ABOUT THE PROJECT

INTRODUCTION FROM THE AUTHOR

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

BRISTOL QUILT GARDENS

Elkhart County Historical Museum / “Practical Orchard” ................................................................. Page 5

ELKHART QUILT GARDENS

Central Park / “Star Light, Star Bright” ................................................................................................ Page 6
Elkhart Environmental Center / “Renewed Direction” ........................................................................ Page 7
Linton’s Enchanted Gardens / “Rosies Posies” ................................................................................... Page 8
Ruthmere Museum / “Ruth’s Chrysanthemum” .................................................................................. Page 9
Wellfield Botanic Gardens / “Peace Crane” ......................................................................................... Page 10

GOSHEN QUILT GARDENS

Abshire Park / “Lulu May’s Daisy” ........................................................................................................ Page 11
Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds / “Purdue Extension Elkhart County Star” ........................................ Page 12
Elkhart County Courthouse / “Flowering Sunshine” ........................................................................... Page 13
Old Bag Factory / “Hen & Chickens” ..................................................................................................... Page 14

MIDDLEBURY QUILT GARDENS

Das Dutchman Essenhaus / “Pink Peony Kaleidoscope” ..................................................................... Page 15
Dutch Country Market / “Dahlia” ............................................................................................................ Page 16
Krider World’s Fair Garden / “Flower of the Woods” ....................................................................... Page 17

NAPPANEE QUILT GARDENS

Coppes Commons / “Angles in the Garden” ......................................................................................... Page 18
Nappanee Center / “Flower of the Cross” ............................................................................................. Page 19

WAKARUSA QUILT GARDENS

Downtown Wakarusa / “Meadow Flower” ............................................................................................. Page 20

QUILTING TERMS ............................................................................................................................... Page 21

BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE 2020 MASTER GARDENER’S 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. Visit QuiltGardens.com to download today!
ABOUT THE QUILT GARDENS ALONG the HERITAGE TRAIL

Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is an innovative, creative, one-of-a-kind experience designed to interest a wider 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. 2020 is the 13th anniversary for the season-long attraction that continues to grow and now features 16 Quilt Gardens presented in six communities along the Heritage Trail driving tour, viewable annually May 30 to September 15.

Recognizing the importance and value of high quality in both the gardens and murals displayed, each garden and mural is required to meet 10 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, quilters, 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 favorably received by the group motor coach audience, having been named an American Bus Association (ABA) Best of the Best Event and a seven-time Top 100 Event.

Sonya L. Nash, Project Manager, Elkhart County, IN CVB

It is often times said that creating anything worthwhile takes time, money and a lot of effort. The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail embodies that statement, even more so in a year that has been disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic.

In 2020, this project continues on supported by the devotion and pride of the Elkhart County, IN Convention & Visitors Bureau’s community partners. These partners are the heroes of the 2020 Quilt Gardens, coming together to overcome challenges presented by the pandemic. This project means a great deal to all of us, for the beauty it offers to all who visit but also the community pride that is expressed in every square inch of the gardens. Our partners contribute than 200 volunteers in six cities and towns. 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.

The ECCVB leadership and staff supports these dedicated volunteers, working year-round on planning, preparing and promoting the Quilt Gardens. 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. Through our collective efforts, the Quilt Gardens offer a beautiful and serene refuge, one that is ideal for the social distancing and health precautions required of us in this year.

My role is to keep everyone working together on the same page while steering this project in a positive future direction. Over 13 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 look forward to your visit and hope you return time and again as we continue to learn and grow along with our gardens.
INTRODUCTION FROM THE AUTHOR

It has been my pleasure again this year to author the Quilters Chronicles. It is my hope that the Chronicles will inspire people to try gardening and quilting as a hobby. While the media is different, the way you approach laying out a Quilt Garden and a quilt block are the same. Quilting today can be accomplished as it was done in the 1700s, by hand-using a basic sewing kit (needle, thread, scissors and a thimble), fabric, and a few pattern templates made from heavy paper or lightweight cardboard. For those who want speed and instant gratification, there are a number of modern quilting tools that can be purchased from stores specializing in quilt fabrics, sewing notions and sewing machines. The 2017 Quilting in America survey shows that there are 7-10 million active quilters in the United States, making quilting a $3.7 billion industry that includes fabric, books, patterns, sewing machines, quilting machines and sewing notions. While quilting is alive and well in the United States, it also means that the quilters are surrounded by people who don’t quilt. Close friends and relatives may be familiar with some, but not all, of the basics of quilting and its terms. Quilting terms have been included at the end of the Quilters Chronicles to help the non-quilter with unfamiliar terms.

Many of today’s traditional quilt-block patterns have been passed from neighbor to neighbor and mother to daughter long before modern publishing came into existence in the 1890s. Sometimes they would name the quilt-block pattern at the time of publication and sometimes not. It was and is acceptable for quilters to re-name a quilt-block pattern. This would allow the quilt maker to claim ownership of her finished quilt. Sometimes the quilt-block pattern name would change from one area of the nation to the next. It isn’t uncommon for quilters to have long discussions as to the proper name of a quilt-block pattern. It seems the more popular the quilt-block pattern, the more names it has.

