

Welcome to...

The Country Register of Kansas

Cindy Baldwin, Publisher/Editor

988 9th Ave • McPherson, KS 67460

phone: 866-966-9815 • fax: 620-241-1909

email: countryregisterkansas@gmail.com

www.countryregister.com/kansas

We're on Facebook

Office Administrative Assistant: Lonnie Capps

Advertising Sales Representative: Beve Anderson, South Central
316-258-3416 • iloveantiquesme@yahoo.com

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From My Desk... to yours

By Cindy Baldwin

Happy 30th birthday to us! No, not me personally. It's been a while since there were 30 candles on my birthday cake. But it is the big 3-0 for *The Country Register*. The first Country Register was started by founding publisher Barbara Floyd in Arizona. From that first paper, state editions spread until nearly every state in the United States has its own version of the paper, as do several provinces in Canada. In celebration, Barbara will be writing an article for each issue this year looking back at how the paper has grown and changed over the years. I hope you will enjoy reading them and making her recipes throughout the year. As for the Kansas edition, this is our 21st year, and I am starting my 10th year as its publisher. We hope our readers will still be enjoying the paper when we celebrate our 50th.

And speaking of golden birthdays, we are now entering the time of year when nature turns gold, red and orange -- Autumn. I would have to say while I enjoy spring and summer weather and the holidays of winter autumn is my favorite. Warm days, crisp nights and color everywhere. It also means fall harvest for the Baldwin farm. I will confess I prefer wheat harvest to the corn, soybeans and milo of fall. Wheat harvest is intense -- it starts, we go hard, and then it's over, finished in about two weeks of long hours. Fall harvest starts the end of August/beginning of September and keeps up a steady pace until the end of October or into November depending on the weather. It never seems to end. But, because it is a little slower, it does allow us to stop for football games, local fall festivals, the birthday parties (we have four in October and one in November). Fun times. Followed by celebration of harvest with family and friends at Thanksgiving as we acknowledge that none of that bounty we bring in from the fields would be possible without God's provision.

This issue marks the return of columnist Sherry Osland with her Quilts That Redeem column. She took a writing break as she and her husband made some life changes. Welcome back Sherry.

October and November are popular months for communities and a variety of groups to welcome visitors to fall festivals of all kinds and then holiday open houses. Our Country Register advertisers are involved in lots of special events in the next two months, many of which are advertised in this issue of *The Country Register of Kansas*. Take a few moments to browse through the ads and see if there are some new experiences you would like to try or some old favorites you'd like to revisit. Autumn is the perfect time to plan a road trip and experience Kansas.

As you gather with family and friends this Thanksgiving -- or anytime -- look around at those smiling faces and really give thanks for the opportunities we have. Appreciate and enjoy your harvest -- whether it's grain in the bin or laughter around a table. It's all good.

Hope you enjoy autumn!
Until next time . . .

ON-18 **The Country Register of Kansas**

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Fall Gourds, a photograph by Kim Baldwin

Every effort is made to have an error-free paper, however, mistakes do occur. Please double check dates, times, and locations with a phone call before traveling a great distance.

The Country Register of Kansas Vol. 21 No. 2, Oct/Nov. '18

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- Some locally-operated visitor centers
- Most Lawrence grocery stores • Other various locations
- Online www.countryregister.com/kansas

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- Central Kansas Yarn Hop

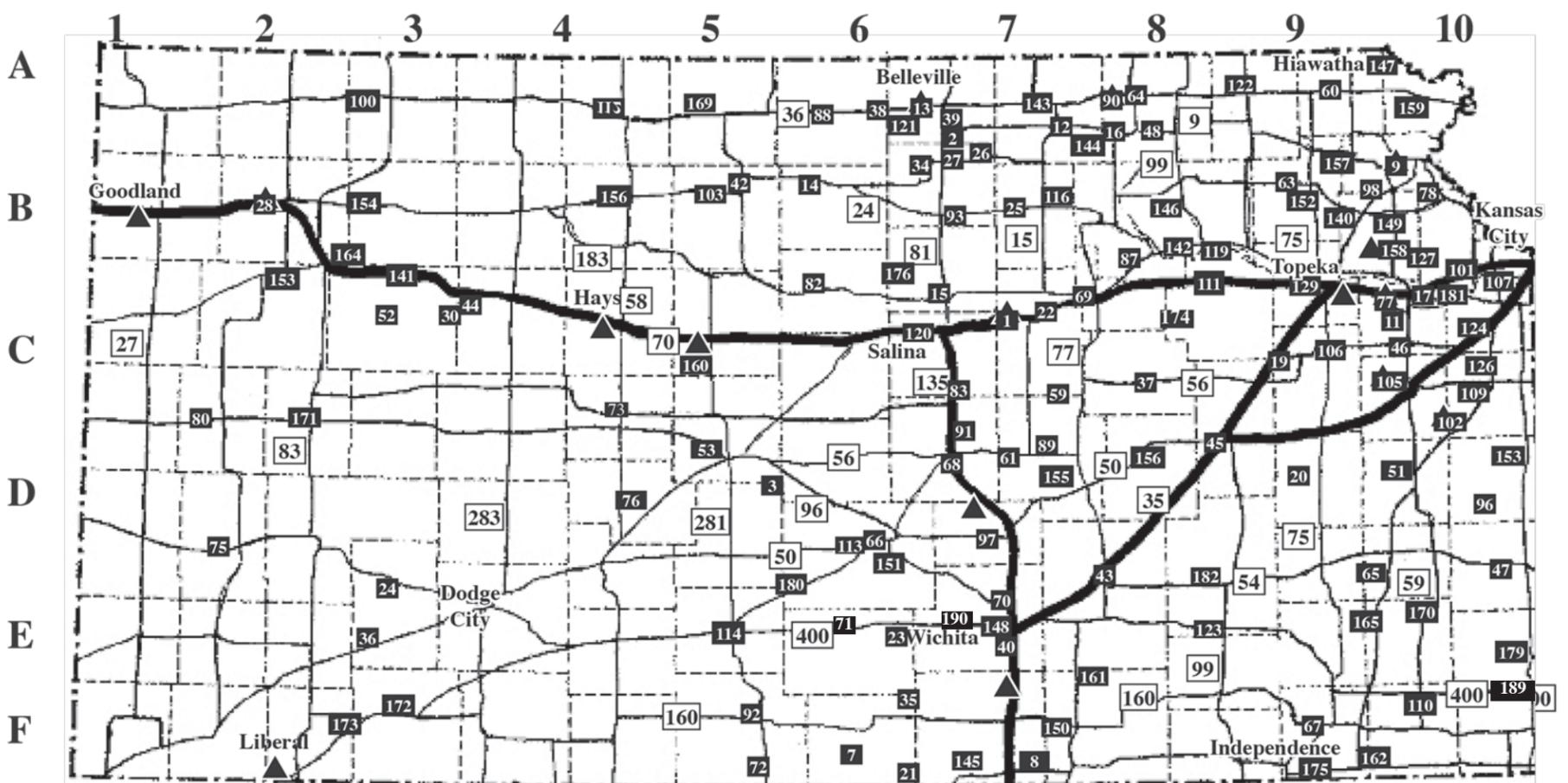
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Map Index:

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Historic roots of current painted furniture trend

by Dave Emigh

You would almost have to be blind not to notice the current painted furniture trend. It is everywhere from antique stores to vintage shops to anywhere that upcycled and repurposed furniture is sold. Design and furniture stores are currently selling painted and ‘distressed painted’ furniture that are direct from the factory.

So, let’s take a look at painted furniture... Wait a minute, Dave, Shady Lawn Antiques is known as a regional destination for restored/refinished oak furniture, and you are going to write about painted furniture? Yes, I want to address the painted furniture trend, because it has both historic roots, and it is currently quite popular.

So almost any antique mall, vintage and/or design store has multiple painted pieces of furniture on display. That furniture ranges from painted “some time” ago to the paint is barely dry.

Although it may seem like painting furniture is a recent trend, that is far from the fact. The tradition of painting furniture dates to the earliest days of the American colonies in the 1600s. A coat of ‘whiting’ was applied to the furniture to even out and smooth the surfaces before decorative paint was added.

Even today, an occasional piece of “painted” furniture from Tacoma’s Pacific Furniture Company can still be found. In the early 1900s, the Pacific Furniture Company finished some of their furniture with an opaque glaze. Then a dark stain was applied with a graining tool to create the look of oak. This furniture often has a black-stenciled mark: “PAC OAK” (for Pacific Oak finish) on the back.

Pacific Furniture applied this “painted” finish when a piece was built from several different types of wood, or when they thought that it enhanced the look of the finished piece of furniture. In fact, isn’t that the reason that people currently paint furniture — to enhance the look?

We have had an early 1900s Kitchen Queen that was painted an off-white color. The fact that “ivory” was stenciled on the back indicates that it was painted at the factory. So, some antique furniture came with an ‘original’ painted surface.

In the early 1900s, furniture was painted to freshen it up or to blend it into a new décor. Sometime in the 1920s, my grandmother painted an 1890s Oak Eastlake buffet that was at her cabin. She painted it green with black trim and purple on the inside. I often wondered if she had the paint, or selected the colors?

My friend and neighbor has quietly built a reputation as the premier local restorer of just such early 1900s painted furniture. He and his wife have a knack for finding early, often primitive, painted pieces of furniture. Along the way, they have also developed a vision for repurposing these pieces. They might add vintage wheels and a reclaimed wood top to an old industrial counter to create a kitchen island. On an ‘open shelf’ piece they might add doors. They often have to add or match paint to make the whole project visually coherent. Their pieces have always been both -- painted “some time” ago and on some boards the paint is barely dry.

Attendees at Love of Junk, Walla Walla’s Vintage Market, have seen their furniture. Several booths over from them was a vendor that displayed barn-found furniture. This farm furniture was painted some time ago and in fact had weathered to the chippy paint



This is a photo of a cabinet that my neighbor restored. The horizontal side pieces were added for strength and then were painted to blend in with the color of the cabinet



This is the top of a Pacific Furniture Company buffet. The oak finish was “painted and grained” onto the piece at their factory

look that is so popular. There is no end to the varieties of historically painted furniture. I have provided this brief look at painted furniture to provide a historical context for my next article on the current painted furniture trend. In a future edition of *The Country Register*, I will address the current trend of chalky painted furniture.

Dave Emigh and his wife Jill are the owners of Shady Lawn Antiques in Walla Walla, WA, perfectly located in the 1870s wood frame creamery buildings that Dave’s great-grandfather purchased in 1897. A professionally trained woodworker, Dave, along with his son Nick, specialize in the restoration of oak furniture. Shady Lawn, in its 24th year, has become a regional destination for oak furniture but is also known for a well curated display of country, rustic and rare and unique “small” antiques. Glimpses of the ever-changing Shady Lawn inventory can be seen on Facebook and at www.shadylawnantiques.com.

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- **Jingle All the Way Shop Hop**
Nov. 8-10
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- Check out our Facebook page for new class list
and other news

www.quiltingfabricsupply.com --- 713 8th St, Baldwin City, KS 66006
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October 20 ~ 9 am - 6 pm • October 21 ~ 10 am - 5 pm
Intermediate School on Hwy 56, Baldwin City, KS

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Show presented by the Maple Leaf Quilt Guild & the Maple Leaf Festival Committee

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Second Wind Secrets . . .

When nothing else grows - there's always zucchini

By Kelly Illick

This year, as with too many years now, I sadly did not get my garden in. The fenced in area known as my garden is the most prolific weed patch imaginable. In fact, two years ago when I had actually planted a garden, I had an incredible crop of kale, zucchini and gourds, but very little of anything else survived the invasive takeover of an unusual weed. It actually was a very beautiful weed, I even cut it and arranged it in various containers. It was a beautiful addition to my fall decorating here at the inn. I'm not sure what it was, but it had small pea-sized yellow and orange seed pods on it...just beautiful in highlighting my pumpkins, squash and gourds.

This year I've not even walked out to my garden to see just what kind of weeds I am growing. I just know it looks like a jungle from the house. Fortunately, it is far enough away that unless our guests here at the inn take a little stroll, they don't know just what a lazy farmer I am.

