford Lane, Block 5 Lot 22 Zone RR; "C" Variance; Request for barn/garage construction requiring setback variance denied.

On agenda:

Application # BOA-23-10, T-Mobile Northeast LLC & Sectorsite, LLC (Applicants) NJ Conference 7<sup>th</sup> Day Adventists (Owner), 501 Tempe Wick Road, Block 33 Lot 9, Zone RR; Preliminary / Final Site Plan and "D" Variance.

Application # BOA-17-11; David and Nena Green; 2 Jenks Court, Block 25 Lot 26 Zone R-4, "C" Variance.

### **BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT AGENDA FOR MEETING DECEMBER 15, 2011**

#### **New Applications**

Application # BOA-17-11; Sandy and Shantha Waran, 602 Van Beuren Road, Block 4 Lot 14.07 Zone RR, (c) Variance

Application # BOA-20-11; William and Elke Spoor, 85 Lee's Hill Road, Block 50 Lot 5.03 Zone R1, (c) Variance

Application # BOA-21-11; Robert and Debra Conte, 2 Spring Hollow Lane, Block 47 Lot 20 Zone R-1, (c) Variance

Application # BOA-23-11, Paul & Christie Scheele, 33 Deer Ridge Drive, Block 33 Lot 11.03 Zone RR; (c) Variance

Application # BOA-22-11, Harding Holdings PM LLC, 679 Mt. Kemble Avenue, Block 27 Lot 2 Zone RR; (d) variances for use (to permit 4 dwelling units in renovated building); and density (to allow total of 10 dwelling units on 19.6 acre parcel), subject to subsequent (bifurcated) application for site plan and subdivision approval and related (c) variances.

### **PLANNING BOARD , November 14, 2011**

Roll Call: All members present.

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

### Announcements/Reports/Presentations

- Mr. Saulnier, Environmental Commission Liaison, reported that the Township Committee would be receiving comments on the downtown zoning and emergency generator regulations, that there would be a stewardship easement walk this Saturday, that the street light reduction project was proceeding (a list of remaining lights would be provided to the Township Committee), and that there was some discussion about the possibility of burying power lines.
- Mr. Saulnier then reported that the Water and Environmental Subcommittee of the Board would have a proposal regarding restricting building within 25 feet of a conservation easement to present at the next Board meeting.
- Ms. Olcott reported that the Advisory Review Committee would be meeting next month to set its agenda for the upcoming year.
- Mr. Bartlett had good news on the Primrose property: the county had approved funding in full for Phase Two of the project. He also commended Nic Platt, Regina Egea, and Gail McKane on feeding info to JCP&L who did a disastrous job of communicating during the recent power outage.
- Mr. dePoortere, reporting for the Citizens Park Advisory Committee, noted that the Christmas tree would be replaced in Bayne Park.
- Ms. DiTosto reported that the Cell Tower Committee had met on October 17<sup>th</sup> and was doing an analysis of cell tower ordinances in other towns.

### Discussion

- Ordinance #TC-12-1, B-1 (New Vernon Village) Zone Regulations (referral from Township Committee). Having been discussed in depth at previous meetings, the Board approved the ordinance as consistent with the master plan.
- Ordinance #TC-13-11, Emergency Generator Zoning Regulations (referral from Township Committee). After some discussion about the easing of setback requirements and noise levels, the Board approved the ordinance as consistent with the master plan.

### Application

PB-04-10, **Applicant GHK Realty II/Fawn Hill Associates**, Block 4, Lots 21 and 21.01, 655-665 Spring Valley Road, Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision with Variances. Action: Continue Public Hearing. Mr. Platt recused himself. The applicant's engineer

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

reviewed the latest plan which included additional detail about the proposed drive serving the mansion lot and the new back lot, a 50-foot wide conservation easement along the frontage to preserve trees, more detail about storm water management and runoff, and an issue with the top lot regarding the building box and preservation of the forest area. Mr. Fox commented that several aspects of the proposed drive don't conform to code (grading at the bottom of the drive, trees in the disturbance areas, and sight lines that go through trees). The engineer assured the Board that the applicant will comply with grading standards, that tree loss will be minimal, and that trees would be trimmed to provide proper sight lines. Mr. Fox also commented on the management of runoff from the drive (bio retention swale was being used as a conveyance, runoff could bypass culverts and run to bottom, culvert discharge points could cause erosion, and the storm water calculations were in error). The engineer said that he hadn't had a chance to look at the swale issue, but that he would confer with Mr. Fox on that. He said he would also address the drywells, supply more detail on the culverts, and address the error in the calculations. Mr. Fox then said that additional landscaping details were needed, the bridle path needed to be moved, that riparian buffers needed to be on the plans, and that fire hydrants also needed to be shown on the plans. The application was carried to the next meeting.

***Planning Board December meeting cancelled.***

### **REPORT ON GARDEN CLUB TREE MAINTENANCE SEMINAR**

***The following article is reprinted courtesy of Observer-Tribune, December 8, 2011***

"If a tree falls from your property and causes damage on a neighbor's property, you are not responsible to pay for damages.

"Unless, of course, it can be proven that you knew the tree was damaged and were negligent in its upkeep.

"That's just one of the tidbits of information that a panel of six experts delivered to about 80 residents who gathered at Christ The King Church Monday night.

"The New Vernon Garden Club sponsored the seminar, in the wake of the massive October snowstorm, which brought down hundreds of trees, branches and limbs, closing roadways and outting power for up to a week in some sections of the township.