The patterns used for the Quilt Gardens go through a juried process by a committee before they are offered to the locations. This ensures that all chosen patterns can be successfully translated into a beautiful Quilt Garden. For the 2020 Quilt Gardens, the locations could select from 59 pre-approved traditional quilt-block patterns, select a pattern that had been approved in previous years but not used, or use a pre-used pattern that had not been made into a Quilt Garden for at least three years. This allows for an abundance of quilt-block pattern choices that can successfully be made into gardens. The sources used in selecting the 59 quilt-block patterns and information on other selected quilt-block patterns are listed below.


Diana Bennett was born in Lafayette, IN. After she married her husband Bill, they moved to Fort Wayne and a few years later to the Janesville, WI area. In 1980 they returned to Indiana and made southeastern Elkhart County their home until her recent retirement, upon which she and her husband returned to Lafayette.

In 1981 she took a basic quilting class. It opened a new world that needed to be explored. She sees her professional life as two different worlds. In the first world, she worked in office management and accounting for 16 years. In 1983 she left the business world and began learning about the different aspects of quilting and surface designs on fabric.

What had been her hobby became her vocation. By 1989 she had started her own business selling her own hand-dyed and surface-embellished fabrics at area quilt shows. As an independent teacher, she was teaching and giving workshops on all levels of traditional quilting from beginning quilting to advance quilting techniques, including rotary cutting and specialty rulers and an occasional fabric-dyeing and surface design class. Her hobby then became a deep interest in antique fabrics, quilts and quilt tops. She has amassed a collection of books on fabric dyeing, fabric-surface design, quilt history, antique fabrics, quilt-block patterns, and a few antique sewing notions and sewing machines. In 1998 she began displaying her original quilt designs in art museums and entering them in art competitions. This change limited the time she had for teaching. She still gives an occasional lecture on antique quilts and fabrics and enjoys giving programs on all phases of quilting to her local quilt guild.

She was presented the 2016 Hoosier Hospitality Award by Lt. Gov. Eric Holcomb for her work with the Quilt Gardens and other quilting events in Elkhart County. Being a member of this group combines her love of quilting and flowers. She says of her volunteer work: “The Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail is such a good fit for our community. It brings the quilting heritage of this area to the forefront for those who live and visit our community to see and enjoy.” Like so many quilters, gardening and quilting is a natural fit. When you see a quilt-block pattern brought to life in beautiful flowers, it brings a smile to the faces of those who visit the gardens.
“Practical Orchard” - Elkhart County Historical Museum

SIZE: 30’w x 30’h

The Elkhart County Historical Museum is housed in the old Bristol High School that was completed in 1903 at 304 W. Vistula St., Bristol. The building, with its history as a public facility, is well-suited to house the artifacts and historical materials of Elkhart County. The museum and its staff keep history alive in our county through their on-site exhibits and programs.

Julie Parke, site manager, and her staff have chosen the pre-1895 traditional quilt-block pattern, Practical Orchard, as the inspiration for their Quilt Garden design. They like to work with simple quilt-block patterns as they feel they best show off the overall design of the garden and the flowers. Their Practical Orchard garden is filled with Aloha Blue Ageratum, White Whiskey Bronze Leaf Begonias, and Deep Rose Tequila Bronze Leaf Begonias.

The Practical Orchard quilt-block pattern is determined to be pre-1895 when the first publishing of quilt-block patterns began. It is based on a 3-by-3 grid. This simple pattern is a good quilt block for a novice quilter to learn basic quilting skills. The block pattern can easily be enlarged or reduced to suit the needs of the quilt maker. The finished quilt block can be used in a sampler quilt or repeated several times to make a quilt top with or without sashing between the blocks. It is a good pattern for using up fabric scraps. It is also a good quilt block pattern to experiment and learn about color placement within a quilt block or within a finished quilt top. Being creative with color placement will give each quilt top made from the same block pattern look entirely different. Why not cut several blocks and triangles in light and dark shades of fabric. Place them in different positions within the quilt block on a design board before you decide to piece your project. This block can be easily rotary cut which adds to the fun of getting quick creative results.
**“Star Light, Star Bright” - Central Park**

SIZE: 40’w x 40’h

Elkhart’s Central Park is at the center of the Gateway Mile and a great spot for a Quilt Garden. With the RiverWalk at their back, local walkers enjoy stopping throughout the summer to watch the flowers and pattern develop. The Civic Plaza is just above and a handy place to meet up before heading out into the growing Arts & Entertainment district with its many eateries and pubs. The restored majestic Lerner Theatre is just up the block and offers musical and theatrical options to visitors and locals.

Art is all around Central Park. Along Elkhart’s downtown RiverWalk, there’s an impressive marching band sculpture and a jazz saxophonist, a nod to the musical instruments produced here. Central Park’s “Star Light, Star Bright” compliments the vibrant, active nature of Elkhart downtown, and challenges gardeners, new and seasoned to see possibilities beyond the usual.

