

# 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**

#### **March 2023**

#### **TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING**

2023 Preliminary Budget Calls for 1.96% Tax Increase

At the February Township Committee meeting the preliminary budget for 2023 was presented. Historically, the preliminary budget is identical or nearly so to the budget that is finally passed a couple months hence.

The budget presented is for Harding Township only. It does not include the Harding Schools budget, just under 50% of your property tax bill, nor does it include Morris County, just under 25% of your property tax bill.

The budget presented shows what the Township expects to spend for Police, Dept of Public Works, general administration and a myriad of other smaller items.

Total Expenditures for 2023 are forecast to be \$10.2 million, actually a slight decrease from 2022. The largest expense item, at about 38% of total, is Salaries & Wages and is set to increase 2.5%. But Pension expenses increase sharply by 18% and 25% for each of the two pension systems. The major item offsetting these increases is a \$323.6K decrease, or 42%, in capital improvements. This large percentage decrease is against the 2022 record capital improvement funding.

The budget continued to realize savings from the decision to pull out of the Joint Court scheme in 2022 and share court services with Long Hill Township. In 2021, Harding’s court budget was nearly \$180K but it fell to \$100K last year and it projected to fall again to \$80K for 2023, validating the wisdom of the switch from the Joint Court to a shared court.

A couple of other drivers of expenses are worth noting – a \$48.7K decrease in Police salary and wages due to retirements of senior officers and decrease in health benefits (all employees) of \$17K.

To pay for this spending, the Township will dip into its surplus by \$200K and increase municipal revenues (fees, fines, etc.) by about \$57K and increase property taxes -- \$107K or 1.78%. This makes for a balanced budget, which is required by State statute. Only the Federal government can run at a deficit.

Dipping into the accumulated surplus for this year's budget is a purposeful strategy to keep the budget surplus into the 12-15% range.

So, what's it all mean for the typical homeowner? The average value of the 1,934 properties in Harding is forecast at \$1,090,172. To raise the revenue required to balance the budget, the tax rate will increase 1.75%, from 0.286 per thousand to 0.291. This means the taxes on that average property will rise \$61, from \$3,109 to \$3,170.

The budget presentation included a couple more interesting charts. First, was a 10 year history of Taxes vs Expenditures which showed that your property taxes are covering a decreasing amount of the expenditures. In 2013 taxes were 65% of expenditures and in 2023 taxes will be just 60% of expenditures. Good news for property owners.

And a new graph compared the tax rate (last year's data) for all 39 Morris County municipalities. Harding's tax rate (2022) of 1.13 mils was substantially below the next lowest (Florham Park) at about 1.6. All but six municipalities have a rate above 2.0 and six are above 2.5.

The Capital Budget plan was also revealed. The Committee continues to forecast out 6 years. The plan for 2023 is \$578K.

#### Potential Impact of Verizon Cell Tower Suit

As an aside, the Township Finance Committee mentioned that they struggled with how to handle the potential expenses of a lawsuit by Verizon if our Board of Adjustment does not approve the latest plan. The Finance committee could reserve the expected \$500K legal expenses, reserve for a fraction of it or not reserve at all. They chose to not reserve. They stated that all property taxes would have to increase nearly 10% to cover the expenses. The budget calls for just a 1.7% increase in taxes.

### Amendment to Glen Alpin/Hurstmont Redevelopment Plan Adopted.

The amendment to the redevelopment plan as requested by the developer was adopted. So, the project moves forward.

