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October / November 2019 3



In this Issue

| About Our Cover Art |
|---------------------|
| Free Patterns |
| Map |
| Recipes16, 2 |
| Quilt Guild Guide |

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Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

OCT. 12 - OCT. 14 Buckhorn Harvest Craft Show - Harcourt OCT. 17 - OCT. 21 Espanola Fibre Arts Festival - Espanola OCT. 18 OCT. 19 Waterloo County Quilters' Guild 2019 Quilt Exhibit - Waterloo Woodstock Fleece Festival - Woodstock OCT. 19 Saint john Bosco Parish Craft Show - Brockville OCT. 19 - OCT. 20 OCT. 19 - OCT. 20 Presenting Our - Espanola Quilted Odyssey @ Brampton Fairgrounds - Caledon OCT. 25 - OCT. 27 Art Ontario - Toronto Trinity Quilt Show - Verona OCT. 26

NOVEMBER

NOV. 1 - NOV. 2 Silver Threads – The Magic of Cloth – Act VII Quilt Show - Mono NOV. 1 - NOV. 3 The Maker's Hand - Wellington NOV. 10 NOV. 14 - NOV. 17 The Spirit of Christmas Craft Show - Pickering Signatures Show - Ottawa Craft Show - Cambridge NOV. 16 NOV. 2 - NOV. 3 NOV. 2 - NOV. 3 Traditions Christmas Čraft Show - Orleans Artisan and Craft Show - Chatham NOV. 22 - NOV. 23 DTQG Threads of Friendship Quilt Show & Sale - Oshawa Classic Holiday Craft Show - Oakville NOV. 23 Christmas in Ancaster Craft Show - Ancaster NOV. 23 - NOV. 24 NOV. 23 - NOV. 24 Comfort & Joy Craft Show - Kanata Just In time For Christmas Craft Show - Brampton NOV. 30 **NOV. 30** Old Fashioned Christmas Craft Show - Newmarket NOV. 7 - NOV. 9 Fall Shop Hop - SW Ontario Region Guild Sale - Owen Sound NOV. 8 - NOV. 9 NOV. 9 - NOV. 10 Holiday Magic Craft Show - Ottawa

GIRLFRICHD WISDOM



We are all here together - in our neighborhoods, cities and towns. Time to pay attention to each other - to watch out for one another. Remember the saying "It takes a Village"? The rest of the African proverb is that it takes a village to raise a child. That means that an entire community of people must interact with children so they can experience and grow in a safe and healthy environment. As adults, we need the same interaction with others to experience and grow in a safe

(ALWAYS AVAILABLE to render ASSISTANCE)

and healthy community. If we are open and always available to render assistance when and where needed, life's tasks, projects, and challenges would be more joyful and successful.

Another age old saying that is very true is:

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK.

Girlfriend Wisdom: May your heart and hands Always be Available to render Assistance in your Village.

Joy & Blessings, Jody

Girlfriend Wisdom is written and illustrated by Jody Houghton®.
Color files of this writing and artwork are available: www.JodyHoughtonDesigns.etsy.com

Dearest Readers,

Just a short snippet this issue dearest readers, please enjoy this issue as much as we enjoy bringing it to you!

Well, summer is officially over! It came too late and it definitely left too early!

I can't get too upset though, because I do enjoy the Fall as well. The air is already noticeably cooler, so that means getting jackets and sweaters out to take advantage of these lovely days of leaves turning and early sunsets.

While it's not Summer, that's OK though, because now we get to look forward to Thanksgiving. I just can't wait to get all of our family together again to share good food, good wine and to continue making great memories.

Talking about Thanksgiving, I am grateful everyday for you, dearest readers. Your support of our excellent advertisers makes The Country Register of Ontario a reality. On behalf of myself and our entire team, Thank You!!

Harriet



Our Search for Cover Artwork -

Across Canada and the U.S, you can always tell *The Country Register* by it's 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



Meet our cover artist Leah Dockrill

Leah is a visual artist residing in Toronto. Her thirty -year art practice includes collage, painting, and digital art.

Portrait collage is the art form she finds most engaging. Leah says it takes her back to the paper doll universe of her childhood - that time of fantasy when she could direct and change the lives of her paper people, all day long.

Leah's work has been exhibited in both Canada and the U.S. and she has won numerous awards. In recent months several art and literary reviews have published her images – both collages and paintings. Some of these are High Shelf Press, The Esthetic Apostle, Cosumnes River Jornal, Glassworks magazine, Mud Season Review; Art Ascent: Art & Literature Journal (August 2018 (Gold Artist Award) and April 2019 (Bronze Artist Award); The Raw Art Review, Split Rock Review, and The Remembered Arts Journal.

Leah has been an elected member of the Society of Canadian Artists since 2000. Her website is www.leahdockrill.net

October / November 2019 5



POLYNESIAN BOUQUET

BLOCK 5

Finished Block is 15 ½ Square

Designed by Phyllis Moody Copyright March 2012

Block 5

All measurements given for background blocks and stems include a 1/4 inch seam allowance.

Add seam allowance to appliqué pieces.

Cut $\frac{3}{4}$ inch wide on bias to make small stems. Iron in half. Stitch in place down the center and fold over to hide the raw edge, slip stitch the edge.

For large stems cut 1 ¼ inches wide on bias. Iron in half. Stitch in place down the center and fold over to hide the raw edge, slip stitch the edge.

To prepare your background: Cut 18 inch Square for background fabric. Fold in half in each direction, lightly press with dry iron (this will be your center reference marks for placing your pattern). Use your favorite method of transferring pattern layout.

Use your favorite method for preparing appliqué pieces.

Note: Pre-cut freezer applique papers are available for purchase at Phyllis Home Decor (514-425-0775)

Supply list

Fat 1/8 each of 4 purples

Fat 1/8 of yellow gold

Fat 1/8 each of 4 greens

Fat 1/8 each of 2 reds

Fat 1/8 of pink

Fat 1/8 each of 2 blues

Fat 1/8 each of 3 oranges

Fat 1/8 of yellow

Fat ¼ of brown for stems

Studio Dies Used

Bird Trio 50435

Feather #3 50113

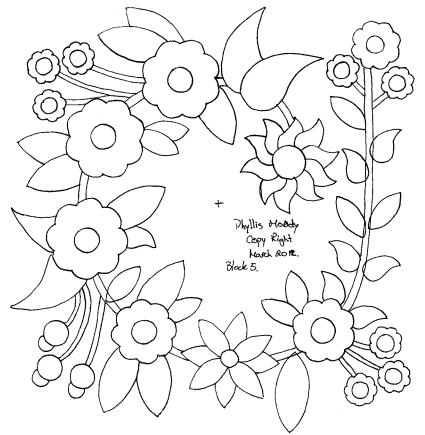
Feather #2 50112

Rose of Sharon # 2 50343

Rose of Sharon 50342

Circles 1 ¼ 50636

(Enlarge by approx. 270% to get a finished block of 15-1/2" Square)





Clutter Happens

Slay the Closet Monster

by Julie Pirtle

It's just scary. That dark chasm in your bedroom mocks and taunts you to open it like a scene in a horror flick. (Cue creepy music track.) Just like the victim in the movie, you are drawn to do so even while knowing that you don't want to. The victim will open it because, well, it's in the script! You, however, have to because you need to get dressed! That cavern of darkness . . . that hiding place of all things . . . that black hole. Yes, my friends, it's your closet.

I personally think that one of the main issues with bedroom closets is they become the catch all for homeless items. Frankly, it's easier to hide those "what do I do with" items behind a door. The problem with this immediate fix is that those items usually don't come out again and they seem to multiply behind closed doors! If this is you (and it is most of us!), then I have some tips to get you out of your own horror film—alive and unburdened!

As with anything you start to organize, it is important to determine the purpose of the space. ANYTHING that does not fit that purpose needs to leave. Your closet should not be the permanent resting place of the set of china from your Great Aunt Gertrude (that you never liked, anyway) or the dumbbell set that last saw the light of day in 2005. Take everything out that does not belong and put it in a temporary staging area in another room. You can deal with all of them later. Focus entirely on the closet and its purpose.

Now it is time to be ruthless. RUTHLESS! You are about to face your clothing spirits, past, present and future! Clothing conjures such an emotional attachment to memories and events. Maybe that is because it is really is a second skin and somehow becomes part of us. The reality is that even snakes regenerate new skins on a constant basis and they don't keep the old ones! Such is the way with clothing. It served its purpose at the time and its time has come and gone.

