

#### Happy Independence Day!



Maryland's Guide to Specialty Shopping & Premier Events



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

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## Months July/August 2025

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Judy Boccuzzi of Germantown, MD won a copy of Fabric + Paint + Thread = Fabulous. Judy picked up her copy of The Maryland Register at Capital Quilts in Gaithersburg, MD!

Congraulations Judy!



City Listing		
Baltimore	Newark, DE	

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luly 1-31All Mid-Atlantic Shop Hop 31-Sept 7Delectable Mountains Quilt Guild Quilt Show - Berkeley Springs, WV
August 1-31All Mid-Atlantic Shop Hop 30Yard Square Live Auction - Delectable Mountains Quilt Guild - Berkeley Springs,WV
September 4-20Best Kept Secrets Fall Tour - Harford & Cecil County 11-14Pennsylvania National Quilt Extravaganza - Greater Philadelphia 27-28Shenandoah Valley Festival - Clover Hill Yarn Shop - Catonsville
October 25Frederick Fiber Fest - Cloverhill Yarn Shop - Catonsville

8-9.....Maryland Alpaca Festival - Cloverhill Yarn Shop - Catonsville

**November** 

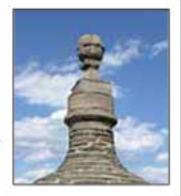
#### Events



# Where in Maryland?

Somewhere in Maryland the image to the right can be found. Where is it?





## Recipe Exchange!

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#### Events

# Maryland Quilt Guild Listing



#### African American Quilters of Baltimore (AAQB)

P.O. Box 31528 · Baltimore, MD 21207 Meets at St. Bartholomew's Church · Baltimore, MD 21229 First Saturday of each month

#### Faithful Circle Quilters Guild

Dedicated to perpetuating the heritage of quilting, sharing the skills and knowledge of quilting and stimulating fellowship and education among those interested in quilting. Contact:communications@faithfulcirclequilters.com Website: https://faithfulcirclequilters.com/



#### Uhuru Quilters Guild

Promote the work and accomplishments of African American quilters and to preserve the traditions, culture and history of quilting.

P.O. Box 47332 District Heights, MD 20747 Meet monthly on 3rd Saturdays at St. Barnabas Episcopal Anglican Church, Upper Marlboro, MD Website: www.uhuruquiltersguildinc.org



#### Village Quilters of Catonsville MD Quilt Guild

Preserve and promote the art and heritage of quiltmaking. We meet September - June on the third Thursday of the month. Meeting place: The Stafford Hall, Catonsville, MD Contact:contact@villagequiltersmd.com Website: https://villagequiltersmd.com

Would you like to have your Quilt Guild listed? Contact us today to hear how you can get listed as well as receive a discount on any advertising for your guild events!

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## On this day in History

July 1, 1963: The United States Postal Service introduces the Zone Improvement Plan as part of a plan to improve the speed of mail delivery, inaugurating the use of machine-readable ZIP codes to facilitate the efficient sorting of mail at a national level. In 1943, the Post Office had created numbered zones for more than 100 urban areas around the country. But in the post-WWII boom, that system quickly became inadequate. Between 1943 and 1962, annual mail volume doubled from 33 billion to 66.5 billion pieces, and the average mailed letter passed through an average of 17 sorting stops. Suburbs were sprouting exponentially, and mail transport was shifting from railway to highway and air, making old urban hub systems

August 10, 1939: The Wizard of Oz, starring Judy Garland has its world premiere in Green Bay, Wisconsin. It would open widely in U.S. theaters some two weeks later.

# 2025 Delectable Mountains Quilt Guild Quilt Show

July 31- Sept. 7 Morgan Arts Council (MAC)

te and assemble beautiful quilts, that are for sale



#### Yard Square LIVE Auction

August 30, 2025 Historic Star Theater 49 Washington ST. Berkeley Springs, WV

The Delectable Mountains Quilt Guild will hold our Annual Yard Square Quilt Charity Auction.

