

The Country Register[®]

Available across the U.S.A. & Canada

Minnesota's Guide to Specialty Shopping & Fun Events

**Free!
Take One!**

September/October 2022



Happy Fall Y'All



Subscriptions

Get one years worth of papers for only \$18!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST: _____ Zip _____

Send an \$18 check to:

The Country Register • 2920 - 144th Ave NE • Ham Lake, MN 55304

If you want to pay by credit card, please call 763-754-1661!

The Country Register Publisher Contact List

The Country Register began in Arizona, in the Fall of 1988, to provide effective, affordable advertising for shops, shows, and other experiences enjoyed by a kindred readership. Since then the paper has flourished and spread. Look for the paper in your travels.

Barbara Floyd, founder • barbara@countryregister.com • 602-321-6511

PUBLICATIONS ALL ACROSS THE UNITED STATES & CANADA

To receive a sample paper from another area, mail \$3.00 in U.S.A. or \$4.00 in Canada to that area's editor.

USA
 Arizona: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 Arkansas: Richard and Lenda Brown, 405-470-2597
 California: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 Colorado: Jan & John Keller, 719-866-8570
 Connecticut: Dave & Amy Carter, 866-825-9217
 Delaware: Merle & Gail Taylor, 888-616-8319
 Florida: Dave & Amy Carter, 866-825-9217
 Georgia: Linda Parish, 706-340-1049
 Idaho (N): Kelsey Ruzicka, 605-568-0181
 Idaho (S): Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 Illinois: Richard and Lenda Brown, 405-470-2597
 Indiana: Gail & Merle Taylor, 888-616-8319
 Iowa: Linda Glendy, 641-751-2619
 Kansas: Cindy Baldwin, 866-966-9815
 Maine: Robin Levison, 518-752-6399
 Maryland: Stacy Lute, 443-909-0531
 Massachusetts & RI: Dave & Amy Carter, 866-825-9217
 Michigan: Bill, Marlene & Leslie Howell, 989-751-8860
Minnesota: Kim & Mickey Keller, 763-754-1661
 Missouri: Richard and Lenda Brown, 405-470-2597
 Montana: Kelsey Ruzicka, 605-568-0181
 Nebraska: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 Nevada (N): Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 Nevada (S): Glenna Dunn, 702-523-1803

New Hampshire: Robin Levison, 518-752-6399
 New Jersey: Merle & Gail Taylor, 888-616-8319
 New Mexico: Jan & John Keller, 719-749-9797
 New York: Mike & Wendy Rothfuss, 502-468-3938
 North Carolina: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 888-942-8950
 North Dakota: Kelsey Ruzicka, 605-568-0181
 Ohio: Barb Moore, 937-652-1157
 Oklahoma: Richard and Lenda Brown, 405-470-2597
 Oregon: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 Pennsylvania: Merle & Gail Taylor, 888-616-8319
 Rhode Island: Dave & Amy Carter, 866-825-9217
 South Carolina: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 888-942-8950
 South Dakota: Kelsey Ruzicka, 605-568-0181
 Texas: Richard and Lenda Brown, 405-470-2597
 Vermont: Robin Levison, 518-752-6399
 Virginia: Dave & Amy Carter, 866-825-9217
 Washington: Barb Stillman & Lolly Konecky, 602-942-8950
 West Virginia: Merle & Gail Taylor, 888-616-8319
 Wisconsin: Scott and Jennifer Hughes, 715-838-9426
 Wyoming: Kelsey Ruzicka, 605-568-0181
CANADA
 Alberta: Marcy Horswill, 587-585-3545
 British Columbia: Jenifer Smith, 800-784-6711
 Manitoba & Saskatchewan: Colleen Gust, 306-585-0274
 Ontario: Harriet Ramos, 613-424-6420

Articles published in this newspaper, which are contributed by outside sources, express the opinions of their authors only, and may not express the viewpoint of the management or staff of The Country Register. Such articles that are accepted for publication herein may be edited at the sole discretion of the publisher. Responsibility for products advertised in this newspaper lies with the advertisers themselves. Though The Country Register will not knowingly publish fraudulent materials or fraudulently obtained materials, we are not liable for any damages arising from purchase or use of products advertised herein. Notifications regarding any consumer complaints related to merchandise purchased from our advertisers would be appreciated and would assist in our publishing efforts.

Months Sept/Oct 2022

Volume 28 Number 5

The Country Register is published every other month. Copyright 2022. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content in any manner is prohibited. Offices of The Country Register are located at PO Box 84345, Phoenix, AZ 85023. The Country Register of Minnesota is licensed by The Country Register with exclusive rights to publish in the state of Minnesota using logos and graphics owned by The Country Register.

Deadline For the Nov/Dec 2022 Edition is October 10th!

City Listing

Blue Earth.....	20	Oklee.....	7
Brainerd.....	8	Onalaska, WI.....	17
Cook.....	6	Owatonna.....	21
Cloquet.....	4	Pipestone.....	24
Duluth.....	5	Richmond.....	8
Eagan.....	12	Rush City.....	4
Eden Valley.....	9	Sandstone.....	4
Elk River.....	13	Sherburn.....	20
Fergus Falls.....	7	Shoreview.....	12
Hinckley.....	4	South Haven.....	9
International Falls.....	6	Spring Lake Park.....	13
Kiester.....	19	St. Cloud.....	8
Lake City.....	16	St. Peter.....	22
Lone Rock, IA.....	19	Waseca.....	21
Luverne.....	24	Wells.....	19
Menomonie, WI.....	18	White Bear Lake.....	12
New Prague.....	15	Windom.....	24
New Richmond, WI.....	18	Wabasha.....	16
New Ulm.....	22	Worthington.....	24
Northfield.....	15		



Special Events

September

3.....	Fall Opening - Country Craft Shed - Duluth
8-10.....	Great Wisconsin Quilt Show - Madison, WI
17.....	National Jelly Roll Day Sale - Quilted Dog - Cloquet
22-24.....	Des Moines Area Quilters Guild Quilt Show - Des Moines, IA
22-24.....	Junk Bonanza - Shakopee
23-24.....	Fall Splendor of Quilts - The Calico Cat Quilt Shop - Chaska
24.....	Fall Quilter's Market - Gone To Pieces Quilt Shop - Kingston

October

6-8.....	Pumpkin Pie Fest - Quilted Dog - Cloquet
6-8.....	Open House - Up North Quilt Shop - International Falls
8.....	Fall Arts and Crafts Fair - Brainerd
8-9.....	2022 Quilt Show - St. Cloud Heritage Quilters - St. Cloud
10-15.....	9th Anniversary Celebration - Quarry Quilts - Sandstone
14-15.....	Fall Retreat - The Calico Cat Quilt Shop - Pipestone
21-22.....	Quilt Fest on the Mississippi - Onalaska, WI

November

3-5.....	Primitive Gatherings Bus Tour - Old Alley Quilt Shop - Sherburn
4-5.....	Christmas Open House - Past & Present Antiques - Waseca
10-12.....	Hometown Holiday Road Trip - See ad pg. 10
10-12.....	Hometown Holiday Road Trip - New Ulm Shops see pg. 22
11.....	Christmas Arrives - Farmer's Daughter - White Bear Lake
25-27.....	Christmas Sale - Country Craft Shed - Duluth



AND THE WINNER IS...

Mary J. Miller of Mahtomedi won a \$25 gift card! Maureen says Buttermilk Basin in Spring Lake Park, MN is her favorite shop because "They have a great display of merchandise, they are super friendly and provided lots of treats! They went all out for us!"

Sue Ronchak of Coon Rapids, MN won the book *A Stitch in Rhyme!*

Congratulations!

Happy Halloween!



13th Annual 12 Days of Holiday Baking

Send in your favorite holiday baking recipes including cookies, cakes, appetizers, main dishes, etc!
Entries will be included in the November/December issue in the *12 Days of Holiday Baking special!*

Send your recipes to
The Country Register
2920 144th Ave. NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
Or email to:

kim@countryregisterofminnesota.com

The Country Register

Minnesota's Guide to Specialty Shopping & Fun Events



Kim Keller, Publisher
2920 144th Ave. NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304
763-754-1661

kim@countryregisterofminnesota.com
www.countryregisterofminnesota.com

Back To School!



Furniture Tips

by Becky Dunlap



- When you first see that your furniture has a problem—i.e., getting loose, wobbly or broken—get it fixed immediately.
- Keep your vintage furniture out of direct harsh sunlight. The UV rays can be very harmful to the finish and materials like cane or fabric can become very faded and brittle with time.
- As dust collects, clean your furniture using a product designed for vintage and antique furniture. Be sure not to leave streaks behind.
- I do not advise using products found at your local or big box grocery stores, especially those that can be used on "everything." It is best to use a product that is designed specifically for your furniture, such as Howard Products that are carried by repair, furniture and hardware stores. When in doubt, find and ask a furniture repair shop for suggestions. Treat your furniture as you would your skin or face and it will last a lifetime for you.
- Do you want to change a chair seat to a different style or different material? A rush seat can be changed to rawhide, shaker, twill Splint seat. A hand or pressed cane chair seat can be changed to press leather or a leather seat. Another option is a seat board that can be padded and covered with upholstery material.
- The iron base of a singer sewing machine can become the base for a side table or a new vanity sink. The base to a vintage wood cook stove can become the base for that new coffee table. Like that trunk? Make it into a coffee table.
- Take a class or one-on-one instruction on how to restore that special piece, whether it is caning, support repairing or a complete restoration.
- Finding a qualified repairperson can be a challenge. If you don't find anything in your local phonebook, I recommend checking with the following businesses: local Chamber of Commerce, furniture and rent to own furniture stores, antique and upholstery shops, friends and acquaintances for referrals.
- When in doubt, think outside the box. Do not be afraid to ask a furniture repairperson for suggestions or ideas. Most are happy to share their knowledge.

Becky Dunlap has been restoring furniture for fifty years and her specialty is caning, which she has been doing for forty plus years. Furniture repair/restoration has been the foundation of her business, Airport Antiques & The Furniture Lady in Pendleton, OR. Learn more at www.pendletonfurniturelady.com or on Facebook. Email Info@Pendletonfurniturelady.com or call 541-278-0141.

Win a \$25 Visa Gift Card!

YOUR NEXT VISIT TO YOUR FAVORITE SHOP IS ON US!

**Buy some GAS to get there!
Buy that item you desire!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Favorite Shop Advertised: _____

My Favorite Shop because: _____

My Favorite Country Register Feature(s): _____

Found this issue at: _____

Regular reader? _____ 1st time reader? _____

Do you tell the shops you saw their ad in the paper? _____

What stores would you like to see in The Country Register?
(include town) _____

Please make sure to tell the shop owners you saw their ad in The Country Register! It's the only way they know you saw them here and that their advertising dollars work!

Mail this form to:
The Country Register • 2920 - 144th Ave. NE • Ham Lake, MN 55304

Cloquet • Hinckley • Rush City • Sandstone

A Cup of Tea with Lydia

by Lydia Harris

Any Day is Grandparents Day!

Fall usually means back to school, back to work, and back to scheduled routines. It's also back to Grandparents Day—which is celebrated the second Sunday of September each year. This year it falls on September 11. But my husband and I don't need an official holiday to celebrate with our grandkids. We enjoy time with them as often as we can.

When our grandkids arrive at our home, I often ask them, "What day is it today?" Their usual reply is, "Funday!" Any day with them is fun for all of us.

Recently when they arrived, they answered, "Workday!" That's because Anna (12), Owen (16), and their mom had offered to help us with housecleaning and yardwork.

"We can still have fun," I said, as I began to sing, "Whistle while you work."