I don't encourage the line of thought that, if it hasn't been worn in 12 months, it should go. Most closets are so full that you aren't wearing many items because they are hidden. Instead, it is important to weed out the obvious items. Purge those that are frayed, pilled, stained or torn. Don't keep an item if you have INTENDED to fix it for the last 18 months! It obviously is not an important part of your wardrobe if that is the case. LET IT GO! (Hmmm.... I am now hearing Elsa singing "Let It Go" from the movie Frozen. Much nicer than horror movie music.)

Next, it is time to address the clothing spirit of the past. Old prom dresses, high school t-shirts and the like are not clothing. They are memories. The funny thing is, we will still have the memories without having to look at the items. Take a picture of them and, with love, let them go. (Little girls love to play dress up in old prom dresses. My favorite as a child was my Mom's amazing 50's netted, full skirted prom dress. That dress created a lot of memories for me as I danced around like Cinderella. You can do the same for your children and grandchildren!)

While we are on the subject of clothing of the past, it is important to



bring up the dreaded issue of SIZES. Yep. All the clothes you have kept as you have watched your body weight go up and down are now "weighting" for you to address them (sorry, I couldn't help myself!). If it is not your current size, let them go. The exception I use with my clients is to only keep a few items that are the next size down. We usually store ten tops and five each of shorts, pants and dresses. These items can be put in an under the bed storage case and will be your clothing spirit of the future. As you lose weight, you can use those items as needed. When you drop additional sizes, reward yourself with new clothing. Chances are the items that are a few sizes too small are or will be out of style anyway. Besides, you deserve new clothing for all of your hard work!

The spirit of clothing present is all of the things that currently fit you. When going through this part of your collection, be prepared to try things on. Get rid of anything that is uncomfortable or makes you want to tug or rearrange it. It can be fun if you have a best friend or two come over to help. Open a bottle of wine (or more!) and seat them comfortably in your bedroom as this will take some time. Listen to what they have to say. Your girls want you to look your best and they will not let you down.

Now that you have eradicated the clothing demons, you should only be left with pieces that work for you. There is nothing more refreshing than opening that closet door and knowing that anything you put on will fit and make you feel fabulous. (Unlike the victim in the horror movie.... who is now being chased around the bed by an evil entity!) Go forth and conquer. You've got this.

Julie Pirtle is a professional organizer and owner/operator of Clutter Happens in Mesa, AZ.



Salvage Style

Storage Drawer

By Marla Wilson

If you have a dresser, desk, etc. that is no longer usable, do not throw away the individual drawers. They can be used in many other ways. You can keep the finish as is or paint, stencil, decoupage or embellish in any way that suits you. An individual drawer can be hung on the wall as a shelf or several drawers can be hung in a grouping. Some may be hung vertical and some horizontal for a more interesting effect. Use a drawer on the kitchen counter for cookbooks or salt and pepper shakers and napkins or in the bathroom for make-up or hand towels. Add legs to a drawer to make a small table or nightstand or use short legs and make it a pet bed. Let the kids each decorate a drawer to keep their art supplies or school papers in. A stray drawer can be the start of a fun and versatile project.

The drawer I did had a decorative front with lots of grooves in it. I wanted the brown finish to show through my paint, so I lightly sanded it and then brushed the paint on in the grooves and wiped it back off. I wanted a worn distressed look. I lightly sanded the sides and back and stenciled a design on them. I found some spindles and cut them down for the legs. I screwed them on through the inside bottom and painted them. For the inside of the drawer, I used decoupage paper in a design that complimented my stencil and the look I was going for. When everything was dry, I gave it two coats of clear acrylic. I think it will be a pretty addition to the coffee table for magazines or a bundle of dried flowers.

Marla Wilson is the owner of The Rusty Wheel, a gift boutique in Scandia, KS. The shop features her floral designs and repurposed "junk," as well as kitchen and baby gifts, home decor and fashion accessories. Follow The Rusty Wheel on Facebook, or www.therustywheel.vpweb.com or contact her at stumpy1954@hotmail.com

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Counting Down the Autumn Garden

by Wendi Rogers, Ph.D.

Autumn is a more agreeable time for gardening than spring and early summer. With autumn gardening, one misses the hottest days and driest, or wettest, time of the year. If you are experiencing a cool, wet spring and early summer, an autumn garden may be the only option if you enjoy growing your own vegetables. Planning is the key to an enjoyable and abundant gardening experience. Autumn gardening is a combination of knowing how long a plant requires to reach maturity and managing for soil requirements.

Not all varieties of a garden plant will mature in the same time period. Read seed packaging for days to maturity of your favorite variety. Count backward from the date of your expected "killing" frost and plan accordingly. For example, if your "average" killing frost is expected October 15, your time for planting is mid-August. Vegetables that are traditionally cool-season vegetables may not grow until after the worst of the summer heat has passed. Soil temperature needs to be less than 90°F (32.2°C) for successful germination of most garden plants. Plants requiring direct seeding into the garden soil, for example carrot, which needs at least 90 days from germination to reach maturity, may be challenged by soil temperatures greater than 85°F (29.4°C).

With autumn gardens, you quickly learn to appreciate your garden soil. Consult your regional, online mesonet (type mesonet in your browser search and state options will come up) for current soil temperatures in your area. Soil can be too hot for seed germination. For your average garden vegetable, soil temperatures greater than 90°F (32.2°C) will reduce seed germination success. Vegetables such as leaf lettuce (45 days to maturity), broccoli (60 days), and spinach (55 days) can be started indoors and planted once the worst of the summer heat has passed. Autumn gardens may not include snap peas (60 days) every year as peas optimal germination soil temperature is less than 85°F (29.4°C). Soils rich in organic compost and heavily mulched may be cooler. You can monitor your garden soil temperature by purchasing a soil thermometer from your local garden store or online retailers.

Planning your autumn garden around a garden plant's days to maturity and germination requirements can lead to a fun autumn garden experience. You can plan accordingly for that Magnificent Halloween Pumpkin as the average pumpkin requires at least 120 days from emergence to maturity with germination soil temperature no greater than 90°F (32.2°C), and not less than 70°F (21.1°C). The important thing is to have fun in your garden. It is the best of years when there are garden-fresh tomato slices on the U.S. Thanksgiving table. Autumn's cooler temperatures and autumn flowers' comforting colors will make gardening fun as you prepare for winter.

Table. Garden vegetables, estimated days from germination to maturity, and estimated maximum soil temperature for successful germination.

| | 1 | 1 | | |
|---|----------------|------------------|--|--|
| | | Estimated | | |
| | | Maximum Soil | | |
| | Estimated Days | Temperature °F | | |
| | from | (°C) for Optimal | | |
| | Germination to | Vegetable Seed | | |
| Garden Plant | Maturity | Germination | | |
| Bush, snap | | | | |
| green beans | 60 | 85 (29.4) | | |
| Beets | 60 | 85 (29.4) | | |
| Broccoli | 60 | 85 (29.4) | | |
| Carrots | 90 | 85 (29.4) | | |
| Kale | 45 | 60 (15.6) | | |
| Head lettuce | 75 | 86 (30.0) | | |
| Leaf lettuce | 45 | 86 (30.0) | | |
| Peas | 60 | 75 (23.9) | | |
| Radishes (red) | 21 | 86 (30.0) | | |
| Spinach | 55 | 75 (23.9) | | |
| Turnips | 35 | 104 (40.0) | | |
| Days to maturity and soil temperatures summarized | | | | |

from University of California, K-State (Manhattan, KS), University of Georgia Extension documents and publications

Wendi Rogers lives in Wabaunsee County, Kansas, and began gardening when she started and sold her first marigold seedlings when she was 8 years old. She has a Ph.D. in Agronomy from the University of Missouri, a Master of Science in Animal and Range Science from North Dakota State University and a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Fort Hays State University. She likes to help people grow their own food.

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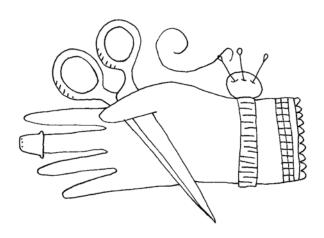




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My Grandmother's Hands

by Kerri Habben

I have my grandmother's hands.