Flower gardening is an ongoing year-round project for the staff of the city of Elkhart’s Building & Grounds Department. In the winter they are busy in their greenhouses starting from seed plants that will fill the city’s parks with flowers. To supply flowers for their Quilt Garden they have grown 1,469 Dracula Celosia, 402 Taishan Yellow Marigolds, 2,624 Silver Dusty Miller, and 1,848 Bright Orange Double Zahara Zinnia.

Ric Powers, site manager, and his staff selected a quilt-block pattern from the 1930s published under the name “Wind Blown Tulip.” They felt this design would give them a challenge in creating their flower garden that has been named “Star Light, Star Bright.” Some sections of the quilt-block pattern have been combined to achieve the desired visual effect for the garden. For quilters this block pattern is also considered a challenge and would require medium to experienced piecing skills. This pattern would be best achieved by making a template for each shape within the quilt block. Care should be taken in placing the templates correctly on the grain line of the fabrics when they are cut out.

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**Elkhart Building & Grounds Department**

Waterfall Drive & Franklin Street
Elkhart, IN

w: ElkhartIndiana.org
p: 574.295.7275

Visit [QuiltGardens.com](http://QuiltGardens.com) for more information
“Renewed Direction” - Elkhart Environmental Center

SIZE: 40’w x 40’h

The Elkhart Environmental Center is an environmental learning center that strives to educate the community on its environmental impact. The EEC is situated on the former Lusher Dump, but over the last 40 years has remediated and restored the site to include more than 65 acres of enriched green space. The public is welcome to walk the trails, browse the gardens, woods, and prairies, as well as utilize the canoe launch onto the Elkhart River. There are picnic tables, statues, recycled art figures, and a variety of adjacent natural spaces to view. Jamison Czarnecki, site manager, invites visitors to stop in to the cabin to say hello.

Since this is their first year to participate in the Quilt Gardens, the ECC wanted to start with a simple design and chose the Flying Geese Block. To reflect the change in direction that the ECC is taking they have named their garden Renewed Direction. Big things are to come and the colors of the flowers Purple Pretty Grand Midnight Petunia, Lemon Delight Melampodium, and Triple Curled Parsley represent renewed energy, growth and ambition. To maintain their garden, Jamison Czarnecki has a varied group of people including staff and volunteers. Two Master Gardeners, Annette Webb and Jean Dreary, will be prioritizing and maintaining the garden. They will also have guidance from the city horticulturist.

The Flying Geese block is one of the most versatile quilt-block patterns. There are at least 50 variations of this highly recognizable design. The geese units can be grouped together in a pleasing pattern to make a square quilt block to use in a sampler quilt top. It is also a very popular design to use in borders and sashing for quilts and wall hangings. The width and the height of the center triangle will vary depending on how and where it is being used within a quilt. Consistency and accuracy in every step of construction of this block or border is a must. There are several piecing techniques that can be used to accomplish the perfect geese units. They can be rotary cut from fabric by using a ruler and sewn together or there are preprinted paper foundations that can be used to assist during sewing and then torn away after the sewing is done. There is also the foundation method where the fabric is sewn to pre-printed interfacing that becomes a permanent part of the construction. Your local quilt shop can help with determining which method is best for you.

Elkhart Environmental Center
1717 East Lusher Avenue
Elkhart, IN

w: ElkhartIndiana.org/EEC
p: 574.293.5070

Visit QuiltGardens.com for more information
The staff at Linton’s enjoys welcoming visitors from near and far to their unique, family-friendly and delightful garden center that brings beauty to all through plants. Linton’s Enchanted Gardens is not only a garden center, but also a family destination. Over the last few years they have added a number of attractions to their unique garden center complex: a butterfly house, pedal go-karts, pedal bumper boats, petting zoo, garden cafe, gift shop and much more.

The staff at Linton’s sees the Quilt Garden project as an extension of their garden center. The project provides Linton’s a unique opportunity to partner with the Vera Bradley Foundation for Breast Cancer. Each year it offers them a new and exciting challenge to incorporate the organization’s current Breast Cancer Awareness fabric pattern into their garden theme. The 2020 Quilt Garden will express a celebration of the 2019 spring birth of two Dwarf Diamond Doves that have been named Rosy, for the early spring blooming Primrose, and April, for the month both hatched. They chose the Primrose quilt-block pattern and named the garden “Rosies Posies” which incorporates the Vera Bradley “Pretty Posies” 2019 fabric pattern and colors for the Breast Cancer Foundation. Asael Mujica, nursery manager, will continue to employ his staff to water, weed and maintain the Quilt Garden as needed for viewing and picture-taking opportunities for guests enjoying the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail and visiting Linton’s Enchanted Gardens.

The quilt-block pattern Primrose is the design inspiration for the “Rosies Posies” flower garden. This pattern is from the 1930s and is best suited for applique. There are several ways to approach the creation of this block which include sewing machine applique or hand applique. It is recommended that a large square of fabric be used as the base for the flower after it is finished. Usually flower petals for applique are cut individually and applied on to a base to create a finished flower. In this instance each ring of petals can be cut from one piece of fabric. The smaller ring of petals is appliqued on top of the larger ring of petals. Excess fabric can be removed from the back being careful to leave ¼-inch seam allowance. The center circle is added last and excess fabric is removed. The flower is then appliqued on to the large square of fabric that will be the base or background for the quilt.