Work they did—with a good attitude. After they vacuumed and washed the floors, cleaned the bathrooms, and dusted furniture, our home almost shone "like the top of the Chrysler building," as Miss Hannigan says in *Annie*. The yard looked better too.

Of course, it wasn't all work. We took time for tea and treats, enjoying the sunshine on our deck while sipping their favorite peach herbal tea.

"These cookies taste good," Anna said when she took a bite of the chocolate chip cookies I'd baked the previous day. I also served oatmeal cake, gluten-free chips, and fresh strawberries, which they love eating dipped into sour cream and brown sugar. They think it almost tastes like dipping them into caramel sauce.

Their help that day was a win-win situation. They were planning to attend an out-of-state church camp in a month, so I wrote out a check to help cover some of the cost. "That's a lot of money," Anna said when they started to leave.

"Thanks for helping us," I said and smiled. "Do you know what else you were doing?" They waited for my reply. "You were laying up treasures in heaven" (Matthew 6:20).

They drove away smiling, I smiled as I stepped inside our clean home, and I knew God was smiling too.

Any day is Grandparents Day. And any occasion can turn into a tea party with fun memories that linger and bless others and ourselves.

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

From Lydia's Cookbook— In the Kitchen with Grandma: Popcorn Cake

(Fun to make with grandkids)

Gather with Grandma

- 3 1/2 quarts (14 cups) popped popcorn
- 1/2 cup butter, melted (one stick)
- 1 10-oz package miniature marshmallows
- 20 unwrapped caramels, cut in half
- 2 cups favorite small candies, such as candy corn, M&M'S®, gumdrops, or a mixture of candy
- 1 cup lightly salted or honey roasted peanuts or mixed nuts (optional)



Make with Grandma

Lightly grease an angel food cake pan with butter or nonstick cooking spray. Measure the popcorn into a large container that holds at least five quarts. Mix in nuts and candy, except the chocolate candy. Measure the chocolate candy into a separate bowl to add later, otherwise the chocolate will melt and turn the cake brown. In a large saucepan or microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter and caramels together until the caramels are soft, stirring with a wooden spoon. Add the marshmallows and melt them completely. When melted, pour the marshmallow mixture over the popcorn mixture. Mix the cake with a wooden spoon. After the mixture cools slightly, stir in M&M'S or other chocolate candy. Press the popcorn mixture into the cake pan using wax paper or fingers greased with butter. Press down until the cake is compact. Refrigerate the cake for an hour or until firm. Remove the cake from the pan and place it on a plate. Serve at room temperature. Slice with a serrated knife. To keep the cake fresh, wrap it tightly with plastic wrap or foil, or

**ArtPop
Quilts**

your quilts to ArtPOPQuilts!

Call or Email for more information
Angela Rice 952-913-8545 artpopquilts@gmail.com

LONG ARM QUILTING & DESIGN
GAMMILL WITH
STATLER STITCHER

13767 Dahl Road,
Hinckley, MN, 55037

Quarry Quilts & Yarns

326 Quarry Place • Sandstone, MN 55072 • 320-216-7639
quarryquiltsandyarns@gmail.com • www.qyqonline.com

Fabrics • Yarns • Sewing and Knitting Notions • Patterns • Books
Long Arm Quilting • Sewing Machine Repair • Custom Quilts

★ 9th Anniversary Celebration! ★

October 10th - 15th

Store Hours: Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm • Closed Sundays

Mon-Fri 10-5
Sat 10-3

National Jelly Roll Day: 9/17
20% off all jelly rolls, Special-jelly roll tool and
4 Moda patterns for jelly rolls.
(Only 30 available at \$7.99)
You may preorder by calling!

Pumpkin Pie Fest
October 6th - October 8th

Spend \$50 and receive a fresh pumpkin pie made by a local baker!

www.thequilteddogguitshop.com 274 Hwy 33 North • Cloquet, MN 55720 • 218-879-3577

HALLOWEEN

THE

Cutting Edge Quilt Shop

485 South Dana Ave • Rush City, MN 55069
- 1 mile east of interstate 35, Exit 159 -
www.rush2quilt.com • 320-358-3693

Stop in and visit us while you're enjoying the beauty of the fall leaves!

Great place to stop on your trip up north!

Stunning Collection of Beautiful
Fabrics • Kits • Books • Patterns • Notions

✱ Knowledgeable Staff and Inspiring Ideas! ✱

Reserve the Sewing Room for a
sewing day with your friends!
\$20 reserves the day! Participants receive a
10% discount on regular priced merchandise that day!

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm • Sat 9am-4pm • Sun Closed

place it in an airtight container. This cake is best eaten in a few days. Wrap and refrigerate the uneaten cake to prevent it from becoming sticky. Serves 12 to 16.

Tip: For popcorn—use plain popcorn, kettle corn, or lightly salted and buttered popcorn. You can buy it already popped if you prefer. (A package of 5.5 ounces of popped popcorn will give you 14 cups.)

Duluth



HANNAH JOHNSON
Fabrics & Sewing Studio
Fabric • Quilts • Notions • Classes

Check us out on Facebook Live
Every Thursday at 6:00 pm!
If you can't watch it live, you can
catch it on our webpage under LIVE!

We ship via 2 day FEDEX

We welcome you to the store, but please wear a face mask
and follow safe distancing!

Shop & sign up for classes at
hannahjohnsonfabrics.com p: 218.525.7800

4511 East Superior Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55804

The Country Craft Shed

7016 Van Rd. Duluth, MN
218-721-3258

Sat. & Sun.
10am - 4pm

Fall Opening - Sept. 3rd

New fall items!

Primitive furniture • Rustic • Vintage
Repurposed items • One of a kind handmade items!

Christmas Sale: November 25th-27th

Where in Minnesota?

Somewhere in Minnesota the image
to the right can be found.

Where is it?

(Answer on page 19 of this issue)



10a-5p (tues-fri) & 10a-4p (sat)
2904 W 3rd St. Duluth, MN 55806
218-628-1687

your friendly quilting place



all-inclusive quilt shop

longarm quilting services

4000+ bolts of fabric,
including batiks & 108's

family owned & operated



creationsquiltshop.com



Cook • International Falls

UP NORTH QUILT SHOP ★ Online Quilt Shop! ★
www.upnorthquiltshop.com

"A little whimsy, a little woodsy, and a whole lotta quality"

Open House:
 October 6th - 8th
 Join us for great refreshments and door prize drawings!

Store Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10am-5pm • Saturday 10am-4pm
 4062 Highway 11 • International Falls, MN 56649 • 218-285-7704

CABIN QUILTING
 218-666-3146

227 1st Street SW • Cook, MN 55723

*Quilting Materials - Fabrics - Notions - Patterns
 Gifts - Long Arm Quilting Services*

Visit us during your trip up north to see the fall colors!

Fall Hours:
 Tues-Fri 10am-4:30pm • Sat 10am-3pm
 Closed Sun & Mon

Val is the Queen of sparkle, metallics and sheen fabrics

Studio 53
 QUILTS & GIFTS

2030 2nd Avenue on Hwy 53
 International Falls, MN 56649
 Also Home of FotosOnFabric.com

Come One! Come ALL!

218-285-9962
 REGULAR SHOP HOURS:
 Mon. - Fri. 10-4; Sat. 10-2; Sun. Closed



GIRLFRIEND WISDOM

★ A time for a Change of Seasons, is both a time of excitement and adjustment. It was a good Summer with lots of family and friends activities, the garden grew well with fresh fruit and vegetables to be preserved for the rest of the year.

And now it is time to turn the garden's soil, change our closets from shorts and t-shirts to sweaters and rain boots. It is also time to plan for the next season of our current days. The perfect activity for the here and now. Some fun things, some memory making activities and some growing processes including elements that need to be let go and released.

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM: Spend a little time today planning new activities, new events, new rain boots - think about what needs to be let go to create the time and space for things new and exciting. There is a time for everything, and everything has its own time!

There is a time for everything.

- ...a time to be born and a time to die.
- ...a time to weep and a time to laugh.
- ...a time to keep and a time to throw away.
- ...a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
- ...a season for every activity under Heaven...
- ...a time to plant and a time to uproot.
- ...a time to mourn and a time to dance.
- ...a time to love... and a time for Peace.

Joy & Blessings,
 Jody

Girlfriend Wisdom is written and illustrated by Jody Houghton®.
 For color files of this writing, contact Jody at: jodyhoughton@msn.com

Crochet Pattern: Expanded Metal Grate

I found an ornate crochet pattern on a UK website that I tried to make this summer. I kept forgetting that in the UK a double crochet is our single crochet, and their double treble crochet is our triple crochet. Well, it was "double treble" all the way for me, and I eventually just gave up. What I did learn from that pattern though, was the stitches that make this afghan. I decided to just do something simple after I struggled with that pattern and I ended up with this afghan. The more and more I crocheted it kept nagging me that it looked like something familiar. It wasn't until I was finished and laid it out to admire my work that it dawned on me what it reminded me of, expanded metal grating.

You can make any size afghan you want by chaining in groups of 2 and then adding one chain for turning. I chained 115 and ended up with an afghan 34 inches wide. I used 800grams (19.6 oz) of yarn to make it almost square. (I just used up what I had for leftover yarn and quit when I ran out)

Stitches used

- Ch – chain
- Sc – single crochet
- Dc – double crochet
- Fpdc – front post double crochet

Ch 115 (or any combination of 2 plus 1 for turning)

Row 1 – Sc in first chain from hook, then sc in each chain across. Ch 2 and turn.

Row 2 – Chain 2 counts as first double crochet. Dc into each stitch across. Ch 1 and turn.

Row 3 – Sc in first double crochet and into each double crochet across. Ch 2 and turn.

Row 4 – Chain 2 counts as first double crochet. *Working under the single crochet from the previous row, Fpdc around the next double crochet from 2 rows below. Dc into next single crochet* Repeat from * - *. Ch 1 and turn.

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until desired afghan size is reached.

Final Row – Sc in first stitch and each stitch across. Tie off and work in ends.



Oklee Quilting Supply, Inc.

205 Main St • Oklee, MN 56742

218-796-5151
1-800-777-7403

www.okleequiltinginc.com
email: okleequilting@hotmail.com



OPEN:

Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm
Saturday: 9am-12pm



Quality Professional Framing & Matting
Home Decor, Gifts and Floral Designs
you won't find anywhere else!

Now carrying Fusion Mineral Paints and Accessories!
Come check out our new colors!

409 W. Stanton Ave • Fergus Falls, MN 56537
218-998-4147 

M-F 10am-6pm • Sat 9am-12pm




Indian Summer

Tammy Page

'Witch' Way Do You Decorate for Fall?

by Deb Heatherly

Fall is my favorite time of year. The colors, the smells, and the thought of settling in for the winter is something I anticipate for months in advance. I look forward to decorating for this season throughout the house, and with autumnal displays on my front porch to greet visitors. There is something special about the rich reds, golds and shades of orange that surround me at this time of year and I love to mirror that look inside.

Quilts play a big part in my decorating no matter the season and my Fall quilts hold a place of honor when it's their time to shine. Antiques, rustic touches and an abundance of silk leaves complete the look and adorn my house from September 1 until Thanksgiving.



While I stick with pumpkins, leaves and scarecrows, several of my friends add a Halloween theme to their Fall displays. Their use of witches, bats and other whimsical touches make me smile and bring back memories of the year I had my mom make me a witch costume for Halloween so that I could go around the house pretending to melt like the witch in *The Wizard of Oz*. Looking back, I am sure my running around the house in that costume and yelling "I'm melting, I'm melting" numerous times each day had to really get on her nerves. But if it did, she never let on. Instead she just let me have my fun.

The thought of that costume brings to mind a quilt featured in my new book *Quilted Occasions*. All of the patterns in the book can be made in a Christmas theme, but 10 of the 11 patterns can also be used to celebrate other times of the year.

