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Rebecca Barker



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April/May 2021 Issue

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Meet our cover artist: Rebecca Barker

Art has always been a part of Rebecca's life. Her Father was a dairy farmer and her Mother was an artist since she was a baby, painting Christmas tree ornaments. Consequently, she grew up with paint and paper in-hand. She attended the Fine Arts program at Ohio University (Athens, Ohio) and received her BFA degree.

On her family's dairy farm quilting and collecting old quilts was a pastime for the Barker women. Rebecca's natural appreciation for quilts and the country landscapes became the subject she chose to paint. She developed a line of paintings she calls "QUILTSCAPES". The old-time quilt pattern is depicted in the painting with the quilt. For example, the LOG CABIN quilt has a painting of a log cabin in the background. Several paintings have the quilt images subtly mixed into the landscapes while others have the quilt hanging on a clothesline in the foreground. Rebecca paints her quilts in acrylic on masonite board. The quilt patterns come from quilt history books and quilt shows. "I do not make up the patterns. I love the designs of old-time quilts". She creates her own colors and materials in the fabrics. "I do not work from real quilts because the colors have to match the landscapes". Her style is described as realistic, with clean, clear colors and sensitivity to composition and texture.

She shows her work on her web page and has produced a line of note cards, limited edition prints, two books and gift items.

"My work is meant to honor the beauty of the old-time quilts and their makers"

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Our Search for Cover Artwork —

Across Canada and the U.S. you can always tell *The Country Register* by its cover. Our publishers seek to find cover art or photos from the province/state the paper represents. To that end, we are seeking the work of artists from Ontario to feature on our covers. The art must be in good taste and consistent with the theme of the papers. If you would like your work to be considered, please send an email indicating your interest to OntarioCountryRegister@gmail.com



Delivering Love Hospitali-TEA Then

I grew up in a large family in a small farming community where hospitality was the norm. On Saturdays, my five sisters and I divided the housecleaning chores and tidied our home so we would be ready for Sunday guests.

While we cleaned, we smelled the wonderful aroma of homemade bread and rolls coming from the kitchen as Mother baked a week's worth of brown bread and zwieback for our family.

Sunday morning, Mother often put a chicken or pot roast and vegetables in the oven before we left for church. After the services, we would be ready to host a friend or family for a meal—whether planned or spontaneous.

I often invited a girlfriend to spend Sunday afternoon with me. Other times I received a spur-of-the-moment invitation to a friend's home.

Even if we didn't invite company for Sunday dinner, we were prepared to host drop-in guests for afternoon coffee before doing our evening farm chores. If visitors arrived, Mother quickly spread the table with fresh baked goods, cold cuts, sliced cheese, home-canned peaches or pears, kuchen, coffee, and more. She could create a feast in no time.

With Mother's generous heart for hospitality, it's no wonder all her daughters grew up to enjoy cooking and sharing food with others. And three of us girls became home economists!

Hospitali-TEA Now

I'm one of the girls who graduated with a degree in home economics, and it's my joy to welcome family and friends for a meal or a cup of tea. But the COVID-19 pandemic has created restrictions and the need for caution. So now what?

Family, friends, and neighbors need TEA-L-C now more than ever, so I've looked for new ways to deliver love. Maybe some of these ideas will inspire you.

1. Deliver a love surprise.

Many school children are struggling with changed routines and learning from home. Three of my grandchildren, ages 10, 15, and 17, are attending school online. Fortunately, their mother, Amy, a former schoolteacher, is home to guide them as needed. With this change, I sensed they would enjoy an occasional surprise during the day. A couple of times, I contacted Amy and arranged to deliver an unexpected lunch from a favorite takeout restaurant. Another time I made homemade Meat Turnovers (recipe in my cookbook) and delivered them in an antique Walton's lunchbox.

Recently, I tied my red and white scarf with hearts around my neck and delivered "love" to the family by dropping off heart-shaped scones, lemon curd, whipped cream, and peach herbal tea. It's easy to line a flat box with a pretty cloth or paper so it becomes the tray for the plates (paper or plastic) and tea items. This drop-off-and-go tea is a safe way to express love.

I've also delivered love surprises to my neighbors. Some are cautious about receiving homemade food from others, so I bring them store-bought treats, sparkling cider, or flowers. I buy one or two large flower bouquets and divide them into several smaller ones, adding greens from my yard. Inexpensive vases or empty jars tied with a ribbon hold the arrangements.

2. Order or mail a surprise.

Cards and gifts are good ways to say, "I love you." With some of my siblings living out of state and some on lockdown in retirement communities, I add cheer to their lives by mailing packages. Some enjoy fresh fruit from Harry & David, so I sent them a box of sweet, juicy pears. For my sister-in-law, a recent widow, I sent her favorite homemade gumdrop cookies, glazed fresh apple cookies, chocolates, and a package of herbal tea.

Who needs your love? A neighbor, friend, grandchild, or a lonely widow or widower? Why not choose one or more people and select appropriate ways to show love to them? As you cheer their hearts, you will experience joy as well, because it is more of a blessing to give than to receive.

*Lydia E. Harris is a tea enthusiast, grandmother, and author of *Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting* and *In the Kitchen with Grandma: Stirring Up Tasty Memories Together**



Feature Story

Quilty Pleasures

Amy Lafrance and Samantha Treusch

Guilty pleasures? More like Quilty Pleasures! Ottawa's largest quilt store, located in the heart of Old Orléans, has been a staple in the creative community since 2004 when it was purchased by Val Jensen and Leslie Burtch. In March 2021, after nearly 20 years in business, they decided to retire and pass the store on to the next generation (otherwise known as Samantha and Amy, Val's daughters). The same shop that Orléans has come to know and love will continue to be a creative hub for quilters in the area for years to come.

Many visitors to Quilty Pleasures will recognize Amy, who has worked at the shop for over a decade (most recently as store manager) while Sam, a previous employee of QP, has worked in the wholesale side of fabric distribution and trade for almost 10 years. Their combined knowledge of both behind-the-scenes production and front-end retail gives them a unique perspective that they hope will add to the shopping experience of everyone who walks in the door. An amazing team of both quilters and sewists are on-hand to help with fabric selection and product questions in a friendly and welcoming environment. And, of course, Val and Leslie still work in the shop on a part-time basis (Sam and Amy wouldn't let them get away that easily!).

At Quilty Pleasures you'll find a mix of both modern and traditional fabrics in a wide range of colours, from bold jewel tones to soft pastels and beyond. Threads, scissors, sewing needles, and patterns are readily available, making the jump into quilting that much easier. The store specializes in the sales of Pfaff sewing machines and sergers, with on-site technicians that service most makes and models. And while COVID-19 restrictions have somewhat changed the way the store operates it is business as usual – the shop is open for in-store visits (at a limited capacity) as well as curb-side pickup. Plus, the addition of an online store makes shopping in your pajamas even easier! Classes, while usually a staple of the QP calendar, are on hold during the lockdown but online YouTube tutorials and product spotlights are filling in the gaps.

