Harding Township Civic Association

**THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS**

“Keeping Harding Informed Since 1949”

www.HardingCivic.org

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS**

**June 2021**

**HARDING CENTENNIAL**

**In 2022, Harding Township will celebrate its centennial year, marking 100 years since our forefathers separated from Passaic Township and formed a new community, naming it after the then-President of the United States, Warren G. Harding.**

**Slogan/Logo Design Contest: Thank you for all of the submissions to our slogan/logo design contest. The selected slogan and logo design will be incorporated in the community wide celebration of the upcoming Centennial Anniversary 2022, and our town’s Centennial letterhead. Harding Township is now asking town residents to vote on the submissions in order to select a slogan/logo for the upcoming Centennial Celebration. Voting may be done at Kemmerer Library on primary election day, June 8th. More information and voting instructions are available on the Centennial page of our town website:**[**http://www.hardingnj.org/community/centennial-celebration**](http://www.hardingnj.org/community/centennial-celebration)**.  Contact Lorene Wright at 973/267-8000, ext. 712, with any questions.**

**Harding Resident Interviews:  Harding Township is arranging to hold interviews of our residents who have lived in town for a substantial amount of time. If you are interested in being interviewed, or would like to suggest someone to be interviewed, please email us at rchipperson@hardingnj.org or centennial@hardingnj.org.**

**Volunteer/Advertise: If you or your organization would like to suggest or chair an event, or if you or your company are interested in advertising in our Centennial calendar or at one of our Centennial events, please contact Rita Chipperson (****rchipperson@hardingnj.org****or 201-919-8098, Nicole Lacz (****nlaczmd@aol.com****or 973-879-3964), or Tracey Walters (****tntwalters@comcast.net****or 908-500-0781). If you have photos or videos you would like to include in the celebration, please contact us or submit to** **centennial@hardingnj.org****.**

**For additional details, see our Centennial Web page at**[**http://www.hardingnj.org/community/centennial-celebration**](http://www.hardingnj.org/community/centennial-celebration)**.**

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING:**

**SHARED COURT- WE’RE OUTTA THERE!**

**At the regular May meeting of the township committee, it was announced that Harding would be pulling out of the “joint court” arrangement and switching our activity to Long Hill Township.**

**BACKGROUND: For many years, Harding has shared municipal court services with four other towns - Madison, where the physical court is situated, Morris Township, Chatham Twp and Chatham Boro. The arrangement has been a good one, saving Harding approximately $1 million, until now.**

**The cost to run the court was allocated to the 5 towns by a formula based on usage -- if one of the member towns had more usage then it would pay a greater percentage of the budget. Two things have been happening to make this arrangement unfavorable to Harding. First, the overall cost of the court has been rising over the years and the other members were not as focused on this trend as Harding. Second, Covid reduced the overall volume of usage (primarily traffic tickets) written in the five towns. But Harding usage, again primarily traffic tickets, rose due to our 6 mile stretch of I-287 where the NJ State Troopers patrol and appear to actually have increased ticketing while volume of traffic abated. These tickets are processed in the joint court with Harding bearing the entire cost. And to make the economics worse, Harding gets no revenue from these violations.**

**Harding officials asked for some relief from the other towns to no avail. Given that Harding’s membership in the joint court expires at the end of 2021, Harding quickly looked for another municipality to share court service and found a willing partner in Long Hill Township. The deal with Long Hill is structurally better because Harding will pay a fixed fee rather than a percentage of the total court budget. It’s a win for Long Hill as well, because Long Hill gets additional revenue for processing Harding’s “business”.**

**Since Harding’s participation in the Madison joint court expires 12-31-21, there is no penalty for withdrawal. No word on how the other towns reacted to Harding pulling out.**

**LIQUOR LICENSE**

**The Market Taverne Liquor License was purchased by the Minuteman Restaurant.**

**One of the sad consequences of Covid locally was the closing of the Market Taverne on Rt202. Word is the landlord refused to give a rent concession to the thriving watering hole and eatery preferring an empty building. Go figure.**