## **HARDING PLANNING BOARD**

### **Planning Board Notes for January 23, 2023**

The Board held its annual reorganization meeting. It recognized members who were appointed by the Township Committee in December (Tracey Walters) and in January (Timothy Jones, Christopher Yates, Darren Burns and Frank Rosato). Mr. Hall then administered the oath of office to the appointees. The Board then re-elected Richard Clew and David Chipperson Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. The Board then approved Resolution PB# 01-2023 designating the engineering, legal and planning professionals who will support the Board's activities. Meeting dates for 2023 designated in PB# 02-2023 were approved; the Board also voted to continue the 7:00pm starting time for meetings. The Board approved PB# 03-2023 which set the do not exceed spend limits for professionals at a total of \$24,000. The Board then moved to its regular meeting agenda. First up was a presentation by the town planner concerning the parcel known as Block 34, Lot 1.01 and whether the property qualifies as an area in need of redevelopment. This property is the third lot connected to the Glen Alpin/Hurstmont properties and sits behind the Glen Alpin corner lot on Tempe Wick. The Township Committee had directed the Board to conduct the necessary investigations and to hold a public hearing to determine whether the property qualifies for designation as an area in need of redevelopment under the criteria established under state law. The Board then continued its completeness review of the Slonaker Application PB# 02-22 and determined that the application was now complete. The third item concerned changes to the Hurstmont redevelopment plan which had been proposed by the developer's operator. These included forming one main building out of two buildings previously approved. All changes were approved by the Board. Finally, Mr. Clew recognized Mr. Hall's 25 years of excellent service to the Planning Board, and the invaluable support he has provided to all member over the years.

## **HTS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING 1/23/2023**

Commander John Titterton announced the winners of the VFW's Patriot Pen Essay award to three of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade students: 3<sup>rd</sup> place: Francesca Rosato, 2<sup>nd</sup> place:

Sophie Jarbath and 1<sup>st</sup> place: Henry Humphreys

**Start Strong assessment tests for 2022 grades 4-8:** April Freidman,

Principal/Director of Curriculum:

- state mandated test, small and specific, administered at the beginning of the year.
- designed to give a snapshot to educators of a students' general understanding from the previous grade level and to identify any skill gaps.
- students are assessed on English/language arts, mathematics, and science
- results of the test are broken down into 3 categories: a.) needing strong support b.) needing some support and c.) needing less support
- overview of the results:** In all areas the need for strong support from 2021 to 2022 decreased in all grades, and in all subjects. As the students went to the next grade level, their need for support was much less.

### **Reports & Discussion:**

- "Newsies" school play practice has begun
- Budget meeting will be March 13th

### **Finance/Facilities:**

- roof for elementary building is a high priority
- teacher negotiations
- preliminary budget presentation will be 3/15/23 and & the final hearing will be 5/1/23
- middle school access ramp
- exploring costs for a generator on hold for now

### **Curriculum & Instruction:**

- Harding Academy: (after school math help) is very well attended
- Future Cities' competition will be held on 1/14/23.
- Link-it assessment:** a way of streamlining test data enabling teachers to view it all in one place.

### **Personnel/Management:**

- teacher observations -negotiations committee will meet 1/25/23 and 2/7/23
- working on the wording for Christine Mulligan plaque

## **Madison Board of Ed meeting 1/17/2023**

-re-organization meeting was held on 1/3/2023

-several parents expressed concerns over transgender policy 5756 as written during open public comments: lack of transparency & student privacy, violation of parental rights.

-questions from the public included: can this policy be edited to better serve all Madison students and families? Can the board provide district wide communication detailing this policy-what it means & how it effects students, parents, teachers and the community.

## **GREEN VILLAGE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **Community Shred Fundraiser**

Saturday, April 15, 2023, at 9am until noon

hosted by the Green Village Fire Department Auxiliary

On Saturday, April 15 the Auxiliary of the Green Village Fire Department is hosting a community shred from 9 am until noon. All are welcome to bring their personal and business documents for shredding. Sensitive information will be destroyed on-site by a truck-mounted shredder provided by Absolute Shredding, LLC of Hackettstown. Not only will this fund-raiser protect privacy and help avoid identity theft, but it will also help to protect the environment as all the shredded paper will be recycled into other paper products.

The cost will be \$5/brown paper grocery bag, \$8/file box. Larger containers will be priced accordingly. No newspapers, magazines, books, or binders please. All proceeds from this fund-raiser will benefit the Auxiliary for fire scene relief, training, and community outreach. This event will take place at the Green Village Fire House, located at 529 Green Village Road in Green Village 07935 and will be held rain or shine.

