



2014
Quilter's Chronicles



Quilt Gardens

...along the Heritage Trail
BRISTOL ELKHART GOSHEN MIDDLEBURY NAPPANEE SHIPSHEWANA WAKARUSA



2014 Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail Quilter's Chronicles

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About the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail

Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is an innovative, creative, one-of-its-kind experience designed to interest a wide range of audiences and promote the area as a premier visitor destination. It offers a variety of opportunities for partnerships with local businesses and communities and creates widespread community involvement.

The project was initiated as a concept by the Elkhart County, IN Convention & Visitors Bureau (ECCVB) in early 2006 and tested in 2007 with 2 pilot locations. 2014 is the seventh year for the season-long attraction that continues to grow and now features 20 quilt gardens and 21 artist rendered quilt murals presented in seven communities along the Heritage Trail driving tour.

Recognizing the importance and value of high quality in both the gardens and murals displayed, each garden and mural is required to meet ten standards and related product/service specifications. Based on those standards, all official sites and patterns are juried into the program by a committee that includes landscapers, designers, horticulturists, growers and park professionals. Official garden partners are responsible for performing all of the work necessary to plant and maintain the gardens throughout the season.

The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail has garnered national media attention and draws significant audience interest from three of the largest hobby groups in the nation – gardeners, quilters and photographers. It has also been very favorably received by the group motor coach audience, having been named an American Bus Association (ABA) Top 100 Event in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

“Like” us on Facebook to get weekly Quilt Garden photo updates: <https://www.facebook.com/QuiltGardensTour>

Follow us on Twitter to get up-to-the-second info on all things Quilt Gardens: @quiltgardens

Watch videos on Funky Finds ... along the Heritage Trail: <http://www.youtube.com/visitamishcountry/>



Sonya L. Nash, Project Manager, Elkhart County CVB

It is oftentimes said that creating anything worthwhile takes time, money and a lot of effort. The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail embodies that statement. This project would not have started, nor would it have continued with such success, without the great team at the Elkhart County Convention & Visitors Bureau (ECCVB) and our community partners.

The ECCVB leadership and staff work year-round to plan, prepare and promote this project. Countless man hours including graphic design, website updates, ad placements, journalist inquiries, group tour planning, and yes, even paying the bills and answering the phones all occur under the parameters of the ECCVB.

At the same time more than 200 volunteers in 7 cities and towns do the same for their sites and businesses. They work on soil content, site beautification, planting, weeding and maintaining gardens for four months, sometimes during difficult weather conditions, doing their part in welcoming visitors.

My role is to keep everyone working together on the same page while steering this project in a positive future direction. Over 8 years, we have learned through trial and error a multitude of things about transforming quilt designs into living gardens that flourish throughout the viewing season. Educational sessions, working with garden experts and experimenting with plant types are all part of the event too. While gardening can be a science, we have learned that sometimes Mother Nature overrules our efforts to excel, and sometimes we are amazed at how our plans come to fruition in a fantastic way.

Yes, the Quilt Gardens Project is a work of art. It's also A LOT of work involving A LOT of people. It has become an annual event in our destination that our residents love to share with visitors. Definitely it's time, money and effort well spent and enjoyed by all. We welcome your visit and look forward to your return, time and again, as we continue to learn and grow along with our gardens.

Elkhart County, IN Visitor Center
219 Caravan Drive | Elkhart, IN

w: AmishCountry.org
p: 800.262.8161
e: sonya@amishcountry.org



Mary Davis, Quilter's Chronicles Author Gold 1000 Level Master Gardener & Indiana Master Naturalist

As a little girl, Mary had her own corner of the family garden and loved to sew with her mother. When she was twelve, she decided she wanted to make a Sunbonnet Sue quilt. Rather than laugh, her mom helped her pick out fabric from scraps (her mom made most of her clothes) and she appliqued the first square.

Tragically, Mary's mother died less than a year later and the quilt obviously was forgotten. Mary's life became busy with college, marriage, law school and practicing law with her husband. Sometimes, "what goes around, comes around" can be good and in 2003, Mary became a Master Gardener and in 2004 took a beginning quilting class through adult education. Both old loves were renewed, so Mary was thrilled to become involved in the Quilt Gardens by researching the history of the quilts.

She retired at the end of 2010 after 36 years of practicing law, but combined quilts, gardening and talking by becoming a step-on bus guide for Quilt Garden along the Heritage Trail - she figured this was her perfect retirement job - having been a lawyer, she loves to talk and she says this way she has a captive audience!

Be sure to download the 2014 Master Gardener Guidebook!



Every Quilt Garden has its own intricate pattern, many are original designs, and each has its own unique story. The Master Gardener Guidebook gives you detailed information about each garden focusing on plants and gardening tips.



Vickie Estep, Master Gardener Guidebook Author Gold 2000 Level Master Gardener

Gardening is part of my makeup. My interests seem to grow right along with my gardens. I began helping in my grandmothers garden as a very young child and in 2006 I took my love of gardening to a whole new level. I enrolled in the Purdue Master Gardener training class. I love learning and have always been intrigued by science. I made many new like-minded friends and found a new voice for my passion. A voice that ultimately led to an opportunity to write the Master Gardener Guidebook for Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.

Quilting Lingo – Tantalizing Tidbits





Every quilter knows UFO means unfinished object. Here are some quilting acronyms that you may not have heard but will appreciate:

- TGIF = Thank God It's Finished
- WHIMM = Works Hidden In My Mind
- WIP = Work In Progress
- WISP = Work In Slow Progress
- WIVSP = Work In Very Slow Progress
- WIWMI = Wish It Would Make Itself
- PIGS = Projects in Grocery Sacks
- SABLE = Stash Accumulation Beyond Life Expectancy
- SEX = Stash Enhancing eXperience (or eXcursion)
- WWIT = What Was I Thinking
- FART = Fabric Acquisition Road Trip
- STASH = Special Treasures All Secretly Hidden
- HSY = Haven't Started Yet
- WOMBAT = Waste of Money, Batting and Time



Pictured above: Quilting Exhibit at Goshen College



	<i>Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia</i>
	<i>White Rock</i>
	<i>Fresh Look Yellow Celosia</i>
	<i>Boy Orange Marigold</i>
	<i>Fresh Look Red Celosia</i>
	<i>Curley Leaf Parsley</i>
	<i>Stone Pavers</i>

B3 "Spanish Dancer" - Concord Mall

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

The Concord Mall site will again be featuring a design from the Elkhart Dahlia Society. Rusty and Anita Richie of the Elkhart Dahlia Society have been instrumental in the designs for the Mall. The Mall has hosted the annual Dahlia Society Flower show for over 20 years, so they believe this is a natural partnership. This year's quilt pattern was inspired by the Weston Spanish Dancer, a dahlia originating in the UK in 2000. The Spanish Dancer is a cactus-flowered dahlia, with spiky, quilled petals, producing bi-colored flowers with yellow petals and bright red tips. Looking for a "spiky" pattern, they combined this with the traditional Lone Star quilt pattern. Athena Lakis, a master gardener and Marcia Nellans, a quilter, collaborated with Rusty and Anita in designing this year's garden. The Mall refers people to Womenfolk.com for more information on the history of the Lone Star Quilt, which is traditionally a complex pieced quilt.

The Lone Star quilt block is likely one of the most recognizable quilt patterns to Americans. It is also one of the oldest patterns. Various Lone Star quilt pattern names are given to the pattern with a large central star, made up of diamond shaped fabric to form the star points from the center out. Often the colors are chosen and placed to form what appear to be concentric circles radiating around the center. It is placed in the center of the quilt top and can be applied down to the background or pieced in. Although many quilts seem to have been started using a variation of this pattern, often the large star by itself, not yet placed onto a background or pieced into the quilt, is found in antique shops. Or just the top is found for sale, because when it is laid flat, the center pouches up, or the sides are cock-eyed and the corners are crooked. Intermediate to advanced skills were needed to make these often hand-pieced stars because each and every tiny diamond has bias edges and the triangles and corners are set in with the "Y" seam.

