

APRIL 2012

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

THE HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY presents Dr. Marc Mappen on **Wednesday April 25 at 7:00** at the Tunis Ellicks House at the corner of Village and Millbrook Roads. He will speak on ***There's More to New Jersey Than the Sopranos***, the subject of his latest book, which has been praised as a delightful read, full of wit and information on every page. Dr. Mappen is an engaging speaker. He is the coeditor of the award-winning Encyclopedia of New Jersey and author of Jerseyana: The Underside of New Jersey History. He was formerly a dean at Rutgers and recently retired from his position as executive director of the New Jersey Historical Commission. This spring he will teach a course on New Jersey History at Rutgers-New Brunswick. All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.

HTRA SUMMER DAY CAMP – 2012 ENROLLMENT IS NOW OPEN!

The Harding Twp. Recreation Association is pleased to offer its Summer Day Camp program this year from Monday July 2 through Friday July 27. (We will however be closed on Wednesday July 4th in observance of Independence Day). Campers can enroll for as many weeks as they wish. Camp hours are from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.-

The HTRA Day Camp has been operating for over 35 years and offers programs for children from 3-12 years of age. Located at the Harding Township School in New Vernon, the daily activities include Arts & Crafts, Swimming, Sports & Games, Computer Lab and other fun activities. 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. We also offer a science enrichment program for grades 1-4 and swimming lessons for children entering Kindergarten and 1st grade, for an additional fee.

The Camp Director, LuAnn Romano is an Harding resident, Elementary School Teacher for over 25 years and has been with the HTRA Camp for over 30 years. Enroll early before it's too late! For more information and enrollment forms visit our website at www.hardingtowshipdaycamp.com , email us at promano59@comcast.net or call us at 973-326-1775.

Boy Scout Troop 43 Scholarship Fundraising Dinner - Monday April 16th 6:00 – 8:00 PM- New Vernon's Boy Scout Troop 43 is hosting a Fundraising Dinner on Monday, April 16th at the Minuteman Restaurant on Route 202. A buffet dinner will be

served between 6:00 and 8:00 PM. Adult ticket prices are just \$15, and Kids under 12 are just \$10. Proceeds from the event will be used to support the Troop's local Scout Scholarship Fund. So please come out and join us for a great night of food, fun and friendship while supporting our local Boy Scout Troop 43.

HARDING TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION is sponsoring a Harding Township Road Side Clean-up Day, Saturday, April 21st, from 9AM until Noon.

Please join us for a celebration of spring and to help spruce up the scenic roadsides of our Township. Prizes will be given for the most trash collected. Free tee shirts will be provided to all participants (while they last). This is also great opportunity for students to earn community service hours. Please bring a friend or an entire group to **Kirby Town hall** where you can get a street assignment. Gloves, safety vests, garbage bags, and refreshments will be provided. Please be sure to wear sunscreen and bug spray. Rain date will be Sunday, April 22nd. For more information, please contact Richard Clew at RichClew@aol.com or 973 534 5144.

RISING STAR CONCERT, a piano recital presented by Min Kwan and her graduate students. Ms. Kwan, a resident of Harding Township, is a concert pianist and Associate Professor of Music at Rutgers University, Mason Gross School of the Arts. The concert will take place on **Saturday, April 28 at 4 PM in Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church** of New Vernon. There is no charge for the event. However, seating is limited and reservations would be appreciated. For information and reservations, please call Patti Wood at (973) 425-0878.

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 the last 4 years, 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.

Kemmerer Library – April Announcements

Introduction to Microsoft Word. If you are new to Word or have missed the many new features of this popular software, this is the program for you! Mary Ann Crutchlow, long-time technology instructor, will conduct two workshops for beginners and novices. **Wednesday, April 18, 10 am-1 pm.** *Registration required, please.*

On **Thursday, April 19 at 7 pm**, Rana Slosberg will discuss “**Making Smart Choices About College**”. Rana is a member of Higher Education Consultants Association and has extensive experience helping students find the right college fit. Come hear her tips on how to reduce the stress as you navigate the admissions process. *Registration required, please.*

Evening Book Group, Wednesday, April 25 at 7:30 am. This month’s selection is *The Paris Wife* by Paula McLain. “Impossible to put down!” was one patron’s verdict on this haunting novel. Set in Paris in the 1920s, the story centers on the first wife of Ernest Hemingway and her struggle to find a place among the author’s circle of fast-living friends. *All readers are welcome!*

“Lunch with Lady Mary”, starting May 1 at noon and every Tuesday through June 5. If you missed the first series of *Downton Abbey* or want to re-live the splendors of British aristocracy and their minions, bring your lunch and enjoy an episode of Season One of the popular PBS series. *Reserve a spot or drop in.*

Science periodicals on our shelves: Science News and Discover have been added to our periodical collection for your reading pleasure in the Adult Reading Room.

