



# Quilters' Press

Official Publication of the Tri-City Quilters' Guild

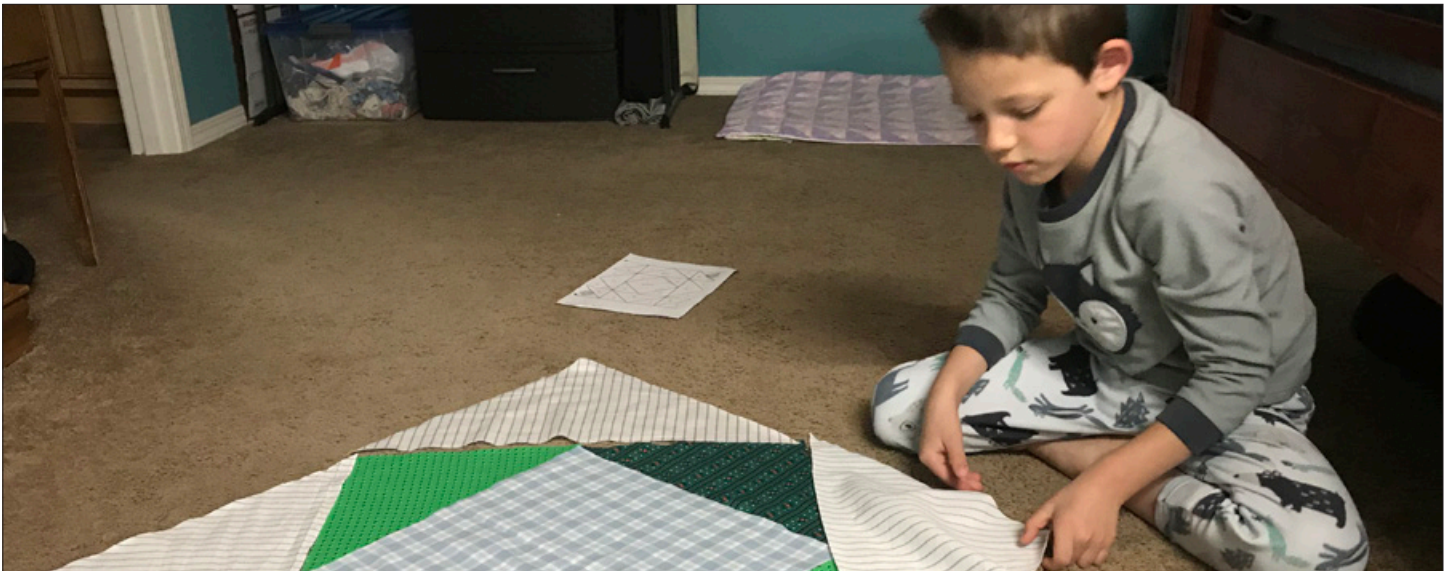
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Vol 40 No. 2.5

April 2020 • Special (Cooped-Up Quarantine) Edition

www. tcquilters.org



**WHAT TO DO, WHAT TO DO...** — This whole extra issue is about what is happening and what to do! Like we're guessing 100% of you are, Seth, 7, son of Monica Shipley, plans the layout of his next quilt. Seth and his siblings (and Monica too) are busy at home adjusting to a new but temporary reality with sewing projects and hope for a quick end to the COVID-19 quarantine. (See a few more pictures on pg 9.)

## Christmas scissors slash away life as we knew it

When I promised some “artful and judicious ideas about cutting down/cutting away/cutting out” in January, I intended at some point to advise the avoidance of Debbie Downer-type people who rain on your creative parade (although I never could engineer a tactful approach). Now I don’t need to! We are avoiding EVERYONE. For the foreseeable future. I am already lonely.

As we pay the price of the world’s physical connectedness, its digital connectedness permits us to stay in touch: we can telephone or text message or email or video chat ...

If you have never had a Facebook account, this might be the time to cave in. Dianne Cramer is filling our public Tri-City Quilters’ Guild page and private TCQG Members-Only Group with updates and

### President’s Message



Laurel Sutton  
2020 Guild President

interesting information; there is a growing cyber gallery of quilts that would have been shown at “Focus on the Stars.” And there is a strand for sewing hospital masks.

The web is full of boredom-busting (and stash-busting) instructions on offer from quilt-related bloggers and on-line merchants. Think twice about purchasing, though: if you can wait, local stores will need our support when the quarantine lifts; and you might have to wait anyway, because warehouse workers are on furlough. If you want a pattern, look for an instant download and pay for it. We are all able to look at a quilt picture and reverse engineer the construction, but that does not reward the designer’s experience and expertise.