This year's proceeds will benefit the Boys' and Girls' Club of Morgan County W.V.

ique 36-inch square usall quilts are placed in windows of stores, shops, and businesses nd around Berkeley Springs beginning in July

Bidder registration will open at Noon at the same location. Live bidding will start at 2:00 pm

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### Summer Fun!

by Janet Young

It has been said, "The most precious jewels you'll ever have around your neck are the arms of your children". Most mothers would agree with that. Only now, you are in the middle of summer with a house full of one or more children, who are probably telling you daily how bored they are. What

to do? Why not do some of your favorite activities with a twist.

For example, suppose they want to set up a lemonade stand. There are various ways you can get them involved. They set up the table, make signs, and why not let them help make home-made lemonade. This could be a challenge even for you, but together you can squeeze the lemons, add the sugar syrup and water, stir it up, and add the ice cubes. The twist, is in the making of real home-made lemonade.

Another project might be to go picking strawberries. When you get home, you clean them up and make some strawberry shortcake with the help of the kids. There are lessons to be learned from this activity from beginning to end. First, they learn where strawberries come from, and then how to make shortcake from scratch.

In the evening you might want to get the fire pit going and tell scary stories (appropriate for the age of the child). Or, put up a sheet outdoors and have movie night. Stargazing is another fun thing to do. Watching the sunset or sunrise is a beautiful awareness of nature.

There should always be time set aside daily for reading. Perhaps you could set up a tent in the yard or inside where you can gather for reading, and to slow down and relax for a little while. A corner nook would also make a nice reading area filled with pillows, a soft blanket and books. Another approach would be to go to the park, and pick up trash. Or, write a letter to a resident of a retirement home.

For exercise try volleyball or pickleball since it is all the rage right now. Perhaps your child would like to hike on a trail, or ride their bike on the trail or at the park. How about a water balloon battle on a hot sunny afternoon? Another day have a picnic, or a tea party. Remember part of the fun is allowing the child to help prepare the menu.

The list goes on and on. You adjust the activity according to the interest or the age of the child. The thing to remember is the memories you are making together. It won't be long before the neck-hugging will stop, and will be replaced by a quick kiss as they hurry off to play with their friends.

Remember summer is a time for fun and relaxation. These ideas are nothing new, and I know as a mother, how difficult it is to entertain your children all summer long. But if you focus on how you are impacting their lives, and on the memories, you are creating, take pause and everyday ask God to give you the strength to do this one more day. He will see you through.

Happy Summer!

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



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# How Do You Choose Fabric?

by Deb Heatherly

People have told me time and time again that choosing fabric is the hardest part of the process when making a quilt. When I owned my quilt shop, customers would tell us that they just did not know what would look good together, once the quilt was complete. Here are a few suggestions.

If you have a local shop, go in and let them help you. My employees had "a great eye" and loved helping customers put together stunning fabric combinations. Once you voice your preferences such as bright, muted, floral, novelty, etc., let them point you toward those fabrics and help you audition pieces that look great together.

Do you have a fabric in your stash that you've had forever because you absolutely love it, but have no clue what to use it for? Take that fabric with you to your local shop and ask them to help you pull companion fabrics that will make you smile. There's nothing like being surrounded with lots of options and many times the perfect combo might contain fabric you would never have purchased on your own. Be open to suggestions but remember you have the final say.

Kits are another great way to pick your next project. Many times, shops will have a sample hanging that catches your eye. They already have that fabric or something similar in a kit, so it's a win, win! You already know you are going to be happy once the quilt is finished because it will look similar to the one that was in the shop. Grab that kit and let the fun begin!

What about a scrappy project? To me using scraps is like visiting old friends. I love to reminisce about the quilts that each of the fabrics was used in. For a challenge, toss them in a bag and without peeking, vow to use each one in the order they were pulled. This can be a fun thing to do with a group of friends. You can even take turns pulling from each other's bags. Laughter and fun are sure to follow.



