

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

January 2013

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

KEMMERER LIBRARY

Winter operating hours: **Monday-Friday: 10-5. Saturday: 10-1. Sunday: 12-3.** We look forward to seeing you soon!

New! Tech Thursdays, starting Jan 10 at 4 pm. Kick off the New Year with iPad expert, Amy Nagle, who will cover how to manage content, install apps, download e-books and much more. Beginners and the merely curious are welcome. *Registration required please. Other upcoming sessions: Kindle, Twitter, Facebook, Microsoft Word and Excel.* For a complete list of sessions and dates, please check our website.

New! February is Book Club Lovers' Month – calling all book clubs and enthusiastic readers to the Library Book Club Fair, Sun. Feb. 10th, 3 pm. Meet fellow book club members, book lovers – and book club hopefuls, too. Swap reading lists, participate in a lively discussion about books, book clubs, sample favorite book club foods, and find out what the Library can do to support your group. **Harding Reads!:** Join us in a Township reading of *The Stockholm Octavo* by Karen Engelmann – an impressive debut novel set in 18th century Sweden. The author will join us in early March for a book discussion followed by Scandinavian treats. You don't have to be a book club member to participate in any of the above activities – just come and celebrate reading.

Curl up by the Fire with 45 great books – Borrow a Kindle: The Library offers pre-loaded Kindles on two-week loan for Harding residents. 20 new titles have recently been added to each of our Kindle collection of best-sellers, classic fiction, non-fiction and more.

New! Yarn Circle Knitting Club, alternate Wednesdays, 1-2 pm. Join the next class led by two experienced crafters on **January 16 and 30.** Join us for conversation, inspiration and instruction by the fireplace. For beginners and experienced knitters alike.

Tea with TED: January 6, February 3 and March 3, 3-4:30 pm. Millions of people are hooked on TED Talks online featuring the world's thinkers and artists with "ideas worth spreading". Join us for an afternoon of inspirational and engaging lectures followed by tea and a moderated discussion. Think of it as a book club without the homework! All are welcome.

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Mat Yoga: Mondays at 10:00 am. Gentle Chair Yoga: Mondays & Wednesdays at 10:45-11 am. MJ Turnbull's classes are good for both body and soul. All are welcome. A donation of \$10 per session is suggested.

Evening Book Group, Wednesday, Jan 30, 7:30 pm. January's selection is among the New York Times list of best novels of 2012: *The Orphan Master's Son* by Adam Johnson. Join us for an engaging discussion. No registration necessary.

Movie Matinee: Tuesday, January 8, 10:30am. January's selection: *The Duchess*, based on the true story of Georgiana Spencer, the scandalous Duchess of Devonshire.

Bridge Club, Mondays 2-3:30 pm: Our popular bridge club for beginners and intermediary players continues in 2013. New members welcome. Registration and information at the Library. Modest instruction fee.

Mah Jongg Club, Thursdays, 12-2 pm: Beginner and intermediary play. New members welcome. Registration and information at the Library. Modest instruction fee.

Winter Children's Programs: Storytime: Tuesdays, 10:30 am. Children aged 1-4 listen to stories, sing songs and do a craft. **Wednesdays, 11 am: Pre-K Play Group and Lunch Bunch.** Games, play and bring your lunch. **Baby Play Group: Thursdays, 10:30 am.** Moms and babies, 6 months-12 months of age, meet to play/chat and sing songs.

Winter Children's Special Events: Legos & Games, Sundays at 3pm, January 13, February 17 and March 17. Get your creative juices going with the Library's huge Lego collection, or bring a friend or two and enjoy a rousing game of Risk or Mexican. All other Sundays, drop in between 12-3pm to play games.

Wednesday, January 24, 4pm: Max and Ruby Party: The beloved characters from Rosemary Wells's delightful picture books are the center of attention at this fun-filled event. Stories, games, crafts, and a delicious treat.