Stay home, stay healthy, and stay in touch. Opportunities follow.

— Laurel



How did the Show-that-Wasn’t get wrapped up? See pages inside.

# Inside this issue

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*The Economist* did it first on a recent cover of their magazine: a big CLOSED sign on the Earth, which cracked me up. I have since grown so tired of the words “closed” and “canceled.” Let’s remember what we CAN do right now, maybe something we’ve never done before, and that this is temporary. We’re just postponing. Be safe, be smart, be considerate, and be creative. Hope to see you soon. — Carol

Send corrections, ideas, photos, feedback to Carol O’Callaghan at [oc.carol@gmail.com](mailto:oc.carol@gmail.com). Input about your special quilting moments are welcome and can help make the newsletter a shared space for our guild community. Thanks!

## BRIEFS

### ■ Guild WHAT TO DOs

- **CYBER SHOW** — We’re all sad that the Quilt Show was canceled, but all is not lost! Dianne Cramer has created a 2020 Tri-City Quilt Guild Cyber Show, on Facebook where so far 50 pictures of “no-show” quilts are posted. Visit the Guild’s Facebook page and click “Photos” on the left side menu — and post your own!
- **MEMBERS ONLY** — If you feel Facebook is a little too public to share, try connecting to the FB Members-Only page. A simple application (three easy questions) is required. An administrator will screen based on paid membership. At Facebook, search for TCQG Members-Only Group.
- **BEFORE & AFTER** — Remember Terri Fischer’s Creative Spaces program. Re-organize and re-vamp your studio and post pictures to Facebook or email for the newsletter to Carol at [oc.carol@gmail.com](mailto:oc.carol@gmail.com).
- **UFO PROJECTS** — We have come to a close on our March projects! It’s NOT MANDATORY but if you’d like to post your completion on the Guild



FB page that would be wonderful as a virtual show and tell. If you choose to email with a photo to Lois Pedersen [timnlois4@gmail.com](mailto:timnlois4@gmail.com) or Carol Capelle [dcapelle@mac.com](mailto:dcapelle@mac.com), we can update your entry sheet & add you to the drawing. “Keep

calm and work on with those UFOs. Looking forward to the many completions when we are together again!! If anyone would like to join, I would be happy to mail you the sign up!” — Carol Capelle

- **PAISLEY & PLAID** — Putter along with the Paisley and Plaid Project (see pg 5). Share your whole process on the members-only Facebook page: Take pix of your fabric palette, your design, your blocks under construction.

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE** — Continue sewing for Community Service. Kits for piecing and/or quilting are waiting for you! Call or text Laurel 987-4658. If you have a finished quilt, phone or text Cyndy Underwood, 528-9281.

- **EXPERIMENT** — Try something new you’ve seen on YouTube or in a blog or a book or magazine. Share your ambition and achievement on our Facebook pages.

### ■ Rays of Sunshine

If you know anyone who needs a Sunshine card (fabric card filled with good wishes from the Guild) contact Sunshine Gal Sandy Moroney (219-477-5170 [sandy.moroney@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.moroney@gmail.com)). Sandy will mail them from home.



### ■ Not-Happenings

- April 11 Skillbuilders at White Bluffs Quilt Museum has been canceled
- April 20 meetings canceled.
- Velda Newman workshops canceled

## WHO DO I CONTACT?

<b>Communications</b>	Dianne Cramer
Website	Nancy Graves
Facebook	Dianne Cramer
	Ginny Hildreth
Newsletter	Carol O’Callaghan
<b>Community Service</b>	Cyndy Underwood
<b>Education</b>	Jo Matthias
Workshops	Cheryl Garrison
Library AM	Sharon Clement
Library PM	Jo Matthias
<b>Quilt Show</b>	Geneva Carroll
Show Co-Chair	
<b>Member Services</b>	Ardith Eakin
Retreats	Ginny Coffman
Friendship Groups	Carol Capelle
Sunshine	Sandy Moroney



## EXECUTIVE BOARD

### OFFICERS

Each officer has 1 vote;  
 President only votes to break a tie

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<b>Treasurer</b>	Trista Self
<b>VP AM</b>	Mark Palmer
<b>VP PM</b>	Louise Peterson
<b>Guild Secretary</b>	Nancy Green

**WWW.TCQUILTERS.ORG**

[facebook.com/tcquilters.org](https://facebook.com/tcquilters.org)  
**TCQG Members-Only Group**