Finally, let the project go to the dogs, or in my case cats. When unsure of a fabric to begin, lay out several on the floor and let your dog or cat decide. Max loves this game and will quickly walk on them all and then pick one to lay on. When we play that game, I always take his 'advice' and begin selecting companions to go with his choice. It makes for some interesting quilts and you never know what will jump start your next masterpiece.

My last piece of advice is to just do it! Start sewing and see what evolves. Every quilt is a work of art and there is always someone who would love to snuggle under it, build forts with it, or use it on a teddy bear picnic. Get sewing and think of the possibilities.

Deb Heatherly is a designer for Creative Grids® rulers and the author of eight popular pattern books. Creative Grids® fans are invited to join her Facebook group, "Grids Girls," for tips and inspiration, and two free mysteries each year. https://www.facebook.com/groups/770429649800457/. Shop Owners are invited to join her group just for you, "Grids Girls for Quilt Shop Owners Only" https://www.facebook.com/groups/273593657256524.

Visit Deb's website at www.Debscatsnquilts.com.

Photo by Belle

Ginny the Guinea

#### New Windsor





# Don't Forget to Renew Your Quilt Guild Membership!

By Janet M. Bair

In the swirl of summer activities, it's hard to even think of fall. But summer is often the time to renew your Quilt Guild

membership. Our guild has a late fee, probably so tribute enough to be able to pay the for the meetings on time. Besides listening to interesting speakers and learning new skills, I have enjoyed our quilt guild's "Show and Tell" each month immensely. I love seeing

what other members are making, looking at the colors they chose and I can appreciate all their hard work.

One of the many blessings of being part of a quilt guild has been the generosity and sharing from other guild members. There is a table at our meetings where members can put out fabric, lace, ribbon, yarn, patterns, and quilting magazines and books that they no longer need. As a newcomer to the quilting world, I have really appreciated the opportunity to pick up quilters' magazines and extra fabric. Most of what I sew goes to charity, so this has been a huge blessing.

I also sew a lot for my two granddaughters. Recently, my daughter was given seven 18 inch "American Girl style" dolls! Her two girls were thrilled. One of them asked for a doll sweatshirt but when I looked through all of my patterns, I didn't find one.

Sadly, I went to Joann Fabrics one last time before they closed to look through their patterns. This has been my favorite fabric and crafts store for fifty years. I found a doll sweatshirt pattern but it was \$24! I don't even like spending that much on a shirt for myself let alone for a doll.

To my amazement, when I went to my quilt guild meeting, someone had donated over fifteen brand new doll patterns the exact size I was looking for. Among the patterns was one for a doll sweatshirt. Proverbs 10:22 came to my mind: "The blessing of the Lord, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it."

Besides the many fabric pieces, I have gained, I have made some very special friends over the past three years. If you ever had any doubts about joining a quilting group, don't hesitate any longer. The benefits and the inspiration from a group are well worth the membership fees.

-  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}$  Janet M. Bair of Ansonia, CT. You may contact her at librarybair@hotmail.com

## The Guinea with Nine Lives

by Becky Van Vleet

What fun it is for this Colorado grandma to visit her daughter and son-in-law's homestead in Tennessee. Add two sweet granddaughters, and life doesn't get any better. I've never seen a more glorious garden which produces everything under the sun it seems. Picking fresh blueberries is a wonderful way to start the day. And I never mind sharing a few with the chickens and guinea fowl that meander around the property.

At my last visit a few weeks ago, I noticed one of the guineas was a little standoffish, not quite as social. But I soon learned from my granddaughters, Belle and Ava, that Ginny Guinea boasts nine lives. Really? I thought only cats could brag about that.

Ginny developed a limp her first year when one of her legs tangled with a wire in the guinea run while she was trying to scamper away. With her limp, she was never quite able to travel around the yard at the same speed as the other guineas. No matter. She hobbles where she wants to go, continues to lay her precious eggs, and never complains.

