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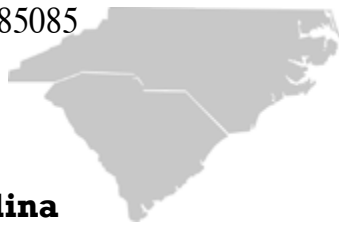
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## Giveaway Winner from May-June

We have one giveaway winner from our last issue. We love giveaways! Martha Bragg from Raleigh, NC, will receive a \$25 Gift Certificate to be spent at her favorite Country Register advertiser, **Thread Waggle Quilting** also in Raleigh. Martha said this is her favorite shop because they have an “awesome, kind and helpful owner & staff.”

We love to hear from our readers about how they enjoy The Country Register and use it to hunt for great finds. In this issue, there is another \$25 Gift Certificate and a book giveaway. So be sure to enter and tell us where you pick up the newspaper. Take a copy with you as you travel around this summer!

## The Layers of Magic

by Kerri Habben Bosman

Sometimes a memory climbs through the decades and I am 9 years old again. I listen as a ball lands on a piece of wood. This ball was slightly smaller than a tennis ball and had a harder composition. It swirled with colors and it bounced incredibly well. It made the most satisfying thunk as it rebounded off the stone floor. My grandmother kept the ball on a shelf next to the door to their screened-in porch. Beside the ball lived a narrow piece of siding about ten inches long and four inches wide.

Sometimes I merely bounced this ball in the porch, making it climb as high as I could without hitting the ceiling. I wasn't allowed to play with a ball inside yet there I was surrounded by walls made of screens.

Therein lies some magic.

I can still feel the sweat prickling my skin and, also, the respite from the summer sun. More than that, I sense the people who were with me then. My grandmother and grandfather, whom I called Huba and Poppy, and my grandmother's brother and sister, Aunt Wilma and Uncle Henry. Each of these steady, loving people lived across the street from us when I was growing up. I was lucky to have daily doses of what felt like two sets of grandparents.

The ball and siding game was a summer ritual for us. Huba and I stood on opposite ends of the rectangular porch. Usually Uncle Henry, with his gentle precision, would place the piece of siding in the center of the floor. The wood was slightly warped and rocked back and forth.

We threw the ball to each other trying to hit the siding and also have it project the ball to the other person. Poppy and Aunt Wilma would count how often we achieved this. Sometimes we simply tallied up when the ball made that delicious cracking sound against the wood. We kept a mental score but no one ever won or lost.

I wonder if the adults enjoyed it as much as I did. I believe they did, as there was always laughter. Perhaps they appreciated it even more than I did. Unlike a child, they

*Continued on page 9...*

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## Enjoy 3 Fulfilling Days at Original Sewing & Quilt Expo In Raleigh - August 5, 6 & 7

**Original Sewing & Quilt Expo** is the place to find the latest techniques and products and learn new skills with cutting-edge education. It is where the sewing community comes together to encourage and inspire individual journeys to wherever the needle will lead.

Enjoy three full days at the Raleigh Convention Center on August 5, 6 and 7. Exhibit Hall hours are from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday. The Convention Center is in the heart of Downtown Raleigh at 500 South Salisbury Street.

General Admission is \$8 per day online (plus \$5 processing fee per order) or \$15 per day at the door. Children 16 and under are free with an adult. Workshops and Classes are \$23 per session at the door. Purchase a Value Package prior to the Expo for reduced session prices, free General Admission, and an Expo Shopping Bag.

It's a creative new world inside Expo classrooms. Everything changes when you try a new technique or learn a new skill from talented teachers. Take a look at the full list of classes and workshops at [sewingexpo.com/Events/Raleigh,NC/ClassDescriptions](http://sewingexpo.com/Events/Raleigh,NC/ClassDescriptions).

In the Exhibit Hall you can shop with vendors, check out projects up close, try on sample garments, discuss quilting techniques with designers and sit down to test-drive new sewing and embroidery machines. You will also see the latest tools and techniques to help you get more satisfaction out of your own stitching. Vendors come from all over the country and will include the latest from Husqvarna Viking, Baby Lock, Pfaff, Brother, Gammill, Bernina, Handi Quilter, Janome, Juki and Elna.

Quilts beyond your wildest dreams are waiting for you in the display galleries—including two SAQA collections, the first one-man quilt show from Michael Caputo and so much more.

Expo Stage presentations running throughout the Expo will let you in on glorious trunk shows, and how-to demonstrations.

Come see Lindsey Johns of *Inside The Hem* and hear behind-the-scenes stories of the garments she has made as part of a Sew Along on her YouTube channel. Plus—you can sign up for classes with her!

Make-It Take-It projects are available in vendor booths. The projects are quick and fun and, when you are done, you will have learned about a new product and how to use it.

Don't miss out on the Super Prize Drawing—sewing machines and prize packages are awarded daily.

Calling all cosplayers...wear a costume or cosplay design and receive FREE admission to the Expo on Saturday, August 7. Whether you are an historical figure, a princess, a hero or heroine, a villain or sidekick, come strut your stuff and enjoy a bit of Cosplay fun...and even win cash in the Runway Show and Contest!