This quilt "Fussy Cut Memories" made by my good friend, pattern tester and technical proofer Debbie Patterson is showcased on page 33, using fussy cut haunted houses in the center of each block. Debbie has a perfect place to hang it in her house and I can't wait to see it hanging this fall. I'm not sure what else she will add to her display, but who knows, maybe my mom still has my old costume packed away somewhere. If so, maybe I'll have to go to Debbie's and pretend to melt...just for old times' sake.

Deb Heatherly is a designer for Creative Grids® rulers. She is the designer of the Creative Grids® Cat's Cradle Tool, Strippy Stars Tool, Turbo 4 Patch, Ultimate Flying Geese Tool, Cat's Cradle XL, and Kitty Cornered Tool. She is also the author of the books: 'Cat'titude, Strippy Stars, 4-Patch Panache, The Ultimate Flying Geese Book, Catitude XL, Creatively Yours and The Build A Quilt Workbook. Visit her website at www.Debcatsnquilts.com.

Creative Grids® fans are invited to join her Facebook group, Grids Girls, for tips and inspiration. Grids Girls members have the opportunity to participate in Grids Girls mystery quilts two times each year. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/7704296498004571>.

Quilt Shop Owners, you are invited to join the group above and Deb has an additional Facebook group just for you—Grids Girls for Quilt Shop Owners Only at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2735936572565241>. You can contact her at Debcatsnquilts@aol.com or call the studio, Deb's Cats N Quilts Designs, 828-524-9578.



Oh, the summer heat! Today as I write this it is in the upper 90's and the heat index is 102. The humidity is as thick as pea soup and I feel for those who are working out in it. My husband is one of those and he is constantly on my mind as I sit in an air-conditioned office.

Living in the Midwest, summer temps can range from 60-100 degrees on any given day. This summer has been proof that temps can change in a matter of hours. In early June we had high temps in the 90's, which is a bit unusual for it to be that hot in June, and evening temps as low as 50. How in the world am I supposed to know when to empty my winter tote of clothes and bring down my summer things when the weather changes at the drop of a hat?



When I was a little girl in Indianapolis, my older sister and I lived in a home without air conditioning. We played, watched tv and slept in front of a box fan sitting in the window. We moved the only two fans we owned into our bedrooms at night. If we got lucky, the air was cooler and we could get a good night's rest. If not, we'd strip down to our underwear and lay at the ends of our twin beds to get what air we could. Blankets were out of the question on those nights. Wouldn't it have been nice to have misters attached to the fans like what we use on show cattle these days?

The hot summers didn't seem to bother us when we were children like it does now. I think we've become spoiled with central air conditioning and can't take the heat like we used to. I'm speaking of "my age" people in general and have no known knowledge of everyone's feelings about the heat except for when I get together with my 60's friends and we all complain of how hot it is. Just now as I write this, I saw someone walk by my office exclaiming "It's so hot".

About the time I was 9 or 10 we finally got a window air conditioner. It cost quite a bit and seemed like such a luxury. Now, you see it didn't cool the whole house but made it much more comfortable with the humidity missing. Even when it showed in the 70's on the thermostat the humidity had been pulled out to make it much more bearable.

Of course, there were other ways to keep us cool and one such way was an oscillating sprinkler. We'd run through that thing for what seemed like hours until mom yelled out at us to "turn that thing off, you're running up the water bill". Heck, when most of the neighborhood kids would show up, the long line of jumpers kept the water meter spinning faster and faster for hours. But it was much more fun to have all your buddies join in on the fun. I bet we had at least 5 or 6 of us join in each time. And, don't forget the popsicles afterwards to help cool us off even more.

If we begged our parents long enough; I think we wore them out, they would bring home from Twin Aire Shopping Center a soft sided 24-inch-deep pool that would hold 3 or 4 of us floating on our backs. If we didn't "horse" around so much, the water in the pool would last the entire day. If we did "horse" around our pool time was cut in half with only a couple inches of water left in the bottom.

I know some parts of the country have high temps year-round but I wouldn't change those memories of laying in front of a fan at the end of our twin beds for nothing. Those memories with my now deceased sister are priceless.

- Tammy Page writes from her family farm in Indiana, where she enjoys spending time with her children and grandchildren, browsing antique shops for collectibles and farm life.

Apple Crisp in a Mug

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup Yoplait original apple crisp yogurt
- 4 tbsp red velvet cake mix
- 1 tbsp water
- Whipped cream
- Chocolate granola
- Carmel sauce



Directions:

1. Combine the yogurt, cake mix and water in mug.
2. Mix well.
3. Microwave on high for 1-3 minutes. (Start with one minute and then add additional 30 seconds until the cake has risen).
4. Let cool for 3 minutes.
5. Top with whipped cream, granola and carmel sauce.

Recipe by Simplistically Living

Aunt Cora's Button Tin

by Judy Sharer

When I was young, I couldn't wait to go to Aunt Cora's house. She was a button collector and had frames of buttons hung throughout the house on the walls and a special frame of her most valuable buttons on the end table. She collected buttons ever since I can remember. She would always let me poke through her buttons. She had several button tins and jars sorted by materials or subject matter. I especially liked her frame of cat buttons, hand painted ceramics, and beautiful mother of pearl buttons. She also had a tin of buttons just for me to play with.

I would dump them on the floor, much to Aunt Cora's dismay and have fun. Sometimes I'd count them, putting them in groups of ten, and then count them by tens. Sometimes I'd sort them by color. As I grew older and appreciated buttons more for their delicate workmanship and value, she taught me how to sort them by materials—what the buttons were made from.

I learned about rubber buttons made by Novelty Rubber Co., Goodyear's patent of 1851. Yes, they say Goodyear on the back of the button and the patent date. There are many classifications of buttons that I've learned over the years. To mention a few there are: glass, wood, horn, ceramic, fabric, enamel, celluloid, metal, shell, and what a lot of buttons are made of today synthetic polymer and plastics. My personal favorites are glass buttons called moonglows and mother of pearl buttons.



Now as an adult, I too collect buttons as one of my hobbies. I belong to a local button club, my state button society and the National Button Society. If you would like to learn more about collecting buttons or to join a club near you, contact the National Button Society at www.nationalbuttonociety.org and ask them to send you contacts for your state. If you were like me and had a love of buttons growing up why not make button collecting your new hobby today?

-Judy Sharer is the author of *A Plains Life* series published by The Wild Rose Press. Book One, *Settler's Life*, Book Two, *Second Chance Life*, and Book Three, *Civil War Life* are now available wherever online books and eBooks are sold. Judy's sweet historical romances have a thread of quilting that runs throughout the family saga series. Visit Judy's website for more details. judysharer.com Judy's fourth book in this series, *Love Challenged Life* will be released fall of 2022.

Simply Sisters Retreat Center

Richmond, MN
90 min. NW of Mpls.



- 12 bedrooms
- 4.5 bathrooms
- Design walls
- Sleeps up to 18
- Large work area
- Great lighting



Simply Sisters is perfect for any craft retreat, special occasions, or a girlfriend getaway – call today to reserve your stay!



320-309-8006 • www.mnretreatcenter.com

Fall Arts & Crafts Fair

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM
BRAINERD HIGH SCHOOL
702 S 5TH ST. BRAINERD, MN

LOCAL • HANDMADE • FREE ADMISSION



SPONSORED BY COMMUNITY ED

Admission:
13 and Up \$10
5-12 \$3
Under 5 Free

St. Cloud Heritage Quilters presents 2022 Quilt Show "Land of 10,000 Pieces"



River's Edge Convention Center
10 - 4th Ave. S
St. Cloud, MN 56301

Saturday, Oct 8th: 9am - 5pm
Sunday, Oct 9th: 10am - 4pm

- Hundreds of quilts on display •
- Quilt and Prize Raffle •
- Raffle Baskets •
- Vendors and Vendor Demos •

★ Guest Speaker ★
Tammy Silvers of Tamarinis
Sat, Oct 8th at 7pm

www.stcloudheritagequiltersofmn.com/2022-quilt-show.html
SCHQ2022QuiltShow@gmail.com

Autumn Shows us how beautiful it is to
LET THINGS GO

Life in Skunk Hollow

by Julie A Druck

Autumn Joy at the Bonfire



Round about August, I start allowing myself to begin anticipating the upcoming pleasures of autumn. I'm not a fan of summer, so I'm always thrilled when the beauties of the autumn season begin showing themselves even in the slightest ways. I could wax eloquent about the many seasonal delights I enjoy that encompass all the senses. From the taste of all manner of pumpkin desserts to the eye-catching color of our sugar maples to the sound of crunching leaves underfoot as I walk the farm, fall has it all.

Besides all these sense-tickling joys, I also love the many traditions associated with autumn: our wedding anniversary, Steam-O-Rama (the local antique tractor event), and our family's barn dance, to name a few. Another of those joys is our annual bonfire. For the past 20 years, we've gathered a small group of family and friends on a chilly evening for seasonal food, games, and fellowship.

The site of the bonfire is in "The Grove"—it's a pine-sheltered spot on the hill above our little house where stands a big old pine tree in which we string tiny lantern lights. My husband builds a fire, and I load up the large picnic table with tasty treats. Usually two types of soup are warming in the slow cookers, and there are plenty of our favorite all-beef hot dogs to roast over the fire. There are always fresh apple slices with dip, and, of course, cider. Besides s'mores fixings, our daughters-in-law supply the sweet treats—sometimes apple crisp or pumpkin cookies. We gather round the fire and give thanks for, among other things, the blessing of gathering.



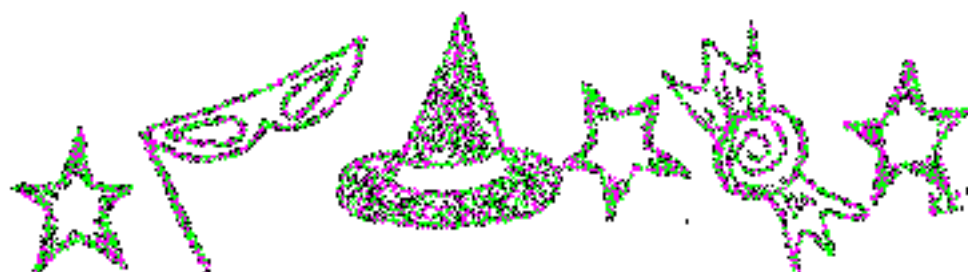
As it grows dark, the games begin. At our last bonfire, our then 4-year-old granddaughter, Maggie, enjoyed a "gourd hunt." Using a flashlight and a basket, she collected the gourds I had scattered earlier around the yard. Elsewhere, my helpers were snapping glow bracelets and hanging them on low tree branches along the path through our woods that we call "The Corridor." Everyone gathered then to walk down to the woods, exclaiming over the beauty of the trees decked out in circles of light. Maggie and 2-year-old Josh delighted in picking the glow bracelets off the trees and stringing them on their arms.

For a little more light magic, a big bag of giant sparklers was distributed to the guys of our group. They lit them and quickly stuck them in the ground all along The Corridor. Laughter and light filled the woods as everyone waited to see whose would stay lit the longest. We then trooped back up the hill to The Grove and played some games—a contest to test memory with a tray full of items to remember; a hilarious feat of trying to move a small piece of chocolate off one's forehead and into one's mouth with no hands; and several belly-laughing rounds of Mad Libs and interesting trivia questions while we sat round the fire.

To top off the night, we sent up a pink sky lantern above the freshly-harvested corn field. Sweet Maggie had brought her dolly to watch. She stood big-eyed and quiet, just taking in the beauty of the night sky and the lovely pinprick of light created by the lantern as it danced in the sky.