This pattern would be a challenge for a novice quilter, but quilters with medium applique skill levels should have no problem completing the quilt block.
The Beardsley Avenue Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This historic district of Elkhart includes two homes originally built by the Beardsley family. The home of Havilah Beardsley, the founder of Elkhart, is located at 102 W. Beardsley Ave. To many in the community, this is known as the founder’s home. His nephew, Albert R. Beardsley, built his home at 302 E. Beardsley Ave. and is called Ruthmere. Both homes are open to the public for tours in which visitors can learn about the most prominent families in Elkhart’s history.

Andrea Barbour, site manager, and the staff at Ruthmere took a democratic approach to selecting a quilt-block pattern on which to base their Quilt Garden. The staff narrowed down the choices available from 60 to five. The volunteers then met and had a brief discussion. They chose the 1930s version of a Chrysanthemum quilt block. The Chrysanthemum was loved by the late Victorians and was very popular in the early 20th Century. The pattern also allows for diversity in color and the way it would look on Ruthmere’s flat flower garden bed. To stay in compliance with the rules and guidelines of homes on the National Register of Historic Places they cannot elevate nor place a viewing stand near the garden so the visual impact of the garden is very important. The flowers chosen for the garden are Violet Impatiens, Super Olympia Green Leaf Rose Begonias, Wasabi Coleus, White Impatiens, and Scarlet Wizard Coleus. The color pink in the garden is in memory of Ruth Beardsley. The garden is named “Ruth’s Chrysanthemum.” Ruth was the daughter of Albert and Elizabeth Beardsley who died as an infant.

This variation of the Chrysanthemum quilt-block pattern was first published in the early 1930s. It is considered an isolated block style. It is also is a challenge for all levels of quilters to create. The more experienced quilter may use rotary cutting as a way to prepare the fabric for piecing. The novice quilter may find templates as their best method to create the perfect finished quilt block. This is an excellent block pattern to create a 15-inch or 18-inch quilt block. The blocks can be sewn together without any sashing. Sashing between the blocks can be used as a method to showcase each block. Pre-cut fabric strips or scraps would be ideal to make this quilt-block pattern. There are a few examples of finished quilts made from this pattern dating to the 1980s on the www.quiltindex.org website.

Ruthmere
302 East Beardsley Avenue | Elkhart, IN

w: Ruthmere.org
p: 888.287.7696

Visit QuiltGardens.com for more information
“Peace Crane” - Wellfield Botanic Gardens

SIZE: 30’w x 30’h

Wellfield Botanic Gardens’ mission is to promote the inseparable relationship between water, plants and animals, inspire creativity and education while celebrating nature, foster stewardship for the natural world, and bring people together to build community. Wellfield’s welcoming Quilt Garden is located just outside their gates for the public to enjoy admission-free. Visitors to the Quilt Garden are welcome to sit on the bench and contemplate the garden and the world around them. Consider stepping inside the 36 acres of lush gardens set against a backdrop of native woodlands with the bubbling, crystal-clear water of Christiana Creek flowing through the grounds. Striking in any season, Wellfield leads visitors along winding stone paths dotted with charming pump houses and whimsical sculptures. Always growing and evolving, to celebrate the opening of their newest themed garden, the Japanese-inspired “Island Garden,” a generous gift from Don and Jurate Krabill, Wellfield Botanic Gardens is dedicating 2020 to highlighting Japanese culture and its many artistic contributions to the world.

Wellfield presents Kisetsu: The Year of the Island Garden 2020. “Kisetsu” translates to season or the time of year. The Japanese have a sensitivity to the ephemeral or impermanence of all things as seasons change, a concept called mono no aware. In other words, the only constant is change itself. It is wonderful to walk the garden on a daily or weekly basis throughout the year watching the subtle and not-so-subtle natural changes marking the passage of time.

Wellfield Botanic Gardens is a natural fit to feature a living Quilt Garden as it is a chance to showcase horticultural experience and provide an aesthetic addition to the Heritage Trail. Executive Director Eric Garton and his staff selected an origami crane designed by ©Margaret Rolfe in 2003 and is being used with her permission to compliment the “Year of the Island Garden.” The Quilt Garden is named “Peace Crane.” The staff at the Wellfield Botanic Gardens will be filling their garden with burgundy halo Vinca Pacifica, sky blue Calibrochoa Cabaret, and icy pink Vinca Pacifica. In 2019 Wellfield volunteer Jim Cunningham custom-made a new viewing platform for the Quilt Garden. The added height gives visitors a bird’s-eye-view of the garden.

