

# Harding Township Civic Association

## THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

“Keeping Harding Informed Since 1949”

[www.HardingCivic.org](http://www.HardingCivic.org)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2018

#### FIRST AID SQUAD

##### EMERGENCY AT THE NEW VERNON FIRST AID SQUAD

Volunteers are needed now!

Our First Aid Squad, the volunteers who help us when we have a medical emergency, has its own emergency - they need volunteers! Since 1974 the Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) of the First Aid Squad have been providing pre-hospital care. The Squad, like the Fire Department, is staffed 100% by volunteers who give their time for this life-saving service. The Squad does not charge for service nor does it receive tax support. But it does have a need for volunteers - most urgently as a full EMT.

The goal is to build the EMT team to at least 28 from its current 24. Before you say “this is not for me,” here are the facts:

What does an EMT do? EMTs respond to medical emergencies, traffic accidents and fires. If necessary, they transport the patient to a nearby hospital.

Who can be an EMT? EMTs must live or work in Harding or an adjacent town, be at least 16 years old, be reliable, in good health and pass a background check.

What are the duty requirements? One 12-hour shift per week and one 12-hour weekend night shift per month. Day shifts on weekends are “scrambles” when any available member responds. It's easy to get another member of the Squad to cover for you during vacations or when you are unavailable.

Must I sleep at the Squad HQ? No, Squad members are notified by a pager system. You just need to stay in town during your shifts.

About how often would I get a call? The Squad averages about one call per day. However, there can be days with no calls and days with several calls.

Do I need medical experience? No, once you join the squad you will receive free training that is certified and sponsored by the State at a place and time convenient to you. Continued training is at the Firehouse, at training centers and online. During training, you will ride with an experienced crew to see how the Squad works in action.

Without these volunteers, our First Aid Squad could not exist. Members enjoy the comradery of a supportive team and get the deep satisfaction of knowing they are providing a vital service to the entire township. It's a fulfilling way to give back to the community—Neighbors helping Neighbors. To discuss joining the First Aid Squad contact the Squad President, Steve Fullenkamp, at (973)

889-5874, or the Squad Captain, Lotte Newlin, at (862) 812-9997. You can also send an email to [joinus@nvvfd.org](mailto:joinus@nvvfd.org).

### **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

Harding Township and the Harding Township Civic Association will be jointly sponsoring a Memorial Day Parade on May 28, 2018, stepping off from the Harding Middle School at 9:30 AM and moving east along Lee's Hill Road to Village Road and then to Memorial Park on Village Road, across from New Vernon Firehouse in recognition of all veterans, particularly those that are Harding residents.

Groups wishing to march in the parade should contact [htca@mail.com](mailto:htca@mail.com) and plan to assemble at the Harding Middle School on Lee's Hill Road at 9:00 AM on Parade Day.

There will be fire trucks, bands and horses and everyone is invited to march in honor of our veterans. Bring your children, your parents, your grandparents, your aunts and uncles and your pets (on a leash please) to help us celebrate our veterans on this day of remembrance.

### **ALSO HAPPENING IN HARDING ON MEMORIAL DAY**

The Harding Township Historical Society will be open on Memorial Day following the laying of the wreath at the Veterans Memorial. We welcome all residents and their friends to visit us and tour the house, our museum and gardens. Members of the New Vernon Garden Club will also be on hand in the gardens to answer questions.

### **Touch a Truck**

The New Vernon Volunteer Fire Company and First Aid Squad will be sponsoring a unique family event immediately following the Memorial Day Parade and Wreath Laying ceremony at Memorial Park. Touch-A-Truck provides children, and their families, the opportunity to sit in and explore heavy machinery plus a variety of emergency response vehicles. For children who love trucks, this gives them a hands-on experience and a chance to meet the Firemen, EMTs, and people who operate these vehicles. Lite refreshments will be served.

Who: Everyone is invited, big kids, little kids and all of us who are just kids at heart.

When: Memorial Day, Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> immediately following the Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony at Memorial Park until 1 PM.

Where: New Vernon Volunteer Firehouse No. 1, 22 Village Road, New Vernon, NJ.

### **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

#### **Official Actions Taken by the Township Committee:**

The Township Committee adopted Harding's 2018 \$9 million Operating Budget, as well as its \$750 thousand Capital Budget. Please refer to March Thumbnail for a detailed discussion of the contents of these budgets.

The Township Committee approved the issuance of \$1.3 million of short term municipal bonds to fund the purchase approximately 5 acres of land at 140 Blue Mill Road, adjacent to Margetts Field. Mr. Platt moved to increase the Open Space tax 1 cent per \$100 of assessed value, from the current 4 cent level. The motion failed to receive a second. Mayor Yates explained that additional revenue was not needed at this time due to the strong position of the Open Space fund, plus the anticipated receipts of this year's assessment was adequate to cover the anticipated expenditures

during 2018.