I've had a few lovely gardens over the years. One year I had the most incredible spinach patch. For whatever reason (most likely my lack of gardening skills) it never happened again. It is for this reason you will find me at the farmers market most Saturday mornings, or in line at our favorite roadside vegetable stand which our community affectionately calls Bob the Corn Man. In the fall I go to Bob and fill my car with my winter stash of buttercup squash. I also had one year of a whopping buttercup squash crop, but like so many of my garden experiences, it only happened once.

Through the years though I have rarely failed to have a successful zucchini crop, except the years I have failed to plant them. Many years back when our sons were quite young, we had some years of excessive zucchini. Our boys would cut them in thirds making a sphere and fire these chunks of them off in the potato gun. Did you ever go through that hobby with your kids? These potato guns AKA zucchini guns, were made out of PVC pipe and some sort of gas grill igniter. A squirt of hair spray was the fuel and Whala... you had all the ingredients for fun.

Before we moved back to Ashland to build Second Wind, we attended a little country church that we drove 20 minutes to in central Wisconsin. The joke there in the town of Spirit, was that if you didn't want the back seat of your car filled with zucchini you needed to keep the doors locked. I kind of miss those days.

So being it is zucchini season, I thought I would share this great zucchini recipe. I have found a recipe like this with a moist vegetable like squash, pumpkin, or carrots easy to convert to a gluten free recipe and the results are quite yummy. That's what I do for Mr. Gluten Free and our family of gluten free eaters.



Second Wind Secrets, written by Kelly Illick, features fresh seasonal recipes from the northwoods of Wisconsin for healthy eating and occasional indulgences. Kelly loves using locally grown fruits and vegetables. She and her husband Mark operate Second Wind Country Inn in rural Ashland, Wisconsin. Check out www.secondwindcountryinn.com or like them on Facebook. They can also be reached by calling 715-682-1000.

Double Chocolate Zucchini Bread

- 2 cups flour
- 1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder, sifted
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup oil (I love avocado oil)
- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup (6 oz.) non-fat Greek yogurt
- 3 cups grated zucchini
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips
- confectionary sugar (for dusting)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour 2 large loaf pans or 4 mini loaf pans, set aside.

Combine dry ingredients; flour, cocoa powder, baking soda, and salt in a bowl and whisk to combine. Set aside.

In large mixing bowl, beat sugar, oil and eggs until well blended. Beat in yogurt.

Add dry ingredients and mix just until combined. Lastly mix in zucchini and chocolate chips. Divide batter between pans. Bake for 50-60 minutes or until a toothpick comes out clean.

Cool 10 minutes in pan on a wire rack; remove from pan, and cool completely on a wire rack before cutting. Dust with confectionary sugar before cutting and serving.

If making mini loaves bake 30 - 35 minutes or muffins for 18 minutes.

Note: To drain out excess water in the zucchini allow to sit a bit in a colander lined with paper towel.

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Pie birds make fun collectibles

by Valerie Burner

In 2010, I read a magazine article about pie birds. What on earth was a pie bird and how had I gone through life without this handy kitchen helper were questions I would soon answer -- and another useful and decorative collection was started.

Pie birds (for those who don't know) are also called pie funnels, pie ventilators, pie cups or pie chimneys. They are small ceramic or glass kitchen tools used to vent steam when baking pies. They tend to be between 3 to 5 inches tall. The pie bird is placed in the center after the pan is lined with pastry crust and then the filling is added with the top crust being molded around the pie bird. While the pie bakes, the hollow center of the pie bird allows steam to escape and prevents juices from boiling over and making a mess in your oven.

Originating in Britain in the 1800s, this handy kitchen tool didn't evolve into the charming pie bird until the 1920s. Before that time, most were shaped as cylindrical pie funnels made of white earthenware with some emblazoned with advertising. There are rare versions that have a pair of vertical "wings" that divide the pie in half allowing two different pie fillings in the same pie.

The first American pie bird was in the shape of a rooster and was produced by the Pearl China Company in the 1920s. While there is no confirmation, it is commonly

believed the popular nursery rhyme, "Sing a Song of Sixpence," which mentions "4 and 20 blackbirds baked in a pie," was an inspiration for ceramic designers and, in 1933, Australian Grace Seccombe registered one of the earliest blackbird shaped pie funnels. During the same time, designers were creating pie birds for well-known English pottery AJ Wilkinson. Even the high-end porcelain companies like Spode and Royal Worcester included pie birds in their product offerings.



A collection of pie birds.

After WWII, pottery experienced a pop movement and manufacturers were making all sorts of trendy items that were both figural and functional (think cookie jars and head vases). American manufacturers like McCoy, Morton, Cleminson and Shawnee were creating flocks of pie birds in a wide range of color schemes. While blackbirds are the most popular form of pie birds, the term can be misleading. Collectors can find pie birds in hundreds of different forms that include elephants, chubby chefs, dragons, farm animals and nursery rhyme characters, such as Little Red Riding Hood, as well as any kind of bird you can imagine. Lucky collectors might find Betty Boop, Pinocchio or even the elusive Pillsbury Dough Boy. Modern styles include snowmen, Santas, unicorns, owls and, yes, blackbirds.

My first pie bird was a modern-made blackbird, and it has seen a lot of use and saved me a lot of time with not having to clean the oven. Once I realized how much I needed a pie bird, I was on the hunt for another. As all collectors know, the hunt is one of the best parts of collecting.

I prefer to do my hunting in person because I'm old school that way. Last fall, while on a vacation trip to California, we were doing some treasure hunting, and I spied a bluebird that I'd never spied before and with some distracting, my husband snuck back, made the purchase and surprised me later. I now have matching eggcups and a salt and pepper set that were given to me by our dear friend who was with us on that trip. It's funny how that happens.

As collectors, we love sharing our passion and our newest finds with our friends and family, and that's exactly what I did with another dear friend who winters here in the Phoenix area. They drive down from Canada and go treasure hunting all along the way, both coming and going. We were feasting at my home one Thanksgiving Day and got to talking about pie birds. This sweet lady now has a collection that is incredible. I love that about collecting. You never know where it's going to lead you, who you will meet and inspire and, in turn, be inspired by along the way, and what you will learn.

With the variety of pie birds available, both new and vintage, it's easy to have a collection full of variety or narrow it down to a favorite animal or color, for instance. Around the holidays you will be able to find modern pie birds in nearly every kitchen section of every store. Year round you can find them in your antique and vintage shops. You'll have to look closely as they tend to get lost in the knick-knacks and, most often, they are displayed with the salt and pepper shakers, looking like one that has lost its match.

You'll be able to spot a pie bird because the base will generally not be flat but arched to allow the steam to enter and funnel out through, in the case of a bird, the open beak. Occasionally some pie birds have bases circumnavigated with holes. If you are an internet shopper, you can find hundreds of pie birds available with prices ranging from \$5 and up to over \$500.

Pie birds are an affordable collection to start and manageable to house and, don't forget, they are useful as well. I find simple enjoyment deciding which pie bird to use when baking and they remind me of our treasure hunting expeditions. The sweet bluebird will never be put in my oven but looks like she's ready to burst into song at any moment. I'm still on the hunt for another certain bluebird, and imagine I'll find others along the way that will find a place in my collection that makes me smile.

Let a little whimsy enter your home and surround yourself with the things you love. Happy collecting!

Valerie Burner married into a family of collectors over 25 years ago. The first piece her and her husband purchased together was a drop leaf table that has had many uses over the years. Their current collections include pink depression glass, vintage Santa Claus and Christmas, Snoopy, and of course teddy bears. They have owned Bears & More in the historic Catlin Court district of Downtown Glendale, Arizona, for over 25 years.

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Building Harmony

Episode 63 The Ghost of Bruce

By Jeff Cappis

These things start innocently enough. Rene, my neighbor who owns the acreage across the street from us, has a real sense of humor. On halloween, he likes to pull practical jokes. The first year he toilet papered the tree outside our house. When his dogs came around, I toilet papered them and sent them home. Unfortunately it rained. They got home covered in mud and toilet paper stuck all over them. What a mess.

So, the next year he stepped it up with the old flaming paper bag of dog poo on my doorstep trick. I can't believe I fell for it. I'll never be able to wear those slippers again.

I stewed over that one for a whole year. The next Halloween I'd have to put one over on him. The plan had to be simple, but scare the tar out of this guy. I spent hours pacing around my work shop, looking for an inspiration. I made sketches, drank pots of coffee, conducted experiments, and just when I was about to give up in despair- it hit me! Like a lightning bolt between the eyes! I came up with something so sinister, so genius, so monumentally wicked that only the devil himself could approve.

That's when I invented Bruce.

Bruce was a six foot six mannequin made out of rolled foam rubber and duct tape. In the right light he was an imposing figure and with a flat head, he looked something like Frankenstein's monster.

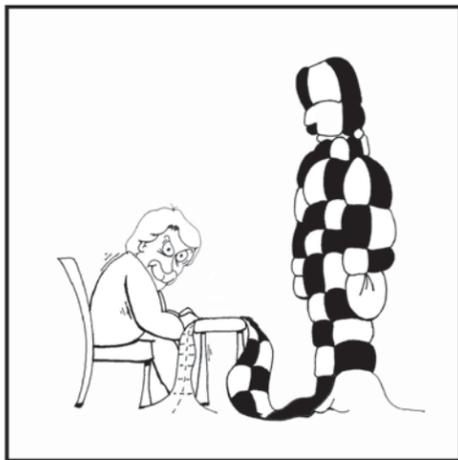
There was a storm brewing outside while I was building him on my work bench. I spent hours of intense rolling and duct taping to make him perfect. I even drew an evil happy face on him with a felt marker. When I was done, I sat him upright on the bench and stood back to get a good look at my creation. Pleased with myself, I yelled to the gods: "He's alive!" Lightning struck outside. Bruce's head flopped over and fell off. Then one of his lower legs dropped to the floor. I got another roll of duct tape.

Bruce had a habit of scaring the crap out of Cathy. At over 6 feet, he was too big to put in a closet so I would leave him sitting in a chair or standing in the corner of a room. Catching him out of the corner of her eye startled her every time. "Get that thing out of the living room," she demanded. "He's scaring everyone who comes in here!"

She was right. I needed to get him out of sight. I stood him up in a corner of our bedroom next to Cathy's side of the bed where I was sure no one would see him.

*Note, other bad places to store your six foot scary mannequin: shower stall, kitchen table, back seat of the car, and the spare bedroom when you have guests. Even the dog avoided rooms where Bruce could be.

By the time Halloween came around, Cathy was all nerves and the dog lived under our bed. But- it was all worth it though because tonight was the night I'd get even for my ruined slippers.



My plan was fiendishly simple. I'd lean Bruce up against Renee's front door and ring the door bell. When Renee answered, Bruce would fall on him, Renee would scream like a little girl and I'd run off into the night laughing. Perfect plan right? I got ready.

The sun had gone down, so I had my black night skulking clothes on, shoe polish on my face, and a flashlight. I was ready. I picked up Bruce, threw him over my shoulder, and squeezed him out the door. Getting him through the forrest was a little rough and Bruce took some damage.

By the time I got to Renee's driveway, Bruce was getting heavy. Renee's gate was closed. I tried heaving Bruce over the 6 foot iron gate. He got hung up on the top. As I was climbing over, one of the spikes on top caught the back of my pants and ripped them open. After 10 minutes of wrestling and pulling, Bruce and I fell to the driveway. I dragged his heavy carcass over the gravel to the house. By this time Bruce was looking pretty rough.