The magic of that autumn night didn't end, as it lives on in the wonderful memories I treasure. And as I type out the remembrances of that particular bonfire, I am becoming inspired to think of what magic I can create for this year's event. But no matter what I come up with, it will be a delight because the season itself creates so much of the joy.

Julie Druck is from York, Pennsylvania, and writes from her farm in Skunk Hollow. She'd welcome your comments at thedrucks@netzero.com.



GONE TO PIECES QUILT SHOP
New Location!
 33717 - 748th Avenue · South Haven, MN 55382
New Hours:
 Wed - Fri: 9am - 5pm · 1st Sat of the month: 9am - 3pm
 Remaining Saturdays by appointment only

Fall Quilter's Market
 Kingston Community Center, Kingston, MN
 Saturday, September 24th · 9am-3pm
 Four Participating Quilt Shops
 Free Admission!
www.gonetopiecesquiltshop.com • gonetopieces@meltel.net

Minnesota's Best Kept Secret!!

Lost and Found 320-453-5678

Hwy. 22 Downtown Eden Valley, MN

New Fall Items Arriving Daily!

Mon - Sat 9:30-5:30

Clothing and Accessories · Home Decor
 Kitchen Items · Jewelry
 Minnesota Sweatshirts
 So Much More!

Stick Art Treats

Free Pattern

For more fun and creative inspiration visit:
www.JacquelynnSteves.com

Free Embroidery Pattern—May not be sold or used for commercial purposes. Use this pattern for embroidery, wool applique, punch needle or rug hooking, painted projects or whatever your imagination can dream up! Reduce or enlarge pattern as desired.

Hometown Holiday Road Trip

Pieces From My Heart

by Jan Keller

Little Green Apples

"If you eat little green apples, you'll get sick," her mother had admonished when she was a little girl.

Funny she should think of her mother's words on this particular day—a day she had long awaited and finally reached after four years of college and a continual parade of various odd jobs, which helped finance her preparation.

This day she would begin her career. This day she would greet a classroom of eager young inquisitive faces and welcome them. This day she would be their teacher.

When the bell admitting children into the building rang, a sudden swelling in her throat made it difficult to swallow and questions of doubt began racing through her mind. The task she faced seemed overwhelming.

As she looked at the faces of the children who had gathered in her classroom, the sight was not what she had expected. Her preconceived notion had been one of intent eyes focused on her and captivated by a desire for knowledge and looking to her for guidance, direction and information. Instead, the assemblage appeared as ornery rascals, intent on causing trouble and trying her patience to the limit.

Turning her attention toward squelching a squabble erupting between two students trying to claim the desk by the window, she became the target of an airborne rubber band, launched from the other side of the room by an aspiring pilot. Uproarious laughter arose and she wondered if any of the required college courses, or her student teaching experience, had prepared her for the realities of being in charge of her very own classroom.

Just as she regained control and had her students settled into their assigned seats, the door opened and a red-haired lad with a freckled nose peeked in. After mustering courage, he cautiously approached her desk and apologized for his tardiness. Then, as he extended his arm, she could see a little green apple clutched tightly in his dirty fist. Surprised, she realized he was offering the apple to her.

At day's end, besides being weary, a headache was threatening. In search of tranquility, she closed her eyes. It had been a tiring day and she now fully realized the job she faced was monumental. Opening her eyes, her gaze focused on her little green apple and she began to reflect on her mother's warning that the apple could make her sick.

It seemed ironic to her that apples have become the traditional token students offer to their teachers. For, thought apples are capable of causing a stomach ache, they also contain seeds of promise—just like her assigned students. And that's when she remembered an old proverb: "Anyone can count the seeds in an apple, but only God can count the apples in a seed."

She was a teacher. It was her chosen and honorable profession. It was her responsibility to plant the seeds of knowledge which one day would sprout and yield a bountiful harvest from the young minds in her charge.

With a confident smile, she picked up the apple and took a big bite.



©2022 Jan Keller. No reprint without permission.

Enjoy More of Jan's Columns ORDER HER BOOKS TODAY



Life is like a quilt, pieced together from a unique patchwork of memories, friendships, joys, and challenges. In each of these books, syndicated columnist Jan Keller is down to earth and refreshingly transparent as she opens the door to life's dreams, triumphs and struggles in a heart-warming way that will touch you forever. You'll love the way she spins 'yarns' that



weave the pieces of a treasured tapestry into a vivid depiction of life and love

Hometown Holiday Road Trip

November 10th, 11th and 12th

9:00am - 5:00pm



Call any shop for details!

- DeAnn's Country Village - Litchfield
- Sweetwater Cotton Shoppe - Paynesville
- Cabby's Corner - Gibbon
- The Quilting Grounds - Norwood
- Young America
- The Thimble Box - New Ulm
- Sewing Seeds Quilt Shop - New Ulm
- Spinning Spools - New Ulm



- Register to win one of 7 grand prizes
- Drop off food shelf item for a free fat quarter
- Receive an Old World Christmas Ornament

Vintage Sewing Machine Trade Cards

by Rachel Greco



In the late 19th Century, Trade Cards were used to promote and advertise a variety of products.

Like many other businesses, sewing machine companies and dealers distributed these cards to keep their sewing machine brands at the top of the mind.

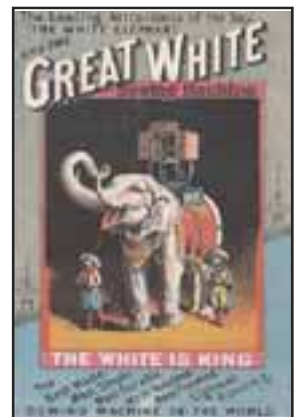
These Trade Cards featured a variety of scenes that included animals, children playing or working, women sewing, landscapes, and flowers. These themes were all

geared toward Victorian sensibilities.

Earlier in the Century, Trade Cards were printed in black and white; however, as printing methods improved, the cards became very colorful. The hope was that women would find these cards

attractive and keep them. Then, when deciding to make a purchase, they would remember the sewing machine company featured on the cards they had saved. Many of these Trade Cards were kept in scrapbooks or framed and hung on the wall.

Today, Vintage Trading Cards are quite collectible and can be found at antique stores or on the web. Prices vary depending on condition and rarity of the card.



Rachel Greco owns Grandma's Attic, a traditional quilt shop in Dallas, Oregon. A quilt historian and avid reader, she gives talks on needlework, the role of women in American history, and their connection to fabric. Rachel has written several books and patterns and runs Grandma's Quilt Club, a monthly quilt class where participants collect quilt block kits, learn about quilt history, and make new friends. Contact her at <https://grandmasatticquilting.com>.



Please send me _____ copy(s) of "Pieces From My Crazy Quilt"
_____ copy(s) of "The Tie That Binds"
Include \$15 per copy (\$12.95 plus \$2.05 for tax, postage & handling)

SPECIAL OFFER! Order both books for just \$25 and SAVE Shipping & Handling!

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

My check or money order, payable to Black Sheep Books, in the amount of _____ is enclosed.

Mail your order to: Black Sheep Books, 11250 Glen Canyon Drive, Peyton, CO 80831-8458

Happy Fall Y'all



Ann's Lovin' Ewe

by Ann Stewart
"Yes or No!"

The haybales from the second cutting on the fields stand waiting for children to run around playing hide-and-go-seek. Brightly colored leaves cling to the trees until falling softly to the ground, crisp wafers of orange, yellow, and red. The last of sweet blackberries are snatched from their thorny bush. A misty rain over the hillside replaces hot sunshine.

Our local village of Waterford prepares for the annual fair by decorating in autumn tones. The Spring lambs of Skymoor Farm are now nearly indistinguishable from their mothers. Our local high school marching band lines up on the school parking lot, blasting brassy tunes, and at bus stops across our county, children separate from their parents for the first day of school. It's as though the clock resets.

Labor Day arrives, with all the changes of seasons and schedules. The National Symphony Orchestra offers a free Labor Day concert at the capital and sales, almost as big as Christmas' Black Friday, are everywhere. Is it really the last day to wear white?

But though it's the unofficial end of summer, does it really mean we have to say "YES" to everything? Afterall, "NO" can be a beautiful word.

"No," means we have more "Yes" in our life. Too many yesses mean less margin and less time for the serendipitous, spontaneous things we loved about summer. No need for fall to feel like being harnessed to an overwhelming schedule.

It's acceptable to say "no." Practice it. "No. No. No. No." It's acceptable to say "yes" to time with family, friends, and an afternoon or an evening to yourself. It's acceptable for kids to get off the bus and not be whisked away for multiple lessons and soccer practice. It's acceptable to kick up your feet and read a book. It's acceptable to say "yes" if it sounds appealing and leaves margin.

Margin: Miriam Webster defines it as "a spare amount or measure or degree allowed or given for contingencies or special situations." When we creep into that margin space in overbooked schedules, we risk the ability to recharge or to help others. When we say "no" to what crowds our lives, we save sacred space for those contingencies and special situations.

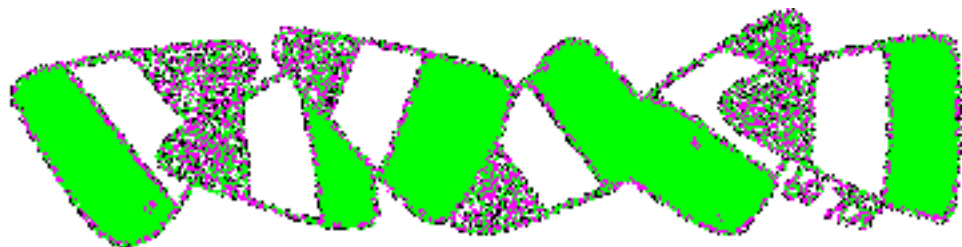
One fall I allowed little margin. When a friend who had suffered a miscarriage needed me to go with her to the doctor, I said, "no" when I really wanted to say "yes." I still regret that I could not help her. When another friend needed me, I said "no" when I wanted to say "yes." She died of a stroke a month later and I still wish I could have hung out with her that day.

Now I leave room in my schedule. My schedule does not have to be full. Hustle and bustle does not make me a better person. I should not wear "I'm busy, busy, busy" like a badge of honor. I should not be longing for a Snow Day, to cancel all obligations. Instead, I should allow a little snow to fall into my life throughout every day by saying "no" when needed.

Recently a friend was stuck in town while her car was being repaired. She texted a request to her friends, hoping someone would hang out with her. I said "yes" because I had margin. We had a great lunch and fellowship and in those few hours, our friendship deepened.

"Yes!" this autumn give yourself permission to fall into the habit of saying "No." After all, what joy to later give a free and happy "yes."

Ann Marie Stewart's *All is Calm, All is Bright for the Heart of Christmas* comes out October 2022. This collection of Christmas inspirations begins December 1 through January 6 and is the perfect gift for friends and family and YOU. It's a good thing to say "Yes" to!



Positive Thinking Inspires Happiness

by Lesley Nuttall

On this road of life, that we all share
Loving and giving, to show that we care
Being positive and confident to say "yes, I can"
Inspires positive thinking, for all species of man

With inner Spirit and positivism, you will see
By thinking happy thoughts, happy you will be
Happiness is a gift, to the state of one's mind
It's the most precious gift, you can ever find

Thinking positive, is a mental power over the mind
It gives you the ability, to inspire others, to be positive and kind
Refrain from negative thinking and your outlook will turn
Thinking positive is something that anyone can learn

We all need to practice the law of supply
Believing abundance and prosperity won't be denied
No one can accomplish it, all in one day
It takes patience to map out your journey, on the way.

Be confident in the Lord, and in the power of his might
Keep your courage up, and never lose sight.
Let hope and positive thinking guide you towards your goal
On this road of life, count your blessing and nourish your soul.

©Lesley R. Nuttall is the Author of *Secrets of Party Planning*, and enjoys writing Poetry. She lives in Thunder Bay, ON, Can., with her husband.