The Lone Star quilt is a popular Amish quilt. It has also become a part of native American history, especially by the Lakota tribe. The Indians refer to the quilt simply as a "star quilt." The star quilt took on the role of replacing the buffalo robe in ceremonial and religious life. Death, birth and other important events are a time for giving and sharing of these quilts at ceremonies. As explained "The most important use of star quilts in contemporary Lakota society is as gifts at a memorial for the dead called a 'Giveaway'." The Giveaway is a time to share food, quilts and goods at a memorial for the dead.

Concord Mall

3701 S Main Street (US 33) | Elkhart, IN

w: ShopConcordMall.com

p: 574.875.6502



- Safari Red Marigold*
- Safari Gold Marigold*
- Silver Dust Dusty Miller*
- Black Dragon Coleus*
- Turf Grass*

A6 "Tools of the Trade" - Coppes Commons

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

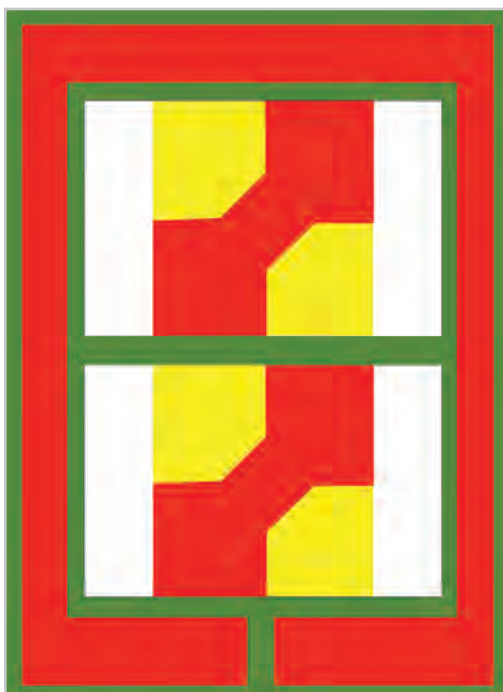
The "Tools of the Trade" quilt pattern was chosen to help tell the woodworking craftsmanship story of the Nappanee community and Coppes Kitchens. Coppes was an early business in Nappanee and continues production today. It was one of the premier "Hoosier" cabinet makers in the country and at one time shipped over 30 train car loads of this cabinet style per month throughout the United States. Inside the Coppes Commons building there are several Hoosier cabinets on display. Coppes marketed theirs under the trade name Dutch Kitchenet. If you look carefully at the cabinets, you may think you see a typographical error, as they all bear the logo with "Nappanee" spelled with only one "p". (One of the first things a new resident in our area may learn is the easiest way to remember how to spell Nappanee - it has two and only two of each letter in its name.) At the time these cabinets were being produced it was illegal to include the name of a city or town in a corporate name and thus they kept the name by dropping one "p". The committee for this garden indicated they think it is only appropriate that they tell the story of the "tools of the trade" that built the Nappanee community.

They modified the Sawtooth pattern (see Elkhart County Historical Museum) from several suggestions presented by local quilt pattern author Connie Kauffman, who authored a book featuring Amish buggy designs that's available in the Nappanee Welcome Center. The quilt highlights tools used by local craftsmen to develop Nappanee's woodworking heritage. Tools such as a saw and triangle are presented in a colorful array of flowers. The top and right side edge are the traditional "saw tooth" part of the pattern, since these represent the jagged edge of a saw. This would be a pieced quilt.

The building at Coppes Commons has a long history, starting the 1875, when the first factory was constructed. The company continued cabinet making and at one time had customers such as President Kennedy and Frank Sinatra. Woodworking still continues in the rear of the building behind the historic Coppes Commons. There are also many independent cabinet makers located around Nappanee, usually operated by Amish craftsmen who are noted for the excellent carpentry skills.

Coppes Commons
401 E Market Street | Nappanee, IN

w: CoppesCommons.com
p: 574.773.0002



- Eureka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia
- Boy Yellow Marigold
- Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia
- Turf Grass

E2 "Bow Tie" - Das Dutchman Essenhaus

GARDEN SIZE: 52.5'W X 61'H

Co-founder of Das Dutchman Essenhaus, Sue Miller, thought the Bow Tie design could be beautifully translated into the 2014 garden. She states the pattern's name dates back to the days of early Americans settling in the west. Some quilt blocks were created and named to honor important events or people in history, but many blocks were also named for everyday parts of pioneer life. Some historians also believe the Bow Tie pattern was one of the quilts used for secret codes along the Underground Railroad. There is no question that quilts were used to communicate safe houses and suggested pathways for slaves. The book *Hidden in Plain View* gives information of this part of American history. The book is described as the fascinating story of a friendship, a lost tradition, and an incredible discovery, revealing how enslaved men and women made encoded quilts and then used them to navigate their escape on the Underground Railroad. Some websites suggest this pattern would suggest the slaves should shed their immediately identifiable worn and torn garb and possibly wear satin bow ties so they could travel through towns.

From the quilter's view, the Bow Tie is a very easy pieced beginning quilt. There are literally hundreds of patterns, videos and suggestions on the internet, including turning the block into a three dimensional block by using extra batting under the center of the tie which is called *trapunto*, which is from the Italian for "to embroider." It is a method of quilting that is also called "stuffed technique." A puffy, decorative feature, *trapunto* utilizes at least two layers, the underside of which is slit and padded, producing a raised surface on the quilt. The style originated in Italy before the 14th century.

Also by rotating the ties, many variations can be introduced. In addition some Bow Tie patterns simply have pieces meeting in the center without the extra middle section (see Central Park, page 10). On early, pieced quilts, quilters learn the importance of dealing with seam allowances. The standard quilting seam allowance is $\frac{1}{4}$ inch (quilters frequently use a quarter-inch foot on their machine to help maintain the strict adherence to the allowance). It is important to decide how to treat seam allowances to minimize bulk. The two alternatives are to press the seam open or to press to one side. If they are pressed to the side, alternate sides are used, so that when the pieces are joined they have seam allowances from one piece on one side, and the other piece alternating. It is very important for the quilter to keep careful tabs on how the blocks will be joined so that they will match - usually a quilter will match the seams and then move out, with the seam allowances. Frequently the instructions for a quilt will suggest which option to use.

Das Dutchman Essenhaus
240 US 20 | Middlebury, IN

w: Essenhaus.com
p: 800.455.9471



-  *Boy Yellow Marigold*
-  *Fresh Look Gold Celosia*
-  *Fresh Look Red Celosia*
-  *Fresh Look Yellow Celosia*
-  *Snow Crystal White Allysum*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

F2 "Wagon Wheel" - Dutch Country Market

GARDEN SIZE: 45'W X 45'H

Yet another old and traditional quilt pattern. Dutch Country Market's interpretation was inspired by a design by Judy Flanagan, who began quilting in the 1970s. She published several books on quilting in the 1990s.

This particular design was featured by Fons & Porter, with whom all quilters' are familiar (they host a TV show and publish a magazine *The Love of Quilting*). This would be a pieced quilt - Fons & Porter offer templates to help cut pieces - always a challenge for a quilt with curved edges. There are also patterns on the Internet that will allow you to produce your own templates at no charge - usually "homemade" templates are cut from cardboard or thin plastic, whereas commercial ones are heavier plastic or acrylic and can be reused repeatedly.

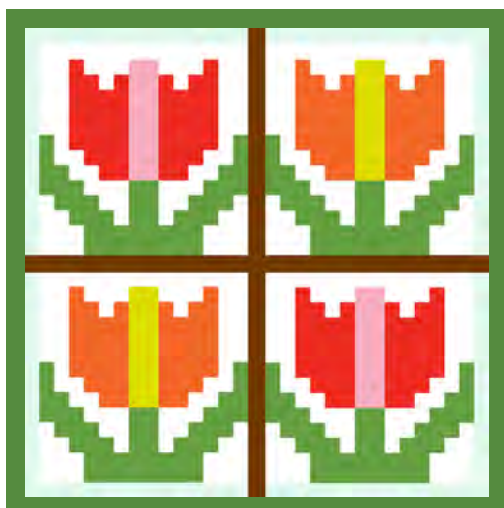
Sometimes one will see instructions calling for fat quarters - if you have never been a quilter this may raise some questions. A fat quarter is a one-fourth yard cut of fabric that (usually) measures 18" x 22" instead of the typical 9" x 44" quarter-yard cut. The longest side's dimension will vary if your fabric is not 44" wide. A fat quarter gives you the opportunity to cut larger chunks of fabric than would be possible from a regular quarter-yard, including strips that are twice as long on the fabric's (less stretchy) lengthwise grain. A fat quarter offers more versatility, whether it's for patchwork or applique. Quilt shops know that fat quarters are popular, and usually offer a wide assortment of them, stacked up and ready to go.