I know this from the way my fingers are thinning or my knuckles are growing slightly wider. I see it in how a couple of veins are already a bit pronounced. They meander as translucent lines through an ever-changing landscape.

When I was a little girl, I would sit on my grandmother's lap. As she held my hand, I fiddled with her own rivers of blue, wiggling them back and forth in skin whose elasticity was gradually easing. Then I would turn her wedding rings on her fingers. They always traveled around and back again with the diamond often tucked inside her hand.

Her wedding band is a thin one of white gold. She used to trace her finger over it and tell me, "There were orange blossoms engraved here when we got married." Now the ring is gently smoothed from a life well lived.

In late August 2006, I eased those rings from where they had lived for almost 70 years. From her hospital bed she watched me slide them onto the same finger on my own hand. I wore her wedding rings for the next two weeks until she was in the earth beside the man who gave them to her. My grandfather had passed away eighteen years before in 1988.

I called my grandmother "Huba." It began when I was nine months old. Being a bit unconventional, she never tried to mold me into calling her something more traditional. I have been told that my first semblance of a sentence emerged like this: "Huba, Huba Mommy me Mommy."

You can tell I was born a writer. Thankfully, I have learned how to employ verbs and possessive pronouns in the ensuing decades. Amazing what a good editor can do.

I still see my grandmother's hands in a game we used to play. I imagine it is something long used to keep a young child quiet and occupied. We alternated layers of each other's hands and slowly moved whatever hand that was on the bottom to the top. We would do this over and over and faster and faster until all we were doing was fluttering our hands in the air. Then we would start all over again.

I see her hands mashing potatoes and setting dishes on the table. I watch them pick up a cup of tea. I visualize them taking care of her husband and her sister or, for that matter, anyone who needed her.

Mostly, though, I can yet feel her hands crocheting. For it was through her needlework that the depth and breadth of her love truly flowed. She made doilies, blankets, place mats and potholders. She crocheted covers for the extra toilet tissue. For my friends and me, she crocheted miniature chairs whose bases were open tuna fish cans, and she made twirling ribbons for our hair. She designed accessories for my dollhouse and fashioned doll clothes.

This autumn, my own hands are busy crocheting and knitting gifts for my boyfriend's grandchildren. I cannot remember a time when my workbasket has been so happily and tenderly full. Together, Wayne and I have chosen projects and he learned how to knit. As he says, "They will always remember Grampa knitted for them."

Our hands are never fully our own. Within them is everyone who came before us and who helped to shape us. With each motion that we share with our loved ones today, we blend the best of the past with the beauty of the present.

Kerri Habben is a writer and preschool teacher living in Raleigh, NC. An avid crocheter and knitter, she learned these skills from her mother and grandmother. She donates many of her yarn creations to those in need. Kerri is currently working on a manuscript of essays and poetry. She can be reached at 913 jeeves@gmail.com.

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Twisted Stitchers Quilt Guild Aiax

We meet at the Ajax Legion at 7pm on the 2nd Tuesday on any month from September to June.

Quilting Corners Guild

We meet at St Johns United Church at 7pm on the first Tuesday or each month, except January. Ancaste Ancaster Quilter's Guild

We meet at the Marshall Memorial United Church, 20 Gilbert Ave. at 7pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each

month from September to June Amprior Arnprior District Quilt Guild

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**

Simcoe County Quilters' Guild

We meet at the Simoco 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.

Kempenfelt Quilt Guild

We meet at the Lion's Gate Banquet Hall on Blake Street, the 3rd Thursday of the month from 7-9pm Barrie Modern Quilt Guild
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. Quinte Quilters' Guild

We meet at the Recreation Centre, 116 Pinnacle Street, At 7:00 pm on the first Wednesday of each month

Binbrook Country Quilters' Guild
We meet at the Binbrook United Church, 2623 Binbrook Rd. 7:30 pm the last Monday of the month from Binbrook

Sept - Nov and Jan - June

Bracebridae The Pine Tree Quilters' Guild of Muskoka

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 Quilters Guild

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 Brant Heritage Quilters

Brampton

Chatham

Cornwall

Gloucester

Guelph

Gwillinbury

Hagersville

Kenora

We meet at \$1 George United Church at 7:30 pm. on the second Thursday of the month.

The Thousand Islands Quilters' Guild

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

Buckhom Area Quilifers' Guild
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 Halton Quilters Guild

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 Caledonia Grand River Quilters' Guild

We meet at 7pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from September through June Busy Hands Quilters Guild

We meet at the Preston Scout House, 1580 Queenston Road at 9:30 am on the third Monday of each

We meet at St. Paul's Congregational Church, 450 Park Ave W at 7pm on the third Wednesday each

month, except December.

Cornwall Quilters Guild We meet at St. Mathews Lutheran Church, 1509 Second St West at 7pm every third Monday evening from

Courtice

September through May.
Clarington Quilt Guild
We meet at Faith United Church, 1778 Nash Road on at 6:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Dryden

Sunset Country Quilters' Guild
We meet at 84 St. Charles Street at 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

Elliot Lake Quilt Guild
We meet at Gentle Shepherd Church, 3 Ottawa Ave. at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays from September through

The Elmira Needle Sisters Flmira

We meet at the Elmira Mennonite Church at 7:00 pm on the fourth Monday of the month. Etobicoke Quilters Guild

Etobicoke Georgetown

We meet at Neilson Park Creative Centre - 56 Neilson Dr. at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month. Halton Hills Quilters Guild We Meet at the Cultural Centre, 9 church St. at 7:15 pm on the fourth Monday of the month (Sep-Nov,

Jan-Jun)

Common Thread Quilt Guild
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

Goderich Quilters' Guild
We meet once a month on the 2nd Tuesday.
Grimsby Quilters' Guild Grimsby

We meet at the Livingston Activity Centre at 7pm on the third Thursday of the month. Royal City Quilters' Guild

We meet at Three Willows United Church, 577 Willow Road at 7:00 pm on the second Tuesday each month

from September until June

Gwillimbury Quilt Guild
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

Haldimand Quilter's Guild

We meet at the Hagersville United Church at 7:00 pm on the first Monday of the month from Septembe

Haliburton Haliburton Highlands Quilter Guild

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 Hamilton Quilters Guild

We meet The Church of Resurrection, 435 Mohawk Rd. W.at 7:00 pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each

Ingersoll

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

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

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). Lake of the Woods Quilter's Guild

We meet at St. Louis Catholic Church, 912 Superior St in Keewatin at 7 PM on the second Thursday of the month

Kingston Heirloom Quilters Kingston 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 Erie Shores Quilters' Guild We meet at the Kingsville Arena, 2nd floor at 7p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month

Huron, Perth Quilters Guild Kirkton

We meet at the Kirktown/Wooddham Community Centre at 9:00 am on the second Tuesday of the month from September through May.

The Waterloo County Quilters Guild Kitchener Waterloo 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 North Lambton Quilt Guild Lambton

We meet at the Port Franks Hall on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Limestone

Limestone Quilters' Guild

We meet at The Senior's centre in Kingston at 7:15 pm on the first Wednesday of the month Lindsay Lindsay Creative Quilters' Guild

We meet at Celebrations, 35 Lindsay St. N at 1:00 pm every 2nd Monday of the month except for October,

Manitoulin Island Island Quilters Guild We meet at the Community Hall in Mindemoya at 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month from

September though June. Queen's Bush Quilters

Markdale 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

We meet at the Meaford Opera House, Sykes St. at 1:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month Mississauga

Cawthra Senior's Centre We meet at the Cawthra Senior's Centre at 7:30pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and

August). Mississauga Quilters Guild

We meet at the Tomken Twin Arenas at 7:30 pm on the first Thursday of the month (except July and

Miramichi Quilt Guild Miramichi

Newmarket

Norwich

Orilla

Oshawa

Perth

Port Perry

Rayside

Renfrew

Sault St. Marie

Sudbury

Sutton

Thunder Bay

We meet at the Seamans Hospital at 7:00 pm every Tuesday and 10:00 am every Thursday Napanee

We meet at the Strathcona Paper Center at 7:00 pm on the third Tuesday of each month from September through to June

The Region of York Quilters Guild
We meet at the Newmarket Community Centre, 200 Doug Duncan Drive on the fourth Wednesday of the month from September through May

The Niagara Heritage Quilters' Guild

We meet at Merrion Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines on the third Wednesday of each Niagara Region

A chapter of the Modern Quiltina Guild Nobleton We travel to various locations in Southern Ontario on a rotating basis.