Find extra satisfaction when you take a break from your day-to-day routine and stay at the Expo hotel. Once you arrive, you're there for the duration—no household to keep on schedule, no interruptions from work or family. Staying at the Expo hotel makes your Expo experience a mini vacation—all for YOU!

Safety protocols will comply with state and building regulations at the time of event.

All the information you want and need, including ticketing and registration, can be found at [sewingexpo.com](http://sewingexpo.com). You can also follow **Original Sewing & Quilt Expo** on Facebook and Instagram.

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# A Cup of Tea with Lydia

by Lydia E. Harris



## Tea for Antiques Like Me!

I love tea parties with a unique flavor. So it's not surprising that my daughter's childhood Little House on the Prairie lunchbox inspired an antique theme. Ideas for an antiqui-TEA began brewing right away. Whom could I invite? How would I decorate? What should I serve?

### Invite Guests

Last year, when Covid-19 limited social gatherings, I invited four ladies from our church who were eager to connect. I asked them to each bring a small antique to share. Since we were all grandmothers, perhaps we were antiques ourselves—antique little girls.



### Prepare a Unique Setting

With sunny weather, I served my antiqui-TEA outdoors on our second-floor deck.

"I feel like I'm in a tree house," my friend Joy said.

With a canopy above the table and tree branches hanging over the deck adding shade and privacy, I thought it did feel like we were tucked away in a tree. But the table linens, pretty floral china and fresh flowers in a teapot were fancier than you'd expect in a childhood tree house.

### Plan a Unique Menu

Serving tea at ten a.m. meant it didn't need to

be a full three-course luncheon tea with dainty sandwiches. Nonetheless, I decided to fuss a bit and serve a light tea in three courses.

The first course included teacups filled with chilled strawberry soup and miniature teacups with a taste of homemade vanilla ice cream. I also served each person three raspberries to represent that God loves us, our families love us and we love each other. This made a refreshing start to tantalize our taste buds.

For the second course, homemade scones with lemon curd and whipped cream hit the spot. We also enjoyed baked custard with huckleberry topping and a bowl of fresh strawberries brought by a guest.

The third course featured sweets. One guest brought delicious homemade biscotti (her trademark); another contributed darling teapot sugar cookies from a local bakery. I added German chocolate cupcakes, oatmeal cake and sparkling apple cider. The ladies sampled a few sweets and took others home to enjoy later.



Of course, we had plenty of tea. I offered a variety of black, green and herbal choices.

### Savor Unique Memories

I set up a card table to display the antiques. Helen, who loves music, brought her father's violin. Valerie wore a gorgeous diamond ring that had been her mother's. Audrey brought flowers in a 120-year-old cherished vase that had belonged to her husband's grandmother. Joy, a doll collector with 500 dolls, brought three dolls for "show and tell" and some doll magazines we could keep. I used a serving plate from my childhood for the oatmeal cake—a recipe from an antique friend. I also set out a few teacups from my collection for the ladies to take as gifts.

It was fun to learn more about each friend as she shared her treasured antique. But the best treasure was catching up on each other's lives and praying together.

Afterwards, I received several emails. One said, "It was so much fun to see each other and talk together. Thank you for giving us all that experience. I loved praying together too." Another wrote, "Thank you for the wonderful tea and treats. You really do a grand tea. It was a good time to visit with everyone and pray together. Your deck and yard are a very nice place to relax from the Covid life."

### Plan Your Antiqui-Tea

You don't need to be fancy or fussy, unless you wish to be. The main idea is to bless, not impress. Invite a few friends who would enjoy time together and ask them to bring a small antique to share. (Contributing to the menu is optional.) Then relax and enjoy a unique antique teatime that will bless others and create lasting memories—until the next teatime in a tree house.

Lydia E. Harris is a tea enthusiast, grandmother, and author of *Preparing My Heart for Grandparenting* and *In the Kitchen with Grandma: Stirring Up Tasty Memories Together*. (The following recipes mentioned in this column can be found in her cookbook: scones, lemon curd, whipped cream, chilled strawberry soup, and baked custard.) Learn more about her books at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) and [christianbook.com](http://christianbook.com).