Another alternative is to make a Wagon Wheel quilt using something other than curved pieces. Fons & Porter has a program on making a Wagon Wheel quilt using hexagon shaped blocks. Obviously this would not be an easy quilt, but it would avoid the curved lines. Also, a quilt with a small center section can use alternatives. In the Quilt Garden, the center is just a pieced block. But a yo-yo could also be substituted. Fabric yo-yos are small circles of fabric, gathered on one side and flat on the other. They're used by crafters to add embellishments to existing items, or to create whole new items using yo-yos alone. Any weight of fabric makes a yo-yo, from the heaviest upholstery fabric to the lightest chiffon. Yo-yos in all sizes are possible, made either by hand from scratch or by using a yo-yo template available for purchase in many craft stores.

This quilt also has been linked by some with the Underground Railroad. Not only was the wagon wheel symbolic of a "chariot that was to carry them home," but wagons with hidden compartments were one of the primary means of transporting escaping runaways. The quilt was a message to pack provisions as if packing a wagon, keeping in mind packing only what was essential. The Edwards History and Genealogy Center has a patchwork quilt featured on its website with fifteen different blocks related to the Underground Railroad. It is also interesting as it shows a quilt where there are different blocks rather than a repeating pattern. Often life story quilts are made in this fashion, with each block symbolizing a different event in a person's life. This pattern also evokes the wheels on the Amish buggies that you will see white visiting the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.

Dutch Country Market
11401 CR 16 | Middlebury, IN

w: AmishCountry.org/leisure/dutch-country-market
p: 574.825.3594



- Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia
- Ambassador Green Leaf Light Pink Begonia
- Safari Orange Marigold
- Boy Yellow Marigold
- Curley Leaf Parsley
- Ambassador Green Leaf White Begonia
- Silver Dust Dusty Miller
- Natural Mulch Wood Chips
- Turf Grass

A6 "Dutch Tulip" - Dutch Village Market

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

When you hear "Dutch" what do you think of? I bet one of the top things on everyone's list would be the tulip. If you have ever flown through Amsterdam, the airport is awash in tulip bulbs and pictures you see of Holland almost always feature a windmill and a field of beautiful tulips. So what could be more appropriate for the Dutch Village Market's inaugural year with a Quilt Garden than the lovely tulip? The tulip is also a perennial favorite for a flower quilt. Flowers and tulips have been popular motifs in quilts ever since women started echoing their lives in their designs. Patterns were made utilizing names that reflected the great outdoors and gardening, describing flowers of every kind, including tulip, aster, sunflower, and morning glory. If you Google tulip quilts you will get hundreds of designs. The *Quilter's Album of Patchwork Patterns* features pictures of over a dozen renditions of tulips from the 1930s to the present. There are tulip quilts that have been traced to the 1870s.

Tulips can be either appliqued or pieced depending upon the design. This year's design appears to be a pieced quilt - note the straight lines throughout. Construction of this type of quilt is similar to nine blocks (see Wakarusa, page 23) - long strips are first constructed and then crosscut into individual strips to make the final design. Obviously trying to piece all those tiny squares would be tedious and time consuming. Since the patterns repeat, this allows several strips to be constructed at once. If you aren't familiar with quilting, you might also be interested to know how all the fabric cutting is done, since there are still lots and lots of pieces. Not with scissors! Quilters use a mat which is made of special material to allow for repeated cutting. Then the fabric is straightened and a transparent ruler is used to measure the fabric and the cutting is done with a rotary cutter. Some of the rules have ridges or other texture to help avoid slipping when being held down for cutting - most quilters have a variety of shapes and sizes of rulers. If you are not a quilter, you might be starting to realize that this is not an inexpensive hobby to pursue!

There are many tulip quilts which are appliqued. Then the curved lines of the tulip flower can be followed. But don't take my word for whether this is pieced or appliqued - stop at the quilt shop inside Dutch Village Market, where they have a wall hanging of the quilt that will be raffled off at the end of the season.

Dutch Village Market
700 N Tomahawk Trail | Nappanee, IN

w: DVillageMarket.com
p: 574.773.2828



-  *New Look Dusty Miller*
-  *Hawaii Blue Ageratum*
-  *Durango Red Marigold*
-  *Durango Yellow Marigold*
-  *Turf Grass*

B2 "Cross Town Rivals" - Elkhart Central Park

GARDEN SIZE: 40'W X 40'H

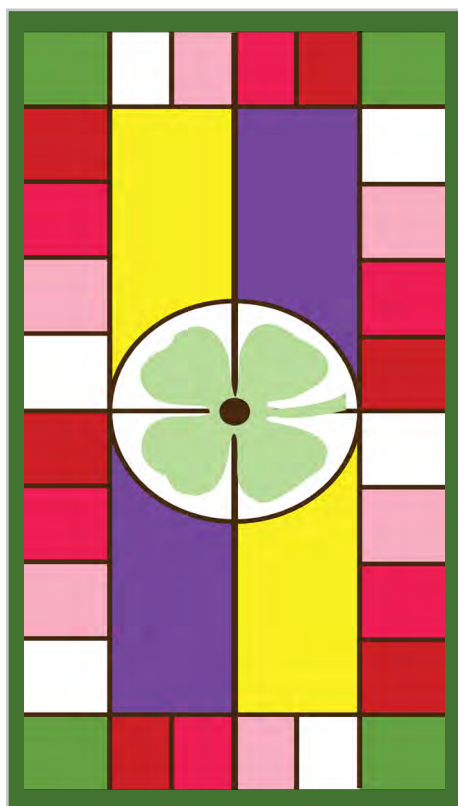
The Elkhart City Buildings & Grounds Department develops the quilt for the Central Park Quilt Garden each year. They claim not to have any experience with quilts, but rather follow the KISS principle (Keep It Simple Stupid). This year, they indicated they designed this pattern to try and keep straight lines. For the colors used in the pattern, they felt it just screamed "Crosstown Rivals." With two high schools in Elkhart they decided to use the school colors - red & gold for Elkhart Memorial (the Crimson Chargers), and blue & white for Elkhart Central, (the Blue Blazers) indicating they liked the way the colors popped next to each other. The Department claimed there is no history for the pattern - but any quilter will quickly realize this is just a variation of the Bow Tie pattern!! (See Essenhous, page 7) Again, as a quilt, this would be a pieced quilt.


The use of the colors in this garden pattern points out what an important element color is to quilting. A visit to any quilt shop reveals an amazing range of colors, patterns and prints. Even more amazing, the materials available regularly change. As a result, many quilters will tell you they may buy a fabric simply because of its beauty without any clear idea of what they intend to do with it. This treasure trove is referred to as a quilter's "stash."

For the beginner, quilt shop staff are usually very good at helping them put together fabrics that will harmonize. Just be sure to buy enough! Some fabric companies produce a line of fabrics that all coordinate and will put together packets that include pieces of all the line. These packets are referred to by a variety of names, depending upon the manufacturer and the size of the pieces. One popular one is called a "jelly-roll" - collections of 2 1/2" x 44" strips of fabric - and patterns are developed to make a quilt from a jelly-roll. Jelly Rolls typically include 40 strips of fabric but can vary.