Many people are familiar with origami as a type of three-dimensional paper folding art. This very old artform has found its way into the contemporary quilt world by utilizing the technique of paper piecing. Paper piecing allows for difficult designs to be accurately accomplished by even the novice quilter. Since a very small and tight stitch is required it is best if these patterns are done with the use of a sewing machine. The finished piece is flat and not three dimensional. There are several publications available that provide origami patterns as well as a variety of other types of designs. Paper piecing is a great way to use up fabric scraps. Check your local fabric store for patterns that are paper pieced and for information on how to create your own paper foundations for piecing difficult patterns.
“Lulu May’s Daisy” - Abshire Park

SIZE: 31’w x 31’h

The Goshen Parks Department is returning for their second year with Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail, as the gardens are a perfect way of expressing art with nature. It speaks to their mission of providing and embracing programs that benefit area residents and which contribute to Goshen’s environment, wellness and sense of community. Abshire Park is Goshen’s third-largest city park spanning 75.5 acres and donated to the Goshen Parks Department in 1986. In addition to on-site recreational options, the park has ample parking and offers a beautiful trailhead for the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, a leg of the Maple City Greenway Trail Network.

Frank Shula, site manager, and his staff chose the 1930s traditional quilt-block pattern Mississippi Daisy as the inspiration for their Quilt Garden, “Lulu May’s Daisy.” It is named after John O. Abshire’s first wife, Lulu May Keller Abshire. This pattern was fairly popular in the 1930s and 1940s and was published under five different names. The staff at Abshire Park has brought their garden to life by using Red Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Begonia, Super Olympia Pink Green Leaf Begonia, Taishan Yellow Marigold, and Snow Crystals White Allysum.

The Mississippi Daisy can be a challenging block to execute and is not recommended for the novice quilter. The secret to successfully piecing this quilt block is to make sure all the grain lines within the fabric pieces line up with the piece it is being sewn to. When the block is completed the grain lines should match up throughout the quilt block. To insure accuracy templates should be used. All the templates, especially those for the petals of the daisy, should have the cross grain line and the straight of grain line arrows marked on them to assist in placing the template on the fabric. The center circle of the daisy is appliqued in place after the rest of the block is sewn together.
“Purdue Extension Elkhart County Star”
- Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds

SIZE: 20‘w x 40’h

The Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds is a busy place year-round with RV, motorhome and motorcycle rallies, weddings and receptions, plus corporate and community events. 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 help and have contributed the design. All four organizations help with expenses.

Everyone who travels Monroe Street (County Road 34) which runs in front of the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds is greeted by this beautiful hillside Quilt Garden. Take a few minutes to rest on the bench under the shade of the trees and enjoy the Quilt Garden experience.

This year Mary Ann Lienhart-Cross and her Quilt Garden crew of volunteers have repeated their 2010 original design “Purdue Extension Elkhart County Star.” This design is a people pleaser with its patriotic theme that is brought to life through the use of Choco Chili Alternanthera, Curled Leaf Parsley, Red Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Begonias, and Olympia Super White Begonias. Gold and brown mulch has been used to frame the garden and to allow access paths into the garden for maintenance and weeding.

The garden’s beauty is sustained by volunteers who weed and maintain it. They are a group of experienced volunteers that include Master Gardeners, Extension Homemakers, 4-H Fair Board members, Extension Team members, and other community members. They all agree one of the rewards of caring for a Quilt Garden is the opportunity to meet people who stop to view it. This gives them a chance to see the Quilt Garden experience through the eyes of the visitor. They have learned that Quilt Garden visitors come from every walk of life and even a few from other countries.

The modern star in the center of the garden is held in place on each side with rectangles and the entire design is framed with a sawtooth border accented with a square in each corner. Quilters with average drafting and sewing skills should be able to re-create this design in fabric and have their very own remembrance of their visit to the Elkhart County 4-H Fairgrounds and the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.
“Flowering Sunshine” - Elkhart County Courthouse

SIZE:  20’w x 40’h

The Goshen Historical Society Museum, housed in the former Adams Store at 124 S. Main St, is the hosting organization for the Elkhart County Courthouse Quilt Garden. In addition to hosting the Quilt Garden, they also own and maintain the police booth at the corner of Lincoln Avenue and Main Street. The members feel it is a natural fit for their organization to bring the beauty of a Quilt Garden to the center of the city. They see Goshen as a continuous mixture of new and old, constantly growing and changing with a vibrant downtown filled with arts, entertainment, locally owned shops and eateries.

The Quilt Garden at the Elkhart County Courthouse is one of five rectangle-shaped gardens this year. Selecting a quilt block for the garden is always a challenge. The rectangle shape of the garden means the quilt block needs to be adapted to fit the space. Ursula Mars, site manager, and her volunteers selected the quilt-block pattern Ozark Sunflower as the starting point for their garden design. Stretching the circular pattern to fit the rectangle space gives this 1930s quilt block pattern a new look for 2020. The new look inspired the name “Flowering Sunshine” for this garden. Visitors are welcomed to the visual impact of Janie Bright Yellow Marigolds, Taishan Orange Marigolds, Greenleaf White Super Begonias, and Silver Falls Dichondra that adds warmth to the courthouse lawn for all to see.