Sam and Amy are thrilled to officially be a part of the wonderful quilting community in Ottawa and look forward to continuing the legacy built by Val and Leslie (and having a little fun while doing it, too!). There's no guilty pleasure like Quilty Pleasures!




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Located in the heart of old Orléans, conveniently close to Highway 174, Quilty Pleasures offers a full range of supplies and inspiration for the creative quilter.

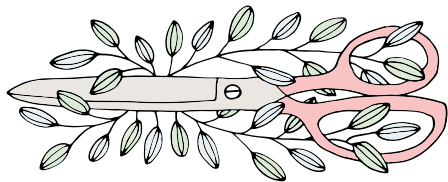





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9		3	4					
5	7		3	6	2			
	3			2	7			5
	1	9	5					
		5					7	
3	9			5				1
	4		2	7				
				1	9			

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Building Harmony *According to the Handbook*

by Jeff Cappis



It's in the "Guy's Handbook." "Happy wife, happy life. Every guy wants to make his wife happy. Yes, really. Problem is, we're stupid and we're just not sure how to do it so we try different things to see what works.

One thing that makes Cathy happy is when I get things done around the house. The other day she reminded me that I hadn't gotten anything meaningful done around the house for the last few weeks. Of course, she was right. I had been getting a little lazy.

I decided to redeem myself the next day while she was out running some errands. By quickly getting a row of cabinets in the family room painted while she was out, I reasoned she would get home, see the cabinets done and be so happy she would shower me with kisses. Oh boy! She'd be impressed that I could get this done so quickly and well. One gets so few chances to be a hero. I got right to work.

It's also in the Guys' Handbook: "If she doesn't find you handsome, she'd better find you handy!"

I put on an old work shirt and pants because I expected to get some paint on me. When I put them on, I noticed I'd gained a little weight. They fit rather snug. Guess that's life, I thought. My old work shoes were a little tight, too. Well, no time to change. Get to work.

Once in the family room, I had everything I needed to get started: My paint roller, the paint and a paint tray. I didn't bother putting down a drop cloth because this needed to be a fast job and that would take time. I'd just have to be careful not to drip paint on her favorite floor tile.

Carefully I poured paint into the tray. Didn't spill a drop. So far, so good. This was going to be a fast and perfect job. Just as I bent over to get paint on my roller, I heard a loud rip. My pants split. Damn.

I stood there for a moment trying not to let the paint drip off my roller. Not having the time to go and change my pants, I decided to just take them off and work in my underwear. I could still be done and cleaned up before she got home.

Taking a pair of tight pants off with one hand while holding a roller full of paint in the other without dripping isn't as easy as it sounds. With a little groaning I manage to get the right leg out. It might have been easier if I'd taken my shoe off, but, well... time. Then I lost my balance and stepped sideways right into the paint tray full of paint with my left foot.

I could feel my shoe filling with paint and soaking into my sock. To add a further problem, I had to use my free hand to hold up my pants so the left pant leg wouldn't fall into the paint as well. So far though, not a drop of paint on the tile.

You have to keep calm in these situations. I wasn't sure what to do. I didn't want to make any kind of a mess on the tile so I didn't dare move but time was ticking by. I started painting the cabinet doors in front of me while I thought about it.

About that time a fly began buzzing around my head. A truly rotten little fly. I tried to ignore it at first as I concentrated on my work. I blew at it but it wouldn't go away. Eventually, I tried to swat it with the roller and put a strip of paint down the middle of my face.

Frustrated, I took a deep breath to yell but had to stop when the buttons started popping off my tight shirt.

I there stood facing that cabinet for a half hour, unable to move and feeling the paint drying on my face.

That's when Cathy got home. She was shocked to see me when she entered the room.

"What happened to you?" she asked as the last button popped off my

shirt and it fell down around my shoulders.

There I was, facing a half painted cabinet, holding up half my pants with one hand, a wet paint roller in the other, one foot in the paint tray full of paint, exposed underpants with a strip of paint up my face and my shirt down around my shoulders. We were both speechless.

Just then that rotten little fly happened by and stuck to the end of my nose. Well, I started to lose it.

Afraid I'd kick paint all over her tile floor (still not a drop on it, by the way), Cathy tried to calm me down. "Relax! Relax... we'll get you out of this." She smiled a bit. "I promise."

As she reassured me, I started to sob. "I wanted to surprise you," I whined.

"I know," she said.

"I didn't get any paint on the tile."

"I know."

"The fly tickles my nose and I have to go to the bathroom..." I sneezed and I left a face print on the cabinet. I had a squished fly stuck to the end of my nose.

She took the roller from my cramped hand and carefully got me out of my predicament without ever getting, I might add, a drop of paint on the tile. She is amazing.

Funny thing though, in some twisted way, that whole thing seemed to make her happy. I guess the fact that I'd gone to all this trouble for her hit a good note. In my own clumsy way I did this one thing right after all.

We're going to have to add a second page to the "Guys' Handbook."

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From Lydia's Recipe File:
Double-Thumbprint Heart Cookies

(Recipe from *In the Kitchen with Grandma*, page 131)

A delicious cookie for Valentine's Day or any day. Buttery, almond-flavored shortbread hearts filled with raspberry jam.

Ingredients

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2/3 cup granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon almond extract (or vanilla extract)
- 2 cups flour
- Pink food coloring
- 1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam
- powdered sugar (optional)

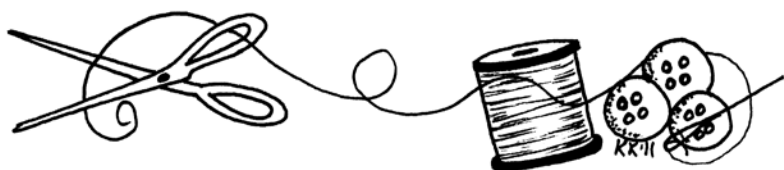
Glaze (optional)

- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon almond extract (or vanilla extract)
- 2 to 3 teaspoons water

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350°.
2. In a large bowl, cream together the butter, sugar, and almond extract.
3. Add the flour gradually and mix the ingredients together by hand.
4. Knead the dough on a lightly floured surface until it is blended and smooth.
5. Divide the dough in half. If desired, tint one-half light pink.
6. Shape the dough into 1/2-inch balls (slightly larger than a marble).
7. On an ungreased baking sheet, place 2 cookies side by side so they touch. If you tinted half the dough pink, place 1 pink and 1 white ball side by side. Or make some cookies with 2 white balls or 2 pink balls.
8. Make a hole in the center of each cookie ball with your finger or thumb.
9. Shape the lower part of the cookie to a point to form a heart. Flatten the dough between the holes to join the thumbprints and make one larger hole.
10. Fill the center of each heart with 1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon jam.
11. Bake the cookies for 12 to 15 minutes or until they are firm but not brown.
12. Remove the cookies from the oven. Cool the cookies for about 10 minutes before adding glaze if desired.
13. Mix together the powdered sugar, almond extract, and water. Drizzle the glaze over the cookies with a fork. If you don't add glaze, dust the cookies with sifted powdered sugar.
14. When the glaze is firm and the cookies are cool, place the hearts in a covered container.