### From Lydia's Recipe File: Old-Fashioned Oatmeal Cake with Broiled Topping

- So moist and delicious, it takes the cake!
- |                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 1/2 cups boiling water              | 1 cup quick oats         |
| 1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened |                          |
| 1 cup granulated sugar                | 1 cup brown sugar        |
| 2 eggs, beaten                        | 1 1/3 cups flour         |
| 1 teaspoon salt                       | 1/2 teaspoon baking soda |
| 1 teaspoon cinnamon                   | 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg      |
- Ingredients for Topping**
- |                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 6 tablespoons butter | 1/4 cup whipping cream |
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3/4 cup chopped walnuts (or pecans)  
1/2 cup flaked coconut
- Directions
1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Coat a 9x13-inch baking pan with nonstick cooking spray.
  2. In a small bowl, combine hot water and oats. Cover and let stand for 20 minutes.
  3. In a separate bowl, cream butter and sugars. Mix in eggs.
  4. Add softened oatmeal to the creamed mixture. Mix well.
  5. Combine the dry ingredients. Mix into the batter.
  6. Pour batter into prepared pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes.
  7. While the cake bakes, prepare the topping.
  8. Mix melted butter, cream and vanilla.
  9. Stir in sugar. Then add nuts and coconut.
  10. After the cake is baked, raise oven rack to 6 inches from the top. Set oven to broil.
  11. Spread topping over warm cake.
  12. Broil for 2 minutes or until topping bubbles and the coconut and nuts are toasted and lightly browned. Watch carefully so the topping doesn't burn.
  13. Remove cake from oven. Serve warm or cool. Refrigerate leftovers.
- Makes 12 to 15 servings.



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## Building Harmony

## Doors

by Jeff Cappis

Besides living the life of a poor country writer, I am also a poor country renovator. (That's poor as in "little money," not the other thing.)

I do all kinds of work: plumbing, electrical, tiling, painting, etc. When someone has a problem, they call me. One particular day I got a call to go fix a broken door in one of my apartments. A guy named Ken answered the door and invited me in. I looked around. The apartment was in good shape and well kept.

"Glad to see you. Come on in." He showed me to a bedroom in the back. "This is my daughter's room."

As I inspected the door, I noticed a "To Do" list written on the backside in black felt marker:

- To Do:
- 1) Eat a dragon
  - 2) Tame the wind
  - 3) Access psychic powers
  - 4) Fly
  - 5) Be invisible
  - 6) Eat 500 pizzas

"My daughter's idea," Ken went on, "She's four. I wrote it out for her."

A foot below the To Do list was a hole in the door. That's the reason I was there. Below that was more felt marker:

- 7) Kick a hole in the door

That one wasn't very neatly printed and had a nasty check mark next to it.

"My daughter and I had an argument. I told her to go to her room. She stormed off, slammed the door, then kicked a hole in it."

"Pretty good kick for a four year old," I replied.

"I wrote the last point to remind her she's already done this and doesn't need to do it again. She said she was sorry," he said apologetically.

Then we both had a little laugh. I set about replacing the door.

It was a simple job. I'd done it many times before. The thing about working alone is you have time to think about things as you quietly go about the work. Of the dozens of doors I've replaced, this one stuck with me. Maybe because it was a bit of an intimate look at the relationship between a man and his daughter. It was a piece of their history. Also, it made me wonder how you would go about eating a dragon and how many pizzas I've consumed.

Funny thing about doors. They are everywhere and they have a profound effect on us. They define our spaces. Sometimes they keep us in; sometimes they keep us out. We open them to welcome other people and sometimes we close them to be alone. You can slam it to show you're mad or close it gently when you're thoughtful. If only doors could speak. What stories they'd tell.

Thankfully every bathroom has a door on it, and a lock is a good idea, too.

But doors don't open or close by themselves. (If they do, they're broken and people call me.) No, we open and close them ourselves.

I often think about doors I should have opened instead of closed. I wonder what would have happened if I hadn't opened the door to my wife. I'd probably still be a poor writer/contractor living alone or maybe a rich movie star—but probably not.

Anyhow, the point is that doors of all kinds are important and life is all about knowing when to open them and when to close them. Also, it's important to call the right people when they're broken.

I kept that little girl's door and hung it in my shop to remind me that sometimes it's okay to think like a child; maybe even kick a door once in a while. I haven't been able to tame the wind, fly or become invisible but I am working on the 500 pizzas.

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## Random Acts

## Time and Place

by Maranda K. Jones

After a full day of fun in the sun, my daughters and I stopped in the hotel gift shop for a look around. Typical treasures telling of the time and place we visited surrounded the small souvenir store on the fourth floor. Post cards, t-shirts, keychains and magnets filled the space around us, and they each picked out a late night snack with something to drink. They also chose a few gifts for friends, and we made our way to the checkout.

The older woman behind the counter was very friendly and welcoming. She politely commented on their selections and asked the girls about their day. This could have unknowingly been an invitation to hear a very long story! They had spent the day swimming, trying new foods, and laughing on rides with their brother. Instead of launching into a long story about how much fun they were having, my oldest daughter answered, "It was good, thanks. How was your day?"

The woman smiled, exhaled, and replied, "Better now."

Then she placed one hand on her heart and teared up a bit. She told me how much she appreciated someone asking her that simple question in return. She said to be asked by a ten-year-old child especially made her day, making this mama's heart very proud. She told us it had been a long day.

She had a lot on her mind. She had driven three hours from home to come to work for two days a week, just like usual. This particular day, when she left her ailing father, it hit her harder than others. She explained how her nephew stays home with him to offer reprieve while she stays at the resort to work. She wondered if this was the time she should have stayed home and if she was in the right place.

She shared how much she enjoys working at the resort, fulfilling a need for balance

Continued on page 7...