The Township Committee approved additional spending of \$18 thousand to increase the width of the Municipal Trails from four feet to six feet, and instructed the municipal staff to continue to work with county officials to recover as much of this expense as possible.

Discussion Items:

The Township Committee recognized Nik Bjorkedal and Gerry Scully from the Harding Township Land Trust who discussed the group's desire to begin a Gatehouse renovation project. The Gatehouse is a 13.7 acre property on James Street that is jointly owned by the Town (70%) and by the Land Trust (30%). The Land Trust will commission the crafting of plans which will rehabilitate a century-old shed and help alleviate some of the \$2-3 thousand annual maintenance expense of the property.

Mayor Yates instructed Township Administrator Bob Falzarano to study the actions taken by other municipal governments in response to Governor Murphy's proposed legalization of marijuana.

Other Business:

The Township Committee promoted Lisa A. Sharp to the position of Municipal Clerk.

The Township Committee recognized Patrolman Louis Pirrello, Jr. for being selected NJ Law Enforcement Against Drugs (L.E.A.D.) Instructor of the Year for 2018.

## **GET OUT AND VOTE**

### **June 5 - Contested Primary Elections in Harding**

Tuesday, June 5 is Primary Election. Here in Harding there are two contested positions.

For Township Committee, three candidates are vying for two open spots. In alphabetical order they are: Rita Chipperson, Nanette DiTosto and Tim Jones.

For the woman's Republican County Committee position in District 2, two candidates are running: Nicole Lacz and Nicole Papetti.

Do your civic duty and VOTE on June 5.

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Board of Education Meeting 04-16-2018

Highlights - Harding Board of Education Meeting - 7:00pm, Monday April 16, 2018

**Presentation: Update on Harding District and Superintendent Goals.** The second Update in the school year for the Board on these topics was presented by Superintendent Matt Spelker. The Board requested three updates during the course of the school year in order to ensure that the Goals were being addressed and achieved. The District Goals for the 2017-2018 school year were established by the Board at its June 2017 retreat and are listed on the Board website ([hardingtwp.org/page/971](http://hardingtwp.org/page/971)). Goal #2 addresses an especially important objective of the Board: to begin the process of creating a five-year strategic plan for the school district 2019-2024. The first meeting of the strategy planning group composed of the school's stakeholders (Board members, parents, students, teachers, and community participants including Harding elected officials, the Harding Chief of Police, and the New Vernon and Green Village fire chiefs) was held on 12 February and has made good progress. The "State of the District" PowerPoint presentation and Notes from the February meeting are contained on the school's home webpage ([hardingtwp.org](http://hardingtwp.org)) and make for interesting reading and knowledge. Subsequent meetings will be held on 17 April and 22 May, with creation of the final document ready by 1 January 2019. In terms of all the Goals,

the Superintendent reported good progress on all to date. The Board expressed satisfaction with the status on the Goals to this point in the school year, and especially with the status of the strategic plan. Ultimately the Executive County Superintendent of Schools (residing in Morristown and overseeing Morris and Somerset counties) will determine, with input from the Harding Board, whether the Superintendent's Goals have been met for the school year.

**Presentation: Chief School Administrator Evaluation Training.** The New Jersey School Board Association for Morris and Essex Counties, Charlene Peterson, outlined for the Board the revised Guide for the evaluation of the chief school administrator (the superintendent in the case of the Harding district). The overall flowchart of the evaluation process contains a new element, a Superintendent Evaluation Pre-Conference that is intended to enhance the information flow and feedback. Another major change is in the terminology for the performance level rankings, intended to give more precise measures of performance.

**Superintendent Report.** Mr. Spelker reported that the Public Hearing on the District budget would be at the Board meeting of 7 May. The Executive County Superintendent of Schools has approved the budget going into the public hearing. This budget is contained on the school home webpage.

Superintendent Spelker reported that the most recent monthly articulation meeting between the Harding and Madison districts was held on 22 March, with the next meeting scheduled for 19 April. Harding 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will visit Madison high school on 12 May.

**Facilities and Finance.** Committee chair Abi Singh reported that one topic of discussion at the April committee meeting was the matter of a possible electrical generator for the school, both for use for the school and for the school as a possible community center in case of severe power outages (such as experienced this past winter). This is under continuing discussion.

The Board approved an amended contract with Cerebral Palsy of North Jersey-Horizon High School to include extraordinary services at the rate of \$190.00/day for 60 days for a total charge of \$11,400 for the remainder of the 2017-2018 school year.

The Board approved the April bill list of expenses of \$966,055.

**Personnel and Management.** The Board approved the resignation of the school social worker Cheryl Schnabolk and the retirement of 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Lisbeth DeCotiis, both effective 30 June 2018.

