

2012 Master Gardener Guidebook



2012 Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail

Master Gardener Guidebook

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About the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail

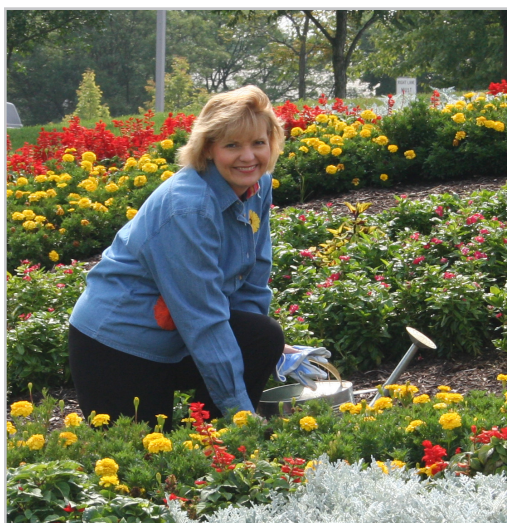
Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is an innovative, creative, one-of-its-kind experience designed to interest a wide-range of audiences and promote the area as a premier visitor destination. It offers a variety of opportunities for partnerships with local businesses and communities and creates widespread 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. 2012 is the fifth year for the season-long attraction that continues to grow and now features 19 quilt gardens and 18 artist rendered quilt murals presented in 7 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 Top 100 Event in 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012.

The ECCVB was honored with the 2010 Efroymson Award for Excellence in Cultural Tourism Development for the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.



Sonya L. Nash, Project Manager

Greetings from a novice Master Gardener! While I can remember dead-heading petunias and geraniums and helping plant peas and lettuce with my Mom when I was a little girl, I never dreamed of being a master gardener. The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail project changed all that. In 2007, I suddenly found myself participating in meetings with serious gardeners. We talked about soil amendments, fertilizers, plant heights, growing patterns and who knew what a cultivar was? I sure didn't. One of the local Master Gardeners suggested I take the Master Gardener class through Purdue University. I was eager to learn, and ready to "dig in" literally and figuratively into the new strange world of flora and fauna.

The Master Gardener class was much more scientific and intense than I expected. Many of the topics and discussions were way over my head ... I'm a marketer and science was never my strong suit. But, I stayed the course, passed the class and have multiple binders of resources, not to mention many friends, to ask questions and obtain advice. I am a novice, but at least I have a rudimentary understanding of what to look for when assisting Quilt Gardens site managers with their plant determination, problems or concerns. If my new knowledge can help even one site a year, then it is well worth my struggles with plant science.

And my life at home has definitely changed! Three years ago I didn't plant a thing around our house. Now we have 6 flower beds filled with annuals and perennials that I've selected, planted and maintain plus 10 hanging baskets that require dead-heading and feeding. Somehow I even have the job of diagnosing weed problems in the lawn. How that happened I'll never understand!

I hope you enjoy the Quilt Gardens as much as I do. Please feel free to share any of your own personal knowledge and advice with me. After all, novices keep learning just as our gardens keep growing.

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

w: AmishCountry.org
p: 800.262.8161



Vickie Estep, Gold Level Master Gardener Master Gardener Guidebook Co-Author

Vickie and her husband Mark have been gardening for more than thirty years. They raised three children on homegrown fruits and veggies from the huge garden they all worked together. When the children began leaving the nest Vickie's interests turned from the dinner table to her growing collection of perennials.

Urged by friends to pursue her love of gardening, a love that began in her grandmother's garden, she enrolled in the Purdue Master Gardener training class. This ultimately led to an opportunity to write and guide tours for the Elkhart County Quilt Gardens. As the "English" great-grandchild of an Amish family she says guiding Amish Country tours allows her to share stories of her roots - roots that were firmly planted in the nurturing warmth of faith and family.

Vickie's passion for gardening took an exponential leap when she added Certified Master Gardener to her list of accomplishments. She is a gold level Master Gardener signifying that a minimum of 1,000 volunteer hours and 100 training hours have been completed. The mission of Master Gardeners is to "help others grow" by providing educational opportunities to the local community.



Mary Davis, Gold Level Master Gardener Master Gardener Guidebook Co-Author of the "Quilters Chronicles"

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 appliquéd 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 tours - 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!



Country Comfort Greenhouse, Official Grower Sonya & Tom Miller, Owners

Sonya Miller and her husband Tom are the main forces behind Country Comfort Greenhouse north of Middlebury, a home-based business since 1987. With family labor and part time Amish help, they produce 1,400 hanging baskets, 3,200 annuals and vegetable flats, 14,000 4" pots of geraniums and Proven Winners, and hundreds of perennials plus interesting combination pots in unique containers.

Country Comfort is a seasonal spring business and one of the official growers of almost 80,000 annuals each year for the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. Sonya is instrumental in plant selection and provides advice for each official site to assist in determining pattern definition to enhance the quality visual experience of the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. Country Comfort also supplies downtown flower pots for Middlebury.

Besides gardening, in her spare time, Sonya loves to quilt and has completed 26 quilts, wall hangings, and comforters as well as embroidering retro "days of the week" dish towels for gifts.

Country Comfort Greenhouse
53855 State Road 13 | Middlebury, IN

p: 574.825.7638



McIntosh Greenhouse & Garden Center, Official Grower Sue & Kim Wilfong, Owners

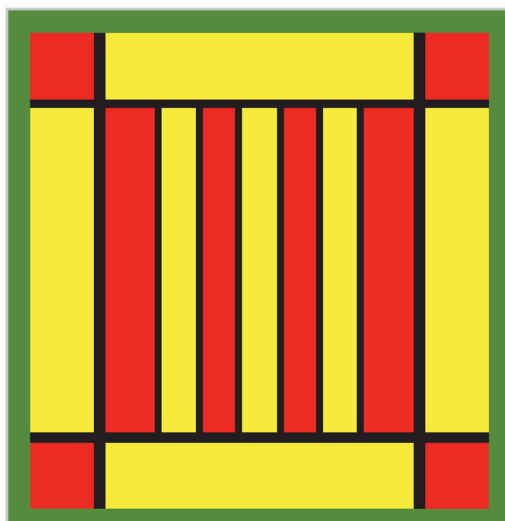
McIntosh Greenhouse & Garden Center is a retail business, located in Goshen, that is open all year and offers a full line garden center, perennials, tree and shrub nursery, bird supplies and gift gallery. They are proud to be one of two official growers for the 2012 Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.

What makes McIntosh's unique is that they grow most of their own bedding plants in over 40,000 square-feet of production greenhouses (16 total greenhouses) and are open to the public 6 days a week year-round offering many seasonal products, gardening tools, home décor and gifts.

Sue & Kim Wilfong are 2nd generation owners of McIntosh which began 39 years ago in 1973. Kim & his crew produce and retail thousands of high quality plant material annually at the Garden Center including 6,000 flats of bedding plants, 3,000 spring hanging baskets, 35,000 4" potted annuals, 3,000 spring patio pots, 6,000 garden mums, and 4,000 poinsettia plants. In the spring customers can order custom filled pots from their special order department.

McIntosh Greenhouse & Garden Center
65856 US 33 | Goshen, IN

w: McIntoshGreenhouse.com
p: 574.825.7638



A6 "Bars" - Amish Acres

SIZE: 50'W X 50'H

Amish Acres has selected one of the most traditional of all Amish Quilt patterns, the "Bars" pattern. Typically created using left over strips of clothing and scrap fabric, this pattern renders quite nicely to a quilt garden application. The idea of piecing together scraps of fabric deemed too small to be of any significance alone to create an item of great worth rings back to the core values of the Nappanee community. It reminds us of the way the town pulled together after a devastating late season tornado in 2007. Now nearly five years later things are looking up for the southernmost participant on the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. With the transformation almost complete this quiet little city at the tip of the county shines with enthusiasm and promise.

The gardeners at Amish Acres have made many improvements to their plot to prepare for the 2012 season. The bed has been revised to a true square shape owing to both more emphasis on edging and the addition of mulched walking paths for definition. In addition, two seasonal applications of duck mulch were worked into the newly delivered topsoil prior to planting. Gardener Justin Detwiler will tackle the day-to-day demands of the largest garden on the tour. Encompassing 2,500 square feet, this garden boasts 2,832 German Chocolate Red Begonias alternated with nearly twice that amount of yellow Dance Celosia.

Once established the plants in this garden are drought resistant— a very good thing since this garden tends to be buffeted by highway winds. Amish Acres is one of three sites to select celosia this year. There are three types of celosia that are easily distinguishable from one another. There are the plumes, crests or spikes - which bring to mind feathers, and the wrinkly-looking knobs and cones. In addition to their eye-catching beauty in the garden, the taller varieties are excellent as cut flowers, which can be used in fresh arrangements or can be dried and will keep their bright colors well into winter. The crested celosia, with its wavy fanlike flowers, looks very much like rooster's red combs - hence the common name of cockscomb.

With only one shape and two colors portrayed in plant material this garden is simplicity at its best. Many of the garden designers on the tour have learned through experience; when it comes to expressing fiber art in plant materials, less is best. In keeping with that principle, what could be more perfect than an Amish "Bars" quilt for inspiration?

Quilters Chronicles – Bars

"Bars" is a pieced quilt. There are a myriad of variations of the pattern. The Metropolitan Museum of New York has several quilts in its collection (not all are on display) including at least two "Bars" designs, one of which has been dated to 1892. Amish Acres is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its Arts and Crafts Festival and using this design in recognition of that tradition. The quilt is pieced using left- over scraps of fabric placed in vertical rows creating bars. It was one of the most popular designs in the late nineteenth century. Bold nontraditional colors and geometric designs made the quilts pieces of art.