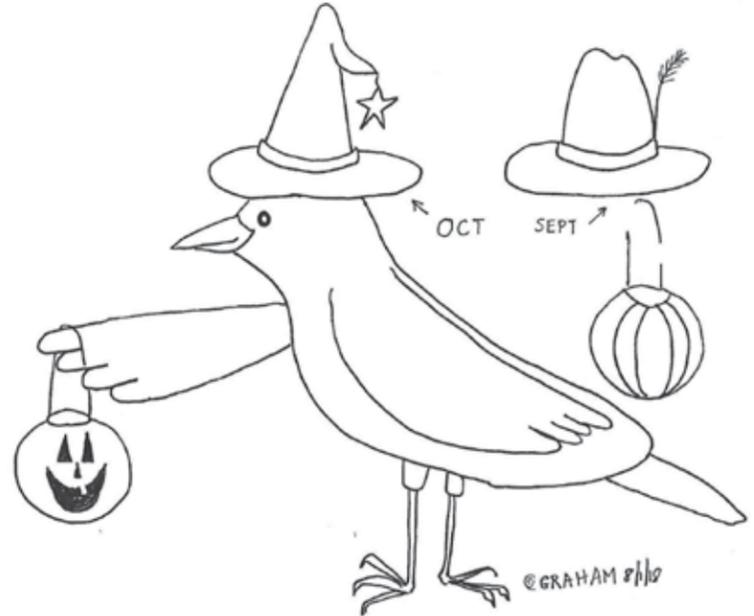
Now the moment! I managed to lean a very flimsy Bruce against Renee's door and rang the doorbell. As I ran away, I could hear Renee's dogs barking. I stopped away in the dark to see what was going on. I just had to look.

The door opened. Bruce fell in. The dogs began to rip him apart, then they spotted me. I almost made it over the gate when one of them grabbed my pant leg and dragged me down. In an instant, I knew how Bruce felt.

Cathy didn't even look up from her laptop when I walked in with my clothes shredded and my shoe polish smeared. "Where have you been?" I told her I went for a walk. "That's nice." She went on typing. I took a shower to wash the blood and shoe polish off.

The next day I found my truck filled with finely ground foam rubber and duct tape (saturated with dog spit). There was a note taped to my wind shield. It said, "Better luck next year- Love, Renee." Well, back to the drawing board. I have a whole year to stew over this one...

Countryberries Designs Something To Crow About



This pattern is free for you to use. Please give the artist credit. Not for commercial use. Enlarge this pattern to your desired size. This pattern was designed to be painted but can be needlepunched, hooked or applied. There is a hat and pumpkin for Sept and Oct. Have fun!

Designed by Kathy Graham

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Fall festivals are full of fun for the entire family

by Susan Baldani

Festivals can soon be found in abundance this time of year. Who doesn't like eating kettle corn, drinking hot apple cider and enjoying live music while walking around in the cool, crisp air?

If you're not sure where to find these events, The County Register can help. Since each issue is tailored to your area of the country, look through the paper to find the fairs that are closest to your home town. You'll soon find yourself and your family bobbing for apples, carving pumpkins, and possibly taking a tractor ride. Or how about trying to find your way out of a corn maze? Some festivals also include children's rides, classic car shows, games of chance, and many other fun activities that one doesn't get to experience all year round. Others even have petting zoos, pony rides and raffles. Many of these events are a perfect way to spend an autumn day that won't break the bank.

These old-fashioned activities never get old, especially for children. They will also learn that electronics are not necessary to have fun, and time away from computers and televisions can be time well spent. Plus it's a great way to make family memories and enjoy the great outdoors at the same time.

Some of these events are held on farms, which is an ideal location to show children where our milk, fruits and vegetables come from. City children especially don't always understand how food gets into their supermarkets and on to their tables. This can be a wonderful learning experience for both children and adults alike.

So next time you're planning a day out, check the latest issue of The Country Register to see what's happening in your area. I'm sure you'll find a festival or two that you and your whole family will enjoy.

Susan Baldani has an MA in Education and a BA in Psychology. She enjoys writing and in addition to writing articles about small town life, is currently working on her second book. You can contact her at suebaldani@yahoo.com or through her website at www.mywritingwall.com.

Celebrating 30 Years of Publishing . . .

Favorite Scone Recipe

from Barbara Floyd's Kitchen

I could not begin to tell you how many triple batches of these scones I have made over the past 30 years! One thing I found out works well and have tested many times is making them up ahead of time, cutting them out and freezing on a cookie sheet. When they are frozen solid, pop them into a good airtight container and, hours before wanting to bake them, thaw out completely (covered by a clean dishtowel) on either a stone or a cookie sheet -- I like to put parchment paper down first -- and then bake as directed.

Cinnamon Nut Scones

- 3 C. flour
- 1/2 C. sugar
- 2 1/2 t. baking powder
- 1/2 t. baking soda
- 1 T. cinnamon
- 3/4 t. salt

Blend the above ingredients well

3/4 Cup Cold Butter cut in so mixture is crumbly (like pea size)

Add 1/2 Cup chopped Walnuts or Pecans

1 Cup of Buttermilk, Stir gently until all is moist.

Knead mixture slightly and cut into rounds desired size on a floured board.

Use egg wash on top if desired.

Bake at 400 degrees for 12-15 minutes.

One variation of this recipe is to leave the cinnamon out and add dried cranberries along with the nuts. I often made triple batches of both versions. We used this recipe exclusively at Gooseberries Tea Room & Gift Shop in Phoenix and also at The Country Register Cafe & Tea Room in Kennewick, WA, in years past. Now I use it in single or double batches for home entertaining. If you don't have cookie cutters the right size, you can use an empty tin can or a thin edged drinking or juice glass. You can also cut them in wedges with a sharp knife.

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Shop News . . .

Syracuse Quilt Shop Closes

Syracuse, Kan. -- The Country Register has learned that Quilter's Stash in Syracuse has closed. The shop participated in the Prairie Stars Quilt Shop Hop.

Country Quiltin' By Design is closing

Plains, Kan. -- DeAnza Vermillion, owner of Country Quiltin' By Design in Plains, has let us know that due to family obligations she is closing the shop. It currently is open on Saturdays only.

Country Quiltin' By Design was a full-service quilt shop, which also offered long arm quilting services. It was a participating shop in the Prairie Stars Quilt Shop Hop.



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Quilts of valor presentation

After being away from my *Quilts That Redeem* column for a while, maybe a re-introduction is in order. In 2007, I was asked to write a story for the Country Register publication. I did. After that, the editor asked if I had any more stories. I did!

A bit of history for new readers. I am a longarm machine quilter in business as Praise Works Quilting for 18 ½ years. I have been in quilt ministry for almost as long. I'm one of five-plus ladies working together to make and give quilts for ministry. As we have given quilt "band-aids" to help redeem hurtful, tragic situations, we have often been privy to seeing God's hand at work. We have seen amazing things in the details. There are stories too good not to share, hence *Quilts That Redeem* came to be. However, a couple life hiccups and some transitional events side-lined my pen and paper a while back. Before making yet another transition in the direction my pen takes, it seems only appropriate to end QTR with one more story.

It has never been my honor to give a Quilts of Valor quilt to a military veteran. My ministry group has given several military quilts in appreciation of our church member's service. QOV has a strict requirement for fabric used, and we can't meet that since our fabric is from many donated sources.

Several months ago, I was asked to give a QOV quilt to a friend living in a VA Home. Two generous ladies came forward from my quilt guild to piece the beautiful top. I got to custom quilt it, add the label and make the presentation pillow case. From there, many hands were involved in setting up the presentation ceremony, making it the special and touching event that it was. Words are not adequate to describe how it all came together for honoring Major Dave Richardson. For that afternoon, we were on sacred ground. One friend, a retired Army veteran, read the facts of Dave's military record and the many awards he earned. An extra special part was the reading of a chapter from Dave's book that he wrote about his *Vietnam Air Rescues* (originally written for his four sons, starting in 2002). Dave flew helicopters into jungle areas where men were shot down, and he and others rescued the survivors. The helicopters received escort support from Sandy's (fighter jets).

Because it so aptly describes what a lot of our war veterans experience, I asked permission to print the excerpt from his book that was read that day. It's a huge part of what "brought it all home to us" sitting safe and secure in that Flag Room setting, having saluted the flag of our country (gave me goose bumps) and listening to a beautifully sung acapella rendition of "America the Beautiful" by another of Dave's friends.

I need to preface the story of Dave's seventh rescue with what he wrote in his book about a "light" that appeared during his first, and subsequent, rescues. This happened during his "hovering" over the survivor while the hoist was lowered for picking him up.

"Out of the corner of my eyes, I could sense a brilliant, white light. What was that? Was the co-pilot shining a light in my eyes? That didn't make any sense, yet the light was there. Since I was busy maintaining the hover, I resolved to forget about it. . . (Later) I asked my co-pilot what the business was with the light shining on me during the pick-up. He got a funny look on his face and said he didn't know a thing about it. He hadn't noticed any light. It was only later, when I encountered the light again during my second rescue and with a different co-pilot, that I began to believe it was the Shekinah glory of God, protecting me from harm. Every rescue I made, that light was there, disappearing when I pulled myself and my crew out of danger. I have no other explanation."

The following is from Dave's book about his seventh, and final, rescue before leaving Vietnam and heading home.

Into the Valley of Death

There was, naturally, a high degree of anxiety among my crew. The site was not

adequately prepared, and there was no back up if we ran into trouble. In addition, I strongly suspected a trap; that we would be shot out of the sky as I came into my hover.

Then, suddenly, we were in the valley. Operating on my usual 'the closer to the ground I am, the harder I am to see and hit', I flew at treetop level as we fought our way up the valley toward the survivor. The sky was a swirling mass of fighters. Tracers were flying, and rockets were screaming. Further and further into the valley we flew.

I was extremely worried as we fought our way down the valley. Since the day I had arrived in-theater, I had heard stories of how the enemy would use a captured radio and an English-speaker to lure the helicopter into a trap. This was the third day of the rescue attempt, and so far, we had been unwilling to risk a helicopter entering the valley.

Now, suddenly, the survivor was claiming to be badly wounded. It didn't sound to me like the same voice I had heard Friday evening, all day Saturday and even earlier that morning. I felt almost certain that I was being suckered. I knew I had the authority to terminate the mission, and no one would blame me. And yet – what if there really was an American, badly wounded and desperately waiting for me to rescue him? I had to go on, but I was filled with apprehension.

The clearing the survivor had described came into sight. I told him to pop smoke, but there was no answer, and I couldn't see any smoke. Again, I requested smoke. Still, no answer. I couldn't see any smoke and, due to the thick cover, I couldn't see the survivor. The scene appeared to be one of total confusion as the fighters continued to weave about us, firing everything they had. I was still concerned. There was no survivor in sight. Was this whole thing a trap? As I slowly moved into the clearing, I radioed, "If you don't show yourself in ten seconds, we're outta here."

Then I realized how foolish this must seem to a badly wounded man who probably couldn't pull himself out of the brush. Questions, questions, questions. Was this a trap? Should I put my PJ (parajumper) down?

Then my flight mechanic called smoke off to our right, and I drifted that way and went into my hover mode, which consisted of blocking out everything else as I concentrated on holding the helicopter absolutely still while the hoist was being lowered.

We could still see his smoke, but it was blowing parallel to the ground and we couldn't see the survivor. I knew if I moved the helicopter even as much as a foot, the hoist could tangle in the dense undergrowth. Still unable to visually acquire the survivor, I hovered, and we waited for him to come to us. My comforter, the brilliant white light was there again, brighter than it had ever been before. I waited. And waited and waited.

Continued on page 11

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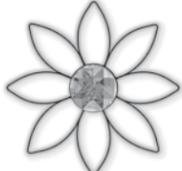
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People all around were shooting at us. Was the survivor already dead from his wounds?

This was foolish. If I continued to hover, I was going to get myself and my crew killed. Reasoning that I had promised him 10 seconds, I decided to wait just a bit longer and began counting to myself before taking us out of there to safety. Finally, the survivor was spotted. We got him on the hoist and on board. I pulled in full power and began moving up and forward. The light blinked out.

I was jinking madly to avoid the guns, which were still firing on us. We cleared the area, the PJ yelled to fly straight and level, the survivor had passed out, and he was attempting to stop his bleeding before he died.

No way was I going to fly back down that valley. I headed straight toward the same ridge I had crested the night before, straining to gain enough attitude to clear it. As we neared the top of the ridge, a gun I had not noticed above us, began firing as its crew attempted to depress their muzzle sufficiently to hit us. I rolled sharply to the right, but had to immediately reverse as we almost collided with an A-1 just off to our side.

