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NEBRASKA

March-April 2023

Your guide to specialty shopping & events in Nebraska



The Country Register of Nebraska

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Our feature articles will focus on Celebrating Mother's Day!

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The Country Register provides targeted, effective, and affordable advertising for the promotion of Specialty Shops

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2023 Chadron Festival of Quilts Will Be in NE, April 28, 29 & 30

The 29th Annual Chadron Festival of Quilts will be held April 28, 29 and 30 at the Dawes County Fairgrounds Events Center in Chadron, Nebraska. This year's theme is "Log Cabin Frenzy" and the sponsors are looking forward to everyone's creative entries. The event is sponsored by the Pine Ridge Quilt Guild and showcases the talents of quilters from Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota and beyond.

Hours for the Show are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 12 Noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$5 for adults for all three days. The Fairgrounds entry is at the intersection of E. Norfolk Ave. and Main Street on the north side of Chadron. Signs will

The 2023 Festival of Quilts Challenge is "Home is Where the Heart Is." This entry should symbolize the entrant's home where her/his heart is, contain at least one heart, be three layers that can be quilted or tied and have a perimeter that is no greater than 210

The Show and Guild are collaborating with Quilts of Valor and will be collecting red/ white/blue quilt blocks 12.5 inch unfinished at the Show to donate to the local group. Seventy-two blocks were donated following the 2022 Show. There will also be a presentation ceremony on Sunday afternoon.

The 2023 Raffle quilt will be on display and raffle tickets will be available at the door for \$1 per ticket or \$5 for six tickets. The drawing will be held on Sunday afternoon; the winner does not need to be present to win.

The Show will feature quilter Kris Nelson of McCook, NE. In addition to the featured quilter, there will be a Trunk Show by Pastor Jeri Soens from Haxton, Colorado, and 'A Border Affair" presentation by Linda Anderson and Kristi Paul from the Willow Tree Quilters. There will also be a Scavenger Hunt, Vendor Demonstrations and other

This year's Vendors are Prairie Pines Quilt Shop of Gering, Quacky Quilter Haberdashery of McCook, Platte Valley Vac and Sew of Scottsbluff, and Bent Pine Wood Craft, LLC, of

For more information about the Quilt Show, including entries and Show details, please go to www.chadronfestivalofquilts.com or follow Chadron Festival of Quilts on Facebook. The website will be updated as more details are finalized.

Pine Ridge Quilt Guild meets the fourth Saturday, January through November, at 9:30 a.m. at the Platte Valley Bank in Chadron. Information and changes are noted on Facebook at Pine Ridge Quilt Guild or you can email Patti Calhoun at ejpjmj2lw@yahoo.com.

Chadron is located in beautiful northwest Nebraska and is south of the Black Hills and west of the Sandhills in the Pine Ridge region. The area is rich with friendly atmosphere and a variety of landscape. It is noted for its Old West history and unique natural beauty. Within a 30-minute drive are: Fort Robinson State Park, Chadron State Park, Toadstool Geological Park, Hudson-Meng Archeological Site, Museum of the Fur Trade, Chadron State College and Mari Sandoz Heritage Center and Chadron's indoor Aquatic and Health Center.

Prairie Point Junction Quilt Shop In Cozad Is Enjoying Special Year

by Barb Stillman, Publisher Located in Downtown Cozad, Prairie Point Junction is celebrating their 25th year of sharing the passion of fabric and quality customer service. During 2023, the quilt shop's owner, Julie Geiger, has fun and exciting plans for the coming months to celebrate this special 25th Anniversary. The celebratory year coincides with the town of Cozad's 150th Anniversary of its founding and the shop and town are working to make it an exciting time in the area.

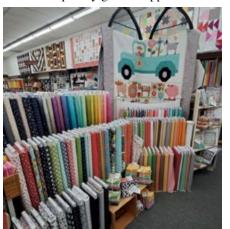
From April 1st to May 31st, Prairie Point **Junction** will be participating in the 2nd Annual All Kansas Nebraska Shop Hop. On August 26th the quilt shop will partner with the 100th Meridian Museum, which is operated by the Cozad Historical Society, to host Quilts Around the Block. The quilt show will feature guest speaker Yvonne Hollenbeck, popular in the West for her poetry, quilting and entertaining. This summer the shop will reveal an exclusive 25th Anniversary Block of the Month quilt designed by Julie. Watch for more exciting news about coming events.