### **Sporting Clays and Pig Roast**

Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 9 a.m. – RAIN OR SHINE

hosted by the Green Village Fire Department

The annual event will be held at Miele Field, located at the end of Britten Road in Green Village. The event is a 100 Target Lewis Fun Shoot. The entry fee is \$120.00 if received on or before 04/09/2023 or \$135.00 if received after 04/09/2023. There is an

additional Lewis Cash Option for \$10.00. Lunch is included with your entry fee. There will be a limited number of shooters so pre-registration is recommended. For more information, call the Fire House at 973-377-7073 or visit [www.greenvillagefire.com](http://www.greenvillagefire.com). No shot size larger than 7 1/2 will be allowed and eye and ear protection is required. This event is held RAIN OR SHINE.

### **Flea Market Fundraiser**

Saturday, April 22, 2023, at 9am until 3pm – RAIN OR SHINE

hosted by the Green Village Fire Department Auxiliary

The Auxiliary of the Green Village Fire Department is hosting an indoor Flea Market on Saturday, April 22 from 9 am to 3 pm. With 20+ vendors, a wide range of items will be available for sale. Home-baked goods will be available as well. The sale will be held rain or shine. Parking is free. For questions, please contact Janet Doherty at 973-377-4071. If you are interested in renting table space, please go to the "Events" page on our website at [www.greenvillagefire.com](http://www.greenvillagefire.com) to download a form. Table space is limited and will be rented on a "first come, first serve" basis.

### **Flag Display**

Deadline May 1, 2023

hosted by the Green Village Fire Department

The Green Village Fire Department would like to honor those who have served their country or community. A 3' x 5' flag will be erected on the green in Green Village on both Memorial Day and Veteran's Day. The honoree's information will be placed at the base of the flag. The cost for the first year is \$50 and \$25 for subsequent years. Please visit [www.greenvillagefire.com](http://www.greenvillagefire.com) to download a form. Forms must be received no later than May 1st.

### **NEW VERNON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SAVE THE DATE.**

Back by popular demand! STEAK AND LOBSTER DINNER will be held SATURDAY, June 3, 2023, from 5pm to 9pm. Your favorite dinner selections will include Steak, Lobster, Chicken, Hamburgers and NEW\*\* Vegetarian Plate. All dinners include Salad, Roll, and French fries. Also Available are Steamed Clams, Corn on the Cob and Dessert selections. ONLINE ORDERING AND SEAT SELECTION will also be available and we will announce the website address once it is up and running.

The NVVFD is planning to hold THE ANNUAL COUNTRY AUCTION Saturday September 30, 2023. We will be limited in the items we can accept and will provide more information shortly.

Thank you all for your continued support. NVVFD is entirely comprised of dedicated volunteers, and we rely on our generous supporters for funding.

### **MANSION IN MAY 2023**

Mansion in May is a month-long designer showhouse with extensive landscaped gardens, opening May 1, 2023, in the Township of Mendham, NJ. The 9,000 square foot French manor-style home, "Three Fields" is situated on 36 acres of rolling fields, formal gardens and pools, presented by the Women's Association of Morristown Medical Center (WAMMC).

Three Fields will be brought back to its former elegance through the inspiration of over 40 leading interior designers as well as professionally designed garden areas. With a pleasant cafe for lunch or coffee, tea, and a treat, plus unusual, and trend-setting boutiques, Three Fields provides a wonderful outing and an opportunity to support the highly rated Morristown Medical Center.

This premier Women's Association fundraising event will provide substantial support benefitting the expansion and modernization of the Institute of Bio skills, Training and Innovation at the Morristown Medical Center.

For tickets and additional information: [www.mansioninmay.org](http://www.mansioninmay.org)

### **GREAT SWAMP WATERSHED ASSOCIATION**

#### **Pi Day Pub Quiz**

Tuesday, March 14, 6:30-8:30 PM

Madison Community Arts Center, 10 Kings Rd, Madison, NJ

Come celebrate pi day (3.14) with some pizza "pi" and a lively nature knowledge pub quiz. For all your smarty-pants out there, this is your opportunity to showcase your knowledge of nature, water, and the environment. Play for prizes and bragging rights! Team sizes may range from 3-5 players. General admission: \$20, Students: \$10. Fee includes pizza and soft drinks. Ages 10 and older welcome. Register at GreatSwamp.org or call 973-538-3500

Native Plants for Pollinator Webinar Series - Free

**What's the Buzz About Native Bees?**

Tuesday, March 21, 7-8 PM

When you see bees buzzing around your garden, that's a good thing. It means they are doing their jobs... pollinating! Pollination is essential in growing flowers and plants - basically all the food we consume as animals on this planet. Join biologist, pollinator conservationist, and award-winning author, Heather Holm, for a lively discussion about our friends, the bees, and all they do for our ecosystem. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call 973-538-3500.