Elkhart Building & Grounds Department
Waterfall Drive & Franklin Street
Elkhart, IN

w: ElkhartIndiana.org
p: 574.295.7275



-  *Green Perennials*
-  *Ambassador Green Leaf White Begonia*
-  *Picobella Blue Petunia*
-  *Prism Gold Sunshine Petunia*
-  *Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Ambassador Green Leaf Rose Begonia*
-  *Ambassador Green Leaf Light Pink Begonia*
-  *Curley Leaf Parsley*
-  *Black Mulch*
-  *Turf Grass*

D4 "4 Cornerstones of 4-H" - Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

GARDEN SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

The Fairgrounds Quilt Garden this year was designed by Margaret Wheybright. In describing her, Mary Ann Leinhart-Cross (who has designed the past quilt gardens at the fairgrounds and is employed by the Purdue Extension Office located on the fairgrounds), said: "Margaret is a grand lady. She is a teacher through and through. She is an Extension Homemaker, belongs to Busy Homemakers, and Fairfield Homemakers, and has served as county president and chair of many committees. When it comes to quilting she is a piecer and quilter and works toward perfection. Most months she attends our Volunteer Community Sewing and helps in a number of ways. She works with the Church of the Brethren going to their annual church conference to coordinate the quilting of a variety of wall hanging and quilts. Margaret was a 4-H'er, all of her children were 10 year members and she has been a 4-H leader for over 40 years. She went to college while she was raising her 5 children with her husband Bob who was a dairy farmer, who is now deceased." Margaret is a retired teacher and didn't start piecing until her retirement.

The "four cornerstones" are very symbolic and are from the four Hs of 4-H - head, heart, hands, and health. The four corner blocks of parsley, which has been the tradition of the Fairgrounds garden every year, are appropriate since 4-H is traditionally associated with agriculture and this garden is tended by the Michiana Master Gardeners Association (and the Homemaker Clubs).

Margaret strongly felt the Fairgrounds' garden needed to highlight 4-H, so it was only natural to incorporate the four leaf clover representing head, heart, hands, and health into the design. "Basically the rest is just quilt blocks on a rectangle to best show off the colors of the flowers," says Margaret. She adds, "Of course, the green corners of parsley are a must with this garden." The design is classic pieced quilting for the four blocks in the center and the surrounding border. The clover in the center would probably be appliqued or perhaps embroidered if the quilter had a whiz bang embroidery sewing machine or enjoys hand embroidery. The circle in the center of the clover could also be a yo-yo (see Dutch Country, page 8).

Margaret plans to help plant and maintain the Quilt Garden this summer even though she is not a gardener. "I'm looking forward to seeing what it looks like about six weeks after planting," says Margaret. She also plans to take time to see as many of the other Quilt Gardens as possible noting, "It's the highlight of my summer!"

**Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds &
Purdue Co-Operative Extension Service**
17746 County Road 34 | Goshen, IN

w: 4HFair.org | Extension.Purdue.edu
p: 574.533.FAIR | 574.533.0554



- Prism Gold Petunia
- Picobella Blue Petunia
- Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia
- Ambassador Green Leaf White Begonia
- Black Mulch
- Turf Grass

D4 "Courthouse Scales of Justice" - Elkhart County Courthouse

GARDEN SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

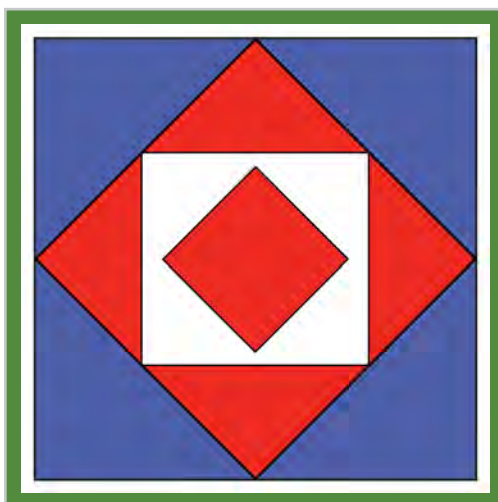
This is the third year for the County Courthouse to have a Quilt Garden. All of their quilts have featured red, white and blue in keeping with the patriotic symbolism of the Court. Circuit Court Judge Terry Shewmaker helped stake the 2013 Quilt Garden and talked with Mike Cross, who has designed both of the prior courthouse Quilts Gardens and from that discussion, Mike designed this year's pattern. As with many original designs for Quilt Gardens, this makes it difficult to comment on the garden as a quilt - certainly it has many similarities to quilts - the background looks like a traditional pieced quilt or quilt block. An experienced quilter could undoubtedly create an applique for the scales of justice. The quilt could be rendered as a large quilt with a center scales or individual blocks, each featuring the scales, although this would probably result in an overly "busy" design.

A Girl Scout troop from Goshen is taking care of the garden this year. They are working on a "gold award" which is the highest award given in Girl Scouts. This is their community service requirement for the award. They described their involvement as follows: "This is our final year of girl scouts and we as troop 10103 decided that our focus this year will be to give back to the community. When we heard about the opportunity to take on the Quilt Garden project at the Courthouse we were very excited because we can make it beautiful as well as bring the people of Goshen together and give them a sense of pride in their community through the eyes of beauty. The highest honor you can receive is the gold award as a girl scout, this is something you work very hard at that really makes a difference in the lives of others as well as ourselves. We want our community to know that young people still care about making their community a better place."

As noted, this Quilt Garden is on the lawn of the Elkhart County Courthouse which dates back to 1868 and remodeled 35 years later. Elkhart County Commissioners agreed to build a courthouse "appropriate to the progress and standing of the county" and budgeted \$100,000 for the same. That was a considerable expenditure at the time - several other courthouses around the state at that time were constructed for \$27,000-30,000. The *Magnificent 92*, a book about the county courthouses across the state comments: "... but in the 1860s, a \$100,000 courthouse was worth a buggy ride to town." Of course, Elkhart is one of the few counties where many of the residents might still get to town in a buggy today! With the addition of the Quilt Garden on the courthouse lawn, the 960 pound cannon, also found on the grounds, has been beautifully restored by an Amish wheel maker to help welcome visitors to the county seat.

Elkhart County Courthouse
in partnership with the Goshen Chamber of Commerce, Purdue Co-Operative Extension Service and the downtown Economic Improvement District of Goshen
101 North Main Street | Goshen, IN

w: ElkhartCountyIndiana.com
w: Goshen.org
p: 574.533.2102



- Eureka Green Leaf Red Begonia*
- Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia*
- Danube Blue Ageratum*
- Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
- Turf Grass*

D1 "Sawtooth Diamond" - Elkhart County Historical Museum

GARDEN SIZE: 30.5'W X 30.5'H

The Sawtooth Diamond quilt block selected for the 2014 Quilt Garden is in keeping with the Museum's previous selections of traditional quilt pattern blocks. The block consists of a repeating red diamond set in a white square. While the museum does not house a quilt with this pattern in its collection (they have emphasized these for past gardens), the traditional block reflects the museum's commitment to showcasing historical quilt block patterns through the Quilt Garden event. According to Mennonite historian Clarke E. Hess, the Sawtooth Diamond was one of the most popular block patterns among Mennonites of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in the early nineteenth century. This tradition came to Elkhart County as Mennonite groups moved into the area in the middle of the nineteenth century.

The Sawtooth Diamond pattern has similar roots. While the pattern has likely appeared in decorative arts for several centuries, Anabaptist groups of Lancaster County popularized it through quilting.

This is a traditional pieced quilt. Although the traditional saw tooth border (see Coppes Commons, page 6) is not repeated here, the "teeth" of the saw are repeated on the outside and on the inner square - they are just larger and have the diamond pattern interposed rather than the second half of the square. Notice this also is very similar to the alternate squares in Wakarusa's Goose Creek - the Diamond in a Square block obviously contributing to the "diamond" in this quilt's name.

Visitors should stop in at the museum to view its collection of antique quilts and bed coverings and perhaps arrange to hear their program "Stitches of Devotion" that is specially coordinated for groups.

Elkhart County Historical Museum
304 West Vistula Street | Bristol, IN

w: ElkhartCountyParks.org
p: 574.848.4322



- Indigo Charm Supertunia*
- Citrus Supertunia*
- Surefire Rose Begonia*
- Surefire Red Begonia*
- Cocoa Bean Shells*
- Turf Grass*

G2 "Goldie's Basket" - Farmstead Inn

GARDEN SIZE: 40'W X 40'H

Each year the Farmstead Inn features one of the blocks from the Shipshewana Blessing Quilt. This quilt was created for the town of Shipshewana as a "visual prayer" for those who have been here before, those here now and for the people of the future that will be caretakers and create a life here. It is located in the Shipshewana Town Hall on Morton Street.