Well known for its selection of 100s of wool and wool blend felt fabrics, Prairie Point

Junction ships items across the country daily and it has become known as a destination for wool inspired projects and supplies. Several wool clubs are offered that help customers develop a well rounded collection while getting a surprise package in the mail monthly. Over 5,000 bolts of 100 percent cotton fabric are stocked as well plus a wide range of patterns, notions and pre-cut fabrics, such as layer cakes, jelly rolls, and charm packs.

There's a little something for everyone to choose from. The website is full of their inventory and it is easy to navigate categories. Staff is also available to assist on the phone so if you can't make it to Cozad, your on-line order can be sent to you.

Staff members are all experienced quilters who are ready to help with any aspect of selection. A myriad of displays helps visitors visualize how fabrics will look in their planned projects. There are inspiring displays that pair antique furniture pieces with fabrics, quilts, kits and supporting products. Kits play a significant role and travelers in particular like to be able to quickly gather supplies to recreate a project they have seen in the shop.



Julie has had a passion for fabric since she was a small girl and some of her earliest memories include sewing doll clothes with her grandmother. Her first job in high school was at the Ben Franklin store and she told us this helped shape her future destiny as a business owner. It was here that her philosophy about how to treat people was developed. Stocking shelves with the right product mix was important but treating customers with respect, consideration and a caring smile was, by far, the most important task for her.

Prairie Point

With a degree in Family and Consumer Sciences, Julie taught middle and high school for a few years until the pull of fabric was too hard to ignore and it led to her opening **Prairie** Point Junction in 1998. The business allows









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her to combine her love of textiles with the retail sector. It's a perfect mix, much like combing a pattern with fabric to make an extraordinary quilt.

Just minutes off Interstate 80 and centrally located between Omaha and Denver, Cozad is the perfect stop for travelers headed across Nebraska. Julie finds great joy in meeting people in person who have been online customers for years when their travels bring them past the shop.

Julie still loves to come to work every day—even after 25 years! She said, "Our customers are the best there are and we couldn't have made it this far without their support and loyalty. We look forward to continuing to share our love of quilting and fabric for many more years to come." Prairie Point Junction's motto is "I Sew So I Don't Unravel." Julie explained, "Quilting is so much more than just joining pieces of fabric together – it joins all of us together as well as providing such a great release from our daily stresses.

Prairie Point Junction is located at 124 East 8th Street in Cozad. For more information, call 308-784-2010; Like or Follow on Facebook at Prairie Point Junction Home of Wool Felt Central; go to Instagram @Prairiepointjuction; or visit www.prairiepointjunction.com for more events throughout the year.

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Upcoming Event

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We are participating in the North Colorado Quilt Shop Hop June 1st - 11th SAVE THE DATES!



Building Harmony

Mr. Abernathy

by Jeff Cappis When Cathy and I first bought our acreage, we realized in a hurry that we would need a lawnmower tractor. Only a fool would mow that much lawn with a regular push mower. After being fools for a year or so, we looked around for a cheap used tractor mower. We found one for sale in a local repair shop.

"It's a one of a kind," the salesman told us. "They don't make these anymore. We call it Old Tom after the previous owner who ran it until the day he died. It's well kept, and even though it's old, it's reliable and should last you for years yet. I understand it does a good

We looked it over and even started it up. Everything looked good and the price was right so we bought Old Tom and took it home.

I couldn't wait to try it out. I polished Old Tom every day, just waiting for the grass to grow long. Have you ever watched grass grow? Surprise—it's actually pretty boring.

Finally the day came. I started up the polished lawnmower tractor and began mowing the two acres of lawn. It worked pretty well. The rows it cut were even. It was comfortable to ride and, most importantly, the cup holder held my drink without spilling it. I was in my glory.

But as I was mowing the boulevard along our country road, the engine suddenly sputtered and died. Crap. I opened the engine cover and tried to see what the problem might be. A voice came from behind me.