**Vernal Pool Exploration Hike**

Friday, March 31, 7-9 PM

GSWA's Conservation Management Area (CMA) - 91 Tiger Lily Lane, Harding Township, NJ

The woods are teeming with new life as frogs and other amphibians crowd into shallow puddles of water to breed and lay their eggs. These puddles—better known as vernal pools—provide a perfect opportunity to learn more about Mother Nature here in New Jersey. But we have to hurry - they disappear quickly! This annual vernal pool exploration provides a fun, outdoor learning experience for kids and adults alike. GSWA members: Free, non-members: \$10 for adults, \$5 for children ages 6-17. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call 973-538-3500.

**Stream Assessment Training - Free**

Saturday, April 1, 9 AM – 12 Noon

Long Hill Township Library, 917 Valley Rd., Gillette, NJ

Unless there's obvious pollution in the river or stream, to the untrained eye, the water may look healthy. But is it? This free training session, led by Sandra LaVigne, GSWA Director of Water Quality Programs, will teach you how to conduct visual and biological stream assessments, identify macroinvertebrates, and recognize environmental factors that may impact stream health. By the end of the day, you will have the skills you need to conduct your own assessments. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call 973-538-3500.

Native Plants for Pollinator Webinar Series - Free



## **GSWA Native Pollinator Plant Sale Overview**

Monday, April 3, 12-1 PM

Join Hazel England, GSWA's resident pollinator expert, for an overview of the native pollinator plants and plant kits available at our 3rd annual online Native Pollinator Plant Sale opening online on April 3. Learn about the plants you will need to attract pollinators to your garden. To simplify garden design and provide some additional savings, many of the species are also sold in a variety of garden kits. Each kit is designed for specific garden sizes and conditions. We will also walk you through our online storefront and simple ordering process. Register at [GreatSwamp.org](http://GreatSwamp.org) or call 973-538-3500.

## **GSWA's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Native Plants for Pollinator Sale (online)**

April 3-28 – Opens Online @ 1:30 PM

(Plant purchase pickup May 6)

GSWA and its many Community Partners will host our 3rd Annual Plants for Pollinators online sale with convenient order pickup at multiple local sites. Order online April 3-28 and pickup your plants May 6. Whether you are looking to expand your garden or you're ready to start one, we've got the native plants you need. And we've taken the guesswork out of it with a variety of pre-packaged plant plugs (young plants) that when placed together, create a beautiful, functioning pollinator garden. Plants can also be purchased in units of plugs. Mark your calendar for April 3 and email [PlantSale@GreatSwamp.org](mailto:PlantSale@GreatSwamp.org) for more information. Be sure to order early to ensure you get your selection as plants do sell out quickly!

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

### **HISTORIC HOUSE OF THE YEAR**

The Historic Preservation Commission of Harding Township would like to present a residential dwelling that adds aesthetic value and interest to the community. We are proud of the homes that contribute to the historical character of the township. Historic districts recognize architectural importance to commercial buildings and residences all across the nation and preserve the character and identity of the township.

Historic house of the year will be a chance for us to highlight a property that enhances our historical character in the township. Also, we would like to show how this home adds to the rural streetscape. There are many homes in Harding Township that are

located down private drives one cannot view by just passing along one of our country roads. As people travel through our town they are welcomed with rolling hills, meadows and bucolic surroundings.

### **Specific Requirements:**

- The home we wish to highlight should be viewed from the road and streetscape.
- Display proper use of material, including but not limited to, exterior sheathing, trim, windows, roof style and colors.
- Architectural style that complements the rural character.
- Landscaping and light that is indigenous to the geography.

