

Harding Township Civic Association

THUMBNAIL ACCOUNTS OF CIVIC AFFAIRS

“Keeping Harding Informed Since 1949”

www.HardingCivic.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

May 2021

2021 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

The Harding Township Civic Association will again be sponsoring a Memorial Day Parade on May 31, 2021, 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 and plan to assemble at the Harding Middle School on Lee's Hill Road at 9:00 AM on Parade Day. This year we are inviting children to decorate their bicycles (helmets mandatory), wagons and scooters with colorful red, white and blue streamers and to ride in the parade in honor of our veterans. There will be prizes for the best decorations in the 7 years old and under category and for those over 7 years old.

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.

In the event of rain, the parade will be canceled, but the ceremony honoring our veterans will go on across the street at the Firehouse 1 at 10 AM, rain or shine.

Calling All Veterans

The 2021 Harding Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 31st will honor all U.S. veterans. We would like all veterans to attend and identify themselves so that they may be recognized for their service to our Country. It is our intent to provide transportation for all veterans during the parade portion of our celebration and then ask veterans to identify themselves from the podium with the branch and unit in which they served and

the dates of their service so that they can be individually recognized for their service. Your service exemplifies the spirit of Harding's volunteerism and is a tremendous example to all. Please contact us at HTCA@mail.com to let us know that you will participate so that we can provide transportation for the parade. We encourage all veterans to participate.

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE

Township Committee Meeting - April 12, 2021

Police Officer Ian Persson was promoted to sergeant, filling an opening created by the retirement of Sergeant Patrick Christel. Persson is an 8 year veteran of the Harding PD. Salary is \$127,036.

The Operating Budget for fiscal year 2021 was formally introduced. It is largely the same as discussed at a prior TC meeting and reported in a prior Thumbnail. The budget calls for revenues and expenses of \$9.70 million and a slight property tax increase. Full time headcount increases from 31 to 32 while part time drops by one to 15.

The Capital Budget for fiscal year 2021 was formally introduced as well. The budget calls for \$557K:

- \$27.5K - exterior and interior improvement to Kirby Hall, Bayne Park, Show Grounds , Barrett Field, Gate House, Tunis Ellicks House and DPW site.
- \$70K - replacement/repair of basins, pipes and culverts; seal coat roads
- \$75K - road reconstruction
- \$300K - DPW equipment acquisition - mini excavator, chipper, hot box, air compressor, 4WD utility vehicle, pickup truck.
- \$31.6K - buy and upgrade various police equipment
- \$53K - buy police vehicle

Public hearing on the operating and capital budget will be at the next regular TC meeting on May 10, 7:30 PM.

Development Easement on 29 Acres to Be Acquired by Harding and Morris County
Harding and Morris County (Agricultural Development Board) are teaming up 50/50 to buy the development rights of the "Simon Property". After completion of the purchase the property cannot be developed -- it will be forever preserved as farm land. The property is approximately 29 acres on Village Road -- it is on the left as one is traveling to Green Village after passing Pleasantville Road. The price of the development rights is \$105K per acre or just over \$3mm, half of which will be borne by Harding's Open Space Fund.

A LIFE SAVED

A Life Saved! Commendation and Thanks Given

On March 11, Harding resident Gail McNamee, suffered cardiac arrest. Ms McNamee's husband called 911 and started CPR. The 911 call to the Public Safety Telecommunications center set in motion a chain of activity which saved her life. Professional and volunteers - links in this extraordinary "Chain of Survival" - was honored by the Harding Township Committee:

- Public Safety Telecommunicators: Aaron Bsales, Shannon Hale and George Jones who received the call, dispatched police and emergency medical services and provided pre-arrival CPR instructions;
- New Vernon Volunteer First Aid Squad member Janet Kraft, a neighbor who was first on the scene and started CPR;
- Harding Police Sergeant Patrick Christel, Officer Louis Pirrello, Jr. and Officer Lukas Micoletti responded and continued CPR with EMT Kraft
- Responders used an Automated External Defibrillator to deliver shocks to the patient which restarted her pulse and regular breathing after several minutes of CPR and AED shocks;
- NV First Aid members Sue Sameth, Diane Hinds and Todd Claytor
- Atlantic Health Paramedics Andrea Murray and Michael Manchester coordinated care and transported the patient to hospital.

Gail McNamee, the woman saved, gave a heartfelt (pun intended) and emotional expression of thanks to all involved.

The ceremony was unique because all of the volunteers and professionals involved were in attendance and could bask in the appreciation and admiration of a packed room.

If this story inspires you to join the New Vernon Volunteer EMT Squad, contact President Larry Weppler (larryweppler@gmail.com). The Squad is in urgent need of volunteers.

FIRST AID SQUAD

Meet Harding's Heroes

Come out after the Memorial Day Parade and meet more of Harding's heroes. The New Vernon Fire Company and First Aid Squad will have an open house immediately after the Harding Township Memorial Day Parade. Bring your family and join your friends at Firehouse 1, across from Memorial Park for hot dogs and ice cream. Members of both the Fire Company and the First Aid Squad will be available with their equipment. The Harding

Township Police Department will also be on hand during this opportunity to meet your Harding neighbors while enjoying some traditional Memorial Day food. We made it through 2020, and as things begin to open-up in 2021, come out and meet the members of the First Aid Squad who provided basic life support services to the Community during the pandemic. We're looking forward to meeting and talking with you in a social setting rather than in the emergency settings where we sometimes see you. We are NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS.