**Amish Acres Historic Farm
and Heritage Resort**
US Highway 6 | Nappanee, IN

w: AmishAcres.com
p: 800.800.4942



-  *Safari Yellow Marigold*
-  *Boy Orange Marigold*
-  *Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Prelude Green Leaf White Begonia*
-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Turf Grass*

B3 "Cactus Dahlia" - Concord Mall

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

Each year the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail seems to grow right along with the pretty posies. Once again there is a new garden to unveil, making it the 19th on the tour. This exciting news is coupled with the Concord Mall's 40th Anniversary Celebration. The mall was built in 1972, and it was the first of its kind to appear in the Elkhart / South Bend area.

The garden is planted in a grassy area outside the Hobby Lobby entrance very near the quilt mural. This is the fourth site to incorporate both a quilt garden and a quilt mural on the same property; and it's one of three where it's possible to take a snapshot of both attractions at once.

The Elkhart Dahlia Society designed and volunteered to plant this garden, and they'll assist the mall exterior landscaper as needed. The Society holds annual flower exhibitions, many of which have been hosted at the mall. Typically the show attracts exhibitors from Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and of course Indiana. It is worthy to note that the local society also participates in the American Dahlia Society trial gardens (one of twelve across the country) at Bonneyville Mill Park in Bristol. It is said to be one of the best!

With all the Dahlia Society's experience this quilt garden should get off to a healthy start. Of course, all new garden plots present challenges, and this one may encounter some in those beautiful points they have created in their pattern - sixteen to be exact. The flowers selected should all do quite well working together to form the gigantic Cactus Dahlia. Fields Blue ageratum and Prelude white begonias frame this bold design. The bright yellow and orange are provided by Safari Yellow and Boy Orange marigolds. Cocktail Vodka begonias with their coppery bronze foliage fill the remaining petals providing just the right shot of red.

Concord Mall is celebrating the musical heritage of Elkhart with its installation of the "Jazz it Up" quilt mural. Local artist, Laurie Balla took her inspiration for the mural from "The Jazz Player Quilt" by Janet Wickell. Balla created a unique and contemporary design featuring vibrant colors patterned from actual fabrics. The connection to Elkhart's rich musical heritage comes to life in the silhouette of the jazz player who takes center stage in the mural. The silhouette is actually Balla and the saxophone she is holding is her grandfather's, who played in the Elkhart Municipal Band.

Quilters Chronicles – Cactus Dahlia

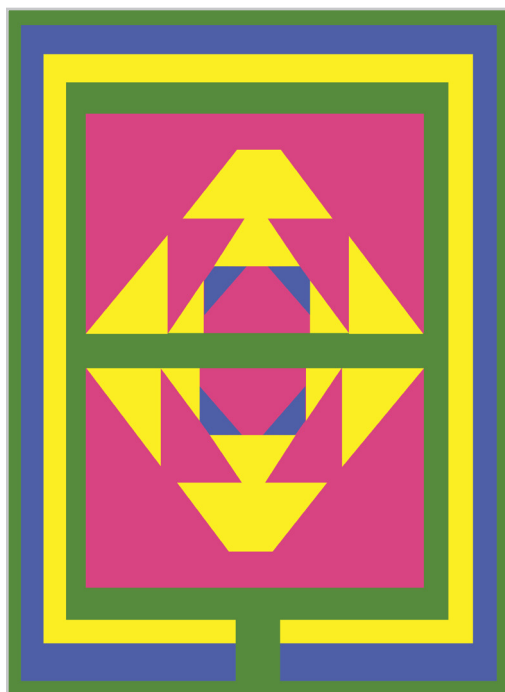
Selecting their quilt garden pattern was a process according to mall manager Deb Alwine. Diane Hart, who is a member of Fresh Start Church, one of the mall's tenants, was asked to review quilt patterns for consideration. She recommended four patterns. The committee then met with Rusty and Anita Ritchie of the Elkhart Dahlia Society who reviewed and studied the patterns and took away ideas to create an original design. They worked together to translate their love of dahlias into a beautiful, colorful and bright quilt block, incorporating bright yellow, reds, oranges and a border of blue and white. If rendered as a quilt, this design could be pieced or the center could be appliquéd with a pieced border.

Concord Mall

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

w: ShopConcordMall.com

p: 574.875.6502



- Eureka Green Leaf Pink Begonia
- Hawaii Blue Ageratum
- Boy Yellow Marigold
- Turf Grass

E2 "Pineapple Swirl" - Das Dutchman Essenhaus

SIZE: 49'W X 57'H

This garden is growing up! Das Dutchman Essenhaus is celebrating its 6th year as an official Quilt Gardens site. The garden on the hill was born in the spring of 2007 as one of two test gardens. The goal was to see if the new tourism concept was even feasible, begging the question - if you build it will they come? With a resounding "yes" the visitors came. So happy birthday to the Essenhaus quilt garden. We look forward to watching you grow.

Many of the quilt gardens are rendered each year on a permanent template of mulch or other materials to anchor the soil and allow access for maintenance. This site was one of the first to use sod to create grassed walkways and in so doing converted an access route into an invitation to guests to become part of the art. Many thousands have posed for the obligatory "group photo" in the garden. Young and old alike make their way up the grassy knoll to capture a snapshot in time -- a picture that tells the date not by the digital time stamp, but by the pattern and height of the flowers.

In this garden there are three tried and true annuals that should be recognizable to most backyard gardeners. This quilt garden canvas is matted and framed with a border of Hawaii Blue ageratum and Boy Yellow marigolds. These plants are widely used throughout the Quilt Gardens, being favored not only for their flower form and color but also for their sturdy constitution and drought resistance. The pineapple in this quilt sits amidst a mass of Eureka Pink begonias, 2,784 of them to be exact. Begonias are a consistent choice of gardeners all across the country. The fleshy stems and succulent waxy leaves ensure this annual can withstand heat and even short periods of drought without wilting.

The "Pineapple Swirl" garden pays tribute to the international symbol that's been synonymous with hospitality dating back to the 1700's. Amusingly while touring a well known Southern plantation it was said the owner instructed that a pineapple be placed in the guestroom to welcome his guests. When the guests had overstayed their welcome another pineapple would be placed in the room to bid them a fond farewell.

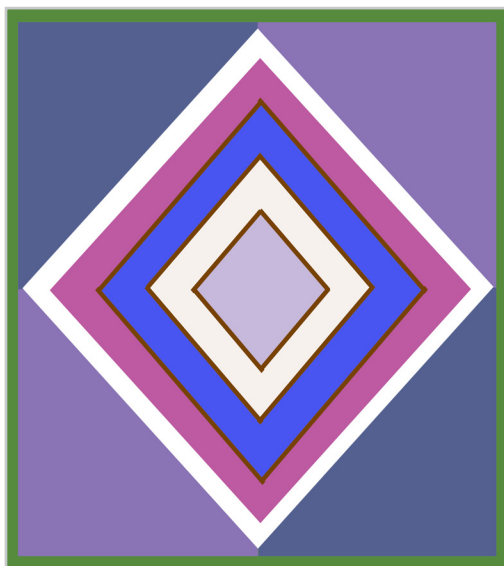
Quilters Chronicles – Pineapple Swirl

The Pineapple is a very old pattern, probably dating back to colonial days and in print as early as 1897 by the Ladies Art Company. The Ladies Art Company was established in 1889 in St. Louis, Missouri. They were the first to offer significant numbers of quilt designs. They named and numbered their blocks and published their first catalog in 1897. This again is traditionally worked as a pieced quilt.

Essenhaus selected the pattern because the pineapple motif has been synonymous with hospitality for hundreds of years. Central and South American natives grew pineapples for food long before Christopher Columbus discovered the fruit in Guadeloupe in 1493. The fruit became a fad among the wealthy and royalty. The pineapple symbol began cropping up in fences, furniture and quilts. In 1761, a Scottish summer house was constructed in the shape of a pineapple!

Das Dutchman Essenhaus
240 US 20 | Middlebury, IN

w: Essenhaus.com
p: 800.455.9471



-  *Gnome Purple Gomphehna*
-  *Silver Dust Dusty Miller*
-  *Picobella Blue Petunia*
-  *Picobella Lavender Petunia*
-  *Evolution Purple Salvia*
-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

F2 “Trip Around the World” - Dutch Country Market

SIZE: 25'W X 40'H

Finding locally made foods as fresh as a country sunrise has gotten a little easier since the Lehman family opened the Dutch Country Market. Katie's homemade noodles and peanut butter spread are renowned in Amish Country as are her scrumptious whipped honey spreads. Mom and Dad make eight in this equation where three sons and three daughters help run the family business. When asked how many hours the family might spend maintaining the quilt garden Norman said, “whatever it takes,” giving us a glimpse of their strong Amish work ethic.

“Trip Around the World” is an interesting pattern for the Lehman family to select. There are of course the incoming visitors from all over the globe who make it a point to visit the “noodle shop” as local tour guides call it, but there is also an outgoing message of faith. Faith in God, faith in family and faith in a community that cares for one another. Even the colors of the garden reflect a sense of cooperation and balance. By using varying shades of purple paired with soft gray, no one color dominates the overall design.

One of the most sought after colors in the world of flowers is true blue. Here we find the Picobella Blue petunia and its sister Lavender. I'll leave it up to you to decide if it's blue or not, but I can say with authority that the Picobella series is a prolific bloomer. Classified as a milliflora this type of petunia produces huge numbers of petite flowers on compact plants about 8 -10 inches tall. Wide rows of Silver Dust Dusty Miller work well to separate the mass of petunias which could have a tendency to get unruly if not pinched back to encourage good branching. Deep watering with a soaker hose helps ensure the delicate flowers don't take a beating from overhead sprinkler systems.