Countryberries Designs Autumn Light



This pattern is free for you to use. Please give the artist credit. Not for commercial use.

Enlarge this pattern to your desired size. Paint on wood or canvas. You can also applique in wool or cotton and embroider the details. You can do punchneedle or rug hooking techniques too.

Whatever craft you choose, have fun!

Designed by Kathy Graham

Please note: our shop is temporarily closed due to a fire.
Follow Countryberries on our website or on Facebook.

Countryberries LLC

Whimsies and necessities for your country home and garden
330 North Road Deerfield, NH 03037
603-463-7615 www.countryberries.com Like us on Facebook

Eagan • Shoreview • White Bear Lake

The Farmer's Daughter

A gathering of fine handmade goods & gifts

Open Year 'Round Mon-Sat 10-5 & Sun 12-5

Specialty furniture - home décor - gourmet foods
fall & Halloween decorations - amazing gifts
"And So Much More!"

Christmas arrives November 11th

4905 Long Avenue (8th St & Hwy 61), White Bear Lake, MN 55110
(651) 653-6768 Visit us on Facebook at: TheFarmersDaughterWBL

Celebrating 43 Years FALL 2022 EST. 1979



THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
SEPT 29 9-8	30 9-5	OCT 1 2 9-5 10-5
6 9-8	7 9-5	8 9-5
13 9-8	14 9-5	15 9-5
20 9-8	21 9-5	22 9-5
27 9-8	28 9-5	29 9-5

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT/SUN
NOV 3 9-8	4 9-5	5 6 9-5 10-5

Fall & Holiday decor
For a Fashionable YOU! Clothing, jewelry & accessories
Trendy home decor—artwork in a variety of mediums
Unique garden art & architecture
Greeting cards and books
Delicious food items
Restocked Daily • Credit Cards Accepted

207 WEST ST. MARIE
(2 BLOCKS NORTH OF 694/RICE)
SHOREVIEW, MN 55126
651-303-4667
www.ChickadeeBoutique.com



Don't worry about yesterday or last month. Today is a new day, so renew your mind this morning. Be positive and start fresh!

Open for business!
Shop hours: M-F 10:00am - 4:00pm
Sat 10:00am - 3:00pm
and by appointment.

Sew Trendy MN

LIVE Fabric shows on Facebook

Join us on Facebook "Sew Trendy MN" for LIVE shows!
Thursdays and Fridays at 7pm • Saturdays at 6pm
Trendy Fabrics, Kits & Bundles, Patterns, Notions, Demos & More
Great Giveaways during the show • Enjoy shopping from home!

Fabrics by FreeSpirit, Andover, Art Gallery, Robert Kaufman, Shannon Fabrics, Windham, Majestic Batiks, Dear Stella, Birch and MORE!

Free Shipping on orders \$120 or more

★ New Fabric Arriving DAILY! ★



Follow us on Instagram!

1964 Rahncliff Court Suite 600 • Eagan, MN
651-387-1815 • www.sewtrendymn.com

Visit our website
www.sewtrendymn.com
Follow us on Facebook

Random Acts

by Maranda K Jones

Proud Pumpkins



My favorite season to teach has arrived! The newness of the school year is wearing off as the chill of early fall persuades us to put on jackets to brave the brisk cool air. The excitement of showing everyone their brand new school shoes is waning for our young students, and they are moving to a faster pace in the classroom. Since they have learned the routines of the current year and know what we expect of them, we teachers and the children are all ready for a field trip. There's no better autumn destination than the pumpkin patch.

The joy in children's eyes as they select the perfect pumpkin is unlike any other! They run around the field searching for the best one, which is highly subjective of course. Some want a perfectly shaped pumpkin with a tall stem while others simply want the biggest. Some want a completely orange gourd while others are drawn to the green and white spots that make it different. Some want a pumpkin that will make the perfect jack-o-lantern. When a child has finished hunting and is ready to gather, that grin grows from ear to ear!

We only have one rule when picking pumpkins on our field trips. You have to get your own pumpkin to the bus. This is where it gets even more entertaining for us adults. Remember that child who simply wanted the biggest pumpkin he could find? Now he has to get it to the bus. The pumpkin seems to be equal in size to its new owner, and the only thing larger is the smile on his face. We have seen kids roll pumpkins and drag pumpkins. We have seen the naughtiest children put their best manners to use and enlist the help of a kind parent volunteer. We have seen kids lift pumpkins above their heads as if in a weightlifting competition, only for the pumpkin to drop to the ground. Luckily, most bounce a little on the forgiving ground and are able to be picked up again. And again.

When we have all the kids and their pumpkins loaded on the bus, we head back to school. We have picnicked outside and pet farm animals. We've ran through the corn maze, slid down the haystack, and laughed with our friends on the tractor-trailer ride. We have memories of a day well spent. We've picked the perfect pumpkins and proudly carry, or roll and drag, them home.

© 2022 Maranda K Jones

Maranda Jones' new book **Random Acts** is now available at [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)

The book includes her reader-acclaimed articles from the last decade

Every day may not be good but there is something good in every day!



The Noble Quilter

19570 Holt Street NW | Elk River, MN 55330

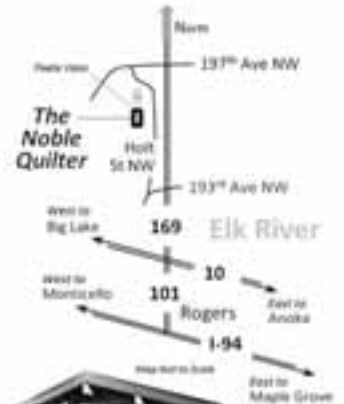
* Long Arm Services * Fabrics *
* Notions * Gifts * Clubs * Classes *

Come visit our warm and friendly MN shop that hosts something for everyone! Enjoy browsing through 4,500 bolts of thoughtfully selected fabrics. Check out our wonderful assortment of gifts, notions, books, patterns, kits and classroom. We also have a complete Long Arm Service to help finish your quilt!

phone: **763-633-4669**
www.thenoblequilter.com

Regular Store Hours:

Mon - Sat:
10am - 4pm
Sun:
Closed



BUTTERMILK BASIN

WOOL + COTTON + DRY GOODS

vintage inspired designs

Quilt & Wool Shop,
Threads, Notions, Kits,
Classes, Workshops &
Events

Hours:
Monday -
Saturday
10am - 4pm

763.792.0638

8301 Sunset Rd. NE Spring
Lake Park MN 55432

www.buttermilkbasin.com



Bringing you fresh vintage inspired designs in Wool & Cotton to stitch, sew & create! A "Destination for Inspiration" Shop in person at our retail location or online & get creating!

Happy Halloween!

Breathing in the Nectar of Life

by Kerri Habben Bosman

Rain splatters on our roof as my husband and I sit at the kitchen table in our bathrobes, each of us sipping our coffees. It is here that every morning we fully awaken, breathing in our gratitude for being alive on a new day. The loveliness of ordinary days is a sacred gift.

Our temporary cat has unashamedly taken my regular seat at the table, alternating between his morning bath and his nearly perpetual nap. However, I decide to just let Arthur be. Soon he will go home to a newly built-house with two dogs, another cat, a lizard, and an active and loving five year old boy. For nearly eleven months here, he has perceived himself to be king of his own small castle. Besides, from this other chair, I have a better view of the world that is our front yard and its unassuming beauty.

The lawn is still lush enough to need mowing, even as the season is shifting. The mower patiently waits for the rain to cease and for the grass to dry. The tree branches lay low with leaves and rain. Right outside our window, we have an abundant patch of lantana which delightfully eases its way onto the garden path. Come winter, I will look at the spindly stalks and remember this unfettered expanse.

Wayne taps and clicks away at his genealogy research. He has learned extensively about his family's history, especially on his mom's side. I crochet a green wool scarf to donate, changing course from working on Christmas gifts. Also I gradually write out a grocery list, adding items as they come to mind.

We watch the cardinals and the chickadees currently at the feeder. We found the squirrels were persistent in eating the seed, so we began to oil the pole with cooking spray. Now we are amused and probably a bit too gleeful as the bushy-tailed rodents slide down. Eventually they give up and settle for the food that has fallen to the ground.

We are compelled by the hummingbirds who come to our two feeders, which are nestled in the foliage and flowers of the lantana. They fly from flower to feeder and then back again. Sometimes a hummer looks through the window, and we wonder if they are sensing us or merely seeing their own reflection. As the summer has deepened,

their visits have become more frequent as they prepare for their southward journey. Every spring we faithfully place the feeders and wait. We've read that hummingbirds return to the same place year after year.

It is humbling to watch a hummingbird. I lay down my hook and yarn, and study the tiny being drawing in the nectar. This one is perhaps a female, bearing more muted colors, but equally as beautiful as her male counterparts. She dips in for food, once, twice, three times, and then again before she flies over to a flower for more sustenance. All the while her wings flutter fast and evenly. She shimmers in the sunlight and darkens gently in the shadows.

Before too long, she and the other hummingbirds will begin their 500 mile flight to Mexico for the winter. Somehow they instinctively know how to prepare for this passage, all the while steadily and quietly breathing in the nectar of life. I find myself pondering journeys, both our own and those that our loved ones travel on. We, too, prepare in our own way as best we can know at that moment in time.

I start to pick up my hook and yarn, when I remember something else we need at the store. Wayne starts typing again. Arthur sleeps on. Thus, we breathe in the nectar that is our life.



Kerri Habben Bosman is a writer in Chapel Hill, NC.



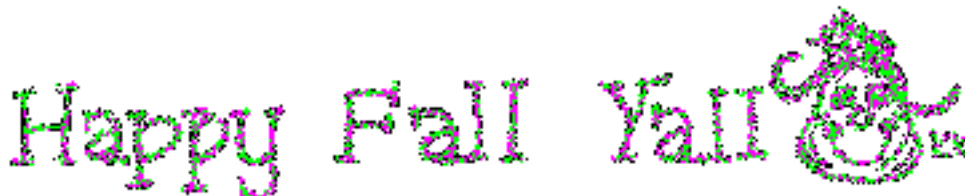
Search for the underlined words in the recipe in the word search below!

Harvest Salad

submitted by Patti Lee Bock of New Ulm, MN

- 1 cup fresh peas, shelled and cooked until tender in lightly salted water
- 1 cup fresh green beans, washed, strings removed cooked until tender in salted water
- 1 cup carrots, peeled, thinly sliced and cooked until tender in salted water
- 1 cup uncooked cauliflower, broken into small flowerets
- 1 cup celery, diced
- French Dressing
- 6 large tomatoes
- 1 head of leaf lettuce
- Mayonnaise for garnish
- 6 sprigs of parsley for garnish
- (you can use canned vegetables instead of fresh)

In a medium bowl combine peas, green beans, carrots, cauliflower and celery with French Dressing. Chill. Peel tomatoes. Sprinkle with salt. Chill. Just before serving, remove tomatoes from refrigerator and drain. Cut each into five sections leaving stem end whole and cut sections attached. Place each tomato cup on a nest of lettuce and fill with marinated vegetables. Top each salad with a dollop of mayonnaise and garnish with parsley.



New Prague • Northfield



Located in
Historic Downtown Northfield
since 1995

We Have
6 Rooms
of Gifts and
Decor!

- Melissa and Doug Toys • Mud Pie Items • Framed Photos
- Clothing • Kitchen Items • Hair Accessories
- Holiday Decor • Garden Flags
- Locally and handmade:
Jewelry, Soaps, Ornaments
and Much More!