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Time and Place, continued from page 6...

in her life during her retirement years. She sees families making memories together, enjoying their vacations, and escaping from reality. Her work here is her escape. Her reality is caring for her dad five days a week. Her desire to give him the care that he deserves is evident. She does her best to make sure he is comfortable and content.

She spoke with love toward her father, and we shared our love toward Our Heavenly Father. We remembered Ecclesiastes 3 that says, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." We all need balance in our lives, and enjoying work is truly a gift of God. She enjoys her work, without a doubt, and we shared our faith in an unexpected time and place.

Maranda Jones' new book *Random Acts* is now available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com). The book includes her reader-acclaimed articles from the last decade. © 2021 Maranda K. Jones

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This pattern is free for you to use. Please give the artist credit. Not for commercial use. Enlarge this pattern to your desired size. Cut the watermelon and arrows from plywood or pine. After painting with acrylic paint, nail the shapes to a tomato stake. You can also applique the design with wool or cotton fabric to make a pillow or wallhanging. You can do punch-needle or rug hooking techniques too. Whatever craft you choose, have fun!  
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*Deb's Cats n Quilts*  
**New from Deb Heatherly**  
**The Build a Quilt Workbook**

Are you ready for a new project? Deb Heatherly's latest book may be just what you're looking for to inspire your creative spirit. *The Build a Quilt Workbook* contains directions for 16 blocks and 10 quilt layouts.

All of the blocks use the Creative Grids Kitty Cornered Tool- CGRDH5, some in combination with the Creative Grids® Ultimate Flying Geese Tool- CGRDH4. As an added bonus, the Build a Quilt Workbook can be used with any block that finishes at 12". Simply choose your favorite block, or a variety of blocks and insert them into the quilt design layouts found in the Workbook.

No matter what size project you want to make, this Workbook contains a layout for you—from simple settings, to on-point settings as well as 2 medallion settings. Choose your favorite blocks and begin building your own unique quilt. With so many blocks and numerous layout options, the possibilities are endless!

NOTE: Grids Girls Block Party Patterns #1, #2, #5, #6, #7, #8, #10, #13 and #14 all have blocks that finish at 12". They can all be used with the layout designs in the workbook as well as the blocks from the 'Cat'apult and Whiskers n Catnip block of the month patterns.

*The Build a Quilt Workbook* by Deb Heatherly, Palmer publishing, is scheduled for release on July 1, 2021. The soft cover book is 8.5 in. x 11 in., 60 pages and the retail price is \$19.99. The Workbook will be available at <http://www.debscatsnquilts.com>.

*Deb's Cats n Quilts Designs is the home of Creative Grids Designer Deb Heatherly. To keep up with what's going on in the studio and Deb's activities, follow her on Facebook and join her online group "Grids Girls." You can learn more about Deb at <http://www.debscatsnquilts.com/about-me.htm>.*



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Enter to win an autographed copy of *The Build a Quilt Workbook* by Designer Deb Heatherly. Send an email to [carolinas@barlomea.com](mailto:carolinas@barlomea.com) before September 1st and put in the subject line The Build a Quilt Workbook. Or send a letter or postcard to: The Country Register, 515 E. Carefree Hwy, #1128, Phoenix, AZ 85085. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

The drawing will be held on September 1st. The winner will be sent a copy of the book and announced in an upcoming issue.



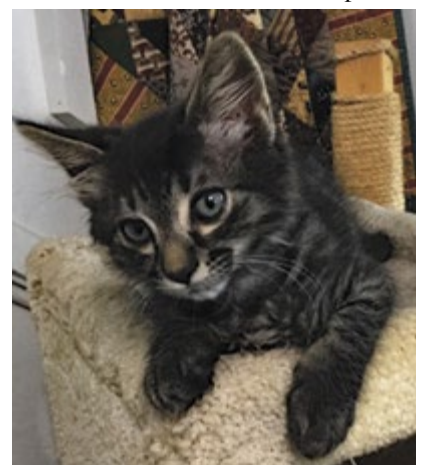
**What's Your Definition of Perfect?**

*by Deb Heatherly*

"I saw that you were perfect and I loved you. Then I realized you weren't perfect and I loved you even more."

This quote would apply to many pets that I have cared for through the years but, at present, it describes our Max. We adopted Max at six weeks of age in spite of the fact that he had "wobbly kitty syndrome." The shelter told us that he had been passed over several times by potential adopters because of his condition but we were in love from the second we met him. His "imperfection" only made us love him more and want to protect him and provide him the forever home he deserved.

Often referred to as 'wobbly kittens' or 'wobbly cats,' cerebellar hypoplasia is an unusual neurological disorder as a result of interrupted development of the brain leading to uncoordinated movement or ataxia. In some cats it's so severe that they never walk. Most are euthanized. With Max, the condition shows up as a shaky head and, at times, the inability to judge distance when he tries to jump. As a kitten, his walk was a bit wobbly but he now walks and runs through the house with abandon. When he does jump, he jumps straight up and lands on his back feet before leaning forward to put his front feet down. It's quite comical to see and always gives me a sense of pride because our precious boy has learned to compensate with what life handed him.



