

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

“Keeping Harding Informed Since 1949”

www.HardingCivic.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

December 2018

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Highlights - Harding Township Board of Education Meeting - 7:00pm, Monday November 5, 2018

Presentation: Advances in STEM Education. Harding School Principal and Director of Curriculum Mary Donohue presented some national statistics on STEM education and employment, and an update on the on-going important initiative for substantially enhancing the STEM educational opportunities in the Harding K-8 school. The Harding initiative has been underway for some time, including meetings of members of the Board with STEM leaders in the Madison district and visits to the Madison STEM facilities (in both the Madison junior school and the high school). An overall Harding approach is to enhance and enrich the subject areas of math and science by incorporating technology and engineering. The STEM curriculum will be driven by problem-solving, discovery, and exploratory learning. Plans are to have a Harding STEM faculty person in place by the Fall semester of 2019. Planning is also underway for assessing and reconfiguring appropriate space(s) in the existing Middle School building. Costs are a concern of the administration and the Board, and are being factored into the longer range planning. Considerable supportive discussion ensued among Ms. Donohue, the Board, and members of the public in attendance at the meeting.

Superintendent Report. Superintendent Matt Spelker reported that the October Harding-Madison articulation meeting between the Harding and Madison school

superintendents included curriculum matters, STEM facilities in Madison, and a special education tuition agreement with Madison for Harding pre-K to 8 students.

Superintendent Spelker reported that the Harding girl's field hockey team played in the Morris County Field Hockey finals, and lost to the Peck School team. Congratulations to the Harding girls! The Superintendent congratulated Coach John Keating for his last year of field hockey coaching in Harding. Mr. Keating is retiring after 38 years of coaching athletics in Harding.

The 5-year Strategic Plan for the Harding school will be presented and discussed at the December and January meetings of the Board. The public is encouraged to attend.

Facilities and Finance. The Board approved a revised contract for a special education student with the Academy 360-Lower School. This revision involves the addition of a one-on-one aide at a cost of \$145/day for 167 days, with a total cost of \$24,215.

The Board approved an Addendum for special education with the organization The Uncommon Thread. This Addendum adds a para-professional in the school at a rate of \$35/hour, 7 hours per day, 5 days/week, for 31 weeks for a total cost of \$37,975.

(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". Minutes are filed by the Board Secretary and are placed on the Harding School website, generally about a month after the meeting date.)

PLANNING BOARD

Planning Board Notes for October 22, 2018 Meeting

Mayor Yates gave a presentation on the Affordable Housing issue which included a history of fair share housing and how Harding has dealt with the prior rounds of housing demands. The current solution has many parts including new units at the Farm, use of the Hurstmont and Glen Alpin properties, re-zoning the office property across from Wightman's, and use of the office Park at the other end of Route 202. The Township Committee has set the table for further development, but it is up to the current property owners and developers to execute the plan. The Board reviewed and approved revised plans for the Boszhardt property on Great Oaks Road. The plans used the lot averaging approach to produce a more regularly shaped third lot of approximately three acres. Mr. Saulnier reported that he attended an

informative meeting of the Highlands Coalition and suggested that more attention should be paid to what's going on at that organization. The Board approved a "do not exceed" resolution regarding fees paid to Board professionals. The Board considered an amendment to a Township ordinance regarding half stories in Townhouse Zone 1, and concluded it was not inconsistent with the Master Plan. It was reported that the application for a town house development on the corner of Post House Road was still open before the Board of Adjustment, with a decision to be made at the next meeting. Mr. Modi reported that the Township Committee was considering the issue of red fox trapping and its impact on the control of Lyme disease.

NEW VERNON FIRST AID SQUAD

The New Vernon First Aid Squad is in need of volunteers to expand our crew. If you live in Harding Township, we would like to speak to you.

We are "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."