"Sometimes the fuel filter gets clogged." Startled, I turned around to see an old man with a cane. "Sorry, didn't mean to scare you," he said.

"No worries," I replied. "I didn't expect to see anybody here. My name is Jeff." We

"My name is Mr. Abernathy. Some call me Abe."

"Pleased to meet you, Abe." I paused. "You know something about these lawnmower tractors?

"Yep. I used to own one. They're rare." He looked down at the engine. "Probably the fuel filter is clogged. Should be easy to fix, I reckon." I nodded and smiled. Then he went on, "When you get it fixed, would you mind if maybe I could try it out sometime?"

"Sure, I mow the lawns every Saturday. You're welcome to try it if you like."

He smiled, tipped his hat and said, "It's a date." With that, he continued on down the

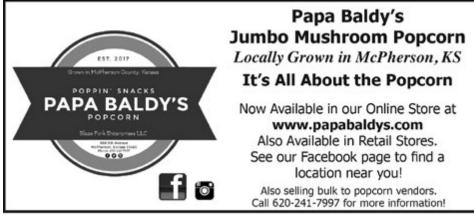
I had to push Old Tom all the way up the driveway to my shop. Indeed, it was the fuel filter and I got it fixed. Mr. Abernathy was right.

After watching the grass grow for another week—I really need to get a more interesting Continued on page 7...













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We have two giveaway winners from our last issue. We love giving things away! Linda Heggemeyer from Fremont will receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to be spent at her favorite Country Register advertiser, **Nebraska Quilt Company**, also in Fremont. Linda told us this is her favorite shop because of the good customer service and they take an interest in your projects.

Patty Poltack of Elkhorn is the winner of *The Adventures of Puppy Brian* by Barbara Polston. Patty picks up her copy of *The Country Register* at The Celtic Quilter in Omaha. She said, "The Country Registers can be found right inside the door."

We love to hear from our readers about how they enjoy *The Country Register* and use it to discover great finds and fun events. In this issue, there is another \$25 Gift Certificate and another book giveaway so be sure to enter and tell us where you pick up the newspaper. Remember to take a copy with you when you travel around Nebraska!



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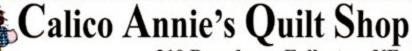
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Pink Easter Salad

Courtesy Cooksrecipes.com

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Recipe Ingredients:

1 (20-ounce) can crushed pineapple, drained

1 (21-ounce) can cherry pie filling

1 (14-ounce) can sweetened condensed milk

1 1/2 cups toasted almonds

2 1/2 cups non-dairy whipped topping

Cooking Directions:

Mix all ingredients together, spoon into a serving bowl, and chill before serving. Serve with Easter dinner.

Makes 10 to 12 servings.













Mr. Abernathy, continued from page 5...

life—it was time to mow. Saturday afternoon and I was back at it. Again, I was mowing the lawn along our road and there was Mr. Abernathy patiently waiting with his cane.

"Hi, Abe," I yelled, driving toward him.

He smiled and waved as I pulled up. "I see you got it fixed. Fuel filter?"

"Yep. You still want to take it for a ride?"

Mr. Abernathy got an even bigger smile on his face. "I've been waiting all week to try it out. Watching your grass grow is boring, isn't it?" He got on the mower and handed me his cane. "I'll be back."

With that, he started it up, hit the gas, and began moving the rest of my lawns for me. He did both sides of the driveway and around the trees in our park. He even mowed the

It would be an understatement to say that he had a good time. More like a kid on his favorite ride at an amusement park. He didn't seem to want it to end. He did a great job, too. He mowed with the skill of a bonafide expert. But, eventually, you run out of lawn.

"Thank-you,"he said. "Can I come back next week?"

I thought about the prospect of someone mowing my lawn for me. "Sure!"

And so it went. Every week (for months) Abe would show up and have the time of his life mowing our lawns with Old Tom. Every week I'd drink coffee and watch. Funny thing. Occasionally, Cathy would bring us out lemonade, but some how always after he'd left so she never actually got to meet him but our lawns looked great.

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end. One Saturday, Abe showed up and mowed the lawns. I drank my coffee and on the last bit of lawn the tractor made a BANG! and stopped. It let out a puff of black smoke. Abe opened the engine cover and waved the smoke away with his hat.

