



PARTNERS IN HISTORY

DOROTHY STICKNEY LOCAL ARTIST SERIES RESUMES THIS FALL

The Bouman Stickney Farmstead was once home to a famous Broadway couple and this fall, Readington Museums will showcase two performances in their honor. Both events are free, but seating is limited and by reservation only. Each performance will be held in the historic Wade-Wycoff barn at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead located at 114 Dreahook Road in Readington.

LIFE WITH FATHER
SEPTEMBER 25 AND 26 AT 3:00 PM

The Readington Community Theater will present staged scenes from the play *Life with Father* written by Lindsay and Crouse.

THE HUNTERDON HARMONIZERS
OCTOBER 10 AT 3:00 PM

The Hunterdon Harmonizers will share their unique a cappella vocal talents in a medley of songs from the golden years of Broadway, including selections from the Lindsay/Crouse musicals *The Sound of Music* and *Anything Goes*.

Reserve your spot at the link on our website, call the museum, or on your device, tap

[here to sign up for Life with Father](#), or tap [here to sign up for the Hunterdon Harmonizers](#).



STICKNEY AND LINDSAY
LIFE WITH FATHER, 1940



The “Bouman-Stickney Farmstead” was named after its first and last property owners. The original Dutch settler who built the home in 1741 was Thomas Bouman but the second name came from a 20th century owner of the home – Dorothy Stickney who was a popular star of stage and screen at one time.

In recognition of her remarkable talent and her love of the arts, the Readington Museums has created this tribute to Stickney in the form of the *Dorothy Stickney Local Artist Series*. This ongoing program provides an opportunity for a wide variety of local community members to share their artistic talent with the community at large.

In 1935, Playwright/Producer/Actor Howard Lindsay and his wife, a noted Broadway actress named Dorothy Stickney, bought the Farmstead as a weekend

SEE STICKNEY PG.3

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LENAPE LIFEWAYS: FOODWAYS, GARDENING, AND FORAGING



On **October 3, 1:00-4:00 p.m.**, Susan McLellan Plaisted, proprietress of Heart to Hearth Cookery, a food history business based in Bucks County, PA, will be presenting a program on Lenape lifeways focusing on foodways, gardening and foraging. This program will be outside on the grounds of the **Bouman-Stickney Farmstead**. Plaisted grows Lenape corn, beans and squash from original seed and processes Puhwem (Lenape white flour corn) into hominy. She will be discussing the use, processing and preservation of grown, hunted and foraged foods.

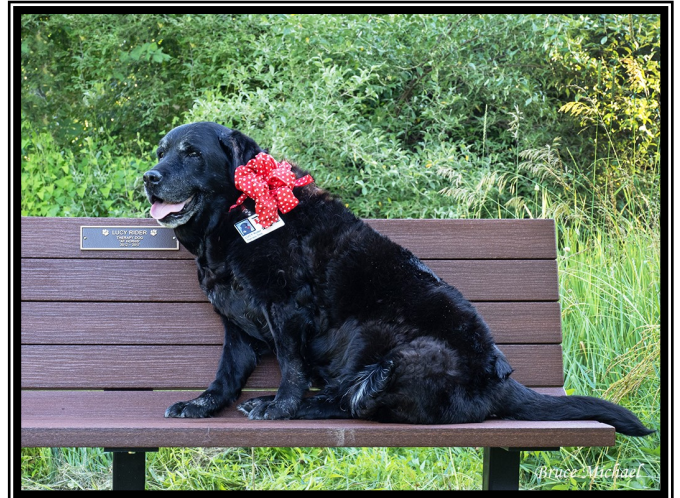
Plaisted was a Pennsylvania Commonwealth Speaker on Lenape Foodways for many years and has been interpreting Lenape foodways since 1988. She has a BS in Food and Nutrition and an MS in Health Education.