Ozark Sunflower was first published in the 1930s with the finished quilt block being a square. This is a challenging block that requires average to experienced quilting skills. It also would be a time-consuming task due to the different shapes within the block and templates should be made. Knowledge and understanding of fabric grain lines is important to achieve a completed quilt block that lies perfectly flat. If one really likes a challenge why not make the quilt block in the rectangle design as shown for the quilt garden. Quilters today who design their own quilt tops often look for quilt blocks that are rectangle in shape as they often are easier to adapted to fit the rectangle shape of today's bed sizes. The finished quilt blocks can be joined to one another without sashing to create an unusual design that flows across a bed regardless if they are square or rectangle in shape.
“Hen & Chickens” - Old Bag Factory

SIZE: 29’w x 32’h

The Old Bag Factory is one of Elkhart County’s authentic places with a rich community history. It was first built in 1896 to produce laundry soap, fine bathing soap and toilet paper. In 1910 it was purchased by The Chicago-Detroit Bag Company, which in 1924 merged with the Chase Bag Factory. Production at the site continued until 1982. Today, the Old Bag Factory is home to producing artists, antiques, specialty shops and cafes.

James Rupright and his staff selected the 1930s quilt block Hen and Chickens as the inspiration for their Quilt Garden “Hen & Chickens.” This garden rests on the hillside in front of the log cabin and seems to beg visitors to use it as a backdrop for taking pictures to remember their visits to the Old Bag Factory complex. This year’s visitors are welcomed by the sight of Red Cocktail Vodka Bronze Leaf Begonia, Aloha Blue Ageratum, and Wizard Golden Coleus. At the top of the hill visitors will find benches for them to sit and enjoy the garden and give one last thought about all the shops and if they have made their final purchase.

Hen and Chickens is a 1930s quilt-block pattern and is known by several other names. It can successfully be executed by the novice quilter as well as the experienced quilter. Like all blocks that contain triangles, the secret to achieve a quilt block that lays flat and square is the placement of the fabric grain lines within and on the outside of the finished quilt block. This quilt block is perfect for a sampler quilt. It can also be used to make a scrap quilt top by making the quilt-block pattern several times over using different fabrics in each square. The squares are then sewn together with sashing between the blocks or join each block to another block without sashing. Each method gives the finished quilt top its own unique look.
**“Pink Peony Kaleidoscope” - Das Dutchman Essenhaus**

**SIZE:** 49’w x 57’h

Since 1971, Das Dutchman Essenhaus is dedicated to providing each guest with a wholesome, safe environment, warm hospitality, outstanding service, and consistent quality. The expansive campus offers dining with Amish/Mennonite recipes passed down for generations, lodging at the charming Inn, shopping opportunities in boutique-style stores, a home-style bakery, live theatre at Heritage Hall, and abundant outdoor recreational options. The Essenhaus has been a part of the Quilt Garden project since its inception and states that “creating a large-scale quilt pattern of living flowers is special and unique in our ‘patchwork community’ and we’re thrilled to have the opportunity to participate.”

The management and staff feel this one-of-a-kind experience truly enhances guests’ visits to their campus. The Essenhaus Quilt Garden is the largest and for 2020 they have selected the quilt-block pattern Pink Peony. To transform this quilt-block pattern into their garden design they have slightly stretched the original design and repeated it four times within the garden they have named “Pink Peony Kaleidoscope.” The finished design has the effect of a kaleidoscope that they have filled with Easy Wave White Petunias, Ruby Punch Coleus, Double Zahara Raspberry Ripple Zinnias, Eureka Green Leaf Pink Begonias, Flame Thrower Salsa Verde Coleus, Party Time Lime Coleus and grass.

Through the years there have been many peony quilt-block patterns designed and several previously designed blocks re-named peony. This particular peony pattern is an updated current/modern design. If you are drafting the block it is based on a 4-by-4 grid regardless if it will be a square or rectangle block when it is pieced. A novice quilter may want to make templates then draw around them on to the backside of the fabric to ensure the accuracy of the grain lines within the triangles and parallelograms. A person experienced in piecing and rotary cutting will have no trouble rotary cutting their fabric to reduce the time required in creating a finished block. The Kaleidoscope version being used in the Quilt Garden would make a beautiful quilt by removing the solid rectangle that spans the center of their pattern. A finished quilt block can be used in a sampler quilt. If the finished blocks are sewn to each other without sashing they create a secondary star design with a four-patch center. The quilt and wall hanging possibilities for any variation of this block is only limited to the imagination of the quilt maker.
In 2005, Norman and Katie Lehman used Katie’s Homemade Noodles to launch Dutch Country Market. As the business has grown, so has the selection of noodles, four widths, two thicknesses, white and whole wheat and an average of 400 pounds a day. Stop by weekday mornings to watch them in production. They also have a wide selection of other products — jellies, pickles and preserves, salty snacks, and another local favorite, Amish peanut butter. Outside, local produce of amazingly high quality can be found in season, as well as locally made lawn furniture.

And there’s honey, another of their specialties. Norman has tended bees for over 20 years and produces 36,000 pounds of honey products a year! The store carries jars of honey in many sizes and varieties, comb honey, honey sticks, bee pollen, beeswax candles and soap, and nine flavors of whipped honey. They also have a working honeybee hive in the store where one can view the bees at work.

When Norm is asked how he chooses the block patterns for their gardens, his general reply is, “We pick what we like.” For 2020 they have picked a quilt-block pattern from the mid-1930s, Dahlia, which is a favorite flower of Norm’s. The Lehmans also like to personally pick the pretty flowers for their gardens. To bring their hillside garden to life, they have selected Easy Wave Yellow Petunias, Easy Wave Blue Petunias, Easy Wave Burgundy Velour Petunias, Easy Wave Silver Petunias, and Super Olympia Pink Green Leaf Begonias.