## **Board of Education Meeting March 19, 2018**

Highlights - Board of Education Meeting - 7:00pm, Monday, March 19, 2018,

Harding students win honors -The first item on the agenda was truly inspiring as the Board honored the Harding Team of 5 students who WON the State Future City competition and proceeded to the Nationals in Washington DC where they won the award for "Most Sustainable Food Production System". (Future City is a project-based learning program where students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades imagine, research, design, and build cities of the future. Check them out online by going to [Futurecity.org/new-jersey](http://Futurecity.org/new-jersey) ) This group has been working on Future Cities for the last three years. Last year they placed 5<sup>th</sup> in New Jersey, but this year they won 1<sup>st</sup> place among 80 other competing schools. Harding's Dr. Michael Gervis was the team's mentor, but he insists the team did all the work from thinking up the approach to constructing and presenting their model city.

Harding School District Proposed 2018/19 Budget

The second major item was the presentation of the tentative 2018/19 budget. It is “tentative” because even after waiting for the state funding figures it must still go to the County Board of Ed for approval. Although the State money is significant and appreciated, about 90% of the school budget comes from Harding taxes.

The budget is basically the same as previous with the increases basically just for wages for union members, health insurance and special education requirements. Noteworthy is the impact of Special Ed. Here the district sometimes has to send special education students outside the district for education and therapy needs. This budget addresses 5 additional special education students entering our district, with a substantial impact on the budget increase. Of the approximately \$350K increase in the tentative budget, about \$280K is for additional special ed. As mitigation, whenever there are a sufficient number of students with similar needs, the administration will attempt to accommodate those students at the Harding school, thereby reducing the cost. While considering the budget, the need to set aside sufficient capital maintenance funds was discussed. With the increased frequency of storm events, thought was given to purchasing emergency power generation - which would also serve as an important community resource allowing the school to provide emergency shelter and food.

In addition to the Tentative 2018-19 Budget as presented, the District website has a very clear presentation of the budget figures (present year 2017-18) showing cost per student, sources and allocation of resources, and interesting statistical information. Worth a look - go to <https://www.hardingtwp.org> then click on Our District, then Board of Education, then Budget. Other Items:

Board Member Abi Singh officially represents our schools at the Madison School Board meetings, since our graduates go on to Madison High. At their last meeting a group of Madison High School students made a presentation to the Board about their plans for their participation in the nation-wide 17 minute march-out. Mr. Singh reported the students presented an organized and thought-out plan of how they intended to conduct their march-out. Subsequently it was observed to be well carried out.

The Superintendent reported

That the readiness to re-open the schools was in large part due to the commendable tireless active direction provided by Facilities Director Joe Pitcher during the storm event and subsequent cleanup. He also noted how diligently the contract crews worked to remove trees and debris - over 15 trees were removed in the process. Subsequently, the Board President commended the Superintendent for His role in coordinating with town officials and support services and in communicating with the parents and staff regarding school opening/closing plans. The President also commended Mr. Pitcher’s role as well.

How well the school play went despite the storm-related practice disruptions

Although the Graduation Ceremony date has not been set yet, school itself will be extended until Wednesday June 20<sup>th</sup> or possibly June 21<sup>st</sup> due to recent closings and the possible closing on Wednesday March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Madison HS freshmen who were former Harding students met with our 8<sup>th</sup> graders and parents to discuss their experiences starting out in High School. The event seemed to be very productive and encouraging. The Board President subsequently commented that this was a first-time ever event and was indicative of the progress made to further improve and support the smooth transition for

the students from HTS to Madison. He anticipated that it will be repeated in the coming years.  
*(Note: the purpose of this brief report is to help Harding residents connect with the School by highlighting significant items addressed by the Board and are not “meeting minutes”. Those are filed by the Board Secretary and placed on the Harding School website for all to view, generally about a month after the meeting date. And, it’s really worth a look at the District’s website: Hardingwp.org )*

## **PLANNING BOARD**

### **Planning Board Meeting March 26, 2018**

Roll Call: Mr. dePoortere absent.

Minutes: The minutes of the meeting on February 26, 2018 were approved with a minor correction.

#### **Administrative Reports**

Mr. Saulnier raised the issue, in the absence of the Board’s attorney, of what happens when a professional is out of commission for a period of time. He also reported that he had interviewed a candidate for the planner position, but added that the Board would actually be engaging the candidate’s firm which would provide back-up. He said that he would do some reference checking. With respect to the to the master plan amendment process, he suggested giving the new planner the task of reviewing tables, numbers and language for the open space section.

Mr. Saulnier then began a discussion of various ordinance review topics. First up was the definition of a story in a dwelling. A long standing error in the definition of a half story needs to be cleaned up and made more consistent with surrounding towns. There should also be more clarity about roof measurements from exterior walls. Mr. Fox will propose changes and review with Mr. Hall and the planner prior to submission to the Township Committee. Potential relaxation of setback requirements will be worked in committee. Discussion of relief for lot coverage for barns that add rural character could also be worked in committee regarding the technical aspects or at the board level for a policy-first discussion.

Mr. Saulnier then confirmed with the Board members that their subcommittee assignments were acceptable.

Mr. Clew reported that the Water and Environmental Committee was looking at the latest in septic technology.

