



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

***"...that's really what history mostly is: masses of people doing ordinary things."***

- Bill Bryson, *At Home: A Short History of Private Life*

Hundreds of years ago, people made stone tools, scraped hides, and ground grain near the Palmer River.

Sometime in the early 1700s, 2-year-old Huldah Bliss got a new pair of shoes.

In 1810, Charlotte Brayton, a poor widow with young children, was in need of financial assistance.

In 1947, three men and a boy took a break from baling straw near Shad Factory.



As Bill Bryson suggests, most of what goes on in the world is not what gets a lot of attention in the history books, and yet it is these unsung moments that make up our lives. We are making history all the time.

How are you making history in Rehoboth? Do you live in a house that was in your family for a century? Did you move in yesterday and just discover a favorite place for bird-watching? Do you volunteer for one of the many organizations in town? What is important to you?

If you would like to share a piece of your Rehoboth history, please do! We'd like to add more glimpses of daily life to our archives and hope to share some of your words and pictures at the Carpenter Museum. You may send them to Museum Director Danielle DiGiacomo by e-mail at [carpenterdirector1884@gmail.com](mailto:carpenterdirector1884@gmail.com).

Wishing you a season of peaceful history-making,  
Rebecca H. Smith, RAS President

## UPCOMING MUSEUM EVENTS

**Rehoboth Minutemen Camp Event  
with the**

**13th Continental Regiment  
Sunday, September 18th, 1-4PM**

Cooking demonstrations, costumes, weaponry info, demonstrations on historic washing, drilling, bullet making, writing, and more!

*Free*

**First Saturday of the Month  
Museum and Research Center  
Open 1-4PM**

*October 1st*

*November 5th*

*December 3rd*

**2022 Speaker Series - At Museum  
New England's General Stores  
with Ted Reinstein**

**Thursday, September 22nd, 7PM**

Join us for a talk about Reinstein's book and have a special viewing of Rehoboth's own general store artifacts from our collection.

*Free for Members / \$10 for Nonmembers*

**2022 Speaker Series - At Museum  
Every Drop of Blood  
with Edward Achorn**

**Wednesday October 12th, 7PM**

*Free*

**Crafters' Marketplace Craft Show  
Saturday October 22nd 9AM-4PM**

Over 30 Quality Vendors!

3 Walkable locations all within the  
Rehoboth Historic Village.

*Free to Park / Free to Enter*

**2022 Speaker Series -Webinar  
Maureen Taylor Photo Detective  
Wednesday November 16th 7PM**

*\$5 Member / \$10 Nonmember*

# REHOBOTH HISTORY SNAPSHOT



**BY RESEARCH MANAGER LENDE McMULLEN**

I had a delightful chat with Rita Carpenter Harrison (age 94) on the telephone the other day. She was born in 1928 and grew up on Summer Street in Rehoboth along with her six siblings. I asked her what she remembered about living in Rehoboth as a young person.

Rita said she attended Sunday school and youth group at the church in the village. She remembers setting aside her clothes as special for church and school. Beginning at about 11-years-old she attended choir practice with about 20 other kids at Elsie Carpenter's home at the corner of Bay State Road and Locust Avenue while Mrs. Carpenter played the piano. She remembers 17-year-old Gladys Kindberg would often sing a solo in church.

While on her way to school in the mornings, the constable in town would sometimes stop and give her and others a ride to the bus stop at Anawan School. Then, the school bus would take them further to Dighton High or Taunton High.

Rita said she stayed with Mrs. Tobey who lived across the street while her husband served during WWII. Rita kept her company and babysat the children. On her first day, after showing Rita her bedroom, Mrs. Tobey mostly kindly asked her what she'd like for dinner! Rita remembers one of the children starting to walk for the first time after sitting outside on a pot. The child simply took off while Rita called out for Mrs. Tobey to watch!

She said her father, Edwin Carpenter was an air raid warden in town. He and others would go out into the night and be sure that all dark green shades were pulled down at each of the residents' homes. No light from the houses was allowed to be shown during the war years.

As a teenager while in high school, sixteen-year-old Rita began work after school at the telephone switchboard then located in a house on Bay State Road across from Anawan School. She remembers always having to keep peoples' messages to one another a secret because it was easy to hear them at the switchboard after making the connection. The chief operator, Helen Spencer had a bed in the switchboard room for the night calls. Flora Earle and Bertha Ingram [Ingraham] were other operators. She said they were always so thoughtful to adjust their schedules so Rita could attend the dances at Goff Memorial Hall. Rita said she loved to dance and would dance with anyone.

Do you have a Rehoboth memory to share in our Newsletter? It may be a few words, a paragraph or two, or a long story. We'd love to hear from you! Please submit your story to Museum Director Danielle DiGiacomo by e-mail at [carpenterdirector1884@gmail.com](mailto:carpenterdirector1884@gmail.com) or mail to Carpenter Museum, 4 Locust Ave., Rehoboth.