Quaker Quilt Guild

We meet at 89 Stover St N, Norwich at 9:30 am on the second Monday of the month. Dufferin Piecemakers' Quilting Guild
We meet at the Orangeville Event Centre at 7:30 pm on the third Monday of the month from September

through June.

Orillia Quilters' Guild

We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 215 Mississauga St. E. at 1:00 pm on the 3rd Wednesday of the

Ganaraska Quilters Guild

Orono We meet at the Seniors Activity Centre. 200 Station St. W at 7:15 pm on the last Wednesday of the month Durham Trillium Quilters'

We meet at the Zion Christian Reformed Church 409 Adelaide Ave. E, Oshawa at 7:00pm every second

Monday Sept. - June

Almonte Quilters Guild

We meet at the Almonte Civitan Club, 500 Almonte Street Active at 7:00 pm from September through

June (no meeting in December).

Ottawa Valley Quilters Guild

We meet at St. Anthony's Soccer Club at 7:30 pm on the first Monday of the month.

We meet at the Trinity Anglican Church in Old Ottawa South on the second Monday evening of the month except July and August. Owen Sound Bluewater Quilters' Guild

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).

Lanark County Quilters Guild

We meet at Lions Hall, Perth Fairgrounds at 7pm on the 4th Tuesday of the month. Rouge Valley Quiliters' Guild
We meet at Peace Lutheran Church, 928 Liverpool Road, Pickering at 7:00 pm on the 4th Monday of the Pickering

month September through May, excluding Decembe Port Loring

We meet at the Lions Den in Arnstein on the second Thursday of the month. Port Perry Patchers

We meet at the Hope Christian Reform Church, 14480 Old Simcoe Rd, in Prince Albert at 7:00 pm on the And Wednesday of the month from September to June.

Prince Edward County Quilters' Guild

We meet at the BCR Church in Bloomfield at 7:00 pm County on the second Wednesday of each month. Prince Edward

Rayside Balfour Quilting and Stitchery Guild
We meet at the Chelmsford Arena (upstairs) 215 Edward Avenue, Chelmsford, Ontario at 7:00 p.m. every
Monday from September to May.

Quilt Guild Renfrew & Area

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 Area Quilters Guild (RAQG) Richmond

We meet at the Richmond Legion, 6430 Ottawa Street at 7:30 on the third Wednesday of each month. Erie Shores Quilter's Guild Ruthven

We meet at the Ruthven-Olinda United Church every third Tuesday. Sarnia Sarnia Quilters' Guild

Stitches From The Heart Quilt Guild

we meet at the Redeemer Christian Reformed Church 5814 Blackwell Sdrd, Sarnia at 7pm the first Monday of each month.

We meet at the Senior's Centre on Bay St at 7pm the last Monday of the month. Rouge Valley Quilters' Guild Scarborough

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.

Twilight Quilters' Guild of Norfolk County

We meet at the Old Wyndham Church, 30 Glendale Crescent at 7:00 pm on the second Monday of the Simcoe

Norfolk County Quilters' Guild
We meet at the Vittoria & District Community Centre on the first Tuesday of each month except October.

Stittsville We meet at the The Pretty Street Community Centre at 7:00 pm on the third Monday of the month.

The Stonetowne Quilters' Guild

We meet at the End Zone Room of the Pyramid Centre at 9:30 am on the third Tuesday of the month from St Marys

September to May.
Stoney Creek Quilters Guild
We meet at the Royal Canadian Legion, 12 King Street East, at 6:30 pm on first Wednesday of the month Stony Creel from September to June.

Sudbury & District Guilting & Stitchery Guild
We meet at 140 Durham Street at 7:00 pm on every Tuesday from September to April.

The Georgina Pins and Needles We meet at the Knox United Church 34 Market Street at 7:00 pm on the first Tuesday of the month from

Thunder Bay Quilters' Guild We meet at Calvin Luthern Church on Edward Street at 7:30pm on the 3rd Monday of each month from

Etobicoke Quilters We meet at the Neilson Park Creative Centre at 7:15 pm on the third Monday of the month. Toronto Modern Quilt Guild

We meet at The Workroom Studio, 46 Nobel St Studio 102 at 3:00 pm on the last Sunday of each month. York Heritage Quilters Guild

We meet at the Toronto Rotanical Gardens on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from September through

We meet at the Birchmount Collegiate Institute on the second Wednesday of every month Wasaga Beach Slope to Slope Quilters Guild

September through June. Waterloo The Waterloo County Quilters' Guild

We meet in the Community Hall at the Wasaga Stars Arena at 7pm on the first Tuesday of the month

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 Kindred Hearts Guild

We meet at the Whitby Baptist Church on the third Tuesday of the month. Windsor's quilters Guild Windsor

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 We meet at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church at 1:00 on the first Wednesday of the month.



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October / November 2019





Start with a Theme; Create a Treasure

by Marlene Oddie

As travelers considered stopping at quilt shops during the summer, the Row by Row Experience $^{\text{TM}}$ event provided some additional inspiration. This year's "Taste the Experience" resulted in a variety of

The shop winner here at KISSed Quilts was made by Annette Ross and started with my own design ("Drink of Choice" upper right). She then began to collect drink themed blocks/rows in our greater region. This became a wonderful opportunity to meet up with her sister and have some quality time together as they traveled to new shops to collect designs.

This quilt brought many admiring words from her husband so she revealed it was intended as an anniversary gift for him! What a great gift!

The rows Annette incorporated are: Coffee, Walla Walla Sew & Vac and Spas, Walla Walla, WA; Coffee in Paris, The Quilt Shoppe, Poulsbo, WA; Living the Life, Fabrics Unlimited, Lake Havasu City, AZ; Drink of Choice, KISSed Quilts, Grand Coulee, WA; Throw by Throw, Undercover Quilts, Seattle, WA; Come let us have some tea and continue to talk about happy things! Quilted Strait, Port Gamble, WA; Wine Not?, APQS Northwest, Issaquah, WA; Taste the Experience, Sleepy Valley Quilt Co., Port Angeles, WA; PDX Flight, Montavilla Sewing Center, Lake Oswego, OR; Stashquatch, Bigfoot Quilts LLC, Auburn, WA; Wine Tasting, Rather-Be's Quilt Shop, Pomeroy (Pataha), WA.

The free pattern part of the event has passed but you can still purchase the patterns, kits, fabric plates and specially designed fabrics based on the theme. Or just use this as a way to check out a new shop and see what they have to offer.

Quilts can be turned in to eligible shops through the end of October to win 25 fat quarters of fabric and maybe a bonus prize if your quilt includes a design from the shop where you present it to win. Every small brick and mortar shop, like my own, loves meeting new people and providing an opportunity for you to find some fabric, supplies and inspiration that you must have! Thanks for shopping with us.

For more information about this year's Row by Row ExperienceTM, check out the map and all details at www.rowbyrowexperience.com.

Marlene Oddie (marlene@kissedquilts.com) is an engineer by education, project manager by profession and now a quilter by passion in Grand Coulee, WA, at her quilt shop, KISSed Quilts. She enjoys long-arm quilting on her Gammill Optimum Plus, but especially enjoys designing quilts and assisting in the creation of a meaningful treasure for the recipient. Patterns, kits and fabric are available at http://www.kissedquilts.com. Follow Marlene's adventures via http://www.facebook.com/kissedquilts, http://kissedquilts.blogspot.com, instagram marlene.kissedquilts and pinterest marleneoddie.

A Thankful Hand

By Janet Young

Thanksgiving is a time for reflection, a time to pause and recount the many blessings that we have received over the year, and a time to express our gratitude to those nearest and dearest to our hearts.

As we approach this holiday season, there was a story I happened upon in an older edition of Reader's Digest, that I thought most appropriate to present as another approach to this glorious spirit of Thanksgiving. The following is the paraphrased version of the story.

A 1st grade teacher gave her students, who were from a poor neighborhood, the assignment to draw something for which they were thankful. The teacher expected that the children would draw pictures of turkeys or the Thanksgiving table – things that they thought she would expect them to draw.