'Yep, I'm afraid she's done," he said sympathetically. Then he looked at me. "The engine's blown. You can try to fix it, but my guess is this is the end." I saw a tear come to his eye. "Guess that's it for me, too."

I could tell he knew the fun was over. He lightly shook my hand. "Thank-you for letting me ride the

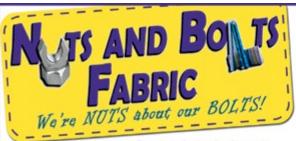
tractor one last time."

I smiled back at him. "You're welcome." He took his cane and started down the road. At the last minute, I yelled to him, "Stop by anytime you want, Mr. Abernathy."

He stopped, turned around, tipped his hat to me and said, "My first name is Tom." Then he turned back around and walked off into a cloud of dust the wind blew up off the gravel road. When the dust cleared, he was gone.

I did have to scrap the lawnmower tractor. It was done alright. One of the last of its kind. And I never saw Tom Abernathy again.

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The origin of words and sayings is a great interest of mine as a writer. Many times in everyday conversation with friends and family, we use ancient terminology and don't every think about it. When I designed this chubby little red Cardinal for my fabric panel, it made we wonder - where and when did this saying start? Research tells me that "When Cardinals appear Angels are near"... has been associated with divine messengers since Christian times. According to some religious traditions, cardinals are believed to be the embodiment of angels. The cardinal is a beautiful bird and its bright red color has long been associated with faith and strength.

GIRLFRIEND WISDOM: Faith and Strength are desired qualities in our daily lives and if a chubby little bird can bring joy and add to our Faith and Strength - I'm going bird watching!

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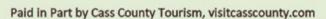
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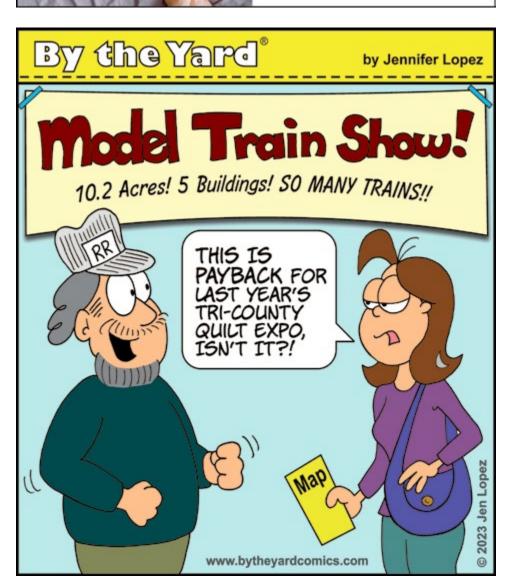


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April Planning Brings May Planting

It has been a long frigid winter. We enjoyed our snow days by working on projects. I cleaned out closets and swept the basement with help from visiting children and grandchildren. We readied the Farmhouse for our large number of B&B guests scheduled to experience the Sandhill Crane Migration. It is our time.

While I wait for the earth to come alive, I hope to spend time outside cleaning out flower beds and picking up branches. The dry weather last summer was hard on the grass and overseeding might be necessary. I need to use any warm days to walk the property and think about my expectations for the gardens. Gardeners need to dream their gardens, then plan their gardens and then plant their gardens.

Nebraska Statewide Arboretum has been a wonderful resource for almost 40 years and it gets better every year. I have really enjoyed their Blooms Box Project for the last few years. They provide the live plants and seeds (mostly native), detailed garden designs and their advice is specific to your gardening site (sunny or shady), region of state (Nebraska has three different zones), your preferred landscape taste, (formal or wild), and your related interest in drawing birds and pollinators to your gardens.

But the most important consideration is how much time and effort you want to spend with watering, weeding, and deadheading or trimming and other gardening chores. The maintenance can overwhelm your joy in gardening. My biggest problem has been identifying the native plants from the weeds. I was also amazed by how tall the native plants grew. I found that, with my sunny garden site, I needed a short fence around the bed to define the site as a native garden site.