If you would like to be considered, please submit a summary as to how your residence meets the specific requirements; please email the Historic Preservation Secretary at [landuse@hardingnj.org](mailto:landuse@hardingnj.org). The deadline for submission is April 1, 2023.

## **HARDING LAND TRUST**

### **A New Bridge on HLT Trails**

HLT Trustees and volunteers recently built and installed a railed bridge over the main stream along the Silver Brook Trails at the Gatehouse Property. This new bridge will provide safer access to visitors on the trail which is located at 110 Harter Road.

### **Thank you to our Supporters!**

The board of trustees of Harding Land Trust would like to thank the Harding Township community for their continued support. Your contributions made throughout our recent fundraising campaign not only keep the lights on, but also allow us to maintain trails and steward the open spaces that make Harding. There is no place like Harding!

### **New in town?**

For more information about HLT or to receive our mailings, invites, and/or eblasts, please call 973-267-2515 or email us at [contactus@hardinglandtrust.org](mailto:contactus@hardinglandtrust.org) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

## **KEMMERER LIBRARY:**

**Kemmerer Library Harding Township** - to register for any program go to [hardinglibrary.org](http://hardinglibrary.org)

### **Pre-School Programs**

Tuesday Morning Toddler Program at 10:15a.m.

Tuesday, March 7th - Ventures in Nature

Tuesday, March 14th - Join Miss Carol for fun songs and dance!

Tuesday, March 21st - Ventures in Nature

Tuesday, March 28th- Join Miss Carol for fun songs and dance!

**SATURDAY FUN – Sing and Dance with Miss Carol** - Saturday, March 4th at 1:00pm

Join Miss Carol for fun songs and dance! New programming on a Saturday, once per month.

**Programs for School Age Children - register at [hardinglibrary.org](http://hardinglibrary.org)**

Fractured Fairytales with Tara Lazar –Wednesday, March 1st at 4:00pm

Join local Author Tara Lazar to learn how to make your own stories using fairytales!

**\*Registration is required\***

**This program is for grades K and up.**

Storytime Yoga –Friday, March 10th at 4:00pm

Join Miss Pamela from @peaceplay for fun yoga and a story time!

**\*Registration is required\***

Kids Photography Class - Monday, March 13th at 4:00pm

Join Kathy Bross to do a new, fun, hands-on photography activity every month and to learn how to use professional cameras.

**\*This program is for kids 8 and up\***

**\*Registration is required\***

Great Plankton Race! - Thursday, March 16th at 4:00pm

Scientists from Rutgers will be visiting the library! Kids will explore the tiny plants and animals that drift in the ocean and will explore an incredible array of unique

adaptations that help them avoid sinking and engage in a fun contest to design the slowest sinking plankton. Everyone will take home their plankton!

**\*This program is for grades k-4\***

**\*Registration is required\***

**\*Please register each child separately\***

Read to a Dog - Wednesday, March 22nd, at 3:45pm

Creature Comfort Pet Therapy will be visiting the library at 3:45pm! Children will have the opportunity to practice their reading-by-reading stories to therapy dogs for 15 minutes.

**\*Registration is required\***

PJ Mask Party! – Thursday, March 23rd at 4:00pm

Join us to watch PJ Mask and make our own masks and crafts!

**\*Registration is required\***

Crafternoon - Friday, March 24th at 3:45pm

Join us for a fun afternoon of crafting!

Paint a Birdhouse! – Wednesday, March 19th at 4:00pm

Come celebrate the start of spring by painting a birdhouse with us!

**\*Registration is required\***

**\*Please register each child separately\***

### **Adult Programs - register at [hardinglibrary.org](http://hardinglibrary.org)**

Yoga - Yoga with MJ on Mondays and Thursdays at 10:15a.m. \$10 suggested donation.

Book Club - Open to all. Please join this fun, interesting group. 1:30 p.m. at the library

Tuesday, March 7th - *The Light Pirate* by Lily Brooks Dalton

Tuesday, March 21st - *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver

*The Crown: The Hit Netflix Series & The History Behind It* - Thursday, March 2 at 7p.m.