However, there was one quiet little boy who drew a picture of a hand. This caused quite a discussion among the students, which pleased the teacher because Michael (not his real name) was reserved and did not receive much attention.

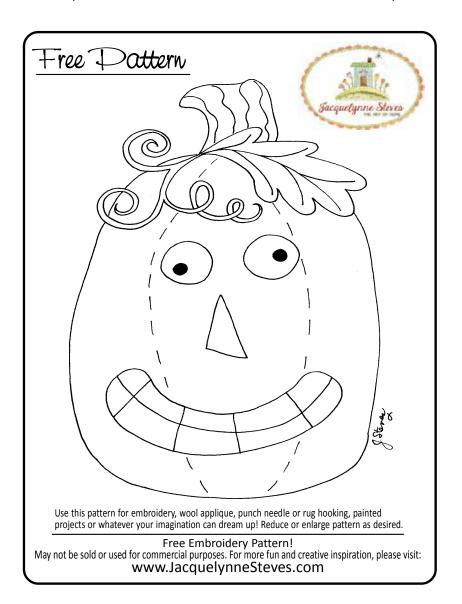
Some of the students thought it might belong to a fireman or policeman because they protect us. Another thought it might be a farmer because they provide the turkeys and food. And yet another thought it might be the hand of God.

The teacher had the students move onto another project, while she quietly slipped over to Michael's desk. Leaning in she asked, "Whose hand was that, Michael?" He quickly responded, "It's your hand, teacher." She was quickly reminded of how she used to hold Michael's hand on occasion, as she did with all the children from time to time. But she never knew how much it meant to this precious little boy.

What the teacher learned from all of this (in her words) "It's not the material things given unto us, but the small ways we give something to others."

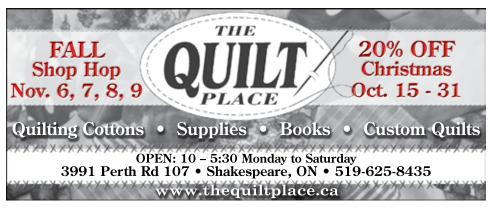
Perhaps not only at this holiday season, but throughout the coming year, we can emulate this generous display of kindness...sharing our time and talent with those whose spirits we can lift.

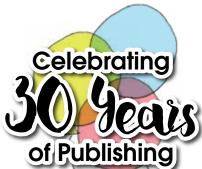
-Janet Young, Certified Tea and EtiquetteConsultant, is a founding member of Mid-Atlantic Tea Business Association and freelance writer/ national tea presenter. Visit her website at www.overtheteacup.com.



London • Shakespeare







Part VII by Barbara Floyd, Founder

Doesn't everyone do seven parts for their six series stories? When I realized I could write stories for the next several years in this series, I thought it was best to jump ahead to what is happening currently and go backwards a bit. I personally am enjoying going through every single paper, but I have only made it through 1994! So, here goes!

I just read the Arizona June-July 2019 paper online. Back several years ago we did not have the technology to put the papers online and the good news is they are free there just like the print copies are. Just go to www.countryregister.com and the publisher's page. The various papers online are marked with an * if online. Click on your choice of state or province and go to current issue. This is not saying every publisher puts their papers online but the majority does.

When we started out in 1988, the businesses we promoted were mostly country gift stores with a big focus on arts and crafts and handmade items. Tea Rooms became popular, Bed and Breakfasts were sweeping the country and then the quilting industry made its way onto the scene. Events have always been a part of what we promote—everything from arts and craft shows, farmers markets and quilt shows to paper arts events. Scrapbooking, stamping and the bead businesses connected well with our readership

Today there are four papers well established across the Provinces in Canada and it is easier to tell you where there are no papers available in the US: Hawaii, Alaska, Utah, Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi, Kentucky and Tennessee. At one time or another, all those states, except Mississippi, have had a paper so, if there are any potential publishers out there, contact information is on the web.

We have fewer individual publishers now than in past years because more publishers are doing multiple papers. Some states have been combined into one edition in order to reach a larger readership with greater results for the advertisers.

Back in August-September 1997 we changed our logo art for the third time and opted for a more cottage, tearoom and quilting piece of art designed especially for us by Californian artist Mary Kay Crowley. We often used her artwork on our various front covers. The country shops were changing their merchandise style as well as the arts and craft offerings.

This art had a good long run but by June-July 2005, after a meeting of the publishers at my Phoenix home/business residence, we adopted a word-only logo. It was one that my son Brook Floyd, who was working

Bracebridge • Maxwell





for me at the time, submitted among several others. We had available to us pages of color in our publications by then and our logo needed to fit with any of the wonderful artwork by nationally known artists. It also needed to fit more easily with changing trends. Another era was past. Eras in the industry we represented have evolved now in some ways to being more country again, shabby, farm-style, repurposed and chalk-painted furniture are the terms we hear today, just to name a few.

The vintage craze, which is related to and often combines the antique world, is popular all over the country. Quilting, sewing and needlework are very popular with our readers and shows no sign of diminishing—they just get bigger and more challenging. There are numerous events to promote and we have a loyal following and network established. There are fewer tearooms today but the existing ones are wonderful and a real treat to find. Home décor shops and thrift shops are popular and one thing that never fails is a good recipe! I think we all like reading and collecting the recipes more than we actually cook these days.

Social media has changed lots of things but there is nothing like a newspaper in hand, a guide to small businesses and specialty shops and events. It is something to bring with you as you travel. You can always depend on it to bring you more destinations every two months.

Thanks go to our publishers for continuing to produce this newspaper/guide and a gigantic thank you to our loyal advertisers and to our faithful and responsive readers across the US and Canada. I will be so busy celebrating my 80th birthday in September that this may be the end of this series. I plan to celebrate all fall and into the New Year, which will bring this paper to year thirty-one. I have always loved that saying, "Do what you love and love what you do." I can say that about raising a family, teaching school, having several creative businesses and I truly loved creating and publishing *The Country Register*.

Barbara Floyd enjoys her downsized lifestyle in Phoenix, AZ, and her visits to see children, grandchildren and a great grandchild in Tri-Cities and Walla Walla, WA, Cumming, GA, and Ft. Wayne, IN. She created and volunteers to put together Love of Junk, Walla Walla's Vintage Market on her oldest daughter's farm in Walla Walla, WA, each June. She can be reached at barbara@countryregister.com.



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Town and Country Cooking

Trendy Tacos

Expectations are changing in the world of tacos. Customary hard- and soft-shelled tacos topped with salsa, lettuce and shredded cheese now are sharing the streets -- and dining rooms -- with small, fresh-tasting soft tacos topped only with queso fresco, chopped cilantro and lime juice.

Food trucks and restaurants across the United States have embraced this trend. With these recipes for California Street Tacos and Barbacoa Beef Tacos, you, too, can be on the cutting edge of tacos. Both types of tacos feature deliciously seasoned meats served on diminutive tortillas. Note that our present-day "barbacue" originates from the Latin American cooking term "barbacoa." Barbacoa Beef Tacos have an expected hint of smokiness that comes, in part, from chipotle peppers in adobo sauce.

For a bit of seasonal cooking fun, add Pico de Gallo with Diced Apples to the suggested toppings for California Street Tacos. In this uncooked, jalapeno-laced concoction that translates as "Beak of the Rooster," apples deliciously take the place of tomatoes.

Now is the perfect time to try some trendy tacos, because you can't eat just pumpkin pie and turkey all season long!

California Street Tacos

- 1 pound trimmed, boneless, skinless chicken breast meat
- ½ teaspoon chili powder
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice (or juice of 1 lime)
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 2 teaspoons canola or other vegetable oil
- 6 to 8 small, soft corn or flour tortillas (5- to 6-inch street taco size)

Toppings:

Crumbled queso fresco

Chopped fresh cilantro

Lime wedges

Pico de Gallo with Apples, if desired

Cut chicken into ½- to ¾-inch cubes. Place in sturdy zip-top bag. Whisk together chili powder, paprika, salt, garlic, lime juice and honey; transfer to bag. Zip shut. Manipulate bag until seasonings are distributed throughout chicken. Allow to marinate for 10 to 15 minutes. Heat oil in large pan over medium to medium-high heat. Stir fry chicken in 2 batches to avoid crowding. Cook chicken through but do not brown. Transfer to serving dish. Heat tortillas on griddle pan or skillet that has been lightly coated with cooking spray. To serve, spoon chicken onto hot tortillas and top generously with queso fresco and fresh cilantro. Squeeze on lime juice before eating. Makes 6 to 8 tacos.