Mr. Schliefer reported that Post House Road development discussion at the Board of Adjustment was carried until April.

Mr. Clew reported that the Environmental Commission had conducted a successful presentation on bats. He also mentioned the annual roadside clean up on April 21<sup>st</sup> and the tree give away co-sponsored with the Harding Land Trust at the same time.

It was reported that Historic Preservation Committee did not impose a nine-month wait on demolition for the Traphagen House on Van Beuren.

Mr. Modi reported that the town path project was not wide enough, and that there were staffing changes at the Police Department.

#### **Applications**

PB 02-17/4-10, GHK Realty II and GHK Realty III, LLC, 655 and 665 Spring Valley Road, Block 4, Lots 21 and 21.01. No action, incomplete. LOI has expired and the Board will wait for a new one.

#### **Other Business**

There was further discussion on the rural character barn issue. Where did the ordinance come from? Mr. Schliefer said there was concern that a barn that is built now could be leveraged to get lot coverage relief. Minutes of the Planning Board for 2013 need to be looked at to determine the rationale for the ordinance, then discuss further at the next meeting with the three professionals. There was also further discussion about setbacks, but it was agreed that the professionals were required to come to any conclusions.

Ms. Taglairino reminded members that financial disclosures were due by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Meeting adjourned.

### HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

We have two future events coming up that we would like you to save the dates:

In 2017, our Historical Society became a member of the League of Historical Societies of New Jersey. We were recently selected to be part of the 2018 Pathways of History Tour of historic places in Morris County. The tour will take place Saturday, September 22 and Sunday September 23. We are very pleased that we were chosen to participate. Docents in the TE House dressed in period costume will provide tours of our museum and maps and brochures of other historic venues in Morris County that will also be on the tour. Come and join us for the tour. It should be interesting and fun for all ages.

Our Annual Antiques Show and Sale will be the weekend of November 2,3 and 4, The Preview Party will be the night of November 2, 2018. Once again, we will have a show for all to enjoy. Please mark your calendars for this popular event.

### NVVFD AUXILIARY FUNDRAISER: SOMERSET PATRIOTS VOUCHER PROGRAM

How would you like to take your family to an affordable, family-friendly, close-to-home baseball game while at the same time supporting your New Vernon Volunteer Fire Dept.? The NVVFD Auxiliary is selling fundraising vouchers to the Somerset Patriots Minor League baseball games in Bridgewater. The vouchers are \$10.00 each, and can be redeemed for an upper box seat for any 2018 home game of your choice. (Just bring the voucher to the ticket window when you want to go see a game.) Tickets will be for sale at the **Touch a Truck on Memorial Day**, the Auxiliary Bake Sale on election day, June 5th at town hall, along with a few select Spring Saturdays outside the New Vernon Post Office. Or just contact any NVVFD Aux. member. For more information, please call Connie or Nick Cherrillo @ 973-539-9383.

### HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### **Food allergies on the rise**

Do you know about 15 million Americans have food allergies including about 6 million under the age of 18? May is Food Allergy Action Month. The prevalence of peanut or tree nut allergy has more than tripled in U.S. children between 1997 and 2008. More than 170 foods have been reported to cause allergic reactions including the eight major food allergens: milk, egg, peanut, tree nuts, wheat, soy, fish, and crustacean shellfish. Food allergy reactions are serious and can be life-threatening. Every three minutes, a food allergy reaction sends someone to the hospital. There is no cure for food allergy. Food allergies are managed by avoiding the problem and learning to recognize and treat reaction symptoms. Anaphylaxis is a severe and potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. Epinephrine is the only medication that can reverse the symptoms of

anaphylaxis. Individuals with food allergies should always have epinephrine auto-injectors on hand.

Symptoms of a severe allergy reaction include shortness of breath, wheezing, pale, faint, trouble breathing, significant swelling of the tongue or lips, repetitive vomiting, and feeling something bad is about to happen.

It is important to know the signs and symptoms of someone who is having an allergic reaction because serious allergic reactions require immediate attention. For more information visit, <https://www.foodallergy.org/>

### **HARDING TOWNSHIP SCHOOL CAR SHOW**

On Saturday, June 2nd from 9am-12pm.

### **KEMMERER LIBRARY**

Operating Hours: Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday: 10 a.m.-1p.m., Sunday: Closed.

Unless otherwise noted, we ask that you register for our programs in advance. Please visit our website at [www.hardinglibrary.org](http://www.hardinglibrary.org) or call us at 973-267-2665.

If you would like to add your email address to the Library notifications of programs, please send an email to [desk@hardinglibrary.org](mailto:desk@hardinglibrary.org).

#### **Children's Programs:**

Toddler Story Time, Tuesdays, 10:15 a.m. Wendy Marchev and Miss Kryssi welcome toddlers and pre-schoolers to join them for stories, songs, movement, and a simple craft.