BOUMAN-STICKNEY FARMSTEAD RECEIVES NEW BENCH

The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, one of the Readington Museums, received a new bench to honor Lucy Rider, the beloved therapy dog for Hunterdon Central Regional High School, HCRHS. As a frequent visitor and volunteer to the farmstead, Sharon Rider, Lucy's mom, developed an appreciation and passion for the farmstead. While there are a few benches on the trails, many have fallen into disrepair. Sharon wanted to donate this bench so that others could also enjoy the scenery and peaceful atmosphere on a new and sturdy bench.

Lucy began working at HCRHS in 2012 before retiring in 2017. During her service, she comforted many students and staff. With her bright and calm demeanor, she instinctively determined what was needed for a distressed student. For example, when upset students came into the office for counseling, she nestled at their feet.

SEE BENCH PG. 4



THE THERAPY DOG LUCY RIDER ON HER DONATED BENCH.
BRUCE MICHAEL

READINGTON MUSEUMS WINS A TRESX PLASTIC FILM CHALLENGE BENCH



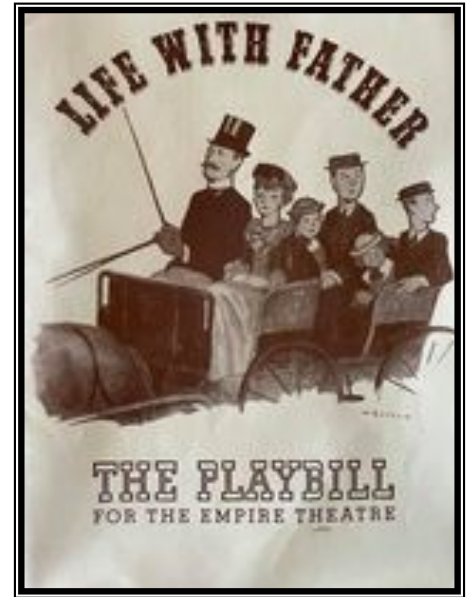
Readington Museums won a bench! We participated in the TRESX Plastic Film Challenge and reached our goal of collecting 500 pounds of plastic film. We are thankful to the Readington community for donating plastic, and thankful for many volunteers who organized, emptied bins, weighed, and delivered plastic to the collecting centers. This program is ongoing, and the Friends of the Dog Park are now collecting plastic to win a bench to place at the Readington Dog Park located at Hillcrest Park. Anyone can help by bringing your clean plastic film to a TRESX Challenge donation box at one of our select locations:

1. Readington Library, 255 Main Street, Whitehouse Station -next to the library materials return bin
2. Readington Museums' Bouman-Stickney Farmstead, 114 Dreahook Road, Lebanon (GPS) -inside the screened porch area of the Bouman-Stickney farmhouse.

Acceptable donations include grocery and retail bags, Ziplocs, case overwraps, bread bags, bubble wrap, newspaper sleeves, pellet bags, and dry-cleaning bags.

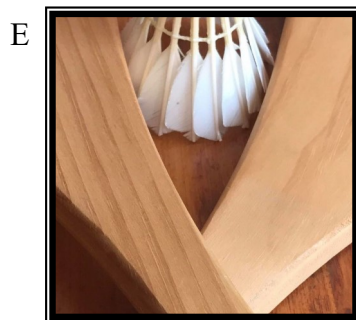
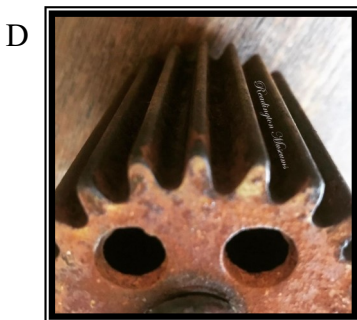
getaway and a place to relax from their busy life in New York City. Lindsay paid \$6000 for the old Dutch house with its 65 surrounding acres as a gift for his wife and today it is one of Readington's most cherished museum properties. Lindsay and Stickney are most famous for their long Broadway run together in the play, *Life with Father*. Lindsay also wrote the play in collaboration with his partner Russel Crouse in 1939, basing it on a semi-autobiographical collection of short stories by Clarence Day. The play featured Lindsay as Clarence, the father and Stickney as Vinnie, the mother. It still holds the record for the longest running play in the history of American Theater.