But birds of the air have taken notice of her slowness. The hawks in particular. No doubt their birdbrains have accurately assessed that a wounded guinea wanders around on the homestead. Easy prey. But the hawks are apparently clueless for Ginny's perseverance. She holds her own. No hawk as yet has been able to carry her off for a tasty snack, though they've tried. Belle and Ava have witnessed the attempts after threatening hawks alerted them to run outside to

check. Poor Ginny would be hiding in bushes minus feathers.

After one vicious attack, Ginny was a bareback. All her feathers across her back had been stripped by a greedy hawk. The girl was bleeding. Belle and Ava didn't think she'd survive. But they hoped for the best as they gently placed the suffering guinea back in her coop. And with tender loving care, Ginny made a comeback.

But one day, Belle thought for sure Ginny had succumbed to a menacing attack. She'd trained their labrador, Luna, to join the

family rescue team. On this particular day, Belle and Luna dashed to the back yard at the alarm squawk from the guineas. All the chickens and guineas must be protected after all, and especially Ginny. While Luna scared away potential hawks, Belle counted the chickens and guineas to ensure their safety and wellbeing. All were accounted for except Ginny.

Belle's heart sank. She summoned her mother and Ava to the yard for the rescue mission, if there would even be one. When Belle discovered a fresh-plucked guinea feather, then another, then another, she followed the trail until she noticed a big pile of feathers next to a tree. Calling out to her mother and Ava, she thought for sure the hawk had flown away with Ginny for an appetizing lunch. The evidence pointed to Ginny's demise.

But then—Belle heard a faint cackle from a bush. Could it be Ginny? No. Belle and Ava thoroughly investigated the bush. Not once, but twice. About to give up, Belle and Ava sauntered to the house, grieving. But another chirp drew them back. And there was Ginny, standing upright next to the bush, minus a few feathers, as if to say, "Were you worried about me?"

Not only did Ginny recover and grow her feathers back again, she continues to humbly strut around their homestead today. Unassuming. Persevering. Overcoming. Thank you, Ginny. Good character traits for all of us.

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 nine grandchildren. Becky is a children's picture book author, and her website is devoted to family stories and creating memories:



#### Baltimore • Catonsville

# Pieces From My Heart by Jan Keller

#### Berry Good Donuts!

Simplify ... that seems to be my adopted life objective. I used to pride myself on baking and cooking yummy meals and treats, but no longer. Is my identity wrapped up in garnering praise and compliments in exchange for hours spent in the kitchen? I think not ... especially in the summer!

Many months ago, I happened upon an online photo of a jazzed up glazed donut, and I saved it to my desktop. I didn't want to forget what I considered a truly great idea for an easy-does-it dessert. I thought the photo presented what might be an especially appropriate refreshment or dessert idea to serve at a shower, luncheon or tea party.

Recently, and on an absolutely ordinary day, I came home with everything needed in hand—fresh strawberries, glazed donuts, and a spray container of whipped cream. When my husband was engrossed in front of the television, I very carefully sliced across a couple donuts with a sharp serrated knife. (Honestly, that was the greatest challenge to putting together this show-stopping dessert. Once that was done, all I had to do was spray whipped cream on the bottom half of the donut, top it with a few slices of strawberries, and then cover with the donut's top half. For a little extra pazazz, I filled the donut's hole by spraying a dab of shipped cream and topping it with another strawberry slice.

When our "Berry Good Donuts" were ready to sample, John and I both paused for a moment because they looked almost too good to eat ... but soon we both took a bite and simultaneously agreed our donuts were really berry, berry good!

Since that first taste test, I think a variation might be to get glazed donut holes, cut them in half, fill with a dab of whipped cream and a strawberry slice for a yummy miniature "Two Bite Berry Good Donut Delight."