Playgroup for under-5s, Wednesdays, 1:30-3:00 p.m. Parents and caregivers with babies and toddlers can meet for tea, coffee and a chat whilst children play and meet new friends, downstairs in the Library. Registration not required, drop-in when you can!

'You Are a Gardener' Family Workshop', Saturday, May 5, 10:30 a.m. Families with school-age children are invited to this inspiring workshop with author Shanna Truffini. 'You Are a Gardener' was born out of a mother's determination to find a positive solution to help her family overcome obstacles put in their path ([www.youareagardener.com](http://www.youareagardener.com)). Enjoy a reading of the beautiful book, a gardening craft and parent workshop. Books will be available for purchase. Registration requested, please.

Mother's Day Crafternoon, Friday, May 11, 3:45- 4:45 p.m. Learn how to make colorful tissue-paper flowers as the perfect gift for Mom. For kids in grades K through 8. Registration requested please.

Beth Ferry, Author Visit and Book Signing, Friday, May 25, 3:45 p.m. Don't miss this opportunity to meet prize-winning children's author, Beth Ferry ([www.bethferry.com](http://www.bethferry.com)). There will be stories, snacks, activities and prizes - fun for all! Advance registration is required.

#### **Teen Program:**

'Chat n' Chew', Middle School Book Club meet on the first Sunday of every month, 3-4 p.m. in the Library Reading Room. On May 6, we will be discussing 'Eleanor and Park' by Rainbow Rowell. On June 3 we are planning a book club picnic. Sign-up online if you'd like to join!

#### **Adult Programs:**

Book Group, Tuesday, May 15, 1:30 p.m. Join our lively book group to discuss this month's pick: '*The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane*' by Lisa See, a moving novel about tradition, tea farming, and the bonds between mothers and daughters. The Book Group meets on the third Tuesday of each



month.

'Room To Read', Friday, May 18, 11 a.m. A presentation by Nicole Smith, Chapter Leader of Room to Read NJ. Room to Read focuses on literacy and gender equality in education in 14 countries. The volunteer NJ Chapter partners with local businesses to promote worldwide education, connecting our local and global communities for good. Come along to hear more about this wonderful organization! Refreshments will be served. Registration requested, please.

**Weekly Activities:**

Gentle Yoga, Mondays 10:30 a.m. MJ Turnbull's outstanding and hugely popular classes continue. \$10 suggested donation per class, please.

Mah Jongg Club, Thursdays, 12-2 p.m. Social play. All levels are welcome.

Card Club, Wednesdays, 3-5 p.m. Social play. All levels are welcome.

Card Club, Fridays, 10:00 a.m.-12 noon. Canasta, Shanghai Rummy, and more! Social play. All levels are welcome.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY**

The Friends of the Library welcomes YOU! Residents are invited to participate in the Friends group by attending our monthly meetings where we develop ideas for fundraising events in support of the Library, and/or by serving as a volunteer on an event committee.

The next meeting of the Friends will be on May 3, 2018, at 10:15 a.m. in the Library.

**THE RAPTOR TRUST**

"Rock Out with the Raptor Trust" Benefit Concert and Auction, Sunday, May 20, 2018, 2-8PM @ The Stirling Hotel, 227 Main Ave., Stirling, NJ 07980. Live music from "Ross Griswold and the Second Line" and special guests "The Raccoon Ridge Ramblers", featuring booths from our community partners and local environmental organizations. Tricky Tray, Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle, Family Games & Activities, 2-4PM: Live raptors with TRT Educational Staff, Community Partner table tops & Activities, 4-7PM: Live Music, 2-6PM: Silent Auction. All proceeds benefit The Raptor Trust. Suggested Donation: \$5.

**NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND FIRST AID SQUAD**

Annual Steak and Lobster Dinner FRIDAY June 1, 2018 6pm. Seating and Food orders begin at 5:30pm; service at 6:00pm. Food is served until approximately 10:00pm, or when the food runs out!!! Dinner Selection Includes Steak, Lobster, Chicken and Hamburgers (for Kids only); All dinners include Salad Bar, Baked Bread, French fries, Beer, Wine, Soda and Homemade Dessert. Steamed Clams and Corn on the Cob are also available. Steak \$25; Lobster \$Market Price; Chicken \$15.

Music by LENOX UNDERGROUND

All Proceeds go to the New Vernon Fire Company and First aid Squad. The Volunteer Fire Department is completely independent and raises all its own funds without taxpayer support.

**GREEN VILLAGE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

GVUMC, 500 Spring Valley Road, Green Village

Rummage Sale and Bake Sale- May 24th and 25th

Join us for our second rummage sale of the year! The sale is May 24, 8am-11am and 4pm-7pm and

our bag sale is May 25, 9am-12pm. We have lots of great buys including clothes, shoes, handbags, dresses, LOTS of baby and children's clothes, bedding, adult and children's books, kitchenware, toys and stuffed animals/dolls, craft supplies, candles, CDs and DVDs, home décor, and more. We'll also have a bake sale table. Like the Rummage sale event on the United Methodist Church in Green Village Facebook page for previews of items available for the sale!