**At its May meeting, the Township Committee approved the transfer of the Taverne’s liquor license to MMBBQ, LLC, the entity that does business as Minuteman Smokehouse.**

**As the transaction was between two private parties, the price paid was not disclosed. Nor is there information whether the Minuteman intends to begin serving alcohol or if the purchase of this valuable license was just for investment. The number of licenses are regulated and allocated to municipalities based on population. This is the only “pour” license in Harding.**

**ODDS AND ENDS**

**The municipal budget, though completed and ready for approval, was not able to be formally passed. Seems the Observer Tribune didn’t publish the full table of the budget due to a computer glitch. By state law, town budgets, including detail line items, must be published before they can be approved. The approval may come by June. In the meantime, emergency appropriation measures keep the town running and paying employees and suppliers.**

**HARDING’S BOND RATING of AAA was upheld by Moody’s Investor Services. The rating agency’s full report can be found on the Township website.**

**Excitement appears to be building for the Harding Centennial next year. Over 40 entries for the Centennial slogan/logo have been submitted to date.**

**HARDING LAND TRUST**

**THE GATEWAY PROJECT IS UNDERWAY**

**Our Gatehouse property provides a welcoming vista at the entrance to Harding Township from James St. Thanks to the support of our donors, and a grant from the NJ Green Acres program we are excited to launch the *Gateway Project,* a new restoration and planting for the property. This month the field was seeded, and 10 birch trees were planted at the corner of James St and Harter Road. We hope that you will drive by and check it out! Much more to come, stay tuned!**

**COME AND VISIT PRIMROSE FARM!**

**The wildflowers are starting to bloom and we would love for you to see. Trails to Primrose are open and accessible from the Barrett Field parking lot. Have a nice, shaded walk through the woods to the beautiful Primrose Farm and enjoy the wildflowers and views there!**

**NEW WEBSITE:**

**Harding Land Trust is pleased to announce the re-launch of our website: www.hardinglandtrust.org. In addition to hosting a wealth of information on our**

**preserved land, our new site will make signing up for events and activities easier than ever. We look forward to seeing you on our properties in-person and digitally on our new web-site.**

**NEW IN TOWN? For more information about HLT or to receive our mailings, invitations to**

**upcoming events, and/or eblasts, please call 973-267-2515, email at contactus@hardinglandtrust.org, and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.**

NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

**For residents of Harding that have pool hydrants or private water cisterns we**

**recommend that they be checked and tested yearly. We will do this test at no cost to you. If you have a hydrant that needs to be tested, please email Fire Chief Peter Finkle @ nvvfdchief@gmail.com**

STEAK AND LOBSTER DINNER CURBSIDE PICK UP. Due to popular demand, A Curbside Pick-up Steak and Lobster Dinner will be held SATURDAY, June 12, 2021 from 5pm to 9pm or when the food runs out!!! Your favorite dinner selections will include Steak, Lobster, Chicken and Hamburgers.  All dinners include Salad, Roll, and French fries.  Steamed Clams, Corn on the Cob and Dessert selections are also available.  Please go to [SAL.NVVFD.org](https://urldefense.com/v3/__http%3A/www.sal.nvvfd.org/__;!!CHCva4lQ!SUmxkC1MJiu9bCcTHnu940PAMWUnAe89Fb3OwrohmDysiMqRbogGzP6o54-r1XORmSlJ7Yw3iJE$)  for pre-ordering, pick up time slots, and for more information. All Proceeds go to the New Vernon Fire Company and First Aid Squad.

**NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY SATURDAY AUGUST 7, 2021 Rain or Shine! SAVE THE DATE!**

**Our 100 year anniversary is this year and we would like to celebrate by inviting the town to a free afternoon and evening of festivities to thank everyone for their support.  More details to follow.**

**The NVVFD is completely independent and raises all its own funds without tax support.**

FIRST AID SQUAD

**SUMMER EMERGENCIES**

**With warm weather approaching, summer brings several different threats to health and safety. The risks can arise from outside sources or from the sports and activities we engage in during the summer months. Things such as heatstroke, lighting strikes and drownings are causes of injury during the summer months.**

**One of the more significant risks during the summer months comes from heat exhaustion and heatstroke. Heat exhaustion arises from dehydration. Failing to adequately hydrate in summer’s heat with or without excessive exercise may cause heat exhaustion. If you develop symptoms such as muscle cramps, dizziness, fatigue or excessive thirst, move to a cooler location, out of the sun, and drink fluids.**

**Severe cases of heat exhaustion can lead to heatstroke, in which the body’s temperature control system fails and the body’s temperature reaches 104º. Heatstroke can cause seizures, altered mental status, nausea, disorientation and in severe cases loss of consciousness. As with heat exhaustion, move to a cooler location, out of the sun, and drink fluids. Call 9-1-1.**

**Another significant source of summer injury comes from swimming injuries and drownings. Children are most at risk and can drown in very shallow bodies of water. Children should be watched at all times. Diving or jumping into shallow water or water where the bottom is not visible risks neck and back injuries. At the seashore, the risk of rip-tides and strong currents can overcome even strong swimmers.**

**Sunshine may feel good on your skin after wearing heavy coats all winter, but more sunshine and fewer clothes may lead to sunburns which can cause pain, itching and blistering. Sun exposure causes skin cancers. Avoid sunburns, use the proper sunscreen and wear a hat to keep the sun off of your head and face.**

**For some people bee stings are not only painful but maybe deadly, resulting in swelling of the airway, impacting breathing. In the case of difficulty breathing, call 9-1-1. Some people, known to have severe allergic reactions to bee and wasp stings, carry an epinephrine injector to treat the swelling. Other insects such as ticks (Lyme’s disease) and mosquitos (West Nile Virus) also pose a risk during the summer.**

**Food poisoning from improperly prepared or stored food can cause nausea, diarrhea and vomiting. If the conditions don’t resolve quickly, seek medical attention or call 9-1-1.**

**As the pandemic eases and we approach the “new normal,” continue to be safe. The First Aid Squad needs volunteers to help us in our mission of protecting and responding to the needs of our neighbors. Please consider volunteering.**

**Remember we are “NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBOR For more information or to join please either call**

**Kevin Murphy at (973) 570-7032,**

**Larry Weppler at (917) 838-3332, or**

**George Barry at (646)-361-5528**

**or email us at** **JoinUs@NVVFD.org**

We are waiting to hear from you.

**GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

**JUNE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Workout with Lynne at the Refuge**

**Tuesday, June 15, 7-8 AM**

**Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, Harding Twp., NJ**

**(specific location to be announced)**

**Looking to sneak in a quick workout before work? C'mon out to the Refuge and Join GSWA's newest staffer, Lynne Applebaum, Director of Institutional Relations. Lynne is also a NASM certified personal trainer who will lead a body weight total strength workout (with a little cardio thrown in!) at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. All you need is the desire to exercise outside in the fresh air, appropriate exercise wear, sneakers, water, and a towel or floor mat. All levels are welcome. Suggested donations: GSWA Members $5, non-members $10, children under 18 free. Space is limited so register today: GreatSwamp.org/973-538-3500.**

**Wildflower Hike**

**Saturday, June 26, 1-2:30 PM**

**GSWA's Conservation Management Area**

**91 Tiger Lily Ln., Harding Twp., NJ**

**Join us for a hike with a purpose. As we meander through the trails, our hike leaders will draw your attention to the many varieties of wildflowers and natives that can be found at our 73-acre Conservation Management Area. Fresh air combined with some environmental learnings - what a combo! This hike is a great lead-in to our July 2 "Perfecting Your Wildflower Arrangements" Zoom call where you will learn how to create a professional looking wildflower display that's sure to illuminate your fourth of July table. Suggested donations: GSWA Members $5, non-members $10, children under 18 free. Space is limited so register today: GreatSwamp.org/973-538-3500.**

HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**The Tunis Ellicks house will be open after the Memorial Day parade. We will have Jon Miller’s collection of Native American artifacts on display. It is a very interesting collection that he and his wife collected over many years. Most of the pieces were found within 3 miles of the center of New Vernon. Our other exhibits with be there too! If you haven’t been into the TE House, come see our downstairs exhibit which highlights” A Country Life: descriptions of early** **New Vernon highlighted with photos. These descriptions include “Village Institutions, Slavery in Morris County, Memoirs of a Farmer and a Farmer’s Wife and life on an 18th Century Farm.” The Parlor garden which is maintained by the New Vernon Garden Club will be open as well. We will have light refreshments.**

**We had a very successful “Pathways of History “tour on May 1st. We were glad to welcome 59 visitors to the TE House. We are working hard to bring history to our community. Please contact us for information regarding the History of Harding Township. We have many items to share from our archive. The archive is available at this point by appointment only, but we are hoping to bring it “on line “soon. Please contact us at** **HardingHist@comcast.com****.**

Also, if you have an interest in history or just in our community, we are always in need of dedicated volunteers. Please contact Jane Riley if interested at jhackfordriley@gmail.com

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**A new Book Group will begin on June 3 at 5 pm, and all are welcome! We will meet on the terrace outside Fellowship Hall. Contact Rev. Stone to sign up or with any questions:** **william.stone@pcnv.org****. Shortly after being hired by Yale to study joy, Angela Gorrell got word that a close family member had died by suicide. Less than a month later, she lost her father to a fatal opioid addiction, and her nephew, only 22, to sudden cardiac arrest. The theoretical joy she was researching at Yale suddenly felt shallow and distant. But joy was closer at hand than it seemed. Join the discussions to learn how and why. We look forward to having you join us.**

CENTER FOR MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

**We cordially invite you to join the CME Classical Music Society so that you may enjoy a get-together via Zoom with Min Kwon reporting from Vienna on Thursday, June 17 at 8 pm. She will provide updates and an inside look at her *America/Beautiful* project that will premier appropriately on July 4 (see also** [**www.America-Beautiful.com**](http://www.America-Beautiful.com) **). CME has recently released an exciting new CD, “Art of Transcription,” from Mozart to the Beatles, that is available through cmemusic.org.**

KEMMERER LIBRARY

**Operating Hours: Monday - Friday, 10am - 5pm**

 **Saturday, 10am - 1pm**

**The Library has now resumed regular hours and operations. Come on in to browse our shelves, participate in a program or enjoy our new outdoor area to meet friends, play games or host your book club!**

**Meeting rooms are now available although we continue to offer use of our Zoom account to Harding clubs and groups that need a virtual meeting space.**

**See all that we have to offer on our NEW website at** [***www.hardinglibrary.org***](http://www.hardinglibrary.org)**.**

**CHILDREN’S PROGRAMS**

**STORYTIME STARS WITH MISS DEBBIE, Tuesdays at 10:15am**

**Join us at the Library for songs and stories outdoors (weather permitting). A Zoom link to the program is also available on our website (**[***www.hardinglibrary.org***](http://www.hardinglibrary.org)***)*.**

**CHILDREN’S BOOK EXCHANGE, ongoing until August 20**

**Get ready for summer reading with our children’s book exchange. Kids, bring us the books you’ve outgrown or no longer want and we will issue you with ‘Book Dollars’ that can then be exchanged for new books in our ‘Book Shop’. Pcture books, early readers, chapter books, paperbacks and hardcovers are all welcome as long as they’re in good condition.**

**‘TAILS AND TALES’ SUMMER READING PROGRAM, June 12 to August 20**

**School age children are invited to sign-up to earn prizes for time spent reading through the summer. Choose your own books or some of the many new books at the Library! Sign-up begins on June 12. Look out for themed crafts, movies and other activities through the summer at *www.hardinglibrary.org*.**

**SUMMER READING KICK-OFF, Saturday, June 12, 10am-1pm with a presentation by ‘The Seeing Eye’ at 11am (rain date for the presentation is June 13)**