# Looking for something to do from home?

## “PIECES OF THE PAST” Quilt Competition

Presented by Quilting Daily

Early Bird: June 1, 2020

Final: June 30, 2020

Juried • Prizes

Info at [www.quiltingdaily.com](http://www.quiltingdaily.com)  
(follow the “Competitions” link)



## 100 DAYS PROJECT

STARTS APRIL 7, 2020

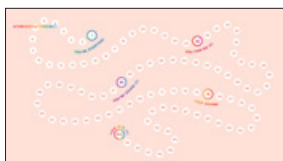
[www.the100dayproject.org](http://www.the100dayproject.org)

“An Annual Exploration of Your Creativity”

- 1) Choose a project
- 2) Do it every day for 100 days
- 3) Share your process on Instagram with the hashtag #The100DayProject.

Or just do it informally any time with friends!

100 Days  
Chart ►  
See Pg 13



Print a toner-friendly road map to help keep you motivated.

## REMEMBER THE LIBRARY!

- Join the Spring Reading Challenge
    - Play Book Bingo
- (for Prizes when Libraries Re-Open)
- Download the Libby App



## EXCLAMATION POINT BLOCK

If you're FRUSTRATED or just WORRIED these days and want to relieve some STRESS, try getting it out in this Exclamation Point Block presented by quilter, blogger, teacher, mom-of-three, Cheryl Arkinson.

“[Think] about all the words we want to say, all the emotions we are feeling, and knowing that ‘making’ helps our mental health SO MUCH,” she writes.

See directions for this 5-minute impromptu quilt block at [cherylarkinson.com](http://cherylarkinson.com) and click on “blog” in the top right corner., the first in a series of five. Maybe we'll all end up with punctuation quilts. Maybe something enough to spell cathartic words like this: &\$#@. Talk about a stress reliever!!!



## MASKS & GOWNS

Sew and Give on Your Own

Make masks and gowns for healthcare workers, home health assistants, essential businesses, public servants, homeless shelters, yourself, etc.

Share your ideas and experiences in the next newsletter so we can be a more informed and organized at-home industry, by contacting Carol at [oc.carol@gmail.com](mailto:oc.carol@gmail.com).

A discussion of the pros and cons is buzzing around the globe. See page 6 for an article dealing with the subject. See page 9 for two members' efforts to supply masks on their own.

## PROJECT LINUS

Project Linus has suspended meetings but currently has two national challenges.

- The Knit & Crochet Mystery Challenge (\$15)
- The Side-by-Side Challenge (\$10)

Sign up is through the Project Linus National website. Mention Tri-City Washington chapter and the chapter will receive the entry fee into their account to help pay for supplies, etc..

Create your quilts, fleece blankets and afghans as normal, and when we are able to meet again, bring the completed projects to the workshops.

If you have questions, the local contact is Lois Pedersen ([timnlois4@gmail.com](mailto:timnlois4@gmail.com)). The next meetings will be listed in the newsletter and on the chapter website ([www.projectlinus-tc.org](http://www.projectlinus-tc.org)) when they resume.



CHRISTA WATSON, our Featured Artist for the 2021 Show, has this message:

“During this crazy time, I'm pleased to be partnering with several others in the quilting industry to bring you lots of free content over the next couple of weeks.”

Here are the first three:

- Free Access to ALL of my Quilting Videos on [Bluprint](http://Bluprint) through April 9
- A Free Pattern made from Gridwork
- Free Live Event - Makers Sewing Summit on Facebook [this week only](https://www.facebook.com/makerssewing)

Find out more at [www.christaquilts.com](http://www.christaquilts.com).



- BONNIE HUNTER is doing a Mystery Medallion Sew-Along at [quiltville.blogspot.com/p/unity-quilt-along.html](http://quiltville.blogspot.com/p/unity-quilt-along.html)
- GUDRUN ERLA is doing a “strip-along” called Strip to Shoer at [gequiltedesigns.com/pages/strip-along-2020-strip-to-shore](http://gequiltedesigns.com/pages/strip-along-2020-strip-to-shore)
- NANCY ROELFSEMA has hundreds of free tutorials on her YouTube site: On-Point TV (friend of Workshop Chair Cheryl Garrison)
- THEQUILTSHOW.COM has four free shows right now and a special “Stay At Home” subscription price of six months for \$19.95.
- BLUPRINT.COM is free until April 9.