Call for
Store Hours
507-645-6510

113 5th St. W • Northfield, MN 55057

THE WOODWORKING SHOP



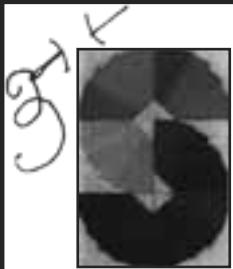
At The Woodworking Shop we offer hand carved wooden spoons, hardwood tree bowls, log furniture and shelves, candleholders and many more

handmade wood items. We also offer woodworking supplies for your DIY projects and your rustic wedding!

We sell lodge, cabin, rustic, primitive decor along with woodworking supplies!



Visit us online:
www.etsy.com/shop/thewoodworkingshop



Sue's Quilt Shop Inc.

112 Main Street E • New Prague, MN 56071
952-758-3210 • suesquiltshopnp@gmail.com

Located in the historic First National Bank building in the center of downtown!

FABRIC • PATTERNS • KITS • MUCH MORE

Visit our website! : www.suesquiltshopnp.com
Stay "in the know"! Check out our Facebook page!

Hours:
Tues - Sat
9am-5pm



Mornings crisp as
carrot sticks,
with trees
the tone
of
chimney bricks. Daniel Waters

CELEBRATE AUTUMN  

... come say HELLO at susanbranch.com
With LOVE from the Heart of the Home & me... Susan Branch  

Lake City • Wabasha



RATHER BEE
Your One Stop
Quilt Shop

M-Sat 10am - 4pm
Sunday Closed

Gift Certificates Available
Classes Offered

- 100% Cotton Fabrics
- Quilting Tools & Notions
- Books and Patterns

(651) 345-3958
TF(800) 233-9549

106 South Lakeshore Drive
Lake City, Minnesota 55041

www.ratherbeequilting.com



Pumpkinberry Stitches
108 E. Lyon Ave • Lake City, MN 55041
651-345-2573

Hours:
Tue-Sat
10pm-4pm

Gift Certificates available!

A Quaint Little Shop!

20% off one Item Expires 9/30/22

Fat Tuesdays! Buy 4 Fat Quarters get one Free!

Wit and Wisdom

The Voice of Reason

A dense cluster of willow bushes and maple saplings at my childhood home served as a natural clubhouse. With the help of my brothers, we cleared out the center of the thicket. Surrounded by thick leafy foliage, that small, cleared area became a playhouse and dreaming spot.

Fast forward the years...in anticipation of the arrival of grandchildren, I dreamed of creating an outdoor play area for them, like I enjoyed as a child. To help bring my dream to fruition, my husband brought home three spruce saplings. I envisioned the grown trees, planted in a circle, joining their boughs to form a secluded place where our grands could dream and play on carefree afternoons.

With great enthusiasm, I showed Don where I wanted the three trees planted. "Here, here and here," I announced, tapping the ground with my sneakered foot.

"That's too close," he said.

"No, it's not," I countered.

"The trees will grow into each other."

"Look how tiny they are!" I argued, "It will take forever for them to grow large enough to touch. By then the grands will be grown too."

"Spruce trees grow fast," Don said, "I'm telling you, you're planting them too close." He leaned against the shovel.

A cold drizzle began to fall. Frustrated and getting wet, I fumed, "Do I need to do it myself?"

Without another word, he spaded three spots, dropped in the tiny trees and tamped the ground firmly around them.

Satisfied, I went in the house and fixed us lunch.

The spruce saplings were happy in their new home. They took root, quickly growing tall and thick. Within a few years their boughs entwined. Tightly. Even the youngest grandchild couldn't squeeze in between the branches of this impenetrable fortress.

In his youth, Don helped plant thousands of spruce trees with his Boy Scout troop. He knew how fast they grew. He knew how far apart they should be spaced. He knew he was right. But he let me have my way.

I should have listened to the voice of reason.

God, likewise, longs to instruct us in the way that is right. He speaks to us through His Word, through prayer and through gaining knowledge and encouragement from His people. But, of course, we often have ideas in our head of what to do - we want to do it our way! Unfortunately, "our way" is often the wrong way and we are left to deal with the consequences.

When we read God's Word, it's important to pay attention to our heavenly Father's advice. "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says" (James 1:22 NIV).

When we pray, it's important to remember that communing with God is not a monologue. After we pour out our hearts to Him, it's important that we remain quiet and still and listen for His voice speaking to us. "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you" (Psalm 32:8 NIV).

Sun and water and fertile soil helped those spruce trees grow, so too, when we listen to God's voice, and follow His directions, we grow in faith, wisdom and knowledge of the Lord.

(Note: It's taken me many years to admit I was wrong about the spruce trees, but here it is - you were right, Honey! I should have listened to you . . .!)

Judyann Grant and her husband Don live on a few country acres in northern New York where they grow vegetables, flowers and thick stands of spruce! Contact the author at witandwisdomwriters@gmail.com




330 2nd Street West • Wabasha, MN
651-565-2077
whatsbrewingquiltshop@gmail.com
www.whatsbrewingquiltshop.com

Very Unique. Very Friendly.

Come see our
Halloween and Fall Fabrics!

Providing unique high-quality fabric, notions, wool and the like.

Jason Yenter • Sue Penn • Charlie Harper • Much More

We proudly serve coffee, espresso, tea, bakery items and ice cream!

• Hours change with the season! Call 651-565-2077 •



Country Register Recipe Exchange

Pumpkin Squares
submitted by Patti Lee Bock



12oz can evaporated milk	15oz can pumpkin
3 eggs, beaten	18 1/2 oz package yellow cake mix
2 tsp pumpkin pie spice	1/2 cup butter, sliced
1/2 tsp salt	Garnish: whipped topping, candy sprinkles, colored sugar
1 cup sugar	

Combine all ingredients except cake mix, butter and garnishes. Pour into greased 13x9 pan. Sprinkle on dry cake mix - do not stir. Dot with butter. Bake at 350° for 30-35 minutes. Serve with whipped topping. Decorate with candy sprinkles or colored sugar.

Onalaska, WI



Become Inspired at QuiltFest on the Mississippi!



Autumn is a great time to become inspired by the nature around us and leads us to create amazing quilts and family heirlooms as the weather cools. Memorable events and family holidays give us reason to create future quilt projects.

Attending a quilt show will also get your creative juices flowing and motivate you to plan your next sewing project. Seeing and observing the creations of others always inspires us to try a new technique and sparks ideas we may not have considered. The award winning La Crosse Area Quilters will be showcasing their quilting crafts and are eager to share their skills with others. Within the La

Crosse guild, members have had quilts displayed at the American Quilter's Society Quiltweek in Paducah, Kentucky, the Great Quilt Festival in New York, and the Good Housekeeping/Land's End Quilt contest. Members have also won various quilting awards from regional competitions and shows and sought after for commissioned work.

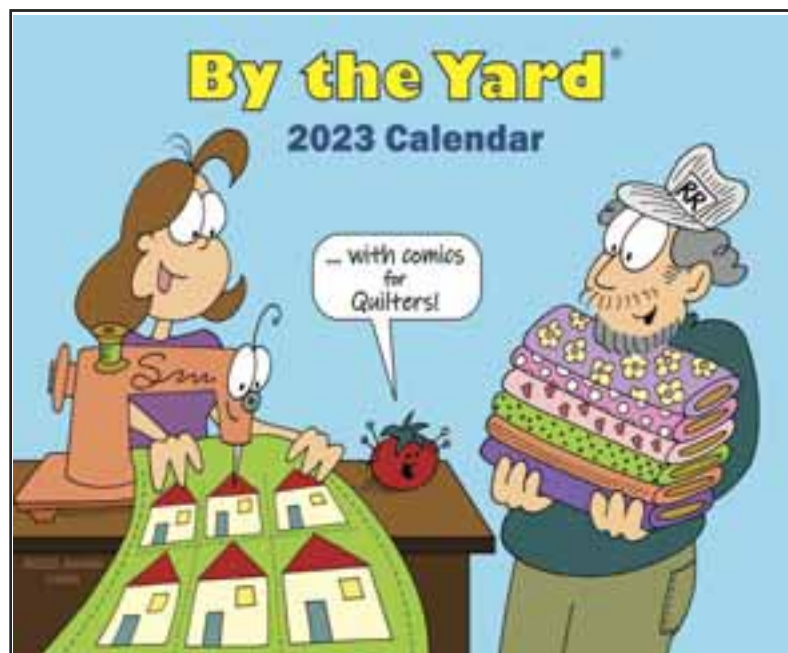
La Crosse Area Quilt Guild has connected with the sister city of Epinal, France and share our love of quilts and fiber art with their city guild. Members of the guild have created and donated many community items to organizations in need. This group have ongoing reciprocal projects they are working on.

The QuiltFest is one of the largest quilt shows in the area and promises to send you home with lots of inspiration and creative ideas! There will be vendors, a guild marketplace, demonstrations, a beautiful raffle quilt that you may purchase tickets for (drawing to be held at the conclusion of the show/need not be present to win), beautiful quilts of all types and sizes and guild challenge displays to view. The show is being held at the Omni Center in Onalaska, WI Friday and Saturday, October 21 and 22. See the ad in this publication for details!

La Crosse Area Quilters are a diverse group of people unified by their love of quilting and their desire to share this art with others. They wish to welcome other quilters from the novice to the most experienced; those who love traditional quilting to those who celebrate art quilts; those who are looking for friendship with other quilters to those who are searching for avenues of community service. QuiltFest is a wonderful opportunity for all to just come and and enjoy the creativity of others.

You Could Win!

By the Yard Comics for Quilters
12 Month Wall Calendar 2023



From the popular webcomic *By the Yard*®, you'll be in stitches all year long with the antics of fabric-loving Quilt Girl and her ever-patient Train Guy!
Created by quilty cartoonist Jen Lopez.

You Could Win!

You can register to win *By the Yard Comics* calendar!
Clip and mail in this form! If you prefer not to cut up your paper, write the form below on a note card and mail to: The Country Register; 2920 144th Ave. NE, Ham Lake, MN, 55304. You will be notified and receive your prize by mail! Good Luck!

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Favorite Shop _____

New Richmond, WI • Menomonie, WI

Featuring Quality Fabrics, Patterns and Handmade one-of-a-kind Items for Your Home



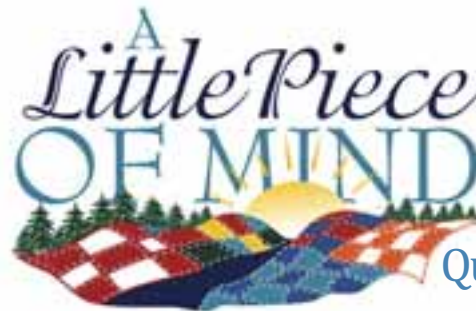
Visit Us Online:

www.etsy.com/shop/needlespinsstichery

Offering Quality Fabrics!

We carry Henry Glass, Studio E, Wilmington Prints, Elizabeth Studios and Many More!

Also featuring Cath's Pennies and Buttermilk Basin Wool Patterns for your sewing projects!



Regular Hours
 T&TH 10am-4pm
 W&F 10am-7pm
 Sat 9am-3pm
 1st & 3rd Sun 11am-4pm

Quality quilt fabric, quilting supplies, wool and yarn for your "Peace" of mind

1027 N. Knowles Ave • New Richmond, WI 54017 • 715-246-7314
www.littlepieceofmind.com • alicia@littlepieceofmind.com

A TOUR OF MINNESOTA'S STATE PARKS

John A. Latsch State Park



The park is named for John A. Latsch, a Winona businessman who donated the land for the establishment of the park in 1925. This park, unlike most highlighted in our tour of the Minnesota State Parks, is a day-use only park. There is no camping available. The park also only has one hiking trail! It is a strenuous half-mile hike up to the top of Mount Charity. The trail is all stairs, but your reward at the end is a breathtaking view of the Mississippi River Valley.