©2025 Jan Keller No reprint without permission Jan shares other pieces of her life in her books, *Pieces From My Crazy Quilt*, and *The Tie That Binds* These books can be ordered by calling 719-866-8570, or writing: Black Sheep Books, 11250 Glen Canyon Drive, Peyton, CO 80831

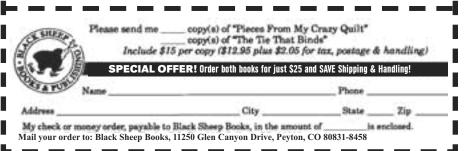
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Life is like a quilt, pieced together from a unique patchwork of memories, friendships, joys, and challenges In each of these books, syndicated columnist Jan Keller is down to earth and refreshingly transparent as she opens the door to life's dreams, 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



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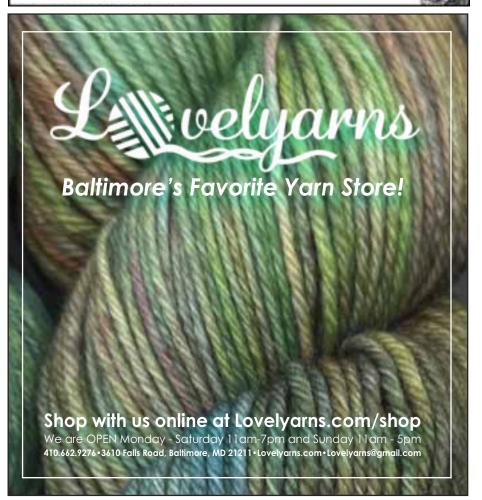
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## Where in Maryland?

Jug Bridge Monument Frederick, MD

This National Road era jug-shaped monument, at one end of the bridge crossing the Monocacy River in

Frederick, earned it the name "Jug Bridge." It was built in 1808 by Leonard Harbaugh. The monument resembles a demijohn, a popular 19th century whiskey decanter. Rumors persisted that a real whiskey jug was accidentally sealed inside the monument.

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### Recipe: Turkey Stuffed Peppers

#### ingredients:

- · 8 green peppers, tops removed
- · 1 lb ground turkey
- · 1/3 cup onion, chopped
- · 1 cup reduced-fat shredded cheddar cheese
- 1 1/2 cup croutons
- · 2 tomatoes, chopped
- 1/2 tsp Worcestershire sauce
- · salt to taste

#### | Directions:

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add peppers and boil for 5 minutes. Drain peppers well. Arrange in a lightly greased shallow baking dish and set aside. Brown turkey and onion together in a skillet over medium heat. Drain. Stir in 1/2 cup cheese, croutons, tomatoes and

Worcestershire sauce. Sprinkle salt inside peppers. Fill peppers with turkey mixture. Cover and bake at 350° for 25 minutes. uncover and sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake an additional 5-10 minutes.

Classes!



### SILENT SALUTE

by Barbara Kalkis

They are not scarlet poppies fluttering in the breezes as of long ago. But, determinedly, gently, they are planted row on row. Nor do they fade as daybreak bows to dusk and twilight. No, they keep solemn watch throughout the bleakest star-less night.

These sentinels stand for those who can no longer speak or share Tales of sacrifice, fear, determination, dedication and care To fight when country and duty called In any land around the world.

Yes, in red, white and blue the flag of our birth proudly waves Next to each name etched in the cold stone of a grave. Stay a while and remember. Give thanks to this silent multitude That cannot speak but earned the flag of honor and gratitude.

> Barbara Kalkis ©2025







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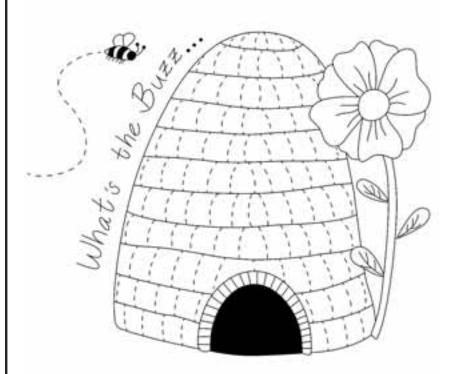


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by Nancy J. Nash

- Rare days. The poet James Russell Lowell wrote: "What is so rare as a day in June? Then, if ever, come perfect days...." You wake up in the morning, and the sun is shining in a clear blue sky that holds a few puffy white clouds. You don't need a sweater. The air is comfortably warm and dry, and life seems perfect. This

is a rare June day, the month when summer officially makes its debut. Birdsong is everywhere.