If you are looking for something new and I hope you are: Over planting one type of plant leads to insect and diseases problems like the ones with Colorado Blue Spruce, American Elms, and Ash trees. Diversity is best. Checkout the Great Plants for the Great Plains list. For 24 years, the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum has researched and selected different trees, shrubs or perennial to celebrate each year.

Here are recommendations for 2023:

Shingle Oak is native to the Midwest, is fast growing, adapts to varied growing conditions and is drought tolerant, its leaves are narrow not lobed and leathery. Fall color is yellow brown to russet red and leaves often persist on the tree through the winter. It is called Shingle because early pioneers used wood for making barns and house shingles for roofs. The tree is also tolerant of strong winds and ice storm damage.

'Tor" Birchleaf spiraea grows two-to-three-foot tall, rounded shrub. Its small flat clusters of tiny white flowers attracts pollinators in the late spring. In the fall the leaves change to a reddish-orange. It prefers moist well-drained soil and full sun.

Korean Pine is cold-hardy and grows 30-50 feet tall. It has a narrow pyramidal shape for when young and develops a loose rounded form with age. The pinecone are 3 to 6 inches long and produce edible pine nuts. The recommended cultivar "silverray" has long, twisted, silver-blue needles.

The 2023 Recommendations also include flowers and grass. "Iron Butterfly" Ironweed, a perennial with bright purple, long-lasting flowers, prefers full sun and medium to dry soil. Blue Zinger Sedge is an evergreen that grows 2 to 3 foot tall from a clump of fine textured blue-green foliage.

Another favorite resource for trees and shrubs is your local Natural Resource District (NRD) Office. You purchase them in advance in packages of twenty-five tiny stems. I have had good luck with Oak trees, American Hazelnuts, lilacs, and Elderberries. I would plant them where it is easy water and limit myself to two types each spring or share the trees/ shrubs with a friend.

If you are planting a shelter belt, you may qualify for some additional resources. Many towns have tree boards, garden clubs or Nebraska Arboretum sites that can serve as an extra resources. Another great resource is the Spring Affair Plant Sale, April 27-29, at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln.

I know that many of you are laboring in your sewing room right now but you might need a break to gain a little inspiration. Everyone benefits from more thoughtfully planted plants.

Linda Ard and her husband Bob are members of the Nebraska Bed and Breakfast and Unique Lodging and owners of Burchell's White Hill Farmhouse Inn located northwest of Minden.

KISSed Quilts

Zen Garden

by Marlene Oddie

When I first started designing for Island Batik, I did a quilt called Woven Braid. I revisited that design recently with slightly different value colorations and using the new Zen Chic collection from Island Batik. The Zen Garden quilt emerged!

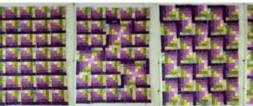
This quilt is made by two colorations of the same block. It starts with the first six logs being exactly the same fabrics. Then the blocks are split into two groups and each group gets their own fabrics (similar values but different prints) for the remaining logs. Each block is sort of a quarter of a log cabin block and the center is not the lightest value. By alternating the block colorations there is more interest to the eye. There are also lots of opportunities for other settings of the blocks.

The quilting is 'Jessica's Ginkgo' pantograph from Urban Elementz that was inspired by the gingko print in one of the fabrics.

The pattern includes yardages and directions for five quilt sizes.

Here are a few examples of the other settings:

Island Batik has created this beautiful Zen Chic collection. The fabric collection has beautiful shades of



green and purple and some mixed color prints as well. It is shipping now. Ask for this collection and new pattern at your local quilt shop or find the pattern on

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.kissedauilts.com. Follow Marlene's adventures via http://www.facebook. com/kissedquilts and https://www.instagram.com/marlene.kissedquilts



Easter Memories and Hope

Spring blooms with fresh hope and energy. We see new life all around us as tulips bloom, chicks hatch and baby bunnies are born. Spring includes several holidays—the main one being Easter, which is one of my favorites.

I love Easter because of special traditions and memories, but mostly because we celebrate the triumph of Jesus's resurrection. My childhood Easter memories include awaking on Easter morning to find a plate of candy and surprises under my bed. I also recall the joyful music and messages at the church where I grew up.



Now, decades later, I still enjoy church services and treats, but I also enjoy sharing flowers and tasty foods with others. When our children were young, we prepared and delivered the goodies together. Later, my grandkids helped me.