Makes 3 dozen cookies.





Gosh - don't you need a good quilt show?

This Spring, there will be a wonderful opportunity to visit one of two shops, **Stitch By Stitch** in Kingston in Eastern Ontario or **Quilting By Design** in New Hamburg in Western Ontario to see a world-class collection of quilts created for the **HomeMade Challenge by Free Spirit Fabrics**. Each of these shops have been selected as one of only eight shops worldwide to host the collection of quilts shortlisted in the **Tula Pink HomeMade challenge**. 12 quilts, selected from a vast number of competition quilts created during Covid and submitted to the jury this past Fall are arriving in Kingston in mid-May for a brief visit before they move on to be hosted by the winners' studios - including **Quilting By Design** in New Hamburg Ontario at the beginning of June. Created in vibrant colours each quilt inspires us to create exquisite handiwork and to create our own quilts using vibrant fabrics like those from the vibrant **Tula Pink HomeMade** collection.

During Covid, after we used up our scraps, it seems we were striving to capture colour and joy in our quilts, and the sheer number of people participating in the Nebula Block of the Month (nearly 10,000 participants!) has expanded people's incorporation of both bright colours and black and white themes in their quilts. These quilts display excellence in applique, handwork, machine quilting, ruler work, paper piecing and mixed media.

Heather Dawson, co-owner of the store at Golden Mile and Days Road, says "We are so thrilled, and honestly were absolutely gobsmacked that our big dreams of being a host of the tour were fulfilled! We have been striving to get our plans in place to host the quilts." Working with the local health unit to put together the plan so that everyone can attend in the most responsible manner - Stitch by Stitch has chosen to rent a big tent that will allow the quilts to be viewed in an open-air environment.

Quilting By Design has managed a similar safe plan and will be welcoming a few people inside the store at a time to see the quilts. Being selected as one of the shortlist quilts, may mean a meet the quilter moment: Julia Schumm created a beautiful quilt that will be included in the travelling show. "I choose this quilt because of the challenge of piecing circular quilts. I also wanted a quilt that would be a great candidate for custom quilting and am very thankful for the beautiful job my sister, Claudia did."

Heather Dawson, continued, "The winning quilts are so inspiring, and we can't wait to see them in person - some are machine quilted with home sewing machines, and some are made with hand-stitched embellishments. We are especially excited to see what our visitors will create when they are inspired by these next-level creations. We are all about helping people to get to the next level in their own craft and will be teaching people the skills to create their own HomeMade quilts."

"Covid has been an incredible time of growth in the handicraft industry - we have sold many new machines to people this year, and our service team has expanded to 2 full-time staff keeping ahead of mask wear and tear on modern machines and helping people get their heirloom machines up and running again! We have always acted as a hub for quilting for the area, and while people we limited to shopping outside our store we have been expanding our concierge services of quilt design calculations and colour consulting."

Heather took partial ownership of **Stitch By Stitch** on February 29 last year and has hosted a popular Facebook Live each day since mid-March 2020, using the platform to help people make masks and learn how to use their sewing machines. In April, during the lockdown, Heather was often found at a patio table in the parking lot teaching people how to thread their sewing machines so that they could make masks and coordinating teams of sewers who were provided with free fabric to produce fabric PPE for front line workers.

"We are sure that being awarded this quilt tour is karma - and we are so thankful!"

As you can imagine there is a huge interest in this event - **Stitch by Stitch** will have limited tickets releasing this month. Tickets to view the



quilts starting May 19th will be available through the store's website at StitchByStitchKingston.com

Quilting By Design is planning on having a few people at a time visit and tour the quilts and shop, and planning admittance to be first-come-first-served.

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Local Quilt Shops In Kingston:

Stitch By Stitch - stitchbystitchkingston.com

Quilt Retreat Thyme - quiltthyme.ca

Wilton Creek Fabrics - wiltoncreekfabrics.com

On the way to Kingston:

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Prescott - **Watergirl Quilt Co** - watergirlquiltco.com

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Sudoku Answers from p. 6

3	4	9	9	1	8	7	5	2
9	8	5	3	7	2	9	4	1
1	2	7	4	5	6	8	9	3
4	7	1	8	3	9	5	2	6
2	3	8	9	4	5	6	1	7
5	9	9	7	2	1	4	3	8
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6	1	3	5	9	7	2	8	4



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Brampton



Puzzle Piece Afghan

by Kirby Gust

I designed this pattern not knowing at the time that puzzle piece print was used as a symbol for Autism awareness. I have had many requests for this pattern but have never had time to sit down and write one out. Seeing as how April is National Autism Awareness Month, I decided it was a good time to write out the pattern.

My pattern may not be the normal way to write out a crochet pattern, but it's the only way I know how as I do not crochet from patterns.

I find that 5 strands of yarn are about the maximum you want when carrying yarn for patterns, but you can use as many colours as you wish.

My pattern will make a small baby or puppy blanket, but you can add chains in increments of 20 to your chain row for each extra puzzle piece you want to add. For each additional row of puzzle pieces repeat rows 13-24.

Notes:

- Chain 3 at beginning of rows counts as the first dc on each row throughout.
 - Pick up proper colour yarns to match puzzle pieces throughout unless otherwise stated.
 - Ch 103 (use your lightest colour yarn for the chain row and first puzzle piece)**
 - Row 1:** dc in the third chain from hook(counts as first dc), dc in next 19 chains leaving 2 loops on hook at last dc. *To change colours, pick up the next colour yarn by looping over hook and pulling through 2 loops on hook to finish dc (repeat this to pick up all yarns for colour changes throughout).* dc in the next 20 chains carrying the first yarn and all subsequent yarns along the backside of row and looping around it/them with every stitch. With all colours repeat dc 20 picking up new colours on 20th dc until end of chain row (5colours in total). *Before turning make sure the yarns you are carrying are pulled snug to remove any slack* = 100 dc. Ch 3 and turn.
 - Row 2** Ch 3 counts as first dc. Dc into next 19 dc picking up next colour on the last dc. *with new colour dc in next 20 dc, pick up next colour on the last dc.* repeat from * to * to end of row. Ch 3 turn.
 - Row 3** repeat row 2
 - Row 4** repeat row 2
 - Row 5** ch 3 counts as first dc. dc in next 14 dc, pick up proper yarn colour for the next puzzle piece, *dc in next 3 dc, pickup previous colour and dc in next 2 dc. Pick up the previous colour and dc 15*. Repeat from * to * twice, matching puzzle piece colours as you go. With last puzzle piece colour dc in next 20 dc, Ch 3 turn.
 - Row 6** ch 3 counts as first dc. dc in the next 25 dc. *Pick up next colour and dc into next 20dc*, repeat from * to * twice. With the last puzzle piece colour dc in the next 14 dc. Ch 3 and turn.
 - Row 7** ch 3 counts as first dc. dc in the next 13 dc. *Pick up next colour dc into next 20 dc*, repeat from * to * twice. with last puzzle piece colour dc into next 26 dc, ch 3 turn.
 - Row 8** ch 3 counts as first dc. dc in next 14 dc, *pickup next puzzle piece colour and dc into next 3 dc, pickup previous colour and dc into next 2 dc, pickup previous colour and dc into the next 15 dc*, repeat from * to * twice. pick up the next puzzle piece colour and dc into the next 3 dc. Pick up the previous colour and dc into the next 2 dc. Pick up the previous colour and dc into the next 20 dc, ch 3 turn.
 - Row 9** repeat row 3
 - Row 10** repeat row 2
 - Row 11** repeat row 3
 - Row 12** repeat row 2 leaving 2 loops on hook to change colours. Pick up a new colour ch 3 turn.
 - Row 13** ch 3 counts as first dc. dc in next 7 dc, pick up yarn colour to match puzzle piece directly below and dc in next 4 dc, pickup previous yarn colour and dc in next 8 dc. *Pick up a new colour and dc in next 8 dc, pick up colour from puzzle piece directly below and dc in next 4, pick up previous colour and dc in the next 8 dc* repeat from *to* till end of row, chain 3 and turn.
 - Row 14** ch 3 counts as first dc. dc in the next 6 dc, pick up yarn colour from puzzle piece directly below dc in next 6 dc, pick up previous yarn colour dc in next 7 dc. *Pick up next puzzle piece colour dc in the next 7 dc, pick up yarn colour from puzzle piece below dc into next 6 dc, pick up previous yarn colour dc into next 7 dc* repeat * to* to end of row, chain 3 and turn.
 - Row 15** repeat row 13
 - Row 16** repeat row 2
 - Row 17** repeat row 5
 - Row 18** repeat row 6
 - Row 19** repeat row 7
 - Row 20** repeat row 8
 - Row 21** repeat row 3
 - Row 22** repeat 2
 - Row 23** repeat row 3
 - Row 24** repeat row 12
 - Row 25-36** repeat rows 13-24
 - Row 37-48** repeat rows 13-24
 - Row 49-59** repeat rows 13-23
 - Row 60** repeat row 24 dropping each yarn colour when finished and weave in ends
- Tie off and work in ends of last yarn to finish.



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Adventures, Parties & Memories

by Lesley R Nuttall

It was August and our beautiful trees were already starting to lose their leaves. The large trees were one of the reasons that drew us to this house 44 years ago. But just having celebrated our 59th wedding anniversary and raking up this autumn's 20 odd bags of leaves, we realized it was time now to put out the "for sale" sign. The time was now to start looking for a smaller place to live.

We always loved our home, but were starting to find the daily upkeep, cutting grass, gardening, and with winter coming, we knew there would be lots of snow to shovel. Last year, there was about three feet of snow, and we knew we didn't want to go through that again!

When we bought our home, it was such an exciting adventure! Although we had only been in our present home for three years, and although it was very comfortable, I had always wanted a formal dining room. We had contemplated building on, but with the option to purchase the bigger home, with the eat-in kitchen and formal dining room, had won us over.

Soon, however, we discovered that our six-year-old daughter, Lisa, wasn't as enthusiastic as my husband Craig and I were. We had about a month before the sale was final, and in our excitement, we would drive by the house a couple of times a week to admire it. Then we realized that whenever we drove by, Lisa would hide her head down in the backseat and not look at the house. Our son Tommy, was as excited as we were because he knew he would have a new room in the basement and his own bathroom. Once Lisa realized that we were only moving about 5 blocks, and she would still be able to visit her friends, and that they would be able to come to the new house, she, too, became excited!

Life in the new home was wonderful. I had my formal dining room and a beautiful kitchen. The fireplace in the living room was exactly what a family needed on cold winter nights. The extra room at the end of the house was perfect as a TV and piano room. Both of the kids were happy with their new rooms, and hubby loved the extra space. We changed one of the extra bedrooms into a Jacuzzi room which the whole family enjoyed.

But all good things change. Both Tom and Lisa grew up and went off to further their education, and then eventually started their own families. As our house was large, it was always the gathering place for both family and friends. I loved to entertain, which inspired me to write my book, "Secrets of Party Planning."

I looked forward to anyone's birthday, Valentines Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas and anything else that was an excuse for a party! I enjoyed the meal planning, and the decorating for the occasion. My dining room table was always set with our best china and silverware, a table cloth and napkins in a color pertaining to the occasion, and of course, always a special center piece. Then when my husband, Craig, became Mayor of our little city, it gave me even more events to plan for and execute, which I loved!

Alas, the "for sale" sign was up. Living in the same house for 44 years, we had accumulated a lot of stuff. I guess I could have been called a "pack rat." I always said, "you never know when you might need it!" There was lots of garage sales; lots to sell, and even more to give away.

Our piano, we gave to a young fellow who already had two other pianos. I was happy that it went to someone who loved to play and make music!

By this time, we had decided we would look for a two bedroom apartment. I knew that there would be no room for my double keyboard Lowery Organ. So I advertised it for free, and a lovely young couple from a neighboring town fell in love with it. Again, my heart was happy that it was going to a good home.

Although we had many wonderful times in our home, there were many months of bitter sadness when our 54-year-old son's cancer came back after four years in remission. He had moved into our house for the last 6 month of his life, and we were happy to be able to help administer medications, and good nutritional meals. We had even taken him to Toronto for a stem cell transplant which was successful.

But then, because of a radiation nick, he caught sepsis, and within a week was gone. We are so thankful to have had the opportunity to comfort him through his final months.

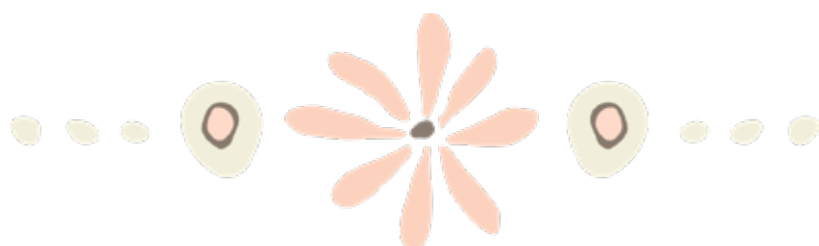
Once our house was sold, I realized that for me, it might be a difficult move after living in Dryden all my life—Thunder Bay has a population about 100 times more. It is only four hours farther East, and I'm happy to say that the move went smoothly, and I am adapting!

We found a beautiful two-bedroom apartment in a four-plex, with a large fenced back yard. I am looking forward to sitting out in that yard in the Spring and Summer and making music on my accordion by myself—or with whomever I can talk into making music with me!

We have started a new adventure in a new place and we are already loving every minute of it! Life and a home is what you make it, and I am so blessed to say my husband and I are happy and content with our new life and looking forward to Spring!