As I rolled level, he fired two rockets, which blew the gun position away. We were so close we both flew through the debris cloud. Once again, the PJ was yelling to fly straight and level as he thought the survivor was dying and he was trying to operate. We got safely over the ridge and headed for home. . . .

As usual, when we arrived back at home base, a gigantic crowd of well-wishers was waiting for us. . . . A pilot came forward and . . . shook my hand and said he was the pilot who had fired the rockets into the gun position and saved both our lives. He also said that was all he had left; he was out of bombs and 20mm ammunition and those were his last two rockets. I shook *his* hand. If he hadn't been such a good shot, we would both have been dead.

Then he showed me his aircraft, which resembled a piece of Swiss cheese. He said he had never gotten below 150 knots, and yet his plane was riddled with bullet holes! He also said he had punched his instrument panel clock when I went into the hover and again when I moved out. The clock showed I was absolutely stationary for over **four minutes** while everyone was shooting at me. He wanted to see my helicopter.

We walked around my bird. There wasn't a single hole in it! He thought I had switched aircraft and was playing a joke on him and left in anger. I silently thanked God for once again keeping both myself and the crew safe.

Here is a side story that may be of interest: After this mission, and just before leaving for home, I received a letter from my wife. Everyone who has met my wife, Kaye, agrees that she is a Godly woman. In the letter, she said that one night, she was awakened from sleep by our young son who said 'they' were trying to hurt his Dad.

Filled with a deep sense of urgency that I was in danger and in much need of prayer, she immediately got on her knees beside her bed and began earnestly praying for my safety. After a few minutes, she felt a calmness descend on her and returned to bed.

The following morning, she wrote me the letter I was reading, describing the incident, noting the time and date and asking if I had been in danger. Naturally, she knew nothing at that time of this mission.

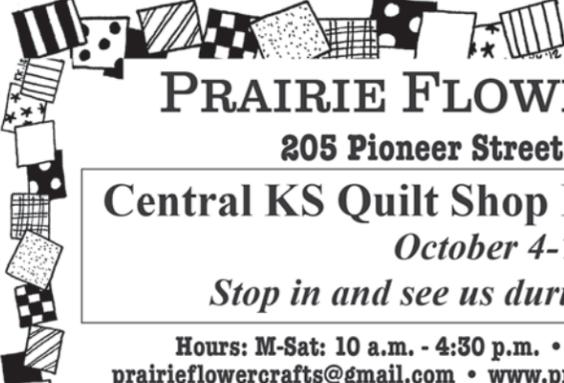
When I received the letter, I compared dates and, adjusting her time to the time zone

where I was, discovered that she had been prompted to pray for me at the exact time I was in the hover! God does use His children in mysterious ways. . . . Shortly after that, I rotated back to the States . . .

Once this was read, it was several minutes before everyone could collect themselves enough to go on with the presentation of the quilt. The Quilts of Valor organization states that around 180,000 quilts have been given to veterans. With this 180,001 given, it was an incredible honor to be even a small part of honoring, not just this one man, but those who came before and those who will come after. For further information, go to the official website: qovf.org. For the book *Vietnam Air Rescues* by Dave Richardson, it is sold at amazon.com.

As the column "Quilts That Redeem" has come to an end, this has seemed a most fitting way to go out. Thanks to my readers over the years. I hope to be back under a different heading.

(By Sherry Osland of Praise Works Quilting – in business and ministry 18 ½ years. 1216 NW 3rd St., Abilene, KS 67410 facebook.com/Praiseworksquilting)



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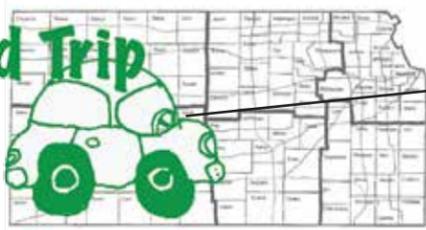
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Road Trip

Road Trip



Alden

Road Trip to Alden

By Cindy Baldwin, editor/publisher

Road trip destinations don't always have to be clear across the state to be exciting. Sometimes they can be to the next county. The key element in a successful road trip is visiting some place new – or revisiting a place that has been a fun experience in the past. My recent road trip to Prairie Flower Crafts combined all three. Alden is in Rice County – which adjoins McPherson County where I live – it was a shop I had visited years ago before I purchased The Country Register, and it now has a different owner who has brought her own personality into the shop. So, it was close; it was a place where I had had a good experience; and it has also taken on a new look while keeping elements of the original. Come along with me as we visit Prairie Flower Crafts.

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It was a beautiful, warm autumn day as I headed toward my destination, driving past ripening corn, milo and soybean fields. Alden is a place you go to on purpose. It's not hard to find, but it is not on a major highway. Located in the middle of Rice County between Lyons and Sterling, west of Highway 96 or south of US 56 (turn south west of Lyons). The shop itself is easy to find as it occupies three historic buildings on Alden's main street.

Prairie Flower Crafts – and Alden – are perfect examples of finding hidden gems in out-of-the-way places. It is one of the older continuously operating quilt shops in the state. The shop was opened in 1970 by Sara Fair Sleeper after several quilters in the community needed a place to purchase quilt backing and to quilt. Sara also stocked craft supplies, wicker baskets and other merchandise, but gradually quilting fabric became the main focus of the shop. The first time I visited Prairie Flower Crafts, Sara was still running the shop and proudly showed me both the new quilting fabric and a room full of vintage fabric bolts – some of which dated to the shop's opening. At the time, she told me that she kept the vintage fabric because she had customers who were looking for fabric to repair older quilts or match stash fabric for new projects. Even though she was in her late 80s, she was still very involved in serving her customers' needs.

As I walked through the door on this visit, I was immediately greeted by current owner Paula Royer who welcomed me into the shop. Wow! It was the same building, but Paula, who had worked at Prairie Flower Crafts for 10 years with Sara, has worked her own magic in making the shop her own, while still keeping many of features from the antique tin ceilings, wood floors and vintage fixtures to the eclectic fabric selection and friendly and helpful customer service. And, tucked away in the sale fabric room, there are even bolts of that vintage fabric. But, the bright, airy feel reflects Paula's personality.

Paula purchased the shop five years ago when Sara, then 96, decided to retire and wanted her to have it. "I used to ask Sara



The Prairie Flower Crafts quilt car is usually parked in front of the shop -- often on the sidewalk! It is also an eye-catching entry at area parades.



The classroom features a 17-foot-long antique table (above) and cubbies for customers to store their sewing machines & projects.



when I worked for her how she was going to keep her legacy alive," Paula said. "She would always respond that she was going to live forever. But, her kids decided 96 was a good time to retire."

Apparently Sara had decided that Paula would be the one to keep her legacy alive. For those readers who knew Sara Fair Sleeper, she just recently celebrated her 101st birthday and, according to Paula, visits the shop on a regular basis to see what is happening.

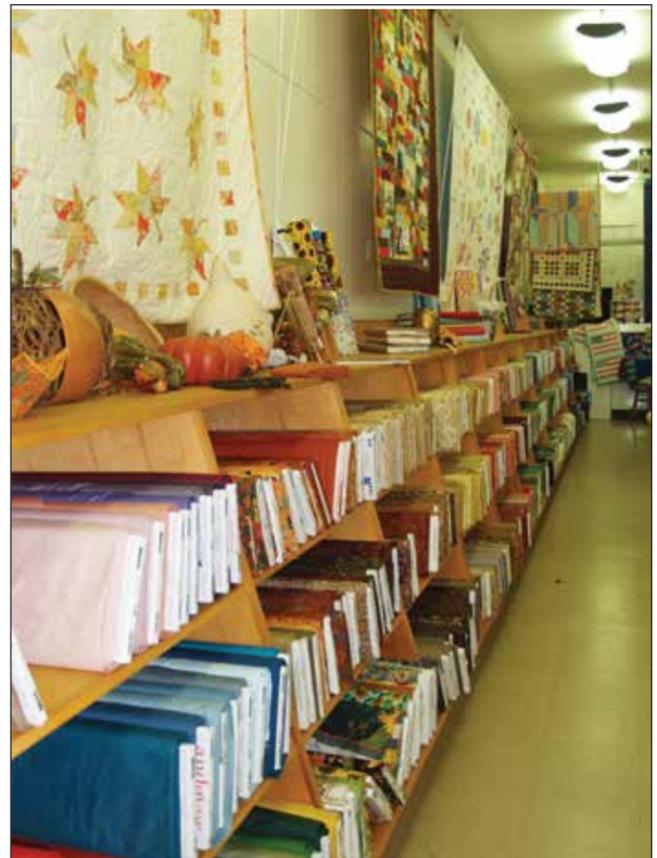
Prairie Flower Crafts is a full-service quilt shop offering fabric, classes, open sew times and long arm quilting services. Paula has modernized the shop by installing more lighting, painting the walls white and using clean lined display fixtures to make browsing through the over 5,000 bolts of fabric in the shop a pleasurable experience. The shop also has a large selection of fat quarters, patterns, notions and kits.

Paula described the fabric inventory as eclectic and it includes high-quality cottons from brands including Timeless Treasure, P & B, RJR, Henry Glass, Quilting Treasures, Hoffman, Island Batik, Northcott, Choice, Liberty of London and Minki. The shop also has flannels, fleece, children's and branded fabric, including fabric for Kansas, Colorado, Oklahoma and Nebraska colleges and farm brand-related fabric.

When ordering fabric, Paula said she considers what she feels her clientele will buy and, realizing that

she is one of the few quilt shops going west in the state and feels that it is important to have a wide selection rather than specializing, as some shops do, in a particular type of fabric style. In addition to walk-in customers, she also sells fabric over the internet.

Paula loves designing quilts and projects and especially enjoys putting colors together for maximum effect. But, she knows that for many quilters, that can be a little intimidating. To help provide inspiration, Paula is a believer in store samples and the shop's walls are covered with beautiful projects from full-sized bed quilts to wall hang-



Top: Just some of the more than 5,000 bolts of fabric in the shop. Above: A display of fat quarters.



A customer's latest project on the classroom's design wall. Prairie Flower Crafts owner, Paula Royer, said the wall is very helpful when customers -- and shop employees -- are planning a quilt.

Mound City



Above: Designing quilts around panels is a very popular trend. Prairie Flower Crafts carries a number of fabric panels including this turkey. Grouped with the quilt are the fabrics used in making it. Below: In addition to a number of juvenile-themed fabrics, the shop also carries panels which can be made into cloth quiet books, some of which are below.



ings. She regularly changes the samples.

“We make the samples to show people how they can use our fabric, and we make sure that we have sufficient fabric used in a sample so that you can still get several more projects out of it,” Paula said. “We also make kits for all the samples displayed in the shop.”

The shop also supports its customers in learning new skills and getting those UFOs finished. The shop has several clubs including a Sew Wednesday, where customers bring in their projects to work on in the shop’s spacious classroom and a Sip and Sew group, which meets to sew once a month along with sharing refreshments. Workshops, classes and retreats are also held on a regular basis. The ladies in the shop are also great resources to answer questions customers might have.

One of the fun things done to encourage quilters is the shop’s quilt of the month. Each month a quilt is displayed that one of the shop’s customers has created. Featured quilts have to be made from fabric purchased in the shop and the quilter needs to have worked on it there. The quilt featured when I was there was a “first quilt” by a new

quilter. Paula said the quilter has been bitten by the “quilting bug” and has several more projects in the works.

That’s the kind of reaction to quilting that Paula had when she made her first baby quilt in 1977 – she describes it as being “all in”, and what she loves to see in her customers.

The shop was one of the original members of the Central Kansas Quilt Shop Hop, but had left the group during the last years that Sara had owned it. Paula has brought the shop back into the group and has been part of the shop hop for the past several years.

When Paula purchased the store her goal was to maintain and continue Sara Sleeper’s legacy and have “a nice, clean inviting quilt shop.”

“The most satisfying thing about having the shop is working with people and helping our customers create something that will be meaningful and satisfying to them,” Paula said.