Maybe you would like to try some of the ideas we used: Oatmeal cookies molded into Easter eggs and decorated with frosting; Sugar cookies cut into crosses and decorated with sprinkles; Chocolate nobake cookies shaped into nests and filled with green

coconut "grass;" and jelly bird eggs.
For an inexpensive "basket," we decorated empty plastic produce containers from berries or tomatoes, adding paper handles. We filled them with Easter grass and homemade goodies.

Hot cross buns also make a wonderful treat to share with others. I've included an easy, tasty recipe from my cookbook. They go well with a few packets of tea, such as Earl Grey or mild-flavored Darjeeling.

For gifts of flowers, I buy large bouquets and divide them into smaller ones, adding greens from our yard. For a recent Easter, I purchased a dozen roses, then went door to door and handed each neighbor a rose and said, "Christ a-rose!" This brought a smile and the simple reminder of the Easter message.

Each Easter I recall the greeting my father taught me as a child; the one he learned in Russia as a boy. "Christ is risen!" Dad exclaimed and I joyfully replied, "Christ is risen indeed!" Why not proclaim this message of new life and hope in your home this Easter?

Lydia E. Harris is a tea enthusiast and the author of two books for grandparents: In the Kitchen with Grandma: Stirring Up Tasty Memories Together and Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting, both available at amazon.com.

From Lydia's Recipe File: Hot Cross Buns

Start with frozen rolls, add fruit and spices and create a yummy aroma in your kitchen. Add frosting crosses to celebrate Easter. Taken from Lydia's cookbook In the Kitchen with Grandma: Stirring up Tasty Memories Together, page 35.

Prep time: 25 minutes Rising time: 1 hour or longer Baking time: 15 to 20 minutes

Gather Rolls

18 frozen yeast rolls

1/3 cup golden raisins

1/3 cup brown sugar

1 tsp. cardamom 1 tsp. cinnamon

1 egg 1 T. water

Frosting

½ cup powdered sugar

1 T. softened butter

1 tsp. milk

¼ tsp. vanilla

Make Thaw the rolls according to

the package directions until you

can cut through the dough but the rolls are still cold.

While the dough thaws, mix together the raisins, brown sugar and spices.

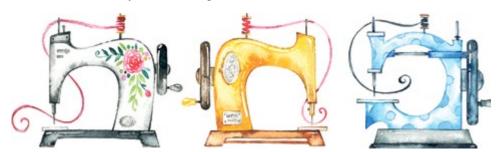
Grease or spray a 9 x 13-inch pan with nonstick cooking spray.

1. To make each hot cross bun, combine one and one-half rolls. On a lightly floured surface, press the rolls together and flatten the roll to a 3-inch circle. Add about 1 tablespoon

of the filling mixture and press it into the flattened dough. 2. Roll up each bun like a jelly roll and then shape it into a round ball by tucking the ends underneath. Place the rolls into the baking pan with the seam on the bottom and the

- 3. Shape all the rolls and place them in the pan, leaving spaces between them for them
- to rise 4. Cover the rolls and set them in a warm place to rise for 1 hour or until they fill the
 - 5. Preheat the oven to 350°.
- 6. Before baking, beat the egg with a fork, add 1 tablespoon water and brush the buns with the egg glaze.
- 7. Bake the buns according to the package directions, about 15 minutes or until the buns are brown. Remove the pan of rolls from the oven and place it on a cooling rack.
- 8. While the rolls cool, mix together the frosting ingredients. If the frosting is too thin, add more powdered sugar. If too stiff, add a few more drops of milk.
- 9. When the rolls are completely cool, add the crosses. To make crosses on the buns, snip off a small corner of a plastic sandwich bag. Add frosting in the snipped corner and seal the bag. Squeeze the frosting through the hole to make a cross design on each roll.

Makes 12 buns. Shortcut: Use ready-made frosting for the crosses.





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A Letter to My Mother, Five Years Later

by Kerri Habben Bosman

Dear Mom,

I know that you don't need this letter contemplating the fifth anniversary of your passing. It is more for me, the one who is compelled to recognize you and this benchmark in some concrete way. I struggled at first because the words were buried too deeply.