An intriguing plant choice is seen in two of the four corners. Evolution Purple salvia has been placed diagonally in two corners. The remaining ones are lush powder puffs of ageratum. These plants are very different in height drawing the eye upward to the top of the quilt. The illusion of movement in landscape design helps to draw the observer forward to explore areas that might otherwise be overlooked.

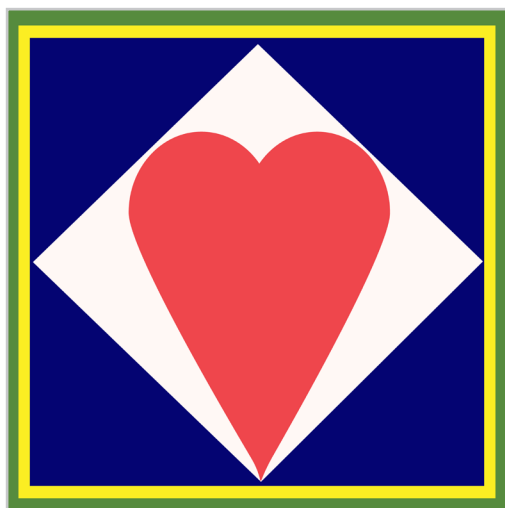
The center diamond is filled with Evolution salvia, the first hybrid to feature lilac flower spikes. From a distance it is several shades lighter than its closest comparison. Once again the seed companies tout Evolution as “a new color that is desirable for garden use as it widens the color choices for “blue” annuals. Rounding out the blue list is Fields Blue ageratum. Whether you call them blue or purple we call them old faithful here on the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.

Quilters Chronicles – Trip Around the World

This pattern is a variation of Sunshine and Shadows (similar to what we see at Weaver Furniture.) It is a pieced pattern and the colors of the quilt appealed to store owner Norman Lehman. In addition, he thought it appropriate commemorating their visitors from all over the world. At the meeting introducing this year's gardens, Norm thanked his family for their participation in caring for the garden, whom he affectionately refers to as “volunteers.”

Dutch Country Market
11401 County Road 16
Middlebury, IN

w: AmishCountry.org
p: 574.825.3594



-  *Smart Look Red Celosia*
-  *New Look Dusty Miller*
-  *Bravo Blue Petunia*
-  *Little Hero Yellow Marigold*
-  *Turf Grass*

B2 “Heart” - Elkhart Central Park

SIZE: 41'W X 41'H

Downtown Elkhart's Central Park team led by the City of Elkhart Buildings & Grounds Department has learned over the last 5 years that simpler garden designs are better. So this year they're paying tribute to the art of appliqué quilting with the “Heart” quilt garden. Located in the “heart” of the City of Elkhart, this garden reflects the new thriving arts and entertainment scene happening downtown especially with the recent renovation of the Lerner Theatre – a gorgeous facility.

Beginning with a bright border is a surefire way to bring emphasis to an exhibition garden that is likely to be viewed from a distance. Little Hero marigold ushers us in for a closer look. A dwarf French crested marigold, this early bloomer starts the show two weeks earlier than “Boys,” another widely used variety on the tour. With very large 2-2½ inch flowers on super compact 6-8 inch plants it's very aptly named. The dramatic royal blue in this garden design is provided by 3 1/2 inch trumpets of Bravo Blue petunia. You'll find no argument about which color family this flower belongs to. According to the breeder this series has less sensitivity to low light, making Bravo a better choice for gardeners with less than full sun required by most petunias.

Taking center stage we find a heart just bursting with scarlet red Smart Look celosia. The feathery plumes held atop dark green and bronze foliage are sure to delight all summer long. Celosia need rich soil with lots of compost to produce big, brilliant plumes. In order to promote more plumes, pinch back the first one. It is tempting to opt for instant gratification, but you must resist to be rewarded with stronger stems, better branching and more vigorous blooms. I would be remiss if I didn't mention what must be our winner for best supporting actor - Dusty Miller. New Look Dusty Miller to be more precise. Noted for having very white oak leaf shaped foliage, it provides the perfect texture and contrast to the fiery red plumes.

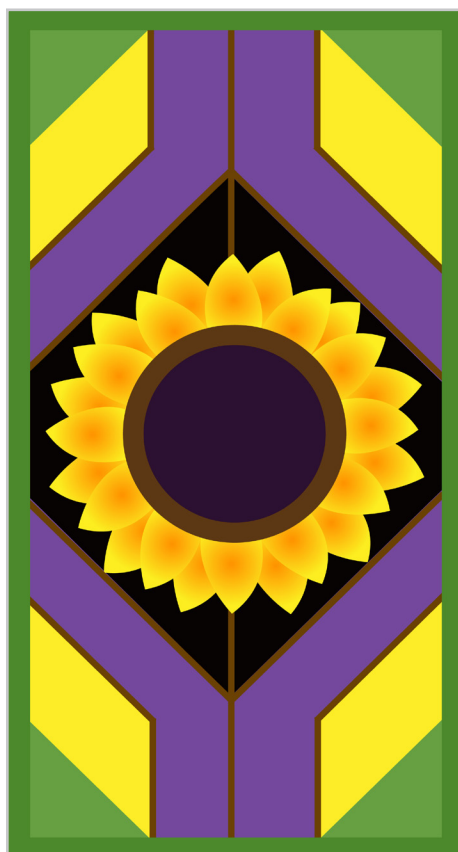
The curtain rises September 19-29, 2012, on a one-of-a-kind and not-to-be-missed Flower Carpet along the RiverWalk next to this quilt garden! 7,000 potted mums, the divas of fall flowers, deliver a dazzling jewel-toned display of color in a design that's inspired by the Lerner Theater - the gem in downtown Elkhart's Arts & Entertainment District.

Quilters Chronicles – Central Park Heart

Central Park has used a simple pattern for its quilt utilizing the talents of the city's grounds department to create the original design. They've told us they follow the KISS principal (Keep It Simple Stupid). This year they have combined the name of the park and the theme of the city to create Central Park Heart. This design, if made into a quilt, would probably feature an appliqué heart while the border would be pieced. Appliqué quilts utilize cutting pieces of fabric and attaching them to a background fabric. There are a variety of ways to do appliqué, both by hand and by machine. It is a popular way to create unusual designs and designs with curved edges and shapes.

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

w: ElkhartIndiana.org



-  *Black Cat/Velvet Petunia*
-  *Safari Yellow & Orange Marigold Mix*
-  *Curley Leaf Parsley*
-  *Picobella Blue Petunia*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

D4 “Purdue Grand Champion Sunflower” - Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

The multi-faceted team at the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds bring a multi-dimensional garden to life this year, the Purdue Grand Champion Sunflower. The black and gold sunflower in the center represents Purdue University's school colors. An attempt to create shading in the rays of the flower is a first for a Quilt Garden. The design calls for the gradual change from yellow to orange to mimic the deeper hues found in nature. In county fair speak, purple is the color of Grand Champions and indeed this is a grand garden! Green in the corners of the design is parsley-- a signature plant of this site for the last five years.

This garden is a cooperative partnership between four organizations: Purdue University Co-Operative Extension Service, Michiana Master Gardeners Association, Elkhart County Extension Homemakers, and the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Board. While planting and maintenance are primarily done by the Master Gardeners, the Extension Homemakers have contributed the design and along with the other two organizations help with expenses.

Like many a passionate gardener this team has spared no expense to produce an outstanding entry. This sunflower would surely crush the competition for the biggest sunflower at any county fair! Use your imagination and see the purple ruffles of the rosette in the petite Picobella Blue petunias. Boasting prolific blooms and a mounded habit, this petunia provides that all important high bloom to foliage ratio. The same can be said for Safari Marigold seen here in both yellow and orange. This anemone type marigold shows off big 2½-3 inch flowers nearly dripping in sunshine. Featured in the center of this show-stopper are one hundred Black Velvet petunias. According to the World Records Academy, this is the first-ever black petunia. Developed by plant breeder Ball Colegrave, it took four years to produce the new color. Also known as Black Cat, it was created by experimenting with existing colors already on the market and breeding those using traditional methods.

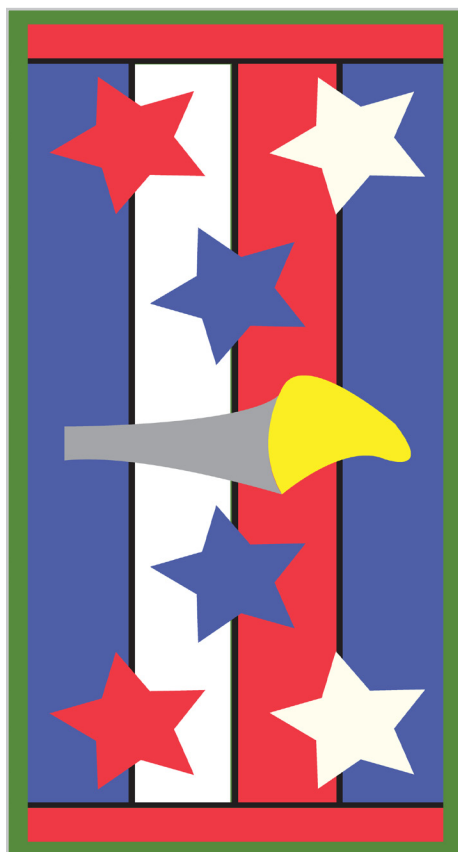
A tradition of sorts in this garden, parsley is not only a sumptuous deep green herb with great texture and easy care it's also high in vitamin C. Did you know that parsley will often overwinter? Or if you'd rather, the thick white carrot like root can be harvested and prepared like many cold hardy root vegetables.