The Dahlia pattern is a little-known quilt-block pattern and with its rounded petals is a challenge for the novice quilter to accomplish. The pattern is based on a 4-by-4 grid and will require some skills in drafting to make templates with concave and convex curves. Or to make a drawing to be used for foundation piecing to complete a quilt block. Regardless of what method of construction is chosen to make the quilt block pattern, care should be taken so that the straight grains of the fabric pieces remain inline during piecing. This will help your finished quilt block to lay flat and square.
Krider World’s Fair Garden is located a short distance from the business district of downtown Middlebury. It is a memorial to Krider Nurseries Inc. and the Krider family. Today’s park began as display gardens for the nursery after bringing back many of the structures from the 1933-34 Chicago World’s Fair exhibit, “A Century of Progress.“ The garden is part of the Middlebury Parks Department and is on the Pumpkinvine Nature Trail, making it a destination for hiking and bicycling enthusiasts. The Parks Department provides a viewing platform, pavilion, benches and picnic tables throughout the garden to add to visitors’ enjoyment of the entire park.

Continuing the tradition of relating garden designs to Krider World’s Fair Garden, the Flower of the Woods quilt-block pattern was chosen to recognize the unique location of their garden at the edge of the woods. The Flower of the Woods quilt pattern is a contemporary design that is a variation of the Star of Bethlehem quilt-block pattern. The flower petal is a variation of a Wood Anemone, an early blooming spring wildflower. The oversized flower petal is designed to “pop out“ and surprise the viewer. Not unlike walking through the woods and coming upon the surprise of finding a planting of Wood Anemones blooming in the woods. Tom Enright and the Krider Quilt Garden Team chose Bronze Coleus, Super Olympia Pink Green Leaf Begonias, Tripled Curled Parsley, Super Olympia White Green Leaf Begonias, Super Olympia White Bronze Leaf Begonias, Blue Ageratum, and Yellow Coleus to make their garden by the woods “pop“ with color.

This 1930s Flower of the Woods quilt-block pattern is a challenging design not only to draft, but also to piece. Once the block is drafted, templates should be made for every shape of the design. Grainline arrows should be marked on the templates to insure proper placement on the back side of the fabric. The templates are then drawn around leaving a ¼-inch seam allowance along the outside edge of the pattern pieces.

QUILTER’S TIP: Cotton fabric has three grain lines. Two are considered to be on the straight of grain of the fabric and one is considered the bias grain of the fabric. One straight-of-grain line is across the width of the fabric and one straight-of-grain line runs straight with the length of the fabric. Fabric pieces that are cut so that the edges are on these grain lines will have very little stretch. The bias grain is any angle to the top and/or side of the fabric. Fabric cut on the bias grain line needs to be handled carefully as the fabric can stretch and distort.

**Krider World’s Fair Garden**
302 West Bristol Avenue (County Road 8)
Middlebury, IN

w: MiddleburyIN.com
p: 574.825.1499
“Angles in the Garden” - Coppes Commons

SIZE: 30’w x 30’h

Nappanee’s colorful history comes alive at Coppes Commons. Here, you’ll get a glimpse of the fascinating history of the Coppes Kitchens, once featured in department stores such as Gimbels and Macy’s and installed in prestigious homes including those of Frank Sinatra and President John F. Kennedy. The 100,000-square-foot renovated factory enjoys new life and now houses a variety of shops offering locally made handcrafted and freshly baked items. Watch and taste creative ice-cream concoctions come to life using liquid nitrogen, taste and buy made-from-scratch baked goods, munch on tasty popcorn or soft pretzels, browse antiques or look for a good book.

Mike DeCola, site manager, and his staff at Coppes Commons have selected the traditional quilt-block pattern Cactus Basket as the inspiration for their Quilt Garden. They like the angles of the design and felt it would show off their choice of flowers: Silver Falls Dichondra, Sweet Potato Vines, Blue Ageratums, Cocktail Gin Pink Begonias, Cocktail Brandy Light Pink Begonias, and Cirrus Dusty Miller. Their garden is called “Angles in the Garden” and visitors are sure to appreciate the clean lines within the garden showing off each section of flowers as they create the visual impact of the quilt block.

The Cactus Basket quilt block can be traced back to the mid-1800s with a resurgence of popularity in the 1930s. This pattern is a good choice to use up fabric scraps. Scrap quilts are as popular today as they were in the 1930s as a means to make use of small pieces of fabrics left over from other projects. For quilters who don’t have enough fabric scraps or want more control over the final appearance of the quilt top, fabric stores have a supply of pre-cut fabric strips and squares that can be purchased in variety packs. The experienced quilter will be able to use rotary cutting skills as the means to cut the parallelograms, triangles and squares required for this block. The novice quilter may want to make templates of the pattern pieces to insure proper grain line placement within the finished quilt block.

