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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – PLEASE PUBLISH IN ADVANCE OF THE PROGRAM DATE**

## **Fiber Artists Showcase Hand-Crafted Hooked Rugs at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead**

Readington NJ- **Sunday, May 1** from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., fiber artists, **Lucy Walsh and Sharon Ballard**, will display their hand-crafted hooked rugs. Walsh and Ballard will be on-hand to share the history and the inspirations for designing their rugs.

Lucy Walsh is a fiber artist living in Clinton, New Jersey, and a Readington Township native. She has been creating hand-crafted hooked rugs since 1990. Her recent collections of original rugs include ‘story rugs’ which tell of real-life or imaginary events, and quaint primitive designs. Her rugs have been featured on websites, fairs, rug hooking publications and have appeared in the Rug Hooking Magazine’s Celebrations® book recognizing nationally known fiber artists.

Sharon Ballard started traditional rug hooking in 1985 after moving to New Jersey. She now resides in Stanton. “I first noticed these rugs in the magazine Country Living and with a little investigation I found a wonderful local teacher, took several classes and have been rug hooking ever since. My style is to create a rug that has a folk-art look. Most of my rugs were inspired from antique rugs. Simple designs with bright and bold colors”.

This program is held inside the Historic Wade-Wycoff Barn at the Bouman-Stickney Farmstead in the Stanton section of Readington, or for GPS use Lebanon, NJ. Although there is no fee, donations to Readington Museums are gladly welcome. In case of inclement weather please call the Museums to find out the status of the program. For more information, please visit [www.readingtontwp.org/ReadingtonMuseums.html](http://www.readingtontwp.org/ReadingtonMuseums.html) or call 908-236-2327.

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