Steamboat captains on the Mississippi River relied on three rocky-headed bluffs called Faith, Hope and Charity to navigate their way up and down the Mississippi River. These bluffs tower more than 500 feet above the river. In the 1850s, a busy steamboat landing and logging town was

established below these bluffs. The logging operations supplied cut timber for the sawmills in the new town of Winona. John A. Latsch purchased some of these bluffs and persuaded an adjacent landowner to join him in donating approximately 350 acres to the state for a park in



1925. Two years later Latsch would generously donate another 200 acres to nearby Whitewater State Park.

While not a large park, John A. Latsch State Park offers some of the best views in the state provided by the towering bluffs over the Mississippi River Valley.

Information from www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks. Visit the website for more information, pictures, hours and fees.



A Place to Create and Be Inspired

5 Day Workshops:

- 12 Students
- Superb Instructors
- Luxury Comforts
- Scrumptious Meals

Located one hour east of the Twin Cities

E4620 County Road C
 Menomonie, WI 54751
 715.664.8220

www.woodlandridgeretreat.com

Join us for a workshop or retreat with your favorite friends

Visit our website to learn more



Dye Candy Fabrics

Elegant and Artistically Inspired

Stocking a wide variety of 100% cotton fabric:
 Digitally Printed, Batiks and Hand Dyes
 Shop in person, by appointment at
 Woodland Ridge Retreat or on line at
Dyecandy.Etsy.com

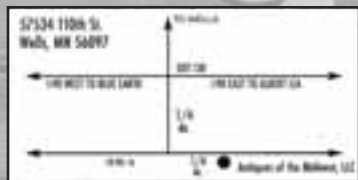
Lone Rock, IA • Kiester • Wells

ANTIQUES OF THE MIDWEST

WIDE VARIETY OF GENUINE ANTIQUES
BY MULTIPLE DEALERS

CHECK OUT OUR
VINTAGE FABRIC AND
SEWING NOTIONS

HOURS: TUES-SAT 9:30-4:30
SUN & MON BY CHANCE OR APPOINTMENT
AFTER HOURS CALL: 507-456-3699



57534 110TH ST. • WELLS, MN 56097 • 507-553-6048



Quilt Store and Retreat

2605 - 90th Ave South • Lone Rock, IA 50559
www.quiltedsteeple.com • tqsretail@gmail.com
phone: 515-570-9625

We now have fabric!
Watch Facebook for our
annual Piece on the Prairie
Outdoor Quilt Show!



Cowgirl Poet, Quilter, Entertainer



Yvonne Hollenbeck

Grandma's Homemade Aprons

I remember Grandma,
and I guess I always will;
I remember how she welcomed me
to her house up on the hill;

Her homemade pies and cookies
were the best I've ever ate
and I loved her pansy garden,
and the roses by her gate.

But the one thing I remember
most about those days of yore,
was the homemade cotton aprons
that my grandma always wore.

All the grandmas wore them;
be they slender gals, or fat;
those aprons kept their dresses clean
but they were more than that.

They always had a pocket,
where she kept her handkerchief,

and peppermints for grandkids
and she'd wipe our little cheeks

with the tail of that old apron,
when a tear would happen by
from a fall or from a skinned up knee
things that'd make a young one cry.

She'd gather up the ends of it,
and use it for a bag
when picking garden produce,
even used it for a rag.

She made her pretty aprons
from feed sacks she had picked
when buying special chicken feed
or starter for her chicks.

What happened to those aprons?
No one wears them any more;
those homemade cotton aprons
that our grandmas always wore.

Order Yvonne's new book, "A Stitch in Rhyme" at
www.yvonnehollenbeck.com — just \$15 + \$3.50 postage.

© Yvonne Hollenbeck; 2022

Yvonne Hollenbeck, from Clearfield, SD, performs her original poetry throughout the United States, captivating audiences in her wake. She is one of the most published cowgirl poets in the West and is not only a popular banquet and civic entertainer, but also co-writes songs with many western entertainers. Yvonne also pens a weekly column in the "Farmer-Rancher Exchange" and writes articles about life in rural America in various publications throughout the West. For more information, visit <https://www.yvonnehollenbeck.com>

Where in Minnesota?

The answer is...

Pelican Pete of Pelican Rapids

Pelican Pete is located in downtown Pelican Rapids, Minnesota at the base of the Pelican Rapids (or Mill Ponds) dam. The 15.5 foot concrete statue was built in 1957 for the town's Jubilee Celebration the following year.

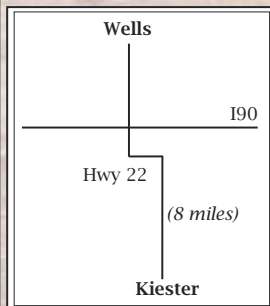


Quilter's Cottage

Hours: Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm • Saturday 10am - 1pm



Watch for the "Sale"
in the Sale Room!
Discounts on already discounted
fabrics in the Back Room!
Check out our Facebook page for
further information.



Long Arm Quilting by
Patchwork on the River

119 South Main St • Kiester, MN 56051 • 507-294-3700 • 507-993-1777



Quilting, Home Decor, Gifts and So Much More
49 South Broadway, Wells, MN 56097
www.HumbleHeartQuiltShop.com

507-553-6021

REGULAR SHOP HOURS: Tues., 10-5; Wed. 10-6;
Thurs. - Fri. 10-5; Sat. 9-Noon; Sun. & Mon. Closed



Blue Earth • Sherburn

230 S. Main St.
Blue Earth MN 56013
Phone: 507-526-3295



michelesewvac@bevcomm.net

Hours:
9am-5pm M-F
9am-12pm Sat

KIMBERBELL accredited store!
Watch for upcoming events!

Visit Updated website!
www.michelesquiltingandsewing.com



This month in Minnesota History

September 28, 1955: The final game at Nicollet Park: the Minneapolis Millers play the Rochester Redwings, winning the Junior World Series 9-4. After Nicollet Park was demolished, the Millers' home would be Metropolitan Stadium until the Minnesota Twins replaced them.

October 31, 1991: The "Halloween Blizzard" begins. A record snowfall of 24 to 36 inches blankets the area from Duluth to the Twin Cities. It is the state's largest recorded snowfall in a single storm.

From The Minnesota Book of Days (Minnesota Historical Society Press)



Lessons from an Owl

By Barbara Kalkis

Nights are Magical!
No stars need glow.
I just listen and learn
From chattering creatures below.

Stillness is calming,
Hearing is seeing,
Flying is freeing
From my secret window.

A parliament is okay,
But with nothing to say
I have fun all alone
And hunt on my own.

A discussion is moot.
My life is a Hoot!

©Barbara Kalkis, 2021



Shop Hours:
T-F 10 am - 5 pm
Sat 9 am - 4pm
1st Sunday of the month
1 pm - 4 pm

PRIMITIVE GATHERINGS BUS TOUR

November 3-5, 2022

13 Quilt Shops across Minnesota and Wisconsin
there and back.

A fabulous lunch, tour and shopping at Primitive
Gatherings Quilt Shop and
The Gathering's Retreat Center

\$400.00 Double Room Occupancy
\$565 for Single



BOOK NOW

Go to our website for free patterns and
ideas

www.oldalleyquiltshop.com

Connect with us on social media for
contests, events, workshops, special
offers and more!



115 N Main Street
Sherburn, MN 56171
507-764-4088

1101 N. State St.
Waseca, MN
507-835-4000
Hours: Tues-Sat 10-5



Christmas Open House
November 4th & 5th

Great gifts and home decor for the Holidays and any day of the year!

- Christmas Trees and Greens
- Gnomes
- Lighting
- Wall Decor
- Candles
- Scents of the Season
- Jewelry
- Linens
- Lanterns
- Ornaments



Across the Freeway from Cabelas!

Southern Minnesota's Largest Gift Store

Country Goods  *Open 7 Days a Week!*

Owatonna, MN • 507-451-5661

Garden Items • Home Decor • Windsocks • Flags
Memorial Products • Heritage Lace
LARGE Bible selection
Linen and Lace Window Valances
Jim Shore and Willow Tree Figurines
Hundreds of mugs and salt and pepper shakers
200 Chimes on display! Come see the giant \$3200 chime!
Christmas all year including Nativity Sets!



 Preview lots of our products on Facebook!

Over The Teacup

Polly Put The Kettle On

by Janet Young

Polly Put The Kettle On, Kettle on, Kettle on, Polly Put The Kettle on and we'll all have tea.

Sukey Take it off again, off again, off again, Sukey take it off again, they've all gone away.

Perhaps as a child growing up you may have said or sung the words to this old English rhyme from the 1800s.

It is believed that there was a father who had five children, three girls and two boys. When the sisters did not want to play with their brothers, they would get out the tea kettle and recite the first part of the rhyme. When the brothers heard them, off they would scurry, as teatime was not of interest to them. After they left, the second part of the rhyme was recited. Sukey was Susie, one of the sisters. Their father turned this little ditty into the song you may have sung as a child.

While the girls may not always have had a tea party, it brings to mind how children are, indeed, fascinated by the idea of tea. From an early age, toddlers want to play tea with their plastic tea sets, many times inviting their fathers to join in the fun.

I'll never forget a child's tea party I had at my teahouse, when the father walked in, I knew how much he really loved his little girl, because he did not appear to be a lover of tea. He was clearly not in his element, but he was willing to meet her on her own level, and he was having a great time with his little daughter.

Tea brings us together. With the new school year beginning, and the beginning of a rapidly approaching holiday season, perhaps it is time to bring the tea kettle out and celebrate with a simple cup of tea. How soothing in these troubled times. With childlike wonder we can celebrate the love of family gathered together as we approach another school year.

Polly Put The Kettle on, and we'll all have tea.

--Janet Young is a Certified Tea and Etiquette Consultant, Co-Founder of Mid-Atlantic Tea Business Association, and prior owner of Over The Teacup



Let the Leaves Fall

by Becky Van Vleet

I love family traditions. In fact, my website is devoted to family traditions, stories, and preserving memories.

A number of years ago, my husband and I started an autumn tradition with our local grandchildren. You can probably guess what it is if I give you hint words: leaves, bury, screams. Yes, our Grands come over to our house when the fallen leaves and weather are just right, and depending on whose turn it is, either my husband or I get buried as they rake the leaves. We alternate turns every year.

About a month before this ritual, the Grands start asking if we have the date on the calendar. I usually feign that I have no idea whose turn it is to get buried, thinking to myself that maybe, just maybe, if it's my turn, my husband will get stuck with the burial two years in a row. And maybe, just maybe, no one will be the wiser.

I try this rite every year, but I fail at all attempts. My grandchildren always remember whose turn it is!

When it's my turn, I grab a baseball cap to cover my face as I get into my prone position for burial. And then, wham, the leaves tumble all over me. And no matter how far under I am in the leaves, I still hear their laughter. I lie perfectly still, not moving a muscle, so much so that the kids start calling out to me, "Nana, we're done, we're done. You can come up." Well, I hold them in suspense as long as I can breathe under the leaves, then I flail my arms, jump up like a wild woman, and scream like a banshee!

And then I hope no neighbors are watching this silliness.

The Grands love it. I'd have to say my husband is a bit more docile in his approach to our family ritual; nevertheless, he gets into this like any cool grandpa would.

Ahh, I love these sweet memories.

Grandchildren are so impressionable, and they are taking notes in their minds for what family fun is, what love is like, and how adults invest in their lives, even through antics. At their young age, they're on the receiving end, but I hope some day they pay it forward to their own children and beyond.

Becky Van Vleet, a retired school administrator, lives near Colorado Springs with her husband, Troy. They are the parents of four grown children and enjoy spending time with their eight grandchildren. Becky is a children's picture book author, and her website is devoted to family stories and creating memories: www.beckyanvleet.com.