## A FEW MORE SUGGESTIONS

(submitted by Cheryl Garrison)

# Refocusing on the Stars . . .

. . . after the weeping & wailing  
and gnashing of teeth!

BY LAUREL SUTTON

Sadly, Candy Crandall and Geneva Carroll did not get their time in the sun, and their well-prepared team had to pull up mid-stride. Here is how we're handling the

## 2021 SHOW CHAIR THOUGHTS

"2021 The Magic of Color" — Color brings imagination, emotion, memories and so much more to our lives.... It's been so odd, all the changes in our lives. I hope members are keeping in touch with each other, checking in on how everyone is faring. [I know] that when we can finally meet again, that we will be so glad to see each other.

— Geneva Carroll

(NOTE: Show co-chair needed for 2021 Contact Geneva 916-768-9979)

fallout of the show that did not happen:

- Vendors are receiving refunds.
- Skinny quilts will be exhibited for voting at the next member meetings; in addition, each of Monica Shipley's children will each speak about their entries.
- Other registered quilts can be exhibited online in our 2020 Cyber-Show; post your pictures on our public facebook pages and Dianne will make sure they end up in the album. Theme quilts, if you have them or can retrieve them for the 2021 show, will be welcome in a special Stars collection.
- The quilt raffle ended, as promised, on Saturday March 21 at 4:30. Laurel Sutton and Jo Matthias (the logistics duo) convened in the driveway of Nancy Graves (the raffle cfo). She dumped the tickets in the drum, and Dana Pearson,

Member Featured Artist, Make It Modern founding member, quiltress of "Modern Metamorphosis" drew the winner — Carmen Anders of Sunny-side! (See pg 10.)

- Silent Auction booty is in storage, still in Joan Pedersen's garage for the time being. She will still accept donations, if you are cleaning your sewing room for entertainment. — Her husband, however, would like his half of the garage back. Does anybody have or know of an empty garage bay where we can store stuff until next March? Or later?
- Yard signs should be returned at the next member meetings.
- Any other miscellaneous items that were checked out of storage or purchased for the show should be rejoined with our other properties.

## In your dreams, bucket lists, and other important thoughts

BY MARK PALMER

I feel so blessed to have a hobby/avocation that I can do at home to keep busy. I tend to be an optimist anyway. I'll bet some of our quilters thought the announcement of the UFO project just before the quilt show was bad timing, but now look at it, it couldn't have been better timing. I have projects I didn't think I'd ever have time to get to; now I have nothing but time.

We have to keep our sense of humor throughout. So, to that end I am suspending payments to Mark's Chick Can until our next meeting. I'm just trying to do my part. I have reported several times that our quilting ladies get me in a lot of hot water. I have very vivid dreams that I tell my wife Linda about in the morning. Probably not a good idea, but in the interest of honesty, there you have it. So, I had this dream I was working in my garage and a lady came by trying to sign me up for a quilting workshop. Soon she was joined by several other ladies that were canvassing the neighborhood for the guild.

So, Linda says, "So you had a dream about the quilting ladies?" Apparently yes. And she asks, "And there was nothing in your dream but you and a bunch of ladies?" So now I'm in trouble. Fortunately, I didn't sign up for the workshop. I'm really glad I didn't tell her about the other lady that came out of the back door of my house. I have no idea who she was... really.

### Why don't we all give our top five list of bucket quilts:

1. I have a book of paper-pieced blocks for all 50 states. I want to do a queen quilt with paper-pieced state blocks.
2. I am designing a Hankie Blankie baby quilt with African



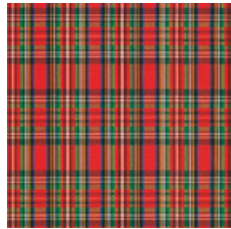
- animals.
3. I have a whole box full of kits I bought. I need to start working through that. It's about 10 years of work.
4. I won a door prize once of a Quilt-of-the-Month of applique flowers. Gorgeous if I get to it.
5. I can finish my One Block Wonder quilt that Cheryl Garrison taught and got interrupted by this bug.

~ See you next month,  
Mark

# Don't forget the Paisleys & Plaids Guild sew-along!

PRESENTED BY THE COMMUNITY SERVICE TRIBE  
(From March 1)

Whether your design preference is wiggly or straight, you will get a charge out of this year's Community Service challenge.



If you missed the February meetings, you missed the historical background portion of the program sponsored by your Community Service Tribe. But fear not! You need not miss the opportunity to create a comfort quilt with paisley and plaid fabrics.