The original descendants of Shipshewana were the Potawatomi Indians who were known as the "keepers of the fire." They are represented in the center block titled "Keepers of the Fire," inspired by the Potawatomi beadwork sewn into articles of clothing. The rest of the quilt contains 28 blocks and represents all the people that have come over time, each unique in design. They also use solid colors utilizing a "scrap, use up what you have on hand" method, representing the Amish quilt makers' frugal reputation.

The "Basket" is Block 22 of the Blessings Quilt. Primitive baskets were handmade and used to gather berries, twigs and other items. In all cultures, the basket was a daily presence in a woman's life. They were filled and emptied and refilled in the eternal repetition of a housewife's duties. It is natural that the basket motif became popular in quilt patterns, being a symbol of home and womanhood. The basket pattern was produced both by applique and pieced and even as embellishment on crazy quilts. There is historical evidence that the basket pattern was popular around 1790 and into the pioneer era, which was at the same time the cotton mill was invented which changed the fabric industry significantly. The Farmstead Inn calls this Quilt Garden pattern "Goldie's Basket" to honor Goldie Lambright, the mother of the owner of the Inn who has lived her entire life in the Shipshewana area.

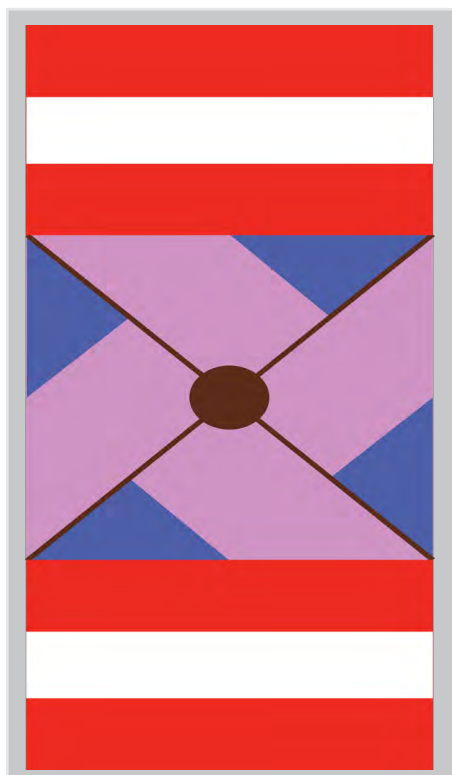
A pattern book for the Blessing Quilt is available at Yoder's Department Store in Shipshewana.

Farmstead Inn

307 S. Van Buren Street | Shipshewana, IN

w: FarmsteadInn.com

p: 260.768.4595



-  *Hawaii Blue Ageratum*
-  *New Guinea Divine Mix Impatiens*
-  *Eureka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Stone Pavers*

E2 "Water Wheel" - Krider Garden

GARDEN SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

Founded in 1896 by Vernon Krider (1876-1955), Krider Nurseries produced its first catalog in 1906. It was primarily a regional wholesale business, but also served the mail-order market. Mr. Krider bought patents to produce and sell the first thornless rose. For many years, Krider's was one of Middlebury's largest industries. It ceased operation in 1990.

Krider Nurseries constructed and exhibited Krider's Diversified Garden at the Century of Progress International Exposition in Chicago 1933-1934. After the exposition, Mr. Krider returned to Middlebury World's Fair and donated much of the exhibit to the town. The Middlebury Parks Department indicates they want to use quilt patterns representing Middlebury or the gardens. The water wheel house was part of the original World's Fair structure. It has been and continues to operate today as one of Krider Garden icons. Also water wheels were important in the early development of Middlebury, being used in area saw mills, cider mills and grist mills.

Because of their importance to everyday life, water wheels were the subject for quilt patterns for years. There are many variations of the pattern, and many other names for the pattern including Chinese Coin, Millwheel and Whirligig. This is a pieced quilt. Sometimes the arms of the whirligig are finished separately and then incorporated in the quilt making it 3-D. If one was reproducing the garden pattern, the circle in the middle (which is not part of a traditional pattern) would probably be added as an applique.

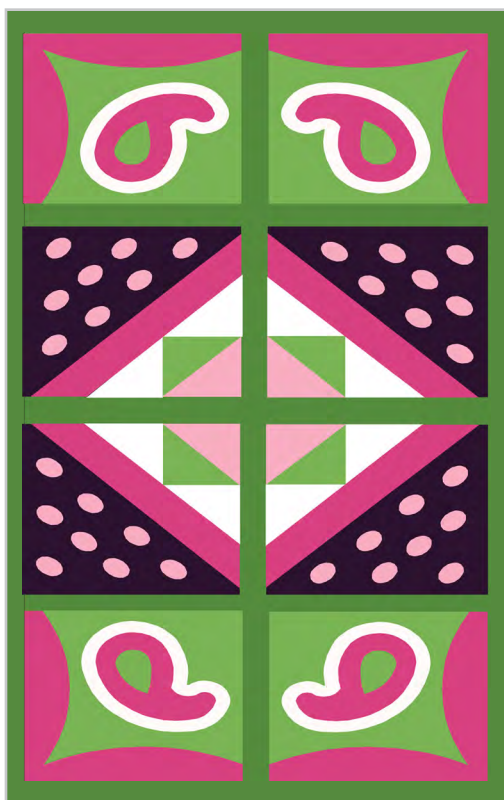
Appliques are often used to embellish a traditional pattern. Curved lines in general add to the complexity of a quilt and where it is a single piece, appliqueing makes more sense. The quilt design would be completed. Then the applique would be applied, before or after the quilt was quilted, depending on whether one wanted it to blend in to the quilt or stand out - similar to the wooden hub Krider is using in its garden (see below). Appliques can be done in a variety of ways; they can be hand appliqueed with the border being turned under before the applique is stitched down or needle turned, where the quilter turns in the border as he or she goes. The other alternative is machine appliqueing. This also has different options. Again the piece can have the border turned under and then an open decorative stitch (such as the blanket stitch) used to secure it to the quilt, or it can be applied with a closed stitch design so that the raw edge doesn't need to be finished before the applique is complete. Yet another option would be to use a yo-yo (see Wagon Wheel, page 8).

Krider's chose their pattern from a book entitled *849 Traditional Patchwork Patterns* by Susan Winter Mills. A local quilter added a striped border to each side of the original pattern to fit the rectangular garden shape. This would also be a traditional pieced addition. Krider's is adding a wooden hub to the center of the design to simulate the hub of a water wheel and wooden beam to the sides of the water wheel paddles.

Krider Garden

302 West Bristol Avenue (County Road 8)
Middlebury, IN

w: MiddleburyIN.com
p: 574.825.1499



C2 "Pink Elephants of Hope" - Linton's Enchanted Gardens

GARDEN SIZE: 66'W X 32'H

Hope along the Heritage Trail is a partnership between the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail and the Vera Bradley Foundation. This is the first year for the "Hope" Quilt Garden to appear at Linton's Enchanted Gardens, but it is a natural fit since the gift shop at Linton's sells Vera Bradley products and the owners are dedicated to the Foundation's cause.

Connie Kauffman (see Coppes Commons and Nappanee Welcome Center) is the designer of the 2014 "Hope" wall hanging that utilizes Vera Bradley's Pink Elephants fabric. Each year the special "Hope" quilt is raffled off with proceeds going to the Vera Bradley Foundation for breast cancer research. The designers of each year's wall hanging are given exclusive rights to use Vera Bradley fabrics. Obviously, this will prevent a quilter from copying this quilt exactly.