Quilters Chronicles – Purdue Grand Champion Sunflower

Again, the fairgrounds quilt is an original design by one of the Extension's employees and her spouse, Mary Ann Lienhart Cross and Mike Cross. Mary Ann indicates the quilt is named for the parent agency working with the quilt garden. Obviously the fairgrounds is the perfect location for a grand champion. The sunflower features black and gold, Purdue University's school colors. Purple, the traditional color of the grand champion ribbons at the fair, was added and orange to give the garden depth. Also traditional is the use of parsley as the corners of the quilt. Although this is an original design, there are many, many historic quilts using the sunflower motif. Many of these date to the 1930s when quilting was making a comeback. Since the sunflower grows wild as well as under cultivation, it would be widely available for inspiration. These quilts are pieced and this design would be very conducive to reproducing in that fashion.

**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



-  Safari Yellow Marigold
-  Fields Blue Ageratum
-  Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia
-  Prelude Green Leaf White Begonia
-  Gray Hardscape
-  Black Mulch
-  Turf Grass

D4 "Liberty" - Elkhart County Courthouse

SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

The team of Cross & Lienhart-Cross provides a second original design for Goshen. Mike and Mary Ann were crucial to the success of this garden in 2011 and have generously volunteered to assist with two garden sites in 2012. How's that for community volunteerism? Located on the grounds of the Elkhart County Courthouse, *Liberty* comes to life with a symbolic torch in the center in honor of the Statue of Liberty, while the traditional stars and stripes surrounding it are reminiscent of the American flag.

The courthouse was built in 1869, when the county seat was relocated to Goshen. Special care was taken during the site survey to preserve the many stately maple trees lining the square in front of the building. These trees were first mentioned in documents dating back to 1847. Clearly the city's forefathers were forward thinking and included the preservation of natural resources as a one of their values. That forward thinking continues today. Goshen has many local sustainability programs with an emphasis on recycling. With that in mind garden designer Mike Cross, created a sculptural rendition of Lady Liberty's torch using recycled aluminum cans - the most ambitious attempt to bring both dimension and community awareness to a quilt garden.

Setting the flame ablaze is a mixture of vibrant yellow and orange Safari Marigolds. Originating in South America marigolds can take quite a bit of heat which makes it an excellent choice for this particular site. The nearby sidewalk and street generate radiant heat creating a challenging micro-climate and making drought tolerant plants a must. Making the cut and supplying the needed red, white and blue for this patriotic pleaser are Fields Blue ageratum, Prelude white and Vodka Cocktail Red begonias. Once established with a healthy root system each of these should hold up to the growing requirements of this demanding site.

This garden is a combined effort between Elkhart County Government, Goshen Chamber of Commerce, Purdue Co-Operative Extension Service and the Downtown Economic Improvement District of Goshen - an example of the unified effort put forth by many diverse organizations across the county to promote the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail. Due to its central location, the courthouse is a good place to park while exploring downtown. The popular Olympia Candy Kitchen, Wolldruff's Footwear, the Goshen Antique Mall, and a score of unique shops and eateries are within easy walking distance.

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

Quilters Chronicles – Liberty

The Crosses collaborated again in this design as well. The theme of red and white and blue as American colors and the flag are combined with bold white stars. The design is a patriotic flag, depicting the State of Liberty torch (hence the name) and the stars and stripes of the American flag. The torch was also chosen since 2012 is an Olympic year. Given the design, if rendered as a quilt it would probably be appliquéd, just as a flag featuring these symbols would likely be appliquéd onto a background; although the quilter would likely first piece the horizontal rows, and then appliquéd the stars and torch.



-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Sunstrom Pink Vinca*
-  *Boy Yellow Marigold*
-  *Cirrus White Dusty Miller*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

D1 "Grandmother's Fan" - Elkhart County Historical Museum

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

The Museum curators say they envision serving as the principal location where travelers along the Heritage Trail can gain a broad understanding of the long history of quilt and coverlet making in Elkhart County. This is accomplished with newly developed exhibits and programs, making the museum an ideal location for a Quilt Garden.

Pink Sunstorm vinca, Fields Blue ageratum and Cirrus Dusty Miller each play an important role in this rendition of an ornate ladies fan seen in this "Grandmother's Fan" garden. Offering masses of bright yellow blooms throughout the season, Yellow Boy marigold is also a winner in this garden. The University of Florida (which regularly tests bedding plants in field trials) found Yellow Boy to have "superior performance, rating significantly higher than all others its class."

As part of the museums commitment to the preservation of and appreciation for antique quilts, they sponsor many local quilt related events. One such event is the Annual Quilt Registry Day – an event where county residents are encouraged to visit the museum to enter their quilts into its registry of locally owned quilts. Since the program's inception in 2009, the registry has grown to more than 150 quilts owned by more than 60 different families.

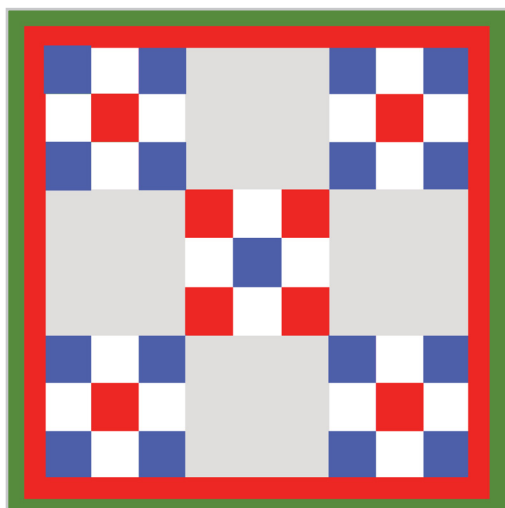
Quilters Chronicles – Grandmothers Fan

Grandmother's Fan is another old pieced quilt pattern, dating back at least to the Victorian era. It was frequently made from elegant silks, satins, velvets, ribbons and lace and embellished with embroidery and beading. Of course, at that time a lady's fan was as much a part of her ensemble as a hat. With all the petticoats and undergarments making up a woman's wardrobe and with no air conditioning, a fan was really a necessity. The quilt pattern was renewed in popularity during the depression since it could be made from small and mismatched pieces of fabric.

The pattern first appeared in print in a Ladies Art Company catalog of 1897. Fans were common motifs in late nineteenth century crazy quilts. Their popularity likely was due to the fad for decorating in the Japanese style, prompted by American exposure to Japanese art at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. By the 1930s fans were standard favorites for quilt patterns. It was also known as Milady's Fan or Japanese Fan. The Museum has a quilt in this design created to celebrate the 1919 WW I armistice by the women of Grace Lutheran Church in Syracuse, Indiana. It consists of 54 fan patterned squares, each square including an embroidered statement recognizing specific contributions to the war effort made by individuals and organizations, many of which are from Elkhart County. Technically the Museum's bed covering is a signature knitted comforter and was finished by Mary Kindig Snavelly in 1919.

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

w: ElkhartCountyParks.org
p: 574.848.4322



-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Eureka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Night Life White Begonia*
-  *Silver Dust Dusty Miller*
-  *Turf Grass*

G2 “Double Nine Patch” - Farmstead Inn

SIZE: 40'W X 40'H

Block #6 from the *Shipshewana Blessings Quilt* is the official welcome mat at the Farmstead Inn in Shipshewana. This garden is located just across the street from the Midwest's largest flea market, drawing tens of thousands of visitors when open.

It is one of several gardens that have chosen a red, white and blue color scheme this year. The plants used most often to provide these colors are ageratum and begonias. It's a winning mix offering long lasting blooms, low maintenance and a bit of drought tolerance. As is the case with gardeners everywhere, once you find what works you stick with it.

The name *Ageratum* is derived from the Greek “a geras,” meaning non-aging and referring to the longevity of the flowers. That's an especially important attribute for the rigorous demands of a quilt garden. A sturdy little workhorse floss flower a.k.a. blue mink or pussyfoot has earned a secure place in the American garden. Another favorite with gardeners are begonias. Here two bronze leaved varieties are featured. One sure performer is Eureka which has proven its worth time and time again in the official Quilt Gardens. A new plant being trialed here at Farmstead is Nightlife White. It is said to have the darkest bronze foliage of any begonia on the market. The selection committee has taken a risk with this plant as it is specifically rated for shade not the full sun inherent to this site. Developer Ball Horticulture recommends no more than 3 hours of sunlight for this newly marketed hybrid.

The *Shipshewana Blessings Quilt* is actually the daughter design of *The Blessing Quilt* that is on display in the Shipshewana Town Hall. It features the heritage of both the Amish and the Potawatomie Indians who prized this territory for generations prior to settlement by European immigrants. This quilt, created for the town of Shipshewana by regional women, is a handmade “visual prayer” for those who have been here before us, those here now and for the people of the future that will create life here.