Pico de Gallo with Diced Apples

1 cup unpeeled, finely chopped apple, such as Fuji, Gala or Honeycrisp

½ cup diced red onion

1/4 cup diced red bell pepper

¼ cup pineapple juice

2 tablespoons diced jalapeno pepper, ribs and seeds removed

1 teaspoon cider vinegar

1/8 teaspoon chili powder

1/8 teaspoon ground cumin

Dash of salt

Combine all ingredients and serve immediately.

Barbacoa Beef Tacos

13- to 4-pound boneless chuck roast

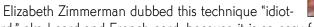
1 envelope mild taco seasoning mix

2 teaspoons dried oregano

The Dropped Stitch

by Sharon Greve

Shazam! Cord Magic



cord," aka l-cord and French cord, because it is so easy for children as well as adults. Every knitter, however, should be aware of its multiple uses.

I-cord is a web-like edge of yarn that can be used in place of ribbing or a border on pillows, blankets, or a purse/tote strap. It creates decorative closures, buttons, trimming, piping, tassel cords, applique motifs and, yes, even shoe laces. It can create the effect of a cable when worked in long lengths and sewn onto the knitted piece. Cords can be twisted together to make an edging: i.e., a cushion. This is effective in two colors. Cording can be knitted in many different patterns.

Knitting tends to stretch, making curling prevention difficult. Smaller needles minimize stretching, if worked firmly. If the cord is to be under tension, e.g. tote or purse handle, allow for the tension by measuring while the cord is stretched to determine the finished length.

I-cord is a narrow tube of stockinette stitch often made with two double-pointed needles: Cast on 3 (or more) stitches. *Knit one row. Without turning the needles, slide stitches to right end of needle.* Repeat * to * for desired length. Bind off. The tube forms as the yarn is pulled firmly across the back of each row. On one circular needle: cast on 3 (or more) stitches. *knit one row, do not turn needle. Slide stitches to other end of needle to work the next row from the right side. Bring yarn across back of work, knit 3 (or more) stitches. Repeat * to * for desired length. Bind off.

Knitting machines can also produce I-cord. Other gadgets are: Knitting Nancy, Spool Knitter, French Knitter, Knitting Mushroom, Knitting Knobby, and hardwood knitting spool. For me, at age 4, my Great Aunt turned an empty wooden sewing thread spool with 4 small nails hammered into the top into an effective, inexpensive knitting I-cord spool. A crochet hook lifts up the thread and over the nails with cording making its way down through the spool hole, appearing out the spool bottom. That spool still produces I-cord for me. It is a treasured memorable tool.

Check out Nicky Epstein's Knitted Embellishments book for I-cord designs and uses. Directions, photos, and diagrams are great.

TOTALLY TUBULAR!

© 2019 Sharon Greve...Fiber Artist, Writer/Author, Historian

2 bay leaves

½ cup beef broth

2 chipotle peppers (canned in adobo sauce)

1 clove garlic, roughly chopped

2 tablespoons fresh lime juice (or juice of 1 lime)

1 teaspoon liquid smoke

½ teaspoon onion powder

16 small, soft corn tortillas (5- to 6-inch street taco size)

Toppings:*

Crumbled queso fresco

Chopped fresh cilantro

Lime wedges

Cut roast into 2- to 3-inch chunks, removing and discarding most visible fat and all gristle. Place meat in slow cooker with taco seasoning and dried oregano. Using clean hands, work seasonings into meat. Tuck bay leaves under meat. While flavors are blending, combine broth, peppers, garlic, lime juice, liquid smoke and onion powder in blender or small food processor; process until smooth. Pour over meat. Cook on low setting for 6-8 hours or high setting for 3 to 4 hours, or until meat easily shreds with fork. Using two forks, pull beef apart and stir back into liquid. Heat tortillas on griddle pan or skillet that has been lightly coated with cooking spray. Using tongs or fork, lift beef out of liquid and place on tortillas. Top generously with queso fresco and cilantro. Squeeze on lime juice before eating. Makes 16 tacos.

*Barbacoa Beef also is delicious with conventional toppings: salsa, guacamole, shredded lettuce, sour cream, chopped onion, black olives and grated cheese.

Bio - A trained journalist, Janette Hess focuses her writing on interesting people and interesting foods. She is a Master Food Volunteer with her local Extension service and enjoys collecting, testing and sharing recipes.

Mulmur • Windsor





Ingersoll • Orillia • Severn







Sault Ste. Marie

Building Harmony

Halloween: A Rural Alien Attack

by Jeff Cappis



It all started innocently enough. Cathy and I were watching TV one Halloween night. It was a movie about aliens invading earth on Channel 586. I love those old 1950s science fiction movies.

We were getting into it when suddenly the picture began to break up with a strange whistling and digital popping kind of noise. We could faintly make out a voice saying the words "inside" and "invasion." Cathy joked that maybe it was an emergency alert about an alien invasion.

I laughed, too, and said "With all the solar powered lights we have around the yard, we probably look like an alien space port seen from the

sky. Maybe I should call our neighbor Renee and have him check out his reception."

Renee answered the phone. I explained that we were watching a thing on TV about an alien invasion when our picture went funny. Renee checked his set, too.

"Cathy thinks it's an emergency alert," I laughed.

Renee was too busy trying to tune his TV to get the joke. "What channel?" he asked.

"Channel 586," I answered.

Renee got the same thing on 586—a crazy picture with a strange whistling and digital popping kind of noise. He even heard the fuzzy words "danger" and "aliens." "I'll call you back," he said urgently, then hung up.

Renee called over to Mr. Buzzby's place. Mr. Buzzby was a little hard of hearing. "Who's that?" Mrs. Buzzby yelled.

"It's Renee," answered Mr. Buzzby. "He says there's an alien invasion report and says turn to Channel 586."

On 586 they got the same thing and heard the garbled words "military destroyed!" Mrs. Buzzby went to turn on a lamp behind Mr. Buzzby. The bulb blew and the room went dark. "All our lights blew out!" yelled Buzzby into the phone.

"I gotta call ya back!" Renee started to freak.

Buzzby called his neighbor, old Bill, who verified the same thing on Channel 586. He heard about the lights blowing out at Buzzby's place. Obviously the aliens were trying to block the emergency alert but some of it was getting through anyway.

Bill proclaimed, "No alien is gonna probe me!" He loaded his shotgun and ran outside probing the sky for lights. He saw lots of them—stars—and he started shooting at them. Over his phone, Buzzby could hear continuous gunfire with old Bill yelling, "C'mon, you ugly aliens! Let's see what ya got!"

Phones started ringing and soon the whole neighborhood was tuned into Channel 586, verifying the so-called emergency alert with garbled wordslike "death ray and humanity." The local Sheriff's office was inundated with calls about alien invasions, people's lights exploding and shots fired. Even the dogs up and down the valley got into the act by barking at the commotion. The Andolinis, two doors down from us, sat in their basement wearing tin foil hats so the aliens couldn't read their minds.

It didn't help that the local sheriff's department sent out a small helicopter with a searchlight to investigate. Luckily, by this time, old Bill had run out of ammunition. Its searchlight was scanning the countryside. Residents were getting convinced the worst was going on.

Cathy and I saw the lights, too. Our neighbor Fred, who we consider to be pretty level headed, called us and said that from the bright lights flashing around from the sky, it looked like a dozen craft were landing in the fields across the valley. He could see the lights from a couple of police cars trying to engage them and he could hear gun shots echoing up and down the valley. He also said that reports were pouring in from the media about death rays and possible cow disappearances. (Although the transmissions were garbled by the aliens.)

He also told us that Renee was freaked and getting ready to bug out, the Andolinis were held up in their basement with aliens walking around outside trying to read their minds and old Bill was plugging dozens of them with weapons on his property but wasn't sure how long his ammo would hold out. Judging by the way the dogs were going off up and down the valley, there must be hundreds of 'em.

Then the final straw—he thought he could see two strange, faint, dark figures through the forest and in the trees by our place.

When I got off the phone, I turned to Cathy and said, "I don't know what's going on but maybe we should get out of here just to be safe."