When we first brought Max into the household, our cat Monroe seemed to sense that Max was special. He took care of Max as a mother cat would have taken care of a kitten. He washed him, played with him and would grab him by the back of the neck to pull him away from any perceived danger. We laughed and laughed when my husband pulled out a laser light to play with them. Max wanted to play but Monroe was determined that the lights was dangerous and continued to drag Max away to safety.

As his mom, I know I am partial but this little life that others chose to overlook has given us more joy than words can express. While taking care of a special needs pet may not be possible for all, I urge those who can to take a second look at the cats and dogs

*Continued on next page...*



## Scavenger Hunt Adventures Are Outdoors' Fun for Kids

by Patty Duncan

A fun filled activity for kids this summer is an Outdoors Scavenger Adventure. Last year, I made adventure packages for both my grandkids and three neighborhood children. My grandkids were going to the mountains and were surprised with a late spring snowstorm. The neighborhood children were going on a July 4th camping weekend in the mountains.

A scavenger hunt is entertainment anytime. You can plan one for a summer picnic, camping weekend, a day at the park, summer vacation at the lake or beach or simply staying in your backyard or neighborhood.

It is easy to put together. All that is needed is a clipboard, small crafting clothespins, a colored pencil or crayon, a scavenger checklist and a hot glue gun. Clipboards, colored pencils and clothespins can be found at the dollar store.



Begin by hot gluing the clothespins to the front of the clipboard as shown in the picture. Glue the checklist to the backside. Make one for each participating child.

Look online for a scavenger hunt checklist. Many are free to download. I used a list I found online but changed some of the items on the list to adapt to the age of the children and to the geographic area in which they would be playing the adventure. My list included a pinecone, something smooth, something rough, flower or petal, two kinds of sticks, a pretty leaf and something unusual.

Scavenger Hunts are a great way for the kids to get outside and enjoy exploring their surroundings. It is also wonderful family fun for everyone.



Patty hails from Northern Virginia and has lived in Arizona for over 25 years where she spends a lot of time spoiling her grandchildren. She loves family history and genealogy as a hobby, small town history and photography. She is an avid scrapbooker and digital storybook maker. Patty works in the Sales Department of The Country Register.

Layers of Magic, continued from page 3...

knew the true value of a carefree moment.

Huba and Uncle Henry each had more important things to do than simply play with me. Poppy and Aunt Wilma had larger concerns than the amount of times a ball struck a piece of siding. Both of the latter were either using a walker or in a wheelchair. Poppy struggled with Parkinson's disease and Aunt Wilma was limited by carotid artery disease. Huba and Uncle Henry were their caregivers. My mother, while caring for her own family, assisted them with whatever they needed.

Every day, Huba did laundry and remade beds. She and Uncle Henry assisted Poppy and Aunt Wilma with washing, dressing and walking. Yet they found time for a child's fascination with a ball and a piece of siding.

They gave me a summer memory I could carry with me through all the seasons of my life. They were teaching me how to live through their ability to balance each challenge and every joy. It is a lesson I didn't know I was learning until I needed it later on.

Therein lies more magic.

These years later, I treasure the privilege of being a bonus grandparent to my husband's seven grandchildren. When I am with them, I feel my grandparents and Aunt Wilma and Uncle Henry. I sense how they lived and loved. Then I do my best to carry it on.

Therein lies the complete magic.

Kerri Habben Bosman is a writer in Chapel Hill, NC. She is currently working on a book of essays and poetry. She can be reached at 913jeeves@gmail.com.



Definition of Perfect, continued from previous page..

being overlooked. Your new best friend may not be perfect to others but he or she may be just perfect for you.

Deb Heatherly is a designer for Creative Grids® rulers. When not in her studio, Deb is normally on the road doing Creative Grids® lectures and workshops for guilds and shops across the country. 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 the new Kitty Cornered Tool. She is also the author of the books 'Cat'itude, Strippy Stars, 4-Patch Panache, The Ultimate flying Geese Book, Catitude XL, Creatively Yours, and her newest, 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 exclusive Grids Girls mystery quilts two times each year. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/770429649800457/>.

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. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/273593657256524/>

You can contact her at [Debscatsnquilts@aol.com](mailto:Debscatsnquilts@aol.com) or call the studio, Deb's Cats n Quilts Designs, 828-524-9578.



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## Mountain Stitches by Susan Quilt Shop Nestled in the Smokies

Located in the shadows of the Great Smoky Mountains, **Mountain Stitches by Susan** offers a beautiful selection of fabric and fat quarters as well as quilting supplies and patterns.



The quilt shop is located at 601 Glades Road in Morning Mist Village, Shop 13, in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Morning Mist Village hosts 25 shops, restaurants and restroom facilities.

Owner Susan Dudley looks forward to visitors to the shop and is available to help them find just what they are looking for when planning that next quilt project.