Country Register Recipe Exchange

Harvest Pear Crisp

submitted by Patti Lee Bock



- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 3 cups Bartlett pears, peeled, cored, sliced | 1/2 cup plus 2 tbsp flour, divided |
| 3 tbsp water | 1 tsp cinnamon, divided |
| 1 tbsp lemon juice | 5 tbsp butter, chilled |
| 1/2 cup sugar, divided | 1/4 cup brown sugar, packed |

In a bowl, combine pears, water, lemon juice, 1/4 cup sugar, 2 tbsp flour, 1/2 tsp cinnamon. Toss to mix. Spread in a lightly greased 8x8 baking pan. In a separate bowl, cut together butter, brown sugar, remaining sugar, flour and cinnamon until crumbly. Sprinkle over pear mixture. Bake at 350° for 45 minutes or until pears are tender.

St. Peter Woolen Mill

101 W. Broadway • St. Peter, MN 56082
507-934-3734 • www.woolenmill.com

Highest Quality Green Products and Services

Don't Get Left Out in the Cold!

Now's the time to Refurbish that old Comforter!

Hours:
Mon - Fri
9am - 5pm

- Custom Wool Processing
- Turn your wool into finished or semi-finished wool bedding
- Wool filled mattress pads, comforters, and pillows
- Nature's Comfort Wool Products
- Online Catalog
- Refurbish an heirloom



There are so many fun things you can create with some Scrabble pieces you have floating around the house! If you have an old game that is missing pieces, don't throw it out. Use the letters to make a fun craft!

One idea is to use the tiles to make cute push pins! All you need is some left over scrabble tiles, push pins and a hot glue gun and glue sticks!

Advice From a Pumpkin

*Be well rounded.
Get plenty of sunshine.
Have a thick skin.
Keep growing.
Be outstanding in your field.
Think big!*

Halloween Scavenger Hunt

- Pumpkins on a Porch
- Blow-up Display
- A Large Spider
- A Skeleton

- Decorated Door
- Witch flying on Broom
- Ghost in a Tree
- A witches Hat
- Frankenstein
- Spider web

- Dracula
- Orange Lights
- A Mummy
- Gravestones
- Bats
- Black Cat

Hometown Holiday Road Trip

Quilt Shop Stops:

DeAnn's Country Village Litchfield	The Quilting Grounds Norwood Young America
Sweetwater Cotton Shoppe Paynesville	The Thimblebox New Ulm
Cabby's Corner Gibbon	Sewing Seeds Quilt Co. New Ulm
	Spinning Spools New Ulm

At each Shop:
"IN THE MEADOW WE CAN BUILD A SNOWMAN!"

Collect a free snowman themed pattern at each quilt shop along the way!
Drop off Food Shelf items to receive One Free Fat Quarter
Remember to check expiration dates!

At the Final Shop:
Receive an Old World Christmas Snowman Ornament
Enter a drawing for 1 of 7 Grand Prizes

ALSO ENJOY THE 31ST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES
AT DEANN'S COUNTRY VILLAGE!

November 10th, 11th & 12th
Thursday, Friday and Saturday
Open 9am - 5pm

Visit three unique quilt shops in one charming town!

Spinning Spools
106 S. Minnesota
New Ulm, MN
507-359-2896

1417 South State Street
New Ulm, MN
507-354-8801

The Thimble Box
10 N. Minnesota St.
New Ulm, MN
507-354-6721

Happy Halloween!

Writing From Life

by Jeanette Lukowski

Sewing Space

I grew up sewing on my mother's green Kenmore sewing machine—set up on the end of the dining room table. Since we lived in an apartment building, and space is always a premium when one lives in an apartment building in a city, I never thought of it as being an unusual set-up.

The summers I visited my grandmother in my teens, I sewed on her green Kenmore sewing machine—which rested inside a wooden cabinet sewing table disguised as a small end-table in her living room. She lived in a small house in a small town, so I actually thought it an ingenious set-up.

When my youngest child grew up and moved out, I converted his vacated bedroom into a sewing room.

I didn't think of it as my sewing room, though; I constantly thought of it as his vacated bedroom. First, I just moved my plastic fabric boxes in, so that I could dig out some fabric for projects a bit easier. (The previous arrangement had been shoving them all into a closet in the basement.) Then, I set up the foldable banquet table; it was easier to cut the fabric projects in there, rather than on the dining room table. After that, the ironing board was set up against the other wall.

Let me tell you, it's grand to have a dedicated sewing space. The cream-colored Kenmore sewing machine now sits on the end of a solid wood table, with cutting mat and rotary cutter waiting patiently behind the sewing machine. Larger plastic bins of fabric are stacked on the carpeted floor lining parts of two walls (and are tucked neatly under half of the wooden table, leaving me clearance room for the chair and foot peddle to operate the sewing machine); smaller plastic bins of sorted fabric themes rest on shelving next to the window. The ironing board is always set up, with the iron waiting for its next ironing task; the wooden storage cabinet holds the miscellaneous supplies such as a box of freezer paper, fabric markers, interfacing, batting, and the thread organizer.

At any given moment, I can walk into the sewing room, flick on the overhead light if there isn't enough sunlight glowing through the white curtains covering the window, and sew—one seam, or one hour. Maybe cut fabric for a project. Or iron a blouse. Perhaps audition fabric for the next project. Then walk back out—to cook, or read, or write. It's simply grand!

And it's a mess.

As I write this article, there is a basket on the wooden table containing a table runner I began working on months ago (for me), a plastic box with kid-fabric "scraps" I pulled off the shelf after attending a quilt show in June, a donation quilt top in progress; the ironing board is draped with fabrics I pre-washed yesterday, and a table-topper gift project I am working on.

But it's mine, all mine! A sewing space of my own.

© Jeanette Lukowski 2022. Jeanette is a mother, grandmother, teacher, and author who lives in Mankato, MN. She is inspired by the lives of strong women. Her email address is: writingfromlife@yahoo.com



Retirement!

by Barbara Polston

Two months ago, I gave my notice of retirement. The reaction of some of my coworkers has been surprising. Some expressed envy and many more congratulated. I've worked most of my adult life, only taking time when my daughters were born and for graduate school. I've dubbed this the "event 52 years in the making."

Certain aspects have been difficult. My replacement was named early and time was invested in training her in all the details of the job living in my head. There was a lovely retirement party, but after that and with two weeks to go, it was clear I was a lame duck. The feelings of uselessness have been challenging. But, that's over now.

People ask about my retirement plans. My adult children feel I should find a part-time job, but I have given myself one—that of children's book author. Resurrecting a project that has been in my mind for over five years, I have partnered with a long-time colleague and our first book draws closer to publication. Soon, we will be delving into the world of websites and social media to support book sales. It is all pretty exciting.

Some of my goals are small. Keep up the exercise program I began in an effort to positively impact my health. Give myself a manicure once a week (or so). Try new recipes and improve my scratch baking skills. Catch up on medical and dental appointments that have been neglected due to the pandemic and moving to another area of the state.

Of course, there are quilting and sewing goals as well! For two years, my home office and my sewing space has been one in the same. My goal for my first week of retirement is to break down the office space. In its place, I will build a design wall to, once again, have the visual impact of my current projects. I have more PITS (projects in tubs) than I care to admit, but I am determined to chip away at those and eliminate the stacks of tubs that fill my closet and live under tables.

There are a few competition quilts I've been mulling over for years. If they go according to the vision I have, perhaps I will put my work back out on the show circuit and see what happens. I'm quite excited about the time to attend quilt guild meetings, spend time in the company of like-minded quilters, and find a bit of volunteering to do there.

No one knows how much time is left in which to enjoy life and become the person I truly want to be. But, I'm working on it!

© Barbara Polston. Barbara, who is the author of *Quilting With Doilies: Inspiration, Techniques, and Projects* (Schiffer Press, 2015) lives in Tucson, Arizona, where she is now spending time in the pursuit of life-long dreams, many of those at her sewing machine. Contact Barbara at barbarapolstonquilter@gmail.com.



WANTED!

*We need your recipes!
Send us your favorite holiday recipes and we'll publish it in the 12 Days of Baking in the next issue of The Country Register!*

2920 144th Ave. NE
Ham Lake, MN 55304

Country Register Recipe Exchange

Witch's Brew


submitted by Lila Liebl



- 1 - 14oz can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed milk (not evaporated milk)
- 1 - 46oz can pineapple juice, chilled
- 1 - 2 L bottle orange soda, chilled
- Orange sherbet (optional)

In punch bowl, stir together Eagle Brand milk and pineapple juice, add orange soda. Top with sherbet and serve over ice if desired.

"Minnesota's Most Talked About Quilt Shop"



1293 Hale Place
Windom, MN 56101
507-831-2740

www.prairiequiltingmn.com
prairiequilting@windomnet.com

Hours: M-F 9-5 • Sa 9-12

Wide variety of quilt patterns and books, quilting notions, rulers, and approximately 3000 bolts of fabric.

1820 Oxford St.
Worthington, MN 56187
craftycorner@iw.net

Crafty Corner Quilt & Sewing Shoppe



Color your world with **Kaffe Fasset's** new Special Edition Machines!
770 Quilter's Edition
475 Quilter's Edition
Get your order in now!

Call Crafty Corner 1-800-SEW MORE or 507-329-0158
www.craftycornerquiltandsewingshoppe.com



New Location in Historic Downtown Pipestone

124 West Main Street
Pipestone, Minnesota 56164
Mon-Fri: 10am-6pm • Sat: 10am-4pm
<https://thecalicocatquiltshop.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheCalicoCatQuiltShop>

2022 Fall Retreat
October 14 & 15

- 2 catered meals each day
- Demos and Q&A session
- Show & Tell both days
- Sign up for 1 day or both!

Cost: \$50/day or \$90 for both
Registration deadline 9/30



Visit our booth at the Chaska Area Quilt Club's **Fall Splendor of Quilts 2022 Show**
Sept. 23-24

THE Sewing Basket

Husqvarna VIKING

Hours:
Monday-Friday 10-6
Thursday 10-8
Saturday 10-4

NEW ADDRESS: 219 East Main, Suite 3
Luverne, MN • 507-920-8715




We're a Certified Husqvarna-Viking service shop!

www.sewingbasketluv.com • Email: sewingbasketluv@gmail.com

Join us for Quilts and Coffee LIVE every Monday at 9:30 on Facebook!



KISSed Quilts

by Marlene Oddie

Something Old, Something New


Island Batik has issued another beautiful fabric collection—Vintage—that is now available in quilt shops. There are at least eight different lace-like motifs used across a variety of colors.

The name of the collection and the motifs used in it inspired me to come up with a vintage "posie" block using AnglePlay® shapes (half rectangle triangles). This is a single block colored two ways, which gives it a bit of movement and interest. The middle border seems to have some yellowing like an old piece of lace might. There is another fabric used that has just a little bit of yellow in it as well. Used sparingly, it works!

Given the many shipping issues and market closures this past year, I was asked to photograph the quilt myself. As the spring flowers started blooming, this tree across the street from my classroom space seemed like the perfect backdrop. The tree seems very 'vintage' with the long hanging clusters of flowers giving it a soft touch. Finding just the right space to photograph a quilt can really make a difference in how it is presented.

The Lace Posies pattern and AnglePlay® templates are available at KISSed Quilts.

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



USE THE RIGHT ONION!

Sweet: Best for frying. Use in onion rings and roasted vegetables.

Red: Best for eating raw. Use in guacamole, salads and sandwiches.

White: Crunchiest and sharpest zing. Use in salsas and stir frying.

Yellow: Cooking onion. Use for soups, stews and sauces.

Shallot: Milder and more subtle. Use for dressings and garnishes.