BLOOD DRIVE AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

When: **Saturday, February 23, 2013**

Time: 8:00 am until 1 pm

Where: Fellowship Hall, 2 Lee's Hill Road, New Vernon

For appointment call 973-971-7444 or sign up at

<http://firstpresbyterianchurch.mmcblooddonorservices.org>. Please bring photo ID; eat and drink fluids prior to donation. Walk-ins are welcome! All blood donations will benefit

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the patients at Morristown Medical Center. This community effort is in fond memory of Mary Van Kirk.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT INFORMATION:

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. Harding Township gives their residents till **February 28, 2013**. After February 28th, a late fee of \$10 per dog will be charged. By State law, in order for a license to be issued, the dog's rabies immunity must be good through October 31, 2013. If your dog's rabies expires before October 31st, they will require a booster immunization before licensing. Questions, call 973/267-8000, ext.1968.

The Health Department is in the process of planning for our male and female cancer screenings along with our adult health blood-work clinic. The clinics will be held in March and April of 2013. Please call our information hot-line at 973-267-8000 extension 1962 for information on exact dates.

SAVE THE DATE- ART IN BLOOM

Friday April 19, 2013 6-10pm; April 20-Art Show continues from 9-1
Biannual Gala Party and Art Show
Christ the King Church
Buffet and wine, over 60 artists

From Alex Anemone, Superintendent of Schools, Harding Township School

Earlier this year, the Harding Township Board of Education approved their 2012-2013 goals. Goal number one is to develop a long-term strategic plan. To further that objective, the Board of Education is partnering with New Jersey School Boards Association to assist in the development of that plan.

As Superintendent of Schools, it is my pleasure, on behalf of the Harding Township Board of Education, to invite you to participate in the creation of our strategic plan. A focused group of community and school leaders will work together to identify the strengths and accomplishments of our school district, the vision and expectations for the future and the goals designed to reflect our shared vision. This group will meet on three evenings for 90 minutes each session. Working together in small groups, we will determine, dream and design our community's vision for the future of Harding Township

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School and its students. The Board of Education will use this strategic plan to help shape future goals for the district as we move forward together.

We are reaching out to leaders within our community and are asking you to participate. We invite you to attend our meetings on January 23, February 27 and March 20 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the HTS Library/Media Center. Since each meeting has a specific purpose and task, please know that we welcome you to attend any of the meetings if you are unable to attend all three.

Please call or email the Superintendent's Office (973) 267-6398 or aanemone@hardingtwp.org to let us know if you will be able to join us in this exciting opportunity to assist in shaping the future of Harding Township School.

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, and health and school professionals. Please come and let your voice be heard. Our next quarterly meeting is **Wednesday, January 16, 8:30 AM** in the Library/Media Center of Harding Township School.

Year-End Fundraising:

Harding Alliance no longer accepts state grants, and relies on the generosity of local residents, community partners and private foundations, to pursue its mission. Please look for our fundraising solicitation in the Township's year-end mailing. We appreciate any support you can provide, including donations and introductions to local foundations with an overlapping mission to ours.

Book Discussion Group:

By popular demand, Certified Parent Coaches Kathleen McClay and Barbara Thomas will be facilitating an evening session on Chapter One of *NurtureShock, The Inverse Power of Praise*, at **Harding Township School, January 24 at 7 PM. DATE CHANGE.** Please email Judy Malloy, Chairperson@HardingAlliance.org to be included in future book discussion announcements.

Mini Grants: Community Leaders! Harding Alliance is piloting mini grants for community service projects, to encourage youth development. Please contact Judy Malloy at Chairperson@HardingAlliance.org or Megan Achenbach at ViceChair@HardingAlliance.org for further information.

Please register for updates at www.HardingAlliance.org.

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TOWNSHIP NEWS:

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 10, 2012

All TC members were in attendance. This was Marshall Bartlett's last public meeting as chair, designated "mayor". He was praised and thanked for his service by fellow TC members.

Hurricane Sandy Hits Our Property Taxes - Preliminary Budget for 2013.

The first preliminary cut at the 2013 municipal budget showed the impact of Hurricane Sandy. Fully 70% of the estimated 6.4% tax levy increase is to cover expenses from Hurricane Sandy. This increase, which is greater than the 2% State mandated cap, is allowed because of the emergency nature of the expense.