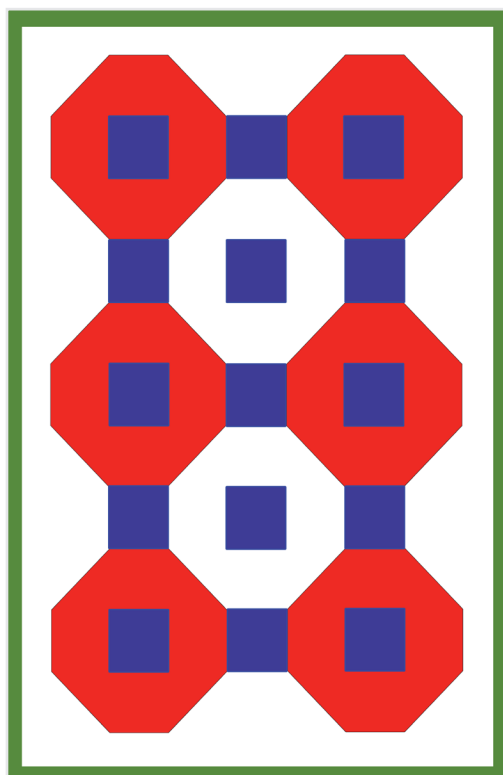
Quilter's Chronicles – Double Nine Patch

The Farmstead Inn continues its tradition of using a block from the *Shipshewana Blessings Quilt*. This year's block is a “Nine-Patch.” It is one of the oldest and simplest pieced quilt designs - published as early as 1897 by The Ladies Art Company, one of the earliest printers of quilt patterns. In its simplest form it consists of 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 spliced 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 the “Inn's Double Nine Patch” - 9 squares each constructed of smaller nine-patch blocks.

Farmstead Inn

State Road 5, across from the Flea Market
Shipshewana, IN

w: FarmsteadInn.com
p: 260.768.4595



Picobella Blue Petunia



Eureka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia



Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia



Turf Grass

E2 “Going Home” - Greencroft Middlebury

SIZE: 24'W X 36'H

The staff and residents of Greencroft in Middlebury welcome guests to their patchwork quilt inspired garden entitled “Going Home.” The Amish are famous for their geometric patchwork designs featuring typical floral motifs. Greencroft honors that tradition in 2012 with this garden.

The Quilt Garden project is an ambitious one for the volunteers of Greencroft Middlebury, yet they seem undaunted by the challenge. Of course the volunteers are assisted by the gardening staff employed by the site but insist they help prepare, plant, deadhead, weed and feed all those lovely begonias year upon glorious year. Begonias have performed well here over the last several years and these wise gardeners know “if it’s not broke, don’t fix it.” Sturdy and heat resistant they tell us “these plants always meet our expectations” even tolerating the low-lying location of this garden. They have recently improved drainage for this quilt garden site which should greatly improve the overall condition of the planting. Drainage is often overlooked by homeowners when choosing a garden site; only addressing it after attaining disappointing results year after year.

Preferring both the green and bronze leaf begonias to add contrast to the design, Greencroft residents chose Eureka as their go to variety. One of America’s favorite flowers, wax begonias are popular in flowerbeds, for hanging baskets, as container plants, and for indoor houseplants. Begonias are native to subtropical and tropical moist climates in South and Central America, Africa and Southern Asia.

The Semperflorens, the group which wax begonias belong to, are by far the most common.

With only two annuals in the garden, growing requirements are more easily managed by the volunteers. Petunias round out the short list of annuals seen here. This familiar trumpet shaped flower originated in Argentina and was first brought to Paris in 1823. Petunias are available in over 200 hundred hybrids ranging in size from six inches to an amazing two feet tall. The flower may be single, double, ruffled, fluted, or fringed ranging in size from 1 - 7 inches in diameter. Newer varieties tend to have sturdier blossoms that resist rain damage and do not need deadheading. There are hybrids that produce cascading or trailing habits while others are very compact and upright. Petunias are commonly seen in white, pink, red, fuchsia, purple, orange, lavender, blue, yellow and now even the blackest black so designing with this sun loving plant can be as creative as your imagination.

Quilters Chronicles – Going Home

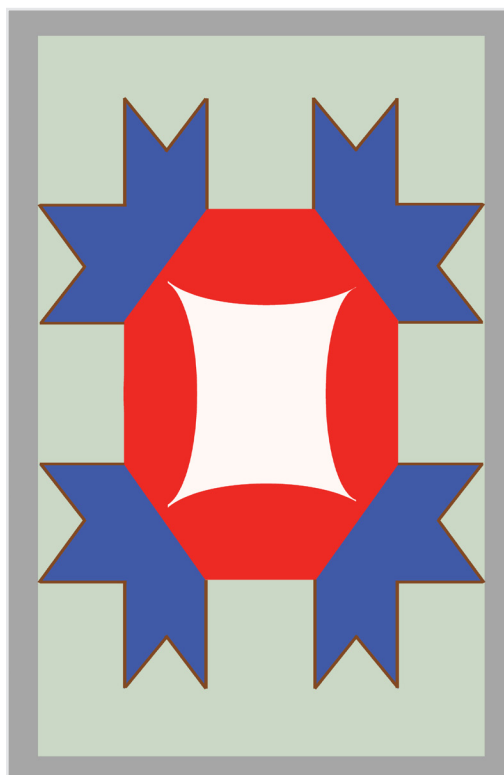
The residents of Greencroft picked this year’s garden from *500 Full-Size Patchwork Patterns* (1985) by Maggie Malone. The quilt would be pieced. Malone has authored several quilt pattern books. The pattern, combining octagons and squares originated as early as 1851, being published in *Godey’s Lady’s Book* and was known as Godey’s Design. It also known as “Five Cross”, “Grandmother’s Dream”, “Kansas Dugout”, “Lattice Block”, “Lovely Patchwork”, “Old Fashioned Quilt”, “Puss in the Corner”, “The Ozark”, “Tile Pattern” and “Road to Tennessee”! It was published as “Going Home” in 1941 in *Farm Journal and Farmer’s Wife*. The residents of Greencroft enjoy giving back to the community and the visitors the garden brings to them.

Greencroft - Middlebury

701 Windridge Drive | Middlebury, IN

w: Greencroft.org

p: 574.825.6785



-  *Eureka Green Leaf White Begonia*
-  *Eureka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia*
-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Robe White Nierembergia*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Concrete Pavers*

E2 "Hands All Around" - Krider Garden

SIZE: 20'W X 40'H

Krider Garden brings the "Hands All Around" pattern to life in a Quilt Garden to honor volunteers. It is this spirit of volunteerism that helps create a strong Middlebury community and a strong Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail event. In all there are over 200 volunteers who work 2,000+ hours this season to plant more than 115,000 annuals in nearly 23,000 square feet of soil in 19 gardens. That's a lot of busy hands!

That spirit of community volunteerism is also reflected in Krider Garden. Mr. Vernon Krider originally designed this garden for display in the 1934 Chicago "A Century of Progress" World's Fair. The garden was reconstructed close to Krider Nurseries in 1935. After falling into decay, the garden was restored by the community in 1995.

This "Hands All Around" quilt frame is filled from end to end with close to 1,000 red and white begonias. Imagine the hundreds of hours invested to create the work of art that is a quilt. That same kind of dedication goes into the Quilt Gardens. Hours spent on bended knee coaxing nature to bless us with her beauty.

This time honored pattern is nestled on a bed of Robe White Nierembergia. Also called Cupflowers, Nierembergia are grown as annuals in Midwestern gardens. They make an excellent ground cover as seen here and are equally at home spilling out of containers. Krider gardeners are the first to incorporate this plant in their design. With foliage that is fern-like and loads of white blooms all season long, it's hard to understand why it has not been used in quilt gardens before. To discourage self seeding cut the plants back after flowering to remove seed heads or allow them to ripen and harvest the seed. Keep in mind when collecting seed that hybrids produce a mix of offspring, which may have very different characteristics than that of the parents'

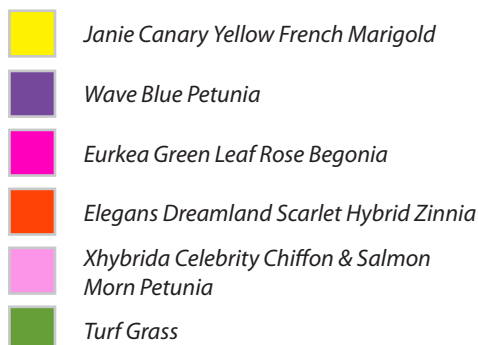
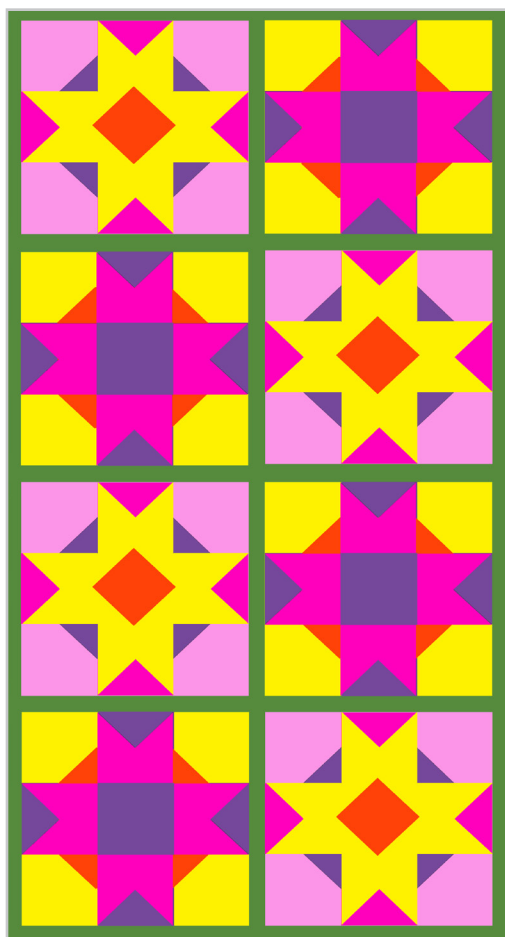
Quilters Chronicles – Hands All Around

This quilt is an old design and represents women around a quilt frame working together to finish a quilt. After a quilt is pieced or appliquéd, it is finished by quilting - the top is layered with batting (filler) and a back and then all are joined together. If the quilt is hand-quilted it would usually be attached to a large frame, which is very conducive for women working together. (Many quilts today are quilted on a machine - either a traditional sewing machine or a computerized long-arm machine.) The old fashioned quilting bee was a social activity for ladies working together. Krider's picked this pattern to recognize the influence and importance of volunteerism to the Middlebury community and particularly its parks.