We grabbed anything we thought we'd need in a hurry. I was beginning to sweat and my heart was racing. We got half way to the car when Cathy stopped and said, "Hold it. Maybe we should think about this for a minute."

It only took 5 seconds and we realized what had happened. We both had an uneasy laugh about it. How do you clean up this mess?

What we didn't know was that outside in the forest the two strange, faint, dark figures in the trees were watching all this and having a conversation of their own. "These humans are emotionally unstable and logically challenged. Maybe we could try contacting them in another 100 years." With that, their belts lit up bright blue and they silently zipped off into the sky.

With that, Channel 586 cleared up immediately. Just in time for the start of a werewolf movie. This time, if the picture goes bad, we'll just change the channel and watch something else.

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2021 Tours Include

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Prague Patchwork Meeting

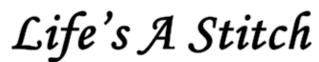
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Espanola • New Liskeard



Summer, where did you go? Already the days are becoming cooler and crisp and our thoughts are turning away from gardens and outdoor activities toward indoor occupations. After 50-odd years spent in the educational system as both student and teacher, the first days of September still feel to me like the true New Year - a time for fresh beginnings.

This is the time of year when shops reveal their new classes and programs. There seem always to be a great variety of tempting classes, new techniques, fabrics and projects on offer, some from Spring Quilt Market with more to follow from Fall Quilt Market. It's always a pleasure to browse available classes and retreats. Hopefully at last one will stimulate the creativity and enthusiasm that sometimes ebb during a relaxed summer. This fall, try something different - perhaps a class from a store new to you, or even a multi-day retreat. Retreats offer a time to concentrate on sewing with few interruptions, but if you don't have a few consecutive days free for a retreat, classes can be just as stimulating and worthwhile.

A few tips for getting the most out of a class or retreat (and not losing friends):

Be on time and come prepared. Your classmates will not appreciate losing the time an instructor must spend bringing late-comers up to date or explaining to them that yes, they really do need their sewing machine.

Be quiet while the teacher is talking. Even if you already know the information she is imparting, presumably others don't. That's why they're taking the class. They need to listen. They won't welcome background

Similarly, offering comments on a "better way" to do something is a





Cochrane • Thessalon

no-no. The instructor will not appreciate this, and you will confuse those who are trying to follow instructions. If you truly have an alternate way to achieve the same result, and you think it is worth sharing, wait until she is finished speaking or perhaps speak to her in private. Most instructors are open to different ways of achieving an objective, but nobody welcomes interruptions.

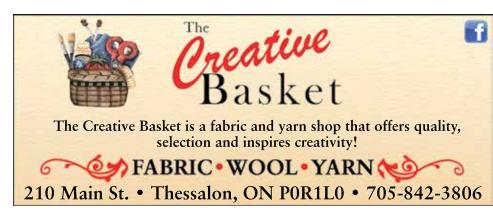
Leave your phone on vibrate - if you must have it with you at all. A few years ago when I was attending a packed demonstration class, an attendee chatted loudly to a friend about the weather and what she had had for breakfast while the rest of us tried in vain to hear the presentation. As well as being extremely rude to the presenter, she made a lot of enemies that day who, because of her rudeness, could not hear what they had come to learn.

If you must take a telephone call (and we all understand emergencies) quietly leave and find a place to talk that will not impinge on others' learning.

Actually, it all boils down to respect. Respect for the instructor, respect for classmates, respect for what is being taught and how it is being taught... Consideration and good manners never go out of date.

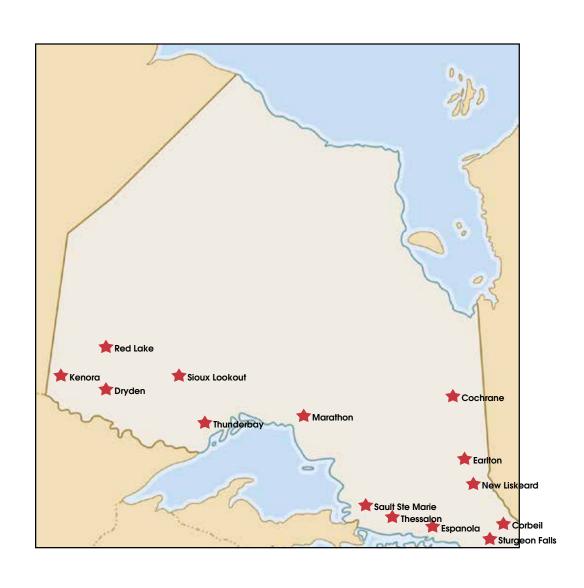
Barbara Conquest writes her column from Blue Sky Quilting in Tofield, AB. © Barbara Conquest.

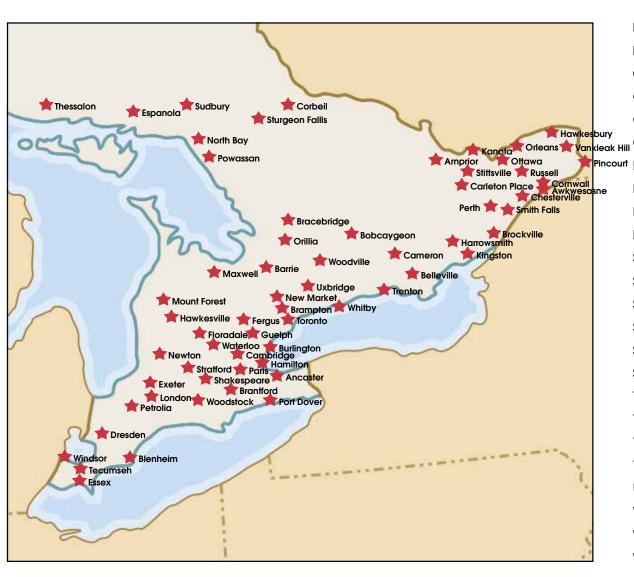






| Ancaster | The Quilt Rack | .pg. | 11 |
|--------------|----------------------------|------|----|
| Arnprior | Inspired Getaways | .pg. | 9 |
| Barrie | Hummingbird | .pg. | 11 |
| Belleville | Kraft Village | .pg. | 8 |
| Blenhiem | Pastime Pieces | .pg. | 11 |
| Bracebridge | Muskoka Quilting Co | .pg | 14 |
| Brockville | Taylor's Sewing | .pg. | 8 |
| Cochrane | Needleworks Studio | .pg. | 19 |
| Cornwall | Ron's Quilting | .pg. | 7 |
| Cornwall | Auntie Em's | .pg. | 7 |
| Dryden | The Quilting Trunk | .pg. | 22 |
| Exeter | The Quilt Kitchen | .pg. | 11 |
| Espanola | Cindy Bee's Quilt Shoppe | .pg. | 19 |
| Essex | The Sewing Shoppe | .pg. | 12 |
| Fergus | Undercover Quilts & More . | .pg. | 11 |
| Floradale | Hillcrest Home Baking | .pg. | 12 |
| Ingersoll | K & A Quilt Studio | .pg. | 17 |
| Kanata | Maker Savvy | .pg. | 9 |
| Kingston | Quilt Thyme | .pg. | 8 |
| London | Stache Fabrics & Notions | .pg. | 14 |
| Maxwell | Threads That Bind | .pg. | 14 |
| Mount Forest | Creekbank Sewina | .pa. | 12 |





| Mulmur | A Retreat at the Farm | pg. 17 |
|------------------|------------------------|--------|
| New Liskeard | Gem Sewing | pg. 19 |
| Orilllia | Fireside Retreat | pg. 17 |
| Orillia (Severn) | Thimbles & Things | pg. 17 |
| Orleans | Quilty Pleasures | pg. 9 |
| Ottawa | Sew -Jo's | pg. 9 |
| Perth | Perth Fabrics | pg. 7 |
| Petrolia | Stitcharie | pg. 12 |
| Pincourt | Phyllis Home Décor | pg. 9 |
| Russell | Quilter's Barn & Gifts | pg. 8 |
| Sault Ste Marie | Life's A Stitch | pg. 18 |
| Shakespeare | The Quilt Place | pg. 14 |
| Sioux Lookout | Dori's Sewing Studio | pg. 22 |
| Stittsville | Mad About Patchwork | pg. 7 |
| St. Marys | Kalidoscope of Quilts | pg. 12 |
| Stratford | Ye Olde Fabric Shop | pg. 12 |
| Tecumseh | Ella Quilts | pg. 11 |
| Thessalon | The Creative Basket | pg. 19 |
| Thunderbay | Circle of Friends | pg. 22 |
| Trenton | Groovy Girls | pg. 12 |
| Uxbridge | Quilters Cupboard | pg. 10 |
| Vankleek Hill | Quilt Bees | pg. 9 |
| Windsor | Quilting Confections | pg. 17 |
| Woodville | Bolts & Bobbins | pg. 8 |



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Building Harmony

An Ugly Old Tree

by Jeff Cappis

We have an extended two-car garage. Cathy's car parks on one side; all my tools and crap occupy the other side. My truck parks outside.