If you are looking for a shop with a wide variety of fabric, a laid-back friendly feel and helpful customer service, plan a road trip to Alden and Prairie Flower Crafts. It’s worth the drive.



The shop provides custom long arm quilting services. Quilts are charged by the square inch with a flat charge for the thread.



A quilt made by a customer is selected each month for display. This Quilt of the Month was made by Stephanie Walton. The quilt was her first and was made in one of the classes hosted by the shop.

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM



Best Vacation Ever!

Have you ever gotten home from a vacation and signed, I think that was the Best Vacation Ever! Now that summer is flowing into Autumn, it is my hope that you were able to slow down your pace and find a place to refresh and renew. It could have been your own front porch or a fly-away-place where the color of the water simply took your breath away. And all you wanted to do was lounge away the days and watch the waves roll in one by one. Stroll the beach and pick up shells to see the wonders of the Universe. This serenity can be accomplished at home too. I have friends who live next to a busy street. I stopped by their house on my morning walk. He and his wife were having their morning coffee on the porch. “Does the sound of the traffic bother you?” I asked. He smiled, and said, “If I close my eyes, I really can’t tell the difference between the sound of a passing car, or the sound of a rolling wave on the beach”.

Hummm, I thought, what a beautiful solution for going on the Best Vacation Ever - every day of your life!

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Joy & Blessings, *Jody*

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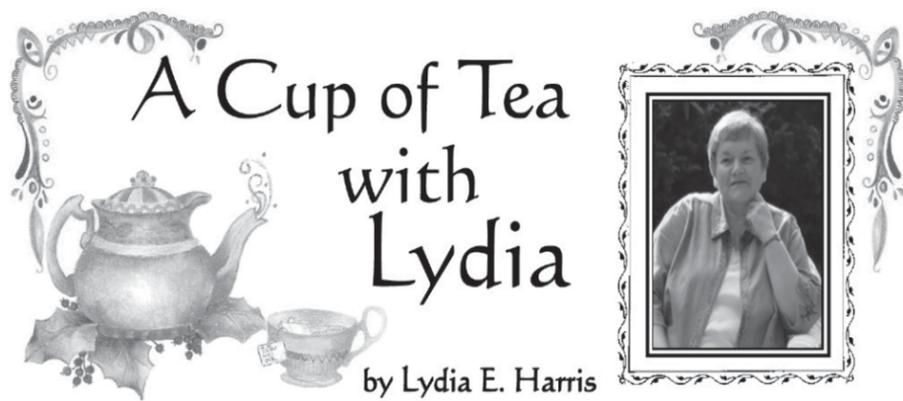
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Apple-licious Teatimes

It all began with a book. And it changed my life. For my 50th birthday, a friend gave me *If Teacups Could Talk* by Emilie Barnes. This book sparked my interest in tea and serving tea. It also prompted me to write "A Cup of Tea with Lydia," which has been a delightful part of my writing journey. Now my grandkids call me "Grandma Tea."

Since it's back-to-school time, books and apples make a fitting teatime theme. So, let's combine them for an apple-licious tea.

Start with Apples

Fall reminds me of the Glazed Fresh Apple Cookies from my childhood. The aroma of spices, the sweet taste of apples and raisins, and the crunch of walnuts made them extra delicious. I included the recipe along with a photo of my recipe card, which was handwritten by my father decades ago. What precious memories it evokes.

Of course, tea is essential. As the weather cools, a warm cup of tea makes me feel cozy inside and out. Consider a spicy blend such as Constant Comment or Chai. Or select apple-favored blends to go with your theme. Several brands offer a tasty caramel apple tea. For a simple teatime, serve cookies and tea.

To add to the menu, include other traditional tea foods with or without apples. For sandwiches, you can use raisin bread (crusts removed) spread with whipped cream cheese. Add thin slices of a juicy red apple and top the sandwiches with another slice of bread. Cut the sandwiches into quarters to look like books.

For the scones, use a prepared mix or your favorite recipe. If you have an apple-shaped cutter, use it to cut the scones into apple shapes. Otherwise, circles or squares are fine. Serve them with apple butter or your favorite toppings.

Apple Smiles

Thinking of books, I have spent this year writing a Grandma-and-Me cookbook. One of the recipes included is Great Grins. This would make a fun addition to your teatime. You'll need a red apple, whipped cream cheese, and white miniature marshmallows. Quarter the apple and remove the core. Use two, 1/2-inch-thick slices for each set of lips. Spread a thin layer of cream cheese on one slice. Add 5 to 8 marshmallows (flat ends down) on top of the cream cheese to become the teeth. Spread cream cheese on another apple slice and place the slice on top of the marshmallows for the upper lip. These sweet treats will make people smile.

Plan Your Décor

Decorating and setting the table is my favorite part, and I love to include fresh flowers when possible. But for a simple, colorful centerpiece, fill a bowl or basket with apples. Mix yellow, green and red apples, or use only one variety. Guests can take the apples home as favors.

You could also add books on the table. I have many tea books, large and small. But any favorite books would carry out a back-to-school theme and spark conversation. And from the Good Book, read Psalm 17:8, which says we are the apple of God's eye, meaning we are precious to Him.

Guests

An apple-licious tea works for children, adults or families. Whether you plan a back-to-school celebration for kids or moms, a Grandparents Day tea to honor grandparents (September 9), or a harvest-thanksgiving par-TEA later this fall to rejoice in God's bounty, consider adding apples to your menu and decorations.

Back to the Books

As fall ushers in books and new learning, I think about how influential books are. The book *If Teacups Could Talk* started my tea and writing journey and changed my life in a positive way. I hope my Grandma-and-Me cookbook, scheduled for release in August 2019, will also impact others. Perhaps a reader will even say about my book, "It all began with a book. And it changed my life."

Fall is ripe with opportunities to harvest TEA-lightful memories. I'm ready to brew a cuppa tea and plan an apple-licious teatime. Will you join me?

Lydia E. Harris, known as "Grandma Tea," wrote the book Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting (AMG Publishers). She holds a master's degree in home economics.

From Lydia's Recipe File: Glazed Fresh Apple Cookies

A recipe from my childhood. Enjoy these spicy cookies made with fresh apples.

Ingredients:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 1/3 cups brown sugar | 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg |
| 1/2 cup shortening | 1/4 teaspoon cloves |
| 1 egg | 1/4 cup apple juice or milk |
| 2 cups flour | 1 cup peeled, diced apples |
| 1 teaspoon baking soda | 1 cup raisins |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt | 3/4 cup chopped walnuts or pecans |
| 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon | |

Glaze:

- 1 1/2 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1/4 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 2 1/2 tablespoons scalded milk

Directions:

Cream together the sugar and shortening. Mix in the egg.

Mix together the flour, soda, salt, and

spices.

Blend half of the flour into the creamed mixture.

Stir in the milk. Then mix in the rest of the flour.

Add apples, raisins and nuts and mix well.

Drop cookies by teaspoonfuls onto a baking sheet sprayed with nonstick spray.

Bake the cookies at 375 degrees for 10 to 12 minutes until brown around the edges. The cookies will still be soft. Remove cookies to a cooling rack. Spread glaze on the cookies while they are still warm.

Makes about 3-1/2 dozen cookies. Store them in a covered container in the refrigerator or freeze them.



Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving is loved ones
Who come miles and miles
To be greeted with kisses
And welcoming smiles.

Thanksgiving is turkey
And all of the rest
Of the fruits of the harvest
With which we've been
blessed.

Thanksgiving is praise
For our Father above,
For his bountiful goodness
And the gift of His love.

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Over The Teacup . . .

Walking in love

By Janet Young

In an effort to stay fit and healthy, I try to go to our local YMCA to walk around their indoor walking track. Before long, you begin to see regulars that seem to keep the same schedule as you, as you see them quite often in your rounds.

Recently, there was an older lady with two tall canes walking in a somewhat bent over position. I remembered seeing her only once before. As we walked, I would pass her on several occasions. Each time I would feel led to say something to her. But, I didn't know what to say, as I didn't want it to be condescending or demeaning. Finally, on my last round as I was passing her, the words came flooding out. I told her quite simply, that I admired her for her tenacity, for her perseverance. The lady stopped, looked up at me and gave me the biggest smile. She said she appreciated my words, and that I made her day. As I walked away, I thought what if I hadn't taken the time to convey those words of encouragement. It only took a minute, but the joy it brought to that lady made me realize the power of our words, and if only we would take the time to express appreciation, love or words of encouragement to those in our intimate circle, as well as complete strangers.

With the holidays upon us, I think of residents in nursing facilities who may not even receive one Christmas card or one visit from family during this holiday season. Sadly, there are residents who never receive visits at any time of the year. Having worked in a nursing facility for almost 20 years before opening my teahouse, I was very familiar with the painful reality when the holidays came around. Sadly, even family members who once sought their parents' advice, now find them to be almost invisible.

These residents spend 24/7 in a very limited environment. Even the ones that may seem happy are sometimes the ones who try harder to stay happy. This time of the year, if they are fortunate to have the ability to recall events, they will recollect Christmases past. But then, they soon realize that those are just memories...memories that will not be relived because some family members are no longer with them, and of course they are no longer living in their home, which was filled with laughter from family gatherings over the holidays.

Why not reach out to a local nursing facility this year and inquire whether or not there might be someone who would benefit by a friendly visitor occasionally. As time goes on, you don't necessarily have to talk to the individual, if she/he is a little confused. Just holding hands or listening to music or reading from a book or the Bible can be a great source of encouragement. For the resident it is the realization that someone cares enough to spend time with them. Treat them with respect, ask them questions if they are a higher functioning individual, talk over a cup of tea in a quiet lounge (providing staff approves).

Let this Christmas be a gift that keeps on giving. Find yourself a forever friend and start visiting once a week, once a month, whatever your schedule can afford. If you have children, perhaps they could be included occasionally on your visits. You may never know the impact you have on that person's life, but I can guarantee it will impact yours.

As for me, when I go back to the Y, I hope my new friend is there, as I plan to start another conversation with her and welcome her smile once more.

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

AND THE WINNERS ARE . . .

Our winner this issue of the \$50 Gift certificate to a chosen advertising shop is Lenette Kottas from Harper, Kan.

Congratulations, Lenette, we hope you enjoy your time shopping at Picket Fence Quilt Shop in Wichita. Lenette chose this shop because; "They are interested in showing a customer how to do a new design, plus the quality fabrics. They are knowledgeable and helpful."

The winner of the book *The Coca Cola Trail* by Larry Jorgenson is Doris Cobb of Coldwater, Kan.

She picked up her copy of The Country Register at the Greensburg Big Well. She enjoys shopping at Clark's Fabrics in Kiowa, because of the good fabric selection and friendly service.



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Prescription for Adventure . . .

Tucked in for winter

By Naomi Gaede Penner
Tanana, Alaska 1957

Adapted from Naomi's upcoming book, "The Bush Doctor's Wife."

The bright colors on the hillsides had faded, and the sun rose lower and crept to the south. Ice cakes hurried down the Yukon River. Ruby had never seen the like. In the early stages of freeze-up, the river reminded her of thick, lumpy sherbet punch she made for ladies' fancy events. Living adjacent to a broad and turbulent waterway had been an adjustment for the Kansas prairie-land farm girl.

A month prior, the river barges had docked for the last time, bringing groceries, household goods, heating oil, mechanical supplies and so on. They would not return until June.

Temperatures dipped consistently below freezing and daylight receded by more than six minutes per day. The fall foliage had dulled to a palette of pale cocoa, cloves and maple frosting. Ruby no longer saw villagers picking cranberries and blueberries or digging potatoes, carrots or turnips from their gardens; neither were they fishing or sitting on board benches along the riverbank.

Airplanes encountered increasingly bad weather and mail service became inconsistent. All in all, the village felt smaller with the absence of river barges, limited air traffic and compressed days.

Ruby felt uneasy about the approaching winter. Certainly, she had made it through two Alaska winters in Anchorage, yet there she'd had actual grocery stores, kids' winter hand-me-down clothes from friends at church, a department store and even the Army Surplus store. But here she was in an isolated village with meager and expensive supplies at the Northern Commercial store.