The non-emergency portion of the budget called for a 1.86% increase in tax levy. Total proposed appropriations of \$8.64mm represent an increase of 0.5% versus 2012 budget. Major items are Salaries and Wages (32.2% of total) up 0.4%, Other Expenses (19% of total) up 3.3%, Insurance (14% of total) down 1.9%, and Debt Service (9.9% of total) down 0.6%. Revenues are forecast to rise 0.3% due to the 1.9% increase (\$102K) in property taxes.

Formal introduction of the budget is expected at the March TC meeting.

PLANNING BOARD MEETING DECEMBER 17, 2012

Roll Call: Mr. Schliefer absent.

Announcements/Reports

- Mr. Saulniernoted that this would be Mr. Bartlett's last meeting as a Board member, and he thanked him for his service as an elected official and citizen leader. Ms. Olcott then presented Mr. Bartlett a remembrance from the Board.
- Ms. DiTosto reported that the Environmental Commission had met and was considering a political sign ordinance which would limit the time when signs could

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- be put up. Also under discussion was a solar project involving the Harding School, and the possibility of burying utility lines.
- Mr. Bartlett reported that the Primrose deal was to close tomorrow, but there were some deficiencies in the documents which would need to be cleaned up first. He also reported that there would be discussions with Green Acres about Glen Alpin. He mentioned that Essex County was sponsoring a restaurant at Turtle Back Zoo, and it might be helpful to speak to those who were involved with that project. He also suggested that it would be helpful to speak to those who put together Natirar where Green Acres was involved. Finally, he recommended that someone should continue to follow the NJ Transportation Planning Authority and suggested that the Township Committee should appoint someone from Harding to attend its meetings.
 - Ms. Olcott reported that the Advisory Review Committee had met and had decided to look at streamlining the demolition ordinance. Discussion of the building area calculation ordinance was tabled until January. She also floated the idea that the draft resolutions on subdivisions should be published prior to approval so that the public could have an opportunity to comment. One approach would be to post the resolutions on the website. Ms. Olcott reported that she had attended a Board of Adjustment meeting regarding the Herstmont application, and gave a statement expressing some concern that the concept of averaging had been misapplied by the Board in its decision to grant a density variance.

Discussion

Master Plan Reexamination: Ms. Kimball then led a discussion regarding her draft of the "2013 Reexamination Report, Harding Township Master Plan and Development Regulations, Preliminary Working Draft." The Board will consider how up to date the Master Plan is, and the effects of changes that have been made to it over the over the last 6-7 years (i.e., have problems been solved or exacerbated). The Board then started to comment on the document, highlighting topics that it would want to discuss in its reexamination. The hour being late, the meeting was adjourned with discussion to be continued at the next meeting.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, DECEMBER 20, 2012, from agenda

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Pending Applications: Application # BOA-22-11

Harding Holdings PM LLC "Hurstmont", 679 Mt. Kemble Avenue, Block 27 Lot 2 Zone RR; Density variance previously granted; request (d) variances for potential building height exceeding limit by more than 10% and "c" variances, subject to subsequent (bifurcated); application for subdivision approval.

Pending Applications : Application # BOA-23-10

T-Mobile Northeast LLC, New Cingular Wireless PC and 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 – amended application

No other Committee reports received

Civic Association News and Announcements

Civic Association: The DEADLINES FOR THE next 2 issues OF THE THUMBNAIL are February 1 and March 8. 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., Jan 19, Feb 2, Feb 23 and March 9.**
Commingled Recyclables: consists of all aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, and only plastic bottles and containers with the Recycling symbol #1 #2, and 4, 5, and 7. 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)

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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.

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DATES TO REMEMBER, meetings as noted.

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)	7:30 PM
Board of Health (2 nd Thursday)	7:30 PM
Board of Education (1st and 3rd Monday)	7:30 PM
Board of Adjustment (3 rd Thursday)	7:30 PM
Township Committee(3 rd Wed)	7:30 PM
Harding Open Space (2 nd Wed)	7:30 PM
Harding Twp Civic Association (2 nd Wed)	7:30 PM