Krider Garden

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

w: MiddleburyIN.com
p: 574.825.1499



C2 "Stellar Days" - Linton's Enchanted Gardens

SIZE: 32'W X 66'H

Linton's Enchanted Gardens brings you the "Stellar Days" Quilt Garden for your 2012 viewing pleasure. They've been in the landscape design and garden center business since 1982 and well known throughout Northern Indiana. Now with the Quilt Gardens, Linton's reputation is growing almost as fast as its business. Visitors from far and wide make it one of the must-see stops and shops on their itinerary.

As one might expect the landscape design team chose a nice variety of annuals for their quilt garden. They've developed two master blocks by varying the position of each plant for two distinct looks. These two blocks are then alternated throughout the pattern. In this way the design appears more vibrant and presents us with much more visual interest than if just one block were repeated across the planting bed. Here we see Janie Canary Yellow marigold, Eureka Rose begonia, Wave Blue petunia, Dreamland Scarlet zinnia, and new this year - Celebrity Chiffon and Salmon Morn petunia.

AAS winner Celebrity petunia provides the flower size, disease tolerance and garden performance needed for a high demand annual display. This one has the fastest average bloom time of any floribunda, and the large 3½-inch pink blooms pop up just 43 days after sowing - when the plants are no more than 4 inches tall! One of the most desirable characteristics of this plant is its great resistance to adverse weather, from rain and humidity to warm summer nights. Many of the quilt gardens have suffered the whims of nature, generally from too much rainfall and strong winds, so it will be interesting to see if this petunia lives up to its reputation.

A standard in most American gardens - zinnias are indispensable as cut flowers (as they have exceptional vase life) in annual displays, herb and cottage gardens, and mixed borders. Zinnias are rather carefree with some careful planning. Good airflow is essential in order to avoid powdery mildew, a common problem for many varieties. While not a heavy feeder, it does benefit from a balanced dose of fertilizer and a rich loamy soil. Try not to over feed them, as they will put the extra energy into lush foliage rather than abundant blooms. Linton's tells us they use a water soluble 14-14-14 fertilizer to keep their garden in top shape. Deadheading also encourages increased blossoms and keeps them looking neat and tidy.

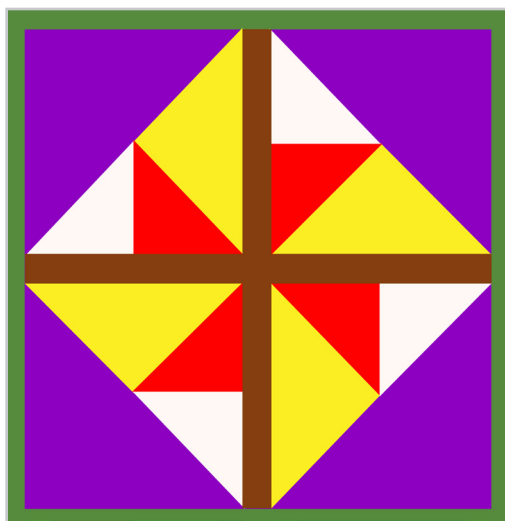
Originally from Mexico, zinnias are a warm climate plant especially favored by countless butterflies. Many gardeners add zinnias specifically to attract these "flying flowers." Zinnias do best in well-drained soil with infrequent watering. They are quite drought tolerant.

Quilters Chronicles - Stellar Days

Linton's brings us a variation of the "Ohio Star" - a staple for generations of quilters and the official quilt block of the State of Ohio. Whoever knew states had official quilt blocks! It is a 9 patch block - 3 rows of three squares (see Farmstead Inn.) This quilt would be pieced, and it is historically popular with Scottish and Irish immigrants of the Midwest. It's also found in many traditional Amish quilts. Dozens of variations exist and patterns abound in quilt books and on the Internet.

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

w: Lintons.com
p: 888.779.9333



-  *Boy Yellow Marigold*
-  *Eureka Bronze Leaf Scarlet Begonia*
-  *Cirrus White Dusty Miller*
-  *Fields Blue Ageratum*
-  *Natural Mulch Wood Chips*
-  *Turf Grass*

G2 "Peace & Plenty" - Menno-Hof

SIZE: 34'W X 34'H

Menno-Hof, an Anabaptist Information Center, opened in 1988 and has since welcomed over 870,000 visitors from all walks of life and from countries all over the world. The name can be referenced to the founder of the Anabaptist faith, Menno Simmons, and the Old English word "hof" which means enclosure, house, or sanctuary. Menno-Hof presents the history and values of the Anabaptist people who left Europe to flee from persecution and seek religious freedom. Inside you follow the path of a people looking desperately for the peace that only freedom of religion can bring.

The "Peace & Plenty" Quilt Garden at Menno-Hof looks very much like a modified pinwheel. With sixteen triangles in this pattern, clean crisp planting lines are a must. Each of the plants selected for this carpet of blooms fill that request. In the corners are purple ageratum, Fields Blue to be exact. Then spinning around the center are scarlet bronze leaf begonia, bright Boy Yellow marigold and starry white Cirrus Dusty Miller.

Menno-Hof is one of several sites to improve the grade of their gardens for better drainage. Most garden annuals resent wet feet, performing poorly and eventually succumbing to root rot. In many home gardens this problem can be overcome by installing raised planting beds.

Red, white, yellow and purple flowers are "sewn" into this quilt. While Menno-Hof says these colors don't represent anything specific to them, they remind me of my Sunday School lessons and the *Colors of Salvation* rhyme we learned as children. When looked at through the lens of faith even nature sings the song of the King.

Quilters Chronicles – Peace & Plenty

Quilting is an activity that many Mennonites and Amish incorporate into their family and church life. Presentations at Menno-Hof include references to the significance of quilts and quilting. This year the Menno-Hof Board chose its theme as peace and reconciliation and they feel this traditional quilt block ties in with that. From their beginnings in 1525, the Anabaptists have followed the peaceful teachings of Christ to love their enemies, return good for evil and respond to violence by turning the other cheek. They also note the process of using up the abundant little pieces and scraps of our lives, organizing them into a symmetric design as the kind of creative, regenerative, reconciling work that Christians are called to do. This design was originally published in the *Farm Journal* in 1877. The Journal was a tabloid newspaper to which many farm families subscribed.

Menno-Hof

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

w: MennoHof.com
p: 260.768.4117



	<i>Pacifica White Vinca</i>
	<i>Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Red Begonia</i>
	<i>Picobella Blue Petunia</i>
	<i>Hawaii Blue Ageratum</i>
	<i>Boy Orange Marigold</i>
	<i>Black Dragon Coleus</i>
	<i>Black Mulch & Authentic Buggy Wheels</i>
	<i>Turf Grass</i>

A6 "Piecefully Amish" - Nappanee Center

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

Only four short years ago, this quiet little city was hard-hit by a late season (October 2007) tornado. The following spring Nappanee's "can-do" spirit was realized with its first quilt garden at the McCormick Creek Golf Course aptly named "Recovery." In 2011 they moved the garden to the Nappanee Center which also houses the Chamber of Commerce, giving it a place of prominence in the historic downtown.

Last year, members of the Nappanee Center Quilt Garden Committee generated over \$8,000 in donated cash and materials PLUS another \$10,000 in free labor for to build their "Apple" quilt garden. That energy and creativity continues in 2012. This year's garden showcases the "Piecefully Amish" pattern derived from a Nappanee quilt book author, Connie Kauffman.

Designing a garden in an Amish community has its perks. Real wooden Amish buggy wheels create a three dimensional yet artistic effect in the center, while an authentic Amish buggy stands next to the garden for photo opportunities. The quilt garden designers are really beginning to think outside the box when it comes to bringing vertical interest to their gardens. Another quilt garden first is the use of Black Dragon Coleus, used here to interpret an Amish buggy complete with caution symbol. Coleus is most often found in the shade, but it can be adapted to grow in bright morning sun as well. Hawaii ageratum, Pacifica vinca, Cocktail Vodka begonia, Picobella petunia and Boy marigold round out the list of plants included in this garden.

Nappanee is investing serious energy into developing its quilt garden into a multifaceted attraction. With the help of the newly formed "Friends of the Quilt Garden" group, they have just finished construction of a new concrete pad with accompanying donor pavers in front of the garden. Plans are already in the works for an enhancement garden, decorative tool shed and perhaps even a new mural. It's heartwarming that something as simple as a garden can do so much for a city.

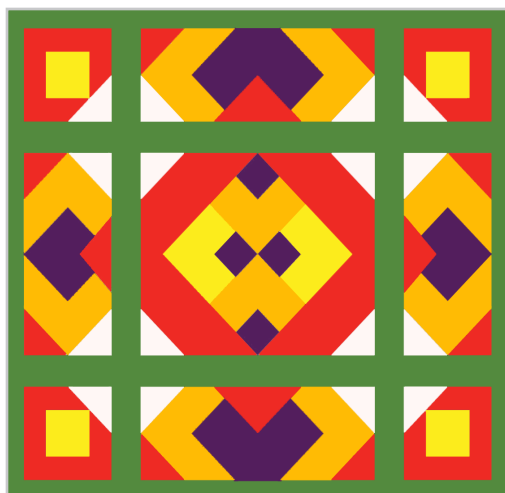
Be sure to allow time for the Nappanee Center to see its broad collection of historical items, antiques, and profiles of native sons and daughters - from world-famous cartoonists to an Air Force One pilot. The Center is also connected to the Hartman House, which offers a look back at the Nappanee of yesteryear.