**Make a wallet or purse for your Library dollars, participate in the book exchange and meet our special guests from ‘The Seeing Eye’. The whole family is invited to join us outdoors at 11am to hear about this wonderful organization! Meet a guide dog and learn how they are trained to help the blind gain greater independence and dignity.**

**MOVIE MATINEE, ‘Dolittle’, Wednesday, June 30, 2pm**

**Robert Downey Jr. electrifies one of literature’s most enduring characters in a vivid reimagining of the classic tale of the man who could talk to animals – Dr Dolittle! Space limited so please register at *www.hardinglibrary.org*.**

**ADULT PROGRAMS**

**MAH JONGG CLUB, Thursdays, 12:30pm**

**Card Club (Canasta and Shanghai), Fridays at 2pm**

**If you are interested in joining either group for social play, please email** **desk@hardinglibrary.org****.**

**ADULT BOOK GROUP, Tuesdays, June 1, 15 and 29, 1:30pm**

**Our lively book group continue to enjoy outdoor meetings at the Library; all are welcome! Upcoming titles: ‘Stranger in the Kingdom’ by Howard Frank Mosher (June 1); ‘The Most Beautiful Girl in Cuba’ by Chanel Cleeton (June 15); ‘Things We Cannot Say’ by Kelly Rimmer (June 29) and ‘Find You First’ by Linwood Barclay (July 13). Titles are always available from the Library – either in print, or as an eBook on Libby or on pre-loaded Kindles-to-go.**

**HARDING TALKS, ‘What’s Happening with Hurstmont?’ Tuesday, June 15, 7:00pm**

**If you’ve passed the intersection of Tempe Wick and Route 202 you’ve probably seen the large signs announcing something on the north side of the road. One of the properties in question is the former Stanford White designed estate called Hurstmont. There is a proposal that will soon come before the Harding Township Planning Committee to develop a planned community on the Hurstmont property. Do you know what’s being proposed? Chris Yates (Township Committeeman and former Mayor) will present the up-to-date proposal for Hurstmont. Please join us (in person) for the presentation and a Q&A. COVID safety protocols will be in place so space is limited. Please register at *www.hardinglibrary.org*.**

**WELCOME TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD, Wednesday, July 14, 3:30pm**

**New and not-so-new Harding residents are warmly invited to a get-together at the Library, to meet neighbors and representatives from community organizations and to explore the Library. Light refreshments available. All are welcome, including children.**

**HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION:**

Thumbnail & Website News and Announcements

The Thumbnail is going to enjoy a summer break. If you have a submission for the **September 2021 Thumbnail** please email to: htca@mail.com by **Friday, August 20, 2021.** 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 or PO Box 72 New Vernon, NJ 07976

HARDING TOWNSHIP RECYCLING

**2021 Recycling Schedule:**

**June 5,19 July 3,17,31**

**Aug 14,28 Sept 1,25**

**Oct 19,23 Nov 6,20**

**Hours of Operation:**

**Wednesday:** 7 am- Noon

**Saturdays:** 9 am – Noon

From 7am to 8am is senior (residents 60+) recycling only. Full assistance will be provided to seniors during this period. From 8 am until noon, recycling for all residents. No assistance will be provided during these hours.

**Social distancing must be observed at all times.**

**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 Meetings as noted Time**

Environmental Commission 1st Wednesday 7:30 PM

Seniors: Christ the King Church 2nd & 4th Thursday 11:00AM

Planning Board 4th Monday 7:30 PM

Historical Preservation Committee 1st Thursday 7:30 PM

Board of Health 2nd Thursday 7:30 PM

Board of Education 1st & 3rd Monday 7:00 PM

Board of Adjustment 3rd Thursday 7:30 PM

Township Committee Executive 2nd Monday 7:30 PM

Township Committee Public 2nd Monday 7:30 PM

Harding Open Space 2nd Wednesday 7:30 PM

Harding TWP Civic Association 2nd Tuesday 7:30 PM