(In person)

Since its premiere in 2016, *The Crown* has shown us the private lives of Queen Elizabeth II and her royal family, John Kenrick pulls back the curtain on the making

of this much-loved - and sometimes controversial - series, which just debuted its fifth season.

Built in Harding featuring Aja Blanco of Surly Girl Soap - Monday, March 6th at 7p.m.

(In person and on zoom)

The featured guest for March's Built in Harding is Aja Blanco of Surly Girl Soap. Surly Girl Soap is a woman-owned, handcrafted soap and body care company that believes in honest, natural and no bullshit skincare. Intentionality and thoughtfulness resonate throughout each product to nurture your mind, body and spirit. Join us to learn more about the delightful Aja Blanco.

Peggy Guggenheim - Tuesday March 7th at 7p.m. (on zoom)

In honor of Women's History Month, we will be offering a lecture on The Life and Art Collection of Peggy Guggenheim. In many ways, Guggenheim was pivotal in getting so-called 'degenerate' art safely out of Europe on the eve of WWII as well as encouraging European

artists to wait the war out in the United States." I was a liberated woman long before there was a name for it." PG

Film Discussion: Alice's Ordinary People - Wednesday, March 8th at 7p.m. (on zoom)

Alice's Ordinary People is a documentary about Alice Tregay – a woman who refused to stand still for injustice. Her remarkable story spans the historic period from the marches of Dr. Martin Luther King to the election of Barack Obama, and her contribution to American politics is the thread that connects the two. A unique story in Civil Rights history from a woman's perspective.

This film is available to watch through the Kanopy streaming service and it is also available to borrow in MAIN on DVD. Patrons are encouraged to watch the film before attending the Zoom program, but the presentation can be enjoyed whether or not you have seen the film.

The program presenter: Craig Dudnick is a 1980 graduate of Northwestern University. In 1982, he received a national award for his camerawork on the syndicated television program, PM Magazine. The following year, he founded Imagine Video Productions®, working for clients from Europe, Japan, and at ABC News.

Author Talk with Jamie Fiore Higgins: Wall Street Survivor, Writer, and Leadership Coach

Thursday, March 9th at 7p.m. (in person)

Jamie Fiore Higgins spent 18 years at Goldman Sachs, one of the most cutthroat organizations in the world, rising through the ranks to achieve the position of Managing Director, a title that only 8% of employees earn, and becoming the highest-ranking woman in her department. But Goldman's toxic work environment did serious damage to her morale, her health, and even her marriage, until she eventually broke free from that unhealthy system. She will discuss her memoir, *Bully Market*.

Native Bees and Pollinators - Friday, March 10 at 10:30a.m. (in person)

The Northern New Jersey Unit of The Herb Society of America will be hosting a lecture on Native Bees and Pollinators presented by Liz Johnson. Liz has BS and MS degrees in Ecology from Rutgers University. She has worked for The Nature Conservancy and the American Museum of Natural History. While at the museum, she helped create a program called the "Great Pollinator Project" to raise awareness of native bees. She will speak about pollinators with a special concentration on native bees. Native bees are not your local honeybees (they are imported bees). Native bees are true "wild" bees, and she will focus on their life history and how to encourage them in our gardens and landscapes.

Unique Sights of Japan: Himeji, Kochi, Hiroshima, Kagoshima, Fukuoka and Aomori

Tuesday, March 14th at 7p.m. (on zoom)

On August 6, 1945, the atomic bomb hit Hiroshima causing unimaginable death and destruction. The event is remembered with a complex known as Peace Park containing a museum, the remains of a building, sculptures and much more. Japan is located along the Pacific Ring of Fire and has over 100 active volcanoes. Admire one of these volcanoes up close. Shinto shrines, Buddhist temples, beautiful gardens and feudal castles are found throughout Japan and we will explore the ones I encountered in these cities. We will also visit an amazing fish market and a float museum. See the unique sites of these Japanese cities with tour guide Sheila Taub.