Alissa with friends Catherine & Sara



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Alliston	<i>Quilting Corners Guild</i> We meet at St Johns United Church at 7pm on the first Tuesday or each month, except January.
Ancaster	<i>Ancaster Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Marshall Memorial United Church, 20 Gilbert Ave. at 7pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from September to June.
Arnprior	<i>Arnprior District Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Christian Education Centre, 257 John St. N. at 6:30 pm on the fourth Wed. of each month from Sept. to June.
Barrie	<i>Simcoe County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Simcoe County Museum, 1151 Hwy 26, Midhurst at 1:00 pm on the Fourth Thursday each month except the 2nd Thursday in Dec and 3rd Thursday in June, from September to June. <i>Kempfenfelt Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Lion's Gate Banquet Hall on Blake Street, the 3rd Thursday of the month from 7-9pm <i>Barrie Modern Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Grace United Church, 350 Grove St. East the last Thursday of the month, on alternate months from September to May - 7pm and on various Saturdays during the alternate months, for Activities and Workshops, from October to June.
Belleville	<i>Quinte Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Recreation Centre, 116 Pinnacle Street. At 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month.
Binbrook	<i>Binbrook Country Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Binbrook United Church, 2623 Binbrook Rd. 7:30 pm the last Monday of the month from Sept - Nov and Jan - June.
Bracebridge	<i>The Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka</i> We meet at the Bracebridge Memorial Arena, 169 James St at 1:00 pm on the 2nd. Thursday of the month from September through June.
Brampton	<i>Brampton Quilters Guild</i> We meet on the 4th Thursday of each month from September to June at 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at Jim Archdekin Recreation Centre, 292 Conestoga Dr, Brampton.
Brantford	<i>Brant Heritage Quilters</i> We meet at St George United Church at 7:30 pm. on the second Thursday of the month.
Brockville	<i>The Thousand Islands Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion,180 Park Street at 7 pm on the 4th Thursday evening of the month. No meetings December, January, July and August.
Buckhorn	<i>Buckhorn Area Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Hartley Hall, St. Mathews / St. Adian Anglican Church at 9:00 a.m. on the last Wednesday of the month (excluding July, August and December).
Burlington	<i>Halton Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Mainway Recreation Centre, 4015 Mainway Dr. at 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of the month from September through June).
Caledonia	<i>Caledonia Grand River Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at 7pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June.
Cambridge	<i>Busy Hands Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Preston Scout House, 1580 Queenston Road at 9:30 am on the third Monday of each month.
Chatham	<i>Chatham-Kent Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at St. Paul's Congregational Church, 450 Park Ave W at 7pm on the third Wednesday each month, except December.
Cornwall	<i>Cornwall Quilters Guild</i> We meet at St. Mathews Lutheran Church, 1509 Second St West at 7pm every third Monday evening from September through May.
Courtice	<i>Clarington Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Faith United Church, 1778 Nash Road on at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month.
Dryden	<i>Sunset Country Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at 84 St. Charles Street at 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month.
Elliot Lake	<i>Elliot Lake Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Gentle Shepherd Church, 3 Ottawa Ave. at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays from September through June.
Elmira	<i>The Elmira Needle Sisters</i> We meet at the Elmira Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm on the fourth Monday of the month.
Etobicoke	<i>Etobicoke Quilters Guild</i> We meet at Neilson Park Creative Centre - 56 Neilson Dr. at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.
Georgetown	<i>Halton Hills Quilters Guild</i> We Meet at the Cultural Centre, 9 church St. at 7:15 pm on the fourth Monday of the month (Sep-Nov, Jan-Jun)
Gloucester	<i>Common Thread Quilt Guild</i> We meet at Le Mouvement D'Implication Francophone D'Orléans (MIFO), 6600 rue Carriere in Orleans at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month from September through June.
Goderich	<i>Goderich Quilters' Guild</i> We meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday.
Grimsby	<i>Grimsby Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Livingston Activity Centre at 7pm on the third Thursday of the month.
Guelph	<i>Royal City Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Road at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday each month from September until June.
Gwillinbury	<i>Gwillimbury Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Sharon-Hope United Church, 18648 Leslie St. at 1:00 pm on 4th Monday of the month from September through May.
Hagersville	<i>Haldimand Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Hagersville United Church at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of the month from September through June.
Haliburton	<i>Haliburton Highlands Quilter Guild</i> We meet at the Stanhope Community Centre, 1095 North Shore Rd, Algonquin Highlands at 1:00 pm on the second Wednesday of each month.
Hamilton	<i>Hamilton Quilters Guild</i> We meet The Church of Resurrection, 435 Mohawk Rd. W.at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September through August.
Ingersoll	<i>Oxford Quilters Guild</i> We meet month at the Ingersoll Creative Art Centre, 125 Centennial Lane (in Victoria Park) at 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday and 9:00 am on the first Thursday of each month.
Kanata	<i>The Kanata Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Glen Cairn United Church, 140 Abbeyhill Dr. at 9:30 am on the second Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Kemptville	<i>Kemptville Quilters Guild</i> We meet pm at the Kemptville Pentecostal Church 1964 County Road # 43 at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month (except for holiday Mondays).
Kenora	<i>Lake of the Woods Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at St. Louis Catholic Church, 912 Superior St in Keewatin at 7 PM on the second Thursday of the month.
Kingston	<i>Kingston Heirloom Quilters</i> We meet at St. Johns Anglican Church Hall in Portsmouth Village at 9:30 am on the first Tuesday and 7:00 pm on the first Thursday of each month.
Kingsville	<i>Erie Shores Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Kingsville Arena, 2nd floor at 7p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month.
Kirkton	<i>Huron, Perth Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Kirktown/Wooddham Community Centre at 9:00 am on the second Tuesday of the month from September through May.
Kitchener - Waterloo	<i>The Waterloo County Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Parkside Community Room of the Parkside Arena in Waterloo at 1:30pm and 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month.
Lambton	<i>North Lambton Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Port Franks Hall on the 4th Wednesday of the month.
Limestone	<i>Limestone Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at The Senior's centre in Kingston at 7:15 pm on the first Wednesday of the month.
Lindsay	<i>Lindsay Creative Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Celebrations, 35 Lindsay St. N at 1:00 pm every 2nd Monday of the month except for October, December and June.
Manitoulin Island	<i>Island Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Community Hall in Mindemoya at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month from September though June.
Markdale	<i>Queen's Bush Quilters</i> We meet at Annesley United Church, 82 Toronto St. at 7:00 pm on the 1st Tuesday of the month from September to June.
Meaford	<i>Georgian Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Meaford Opera House, Sykes St. at 1:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month.
Mississauga	<i>Cawthra Senior's Centre</i> We meet at the Cawthra Senior's Centre at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and August). <i>Mississauga Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Tomken Twin Arenas at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and August).