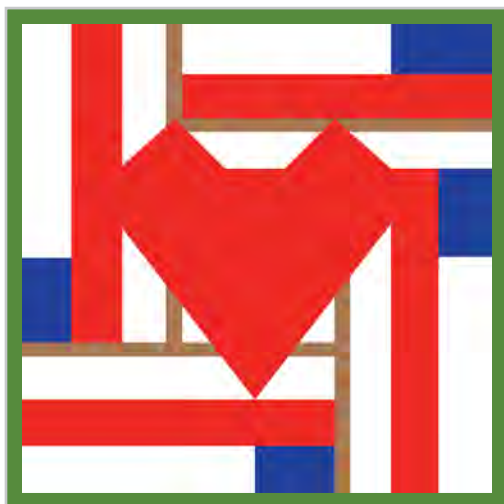
This year's wall hanging is charming - in addition to the pink elephants fabric, it features gingham, buttons and swirls. It looks like it belongs in a little girl's bedroom or a sun-room full of wicker furniture. Since the wall hanging moves from place to place you may need to check with the Visitor's Center or one of the Vera Bradley local retailers to find out where it is when you are visiting. You can purchase a chance to win it at any of the retailers' locations.

If reproduced as a quilt, this garden design would likely be pieced. Adding to the whimsy in this garden are four large plywood elephants in four quadrants of the garden. Elephants could be added to a quilt by applique or by embroidery.

A Vera Bradley bag will also be available in a newly released fabric dedicated to the Foundation. The limited edition tote bags are available at the Vera Bradley retailers along the Heritage Trail and feature a box of goodies from the Elkhart based Soup of Success (SOS) Job & Life Skills Training Program that helps empower women to find their voices, discover their direction, establish and achieve goals, overcome obstacles and get back on their feet.

Linton's Enchanted Gardens
315 County Road 17 | Elkhart, IN

w: Lintons.com
p: 888.779.9333



- Eureka Green Leaf Red Begonia*
- Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia*
- Picobella Blue Petunia*
- Natural Lumber*
- Turf Grass*

B2 "Land We Love" - Martin's ACE Hardware

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

The design chosen by Martin's Ace Hardware, Middlebury, was selected with a story and thought of "Quilt It With Love" or "Land We Love." This quilt design tells the story of this wonderful country we live in. The design is original. The store owners' daughter, Janae Werner, is a graphic artist and thus has a "feel" for design and color, according to mom. Janae designed last year's quilt for the store (its first) and continued with this year's because "her mom asked her." She lives in Atlanta, Georgia.

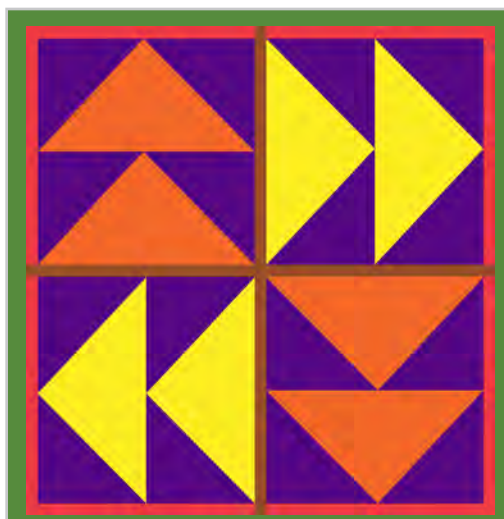
The "Heart" located in the middle of the design denotes warmth, security, comfort and joy. The four surrounding flags are inspiring symbols that unite us all as citizens. Each flag is a vibrant reminder of American principles of democracy, justice, freedom, and the tribute to those who sacrificed their lives defending the honor of our country. The owners of the hardware store indicate the flag continues to carry the inspirational and fundamental convictions of our great land and will continue to do so for many years to come.

Red, white and blue quilts are traditionally popular in times of war, symbolizing patriotism. It is probably also appropriate since 2014 is an Olympics year, which also inspires patriotism. As a quilt, the four flags would be pieced while the center heart would probably be appliqued (although it could be pieced as a part of the overall design).

The patriotic theme is continued in a Quilt Mural on the side of the hardware building which was added last year. Janae also helped research and develop the pattern for the mural. "American Made" was chosen to represent the Martin's commitment as business owners to provide their customers as many American-made products as possible. Incidentally, while you are here, you might want to step inside the store - it isn't exactly what you might expect to find in a "hardware" store - it has a lovely gift shop called The Tulip Tree, which features gift items, soaps, candles, gourmet food mixes and too many other things to mention. While it is an "ACE" hardware, it is independently owned as a family business.

Martin's ACE Hardware
103 Crystal Heights Blvd | Middlebury, IN

p: 574.825.7011



-  *Boy Yellow Marigold*
-  *Boy Orange Marigold*
-  *Picobella Blue Petunia*
-  *Eureka Bronze Leaf Scarlet Begonia*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

G2 "Dutchman's Puzzle" - Menno-Hof

GARDEN SIZE: 34'W X 34'H

This pattern is thought to date back to the early 1800s. Many old quilts using this pattern have been found around Staten and Manhattan Islands in New York. This was an area of early Dutch settlement and perhaps the name comes from them. It is based on the windmill pattern and thought to be so named because the pieces resembled the arms of windmills.

This would be a pieced quilt composed by making eight flying geese and attaching them in rotating blocks. Of course, experienced quilters are familiar with flying geese, which is the term applied to each of the eight smaller blocks comprising this quilt - a triangle with a smaller triangle tilted on each side to make up a square. In making flying geese, it is very important that the points are precisely at the top of the block after it is attached to the surrounding blocks. There are several different ways one can accomplish this. There are a variety of tools and templates that make the process easier, especially for those who aren't fond of math. Some instructions have one stitch the middle triangle to a square and then trim off the excess. This avoids the necessity of stitching two diagonal pieces together - fabric cut on the bias tends to stretch very easily. Another way to deal with the stretch is to spray the fabric with Best Press before cutting. Best Press is a light weight starch alternative and is very helpful to quilters in giving a clean, crisp look to their work. Pressing as you go is very important to keep seams flat. Pressing is different from ironing. In ironing, one sweeps back and forth across the fabric; in pressing for a quilt the iron is placed down on the fabric - no back and forth, which again might stretch the fabric. It is also done on the right side of the fabric. It sometimes helps to "finger press" the area, especially if one is pressing a seam open.

The flying geese motif has also been linked to the Underground Railroad. The slaves learned they were to take their direction, timing, and behavior from the migrating geese. Since geese fly north in the spring, it was also the best time for slaves to escape. Geese have to stop at waterways along their journey in order to rest and eat. Especially since geese make loud honking noises it was easy for runaways to follow their flight pattern.

Menno-Hof picked this pattern because of its name. Menno Simons was a Dutch Roman Catholic priest in the early 1500s. He was one of the leaders of the Anabaptist movement (which includes Mennonites and the Amish) and obviously his first name is where the name Mennonite evolved. The Interactive Center tells the story of the Anabaptists who settled in America due to persecution in Europe. The Elkhart/LaGrange County community is the third largest in the country. The Interactive Center combines sight and sound and is well worth taking the time to tour.

An interesting traditional quilt inside Menno-Hof is a pieced Barn Raising quilt with embroidered hand-prints all around the edges that commemorates those who helped build the museum and honors the Amish community tradition of barn-raising.

Menno-Hof

510 South Van Buren Street (SR 5)
Shipshewana, IN

w: MennoHof.com
p: 260.768.4117



A6 "One Room School" - Nappanee Center

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

Teaching was one of the most common professions for single women in the late nineteenth century, and the School House pattern is one of the most beloved figurative pieced patterns of American quilters, appearing in the last decades of the nineteenth century. This design commemorates the one room Culp School of Nappanee, which was located near a Nappanee golf course at that time and was used from 1873-1952. In 2009 the Nappanee Quilt Garden was located at the golf course and this was the design they used that year also.

The Artful Quilters Guild of Nappanee designed the pattern from the basic School House pattern. This is a traditional pieced quilt. There are dozens of internet sites for this quilt - several include free patterns and detailed instructions. An interesting development in the internet world regarding quilts has been Pinterest. You can see many examples of quilts by visiting Pinterest sites, which may give you inspiration.