Doris Freidman and the Beginnings of Public Art in NYC - Thursday, March 16 at 7p.m. (on zoom)

Doris Friedman, with a background of Social Work, is recognized as the founder of the Public Art Fund and Percent for Art. She is celebrated with a special plaza at the SE corner of Central Park which always features contemporary works of art. This talk will take a closer look at the career of this amazing woman and how the Public Art Fund came to be, with earlier beginnings as part of the Parks Department and City Walls. We will explore some of the very first public art projects in NYC, including Robert Indiana's LOVE sculpture, and works by Tony Smith, Claes Oldenburg, Jean Dubuffet, Louis Nevelson, Richard Serra, as well as revolutionary works including light and sound, Earthworks and Site-Specific installations.

Antonio Vivaldi - "The Red Priest Revealed" - Wednesday, March 22nd at 7p.m. (on zoom)

A master of the Baroque concerto, Antonio Vivaldi inspired many generations of musicians - none more notable than his contemporary Johann Sebastian Bach. He joined the church at the age of 15 where his bright red hair earned him the nickname, "The Red Priest". Listen to his life's story as we learn what made this "Four Seasons" composer so special. Presented by Dan Lupo of A to G Music

General George Meade - Thursday, March 23 at 7p.m. (on zoom)

In early 1863, Congress investigated General George Meade and his leadership during the Gettysburg Campaign. Numerous high ranking officials including Meade's enemies, Daniel Sickles, Daniel Butterfield, and Abner Doubleday all testified. This program will explore the Committee on the Conduct of War's investigation into Meade and consider the ways in which these hearings influenced the general's reputation and standing. Presented by Dr. Jennifer M. Murray, a military historian, with specialization in the American Civil War, in the Department of History at Oklahoma State University. Sponsored by the North Jersey Civil War Round Table

Vinnie Bruno presents The Seventies: The Making of Stevie Wonder - Tuesday, March 28th at 7 (on zoom)

We will survey five Stevie Wonder albums as recorded during his classic period starting in 1972 until 1976. From “Music of the Mind” to “Songs in The Key of Life,” we will explore the fusion of innovative recording techniques and the weaving of lyrically full artistic statements of social, political, and romantic themes into his work. Stevie Wonder is the only artist in Grammy history to win 15 awards in a decade - the 70s. He was inducted into the Rock n’ Roll Hall of Fame in 1989.

Cooking Club, Wednesday, March 29th at 11a.m. (in person)

Welcome to the Cooking Club; a new initiative in 2023! Each meeting will have a theme and we will share our favorite cookbooks, recipes or family stories about that theme. In honor of the approaching spring, the March theme will be vegetables. We will meet the last Wednesday of each month in the Adult Reading Room at 11a.m.

*From Day to Day: The Secret Concentration Camp Diary of Odd Nansen* -

Wednesday, March 29th at 7p.m. (in person)

*From Day to Day* is a World War II concentration camp diary—one of only a handful ever translated into English—secretly written by Odd Nansen, a Norwegian political prisoner. Arrested in January 1942, Nansen, son of polar explorer and humanitarian Fridtjof Nansen (Nobel Peace Prize 1922) was held captive for the duration of the war in various Nazi camps in Norway and Germany. The book had been out of print for nearly 60 years when Timothy Boyce stumbled across it.

Fascinated by the heroic story and saddened that such a magnificent book was so scarce and nearly forgotten, Boyce set out to get the book back in print. *From Day to Day* may be purchased at [www.timboyce.com](http://www.timboyce.com) for \$39.95. All royalties from the sale of this book are given to the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C., and the Center for the Study of the Holocaust in Oslo, Norway.

*Frida Kahlo: Dreams, Demons, and Devotion* - Thursday, March 30th at 7p.m. (on zoom)

Frida Kahlo’s paintings illustrate the anguish and passion of a fascinating, complicated personal and artistic life. The astonishing works of this Mexican and feminist icon will be looked at through the lens of her ethnicity, disabilities, and political activism, especially emphasizing her engagement with the natural world. Presented by Janet Mandel



### Virtual Author Visits

*Range: Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World* by David Epstein -

Monday, March 13th at 1p.m. (on zoom)

What's the most effective path to success in any domain? It's not what you think. You're invited to find out during a conversation with *New York Times* bestselling author David Epstein as he chats about his most recent book, *Range: Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World*.