Miramichi	<i>Miramichi Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Seamans Hospital at 7:00 pm every Tuesday and 10:00 am every Thursday.
Napanee	<i>Heritage Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Strathcona Paper Center at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of each month from September through to June.
Newmarket	<i>The Region of York Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Drive on the fourth Wednesday of the month from September through May. <i>Moraine Quilt Guild</i> We meet in the hall at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church – 484 Water Street, Newmarket at 9:30 am – 12 Noon for Social Sew and 1:00-3:30 pm for the Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month year round.
Niagara Region	<i>The Niagara Heritage Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Merrion Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines on the third Wednesday of each month.
Nobleton	A chapter of the <i>Modern Quilting Guild</i> We travel to various locations in Southern Ontario on a rotating basis.
Norwich	<i>Quaker Quilt Guild</i> We meet at 89 Stover St N, Norwich at 9:30 am on the second Monday of the month.
Orangeville	<i>Dufferin Piecemakers' Quilting Guild</i> We meet at the Orangeville Event Centre at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of the month from September through June.
Orilla	<i>Orillia Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 215 Mississauga St. E. at 1:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.
Orono	<i>Ganaraska Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Seniors Activity Centre. 200 Station St. W at 7:15 pm on the last Wednesday of the month.
Oshawa	<i>Durham Trillium Quilters'</i> We meet at the Zion Christian Reformed Church 409 Adelaide Ave. E. Oshawa at 7:00pm every second Monday Sept.- June
Ottawa	<i>Almonte Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Almonte Civitan Club, 500 Almonte Street Active at 7:00 pm from September through June (no meeting in December). <i>Ottawa Valley Quilters Guild</i> We meet at St. Anthony's Soccer Club at 7:30 pm on the first Monday of the month. <i>QuiltCo</i> We meet at the Trinity Anglican Church in Old Ottawa South on the second Monday evening of the month except July and August. <i>Owen Sound Bluewater Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, 1900 3rd Av E at 7:00 pm every third Monday from March to December (except May which is on the second).
Perth	<i>Lanark County Quilters Guild</i> We meet at Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month.
Pickering	<i>Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month September through May, excluding December.
Port Loring	<i>Argyle Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Lions Den in Arnstein on the second Thursday of the month.
Port Perry	<i>Port Perry Patchers</i> We meet at the Hope Christian Reform Church, 14480 Old Simcoe Rd. in Prince Albert at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Prince Edward	<i>Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the BCR Church in Bloomfield at 7:00 pm County on the second Wednesday of each month.
Rayside	<i>Rayside Balfour Quilting and Stitchery Guild</i> We meet at the Chelmsford Arena (upstairs) 215 Edward Avenue, Chelmsford, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. every Monday from September to May.
Renfrew	<i>Quilt Guild Renfrew & Area</i> We meet at the Horton Community Centre, 1005 Castleford Road, Horton from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from September to June.
Richmond	<i>Richmond Area Quilters Guild (RAQG)</i> We meet at the Richmond Legion, 6430 Ottawa Street at 7:30 on the third Wednesday of each month.
Ruthven	<i>Erie Shores Quilter's Guild</i> We meet at the Ruthven-Olinda United Church every third Tuesday.
Sarnia	<i>Sarnia Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Redeemer Christian Reformed Church 5814 Blackwell Sdrd, Sarnia at 7pm the first Monday of each month.
Sault St. Marie	<i>Stitches From The Heart Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the Senior's Centre on Bay St at 7pm the last Monday of the month.
Scarborough	<i>Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the month September through May, excluding December.
Simcoe	<i>Twilight Quilters' Guild of Norfolk County</i> We meet at the Old Wyndham Church, 30 Glendale Crescent at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the month. <i>Norfolk County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Vittoria & District Community Centre on the first Tuesday of each month except October.
Stittsville	<i>The Quilters Club</i> We meet at the The Pretty Street Community Centre at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.
St Marys	<i>The Stonetowne Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the End Zone Room of the Pyramid Centre at 9:30 am on the third Tuesday of the month from September to May.
Stony Creek	<i>Stoney Creek Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 12 King Street East, at 6:30 pm on first Wednesday of the month from September to June.
Sudbury	<i>Sudbury & District Quilting & Stitchery Guild</i> We meet at 140 Durham Street at 7:00 pm on every Tuesday from September to April.
Sutton	<i>The Georgina Pins and Needles</i> We meet at the Knox United Church 34 Market Street at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June.
Thunder Bay	<i>Thunder Bay Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at Calvin Luthern Church on Edward Street at 7:30pm on the 3rd Monday of each month from September to June.
Toronto	<i>Etobicoke Quilters' Guild</i> We meet at the Neilson Park Creative Centre at 7:15 pm on the third Monday of the month. <i>Toronto Modern Quilt Guild</i> We meet at The Workroom Studio, 46 Nobel St Studio 102 at 3:00 pm on the last Sunday of each month. <i>York Heritage Quilters Guild</i> We meet at the Toronto Botanical Gardens on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September through May.
Wasaga Beach	<i>Yorkshire Rose Quilters' Guild of Toronto</i> We meet at Danforth Mennonite Church, 2174 Danforth Avenue at 7:30 pm on the second Wednesday of the month from September through May. <i>Slope to Slope Quilters Guild</i> We meet in the Community Hall at the Wasaga Stars Arena at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month September through June.
Waterloo	<i>The Waterloo County Quilters' Guild</i> We meet the Albert McCormick Community Centre at 1:30 pm and 7pm on the third Wednesday of each month from September through June
Whitby	<i>Kindred Hearts Guild</i> We meet at the Whitby Baptist Church on the third Tuesday of the month.
Windsor	<i>Windsor' s quilters Guild</i> We meet at Fogular Furlan Club, 1800 E.C. Row at 9:30 am and 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from September to June.
York Region	<i>The Moraine Quilt Guild</i> We meet at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 1:00 on the first Wednesday of the month.



Maybe I am “Crafty” After All

By Amy Carter, Publisher of The Florida Register, The Virginia Register and The Country Register of CT-MA-RI

I’ve always said I’m not crafty. I can’t paint. I can barely draw a stick person (seriously)! I don’t scrapbook. And I dare say that I don’t sew, quilt or knit. The papers I publish are certainly about the needle arts – I’m in awe of those with needle art skills!!

Our statewide publications (we’ve published as many as 6 editions for a period of years together) have been my craft outlet, I guess. The papers are like jigsaw puzzles (which I do love) – the challenge of getting all the ads and articles arranged to fit on each page, etc is so similar to doing a puzzle. And as for scrapbooking.... I always say that the issues of our papers, which include a couple photos of our girls, will be their scrapbooks!

As a teen, I loved doing jigsaw puzzles. In fact, after I would finish them, we’d frame them. I just recently got rid of the maybe 15 two feet x three feet framed puzzles we had hung in our daughters “play room” that were puzzles I had done in high school. Another teen “craft” I had liked was latch hook. During some recent purging in our storage area, I came across a couple of the latch hooks I had done. They are still in good shape – just not sure how to make them into something useable.... because I’m not crafty!