HARDING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It is finally Spring! The Historical Society has had a busy year "zooming," we are now pleased to offer the opportunity to visit the Tunis Ellicks House and property again in person! Naturally, mask and social distancing requirements will be observed.

The first date is Saturday, May 1st from Noon to 4PM. Please join us as part of the 2021 PATHWAYS TO HISTORY TOUR. Highlighted will be our post-Civil War era Tramp House, parlor garden and a new exhibit of Native American artifacts (most of which were found here in Harding Township). This tour offers an admission free opportunity to visit 23 of Morris County's most significant historic sites. For more information, please visit: PathwaysofHistoryNJ.net.

We are also planning to host our Annual Open House on Memorial Day after the Memorial Day parade. The House and gardens will be at their peak! We are looking forward to seeing you!

NEW VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT

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 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.

CENTER FOR MUSICAL EXCELLENCE

America/Beautiful is a project by pianist and arts advocate Min Kwon in which she has commissioned a diverse group of over 70 leading American composers each to create a variation on the well-loved song, *America the Beautiful*. Kwon's aim is to paint a picture of her adopted country in its complexity and to find the beauty at the core of the America credo, *e pluribus unum*. The world premiere performances will take place over six days beginning July 4 with a series of free streamed video performances; the series will culminate in two live programs in Brooklyn July 8 and 9 (see cmemusic.org).

KEMMERER LIBRARY

Operating Hours: Monday - Friday, 10am - 2pm
 Thursday, 10am - 5pm
 Saturday, NOW 10am -1pm

The Library continues to cautiously expand services to patrons. We are fully open for browsing, with computers, printers and copiers available for use. Meeting rooms are not yet available but we offer use of a Zoom account to Harding clubs and groups that need a virtual meeting space. Please contact us if you are interested.

Curbside pickup of library materials remains available if you prefer. Item requests can be made directly on the MAIN catalog on our website (www.hardinglibrary.org) or you may contact us with requests by phone (973 267 2665) or email to desk@hardinglibrary.org. We are also happy to make selections for you.

Our eLibrary is always open! Please visit www.hardinglibrary.org and click 'Online Library' to get started. You can access eBooks and eAudiobooks on cloudLibrary (shared between the MAIN libraries) as well as Libby (our Harding-exclusive collection).

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

Storytime Stars with Miss Debbie, Tuesdays at 10:15 am
Join us at the Library for songs and stories on the lawn (weather permitting). In case of bad weather, the Zoom link is on our website (www.hardinglibrary.org).

Junior Garden Club on Zoom, 'Dig, Plant, Grow', Thursday, May 13, 3:45 pm
It's time to plant our gardens! Children age 5-13 are invited to join volunteers from the New Vernon Garden Club to start plants in pots to make a Taco Garden! Class size is limited so please register at www.hardinglibrary.org. A materials kit can be picked up from the Library on May 12. Sponsored by the New Vernon Garden Club, 'Enhancing the

Beauty of our Town through Nature’.

Children’s Book Exchange, May and June

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

ADULT PROGRAMS

Adult Book Group, Tuesdays, May 4 and 18, 1:30 pm

Our lively book group continues to enjoy outdoor meetings at the Library. All are welcome on May 4 to discuss ‘Daughters of Kobani’ by Gayle Tzemach Lemmon. The May 18 selection will be posted at www.hardinglibrary.org. Please email desk@hardinglibrary.org to receive a Zoom link in case of bad weather. Chosen titles are always available from the Library - either in print, or as an eBook on Libby or on pre-loaded Kindles-to-go.

Welcome back to Mah Jongg Club, Thursdays, 12:00 pm and Card Club, Fridays at 2:00 pm
If you are interested in joining for social play, please email desk@hardinglibrary.org.

Remote programming gives us the opportunity to participate in a variety of programs and events being offered by our partner MAIN libraries. If you’re not already on our email list and would like to be kept up-to-date with offerings, please send a request to add your contact email to desk@hardinglibrary.org.

HARDING TOWNSHIP CIVIC ASSOCIATION:

Thumbnail & Website News and Announcements

If you have a submission for the **June 2021 Thumbnail** please email to: htca@mail.com by **Friday, May 21, 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. 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:

May 8, 22

June 5, 19

July 3, 17, 31

Aug 14, 28

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

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

1st Wednesday
2nd & 4th Thursday
4th Monday
1st Thursday
2nd Thursday
1st & 3rd Monday
3rd Thursday
2nd Monday
2nd Monday
2nd Wednesday
2nd Tuesday

Time

7:30 PM
11:00AM
7:30 PM
7:30 PM
7:30 PM
7:00 PM
7:30 PM
7:30 PM
7:30 PM
7:30 PM
7:30 PM

DATED MATERIAL

Harding Township Civic Association
P.O. Box 72, New Vernon, NJ 07976
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U.S. Postage
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