*Southern Inspired: More Than 100 Delicious Dishes from My American Table to Yours* by Chef Jernard A. Wells - Tuesday, March 21st at 4p.m. (on zoom)

A talk that will leave you starving for more! Join us as we chat with celebrity chef Jernard Wells about his newest cookbook *Southern Inspired: More Than 100 Delicious Dishes from My American Table to Yours*. *Southern Inspired* is full of delicious and inventive recipes that remix the traditional flavors and classic dishes of Southern food and celebrate African American culinary contributions to tables worldwide.

*Code Name Sapphire* by Pam Jenoff - Tuesday, March 28th at 7p.m. (on zoom)

Join us for an exciting trip through time as we chat with *New York Times* bestselling historical fiction author Pam Jenoff about her newest book, *Code Name Sapphire*! Inspired by incredible true stories of courage and sacrifice, *Code Name Sapphire* follows Hannah Martel as she races to rescue her cousin's family from a train bound for Auschwitz in this riveting tale of bravery and resistance.

Writers' Critique Group launching at Kemmerer Library

Are you working on writing your own novel, children's book, magazine article, film or comic script? Would you like to get together with other experienced or aspiring writers for support and feedback? Writing does not have to be a lonely endeavor. Kemmerer Library will be hosting a writers' critique group once a month in the evenings starting in March. Any writer, no matter how experienced, 16 years old or older, is welcome to attend. If interested, please contact [margie.ticknor@harding.mainlib.org](mailto:margie.ticknor@harding.mainlib.org)

### HARDING SENIORS

Harding Township Senior Citizens Meetings

Meetings at Church of Christ the King (Church Hall). 2nd & 4th Thursday at 11am

March 23: The program will be given by Harding Township Administer: Robert Falzarano

## **GREAT BROOK GALLERY**

New Show!

Great Brook Gallery continues to show the works of award-winning artist, Claudia Seymour until the end of March. Come enjoy joyful harbingers of Spring during our business hours: Tuesday - Fridays: noon - 4 pm and Saturdays, 10 am - 4 pm.

Get ready for our new show to Celebrate Spring with the fresh style of Charles Cashwell!

You're invited to meet Charles: March 30 & 31 from 4-8 pm and Saturday, April 1st from 10 am to noon. (We'll be there until 4 pm).

## **HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**SAVE THE DATE!** - May 6th, the historic TUNIS ELLICKS HOUSE on Village Rd. will be open from 12-5 as part of Morris County's Pathways to History Tour. Stop by with the family and chat with Philadelphia impersonator Benjamin Franklin (AKA Robert DeVitis) or try your hand at an early American craft. We will also have on loan, a unique collection of Indian artifacts all discovered by a local resident within Harding Township.

## **HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

Thumbnail & Website News and Announcements

If you have a submission for the March 2023 Thumbnail, please send it via email to the editor: [hardingcivicassociation@gmail.com](mailto:hardingcivicassociation@gmail.com) by Friday, March 17th, 2023. MS Word is the preferred format, Times New Roman size 13, 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).

## **HARDING TOWNSHIP RECYCLING**

2023 Recycling Schedule:

MAR 4<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>

APR 1<sup>st</sup>, 15<sup>TH</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>

MAR 13<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>

Hours of Operation:

Wednesday: 7am-Noon

Saturdays: 9am-Noon

Every Wednesday, seniors (residents 60+) will have full assistance available to them from 7am-9am. All residents are welcome for all hours that Recycling is open. Social distancing must be always observed.

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 bottles to conserve space. Please remember no plastic or paper bags.

Commingled Mixed Fiber: 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: Computers, monitors, laptops, and televisions cannot be put in 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.

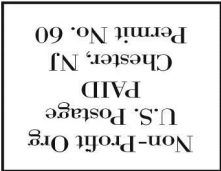
Recycling Questions: Please contact Tracy Toribio at Harding Department: 973-267-2448, Mon-Fri 8am-3pm.

**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  
Harding Open Space  
Harding TWP Civic Association

**Meetings as noted**                      **Time**

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
1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	7:30 PM
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	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



DATED MATERIAL

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