Donation items accepted year round

Cleaning out after the holidays? Getting a jump on spring cleaning? GVUMC welcomes your donation of items. Drop items off anytime in the bin alongside the side entrance door to the church. We accept all the items listed in the rummage sale above as well as jewelry and seasonal items. Thank you! (Please note: we do not accept paint or varnish, VCRs, large exercise equipment, car seats, tvs, cribs or play pens, or large furniture.)

### **HARDING TOWNSHIP RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

#### **Harding Summer Camp Registration is Now Open!**

Registration for the Harding Township Day Camp is now open and is your place for summer fun! We provide campers with a positive summer camping experience with a variety of activities that emphasize fun, relaxation and exploration! For more information and to register online, please see the Summer Camp page at [www.HTRA.info](http://www.HTRA.info)

#### **Harding T-Ball Registration is Now Open!**

Registration for the Harding Township T-Ball is now open. It's still cold outside but Spring is around the corner! Season runs from May 4-May 25, with optional mid-week practices and games every Friday from 6-7pm. For more information and to register online, please see the T-Ball page [www.HTRA.info](http://www.HTRA.info)

#### **Harding Tennis Registration is Now Open!**

Registration for Harding Township Tennis Clinic is now open. Clinic will be on the tennis courts at the Kirby Municipal Building and run on Sundays from April 22 to June 3. For more information and to register online, please see [www.HTRA.info](http://www.HTRA.info)

#### **Harding Mini Laxers Registration is Open!**

Registration for Harding Township Mini Laxers open, but register quickly as clinic starts on April 21 but we still have spots available! Clinic will be HTS fields and run on Saturday mornings. For more information and to register online, please see [www.HTRA.info](http://www.HTRA.info)

### **HARDING TOWNSHIP REPUBLICAN CLUB**

The Harding Republican Club will host a Republican Candidates Night on May 16th from 6 pm to 8pm, in the lower level of Christ the King Church. Come hear the candidates on the Republican Primary ballot from Township Committee up to US Senate. Pizza, wraps and other food will be available. The event is free and all are welcome!

### **GEESE VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

Can you spare just one half hour (30 minutes), at the most, maybe far less than that?

Join a fantastic group of volunteers as they repeat last year's successful efforts to humanely control the Canada Geese population at Bayne Park this summer.

It is SO EASY to Volunteer! Just sign up to be "on call", at 10:00 AM or 2:00 PM or both times, on any day from May 15<sup>th</sup> thru July 3<sup>rd</sup>. You will receive a call minutes before your selected

time slot and will be informed if geese are present at the park. If the geese are present, you will come to the park to join 2 or 3 other volunteers to help chase the Geese away. It will take no more than one half hour (30 minutes) of your time. Proven techniques will be used under the guidance of a trained volunteer.

The birds learn very quickly, and after the 1<sup>st</sup> few weeks, they will rarely return. **By agreeing to be “on call” for even a single time slot, you are helping to make this project the proven success it has been.** “With many hands available, we can help make the work lighter!”

Modest physical effort is required; primarily, the ability to walk across the park at a reasonable pace. All equipment is supplied. For attire; shoes or boots that can get muddy, long sleeves, a hat, and long pants are suggested.

This Township approved effort, which has been extremely successful in prior years, was featured in “Goose Tracks 2008”, a nationwide publication of the Humane Society of the US and in the magazine of the New Jersey 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.

So please join this great group of volunteers and come out and be a part of this wonderful trend setting project that started here!

**Contact:** Tracy Toribio, Ttoribio@hardingnj.org or (973)267-2448 or (973) 267-8000 ext. 1968

## **GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

### **Paper-Making Basics with Non-Native Plants**

Tuesday May 1, 2018

5:00 - 7:00 PM

GSWA Headquarters

568 Tempe Wick Road, Morristown, NJ

Traditional paper comes at the cost of felling millions of trees each year, and hardly any of this paper is recycled to be reused. Want to try an alternative solution? Join us for this engaging, hands-on workshop where we will teach you how to make basic paper out of plant pulp sourced from common backyard invasive plants. If you happen to have some extra garlic mustard or phragmites growing in the backyard, now you'll know how to repurpose these invasives into decorative paper, and let the trees breathe a sigh of relief! Registration is required. Register online at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

### **Rain Barrel Workshop - When it Pours, it Stores**

Wednesday, April 5, 2018

5:30 - 7:30 PM

GSWA Headquarters

568 Tempe Wick Road, Morristown, NJ

Capture the rainwater that runs through your home's downspout and you'll always have 55 gallons of free water available for things like watering your garden and washing your car. When the power goes out, it's an excellent backup water source for flushing. Using a recycled, food-grade barrel and a spigot adapter kit, GSWA and Green Mojo Eco Consulting help you construct your very own rain barrel. Pricing: \$90 to assemble, \$110 to purchase outright, free to observe the workshop. You will take your new rain barrel home with you, and it'll be ready for hookup to your home's

downspout immediately! Participants are responsible for transporting barrels home at the end of the workshop. Sorry, no delivery service available. This is a popular workshop so please register today as space is limited. Register online at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