Part of preparing for winter meant tucking in things. If Ruby had lived in town, that could have meant cleaning a lawn mower, hanging up shovels, raking leaves, mulching outdoor shrubbery and putting studded tires on a car. Here, she had none of those. Here, the item to tuck in was her husband, Elmer's, J-3 airplane, which was still on floats on the river, with ice clustering around its bottom surfaces. He needed to put the plane on wheels and fly it to the village landing strip.

On a cloudy Saturday afternoon, he found Ruby in the sewing room, mending corduroy jeans. Grade schoolers, Ruth and Naomi, sat cross-legged on the heavy wood comforter trunk and played with buttons in a round tin box. Mark, almost age two, crawled at his mother's feet, attempting to manipulate the sewing machine foot-pedal. Ruby alternated between pulling her persistent son out from beneath her legs and pushing the fabric underneath the moving needle.

Elmer rounded the doorway. Buttons grated beneath his shoe soles. He looked at Ruby. Her eyes didn't leave her task and the sewing machine hummed steadily. Elmer cleared his throat. "Ruby, I thought you might like to get some fresh air."

"Just a minute," she mumbled.

"I need to get the plane off the river."

"Children go find your coats," she said, removing the straight pins from between her

lips.

When the family stepped out the door, Ruby noticed the uncanny silence. Leaves no longer crackled beneath her footsteps, but were frozen together in layered mud-clumps. The sky was dull. Clouds were strewn like quilt batting. No sound of a motorboat running full pitch against the river current. At 4:15 p.m., the sun would soon slip behind the horizon.

The girls interrupted the stillness with their chatter. They were intrigued by the ice growing along the river's edge and stamped on the thin shelves that were filled with water bubbles.

Ruby helped Elmer half carry, half drag the two-seater aircraft up and out of the reach of the river's icy fingers. The metal floats pulled across the gravel screeched like fingernails on a chalkboard. Mark wanted to climb into his Daddy's airplane and interfere with the work.

"Mark, come make the ice crack." Ruth showed him where to place his stubby booted feet. As roly-poly as he looked, he wasn't heavy enough and nothing happened. "Jump," she instructed. He finally accomplished the task. The children laughed hysterically. Their noise sounded extra loud in the otherwise quiet afternoon.

Within a week, Ruby would write her parents, "Changing Elmer's plane from floats to wheels is no more effort than changing a tire." True. All he needed was someone to lift a wing so the axle could be placed on a block.

The bush doctor's wife had gained a new skill. Seasonal demands were different from those in Kansas. The plane was tucked in. She was a hardy farm girl. She would keep her family secure and tucked in for the winter.



Find and purchase Naomi's Prescription for Adventure books, at www.prescriptionforadventure.com or by calling 303.506.6181. In Kansas, available at: Faith & Life (Newton) or Kansas Originals (1-70 at Wilson.)

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Autumn once again

by Kerri Habben

And, somehow, once again it is autumn.

The summer, which arrives and appears as if it will last forever, never does. Yet there is something about the sun in September, how it settles upon us as if to say, "Let us treasure this warmth, I can but linger a little while longer."

Apple pies and cobblers are calling, taking the place of tomato sandwiches and potato salad. Casseroles await after trying not to turn the oven on to add more heat to the house.

I have some new recipes to try, thanks to my mother. One of her gifts to me was to instill a love of cooking. It is what her mother gave to her and her mother to her. If I had a regret that I do not have children, it would be that I cannot pass down what all three of these precious, enduring and loving women imparted to me. Though, perhaps in writing about them, I give birth at least to remembrance.

After my mother's diagnosis of brain cancer and the last radiation treatment, she suddenly lost the muscle strength to walk. It happened in an instant. So we stayed downstairs in the guest room, where we slept side-by-side in twin beds. I set up a card table in the den where we ate, me bringing the food down from the kitchen.

Mom had an extensive cookbook collection -- from our travels, locally and those received as gifts. One day, she asked me to start bringing them down from the cabinet and shelf in the dining room. She also wanted a table to work at, a pair of scissors and paper clips. Then, with each stack of cookbooks I brought to her, she went through them page by page, tearing out what she wanted. There were some books, about a third of them we wanted to keep. The rest, as she finished, she dropped them on the floor and said, "If you would, throw these out, please."

So I did. Because she was resolute, I did not wince but smiled instead.

Next, she gathered the pages with their ragged edges and carefully cut out the recipes she wanted. I watched her hands steadily moving as she sorted her finds by category. Then she clipped every group together.

All the while she talked to me, telling me why she wanted this recipe here and that one there. Sometimes she asked me to write out a recipe or to carry one upstairs, because she didn't want it lost amongst the others.

So I did. Because she was so intent, I was content.

I saw the former executive secretary in her as she sorted and filed, and I saw the mother who poured love into all the meals she'd cooked. I felt the woman who had always, and was still, giving the best of herself. I lived with the illusion of healing then. Only later would I see these days and her cookbook work was another part of her legacy to me.

And somehow, once again it is autumn.

I have new recipes to try, thanks to my mother.

So I will. Because she was resolute, I smile. Because she was so intent, I am content.

Kerri Habben is a writer, photographer and crochet instructor living in Raleigh, NC. An avid crocheter and knitter, she learned these skills from her grandmother and mother. She donates many of her yarn creations to those in need. Kerri has gathered a decade of essays she is working to publish. She can be reached at 913jeeves@gmail.com.



The Dropped Stitch . . .

by Sharon Greve

Paws to celebrate

"...be kind to dumb animals, not only, because you will lose nothing by it, but because you ought to, for they were placed on the earth by the same Kind Hand that made all living creatures." -- 1893, Author Marshall Saunders, Beautiful Joe



National Dog Day occurs every August 26, followed by National Dog Week observation the last full week of September. Most dog breeds are a few hundred years old. The dog was the first domesticated animal. Since then, dogs perform many roles for people: hunting, herding, pulling loads, protection, assisting police, military and rescue units as well as aiding handicapped individuals. Their impact on human society has given them the nickname "man's best friend" in the western world.

Perhaps the most popular role is companionship. No one welcomes one home like a dog. It doesn't matter how long you've been gone, two hours or two weeks; it's always a joyous welcome. They are the best medicine and therapy so easily found. They love us, and we love them. Dogs have a sense of childlike wonder and the ability to get excited about some of life's simplest pleasures that is comparable only to that of a young child. Dogs offer unconditional love and happiness every day. Now is the time for Dog Day and Dog Week appreciation, but, better yet, show appreciation to your devoted friend every day! Besides a tasty treat, share a favorite walk, and a special "cuddle" session, gift a knit/crochet blanket, a colorful (maybe squeaky) animal toy, a beautiful braided collar, or a soft pillow bed or a sweater/coat for a fall/winter walk. Create a personalized stocking for Santa to fill.

Don't have a dog? Many people can't have pets of their own due to health/allergies or residence conditions that don't allow animals. But a crafted gift for pets of your friends or that loveable neighboring pet is always appreciated. Ill or aged dogs welcome a "love session" to enable them to cope with pain and situations they don't understand. There are many shelters whose dogs would welcome a blanket of their own while waiting for adoption. Use colorful yarn items of dense basic stitches to protect their paws from kennel bases and provide comfort from cement floors. Be sure to contact your local shelter for a list of needed items.

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Random Acts . . .

Love Notes

by Maranda K. Jones



"It's so hard to part with those sweet little notes. I have a whole box of them."
 I agreed with the retired school teacher, Mrs. G, as I visited with her three granddaughters in my first-grade class. "I do too!"
 These little girls often wrote me notes inviting me to sit with them at lunch, and it was an offer I could never refuse.
 I enjoy spending time with my students during the day and running into them outside of the classroom, during church, or at a ball game is always fun. Mrs. G went on to say that you just get so attached to your students. Again, I agreed wholeheartedly.
 Another student of mine chimed in, "I drew you a giraffe once. Do you still have it?" I turned to the 17-year-old who had joined my family for the day and told him probably. It seems that I get so attached to my students that I take them with me! My son joined the conversation and added that he had also drawn a picture of my favorite animal. The high school junior jokingly called him a copycat. My son said, "She's my mom!" only to be told, "Well, I've known her longer." Evidently students become just as attached to their teachers. This proved true with the retired teacher who was promptly approached by previous students with their own families ready for a reunion.
 We parted ways and found our seats for the basketball game, but not without another friendly fight. Our three children all wanted to sit by our newest family member, who we now lovingly refer to as Number Four. It just fits. It matches the number he wears on his basketball and baseball jerseys. We are his biggest fans at ball games, and he is a big brother to our three. Our family feels more complete when he is around. He just fits. He's our Number Four.

When I had missed a few months of school for maternity leave, and he was missing me, Number Four and his mom came out for a visit. They took turns holding our baby boy and playing with our dog Shakespeare who had not been very accepting of our new arrival. He was used to being the center of attention and needed a new home. He quickly got one, becoming Number Four's canine companion. Ten years has passed, and so has Shakespeare, and so has his mom.

I first met this single mom at preschool registration. She was filling out paper work while her little boy with a perfectly round head full of short dark hair smiled at me.

There was something about that moment that caused me to take notice, like God was telling me to pay close attention. She became an instant friend, a parent who respected me in the classroom, and a person I appreciated. I was a young teacher, praying for children of my own, and she supported me by letting me love hers.

When she called me at home to express concern the following year, I wondered if she was upset that I had disciplined Number Four that day. This was the first sign of any conflict in our relationship and the school year had been off to a rocky start anyway. I had been asked by the administration to remain with this particular group of children, becoming their kindergarten teacher at the end of the first quarter. While she and her son were pleased with the placement, I was unsure what this phone call would bring. She relieved my fears and gave cause to a new one. "He's worried you don't love him anymore. Will you please talk to him?" I remember telling him that I would always love him and that we would have a better day tomorrow. He remembers that too. That promise seems even more significant now.

Although I had erased the minor disciplinary issue from my mind, Number Four replays the incident often, reminding me of why he got in trouble that day. He was talking to another boy when they were supposed to be listening, and I asked him to turn a card. He had never changed his card from green to yellow on our school's behavior system before, and he was devastated. Later that same day, when he was army crawling under the tables across the room, he was asked to turn another card. He likes to remind me that he received a red card for writing me a note. I had no idea he was on a mission to find paper and an envelope, so he could say he was sorry.

I may not have received that apology, but I do have that box full of pictures, drawings, and cards from students just like Mrs. G. And like many teachers, I refer to my students as my kids. They become family, a little world created by love, as the canvas by my front door notes.

© 2018 Maranda K. Jones

Autumn Leaves

Upon the breeze, the autumn leaves
 Are carried thither, yon;
 The rest at last, upon the grass
 One moment...then they're gone.
 They're tossed about and in and out
 The fly across the way,
 And up and down, they sail around -
 The wind they must obey.

Now if you please, the autumn leaves
 Are much like most of us;
 We're tossed about by fear and doubt
 And things we rare discuss.
 This need not be, for you and me -
 There is a surer way;
 The Solid Rock, will bear the shock
 No matter what the fray.

He who believes is not like leaves
 That drift with every wind,
 His faith is fixed, in God unmixed
 With doubts that Satan sends.
 He walks with God, while earth he trods
 He's led by power divine;
 When life is through, beyond the blue
 He'll dwell in lands sublime.

by Carl C. Williams, Sr



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Clutter Happens . . .

Three steps to holiday organization!

by Julie Pirtle

The sugarplums are about to dance and the mistletoe will soon be hung. Before the holiday season is completely making you crazy, take some time now to do some pre-season organizing. You will thank yourself in December!

Step One: Purge!

Christmas decorations have a strong emotional pull, and it is my experience (both personally and professionally) that they are difficult to let go. So, we stack up the boxes, work around them throughout the year and pick through them the following season! STOP THE MADNESS!