Beginners’ Bridge Club members wanted. The Library’s newly formed Beginners Bridge Club welcomes new members. You’ll enjoy the company of friends and learn how to play from an experienced bridge instructor. Please contact the Library if you are interested.

Children’s Programs: Baby Play Group: Thursdays, 10:30am. Moms and babies, 4 months-12 months of age, meet to play/chat and sing songs. **Toddler Time: Tuesdays, 10:** for children ages 1-4. Listen to stories, sing songs and make a theme-related craft.

For children of all ages: **Pizza & Game Nights: Thursdays, April 12 and 26 5-7 pm.**

PJ Night: Friday, April 20, 6 pm. Stories, games, milk and cookies!
Superhero Party: Sunday, April 22, 3-5 pm. Dress up as your favorite superhero and join us for stories, games and crafts. *Registration required, please.*

A Celebration

Join the Friends of the Kemmerer Library in honoring Michael FitzPatrick, Ginny Moriarty and Kim Zsitvay for their outstanding work on the Capital Campaign for the new library. **Friday, May 18, 7:00 to 10:00 pm** at the Basking Ridge Country Club. Wine and hors d'oeuvres will be served. In addition there will be a great silent auction with an array of gifts.

Library Meeting Rooms are available to Harding residents, nonprofit organizations and businesses for a nominal fee. If you would like to reserve space, you may view our Meeting Room Policy and rates on our website at www.hardinglibrary.org.

Library Displays: If you would like have a collection of art or memorabilia that you would like to display in the Library, please contact Lotte Newlin at 973-267-2665. Register for library programs by phone (973-267-2665) or by email (desk@hardinglibrary.com).

NEW VERNON PRESBYTERIAN NURSERY SCHOOL is offering a three-week Summer Camp program in June. The camp is open to all 3 and 4 year old children in the area, regardless of the preschool they presently attend. We are now accepting camp enrollment as well as registration for our 2½, 3 and 4 year old classes for the 2012-2013 School Year. For more information, and to schedule a visit, please contact our director, Laurie Ptalis, at 973-326-9839. You can also visit our website at nvpsn.org.

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. Please come and let your voice be heard. Our quarterly meetings are scheduled for **April 18, June 27 (tentative) and September 19, at 8:30 AM** in the Guidance Office of Harding Township School.

Effective January 1, 2012, Harding Alliance will no longer accept state grant funding, and will rely on the generosity of local residents and private foundations. Please help us pursue our mission by identifying foundations to reach out to. We have also identified **two volunteer leadership positions** to fill. These are opportunities for leadership development through skill building and networking, while helping the community.

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 in town, including Township Administration, Public Safety, Kemmerer Library, Harding Seniors, and Harding Township School.

Development Officer: 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.

Please contact Judy Malloy, Chairperson, at Judymotown@gmail.com if you have any questions. Mayor Bartlett, Chief Gaffney, Garry Annibal HT Health Department and Dr. Petersen (Principal, HTS) can also be contacted for further information on these vital volunteer positions. Please register for updates to our [website](#) at <https://sites.google.com/site/hardingalliance/> and our blog at <http://hardingalliance.blogspot.com/>.

FROM THE HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION:

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 at the annual Memorial Day ceremonies that follow the parade. Your 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** and can be submitted to parade chairman Daniel Henegan by e-mail (Daniel.Henegan@gmail.com). Nominations can also be submitted to any other Civic Association trustee.

HEADS UP! Spring is coming! HARDING MEMORIAL DAY PARADE AND CEREMONY - May 28, 9:30 AM.

The Parade will begin at the Harding Township School parking lot at 9:30 AM, and will end at Memorial Park on Village Road (across from the New Vernon Fire House). The Memorial Day ceremony will begin immediately after the parade ends. Any Township group or organization interested in participating this year should contact the Parade Chair, Scott Shipley, at 908-406-1402

CALLING ALL VETERANS: HARDING WANTS TO HONOR YOUR SERVICE

The Harding Township Civic Association would like to invite all Veterans living in Harding Township to march or ride (in the Audi of Mendham convertible) in our Memorial Day Parade. If you are interested, please contact the parade chair, Daniel Henegan by phone at 973-270-5420 or by email at Daniel.Henegan@gmail.com.