### **Breakfast Briefing: 2017 Water Quality Report Card**

Tuesday, May 22, 2018

7:00 - 8:30 PM

Morris County Library

30 East Hanover Avenue, Whippany, NJ

What's in your water? Come out and learn about the water quality along your stretch of the Passaic River. Great Swamp Watershed Association will present the 2017 Water Quality Report Card as well as give an update on our new Downstream Passaic River expansion sampling to date. Sandra LaVigne, Director of Water Quality Programs at GSWA, will present a brief talk on the status of our streams both throughout the Great Swamp Watershed as well as on the region of the Passaic River between Millington Gorge and Stanley Ave Park in Chatham. Register online at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

### **Moonlit Owl Prowl**

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

7:30 - 9:30 PM

Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge

Wildlife Observation Center

Long Hill Road, Harding Township, NJ

Explore New Jersey's forests at dusk and you just might find yourself in the middle of an interrogation! Who!? Who cooks for you? The barred owl sounds like an awfully inquisitive bird, but, in fact, it's just trying to protect its turf. Want to learn more about New Jersey's owls? Then you don't want to miss this early-evening hike with conservation biologist, Dr. Emile DeVito. The Great Swamp Wildlife Observation Center is prime owl-spotting habitat and a perfect spot for Dr. DeVito to demonstrate his owl-calling expertise. With a little luck, you might just hear (or even see) some of these stealthy night flyers as they move in to investigate the mysterious sounds. Register online at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

### **Live Music Festival**

Great Swamp, Great Music!

Sunday, June 10, 2018

1:00 - 5:00 PM

Hartley Farms Polo Field

Spring Valley Road, Harding Township

Bring your lawn chairs or spread out a blanket and spend the afternoon grooving to the sounds of four great local bands: Not Enough Jeffs, Hub Hollow, The Gammon Brothers, and David Philp's band. Grab a bite to eat from a variety of family-friendly food vendors and be sure to leave some room for ice cream, served from a 1950's custom truck. Browse the historic grounds and check out the unique and interesting items for sale by our merchandise vendors. Beer and wine will be available for purchase with proper ID and there's plenty of free parking. Get your tickets today! \$20 advanced purchase for adults, \$10 for students. Children 13 and under are free. Purchase online at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call (973) 538-3500.

## **THE HERB SOCIETY OF AMERICA NORTHERN NEW JERSEY UNIT**

The Northern New Jersey Unit is looking for individuals interested in herbs.

The Unit's mission is to promote the knowledge, use and delight of herbs through educational programs, research, and sharing the experience of its members with the community.

Our Unit is also responsible for the upkeep of the Wick Garden in the Morristown National Historical Park at Jockey Hollow.

To receive more information about joining please contact Donna Tyson, Chairman, at dbtyson@gmail.com or Susan Conway, Membership Chair at melizan59@aol.com

## **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

The 2017/18 Sunday Speaker Series concludes with a program on "Music and Worship," led by Dr. Gerald Liu on **May 6 at 11:15 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall library. Dr. Liu is Assistant Professor of Worship and Preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary and recently published a book, *Music & the Generosity of God*. In a world where access to the divine can seem impossible, he invites readers to experience all sounds as gifts from God. The program lasts one hour, and questions are invited. The Series will resume in the fall.

Join us at another **Messy Church** gathering on **Saturday, May 19 from 4-6 p.m.** This is a fun new way for children and their families to experience Church. There will be crafts and activities based on a story from the Bible, interactive family-friendly worship, and a simple supper. Admission is free. Children of all ages are welcome but must be accompanied by an adult.

Ongoing: **Toddler Time, Wednesdays from 1:30-3:00 p.m.** In partnership with the Kemmerer Library, this is a play group for children under 5. Adults can socialize while the children enjoy supervised free play. Healthful snacks provided. At the Library, lower level.

### **The Center for Musical Excellence**

Founded in 2010 by Harding resident and Steinway Artist Min Kwon, The Center for Musical Excellence (CME) provides high-caliber training, individually tailored mentoring, financial support, and professional opportunities to young musicians who wish to pursue their advanced education and life in the United States. Kwon will appear in the dual role of Artistic Director and performer at an upcoming concert celebrating American composers at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall on Monday, May 7 at 7:30 p.m. Harding residents may consult the program and request limited complimentary tickets through [cmemusic.org](http://cmemusic.org).

## **HARDING LAND TRUST**

### **Camping at Primrose Farm:**

The Harding Land Trust welcomes you to **CAMP OUT** on Saturday, June 2nd, 2018. We welcome all Harding children from the ages of 6 to 10 years old and a parent to camp out with us at Primrose Farm, 15 Brook Drive South in Harding. Follow the trail to meet under the big tree. Leave your phone, boom box, electric toothbrush and large screen TV at home. On this camp out, we will listen to the music of the insects, taste a fire pit meal and watch a cosmic light show.