# ARTS IN THE VILLAGE 2022 FALL SEASON

Arts in the Village is pleased to announce its 2022 fall season. The talents of this season's exceptional musicians will be showcased in two exciting concerts. Both performances will take place on Saturday evenings at 7:30 pm, at Goff Memorial Hall, 124 Bay State Road, in Rehoboth, MA 02769. The doors open at 7:00 pm for early seating, which is non-reserved. Payment may be made by cash, credit card or by checks made out to the Rehoboth Antiquarian Society. We look forward to seeing you soon!

## Admission prices:

\$22 for general

\$20 for seniors

\$8 for children & students



**OCTOBER 1ST**

**Frederick Moyer** is one of the most exciting pianists before the public today. Equally at home with Bach, Beethoven and Rachmaninoff, as well as Ellington and Gershwin, his recitals are creative, engaging and entertaining and generally include time-honored favorites as well as pieces that audiences may be hearing for the first time. Also featured is his MoyerCam, a projection system that allows the audience to see his hands as he plays.

**Natasha and Eliran** met as students years ago at Juilliard. After some exciting performances in New York City and upstate NY, the two decided to embark on a new mission: to create compelling programming celebrating masterpieces alongside the secret jewels of lesser-known works.

With a focus on storytelling that pinpoints an aspect of the human condition or creates an atmosphere through sound, their concerts offer solo and chamber music works, and occasionally incorporate multimedia, readings, video, and visual art. In recent seasons, the duo promoted the music of minority composers.



**EKSTASIS DUO – NOVEMBER 12TH**

2022 SPEAKER SERIES

## TED REINSTEIN

THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 22ND  
7PM

NEW ENGLAND GENERAL  
STORES:  
EXPLORING AN AMERICAN CLASSIC



[www.RehobothAntiquarian.org](http://www.RehobothAntiquarian.org)



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Research Center at the Carpenter Museum is looking for a part time volunteer to perform some office tasks on Tuesday or Thursday afternoons. Typing and using the computer to transcribe are a plus. There are also various projects to complete which require organizational abilities. If interested, please email Research Manager, Lende McMullen at [genealogy1884@gmail.com](mailto:genealogy1884@gmail.com).

# UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS

## Children's Room Hallway

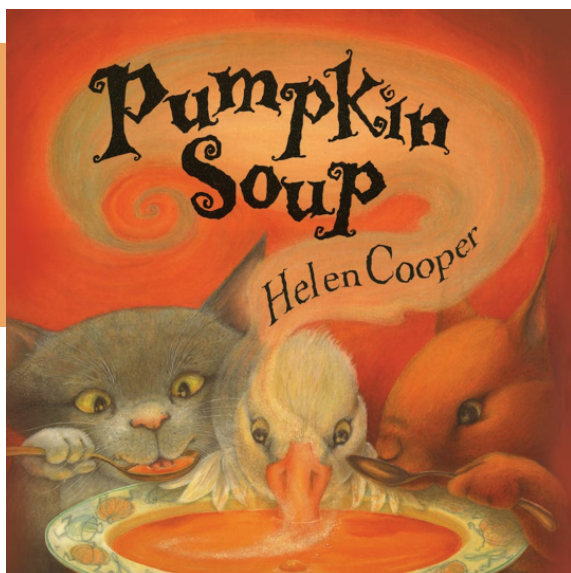
**Now-December**

This fall, the children's room hallway has transformed into a map of our town. Young visitors are encouraged to help by adding their house, school, neighborhood, etc. to build Rehoboth! Supplies will be on our craft table.

## Stories on the Lawn (Preschool Age)

**Thursdays 10:30AM**

Join us for a story and related craft on the lawn! Snacks permitted. Held indoors if inclement weather. Registration required.



## Garden Story Walk - Pumpkin Soup

**Ongoing**

*Pumpkin Soup* by children's author Helen Cooper, will be featured page-by-page along the library's front garden. Come enjoy this fall story about friendship and patience! A related craft will be offered inside.

## Baby / Toddler Storytime (Ages 0-4)

**Tuesdays 10:30AM**

Children & caregivers are invited to join us in our hall for a fun, 30 minute interactive program of movement, books, music, games & more. Siblings welcome. Registration required.

## Anthony Amore Presentation

**September 20, 6:30PM**

Amore, Director of Security and Chief Investigator at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum will talk to his audience about the ongoing efforts to recover thirteen works of art stolen from the museum.