I’ve done a couple paint nights over the years with friends. We would often joke about wondering how many of our paintings end up together at the local Goodwill or the like. Folks would wonder why there were 10 of the same painting yet all slightly different.



With 2020 being what it was, I found myself returning to some past crafts and trying some new ones. I did a couple puzzles. One puzzle I am still working on is a gift from my daughters for my birthday. It is a puzzle of one of the recent photos of all 4 of us. I did the pictured latch hook of Santa. I like it because it came with the pillow backing so I now have a new pillow instead of just having a hooked top piece like I mentioned earlier.

I have enjoyed a local DIY shop for projects over the last couple of years. I encourage you to check out similar shops in your area that offer classes for creating – you’ll find them within these pages. My first project there was a chunky blanket knitted with your hands instead of needles. It is pretty, but because my knitting wasn’t consistent, it has started really getting stretched and sort of ugly honestly. It’s still warm though! Dave, Rachel and I (Grace couldn’t join us that night) also did some coffee table trays as gifts for our parents for Christmas 2019. Those turned out great! For a project for Rachel, Grace and I to work on this December, I got one of their “to go” projects of 6 wood ornaments. It was a fun quick project but wish I had mixed the gray paint color at once instead of in batches because we had some non-matching issues. Luckily that’s hard to see from afar!

Another “crafty” thing I’ve taken on is painting a couple pieces of furniture with chalk paint. We changed our décor in living room, but had coffee and end tables that didn’t match any longer but are made from good solid wood. So, chalk paint to the rescue! Again, some learning curves there (dark black is hard to accomplish) but the finished pieces look nice.

I started making another blanket knitted with my hands instead of needles before Christmas but ran out of yarn and then couldn’t find the same yarn for over a month. In my search for the first yarn, I ran across the Bernat Alize Blanket-EZ. It’s officially described as “Time to get crafty with Bernat Alize Blanket-EZ! This yarn features unique preformed loops. With no needles or hooks required, Blanket-EZ projects are completed faster and easier than traditional knitting.” Yes, this is what I needed. Consistent loop issue handled for me and it’s soooo very soft. I’ve now made 3 blankets with this yarn and plan on others soon. Check for it at your local yarn shops! Take it from the one who isn’t crafty.... It makes being crafty easy!

Maybe I’m becoming crafty?? Or maybe I was always crafty; I just didn’t spend time trying. Just don’t ask me to draw anything, please!

5” Pincushion or Mug Rug

Cut Wool Strips as follows	
A - Center	1” x 1”
B	1” x 1”
C	1” x 2”
D	1” x 2”
E	1” x 3”
F	1 1/4” x 3”
G	1 1/4” x 4 1/4”
H	1 1/4” x 4 1/4”
I	1 1/4” x 5 1/2”

1. Cut Shape Flex fusible interfacing 5 1/2” x 5 1/2”.
2. Place interfacing fusible side up on ironing surface.
3. Place wool strips in order indicated on top of the fusible interfacing so that each strip lays exactly side by side with no interfacing showing.
4. Fuse in place. Flip over and fuse again from back side.
5. Use Valdani Size 12 Pearl Cotton to add a decorative stitch between each piece of wool. We used the Fly Stitch. Check out needlenthread.com for tutorials.
6. Cut piece of flannel or wool 5 1/2” x 5 1/2” for backing.
7. Place right sides together with completed block. Machine stitch around edges using a 1/4” seam allowance, leaving a 3” opening on one side. Clip corners, turn right sides out through opening. Press.
8. Stuff with fiberfill or crushed walnut shells for a pincushion, then stitch opening closed. Leave flat, stitch opening closed, then topstitch around edges for mug rug.

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APRIL FOOLS US!

April enters laughing!

With jokes and follies, fools us into thinking

She is frivolous. No!

April has work to do:

Rains wash away the snowy grit of March.

Dawns come early and twilights linger longer,

Telling the penitent's heart

That Easter's new Beginning is near.

Lilac and violets, forsythia and freesia,

Determined dandelions – all bloom with abandon,

Declaring that Spring is here to stay.

April shows us how to celebrate

The gifts only Earth can make.

Laugh, April! Then roll up your yellow sleeves.

We have work to do.

~Barbara Kalkis ©2020

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A map of Ontario, Canada, showing the locations of 14 cities marked with red stars. The cities are: Red Lake, Kenora, Dryden, Sioux Lookout, Thunderbay, Marathon, Cochrane, Earleton, New Liskeard, Sault Ste Marie, Thessalon, Espanola, Corbeil, and Sturgeon Falls. The map includes Lake Superior to the north and Lake Huron to the east, with various islands and peninsulas labeled. The cities are distributed across the province, with a concentration in the southern and eastern regions.

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Finding Community: Quilt Guilds

by Jeanette Lukowski

I was helping a group of church quilters working on donation quilts when I first heard about quilt guilds.

Curious, I asked what a quilt guild does.

"There are monthly meetings, trunk shows, and service projects we work on. It's a lot of fun," one of the church quilters shared. "There are about 75 members. You should come!"

Being an introvert, I don't think of myself as a woman to run towards new groups. (Or was that just the excuse I made for myself at the time? Thinking about it now, several years later, I think about the miles I've traveled and the places I've gone since that conversation about quilt guilds.)

The same church quilter suggested I join the quilt guild a number of more times that year, but I knew looking for a new job would interrupt anything I might start.

When I moved during the summer of 2019, though, I committed to finding a quilt guild in my new area. The research-phase was as simple as walking into the town's only quilt store, and asking, "What can a new quilter in town do around here?" (I walked out of the shop with a business card for the guild—and a small bag of fabric.)

Three weeks later, I attended my first guild meeting. Although I selected a seat in the back row by myself, I wasn't alone for too long. The only challenge remaining at that time was that the quilt guild only offered daytime meetings—and I was starting my new job the following week.

Thankfully, there were others who apparently expressed interest in re-starting the evening quilt guild group, as the night group started up again in January. I was there, and applied for annual membership before I left! I was happy to return in February, and even took a project for show-and-tell. The support of the women was grand!

Returning for another meeting in March, with another project for show-and-tell, I felt more comfortable with the group; whispers about COVID-19 left me nervous about the future, though.

Things went "virtual" after that. Emails and newsletters have kept us anchored together as a group, and the quilt guild created ways for us to "stay together" virtually until we can meet face-to-face again. First, the President's quilt design was presented to commemorate her years of service: a quilt of face masks.

No kidding! Not my first choice of things I would want to commemorate, but I decided to participate anyway. I made my block, "signed" it with fabric marker, and returned it to the quilt guild president.

Next project: a sampler quilt! Twelve blocks of different designs, I chose Southwest fabrics and 6" blocks. The plan is to have it finished for October's Quilt Show. (Fingers crossed that we can have it!)

Nervous about making friends in my new community, it turned out to be as simple as attending a quilt guild meeting. Though we can't get together as a guild much this year, these ladies have still anchored me with friendships, connections, and community.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR NEEDLE POINTS?