The camp out will take place between Saturday, June 4th at 4 p.m. to breakfast on Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Activities will include a scavenger hunt, wiffle ball, s'more roasting, flashlight tag, story time and more. Please bring a tent, sleeping bag, change of clothes, flashlight, one gallon of water per person, mud boots and insect repellent. The land trust will provide dinner, breakfast and

entertainment. The fee is \$10 per child, \$15 per adult. Please RSVP by May 25th to [jordan@hardinglandtrust.org](mailto:jordan@hardinglandtrust.org). Space is limited. In the event of rain, the event will be cancelled and fees refunded.

#### **HLT Welcomes New Trustees and Staff:**

The Harding Land Trust welcomes five new trustees to the board: Sarah Conine, Dawn Didden, Marianne Ehinger, Kristen Ramsey, and Brian J. Riley.

The Harding Land Trust is also pleased to announce Julie Kaplan as the new Director of Development. Julie, a Lafayette College graduate, was previously with the Holocaust Museum in Houston, the American Red Cross and The National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

For further information about HLT's new Development Director or Harding Land Trust's mission, please contact Harding Land Trust, telephone 973.267.2515 or its website [www.hardinglandtrust.com](http://www.hardinglandtrust.com)

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

After several weather-related cancellations, the Environmental Commission met on April 4<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Roadside Cleanup was held on Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> in conjunction with the Harding Land Trust tree-give away. The Environmental Commission would like to thank all of the volunteers who came out to clean up after the long winter. Special recognition goes to our event leader, Hugh Symonds, and to the Department of Public Works for helping once again with setup and disposing of all the trash we uncovered.

Presentation by Dr. Emile DeVito: Dr. DeVito provided an initial report of findings from the Plant Stewardship Surveys done on two preserved properties in Harding. He covered what the Harding flora consists of, the health of Harding's flora as it relates to the land itself, and the wildlife dependent upon it for sustenance. He will address the public on this issue at a later date.

Summary of March 10<sup>th</sup> Event: As one of the educational events at the Bat Box Building Workshop on March 10<sup>th</sup>, Kathleen Kerwin of the Rutgers Conservation and Wildlife Management Program gave a presentation on bats, their habitat and their value to the Community especially with respect to the mosquito population. Special thanks goes to Jim Novotny for organizing the event and creating the bat box kits. If you are interested in hosting a bat box on your property, please contact the Environmental Commission.

Light Pollution Ordinance: Nic Platt indicated that the Township Committee was considering an ordinance with respect to light pollution and protecting the night sky and also the importance of assuring that your lighting does not trespass on your neighbors. All new construction has to be in compliance.

#### **HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION:**

##### **Thumbnail & Website News and Announcements**

If you have a submission for **June 2018 Thumbnail** please email to: [HTCA@mail.com](mailto:HTCA@mail.com) by **Friday, May 19, 2018**.

MS Word is the preferred format, thank you!

Current and past issues of the Thumbnail, as well as the Directory are available on our Website: [www.HardingCivic.org](http://www.HardingCivic.org). Send questions or comments about *Thumbnail* to editor to:

[HTCA@mail.com](mailto:HTCA@mail.com) or PO Box 72 New Vernon, NJ 07976

## **HARDING TOWNSHIP RECYCLING**

### **2018 Recycling Schedule**

MAY 5, 19

#### **Hours of Operation:**

**Wednesdays:** 7 am. - Noon (7- 9am self service)

**Every other Saturday:** 9 am - noon (see schedule dates)

**Commingled Recyclables:** Consists of all aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles, all plastic bottles and containers with the Recycling symbol, and #1, 2, 4, 5 & 7. Try to crush plastic bottle to conserve space. Please remember no plastic or paper bags.

**Commingled Mixed Fiber:** 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), Propane tanks (BBQ size only) and fluorescent bulbs (tube and compact).

**E-Waste items accepted:** Computers, monitors, laptops and televisions cannot be put into household trash. However, all E-waste items including printers, copiers, fax machines and all computer peripherals can be brought to the Harding DPW recycling center at the regular hours of operation.

**Recycling Questions:** Please contact Tracy Toribio at Harding Department: 973 267 2448, Mon- Fri 8:30 am to 3 pm.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

Environmental Commission  
Seniors: Christ the King Church  
Planning Board  
Historical Preservation Committee  
Board of Health  
Board of Education  
Board of Adjustment  
Township Committee Executive  
Township Committee Public  
Harding Open Space  
Harding TWP Civic Association

**Meetings as noted**

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 7:30 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday 11:00AM  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday 7:30 PM  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday 7:30 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 7:30 PM  
1st & 3rd Monday 7:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday 7:30 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 7:30 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 7:30 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:30 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7:30 PM

**Time**

**DATED MATERIAL**

*Harding Township Civic Association*  
P.O. Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976  
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