- Ice cream. It's the universal treat. I'm reminded of this as I sit in our local "homemade" ice cream shop. People stand in line to choose all sorts of flavors, from black raspberry to mocha moo. It doesn't matter if



you are young or old, or what your ethnicity or walk of life. Is there a person anywhere who doesn't like ice cream?

- **Outdoor eating.** Whether it's a juicy burger or fresh potato chips or a slice of sweet watermelon, food seems to taste better outdoors!
- **Trees.** The light green leaves of May have given way to the darker greens of June. Somehow, I think of the trees in our yard as grand and gentle guardians of us humans. They are there, quiet and sturdy, as we come and go in our busyness.
- Deer grazing in a meadow. Recently I spotted a doe with a fawn in the back pasture. The fawn was so tiny that it fit under the doe and craned its neck, evidently seeking to nurse. Then it walked and pranced and followed its mother. A week later, I saw them again. As the doe leapt gracefully across the pasture, the little one followed like a streak of lightning. Deer are among the loveliest of animals, are they not?
- **Fireflies.** The pasture behind our house is a showcase for these bioluminescent insects at the start of summer. At first their briefly flashing pinpoints of light appear chaotic, but then they seem to form patterns, as if an invisible conductor is orchestrating musical notes made visible in the darkening night. Who doesn't find them fascinating?
- **Fireworks.** You know there are fireworks nearby when you hear a loud boom and see a flash of light above the horizon. The skyline on evenings around the Fourth of July is filled with sparkling kaleidoscopes of colors. Fireworks never cease to amaze me as they shimmer against the night sky before dropping from view.
- **Porch breezes.** Whether you're repotting a plant on the back porch or watching the world go by from the front porch, gentle breezes are welcome friends. Have you ever noticed how even a warm August breeze can be soothing to the soul?
- Flowers. The variety of colors, sizes, and shapes delight us. Do we ever tire of looking at them? My favorites include Queen Anne's lace, pansies, verbena, and Sweet William. Simple or intricate, bright or muted, natural or elegant, they invite us to abandon our cares.
- **Katydids and crickets.** They begin to sing in August, reminding us that the season is beginning to wind down. Take time to savor summer's lingering sounds!

2025 Nancy J. Nash. Nancy J. Nash is the author of Mama's Books: An Oregon Trail Story. and Little Rooster's Christmas Eve, each available on amazon.com. She has a B.A. in English composition from Mount Holyoke College and an M.F.A. in Writing for Children from Simmons College. She can be reached at nancy-

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by Jeanette Lukowski

### Public Opinion

A number of months ago, an online quilter presented viewers with an interesting cheer of encouragement: "If you have ever considered entering your work into a quilt show," she said, "do it!"

I don't know if those were her exact words, or if they merely represent the way my brain retained the message. What I do know is that her words hit their mark! Yep, this is the year I am jumping off the couch. I'm sharing my unprofessional quilting abilities with the public in very intentional ways—eek!

First up: a contest with what I think of as a local quilt store. I didn't pursue this competition with the goal of winning. Rather, I really just wanted to see if my work would be good enough to be accepted into their collection of pieces to be displayed at quilt shows for the year. For the woman who doesn't have the courage to share finished projects with her local quilt guild, this is a huge leap! I blame (or credit) this year's fabric colors and theme of the contest, as they intrigued me. After the required fabrics and thread arrived, I pulled out a sketch pad and plumbed the depths of my creativity. It took longer than I expected to complete the small (20" square) project—partly because I was hesitant to begin, and partly because the techniques I experimented with were new to me—but I was able to submit my application fee and submission photographs a week before the deadline. (The verdict will come sometime this month.)