"The seminar was led by garden club member Linda Meister, and the panel of experts included Tracy Toribio, the township's public works director, local real estate attorney

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

Phil Rosenbach, John Linson and Richard Wallowicz, both certified tree experts with the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Township Engineer Paul Fox and Stan Prater, JCP&L's area manager.

"I think those who attended found it to be very helpful," Meister said. "I know that members of the Township Committee were very appreciative, because questions were answered that they couldn't answer. There was definitely a lot more information shared than has been shared previously, especially from JCP&L," she said.

"Meister said both tree experts said that this storm was like nothing they had seen before. "It's quite clear that JCP&L was not up to the challenge of such a widespread disaster, but the tree experts pointed out that this was really out of the ordinary," she said.

"Meister also said that most Harding residents feel that they were low on the priority list for power restoration by JCP&L.

"I know Mr. Prater has been going around and meeting with the towns. He tried to explain the challenges they faced, and he worked hard to dissuade rumors. The fact is, in my opinion, that JCP&L has to do a lot of upgrading, and it can't all be done overnight," she said.

"His focus was that JCP&L is trying to cooperate and better serve its customers. I personally think they can improve a great deal, but they are trying hard. I was actually very impressed with him," she said.

"He spoke very well. People who attended were not aggressive. They listened to him," she said.

"Meister said Rosenbach was both enlightening and entertaining with his discussion of real-estate law, and who is responsible for what.

"He answered questions like if a tree falls from your property and hits your neighbor's property, who has to pay for the damages. Well, it turns out the law says it's the neighbor who has to pay, and not you," she said. That is, unless the homeowner can be proven negligent.

"Toribio, meanwhile, stressed the point that no matter which entity owns the road in question- the county, the township or the state- falling trees and dangling limbs and branches should immediately be reported to the Harding Police Department.

"Tracy was very helpful in encouraging us to call the police if we see a potential hazard, any potential hazard. His message was call the police first. Put the police in charge of the situation," she said.

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

"Meister said that, without question, the township needs some sort of forestry management plan. "We need to assess trees, as to which ones are potential hazards. We need to identify what we are living with," she said.

"Giving a bit of history of the township's trees, Meister said Harding was, initially, largely a meadow land. "Trees were planted in Colonial times, from 1900 on. Most of our trees are about 80 years old, and most of them are now very tall," she said.

"We have more trees now than Harding ever had before. Now, we have to learn to manage them. You can't predict when a tree will fall. Mr. Linson said, in fact, that most of those trees that came down were healthy trees. They fell because the ground was too moist to hold the roots, and that was a very unusual situation," she said.

"She also said Prater stressed that when power goes out, call. "He said don't assume that your neighbor is calling. You have to make the call," she said.

"Garden Club member Justine Kovacs, who also helped organize the event, agreed with Meister that it was very helpful.

"It was extremely interesting. I have long been campaigning for JCP&L to bury the wires. I think that's the only answer. That was brought up, because most of the poles in Harding are way past their prime," she said.

"You can see that some of these poles have been sistered up with new poles, but they are broken and cracked. We have poles that are 30 years old, when the life expectancy is 12 to 15 years," Kovacs said.

"Basic maintenance has been neglected. The JCP&L manager (Prater) said that it will cost them \$1 million per mile to bury the lines. I don't think that's true if you compare the cost of having to constantly spend money to replace lines and poles," she said. "

### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION INFORMATION:**

Help Spread the Word - NOT the Fertilizer!

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection reminds everyone that as of November 15, residents cannot apply fertilizer to their lawns until next spring. Likewise, commercial applicators of fertilizer have until December 1 to complete their customer service cycle of late Fall fertilization.

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

Fertilizer cannot be applied onto lawns again until March 1st.

New Jersey's Fertilizer Law is a statewide initiative that was established as a result of the Governor's 10-point action plan to protect and restore Barnegat Bay. It is one of the most stringent fertilizer laws in the country and is designed to reduce the nitrogen and phosphorus loadings that can drain into New Jersey's surface and groundwater resources.

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

**Civic Association:** The **DEADLINES FOR THE next 2 issues OF THE THUMBNAIL are January 7 and February 7.** 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. The Civic Association website, [www.hardingcivic.org](http://www.hardingcivic.org), is updated frequently; we post events sent to our e-mail address: [submissions@hardingcivic.org](mailto:submissions@hardingcivic.org).

### **TOWNSHIP RECYCLING**

**The Hours of operation are every Wednesday** from 7AM. to noon (7– 9AM self service); and every other **Sat.: 9AM to noon: Dec. 17.**

**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); Automotive and light truck tires, (on or off rim) and Propane tanks (BBQ size only)

**Computers, monitors, laptops and televisions. cannot** be put into household trash. However, they **can** be brought to the Harding Twp DPW recycling center at the regular hours of operation. Tracy Toribio of Harding Twp DPW will answer your recycling questions 973 267 2448, Mon- Fri 8:30 am to 3 pm.

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

DECEMBER 2011

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

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 Preservtion Comm (1stThursday)	7:30 PM
Board of Health (2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday)	7:30 PM
Board of Education (1st and 3rd 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 Open Space (2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed)	7:30 PM
Harding Twp Civic Association (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues)	7:30 PM
Municipal Court- has merged with Madison NJ Court	