QUILTER’S TIP: Cotton fabric has three grain lines. Two are considered to be on the straight grain of the fabric and one is considered the bias grain of the fabric. One straight-of-grain line is across the width of the fabric and one straight-of-grain line runs straight with the length of the fabric. Fabric pieces that are cut so that the edges are on these grain lines will have very little stretch. The bias grain is any angle that runs to the top and/or side of the fabric. Fabric that is cut along this type of line needs to be handled carefully as the fabric can stretch and distort. The bias grain that has the most stretch is one that is at a 45-degree angle. A good example of this is found in triangles and parallelograms.
The quarter-block area where the Quilt Garden resides sits on the Heritage Trail and in the backyard of the Nappanee Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber shares space with the Nappanee Center/Heritage Museum and the John Hartman Home, a structure that dates to 1897. The Heritage Museum has an impressive collection started by former librarian Evelyn Culp in the Nappanee Public Library but was later moved to this site. Over the years this collection has expanded to include a collection of historic Hoosier cabinets and many other items of interest.

The all-volunteer 11-member committee estimates that they put in close to 500 hours of labor in planting and maintaining their Quilt Garden throughout the season. With such a large group, their skills and talents are not just limited to gardening. During the 13 years they have participated in the Quilt Gardens, they have found ways to take traditional quilt-block patterns and bring them to life with custom-built hardscapes and unique plant selections. This year, the committee has selected the 1930s Dogwood quilt-block pattern as the inspiration for their Quilt Garden. The use of Really Red Supertunias, Curley Parsley, White Supertunias, Limoncello Supertunias, Yellow Marigolds, and black mulch bring to life the Quilt Garden they have named “Flower of the Cross.”

The 1930s Dogwood quilt-block pattern can actually be accomplished in one of three different styles of quilt making. A very skilled quilter could accomplish the design using basic patchwork piecing. Those who have accomplished the skill of applique may prefer to make the block using applique skills. One of the more modern styles of patchwork is stained glass and this block would be stunning made using this technique. Whatever style is used to accomplish a completed block it can be used in a sampler quilt, or set on point repeated with every other block being a solid piece of fabric to create a quilt top.
“Meadow Flower” - Downtown Wakarusa

SIZE: 30’w x 30’h

Wakarusa is one of those towns where the rush of the big city is left behind and old-fashioned is an honored trait. Centered around the town’s only stoplight, you can find historic buildings featuring tin ceilings, a hardware store open since 1904 with a wall of 1,000 drawers ready to serve you, and a dime store. The Wakarusa Dime Store was begun by a German immigrant in 1907 as Wolfberg’s Department Store. Today, the Wakarusa Dime Store is home to the Giant Jumbo Jelly Bean, big enough to share.

This Quilt Garden is in the heart of downtown Wakarusa and visitors are welcome to sit down on the bench and enjoy the vibrant colors of the Quilt Garden and the nearby Quilt Mural. Sarah Freitas, site manager, chose the traditional quilt-block pattern Meadow Flower from the mid 1930s as the design for her first experience as site manager of a Quilt Garden. The flowers that bring color and life to Wakarusa’s “Meadow Flower” garden are Red Cocktail Bronze Leaf Begonias, Pink Sprint plus Green Leaf Begonias, Cirrus Dusty Miller, Yellow Taishan Marigolds, and Scarlet Wizard Coleus.

Quilt block patterns generally fall into the following categories for pattern drafting purposes: grid patterns of 2 by 2, 3 by 3, 4 by 4, and 5 by 5; circular patterns; and isolated blocks. The Meadow Flower quilt-block pattern consists of hexagons, squares and polygons. There is no true grid or circular pattern thus making this block pattern an isolated design that can be a challenge to draft and a challenge to perfectly create in fabric. To aid in sewing the quilt block the entire quilt-block pattern should be drawn on paper to make sure all the measurement of the pattern pieces are correct and will fit together. Care should be taken to make sure the straight-of-grain lines run straight up and down and left to right across the fabric pattern pieces as they are cut. The fabric pattern pieces can be rotary cut. Or create a template for each different pattern piece: Draw around the templates on the back side of the fabric, leaving a ¼-inch seam allowance on the outside edges, then cut them from the fabric. To sew the block together will require skill and patience as “Y” seams are amongst the most difficult seams to successfully complete. A novice quilter may want to sew this block by hand.
QUILTING TERMS

A **bias edge** is any edge of a fabric piece that is not cut on the straight grain of the fabric.

A **sampler quilt** is a quilt that contains several quilt block patterns that are all different and sewn together to make the quilt top.

A **scrap quilt** is a quilt that has been constructed with many different fabrics as if the creator was using all their leftover fabric scraps to make the quilt.

**Applique** is sewing a piece of fabric on top of a base fabric quilt can have one border or several.

**Borders** are the larger strips of fabric that create the outside edge of a quilt top. A quilt can have one border or several.

**Concave** is the hollow shape/dipping into the pattern piece.

**Convex** is a bowed-out shape/rounding outward away from the base of the pattern piece.

**Sashing** is the narrow strips of fabric that are sewn between the quilt blocks to join them together.

**Seam allowance** is the fabric on the outside edge of the seam or line of stitching.

**Straight grains of the fabric** run across the width and length of a piece of fabric.