Sewing has always been an important part of Susan's life. Her earliest memories of sewing were at her mother's side as she sewed, with love, the clothes that Susan's siblings and she wore. Her mother taught Susan to thread a needle and stitch fabric together but, most importantly, she

taught her the love of seeing a simple piece of fabric transformed into something special.

Sewing and crafts have a deep place in Susan's heart. Her grandfather would often be seen quilting at the end of a long day of farming so her love for fabrics and stitching is in Susan's genes. Her ancestors were weavers of cloth when they migrated from Holland to the United States.

After marrying and while raising her three beautiful children, Susan took those things she had learned as a child and began to design and create clothes for her own children. Her wonderful husband Clark served in the military for twenty-four years. It was while being stationed in Germany that Susan sold her first doll. Upon returning to the United States and while serving at Ft. Riley, Kansas, she began selling her handmade dolls, quilts and clothing at local arts and crafts festivals. When Susan and Clark decided to retire, they chose the beautiful Smoky Mountains as their home.

Susan opened the shop in the Great Smoky Mountain Crafts Community in 1994 with handmade dolls and teddy bears. Over the years, her love of quilting won out. What a joy it is to be able to create and sell her products



in the beauty that surrounds her shop. Since being in the Arts and Crafts Community, she has met many wonderful people and made many lifelong friends. Susan hopes that in the coming years she will continue to share her love for sewing with those who come to this wonderful place.

**Mountain Stitches by Susan** quilt shop's hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. However, during the winter, these hours are subject to change due to various reasons including weather issues. If the shop closes unexpectedly, Susan will try to always post those changes on their Facebook page. If you are driving a great distance, feel free to reach out and call 865-436-0077 to confirm that she is going to be open. Stay up to date on Facebook or visit <https://www.mountainstitchesbysusan.com/>.

While planning your visit to Gatlinburg, you will want to plan to "do the loop" and enjoy the 8 Mile Loop Road with over 100 Artists and Craftsmen including eateries, Bed & Breakfasts and more. **Mountain Stitches by Susan** is in the loop. There is easy access parking to each shop along the way.

### The Art of Friendship

What would I do? Oh, what would I do,  
 With a friend, without someone like you?  
 Without someone to listen, someone to care,  
 Someone to laugh with, someone to share  
 The joy of creating, the joy of design,  
 The intricate balance of color and line,  
 Art for its own sake, art as technique,  
 A craft that inspires us week after week.  
 And tucked in between the joy of our art  
 Is the silken fiber that ties heart to heart:  
 Talk of our lives lived day after day,  
 Weaving new stories as we each find our way;  
 Knowing our paths are simple and true  
 Because of friendship with a friend like you.

~Barbara S. B. Kalkis, ©2017  
 LITTLE DITTIES FOR EVERY DAY©2020



## East Tennessee Quilt Shop Hop Christmas Morning! July 6th-31st

Come join the summer fun during the **2021 East Tennessee Quilt Shop Hop** from July 6th to 31st. Twelve fabulous Quilt Shops in East Tennessee will show the latest and greatest patterns, tools and fabrics.

The new "Christmas Morning" fabric collection by Lella Boutique for Moda will be featured at each shop. This collection brings the serenity home with the sweet sprigs of holly, turtle doves, twinkly stars, yuletide strips and wintery bouquets of cranberry, sage and silver.

Now through the **Shop Hop**, purchase a passport for \$5 at one of the participating quilt shops. Then visit as many shops as possible during the designated dates and get a free Quilt Block Pattern at each shop you visit. Block kits will be available as well.

Participants must present her/his own Passport in person at each store to be stamped. Please, no stamping for friends. Limit one Passport per person. Participants must be 12 years old or older.

Participants with all 12 stamps are eligible for the Grand, Second and Third prizes. Participants with 8 of the 11 stamps are eligible for the Fourth, Fifth and Sixth prizes. Each shop will have a drawing for participants turning in Passports at that shop. Drawings will be held on August 2, 2021 and will be announced on the **East Tennessee Quilt Shop Hop** page. You do not have to be present to win.

Prizes include:

- Grand Prize: \$100 gift certificate to each shop - \$1200
- Second Prize: \$50 gift certificate to each shop - \$600
- Third Prize: \$25 gift certificate to each shop - \$300
- Fourth Prize: A collection of each shop's featured item
- Fifth Prize: Fabulous basket of items donated from vendors
- Sixth Prize: 60 Fat Quarters

Contact each participating shop for additional directions and times the shop will be opened during the Shop Hop. When you are out visiting these wonderful quilt shops, don't forget to enjoy the beautiful East Tennessee scenery!

For the latest updates, follow the **Shop Hop** on Facebook @EastTennesseeShopHop. Participating shops are listed in the **East Tennessee Quilt Shop Hop** ad in this newspaper.