Like we did last year [with hearts], we are sharing the Closet wealth to subtract from

our inventory and add to production. Also to pique your creativity. The boxes of paisleys and plaids that we took to the meetings will go back to the Closet, and you can shop for yourselves (phone Kathy Kaser-Nichols first to make sure she's there: 509-586-7335).



## THESE ARE THE DESIGN PARAMETERS:

- Use at least one plaid and one paisley.
- You can simply cut them into patches and make any block or pattern.

### OR

- You can arrange any fabrics into plaid or paisley shapes (numerous commercial patterns give that criss-cross look for plaid; paisley can be appliqueed or painted or stenciled or embroidered).

### OR

- Create the plaid or paisley with your quilting lines.

You have a little more time this year: the deadline is October instead of August. Bring your 40x40 or 40x60 top or quilt to the October meetings for a gallery walk and celebration!

**SHARE THE PROGRESS** of your Paisleys and Plaids project in the next newsletter or on Facebook. Email to [oc.carol@gmail.com](mailto:oc.carol@gmail.com) (newsletter) or post on Facebook — or both!! Newsletters are seen by those who don't Facebook, and become part of our official history.



Paisley and plaid intermingled, Nancy Green style.

## Progress on one paisley-plaid project

Nancy Green used a Bonnie Hunter pattern, "Jaxon's 9-Patch," which can be purchased as a PDF pattern in her online store at Quiltville. It is 45" square. The plaid 9-patches in the center were made with a combination of plaids including some given out at the guild as well some from her scrap 2" square box. The dark red surrounding the alternate blocks is a paisley aprint picked up at a Guild meeting. The opposite squares with the light surrounds were just 1-1/2" neutral strips from her scrap bin. The blue and neutral corners were flip and sew squares also from the scrap bin. The inner light border was a 1/4 yd batik scrap and the outer border was from a piece of yardage that also had a paisley pattern.

"I quilted it in an allover bandana pattern that included a bit of paisley," she says. "This is the fourth time I have made this pattern, but the first time I have made it the actual size of the pattern directions (I don't follow directions well!).... I wanted to make sure this one had a 'boy-ish' feel to it."

- Send in pictures of the progress on your own creations and we'll keep each other motivated until we can see them all in person!



# Homemade masks may not be ideal, but can be a last resort when nothing else is available

**From the CDC: In “Crisis Situations” when no facemasks are available, an option is use of homemade masks:**

“In settings where facemasks are not available, HCP [Health Care Personnel] might use homemade masks (e.g., bandana, scarf) for care of patients with COVID-19 as a last resort. However, homemade masks are not considered PPE [Personal Protection Equipment], since their capability to protect is unknown. Caution should be exercised when considering this option. Homemade masks should ideally be used in combination with a face shield that covers the entire front (that extends to the chin or below) and sides of the face.” [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/face-masks.html](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/face-masks.html)

**BY DEBORAH FISHER AND ERIN DOLLAR  
CRAFT INDUSTRY ALLIANCE**

(Mar 23, 2020)

Throughout history, sewists have been called upon in difficult periods to help with a cause, whatever the need happens to be at the time. During World War II, housewives in Britain were instructed to “Make Do and Mend,” a campaign designed to encourage frugality by refashioning existing clothing and mending worn garments.

When the call goes out, makers respond. In what could be described as a civic immune response, crafters want to help and use their gifts and talents to make the world better. During a crisis, sewists see a need, they post on social media, and begin to take action. But how effective is this system?

Recently, when the call came to sew for the wildlife rescue efforts for the Australian bushfires, sewists around the world took up the cause. Patterns for bat wraps and joey pouches were abundant. With so many helpers from around the world, soon there were too many items to use. Some felt that the money spent to ship all the items to Australia would be better deployed helping workers on the front lines in Australia with other supplies. Other items, like koala mittens, turned out to actually hinder the animals’ ability to recuperate.

With the Covid-19 pandemic, makers are once again looking to help. This time the need is for masks. Facing a shortage of N95 masks, medical professionals don’t have the personal protective equipment they need. Could handmade, nonmedical grade fabric face masks be

helpful in an emergency?

## What Medical Professionals Need

Medical professionals need N95 masks. An N95 mask is a tightly fitted respirator mask designed to create a seal around the nose and mouth. N95 masks are made to prevent transmission of a certain particle size and to protect the wearer from liquid that could contaminate the face. N95 masks can’t be made by the home sewer.