SLIGHTLY ROUNDED POINT

The slightly rounded point is the standard point shape for household sewing machines. This point shape is qualified for trouble-free sewing of most materials and many applications.

The following sewing needles have a slightly rounded point:

- Universal Needle
- Super Universal Needle
- Topstitch Needle
- Embroidery Needle
- Metallic Needle
- Double Eye Needle
- Hemstitch Needle
- Quick Threading Needle



LIGHT BALL POINT

This point shape displaces woven and knitted threads, directly piercing the spaces between the threads. Therefore, it avoids material damages. This is the best point shape for embroidery.

The following sewing needles have a light ball point:

- Embroidery Needle
- Gold Embroidery Needle



ACUTE ROUND POINT

This is a slim, acute point shape, useful for accurate piercing of densely woven and coated materials. It creates an exact seam appearance with straight stitches and helps to reduce seam puckering.

The following sewing needle has an acute round point:

- Microtex Needle



MEDIUM BALL POINT (SUK)

The medium ball point is more rounded than a light ball point. Therefore, it can be used for coarser knitwear, for material containing Lycra/Spandex and it is also very suitable for medium to heavy denim.

The following sewing needles have a medium ball point:

- Stretch Needle
- Jersey Needle
- Jeans Needle



SLIGHTLY ROUNDED POINT WITH SPECIAL TAPER

The slim point with special taper to the slightly rounded point easily penetrates thick layers of fabric and batting and avoids material damages. It is the best point shape for quilting and patchwork.

The following needle has a slightly rounded point with special taper:

- Quilting Needle



TWIST POINT (LL)

This cutting point has a lens-shaped cross-section and the incision is made at an angle to the direction of the seam. It provides easier penetration of leather and leather-like materials. This point shape creates a decorative stitch slightly inclined towards the left (in household machines which are threaded from the front).

The following sewing needle has a twist point:

- Leather Needle

Information and images provided by SCHMETZneedles.com.

Dryden



I'm a Little Bit Jelly
Mystery Quilt 2021 for The Country Register
Designed by Ann Jones

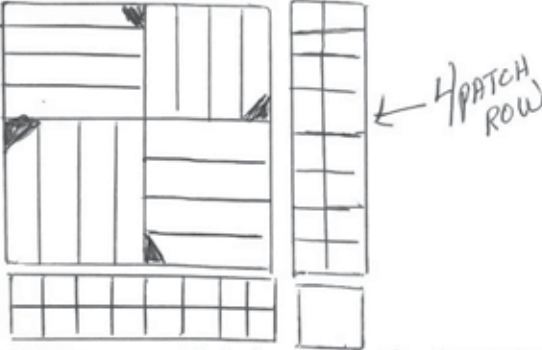
If you have any questions contact Erica at Nine Patch Quilt & Fabrics, Nevada, MO
ericaskouby@gmail.com or 417-667-7100. Miss one of the parts?
Check www.countryregister.com

PART 3: Putting it All Together

Using Fabric B: Cut Sixteen (16) 4.5" squares.

Set aside Nine (9) of your 16.5" block and Eight (8) of your 4 patch row sets.

Follow the diagram to assemble 16 blocks. Sew one 4-patch row to the side of 16 of your strip set blocks. Sew a 4.5" block to the end of 16 of your 4-patch rows and then sew one of these to the bottom of the block. These blocks should measure 20.5" X 20.5"



Next take 4 of the 16.5" strip set blocks that were set aside and sew a 4-patch row to the BOTTOM of each. Press your seams.



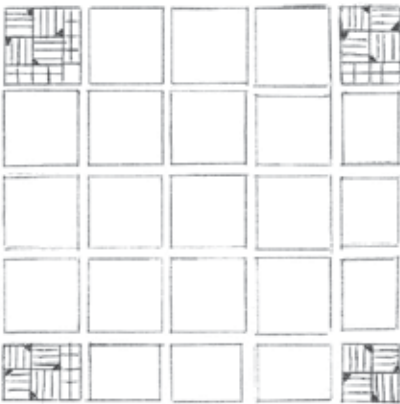
Next take 4 of the 16.5" strip set blocks that were set aside and sew a 4-patch row to the RIGHT SIDE of each. Press your seams.



Follow the diagram to set the quilt together. There will be 4 blocks across and 5 down. The 5th block ACROSS will be the block you sewed the 4-patch row at the BOTTOM.

The 5th block DOWN will be the block you sewed the 4-patch row to the RIGHT SIDE. The block in the VERY BOTTOM RIGHT will not have a 4-patch row sewn to it.

Note: I have not drawn in ALL the lines in the diagram, but shown you the positions only with 1 block in each row.



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GIRLFRIEND WISDOM

Friendship is a Patchwork of Sweet Memories

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It might be quilting - gardening - walking buddies - sisters or neighbors, finding a common activity builds memories. Sweet Memories are treasures in our lives. They bring such joy and laughter to our storytelling as we share with one another. Sharing brings them back to life anytime we choose. Dr. Seuss is quoted as saying,

Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.

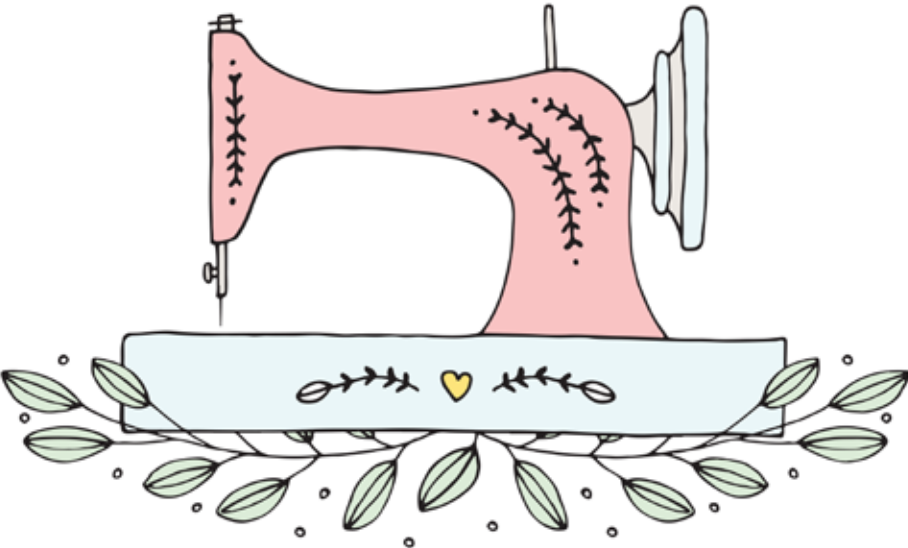
A moment lasts all of a second - but memories live on forever!

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM:

Strive to create more memories in the moments of your day!

Joy & Blessings,

Girlfriend Wisdom is written by Jody Houghton®. For color files of this writing contact Jody at: jodyhoughton@msn.com or www.JodyHoughtonDesigns.etsy.com



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