HARDING TOWNSHIP HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Health Screenings:

A free Adult Health Fasting Blood-work clinic will be held on Thursday, April 19, 2012, from 8am to 11am at the Municipal Building. An appointment is necessary; this is for residents 18 years of age and older. To schedule an appointment call 973-267-8000, ext.1968. **Health Hot Line: 973/267-8000 ext 1962.**

Dog Licenses:

If you reside in Harding Township and own a dog, age 7 months and older, that dog or dogs must be licensed every year by January 31, 2012. By State law, in order for a license to be issued, the dog's rabies immunity must be good through October 31, 2012. Any questions, please call 973/267-8000, extension 1968.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The following list was prepared in collaboration with members of the New Vernon Garden Club and reflects the experience of gardening in Harding. Residents might find it helpful in planning their spring plantings. Deer in our area rarely damage the plants listed. Nevertheless, they will browse at any plant, if no alternative food is available; also, each deer herd is different. The young deer eat what their mothers eat, and eating habits may vary from herd to herd. Deer will usually not eat any leaf that is gray and/or furry; many herbs fall in this category. Plant material not favored by deer include:

Trees

Cedar
Fir
Maples, ornamentals
Spruce
Dogwood
American Holly

Perennials

Daffodil, (Jonquil)
Foxglove
Hellebore
Iris
Ferns
Lavender
Euphorbia, (Spurge)

Cimicifuga, (Fairy Candle)
Lilly of the Valley
Dicentra, (Bleeding Heart)
Coreopsis
Buddleia, (Butterfly Bush)
Aquilegia, (Columbine)

Shrubs

Andromeda
Boxwood
Cotoneaster
Skimmia
Juniper
Leucothoe

Groundcover

Pachysandra
Lamium
Ornamental Grasses
Ajuga

TOWNSHIP NEWS:
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

(From the Observer-Tribune):

With the June 5 GOP primary right around the corner, Republican Mayor Marshall Bartlett has opted to call it quits. When petitions were due in Township Administrator Gail McKane's office at 4 p.m. Monday April 2, Bartlett did not submit one. There are two, three-year seats up for re-election on the Township Committee, and one, two-year unexpired term. Bartlett said his six-year run on the committee has been enough. "I've enjoyed it, but it takes a tremendous amount of time. I'd like to free up some of my time to do something else," he said. The Youngs Road resident said he is still teaching at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and said he'd like to spend some time traveling with his wife. A first-time Republican candidate, Nanette DiTosto, is seeking Bartlett's three-year term.

Long-time Committeeman Ned Ward, also a Republican, will seek his third, three-year term on the committee. Ward, a realtor, lives on Tempe Wick Road.

Republican Alf Newlin, who was appointed to the committee earlier this year to fill the unexpired term of Regina Egea, will seek GOP voters' support to fill Egea's seat for the next two years. Newlin was formerly the chairman of the Planning Board before he was appointed by the Committee to fill Egea's unexpired term.

No Democrats filed to run. Retired Harding police officer Michael Meade has said, however, that he will run in November as an independent for a seat on the Township Committee. Meade attends committee meetings regularly, and often questions decisions made by the governing body.

PLANNING BOARD MEETING, March 26, 2012

Declaration of Appointments by the Township Committee

The meeting was opened by Mr. Hall in the absence of a Chairman, Mr. Newlin having been appointed to the Township Committee. Mr. Hall announced that the Township Committee had appointed Mr. Newlin a Class III member, Mr. Saulnier and Mr. Schliefer Class II members, and Ms. Ditosto as First Alternate.

Roll Call: Ms. Olcott and Ms. Moriarty absent.

Mr. Saulnier was then elected Chairman of the Board.

Announcements/Reports/Presentations

- Mr. Saulnier thanked Mr. Newlin for his service as Chairman, and said he hoped to continue certain practices such as training for the Board and annual review of professionals.
- Mr. Saulnier announced that there would be a training for the Board on “all things water” on April 14th at 9am.
- Mr. Saulnier said there might be some changes in subcommittee assignments after he has a chance to talk to people about current assignments.
- Subcommittee updates
 - Water and Environmental: Mr. Saulnier said the group was still working on the 25-foot setback from conservation easements.
- Liaison reports
 - Environmental Commission: Mr. Saulnier said the committee met on March 8th, and set April 21st as clean-up day in Harding, with a view to extending to a week to coincide with Earth Week. There will also be an easement stewardship training session on April 28th. The Commission discussed a proposal to remove street lighting, and is waiting on a risk management analysis. Nic Platt met with Chief Gaffney and JCPL to discuss street lighting. Other towns have done it with no liability. JCPL could go street by street to remove bulbs or reduce wattage. Mr. Saulnier also reported that the number of easements to be monitored had been whittled down to the 70's. The Commission was also wondering whether they should do more work on deer fencing, and was looking for direction on the matter.
 - Cell Tower Committee: Ms. Ditosto reported the Zoning Board was meeting on March 29th when the tower application would be heard for the first time from two carriers.
 - Mr. Bartlett reported that he had met with NJ Transit who is studying parking. He reiterated that we don't want a park and ride in Harding, but are interested in joint parking in Convent or Madison.