Contact us at: <http://www.nvvfd.org/first-aid-squad#apply>

Or call:

- Lotte Newlin - 862-812-9997
- Steve Fullenkamp - 973-714-1739
- Larry Weppler 917-838-3332

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

The November 7, 2018 Meeting of the Environmental Commission addressed the following matters:

1. Updates on the data for the healthy living landscape for Community use. We need an expert to tell us with precision what is good and what is bad, what to pull up and what to encourage.
2. The information as to the additions and changes to the Master Plan.
3. Discussion with respect to the new Affordable Housing Plan and how it impacts different community resources.
4. The community is advised to buy Christmas Trees as locally as possible because of concerns, regarding the spotted lantern fly, a new tick, and beech bark disease.
5. Reforestation is necessary to replace trees taken down by diseases or cutting to prevent diseased trees from spreading the disease. The various sturdy and healthy types of trees for replacement were addressed to maintain Harding's beautiful landscape.
6. What to do about the Rolling Knolls landfill dump. Whether to truck the debris

out or to treat it in place.

7. Prevention of killing foxes as they eat the mice that eat the diseased insects versus the hunters who wish to hunt them.

HARDING TOWNSHIP PTO

Kick off the Holiday Season! The HTS PTO will host two great family events on Saturday December 1st. Come and enjoy a hearty and delicious Pancake Breakfast (9AM-11AM; Cafeteria; Kids \$5 for kids, Adults \$10) before heading over to the Holiday Shoppe (9AM-2PM; Room M105; admission free) for some early shopping! The annual Holiday Shoppe offers children the fun experience of choosing holiday gifts themselves and the joy in giving that extra-special "secret" something to family and friends. The program creates wonderful memories, as well as a lesson on how to budget their money. Come choose from a wide selection of gifts in a variety of price ranges. We look forward to seeing you AND the kiddies there! Proceeds from these events support the HTS PTO.

HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the Harding Township Historical Society will be held on Thursday, January 17 at 7:30 PM at Christ the King Church. Members and non-members are welcome.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Jude Pfister, Chief of cultural resources at Morristown National Historic Park, and resident of Morristown since 2004. An historian by training, Pfister has written several books, articles and reviews. Two of these are The Jacob Ford, Jr. Mansion and The Fords of New Jersey, both of which will be drawn upon in his talk, which will focus on the Ford mansion (family home, revolutionary War headquarters, shrine honoring George Washington and, now, a National Historic Park) and the Ford family, itself, of which some members settled in Harding Township in later years.

The annual meeting is a great time to see friends, meet fellow history buffs and, hopefully, become new members of the historical society, which has several events throughout the year in Harding. We look forward to seeing you!

Also, please note the next time you are at Town Hall, the wonderful pictures that HTHS has donated to the Town. They are hanging in the Judge's Chambers and a fun look back at Harding history.

GREEN VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Santa's Arrival and Tree Lighting

Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 6 p.m.

hosted by the Green Village Fire Department

Families can come and watch as Santa arrives by fire truck to light up the tree at the Green Village Fire House. After Santa lights the tree, he will proceed into the firehouse to hear the children's holiday wishes. Complimentary refreshments and cookies will be provided by the Auxiliary of the Green Village Fire Department.

Prior to Santa's arrival, you are welcome to join your neighbors at the United Methodist Church in Green Village for their annual Hot Dog Supper. Beginning at 4:30, you can enjoy hot dogs, chips and hot chocolate complements of the Green Village United Methodist Church. At 5:45 the group will walk from the church down a nostalgic luminary lit road singing Christmas carols to await Santa's arrival.

Music will be performed by the Chatham Brass Quintet. Both events are free and all are welcome. Additional information can be found at www.greenvillagefire.com or on our facebook page.

Raffle Drawing

Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 9 p.m.

hosted by the Green Village Fire Department

Tickets are now available for the Green Village Fire Department's annual raffle. The raffle consists of six drawings. The prizes will be based on a percentage of the gross proceeds (1st - 20%; 2nd - 10%; 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th - 5%). The purchase of a \$100 raffle ticket enters you in all six drawings. With only 200 tickets available, they will be sold on a "first come, first serve" basis. To purchase a raffle ticket, please visit our website at www.greenvillagefire.com to print a form. Simply fill out the form and mail it with your check (payable to Green Village Fire Department) to Green Village Fire Department, 529 Green Village Road, Green Village, NJ 07935. If sending a check, please note "Raffle" on the envelope. We will fill in your stub and forward your ticket to you. The drawings will be held at 9 pm. Winner need not be present. If you need any additional information, please email us at greenvillagefire@gmail.com.