Outside can be hard on a vehicle. It gets hit with snow and cold, rain and hot, hail... I really do need a new truck. Anyway, a while back there was only one convenient spot to park it on the driveway and that was next to an ugly old tree.

That tree was old. Very old. It was very tall, too. It stood about seventy-five feet tall. Its branches had gotten all bent and gnarly. They clacked in the wind. It seemed solid enough but its needles were all falling off and it was losing all its pinecones. And it was losing them on my truck!

I hated that tree. Really. More than once I'd gone out to take the tree down but Cathy always stopped me. "It's still alive. Leave it alone." She also reminded me that I'm getting older and uglier, too. Thank God Cathy can't operate a chain saw.

We've got a rule about taking down live trees. Only standing dead and deadfall. Every year that one was losing more and more stuff—on my truck. And every year I checked to see if it was dead yet. I cursed it for years.

Finally last year it only had a little green blooming at the very top and I knew my time was coming. (Place evil laugh here.) In the spring, I put a new chain on my saw, filled it with gas and oil and got ready.

"Tomorrow you're mine and you won't terrorize my truck any more!" I said to it. Then I walked away. (More evil laughter.)

The next morning there was a branch in my windshield. "Serves me right for being so cocky," I thought to myself. "At least it's the last thing that tree will ever do."

Today was the day. I called my neighbor Renee over to help me. A tree that size you don't want falling the wrong way. We were setting up with ropes, etc., when another neighbor of ours, Mr. Buzzby, showed up for a visit

"Hey young fellers!" (Renee and I are sixty and he calls us 'young fellers.') Buzzby was in his mid nineties. His family used to own all the land around these parts. He walked up the driveway from his truck.

"I see yer takin' down old ugly," he said with a half smile. "That was always the damn ugliest tree I ever saw. We used to picnic under it because

it was so ugly the bugs wouldn't come near it!"

We all laughed.

He paused, "Actually, I spent a few romantic evenings with my wife here when we was young. She liked the view and the grass under it was soft. In those days you could see the whole valley from here."

He got quiet for a moment as he looked the tree up and down. Then he looked towards the valley and the new trees blocking most of its view. As we stood on the driveway that used to be the green lawn, I swear his got a bit of a tear in his eye.

"Well, good luck with your tree," he said as he turned and walked back down the driveway.

I got the feeling that he'd decided not to be there for the end. I was touched. That was beautiful.

"Well, let's rip dis sucker down!" yelled Renee as he started up his chain saw.

I wanted to give him a smack but couldn't come up with a reasonable reason to do it so we dropped the tree. It thundered down with a lot of cracking and groaning with a crash at the end. The ground shook.

It was over. The landmark for that part of the forest was gone; the scenery and character changed that much more. God that tree was ugly though. I doubt Mr. Buzzby would recognize the place now.

"Look at this," said Renee. He started counting the rings on the stump. "Must be well over 100 years old, and, look, dis sucker survived two forest fires and a beetle infestation! No match for my chainsaw though." He laughed a bit then packed up his gear. Five minutes later Renee was on his way home.

I felt a bit like a murderer. Sad to have taken down this piece of local history. Sad, that is, until I noticed the branch still stuck in my windshield. @#%&! ugly tree. I cut the ugly branches off, bucked up the tree and chopped it for firewood.

That night was particularly chilly. The wood was already long since dried so I built a fire with some of it in our fireplace. Cathy and I got cozy.

It then occurred to me. The last act of that tree wasn't to drop a branch through my windshield. (That was just to teach a cocky, arrogant jerk a lesson). Its last actual act was to provide comfort for Cathy and me, the way it did for Buzzby and his young love.

I put the wood aside in a special place. I'm going to make that tree last a long time.

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Barbara Floyd's Current Favorite Chocolate Chip-Coconut-Almond Cookie Recipe

Cream:

- 1 cup of butter
- 1 1/2 cups white sugar
- 1/1/2 cups brown sugar
- 4 large eggs or 5 smaller eggs
- 3 teaspoons vanilla

Add:

- 1 1/2 cups unbleached white flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 package dark chocolate chips (2 cups)
- 2 cups sweetened coconut
- 2 chops coarsely chopped toasted almonds

Pre-heat oven to 375 degrees

Use parchment paper or lightly greased cookie sheet
Use middle sized cookie scoop for uniform cookies
Bake for 10-12 minutes, don't overbake
Cool on baking sheet for 5 minutes before cooling on rack.

Delicious, soft and chewy and perfect for the freezer. From frozen state microwave individual cookie for 20 seconds. Makes about 5 dozen.



Save Room for Surprises

by Cathy Elliott

A fellow antique-collector once told me, "Some antiquers end up with so much wonderful stuff, they have to sell some. And another antique store is born."

I believe it. For a while now, I've been in danger of needing to open a store. So I've tried to cull my collections & get rid of things that no longer speak to me. Or have great meaning. To that end, I've purposed NOT to acquire anything more. Nada. Zip. (Etc.)

One day, a friend on Facebook messaged me & asked for my mailing address. She said she wanted to send me something. Thinking it was a card, I gave her the address. But why would she send me a card when she could just message me? So I asked, "What are you sending, by the way?"

SHE: "A box of books on quilting." After seeing my FB posts, she knew I'd like them.

ME...having a Mayday moment: "No, please! I can't take them. I've recently gotten rid of lots of books - cookbooks & quilt books. I still have no room. So nice of you, but can you give them to someone else?"

She said the box was all labeled & on its way. I could pass them on if I wished.

My inner whiner whimpered. I began to plead.

ME: "What about your local library? Quilt guild? Used book store?"

SHE: "Look for it on Monday."

ME: "Okay." Sigh. "Thank you."

When the box arrived, it wasn't as sizeable as expected, which was a blessing. But I didn't open it for a couple weeks. Instead, I worried. Oh, dear. Another bunch of books to find room for, or pass on. Those books needed a home, yes. Just not mine. Then I remembered our local charter school had quilting classes. A plan emerged. I got excited & grabbed my scissors to cut the tape & expose whatever was inside.

The box held only four books. Another blessing. Two were quilting novels by Jennifer Chiaverini – Elm Creek Quilts books. Nice. The other two were even more my style. Pioneer diary type books – one was called A Quilter's Journal & had entries starting in 1859 through to 1880. My favorite one entitled, The Quilt that Walked to Golden: Women and Quilts in the Mountain West From the Overland Trail to Contemporary Colorado was written by Sandra Dallas, w/Nanette Simonds. That was the book my friend had loved best, too. She'd sent me unexpected treasure!

"Wow," I told myself. "This one has a forever home with me. I'll be reading it from cover to cover." Two centuries of history. Winsome photographs. Definitely a cozy-quilty feel. Plus, the book included four vintage quilt patterns at the end. A recipe for hours of delicious diversion. What if something within the pages also whipped up a surprising cozy mystery idea?

Could happen. One never knew.

Thank you, Cheryle Miller, for your thoughtfulness. You were right. And I'm glad you didn't take "no" for an answer. (This time.)

© 2019 C. Elliott - Cathy Elliott is a full-time writer in California whose cozy mysteries reflect her personal interests from quilting and antique collecting to playing her fiddle with friends. She also leads music at church and cherishes time with her "grand-gems" Cathy's cozy plot-twisters include A Stitch in Crime released in tandem with the RErelease (previously published) of a companion book, A Vase of Mistaken Identity. She is also a contributing author to Guideposts' devotional books, Every Day Jesus, All God's Creations and Chicken Soup for the Soul books. For more information about Cathy, visit: http://www.cathyelliottbooks.com

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