The second leap: I submitted a larger (approximately 80" square) quilt project to the county fair for the town in which I now live. I had purchased the fabric for this project in December 2023, and finished binding the quilt before I moved in March 2025. Inspired by the quilt shop's owner, this project is built around a



theme presented by a fabric designer. The unconventional designs embodied in the fabrics might be the exact thing which peeks the interest of younger people, and I'm totally in support of drawing new quilters into the ranks! (If my first, small project isn't accepted by the quilt store's contest, I'm thinking I will

add it to the county fair's summer exhibit.)

My dear friend is a phenomenal quilter, and shares her work all of the time. She shares at monthly guild meetings on a regular basis, and has been awarded a number of blue ribbons on projects she has submitted to her county fair (too many for me to count anymore). Does she question her ability as much as I question mine? Or, is she just motivated to share because we both agree that the world needs a bit more beauty?

Although I'm nervous to hear what people think about my projects, I will admit that the "anonymity" of these two venues gave me a bit more confidence to "just submit!" as the online quilter encouraged viewers. I'm nervous, but exhilarated!

© Jeanette Lukowski 2025. Jeanette is a mother, grandmother, teacher, and author who lives in Alesandria, MN. She is inspired by the lives of strong women. Her email address is: writingfromlife@yahoo.com





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## Kissed Quilts

by Marlene Oddie

### Fireworks on Display

It is that time of year when we celebrate our nation's independence, often with fireworks! Can you believe next year is 250 years? Many years ago I enjoyed seeing the fireworks on the Mall in Washington D.C. What are you doing to prepare for the celebrations? I've got a quilt that might inspire you!

The Island Batik division of Lumin Fabrics has

produced a patriotic batik collection called Jubilee that I thought was just perfect to make into a quilt that some how represented Fireworks.

With these fabrics, I created stratas—a collection of strips sewn together like layers. Next step is to cut triangles from the strata which yields two versions of triangles. Use each, paired with a single fabric to get squares. Join four of the same squares to get two different 4-patch blocks and alternate them in the quilt. This is a quick way to show off these fabulous Jubilee fabrics. I imagined the night sky and fireworks exploding in the air.

This quilt design I'm calling Fireworks Display. Ask at your local quilt shop that carries Island Batik fabrics for these fabrics and pattern. You can also find this pattern and some fabrics while supplies last here 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

#### Timberville, VA

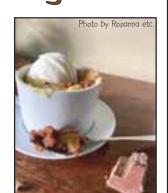
## Toblerone Lava Muq Cake

- · 32g Toblerone (one large piece from 360g bar)
- · 1 egg
- · 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- $\cdot$  2 tbsp canola oil
- · 2 tbsp sugar
- · 2 tbsp milk
- · 4 tbsp flour · 1/4 tsp baking powder
- · pinch of salt

#### Directions:

- 1. In a small mixing bowl whisk together the egg, sugar, oil and vanilla extract.
- 2. Add the flour, baking powder and salt.
- 4. Stir in the milk gradually until the mix is thick and gloopy but not runny. When it reaches this consistency stop adding milk.
- 5. Pour mixture into a coffee mug.
- 6. Sink a piece of Toblerone chocolate into the middle.
- 7. Microwave for 90 seconds.
- 8. Serve on its own or with a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Recipe by Rosanna etc.





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Recipe: Strawberry Salad submitted by Patti Lee Bock

### Ingredients:

- · 1 pkg strawberry gelatín
- · 1 cup hot water
- · 1 cup chilled 7-up
- · 1 pt drained, frozen strawberries
- · 1 cup celery, diced
- · 1 cup drained crushed pineapple
- · 1 cup chopped nuts

#### Directions:

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Cool. Add 7-Up, strawberries, celery, pineapple and nuts. Chill until firm