E-Mail

You can stay informed of the Green Village Fire Department's upcoming events by

visiting our website at www.greenvillagefire.com and subscribing to our email list using the "subscribe to email" button. There you can also choose your email preferences.

GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED ASSOCIATION

Volunteer Work Day at the CMA

Saturday, December 8, 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM

GSWA Conservation Management Area (CMA)

83 Tiger Lily Lane, Harding Township, NJ

Come help us maintain and improve our 73-acre Conservation Management Area. Tasks will include trail maintenance, fence repair, and invasive plant removal. Lighter tasks will also be available. Bring your best energy and enthusiasm! Conditions may be wet or muddy. Long pants, sturdy shoes or boots are encouraged. We'll bring the coffee and donuts to help fuel you along. Participants under 14 must be accompanied by a parent - community service hours can be earned for your school. Registration is required. Register online at GreatSwamp.org or call 973-538-3500.

Breakfast Briefing - Update on the Lower Passaic River Superfund

Tuesday, December 11, 8:00 - 9:30 AM

Location: To Be Announced

Come join us for an update from Ana Baptista, Chair of the Passaic River Superfund Community Advisory Group. We'll hear the status of the cleanup of the lower 8.3 miles of the Passaic River, the largest environmental dredging project in the history of the Superfund program. Registration is required. Register online at GreatSwamp.org or call 973-538-3500.

Unless otherwise stated, events are free for GSWA members

Non-members: suggested donation of \$10 for adults 18 and over/\$5 for children 6-17 years

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Toddler Time: If you are seeking a place to connect with other children and caregivers in our community, the Church is pleased to offer a solution: Toddler Time, a free weekly program for children under 5 and the adults who care for them. We

meet every Wednesday from 1:30 until 3:30 in Fellowship Hall and cordially invite you to drop in and enjoy the fun!

Ready, Steady, Christmas! *An Event for All Ages.* Join us on **Sunday December 2** from 2pm-4:30pm. We will hold a Christmas camp with crafts, games, and a short movie for younger children (3+), a wood workshop for older children (8+ with adult), wreath making for adults run by David Mitchell, and a guided tasting of eight wines (21+) led by Frank Pollaro. As a finale, we will come together for carol singing in the church. For more details or to register, see pcnv.org or call the Church Office at 973-538-8394.

Christmas Services:

Longest Night Service December 16, 5pm: There is a lot of darkness in our world today: from mass shootings, to natural disasters, to the continued polarization of our politics. You may also be in a moment of darkness in your personal life. At the beginning of the darkest week of the year, we invite all people to come together seeking light and hope. The Longest Night is a contemplative service offering prayer, music, and time for reflection. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Christmas Eve Family Service December 24, 5pm: Join us for a fun and festive evening as we celebrate Christmas together. This service will be engaging for people of all ages. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service December 24, 11pm: Our quieter and more formal Christmas Celebration. Join us for carols, a reflection, and music by candlelight as we celebrate the arrival of Christmas Day.

CENTER FOR MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

The final concert of CME's 2018 inaugural series, *Music Made Here*, will be held on **Sunday, December 9** at 3pm in the Church sanctuary. *Winter Celebration*, with host Min Kwon, will highlight the musical artistry of star CME Grant Winners, a musical treat you won't want to miss! The concert will immediately be followed at 5pm by a festive fundraiser at Il Capriccio in Whippany featuring cocktails, dinner, and silent auction (additional ticket required). Visit cmemusic.org for dinner reservations. Concert tickets @ \$30 may be purchased at the door or online; free admission for those under 18!

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 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.

Children's Programs:

Toddler Story Hour, every Tuesday, 10:15 a.m., Miss Kryssi and Miss Casey welcome pre-school age kids to join them each week for stories, songs, movement, and a simple craft.

Friday Crafternoon, 3-D Rudolph, Friday, December 7, 3:45-4:45 p.m. Miss Stacey invites kids in grades K-8 to make cute 3-D paper reindeer. See our website for details. Registration requested please.

Celebrate Harding Photo Contest Display, through January 2019. Come and see the wonderful entries from this year's competition sponsored by the Kemmerer Library, Harding Land Trust and Madison PhotoPlus.