Quilters Chronicles – Piecefully Amish

Connie Kauffman lives in Nappanee and is the author of a book *Piecefully Amish*. The cover of the book features a center pieced block surrounded by four Amish buggies. Connie has given the Nappanee Center permission to modify that design to fit their garden. The book is part of the "Love to Quilt" series from the American Quilter's Society. The Society honors today's quilt makers and their work and inspires future creativity and innovation in quilt making. Connie credits her mother, Eileen Snyder who taught her to sew, introduced her to the world of fabrics and trained her to select colors and patterns pleasing to the eye. Obviously sans wheels, this would be a pieced quilt.

Nappanee Center
302 West Market Street | Nappanee, IN

w: NappaneeChamber.com
p: 574.773.7812



	<i>Victoria Blue Salvia</i>
	<i>Boy Gold Marigold</i>
	<i>Boy Yellow Marigold</i>
	<i>Cocktail Bronze Leaf Red Begonia</i>
	<i>Silver Dust Dusty Miller</i>
	<i>Turf Grass</i>

C4 "Miles Variation" - Old Bag Factory

SIZE: 29'W X 32.5'H

Built in 1896 to originally house a manufacturing facility, the Old Bag Factory building is now home to artists, antiques, specialty shops and cafes. The renaissance began in 1984, when Larion and Nancy Swartzendruber purchased the complex to house Swartzendruber Hardwood Creations and other artisans. New owners in 2011 have sparked new energy and life in this multi-use facility.

Each year fiber-artist Shirley Shenk of Quilt Designs composes the quilt garden design. This year she shares with us a variation of her Miles series. The artist rendering of her Miles Variation looks very much like an intricate stain glass window. This exciting design is a challenging one to interpret in flowers due in no small part to all the sharp angles contained within the work. "Quilter's logic" is used when mapping out the planting bed. First full-size paper templates made to scale are laid out on the garden then sprayed with landscapers paint to create outlines for proper placement.

As in many of the quilt gardens, the Old Bag Factory has chosen to cut away panels of sod to form a permanent template for use each year. This requires continual vigilance in order to keep the openings neatly edged and to size. The same is true of the annuals contained there. Many plants overextend their welcome by spreading beyond the edges of the beds. When working with a very angular pattern such as this, it is necessary to do a good deal of hand clipping - especially with the dusty miller and marigolds seen here. Fortunately the salvia and begonias are more compact lessening the maintenance a bit. A good tip when planting salvia is to pinch off any buds or flowers to encourage good branching. Your reward will be a dramatic increase in both plant vigor and the number of flower spikes (the ultimate goal).

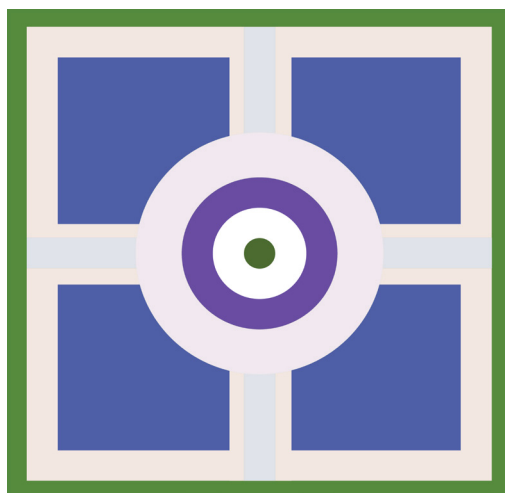
The brilliant colors of the Miles Variation garden are outstanding against the backdrop of the darkly stained log cabin that houses the Quilt Designs showroom. The 1837 two-story log cabin originally stood along County Road 46 southwest of Goshen, Indiana, and was the homestead for a pioneering family of thirteen. In 1986 the cabin was dismantled and each log labeled. It was then reconstructed at its current site on the grounds of Goshen's Old Bag Factory.

Quilters Chronicles – Miles Variation

The Miles Variation is an original design by fiber-artist Shirley A. Shenk of Quilt Designs. The design was commissioned by a customer whose last name was Miles. Originally, Shirley prepared three options labeled Miles I, Miles II and Miles III. Miles II is also the mural located at the Old Bag Factory. Shirley used the Miles series as the inspiration for developing the quilt garden. Miles II and Miles III are popular designs offered by Quilt Designs. Miles I has never made it off the sketch pad. You can compare the garden to the mural to see if you can spot the differences. Be sure to stop in the showroom to see many other quilts as well.

Old Bag Factory
1100 North Chicago Avenue
Goshen, IN

w: OldBagFactory.com
p: 574.534.2502



	<i>Rubrum Ornamental Grass</i>
	<i>Jambalya White Impatiens</i>
	<i>Victoria Blue Salvia</i>
	<i>Victoria White Salvia</i>
	<i>Silver Dust Dusty Miller</i>
	<i>Fields Blue Ageratum</i>
	<i>White Crushed Stone</i>
	<i>Turf Grass</i>

B2 "Wedding Garden" - Ruthmere House Museum

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

Ruthmere, once an opulent private residence, is now a historical museum in Elkhart and a must see on the Heritage Trail. It's filled with lavish one of a kind furnishings and stunning works of art from the Beardsley's private collection.

The magnificently restored 1910 Beaux Arts mansion was featured on A&E's *America's Castles* and gives a look back in time to America's Gilded Age.

The very formal "Wedding Garden" design has been brought to life in a striking blue and white contrasting quilt garden at Ruthmere. It honors the longstanding tradition of outdoor weddings held on the Beardsley grounds. It promises to transport visitors to a bygone era by creating a unique sensory experience with the stately mansion as its backdrop.

Ruthmere's quilt garden draws inspiration from the restored wedding garden located near the grand entry to the home. I have great hopes for this quilt garden. The design and the plant selections marry well with the old adage "something old (the design), something new (the garden), something borrowed (your attention) and something blue (obviously the flowers). I'm happy to see white impatiens in their garden this year. They have a somewhat shadowy exposure depending on the time of day, so it is wise to lean toward more shade tolerant plants. Ruthmere is one of several gardens utilizing salvia this season. Here even the flower name is historically correct. Victoria bears delicate floral spires on soft gray green or bluish gray foliage. The textures in their garden remind us of a lovely Victorian wedding gown, a vision of elegance hanging on a tiny dress form in the bride's dressing room.

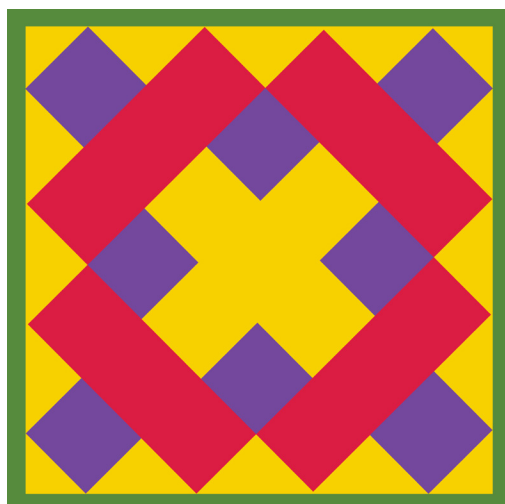
Obviously, the Beardsley's were fond of gardening as evidenced by the elaborate conservatory on the property. Mrs. Beardsley enjoyed her gardening so much that an underground tunnel was constructed so she could walk to her greenhouse without the inconvenience of inclement weather. That interest continues today with the Ruthmere Foundation's participation with the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail program. Master Gardener, Pam McIntire, teaches horticulture at the Elkhart Career Center and manages the gardening crew that cares for this garden and the surrounding grounds. She personally trains each member of the team to ensure proper care of the historic gardens that utilize many of the same plants documented in Mrs. Beardsley's journals.

Quilters Chronicles – Wedding Garden

Ruthmere has a restored wedding garden on its grounds based on one of the original historic landscapes at the Ruthmere museum. The garden enhances the grounds of the museum and is, in fact, used for weddings. This year the staff decided to reduce the garden into a smaller version for the quilt garden. It is brighter and stylized when compared to the original. It is hoped that the simple design will invite one to explore and look more closely at the flowers and to enter the grounds and compare and contrast the quilt garden to the actual wedding garden. If rendered in fabric, it might be pieced, appliquéd or a combination of both.

Ruthmere House Museum
302 East Beardsley Avenue | Elkhart, IN

w: Ruthmere.org
p: 574.264.0330

*Hotline Red Salvia**Picobella Blue Petunia**Boy Gold Marigold**Turf Grass*

A5 “Brickwork” - Downtown Wakarusa

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

From day one, the charming town of Wakarusa set the standard for building a proper quilt garden. Building the garden at a steep angle and adding retaining walls allows visitors easy viewing. The large Quilt Garden Tour logo erected just behind the garden and the Maple Leaf mural prominently displayed on the south side of the Yoder Brothers Mercantile building offers clever photographers the chance to shoot all three at once. Garden benches give guests a restful spot to appreciate the view.