# Exploring the World of International Quilt Festivals: A Global Journey of Inspiration Part 3 of 4

by Kim Caskey of Kim Caskey Tours

The Festival of Quilts in Birmingham, UK, is the largest quilt festival in the UK and truly one of the highlights of the quilting calendar. Although held in a convention centre, it is renowned for its unique "vignette" atmosphere and extensive array of exhibits. This festival draws thousands of quilters, textile artists and enthusiasts from all over Europe and beyond. With hundreds of quilts on display, the festival showcases a breathtaking variety of styles and techniques, from traditional piecing and applique to avant-garde art quilts and experimental textile designs. The competition categories span everything from novice to professional levels, offering attendees a chance to admire the work of both emerging and established artists. It is easy to see why this is one of my favorite events, as it embodies the diversity, creativity and excitement of the quilting world.



The vendor mall at the Festival of Quilts has a welcoming, open layout winding throughout the exhibition hall rather than in a rigid row-by-row setup. This inviting arrangement encourages exploration, making it easy for attendees to wander from one vendor to the next while discovering an incredible variety of fabrics, tools and quilting

supplies. The international vendors bring unique products, from specialty textiles to innovative guilting tools, giving visitors access to materials often hard to find elsewhere. This thoughtful layout fosters a sense of community and discovery, adding to the friendly, vibrant atmosphere that makes the Festival of Quilts such a beloved event.

Additionally, the event features a full schedule of workshops, lectures and demonstrations led by industry experts, allowing quilters to learn new skills and connect with others who share their passion. The sense of community, the quality of exhibits and the chance to engage with quilters from all over make the Festival of Quilts an unforgettable experience every year.

The Knitting & Stitching Show™, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, UK, is a series

of annual events held across the UK, celebrating all things related to textiles, knitting and stitching. These shows have become a staple for quilt, textile and craft enthusiasts, offering a rich blend of exhibitions, workshops and demonstrations. They attract makers of all skill levels—from knitting and crochet to quilters, embroiderers and textile artists-



providing a welcoming space to explore new techniques, discover innovative materials and gain inspiration. The shows feature a wide array of exhibitors, including yarn and fabric suppliers, tool vendors and artisan craftspeople, offering unique products which cannot always be found in local shops.

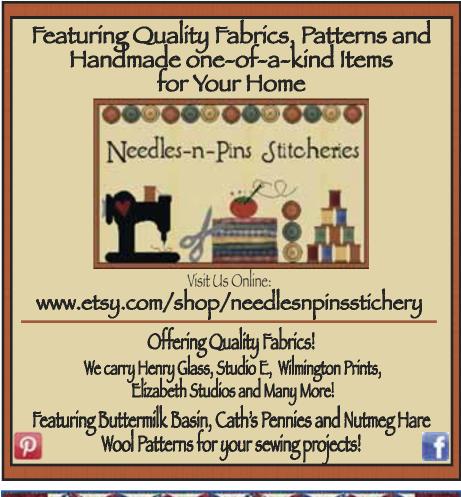
The largest of these events takes place in the beautiful spa town of Harrogate and offers an expansive exhibition hall filled with creative showcases, including contemporary textile art, historical needlework displays and interactive installations. In addition to the stunning exhibitions, the event features a full schedule of hands-on workshops and talks, led by industry experts. Of course, the atmosphere is one of creativity and collaboration, with attendees eagerly exploring the latest trends, meeting fellow crafters and learning new skills. The competitions at this event are often open, encouraging a broad range of entries which blend quilting with other textile techniques, such as embroidery and knitting. This creates a dynamic showcase of interdisciplinary creativity.

We'll cover Pour l'Amour du Fil and The European Patchwork Meeting, both held in France, as well as the Japanese Quilt Festival in Japan in the next issue of The Country Register!

Kim Caskey, who is based in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, is a professional longarm quilter and owner of Kim Caskey Tours. Kim hosts specialized textile-based tours in numerous international destinations with unique and exclusive textile visits and activities creating memorable experiences for quilters, stitchers, their family and friends. Everyone is welcome on Kim's tours! www.kimcaskey.ca/1700.000.000.

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