Resolutions

PB-03-10, **Applicant Blanchard Partners LP**, Block 49, Lot 12, 55 Glen Alpin Road, Modification of Approval Conditions for Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision. The original resolution called for bonding of all improvements; applicant wanted change to require building permit to construct, rather than putting up bonds when construction won't proceed in near future. Approved as written.

PB-01-09, **Applicant 151 Madison Avenue Corp./Hudacek**, Block 4, Lot 14, 610 Van Buren Road, Request for Extension of Time to Install Improvements. Applicant asked for an extension to install a road; everything is bonded. Approved as written.

Applications

PB-05-09, **Applicant Hartington J Trust**, Block 7, Lots 1.01, 1.02, 1.03 and 4.02, Van Buren Road, Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision. Action: Modification of Approval Conditions. Applicant is in the process of perfecting the subdivision and is requesting two changes. First, since the two lots in the rear are not likely to be developed, the applicant is requesting that the bonding be removed for the common drive to the lots, and put a restriction in the deeds that bonding would be required when building applications are submitted. Second, applicant is requesting that the wording for the bridle path easements be change to indicate that they are given voluntarily to avoid issues with the IRS. Oral resolution covering both requests approved.

PB-04-10, **Applicant GHK Realty II/Fawn Hill Farm**, Block 4, Lots 21 and 21.01, 655-665 Spring Valley Road, Preliminary and Final Major Subdivision. Action: Continue Public Hearing. There were several outstanding issues regarding the application including protecting the forest in the back lot, use of the driveway serving the farmhouse, and tree conservation along Spring Valley Road. The applicant's attorney reported resolution of several items after extensive discussion with the applicant, including:

- Creation of a forest preservation area in the back lot
- Withdrawal of the variance application for the pool house (eliminating the need for all variance relief)
- Leave farm lot drive as proposed, and not combine with new access
- Agreement with Bridle Trail Association on access to the property using a revocable license, and
- Creation of a 50-foot tree preservation area along Spring Valley, while preserving larger trees outside of the area

The Board authorized Mr. Hall to draft a resolution to approve the application with all conditions for consideration at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT March 29, 2012

Pending Applications

Application # BOA-23-10: T-Mobile Northeast LLC & Sectorsite,LLC (Applicants); NJ Conference 7th Day Adventists (Owner). 501 Tempe Wick Road, Block 33 Lot 9, Zone RR , Preliminary / Final Site Plan and "D" 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; Carried to April 19, 2012 Board of Adjustment meeting. (Hurstmont)

New Applications

Application # BOA-02-12: Bruce and Mary Dalziel, 20 Peachcroft Road, Block 32 Lot 1.18. Request "C" Variances to allow enlargement of existing non-conforming residence

Application # BOA-03-12: Peter and Carolyn Kirn, 137 Lee's Hill Road, Block 51 Lot 8. Request "C" Variance to allow enlargement of existing residence

HARDING SCHOOL BOARD

In January, state legislators proposed and Governor Christie signed into law (A-4394/S3148), which provided municipalities and boards of education an opportunity to move the April Board of Education elections to November, where they would coincide with the general election. Last month, the Harding Township Board of Education voted to move the April election to November, effective immediately.

Under this new law, school budgets that fall within the 2% property tax cap would not have to be voted on by the community. School districts would still be required to submit its budget to the Executive County Superintendent in March and hold an annual public hearing later that month. Lastly, the public would vote for individual board of education members at the November election.

The 2012-2013 HTS budget is both student-centered and sustainable. It embodies, in spirit and in fiscal reality, the budget guidelines previously developed and approved by the Board of Education. The increase to the tax levy is only 1.78%, below the state mandated cap of 2%. Moreover, this budget protects all educational and co-curricular programs and staffing - one of our stated goals. Since our budget is less than the cap, our school budget will not be submitted to the voters.

Civic Association News and Announcements

Civic Association: The DEADLINES FOR THE next 2 issues OF THE THUMBNAIL are May 4 and June 9. *The June issue publishes late, as the issue following June is September.* 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. The Civic Association website, www.hardingcivic.org, is updated frequently; we post events sent to our e-mail address: 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: April 14, 28; May 12, 26, June 9, 23.**
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.

DATES TO REMEMBER, meetings as noted.

Environmental Commission (1st Monday) 7:30 PM
Seniors (2nd and 4th Thursday)Chrst KingCh 11 AM
Planning Board (4th Monday) 7:30 PM
Hist Preservation Comm (1stThursday) 7:30 PM
Board of Health (2nd Thursday) 7:30 PM
Board of Education (1st and 3rd Monday) 7:30 PM
Board of Adjustment (3rd Thursday) 7:30 PM
Township Committee(2nd Monday) 7:30 PM
Harding Open Space (2nd Wed) 7:30 PM
Harding Twp Civic Association (3rd Tues) 7:30 PM
Municipal Court- has merged with Madison NJ Court