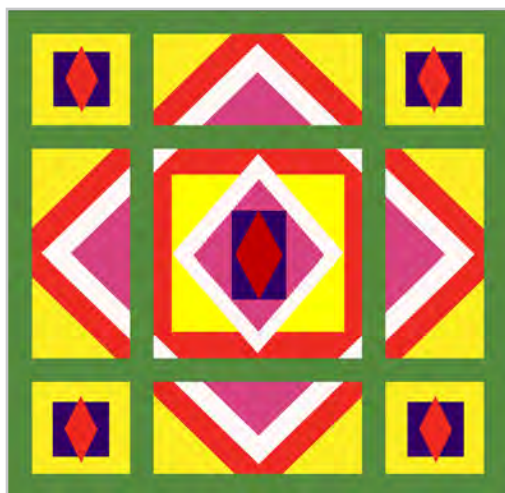
If you go inside the Nappanee Welcome Center, they have small wall quilts of each of their past Quilt Gardens. They also have a book by local quilter Connie Kauffman (see Coppes) with instructions for their 2012 quilt featuring an Amish buggy and variations of the same. The large quilt on display commemorates all those who helped Nappanee in the aftermath of a tornado that hit the city in 2007 and did considerable property damage. There is an interesting display of historic quilts and also a life story quilt made by the daughter of Evelyn Lehman Culp, who spearheaded the development of the Heritage Collection in the Welcome Center. She said it was the first quilt she ever made - and the last. If you see the amazing detail you'll understand why.

Aside from the quilts there are a variety of interesting displays, including several Hoosier cabinets (see Coppes Commons, page 6) and the pie plate in which they bake a 7 foot pie each year for the Nappanee Apple Festival. Stop downtown during that event each September and have a piece of pie, but hurry - they always sell out!

-  *Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Silver Dust Dusty Miller*
-  *Safari Yellow Marigold*
-  *Black Dragon Coleus*
-  *Danube Blue Ageratum*
-  *Curley Leaf Parsley*
-  *Zahara Mix Zinnia*
-  *Cocktail Whiskey Bronze Leaf White Begonia*
-  *Black Mulch*
-  *Stone Pavers*

Nappanee Center
302 West Market Street | Nappanee, IN

w: NappaneeChamber.com
p: 574.773.7812



- Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
- Picobella Blue Petunia*
- Cocktail Brandy Bronze Leaf Pink Begonia*
- Silver Dust Dusty Miller*
- Boy Yellow Marigold*
- Turf Grass*

C4 "Facets" - Old Bag Factory

GARDEN SIZE: 29'w x 32.5'h

Quilt Designs is located in the wood cabin at the Old Bag Factory, where it has operated since 1987 (originally founded in 1981). This shop is unlike other quilt shops to which you may have been. The majority of the quilts are originals, designed by the shop owner, Shirley Shenk and more recently, also by her daughter-in-law, Kris A. Shenk. The quilts are designed by one of them and then are made primarily by Amish quilters. There are quilters who piece the quilts from the design and hand quilters who actually do the quilting. The quilts are referred to as "one needle quilts;" meaning one quilter hand quilts the entire quilt. The quilts are actually works of art and are protected by copyright. Visit the shop where Shirley or husband Dave can tell you about their quilters and how they are picked and show you their beautiful work.

It may surprise you to know that Amish quilts are usually pieced by machine. The Amish use treadle sewing machines. Indeed, a groom's wedding gift to his new bride traditionally is a sewing machine (kind of like getting a sweeper for Christmas). The actual quilting is then done by hand. This gives Amish women who are married an opportunity to earn some money - they quilt when the children have gone to bed or perhaps during a few minutes here and there during the day. Remember, if one is hand quilting tiny even stitches go through three layers - the quilt top, which itself may have seams and overlays, the batting and the backing.

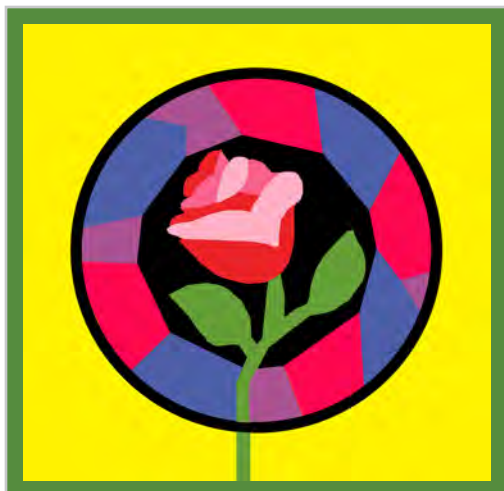
Outside Quilt Designs, you'll see a different quilt pattern selected each year by the Shenks for the Quilt Garden. This year, they selected a design called Facets, which is one of Kris' early designs and remains a popular choice to be made into a quilt. It was chosen due to its strong geometrics - whole diamond shapes and triangles made to look like the facets of a cut diamond, combined here with framing borders.

Quilters will love to visit the shop and see the fabric versions as well. Dave and Shirley say quilters are some of their best customers since they really appreciate the incredible work involved in the quilts for sale. As an added bonus, if you order a quilt, you get to go upstairs to Shirley's studio to pick out fabrics and design plus you get a bird's eye view of the garden! However, be prepared to wait - as pointed out above, many of their quilters are wives and mothers, so it may be up to two years while your quilt is completed.

The Old Bag Factory is also a site for a quilt mural, Miles II Variation, which is also from one of the Shenk's quilts. Shirley said she was contacted by the Miles Family and requested to design a quilt for them. She made three sketches - Miles I, II and III. Miles II is actually the one the Miles family picked and the design for the mural was adapted from that pattern. Again an actual quilt featuring the pattern may be inside the shop or certainly can be produced if one desires.

Old Bag Factory
1100 North Chicago Avenue
Goshen, IN

w: OldBagFactory.com
p: 574.534.2502



B2 "Beauty and the Beast Rose" - Premier Arts, Downtown Elkhart

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

As with the tulip (see Dutch Village Market, page 9), the rose has long been a popular inspiration for many quilt patterns - of course, this isn't one of them! But theatre and movie goes everywhere (especially those with children or grandchildren) will quickly recognize this as the symbolic rose from *Beauty and the Beast*.

The Quilt Garden is coordinated by Premier Arts which has offices and performs in the Lerner Theatre, Elkhart's stunning restored performing arts center, just two doors away on Main Street. In addition to performing plays, Premier Arts has a strong commitment to developing active skills amongst the younger generation in Elkhart, both by providing acting classes and performing arrangements of popular plays, rewritten for children to perform. Just as the theatre reinterprets some popular plays, quilters could reinterpret this lovely pattern as a quilt, probably by appliqueing the rose onto the quilt back. The remainder of the pattern would lend itself to piecing or applique.

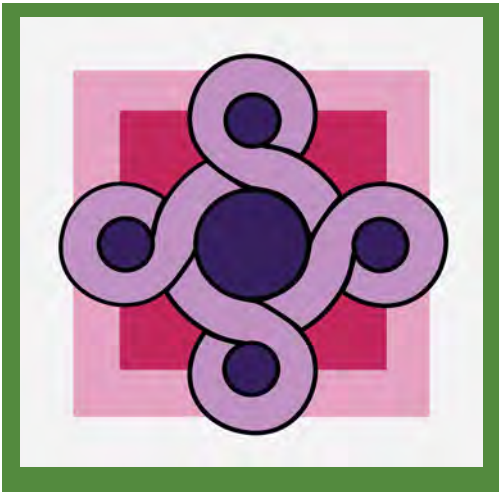
The Lerner Theatre, an Elkhart landmark, is part of a revival, a new era for the arts, commerce and life in the heart of downtown Elkhart. The Lerner is evidence of this rebirth with its timeless, never-lost quality of a historic theatre reborn as a state of the art performance and event facility. The theatre was originally opened in 1924 and featured vaudeville and early motion pictures. It was restored to original grandeur and more and reopened in 2011. The Lerner hosts many events so check and see what is playing!

Right across the street from the Lerner you will also see one of Elkhart's resident Elks. This one is named 'Mr. Elk goes to the Lerner' and you will see tickets for the Lerner peeking out of his tuxedo pants pocket. You may see several of these elk around Elkhart - they were part of a fund-raising project for CAPS, (Child and Parent Services of Elkhart County) and after being auctioned off, several have been located where the community can still enjoy them.