### The East Tennessee Quilt Shop Hop

Presents

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July 6-31, 2021

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**The Cherry Pit Quilt Shop** 865-453-4062  
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[www.cherrypitquiltshop.com](http://www.cherrypitquiltshop.com)

**Little Blessings Quilt Shop** 931-707-7724  
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*Don't miss the East Tennessee Quilt Shop Hop!*

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Fun Project

# How to Make a 3D Pinwheel

by from Jenn Stevenson, Director,  
The Old Hotel Art Gallery

Supplies Needed: (see Image 1)

Paper (or fabric)

Scissors

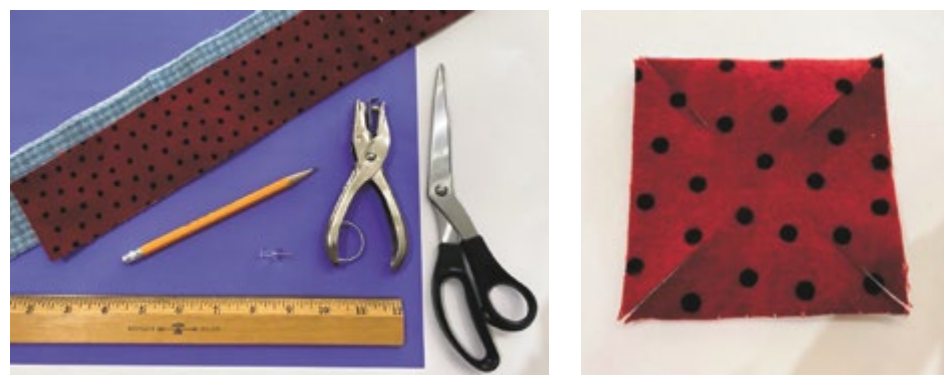
Ruler & pencil

Push Pin or small hole punch

Metal Scrapbooking Brads (These can be found in the scrapbooking section or office supplies, usually in packs of 25-100.)

Begin by cutting the paper into a square. Any kind of paper will work: cardstock, copy paper, a past school assignment, scrapbook paper, etc. One side could be decorated or patterned or have 2 papers together with the decorated sides facing out. Paper should be decorated before assembly.

Next, cut from the corners towards the center but leaving the center section uncut. Do



not cut through from one corner to another. (See Image 2 as an example.)

Take one point (the triangles made by cutting from the corners) from each cut corner and bring to the center and overlapping. Make sure to not flatten or crease the paper during this step. Do this to one side of each corner triangle; there will be 4 triangle points in the center. Pierce them together with the push pin or a small hole punch. (See Image 3 as reference.)



Carefully remove the pin or hole punch and, while still holding all the points together, add the scrapbooking brad into the small hole. Open the brad from the back side of the project and you have completed a 3D pinwheel! (See Image 4.)

Pinwheels could also be created with fabric. I used 2 flannel pieces back to back with the wrong sides together. I then turned it into a garland by adding three pinwheels on a piece of yarn. (See Image 5.)

Another variation could be made with thin aluminum, tin snips and work gloves. Adult assistance will be needed for this version of the project.

The Old Hotel Art Gallery at 33 E. Larch Street, Othello, WA, sells local arts and crafts on consignment. There are also retail items, food products, a gift shop and more.

During the summer, the Gallery has arts and craft classes for both children and adults. Information can be found on Facebook at The Old Hotel | Facebook. The Gallery is open Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Email inquiries to theoldhotel@outlook.com or call 509-488-5936.

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Ann's Lovin' Ewe

"I am an American"

by Ann Marie Stewart

On Memorial Day weekend, I sang a medley of American songs including "God Bless America," "America the Beautiful," and "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Older folk in church, those who had served, or knew those who had served, were thankful for the patriotic hymns, and expressed their appreciation after the service. Sometimes we all need a gentle reminder of the precious gift of our freedoms and to never take them for granted.



In 1929, my grandparents, Nicolai and Lena Siemens, their two sons, and 17,000 other Germans fled from their Russian villages, packing into crowded and dilapidated summer cottages in the outlying woods of Moscow. They hoped and prayed that they could obtain passports out of a country where they had been persecuted and stripped of freedoms.

As summer changed to fall, a measles epidemic took the lives of many children, including my grandparents' baby. The weather cooled, their food ran out, and their ration cards were no longer issued as a penalty to the very refugee farmers who grew the grain from which the flour had been made. Russian authorities began arresting them. Nicolai Klaasovitsch Siemens represented the masses, petitioning to the government for freedom. He was a known target.

One night, the Tschorny-Woron (*black raven*) – an ominous black truck, came to their village by night and arrested 300 men. My grandfather was one of them. The next evening, my grandmother who was nine months pregnant, though not ready to deliver her baby, sought shelter in the maternity hospital, leaving her three-year-old son, Kolya, in the care of her sister. Lonely and cold, Lena lacked food, money, or the knowledge of where her husband had been taken. Then one day her sister and her son failed to visit. The Tschorny-Woron had come for them, too.

In Lubyanka Prison, my grandfather was repeatedly called out of his cell for questioning. "What is your name?" "Nicolai *Klaasovitsch* Siemens," he answered. Each time they returned him to his cell because they thought they were looking for Nicolai *Kiesnovitsch* Siemens. This clerical error spared him from deportation or exile. Meanwhile, three times the authorities returned to the Siemens' cabin to arrest Nicolai *Klaasovitsch* Siemens. He wasn't there: they already had him in prison, mistakenly thinking they had the wrong man.