The “Brickwork” garden features many tried and true standards in the world of annuals. Marigolds, petunias and salvia do quite nicely here. This garden is quite sunny giving these heavy bloomers plenty of energy to perform their best. Boy Gold marigolds bring the sunshine to this garden. Standing at the ready are firecracker red Hotline salvia one of the gardener’s favorites. These make a striking combination of sizzling hot hues that complement the overall pattern. Blue Picobella petunias make up the final bricks of this unforgettable quilt garden. The Picobella series is one of many miliflora petunias, simply meaning that it is loaded with thousands of petite blooms.

Although seed companies tell you Picobella needs no pruning, all petunias (like many annuals and perennials) benefit from pinching back to avoid leggy stems which tend to stretch as the season progresses. This also stimulates repeat blooming, better branching and sturdier stems - a real plus when strong winds threaten. Petunias are also heavy feeders due to the generosity with which they bloom. Fertilize them weekly with a balanced liquid fertilizer. They also tend to have shallow root systems so water deeply during times of drought.

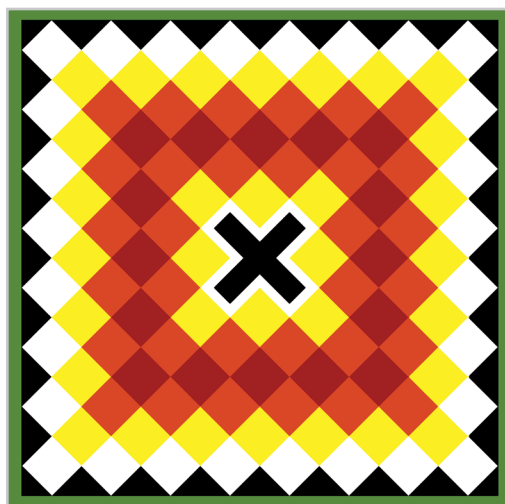
It’s interesting to note that each spring Wakarusa has a long-standing tradition of making maple syrup, which is celebrated during its annual Maple Syrup Festival. What does it take to make a gallon of maple syrup? Four mature sugar maple trees (at least 40 years old) can yield enough sap in six weeks to produce one gallon of syrup. The 40 gallons of raw sap are boiled down in a wood fired evaporator to produce a concentrated sweet sap water producing one gallon of syrup. The sugar-maker’s entire family works to fire and operate the evaporator and then sterilize, filter, grade and pack each gallon of syrup. In short, it takes a whole lot of hard work! But once you’ve tasted Wakarusa’s pure maple syrup, you know it’s worth it.

Quilters Chronicles – Brickwork

The town of Wakarusa chose this pattern for its color, contrast and overall look. Obviously inspired by the brick layers’ trade, this is a traditional pieced quilt, fitting into the broad category of “One-Patch,” a block made of pieces of only one shape. Again, it was first published by the Ladies Art Company in 1897. It is also called “Streak of Lightning.” The pattern is easily patched by sewing pieces together end to end into rows. The rows are joined horizontally, staggering each strip so that every other row begins and ends with a half-rectangle.

Wakarusa Chamber of Commerce
100 West Waterford Street
Wakarusa, IN

w: WakarusaChamber.com
p: 574.862.4344



-  Janie Canary Yellow French Marigold
-  Antiqua Orange Marigold
-  Fresh Look Red Celosia
-  Carpet of Snow White Alyssum
-  Black Mulch
-  Turf Grass

G3 "Sunshine and Shadows" - Weaver Furniture Sales

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

Weaver Furniture Sales in Shipshewana is a family operated business offering locally sourced handcrafted Amish furniture. It enters its second year of being an official Quilt Garden site with the "Sunshine & Shadows" garden. Typically this favorite Amish quilt pattern utilizes alternating dark and light colors next to one another representing the Amish belief in life's balances. Carolyn Miller, garden designer and site manager, was inspired by her own personal love of spending long hours in the sunlight and shadows of her home garden.

The sunshine in this quilt garden sparkles row by row with yellow and orange marigold filled diamonds. Fresh Look Red celosia supplies the fire while Carpet of Snow white alyssum puts the chill in the border. A busy pattern such as this makes the use of negative space all the more important. An integral part of any design is its hard-scape such as mulch or pavers, which provide definition and delineation to the quilt pattern.

The Weavers say that it gives them great satisfaction that in today's global marketplace they are able to offer such high quality Amish built furniture and at the same time help the Amish community. The Weavers, along with their eight children, started their furniture business after many years of work on their crop and dairy farm. The barn used in the farm operation was renovated and converted into a large showroom. Since the start, the entire family, all eight children and their growing families, have committed to make this furniture business a success story.

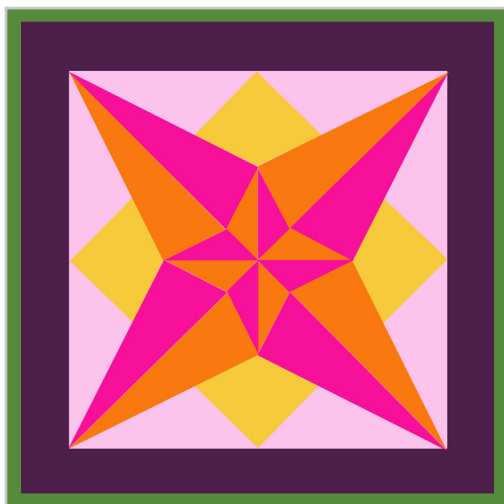
Quilters Chronicles – Sunshine and Shadows

In the book *Plain and Simple*, author Sue Bender says, "The Amish love the 'Sunshine and Shadows' quilt pattern. It shows two sides - the dark and light, spirit and form - and the challenge of bringing the two into a larger unity. It's not a choice between extremes: conformity or freedom, discipline or imagination, acceptance or doubt, humility or a raging ego. It's a balancing act that includes opposites." Patterns for the quilt were printed as early as 1933 by Nancy Page in the *Nashville Banner*, but it has been popular among the Pennsylvania Amish for over a century. It is a pieced quilt that has also been called "Trip Around the World" (see Dutch Country Market).

The gardener for Weaver's, Carolyn Miller, indicated that over the course of 40 years her mother pieced and quilted more than 100 quilts bearing a particularly beautiful design. They were shipped to clients across the United States. Carolyn formed a lasting love for her mother's special quilt pattern and inspired by her mother's artistry she has rendered the same in flowers.

Weaver Furniture Sales
7870 W 075 N | Shipshewana, IN

w: WeaverFurnitureSales.com
p: 260.768.7730



B2 "Star of Hope" - Wellfield Botanic Gardens

SIZE: 30'W X 30'H

Hope along the Heritage Trail unites the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer, Soup of Success and the Quilt Gardens sponsored by the Elkhart County, IN Convention & Visitors Bureau to grow "hope," the seed of success. "Hope" blooms in a "Star of Hope" quilt garden dedicated to the cause at the Wellfield Botanic Gardens – a 36-acre woodland and water sanctuary featuring themed gardens, winding stone paths, charming pump houses and whimsical sculpture.

Plant selection is quite a serious undertaking for the quilt garden designers at Wellfield. Plant materials must interpret not only the exclusive Vera Bradley "Tea Garden" fabric but also an intricate pattern of an original quilt wall hanging. To accomplish this, Wellfield is using a wide variety of materials, including annuals, ornamental grasses and ground covers.

-  *Eureka Green Leaf Rose Begonia*
-  *Boy Orange Marigold*
-  *Eureka Green Leaf Soft Pink Begonia*
-  *Gold Thread Alternanthera*
-  *Sunstorm Rose with Eye Vinca*
-  *Mixture of Black Mondo Grass, Multiflora Deep Pink Geranium & Snow Princess Alyssum*
-  *Turf Grass*

Testing the waters is a routine for a botanical garden that just so happens to sit directly over the water supply for a large part of the city. Another way they test the waters is by using unusual plants in its quilt garden. Leading that list is Gold Thread Alternanthera (seen in the pots at the base of the garden), a low growing evergreen used as a groundcover or filler in more tropical zones. In zone 5 it is very frost-tender and should not be planted out until all danger of frost is past. Also new to the Quilt Gardens is Black Mondo Grass, a versatile little plant with a confusing name. You see this plant is not a grass at all; it's actually a member of the lily family. Spreading by underground rhizomes Mondo is a slow grower, which is why it commands higher prices than its lilyturf cousins. As for the flowers, the list includes deep pink geranium, Snow Princess alyssum, Sunstorm Rose vinca, Eureka soft pink and rose begonia and eye-popping Boy Orange marigold.

You can help grow "Hope" by stopping by the Elkhart County Visitors Center or any of the areas Vera Bradley retailers from April through September and enter to win the original "Star of Hope" quilt wall hanging. Using exclusive Vera Bradley fabrics, local fiber artist Diana Bennett has crafted the quilt to benefit the cause.

Quilters Chronicles – Star of Hope

For the third year, two incredible organizations and one talented individual have collaborated to create an extraordinary garden. Fiber artist Diana M. Bennett of Goshen created a quilt with the right to use Vera Bradley Fabrics in 2010, 2011 and returns with a new design in 2012. She will use Vera Bradley's exclusive "Tea Garden" fabric this year.

While designing the Star of Hope an old children's nursery rhyme kept flowing through Diana's mind:

Star light, Star bright,
The first star I see tonight;
I wish I may, I wish I might,
Have the wish I wish tonight

The Star of Hope design is dedicated to those who look at the evening sky with hope and wonderment, and perhaps a prayer that a cure for all cancers will soon be discovered.

Wellfield Botanic Gardens
1011 North Main Street | Elkhart, IN

w: WellfieldGardens.org
p: 574.266.2006