Yet here I am, because I couldn't not write to you.

It is March again. You passed away on the 13th. You and I had 45 full years together and I am thankful for every moment. We were given the time to be mother and daughter and best friends and to share and grow together in every evolution of our lives.

I hope that you know how much fulfillment life has brought to me. As your illness progressed to its end, I know that you worried what the future would bring.

A year and a month after you passed away I found the right someone to love—the man I'd been waiting for all of my adult life. My husband, Wayne, amazingly has many of the traits that I treasured in you. He is steadily, authentically and unapologetically himself. He gives me the same true measure of honesty you always did. He also knows exactly what to say to me when my self-depreciative streak rises up. Most importantly, he loves me and our family with a complete and unrelenting dedication. And I love him and them the same way.

Looking back, I know that I grieved quietly for you. That was because you were and are such a part of me. I know that, in some ways, I am very different than I was when you were alive. However, that is what time and healing ask of us, as you and I experienced together more than once.

I like living in the present. Every moment I am given will never occur exactly that way again. And in doing so, I readily treasure every day of my life and the people I share it with.

But I can also look into the well of yesterday and no longer ache. I can dip a bucket into it and drink of the past with a fulfilled and thankful heart. I can feel the joy, sorrow, hope, renewal and everything in between. The past and the present bubble together in a beautiful symmetry.

You remember how we used to stop at a memorial in Northeast Pennsylvania every year on the way to our favorite spot in Ontario. The stone was for a lady named Josephine Miller. We never knew her but the poem for her resonated with us. The line that I always

Continued on next page..



Twisted Star

Mystery Quilt - 2023 Designed by Ann Jones, Nevada, MO

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

Check www.countryregister.com

This time around we are going to focus on a little quilt. This is designed as a baby quilt, and finishes at 48" Square. Add a border if you want it a bit bigger for a lap quilt.

Fabric Requirements:

Fabric A - dark - 1 ½ yards

Fabric B - light - 1 yard

Fabric C - medium light - 1/2 yard

Fabric D - medium - ¼ yard

Fabric E- light tone on tone - 1 yard (sashing)

Fabric F - light tone on tone - 1/4 yard (sashing)

PART 1 of 3:

Making Block 1: This is a basic Friendship star - you will be making 16 blocks For EACH BLOCK Cut:

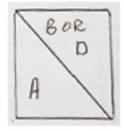
Two 2 ½" squares of Fabric A (Total of 32 needed for 16 blocks) Four 2 ½" squares of Fabric B (Total of 64 needed)

Three 3" squares of Fabric A (Total of 32 needed) Two 3" squares of Fabric B (Total of 48 needed)

Two 2 ½ X 4 ½" rectangles of Fabric C (Total of 32 needed)
One 3" square of Fabric D (Total of 16 needed)

For ONE block:

On the wrong side of two the 3" Fabric A squares and two of the 3" Fabric B squares mark a diagonal line. Place these right sides together and sew a 1/4" seam on either side of the diagonal line. Cut on the diagonal line. Press each half square triangle towards the dark. You will have 4 of A/B half square triangles. Repeat using one 3" square of Fabric A and one 3" square of Fabric D to make 2 of A/D half square triangles. Square these up to 2 ½".



March-April 2023 Omaha 11

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A Letter to My Mother, continued from previous page...

return to is this, "So when all that is left of me is love, give me away as best you can."

That is how I honor you. Your love is there when I pour coffee for Wayne and myself in the morning. It is in every stitch of everything I knit or crochet. It is in every bit of food that I prepare. Your love is in the two letters a week I write to Wayne's mother, who is 102 years old. She has a youthful spirit with an enduring faith and quiet wisdom. She, too, loves all of us with a complete and unrelenting dedication.

Your love is what makes strawberries jump into the grocery cart because the grandchildren enjoy them. It is why I bake them cookies just because the sun rose that day.

It is not for me to yet know what it all means in the great beyond. Yet, I always imagine you enfolded within an essence of the purest, the truest and the most enduring love.

Hug everyone for me. I'll keep on giving your love away, one moment at a time.

Love.

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



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Designed by Kathy Graham

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