## Town Wide Read Author Book Talk: *The Map Thief*

**October 15, 2:00PM**

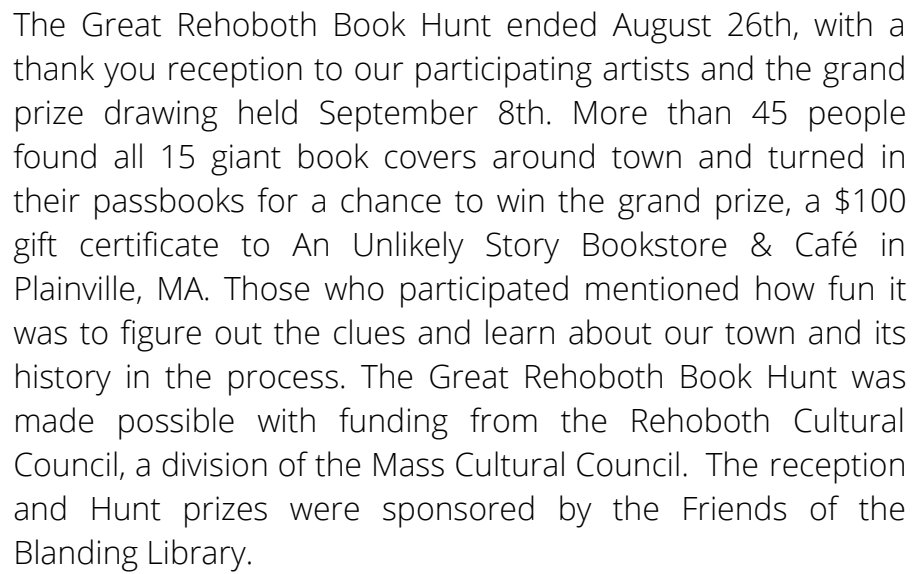
We are encouraging Rehoboth residents to read *The Map Thief: The Gripping Story of an Esteemed Rare-Map Dealer Who Made Millions Stealing Priceless Maps* by Michael Blanding in preparation for a visit from the author to Goff Hall.

## Through Me to You Puppet Show

**Tuesday October 25, 10:30AM**

Leigh Baltzar will bring Newton and his puppet friends presenting stories and songs. No need to register.

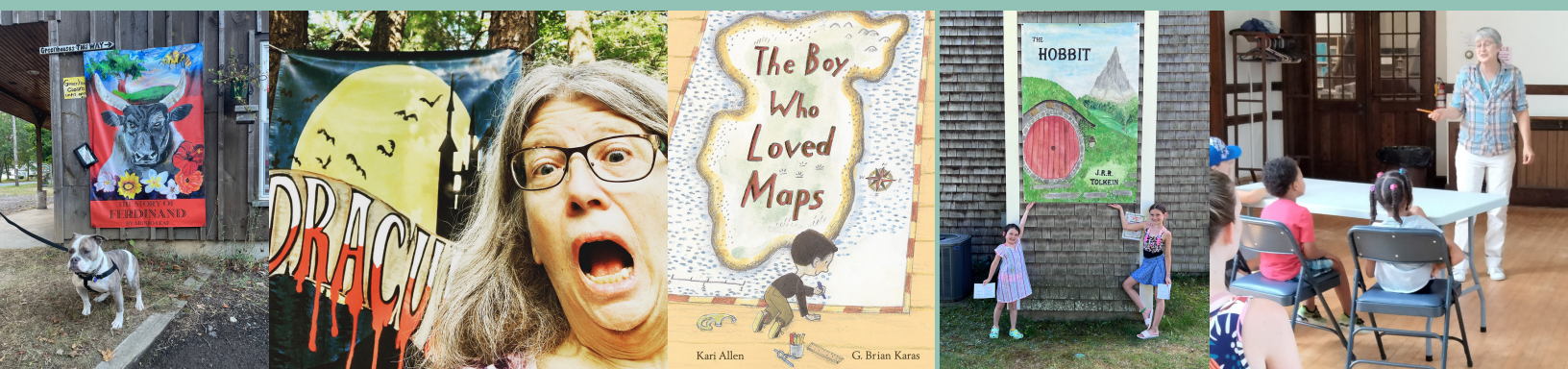




## TOWN-WIDE READ: THE MAP THIEF BY MICHAEL BLANDING

In addition to Michael Blanding's talk on October 15th, the Friends of the Blanding Library are hosting Anthony Amore, Director of Security and Chief Investigator at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, where he is charged with the ongoing efforts to recover thirteen works of art stolen from the museum. Mr. Amore will speak on September 20th at 6:30 p.m. in Goff Hall.

Young explorers were invited to enjoy a reading of *The Boy Who Loved Maps* by Kari Allen, create their own treasure map, and take part in a treasure hunt inside the library and on the grounds on September 10th. For those who missed the event, please contact the library (508-252-4236) to reserve a map kit for your child. The treasure hunt continues through September 24th.



# Crafters' Marketplace



**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22**

**9AM TO 4PM**

**REHOBOTH VILLAGE**

**CARPENTER MUSEUM - GOFF MEMORIAL HALL**

**REHOBOTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**



**BLANDING LIBRARY HOURS:**

**Mon - Thurs 10 AM - 8 PM / Fri - Sat 10 AM - 4 PM**

**CARPENTER MUSEUM HOURS:**

**Tues & Thurs 1 - 4 PM / 1st Sat of the month 1 - 4 PM**