-  *Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Cocktail Gin Bronze Leaf Rose Begonia*
-  *Cocktail Brandy Bronze Leaf Pink Begonia*
-  *Curley Leaf Parsley*
-  *Picobella Blue Petunias*
-  *Picobella Rose Petunias*
-  *Picobella Mixed Blue & Rose Petunias*
-  *Safari Yellow Marigolds*
-  *Black Mulch*
-  *Turf Grass*

Premier Arts
410 South Main Street | Elkhart, IN

w: PremierArts.org
p: 574.293.4469



- Evolution Farinacea Deep Purple Salvia*
- Hawaii Blue Ageratum*
- Eureka Bronze Leaf Deep Rose Begonia*
- Eureka Bronze Leaf Pink Begonia*
- Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia*
- Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
- Turf Grass*

B2 "Seasons of Change"

- Ruthmere House Museum

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

This design reminds us that the world is touched by the infinite. The cycles of the seasons march across the expanse of our planet with the eternal energy of the Creator. Somehow our destinies are caught up in the swirl of time and change. The design came from the floor in the foyer of Ruthmere, which is comprised of four circular wafers of marble surrounding a larger circle with winding bands of ceramic tile arranged in an infinity design. This design greets and inspires visitors who enter through the front door of Ruthmere. Ruthmere's director selected the architectural feature and turned it over to Karla, the gardener of Ruthmere, to translate into a garden.

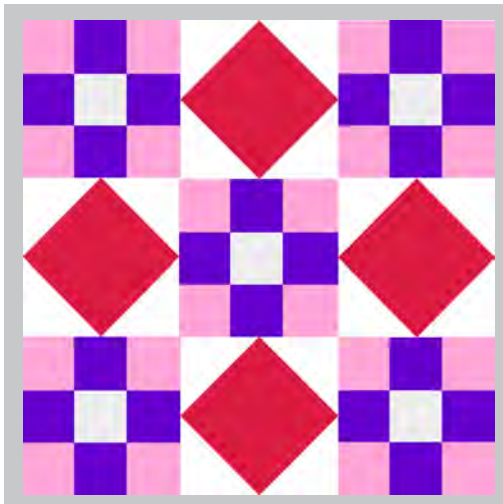
Of course, this was not something that was an original quilt, but adapted from architectural details. However the design does have the "feel" of a quilt pattern, albeit a somewhat advanced one due to all the curved lines. There are some similarities with Drunkard's Path (perhaps not what the architect or the museum staff intended!) It could be turned into a quilt, either pieced or appliqued or a combination of the two by a talented, ambitious quilter.

While you are visiting Ruthmere's Quilt Garden, you may also want to tour the house. Not only do you get to see the marble/tile inspiration for the quilt, you will enjoy a real treat in touring this 1910 Beaux Arts mansion built by the Beardsleys and restored to its original beauty. Mr. Beardsley was involved with Miles Laboratories best known for manufacturing Alka-Seltzer among other things. When it was built, the Beardsleys had the entire home photographed with the exception of Mrs. Beardsley's private rooms, so the group restoring the home had incredible information to guide them in the restoration. Also helpful was the fact the mansion had only two families who called it home - after the Beardsleys died the home was purchased by the Deputy family. Although they raised six boys in the home, Mrs. Deputy cared for the home respecting it for the jewel it was. The boys actually used the servants' bedrooms in the back of the house and purportedly learned to climb out of the upstairs porch windows!

A Quilt Garden is in keeping with the demeanor of the house, and one of the things you will immediately notice is a greenhouse attached to the main house. Mrs. Beardsley was an avid gardener and had an underground tunnel so she could reach the greenhouse without going outside. Other beautiful period gardens are maintained on the property.

Ruthmere House Museum
302 East Beardsley Avenue | Elkhart, IN

w: Ruthmere.org
p: 574.264.0330



A5 "Goose Creek" - Downtown Wakarusa

GARDEN SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

This is an old traditional pattern, although there appears to be little history of the block. It is a pieced quilt. It is actually a double nine-patch. The smaller nine-patches are in the four corners and the center. Nine-Patch is one of the oldest and simplest pieced quilt designs - it was published as early as 1897 by The Ladies Art Company, one of the earliest printers of quilt patterns. In its simplest form it is simply nine squares sewn together in 3 rows of 3. This is greatly simplified by seamstresses - assuming two (A & B) fabrics are used; the seamstress first sews long strips of ABA and another of BAB. These can then be sliced cross-wise and the (now) three strips of three blocks each sewn together. Most pieced quilts have short cuts and are first assembled as squares and then the squares combined to produce the final product. There are literally dozens of variations including this double nine-patch.

Here the alternate squares (fabric B in the above example) are actually diamond in a square blocks. It is a traditional Amish quilt pattern and is said that the border triangles remind Amish women of the shoulder cape worn over their dresses which has a triangle shape in the back where it is fastened. The minimalist pattern allows for a vibrant interchange of color and provides an optimum solid field for displaying expert stitching abilities.

The highlight of Amish quilts is the hand-quilting of the quilt once the top is completed. In this pattern with the large center block, the quilter can show tiny stitches - a single motif might be used in each block or a series of related designs. The designs usually use a stencil with the design traced onto the fabric to ensure uniformity. Additional quilting might be to "stitch in the ditch" - quilt in the seam around the center block and additional embellishments could be used in the four corners. Complementary designs, perhaps smaller similar designs, would be used in the smaller nine-patches. It was originally made in eastern Pennsylvania, but is now popular in Indiana, Ohio and Iowa. The design is actually not a diamond, but a square tipped "on point," then surrounded on each side by large triangles, thus forming the square of its title.

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G3 "Dahlia Quilt" - Weaver Furniture Sales

GARDEN SIZE: 32'W X 32'H

Dahlias have frequently inspired quilts - one of the most popular is called the Giant Dahlia which is similar to this pattern. Undoubtedly these quilts were inspired by beautiful dahlias in someone's garden. Early versions of the Giant Dahlia appear in antique quilt auctions, although it apparently reached its zenith in the 1930's. If applied, this is a quilt that involves applique of literally hundreds of pieces in its most complex form, each representing one of those tiny petals on a dahlia. However, if this pattern were rendered as a quilt, the design could be pieced or the center could be appliqued with a pieced border.

-  *Royal Velvet Supertunia*
-  *Mini Silver Supertunia*
-  *Cotton Candy Supertunia*
-  *Vista Fuschia Supertunia*
-  *Pink Mix Allysum*
-  *Mini Apple Blossom Supertunia*
-  *Black Mulch*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*

Carolyn Miller who is the gardener for this Quilt Garden enjoyed helping her mother quilt numerous quilts as a child, and she says the Dahlia quickly became one of her favorites. It also happened to be the very first quilt that she actually pieced. She came to piecing somewhat late in life - in her 30s. She said mom still helped her, but it was an easy pieced pattern and one she has repeated since.

Carolyn also started gardening as a child, both vegetables and flowers, which she has continued. She has completed Master Gardener training. She lives near Weaver Furniture Sales and has been the designer and gardener there for the years they have had a garden.

Last year, the garden was comprised of over 4,000 plants. Carolyn said she had a few neighbors and friends help her and the garden was completed in one evening. She and Ida Weaver, whose husband operates the furniture store where the garden is located, are the only ones who help with maintenance - a fact that convinced her early on she didn't wanted to plant marigolds - too much deadheading!!

Carolyn told me she and Ida were already busy working on next year's garden. She loves the Quilt Gardens and hopes they continue to grow and flourish, and she has been amazed at visitors coming from as far away as Jordan and Australia. She also laughed remembering a visitor from Hawaii who commented on how beautiful it was in this area.

If you are a dahlia lover, be sure to visit Bonneyville Mill in Bristol in late summer. The local dahlia society has a test garden planted in this County park that features a beautiful display of dahlias. Paths between the plants allow you to get beautiful close-ups of a host of dahlias of every kind and color. Also one of the Quilt Gardens Tour murals featuring the "Applique and Trapunto" design that replicates one of the historic quilts in the Elkhart County Historical Museum, is also displayed at the park.

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