Lindsay and Crouse began their writing partnership in 1934 collaborating on the book for the musical *Anything Goes*. They went on to write and produce plays right up to Lindsay's death in 1968. Their successes include *The Sound of Music*, *Mr. President*, *Tall Story*, *One Bright Day*, *Remains to be Seen*, *Life with Father*, *Call Me Madam*, *The Prescott Proposals*, *Happy Hunting*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and the 1946 Pulitzer Prize-winning *State of the Union*, among many others.



#WHATSIIT? CAN YOU IDENTIFY THE ARTIFACTS?

The Readington Museum is participating in a popular social media activity along with other museums throughout the country called #whatsitwednesday. This is a fun way to share pieces of museum collections with the public and engage about the fun facts of each mystery item. Each Wednesday, we post a partial picture of an object from our collection, and share the reveal the next day for #revealthursday. If you are interested in playing or seeing pieces from the museum collection, follow us or click on the Instagram handle at [readingtonmuseums](https://www.instagram.com/readingtonmuseums) or on Facebook at [Readington.Museums](https://www.facebook.com/Readington.Museums). Below are some examples of mystery items that have been posted. Answers with full images are revealed on the next page.



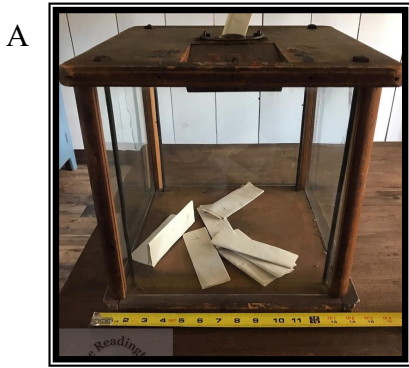
Tears were rewarded with Lucy's front paws placed in their laps. Lucy was adored and well known throughout the student body. Sharon remembers the time when a group of freshman girls were walking behind Lucy and one said, "Oh, look! There's the therapy dog that is trained to love everyone." Sharon thought to herself, "...not trained, just Lucy's natural and gentle loving spirit."

The Readington Museum thanks Sharon Rider for this donation. We very much appreciate this thoughtful gift and are proud to have this commemorative bench that honors Lucy for her service. In addition, the Museum is thankful for the Readington Township Buildings and Grounds department, directed by Scott Jesseman, for installing the benches.



BELOVED THERAPY DOG, LUCY RIDER, RETIRED FROM HUNTERDON CENTRAL IN 2017. BRUCE MICHAEL

Mystery Artifacts Revealed



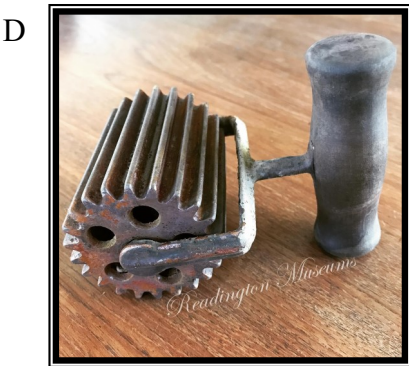
BALLOT BOX, LATE 19TH C.



RITTENHOUSE SURVEYOR'S COMPASS REPLICA, 18TH C.



GAME OF GRACES



ROLLER STYLE FLUTING IRON OR RUFFLER, LATE 19-20TH C.



BATTLEDORE AND SHUTTLECOCK OR ITS MODERN RELATIVE, BADMINTON



BELLARMINE JUG, ALSO CALLED A BARTMANN OR BEARDMAN JUG REPLICA, 16TH-18TH C.

Unless otherwise noted, programs will be held at the **Bouman-Stickney Farmstead**, 114 Dreahook Road, Whitehouse Station, NJ. For GPS use Lebanon. Donations for all programs are gladly accepted.

The Readington Museums received an operating support re-grant from the Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission, with funds from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.