Through a doctor's mysteriously kind lies, errors with names, and many miracles, Nicolai was temporarily freed until after the birth of the baby, after which they'd deport the entire family back to Crimea or to Siberia.

They learned a train of "resettlers" was permitted out, but it would leave in 24 hours.

*Continued on page 14...*

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## A Royal Quilt Shoppe Is Full Service in Longs, SC

by Kerri Habben Bosman

At **A Royal Quilt Shoppe** in Longs, SC, you will discover a welcoming, full service quilt shop. From fabric to thread, classes to gatherings, notions to patterns, accessories to machine repair, there is something to fulfill every quilter's needs.

Victoria Molnar and Diana Loller purchased an existing shop and changed the name to **A Royal Quilt Shoppe**. Owing the shop is a culmination of their shared love of quilting. Victoria sewed all of her daughters' dresses when they were young and then began quilting after helping with a community project. Diana started sewing when she was nine years old and made all of her own clothes through high school. She became enchanted with quilting about thirty years ago.

A diverse fabric selection awaits you at the shop. With about 2000 bolts of 100% cotton designer fabric, there is everything from black and white to prints and novelty, seasonal and batiks and blenders. They also have pre-cuts and panels. A wide choice in cotton, embroidery and machine thread is at the shop as well.



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Quilters Trek  
June 21-Aug 31




There are books for quilting and home décor. Pattern choices are many with appliqué paper piecing, quilting and more. Lights and magnifiers will enhance your sewing experience.

Notions and accessories are in abundance, whether you are making a garment, a quilt or home décor. You will also find all of the supplies you require, such as rulers, cutting mats, scissors and more. Battings are available in many types—blends, cottons, fleece, foam, fusible and sew-in (non-woven).



Classes, clubs and gatherings meet in the custom workroom. You can also reserve the room for your own group for the day at a cost of \$5 per person. Registration is required. Watch for details about a Block of the Month program planned for late fall/early winter called "Aubergine."

On the second Friday of every month there is an Open Sew from 3 to 8 p.m. Bring \$5 and your machine.

Dinner can be brought in or purchased at nearby restaurants. Registration is required.

The shop offers sewing machine repair on site. Bring in your machine Tuesday – Saturday by appointment.

Victoria and Diana value the community that is continually growing at the shop through their efforts and outreach. It is not only a creative gathering place but also where customers become friends. The shop also appreciates giving back to the community and is a drop-off site for Project Linus quilts and also offering free fabric kits to be pieced for Quilts of Valor.

The shop is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It is closed Sunday and Monday.

**A Royal Quilt Shoppe** is located at 82 Cloverleaf Drive, Suite 105 in Longs, SC. For more information, please call 843-399-8544 or go to their website, www.aroyalquiltshoppe.com. They are also on Facebook.

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

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*I am an American, continued from page 13.*

The trip to retrieve their firstborn son, previously deported, would be 33 hours. "Get out now, or your child will be fatherless anyway," the German Consulate warned. December 1929, the Siemens family boarded the train, leaving Kolya behind.

Of those 17,000 German refugees, 5,769 found homes in other countries. Brazil took in 2,533, Paraguay 1,572, Canada 1,344, Germany 306, Argentina 6, Mexico 4 and the USA - 4.

And what about my grandparents and their children? Nicolai, Lena, Kolya\*, and baby Abi were THE four admitted to the United States. My mother, their seventh child, was born in America.

When I sing of my country, I celebrate that I *am* an American, that this *is* my country, that America *is* beautiful, and that I can sing, "Let freedom ring."

\*In August 1931, two years after leaving Russia, five-year-old Kolya was released from Russia, boarded an ocean liner by himself, and was reunited with his family in America.

First rights reserved c 2021 Ann Marie Stewart is completing the memoir about this dramatic escape. Watch for REMNANT.





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Nourishing our lives with Playtime is a valuable summer activity. Playtime is important for adults for the same reasons it's beneficial to children - it helps activate our bodies and minds. It could involve a girlfriend getaway, dancing, singing, arts and crafts, quilt retreats or a myriad of other activities that get us motivated and engaged in life. The joy of Play always evokes giggles and laughter, storytelling, memory-building, and just plain old fun! A good round of laughter is medicine for both body and soul. The Mayo Clinic website reports that "laughter is a great form of stress relief and that's no joke!" It continues with benefits stimulating our heart, lungs, muscles, and brain activity. Long-term it improves our immune system and can relieve pain and improve mood.

**GIRLFRIEND WISDOM:** Doctor "Playtime" orders: Get out in the sunlight and schedule Playtime today!

Joy & Blessings, *Jody*

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

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We welcome your comments and/or suggestions about *The Country Register*. Include a note with your drawing entry, send us an email or give us a call at 1-888-942-8950. We enjoy hearing from our readers!



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