Pull all of your Christmas storage boxes out, even the ones that you didn't crack open last year. If you didn't use it in your holiday décor then, chances are, you won't use it this year either. Inspect each item and ask yourself how long it has been since you used it. Let it go if:

- It has been more than two years since you used it.
- Sentimental value? Only keeping it because of a memory attachment? Take a picture of these items and donate them. You can use the pictures to make a framed collage to hang on the wall each season. (Use a multi picture matted frame for fast and easy results!)
- Can't give it away because it was a gift (and it NEVER suited your tastes)? Yes, you CAN. Nobody ever elected you to be the keeper of all things. Filling your space (and this includes storage space) with items that have no meaning to you only fills your life with clutter. Your space is sacred. Fill it wisely.

• "I might use it someday." Someday is here and you didn't use it. (Just sayin'.)

Now you can take all of those past treasures and donate them to your favorite charity. Do it before January 1 and you can even claim it on your taxes!

Step Two: Pack it up!

Are you feeling accomplished yet? You should! Pat yourself on the back for all of the items you have let go and all of the space you are creating in your life. Here are tips for packing up the items you are keeping to ready them for the upcoming season:

When choosing storage for Christmas items, try using red or green plastic bins. Seeing the red/green containers provides instant visual recognition. If you don't have colored containers, use a roll of green duct tape to make a label on each bin.

Label each box with the area that the decorations came from. For example, pack everything for the tree in one box and everything that decorates the mantle in another. You will thank yourself this year as it makes it easy to decorate a bit at a time without having to sort through every box to decorate one space!

Include your Christmas DVDs and CDs when packing. Since they are seasonal items, there is no need to keep them in space that you use year-round.

As you pack, make a list of items that you might need to purchase (i.e. new lights, replacement bulbs, new linens, etc.). This makes the pre-Christmas sales much easier to shop. Just like grocery shopping with a list, you can save money if you only shop for what you have written down!

Step Three: Control Christmas Card Chaos!

Grab a cup of coffee or tea and sit down with the stack of cards and envelopes that you have stacked up on the desk. (Yes. I know they are there!) Take a bit of time to upgrade your address book and take note of any changes in family members (births, deaths, divorces). Almost all clients I have worked with have a pile of cards that they are saving to "get addresses off of." Those piles get shifted and shoved around all year long. I say do it now and be done with it!

I hope these tips will help you jumpstart your Holiday Season. Let's make it work -- before the "clutter happens!"

Julie Pirtle is Owner /Operator of Clutter Happens in Mesa, AZ





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The Country Register of Kansas Quilting Project

Once again, The Country Register of Kansas is pleased to bring our readers an original design quilt from the talented quilt designers of Kansas. Our new quilt is designed by Maria McKenzie of First City Quilts in Leavenworth. Consider this a mystery-style quilt as we will reveal one block each issue, with the final completed quilt revealed when it is time to set the quilt together. According to Maria, it is designed to be a scrappy quilt -- so dig through that fabric stash to find your materials. Or visit one of our advertising shops to purchase fabric. Here is Block 5. (Note: If you missed the earlier blocks or to see the instruction blocks in color, go to our website www.countryregister.com/kansas and select the quilt project tab.)

We hope you are enjoying our Kansas Sampler blocks. Kansas Troubles is the fifth block in this sampler. This block was used in quilts dated as far back as the early 1800s,

but it wasn't until the late 1800s that the block appeared in print in Farm Journal.

If you have any problems with any of the blocks in this series, please feel free to call the shop at 913-682-8000 or stop by and we will be happy to help you.

Thank you again for joining us, and we look forward to serving you and your creativity.

Happy Quilting -- First City Quilts



Block Five – Kansas Troubles Block

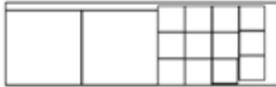
Cutting Instructions:

Background

Cut (2) – 6 7/8" squares; sub-cut once on the diagonal

Cut (8) - 2 1/2" squares

Cut (4) - 2" squares



Blue

Cut (2) - 3 7/8" squares; sub-cut once on the diagonal

Black

Cut (2) - 2 3/4" squares; sub-cut once on the diagonal

Red

Cut (2) - 2 3/4" squares; sub-cut once on the diagonal

Brown

Cut (2) - 2 1/2" squares

Green

Cut (2) - 2 1/2" squares

Rust

Cut (2) - 2 1/2" squares

Mustard

Cut (2) - 2 1/2" squares

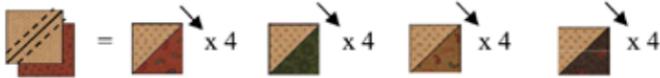
Sewing Instructions:

Use 1/4" seam allowance unless otherwise noted.

Draw a diagonal line across the wrong side of the (8) 2 1/2" background squares.



Pair a background square with each of the brown, green, rust, and mustard squares, right sides together. Sew 1/4" on either side of the drawn line. Cut on the drawn line. Press seams away from the background fabric to form a half square triangle (HST). Square HSTs down to 2" x 2".



Sew a brown and mustard HST together as shown, making two opposite sets of each. Sew a rust and green HST together as shown, again making two opposite sets of each. Press seams away from the background fabric.



First City Quilts LLC ©2018

Sew the short side of a red triangle to the background sides of the brown HST units and a black triangle to the background sides of the rust HST units as shown. Press seams toward the red/black triangles.



Sew a 2" background square to the mustard/green ends of ONLY the (A) units as shown. Press seams toward the background squares.



Sew the (B) units to the right short sides of the blue triangles, aligning the mustard/green edges with the edges of the blue triangles. Press seams toward the blue.



Sew the (A) units to the left sides of the blue triangles, aligning the mustard/green edges with the edge of the background squares as shown. Press seams toward the blue.



Sew a large background triangle to the pieced triangles. Press seams toward the background triangles. Square blocks to 6 1/2" x 6 1/2".



Sew blocks together in pairs as shown. Press seams toward the large background triangle. Make 2.



Sew pairs together and press seam open. Square block to 12 1/2" x 12 1/2".



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Celebrating 30 years of publishing

by Barbara Floyd, Founder of The Country Register

A series of articles has been brewing in my head for months now as the time drew near to start celebrating the 30th anniversary of The Country Register Newspapers. The plan is to celebrate for a whole year and, in each upcoming issue, I will tell you a bit more about how this all came into being. I will also share, separately, favorite recipes from my kitchen where I still spend a lot of time.

I have always been an entrepreneur at heart, so it seemed only natural that, after raising four children, I would meld the business world with my love of handmade items. As a former art teacher and, next, a PTA mom, I got a taste of this combination by organizing one of the first, highly successful juried arts and crafts fundraisers in Arizona. When the school eventually phased out that event, this show moved to my Phoenix home creating an instant success. Soon home-based arts and crafts shows became popular all over.

Then I opened a small gift shop close to home. Having a young daughter with the same talents and passions provided for a great lets-do-it-together project. Daughter Barbra-Jean eventually owned the shop, one of the first "country" shops in Arizona. Our mother-daughter team then opened one of the first combination tearoom and gift shops in the state. Gooseberries Tea Room had an over 25-year run in Phoenix with three different owners and is still well remembered and much missed.

Needing an effective yet affordable means of advertising the shop, Barbra-Jean suggested that I put out a promotional newspaper. So, in fall 1988, with no publishing experience and no computer, I introduced *The Country Register*, which made its debut with eight black and white pages featuring twenty-four advertisers. Some of those original advertisers still in business continue as steady, constant supporters of *The Country Register* to this day.

The Country Register has played a large role in the success and growth in the industries it promotes. One of the publication's biggest strengths is forging bonds between shop owners, crafters, artisans and customers. It is distributed without charge at its advertisers' locations as well as other 'well-traveled' sites.

Eventually, as popularity of the newspaper spread, people from other states approached for help in starting *The Country Register* in their own areas. Thus, a licensing agreement for the nationally trademarked name and logo was arranged. Michigan became the second state to have *The Country Register* and continues to this day with a

very large publication. Currently there are thirty-one Country Register papers across the United States and Canada, several of them combining two or more states

To get a bit organized for this writing project, I spent two days sorting photos and finishing two scrapbooks that were partly done. One was about *The Country Register* and the other was about other business ventures over the past 40 years. I figured getting these in order would be a good reminder of memories past, finish these two projects and, at the same time, produce photos and ideas to share with you. Please visit The Country Register, Inc., on Facebook and see what is shared there as well.

Until next issue.... farewell.



Barbara Floyd enjoys her downsized lifestyle in Phoenix, AZ, and her visits to see children and grandchildren 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 Show 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 . . .

By Janette Hess

Autumn apps

In the culinary world, apps are appetizers, not computer applications. This month's appetizer recipes rely on foods and flavors normally associated with autumn – nuts, cheeses, dried fruits and, of course, pumpkin. That said, the application of these appetizers to your next autumn get-together just might cause your reputation as a cook to go viral.

Pumpkin Pizza offers a seasonal take on traditional Fruit Pizza. A pan of sugar cookie dough serves as the crust beneath pumpkin-flavored spread and fall-friendly toppings. Cheese “Truffles” prove that small, round treats can be cheesy and savory instead of sweet and chocolaty. If available, a few drops of truffle-flavored oil make an impressive addition to these “truffles.” Baked Brie with Apricot Topping is the most upscale offering among these fall-themed treats, but, amazingly, it is also the easiest to assemble.

So, enjoy these autumn recipes. Just don't confuse your appetizers with your applications or your bites with your bytes!

Pumpkin Pizza

Cookie Crust:

1½ cups flour
½ cup sugar
¼ teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon baking soda
1/8 teaspoon (dash) salt
½ cup (1 stick) unsalted butter
1 large egg
½ teaspoon vanilla extract

Pumpkin spread:

8 ounces cream cheese or Neufchatel cheese, softened
¾ cup canned pumpkin
1¾ cups powdered sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 teaspoon cinnamon

Toppings:

½ cup toasted, chopped pecans
½ cup white chocolate chips
½ cup crunchy granola

To make crust, combine flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda and salt in mixing bowl. Using pastry blender or fork, cut butter into flour mixture until crumbly. In separate dish, beat together egg and vanilla. Add to flour mixture and combine with fork or fingertips until ball of dough forms. Do not overmix. Prepare 12-inch pizza pan with baking spray or oil and flour. Pat dough into pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 13 to 15 minutes, or just until crust is set and begins to brown. Cool completely. When cool, beat together ingredients for pumpkin spread. Evenly spread over crust and sprinkle with toppings. Chill several hours or overnight. Cut into 12 to 16 pieces, depending on desired serving size.

Cheese “Truffles”

8 ounces cream cheese or Neufchatel cheese, softened
4 ounces (1 cup) sharp cheddar cheese, finely grated
2 ounces blue or gorgonzola cheese crumbles
2 teaspoons finely minced red or yellow onion
1/8 teaspoon garlic powder
Several drops truffle oil, if available and if desired
1 cup finely chopped pecans

Combine all ingredients except chopped pecans. Chill. When firm, form each truffle by measuring approximately 2 teaspoons cheese mixture and hand-rolling into a ball. When all truffles have been formed, roll to coat in chopped pecans. Chill until serving time. Makes approximately 3 dozen pieces.

Variation: For added interest, fold 2 to 3 tablespoons crisp, crumbled bacon or minced, dried beef into cheese mixture.

Baked Brie with Apricot Topping

1 8-ounce round of brie cheese
1/3 cup coarsely chopped pecans and or walnuts
¼ cup dried, chopped apricots or chopped golden raisins
6 tablespoons apricot preserves
1/8 teaspoon salt
3 to 4 drops hot pepper sauce

Unwrap brie and place in oven-proof serving dish. (A small pie dish works well if a serving dish is not available.) Combine remaining ingredients. Spoon on top of brie. Bake at 350 degrees for 5 to 7 minutes, or until cheese just starts to soften and ooze. Serve with crackers or sliced pears and apples.



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.

Quilting with Barbara . . .

Now's the time to sign up for new classes, retreats

By Barbara Conquest

After a hot summer, the cool crisp days of fall are more than welcome, aren't they? Now is the time to reflect on our summer quilting adventures and also look forward to those to come before the countdown to Christmas begins.

Although I told myself firmly that I would not participate in Row by Row 2018 (after all, how many more UFOs do I need?), I didn't listen too well and slipped a few times. Some of the patterns and kits were just too enticing to leave in the shops; the level of creativity seemed higher than ever, and I succumbed. I did notice a change this summer, however. Some shops which have participated enthusiastically in past years did not do so this time around, and I wondered why.