Teen Programs:

Teen Board Meeting, December 14, 4:00 p.m. Our newly-formed teen advisory group is working on ideas for community involvement, service projects and 'funraising' for the Library. Teens, please consider joining us to plan a fun family event for the winter!

Chat 'n' Chew (Middle School Book Club), Sunday, December 16, 3:00 p.m. If you are in Grade 6-8, enjoy reading and chatting about books, this club is for you! Come along to discuss this month's book (see website for details). Newcomers registration requested please.

Adult Programs:

Year End Financial Planning, Tuesday, December 4, 1:00 p.m. Presented by Michael Maglio, Managing Partner of Charter Advisory Group. Year end is a good time to take

stock of a number of different areas that can influence retirement planning, estate planning and family decisions. Registration requested please.

Holiday Decorating with Nature, Wednesday, December 12, 11 a.m. Join foraging expert Lotte Newlin to create beautiful tree centerpieces using foraged materials. Registration requested please.

Blood Pressure Clinic, Thursday, December 13, 12:30-4:30 p.m. The Holidays can be a stressful time! Drop-in to the Library to have your blood pressure measured by a Public Health Nurse from the Morris County Office of Health Management. Registration not required.

Family Carol Singalong, Friday, December 14, 6 p.m. Celebrate the holidays with the Library at our family singalong! With Bettina Bierly on piano, festive refreshments and a book giveaway, there will be plenty of holiday cheer for all!

Book Group, 'The Girl with Seven Names' by Hyeonseo Lee, Tuesday, December 18, 1:30 p.m. Come for a discussion of a North Korean defector's story; an extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships - and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom. The January Book Choice is 'Crashing Through' by Robert Kurson.

Weekly Activities:

Knitting Circle, Mondays at 1 p.m. Open to all levels of adults who love to knit or crochet.

Gentle Yoga, Mondays at 10:30 a.m. (with M.J.) and Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. (with Christa) Our very 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, 2 p.m. Social play. All levels are welcome.

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

The Friends of the Library welcomes YOU! Residents are invited to participate in the Friends group by attending monthly meetings (on the first Thursday of the month) 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 Thursday, December 6, at 10:15 a.m. in the Library.

THE RAPTOR TRUST

GREAT SWAMP OWL PROWL—Owl program and Great Swamp field trip

Saturday, December 15: 7PM, Ages 15 and up. Suggested donation: \$20. Registration is required.

To register please call (908) 647-1091. For more information see www.TheRaptorTrust.org.

REBUILDING YOUR DECK? Don't throw away that old TREX or other composite material decking. Donate it to The Raptor Trust. It makes a good material for us to build out of and it holds up well against the elements here in the swamp!

VISIT OUR ON SITE GIFT SHOP for your Holiday shopping and many of your gifting needs year round. Loads of reasonably priced, unique and thoughtful gifts for the nature lover on your list, or bring home a memento of your visit to this special place for yourself!

HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION:

Thumbnail & Website News and Announcements

If you have a submission for **January 2018 Thumbnail** please email to:

htca@mail.com by **Friday, December 14, 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. Send questions or comments about *Thumbnail* to editor to: HTCA@mail.com or PO Box 72 New Vernon, NJ 07976

HARDING TOWNSHIP RECYCLING

2018 Recycling Schedule

December 1st, 15th, 29th

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

	<u>Meetings as noted</u>	<u>Time</u>
Environmental Commission	1 st Wednesday	7:30 PM
Seniors: Christ the King Church	2 nd & 4 th Thursday	11:00AM
Planning Board	4 th Monday	7:30 PM
Historical Preservation Committee	1 st Thursday	7:30 PM
Board of Health	2 nd Thursday	7:30 PM
Board of Education	1st & 3rd Monday	7:00 PM
Board of Adjustment	3 rd Thursday	7:30 PM
Township Committee Executive	2 nd Monday	7:30 PM
Township Committee Public	2 nd Monday	7:30 PM
Harding Open Space	2 nd Wednesday	7:30 PM
Harding TWP Civic Association	2 nd Tuesday	7:30 PM

DATED MATERIAL

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
P.O. Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976
Harding Township Civic Association

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