



Cadette Girl Scouts' Silver Award Creates a Kitchen Garden



Anna Fitz and Emma Parrella of Readington Girl Scout Troop 81270 have received their Silver Award, the highest award in Cadette Girl Scouts. To earn the Silver Award, Cadette Girl Scouts must fulfill requirements of at least 50 volunteer hours addressing a community need. The Scouts restored the garden at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead to be a historically accurate kitchen garden. The Bouman-Stickney

Farmstead is a museum in Readington Township circa 1741. The Farmstead is used for educational programs, community cultural programs, and meetings of people interested in local history. The Museum and garden are located at 114 Dreahook Road, Lebanon NJ 08833. For further information about the Readington Museums, including visitation hours, directions, as well as, other special events held at Bouman-Stickney, please visit their website at www.readingtontwp.org/readingtonmuseums.



Exhibit: Hail to the Mighty Egg



The Museums' new exhibit featuring eggs in Hunterdon County, was mounted in the glass display case in the front lobby of the Readington Township Municipal building. The Museums' intern, William Paterson University history graduate student Barbara Krasner, researched and developed this exhibit to showcase egg farming in Readington Township. Krasner named the display, "Hail to the Mighty Egg," It consists of photographs and artifacts –including an original egg scale and egg boxes, and Krasner's research summary relating to each item. Here are some of the highlights:

Poultry framed Hunterdon County. Each farm had its own flock of perhaps two hundred to three hundred hens. Eight hundred hens could translate to a single collection of seven hundred eggs.

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Readington Museums

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Lacemaking Demonstration



With roots dating as far back as the late 15th century, the technique of taking a bunch of strings, whether they are linen, silk, spun gold and silver, or cotton, and turning them into exquisite pieces of handmade lace is becoming a lost art form. There are artisans today who are helping to keep this time consuming and beautiful art form alive. On **Sunday, October 4, 2015** Mary Roth-Davies from the Cranberry Lacers Guild of Franklin Township will demonstrate the craft between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. at the Readington Museums. Mary says about the craft, “Bobbin lacemaking is considered a slow art but one that I find rewarding and challenging.” The program is located at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead.

The program is family friendly and free, but donations are gratefully accepted. Groups of six or more please call 908-236-2327 for a reservation.

Barn Dance in October



Put on your dancing shoes for a night of family fun as the Readington Museums hosts its bi-annual Barn Dance on Saturday, October 17, 2015 from 7:00-9:30 p.m. The dance will be held inside the eighteenth century Wade-Wyckoff Barn at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead located at 114 Dreahook Road in the Stanton section of Readington Township. This family friendly event is a wonderful way to have fun with the entire family. No experience is necessary. Caller Betsy Gotta will give easy to follow instructions before each dance so even a beginner will be able to dance the night away. There is a suggested donation of \$5.00 per adult and \$2.00 per child. Groups of six or more please call for a reservation, 908-236-2327.



Sausage Making Eighteenth Century Style



Historic cook, Susan McLellan Plaisted, from Pennsbury Manor, will demonstrate authentic 18th century sausage making on November 1, 2015 between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Plaisted, proprietress of Heart to Hearth Cookery, a food history business based in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, holds a B.S. in food and nutrition and an M.S. in health education. Her specialty is American and Native American food during the Colonial Period.

The Farmstead is located at 114 Dreahook Road, in the Stanton section of Readington Township. If using a GPS, use Lebanon, NJ 08833. This is a free family friendly event, although donations will be gratefully accepted. In case of inclement weather please call the Museums to find out the status of the program.

Hail to the Mighty Egg continued from pg.1



Dating back to the 1860s, egg selling in Readington became a way for housewives to make money. They sold the eggs to local stores, the Flemington Auction Market, or used them as barter for dry goods and groceries.

After the stock market crash in 1929, the area's farmers doubted that an auction market for eggs would improve their financial situation. They were pleasantly surprised. Twelve hundred poultry farmers consigned eighty cases of eggs to the first Flemington Agricultural Market, which opened in July 1930. The sale netted \$909.97. That first egg sale took place in the basement of a Main Street department store in Flemington with "the sole purpose of obtaining for the producer his just share of the consumer's dollar." The rapid growth of the auction created demand for sale of live poultry and the auction market moved in 1932 to Park Avenue.

Eggs sold to diners, hotels, restaurants, route men, independent stores, and state institutions. They also sold to consumers under the brand "New Jersey State Certified."

After World War II, the Jewish Agricultural Society set up refugees as poultry farmers. Some were successful and some were not. By the 1960s, the business throughout the county dried up for several reasons. People could raise their own chickens and harvest their eggs, and land prices were getting expensive.



Mid Twentieth century egg auction—from the Collection of the Hunterdon County Historical Society

Monday Mornings Children's Summer Program

Calendar 2015

Thirty-five children registered for July's Monday at the Museums' program. With the help of Museum intern, Barbara Krasner, and volunteers, Catherine DeLessio, Tricia Sarrow, Michaela Smith, and Cheyenne Smith, we were able to offer the program to more children each Monday. Having such dedicated volunteers helped to keep the quality of programming at a high level. The program consisted of hands-on history or nature activities. Throughout the four Mondays the children created windmills and various Dutch designs while listening to Dutch stories, squeezed lemons for lemonade, made butter, candles, punched tin designs, beaded critters, and danced with a partner -English country style.

Below left—butter making; Below right—lemonade making
Photo credit : Jayne Erhard



Left—candle dipping; Above—English county dance
Photo credit : Jayne Erhard

Sunday, September 13
CANCELED

Sunday, October 4
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Lace Making
-Cranberry Lacers Guild

Saturday, October 17
7:00-9:00 p.m.
Barn Dance
-Betsy Gotta
Donation Suggested: \$5.00 adult,
\$2.00 child

Sunday, November 1
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Dutch sausage making
-Susan Plaisted

Sunday, December 6
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Dutch Christmas
Open Hearth Cooking
-Connie Unangst

The Bouman-Stickney Farmstead is located at 114 Dreahook Road. If using a GPS, use Lebanon, NJ 08833. Donations for all programs are gladly accepted.

Readington Museums received an Operating Support Grant in 2014 from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of Cultural Affairs in the Department of State.