The reasons seem as individual as the shops: not profitable, too busy, difficulty of predicting how many quilters would take part. . . One shop owner, two years ago, ran out of kits very early, so last year she prepared 400 – but had only 100 picked up. This year she decided to opt out. Perhaps quilters are looking for something different now that the novelty of Row by Row has worn off? Who knows?

Looking forward now, this is the time of year when shops reveal their new classes and programs. There is usually a great variety of tempting classes, new techniques, fabrics and projects on offer, some from the most recent Quilt Market. I think it's always worth taking a few minutes to look these over for something to stimulate the creativity and enthusiasm that sometimes ebbs 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 when we can concentrate on sewing with no interruptions. (Leave your cell phone off! Neither you nor your fellow “retreates” need or appreciate constant contact with the outside world. And, other people's conversations are so boring!)

A retreat may range from an affair organized by a shop or group with set times, fees and expectations to a group of quilters getting together working on their own or charitable projects. My ideal retreat is a combination of the two, with some scheduled instruction and some free time, lots of food, visiting and time to wander around visiting and picking up new ideas from others. It can be beneficial to attend a retreat with several people you don't know. Making new friends and learning from them is a happy outcome.

Many shops are now advertising their upcoming events, including retreats. Now is the time to register. Some fill up quickly, so we mustn't let procrastination rob us of these pleasures. Do it today!



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- Knitting & Crochet • Cross-Stitch • Felting & Weaving

**Central Kansas
Yarn Hop**

Oct. 16-20

See ad on page 23

Open M-T-W-F from 11-5 Closed Thursdays

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Fairlawn Plaza Mall - Topeka

Craft-ee Crafters CRAFT MALL

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120 Vendors
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Booth Space Available!





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

When making a road trip, always call ahead to confirm times and dates. We make every attempt to provide accurate information, but there are instances when things change. Always check weather conditions and travel safe.

October

- 4-7...20th Annual Central Kansas Quilt Shop Hop, Various, .
- 6... The Brown Grand Theatre, That Hypnotist – Edward Wunder, Concordia, p.15
- 6...Fall Festival @ Craft-ee Crafters Craft Mall, Topeka, p. 22
- 12-13...14th Annual Threads Across Nebraska, Kearney, NE,
- 13-14...48th Annual Sugar Mound Arts & Crafts Festival, Mound City, p. 13
- 16-20...12th Annual Central Kansas Yarn Hop, Various, p. 23
- 16-20...One Stop Shop Hop Featured on The Golden Fleece’s Ad, Holton, p. 21
- 19-20...Great Plains Shop Hop “Harvest Hop,” Various, p. 5
- 20...NE KS Junk n Trail Shop Hop Featured on Elsie Grace’s Ad, Frankfort, p. 21
- 20-21...Maple Leaf Quilt Show Featured on Quilters’ Paradise’s Ad, Baldwin City, p. 4
- 20-21...JVLM Fabric Inventory Reduction Sale, Overbrook, p. 4
- 25-28...Cynthia’s Birthday Sale, Needle in a Haystack, Severy, p. 8
- 26-27...Stitch Lab @ A-1 Sewing Center, Wichita, p. 9

November

- 4-10...Barn Quilt City Week, Chapman, p. 18
- 8-10...Holiday Open House @ Elsie Grace’s, Frankfort, p. 21
- 8-10...JVLM Fabric Inventory Reduction Sale, Overbrook, p. 4
- 8-10...Christmas Open House @ Family Home Treasures, Home, p. 21
- 8-10...Jingle All the Way Shop Hop
- 9-10...5th Annual Quilter’s Fun Run “Elf on a Quilt,” Various, p. 19
- 9-10...Handi Quilter Educator Event @ A-1 Sewing Center, Wichita, p. 9
- 9-11... Giving Tree Retreat @ Spring Street Retreat, Cottonwood Falls, p. 20
- 10...Holiday Open House @ Sew Country, Belleville, p. 15
- 15-17...41st Anniversary Celebration @ Country Fabrics, Pleasantview, p. 11
- 16-17...Holiday Open House (Needle in a Haystack) Elk Falls Open House p 8
- 17...39th Annual Burlington Christmas Craft Festival, Burlington, p. 6
- 23...Day After Thanksgiving Savings @ Family Home Treasures, Home, p. 21
- 23-Dec. 1...Holiday Sale & Open House @ Chris’ Corner Quilt Shop, Ottawa, p. 6
- 23-Dec 16...Twelve Days of Christmas , Needle in a Haystack, Severy p. 8
- 24...Lighted Horse Parade & Soup Supper, Barnes, p. 18
- 24...Shop Small Vendor Event @ Overbrook Quilt Connection, Overbrook, p. 4
- 30-Dec. 1...Christmas Open House @ Craft-ee Crafters Craft Mall, Topeka, p. 22
- 30-Dec. 1...Kimberbell Event “Merry and Btight” @ A-1 Sewing Center, Wichita, p. 9

December

- 1...Kansa Prairie Quilt Show & Oskaloosa Holiday Open House, Oskaloosa, p. 4
- 7...Michael Martin Murphy Christmas Show, Concordia, p. 15
- 8...Annual PJ Party @ Elsie Grace’s, Frankfort, p. 21

January

- 18-20.... Knitting Retreat with Deep Roots, Spring St. Retreat, p. 20
- 25-27.... Bible Study Retreat with Debra Lee @ Spring Street Retreat p. 20.

Be Thankful

12th Annual

Central Kansas Yarn Hop

October 16 - 20, 2018

Visit the 7 participating shops to collect stamps in your passport and become eligible to win one of the following:



- \$900 Value GRAND PRIZE BASKET
- Additional Prize Baskets at EACH Shop

Hop on over to all seven participating shops:

- Abilene - The Shivering Sheep
- Eskridge - Alpacas of Wildcat Hollow
- Hutchinson - Wool Market & DIY School
- Newton - The Creation Station
- Topeka - Yak ‘n Yarn
- Wichita - The Picket Fence
- Winfield - iYarn

Core Hours: Tu-W-Th 10 - 5:30; F-Sat 9 - 7 (Yak ‘n Yarn closed at 6 Sat.)
Additional Hours: iYarn open Sunday, noon - 4

To learn more about the event and how to get your passport, visit:
www.CentralKSYarnHop.net



**Take a Break and Go Shopping
WIN A \$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE**

In this issue of The Country Register, we will give away a \$50 gift certificate. Use your gift certificate to go shopping at your favorite Country Register advertiser. The winners will be announced in the next issue. Deadline for entry is NOVEMBER 15, 2018. (Names are not sold, given away or used for any other purpose.)

Drawing Entry Form

Name _____ Phone _____

Address, City ST _____

E-mail address: _____

If I win, I would like my \$50 Gift Certificate from: (list a current advertiser from this paper)

I enjoy visiting the above chosen shop because:

I picked up this issue of *The Country Register* at _____

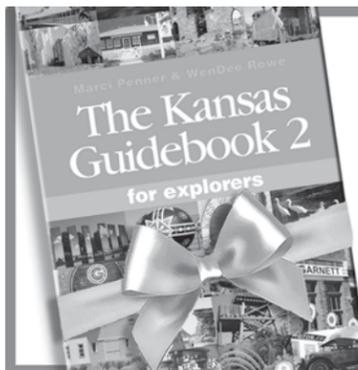
Do you tell the shops you saw their ad in the paper? Always Sometimes Never

Comments and/or Suggestions about *The Country Register*? Please include a note.

To enter, complete this form and mail to:
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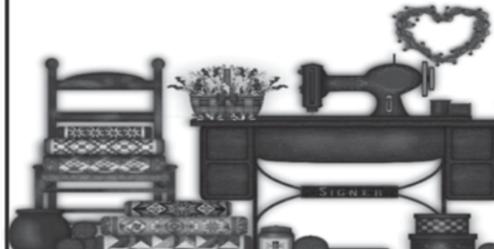
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Salvage Style . . .

By Marla Wilson

Funky little coffee bar

This little coffee bar has a lot of different components, and I had a great time making it. It was an “anything goes” type of project. It is small enough to fit almost anywhere and most certainly will be a conversation starter. It is definitely a unique piece.

It began with an old TV cabinet -- the small kind with the sliding doors. I removed the doors and wooden legs. They will come in handy for a different project some day. I added a thin piece of plywood to the inside bottom to cover up the grooves for the sliding doors. I sanded and primed the entire cabinet. I used three different colors of paint and added some decoupage for interest using a coffee themed paper. I stenciled a little coffee saying on the top and then gave the entire piece, inside and out, several coats of clear polyurethane.



I had picked up some hairpin legs at an estate sale. They were just the right length to raise the cabinet to counter height. They required some TLC and several coats of black spray paint. I screwed them to the bottom of the project.

The top back piece is a black and white enameled metal top off of an old stove (I think). Not sure of its original purpose, but I loved it and it was perfect for this project. Thank you to my friend and business partner, Connie, for having it in her “stash” of goodies. I had to modify the bottom of it with a wood piece so it could be attached. As a bonus, magnets will stick to it. Add a bin or basket to the shelf for storage. I had so much fun doing this project.

Good luck with your next project and, remember, there are no rules in up-cycling -- just do what you like, think outside the box and have fun.



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.

Kansa Prairie Quilters to hold annual quilt show and boutique

OSKALOOSA, Kan – The Kansa Prairie Quilters will be having their annual quilt and boutique show at Oskaloosa Middle School Dec. 1 from 9 am to 2 pm. The show is in conjunction with the Oskaloosa Holiday Open House and Craft Show at 404 Park, Oskaloosa. The event is free to attend.

All quilts will be displayed in the school library. Hand-made items and quilted products made by the members of the KPQ will be for sale at the boutique table as you do your Christmas shopping.

KPQ has made two beautiful quilts this year called the Garden Party designed by Laura Heine. Every person that supports our ticket sales has the opportunity to win one of these quilts. Tickets are available for \$1 or six tickets for \$5. You do not have to be present to win. The two drawings improve your chances!

Proceeds raised from the boutique and opportunity quilt drawings go to support non-profit services in Jefferson County.

Come and enjoy the day and see the artistry and craftsmanship of quilting. Perhaps you will be the lucky winner of one of the quilts!

Good comfort food will be available for purchase that day in the middle school cafeteria.



This is one of two opportunity quilts that were made by members of the Kansa Prairie Quilters and will be given away at the show.

Our HEROES

GIVE US STRENGTH, HELP US GROW, MAKE OUR WORLD BIGGER, PROVIDE INSPIRATION, & GIVE US SHOULDERS TO STAND ON WHEN WE REACH FOR OUR OWN STARS. TEACHERS & GUIDES, THEY HELP US DARE TO BE OURSELVES.

Hitch your wagon to a star.
— Emerson



Louisa May Alcott



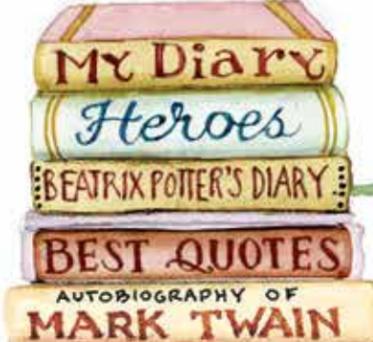
Benjamin Franklin



Beatrix Potter



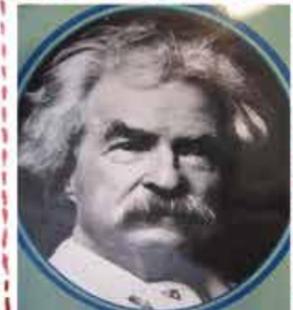
Anne Frank



REYS to my CASTLE



Eleanor Roosevelt



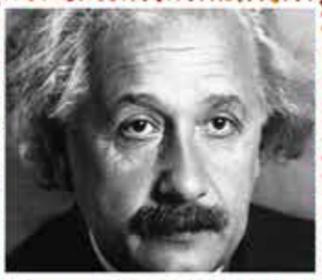
Mark Twain



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My Mom



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