The World Health Organization (WHO) states, “Cloth masks are not recommended under any circumstances.” The CDC currently only recommends N95 masks for medical professionals. But some medical institutions are asking for any masks they can get. Does that include homemade

provide the wearer with a reliable level of protection from inhaling smaller airborne particles and is not considered respiratory protection.”

Many healthcare workers are now reusing N95 masks which would normally be thrown away between treating each patient. Some medical

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The debate: Do cloth masks give people a false sense of security or can they really help curb community spread?

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professionals are considering using fabric face masks to cover their N95 mask, potentially extending their use. But doctors fear that reusing a mask could infect patients who did not yet have the virus.

## Can Homemade Masks Help?

The debate is on. Are handmade fabric masks better than nothing? Are they worse than nothing as they give a false sense of security? Is donating money better? What if there is no supply of N95 masks to buy? Until commercial production ramps up, is this the best we have, or is it better to spend our time calling our government representatives?

At the moment, there seems to be no specific standard to follow. Providence, a healthcare organization serving five western states, initially asked the public to sew, and even planned to have kits available. Now, however, their website states that “local manufacturing companies have stepped up to

## EXPLORE THE CONVERSATION ABOUT MAKING HOMEMADE MASKS

Google “Homemade Masks” and click the “news” tab. If you decide to make some, many patterns and videos for masks and gowns are available online.



masks?

According to the WHO, “Most facemasks do not effectively filter small particles from the air and do not prevent leakage around the edge of the mask when the user inhales.” The CDC confirms that a facemask, “Does NOT

See page 11

Shopping locally  
when possible is  
**MORE IMPORTANT  
THAN EVER**

## Local Shops

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www.janeansbernina.com

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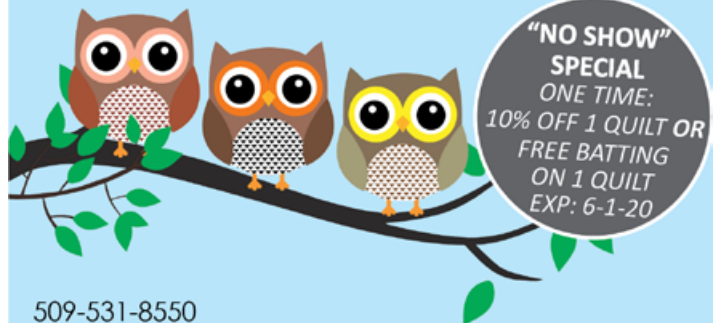
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*Kathy Rogers*

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WE THANK Candy's Quilts & Things, Craft Warehouse, Dawni's Chic Creations, Fabric 108, Honey Bee Quilting, Janean's Bernina, Miss Daisy Quilting, Quiltmania, and White Bluffs Quilt Museum for advertising in the Show Program this year. We have included their updated ads in this Newsletter, on Facebook, and on our Webpage.

Please shop local when possible.

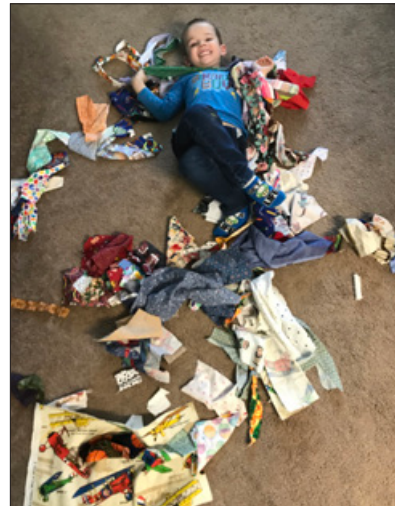
Members can put a business card here free one month per year. Beyond one month is \$5 per issue. See Page 10.



# What is everyone up to these days!?



Lots of masks. Here are just some of the masks rolling out of our dining room factories these days. Maurine Johnson made some (at left) for a friend who's a nurse and asked for them. On the right, one of many made by Cindy Jewell. Patterns abound online. If you are looking for a pattern and instructions, try this site: <https://freesewing.org/blog/face-mask-frenzy>. Whether and how to make them and who should wear them is an ongoing discussion. Many reliable and credible news-sources have lowered the pay wall during this crisis to allow for the free flow of news and information; it's easy to get overwhelmed, so try to stay calm as you Google.



**LITTLE SHIPLEYS** — (clockwise from top left) James “goes through the fabric”; Hannah makes sure everything lines up just right; and John and Sarah share design ideas and support.

Photos by Monica



## “Several side projects”

That’s what Megan Schofield is up to. “Trying to stay motivated on this one,” (above) she said. “The pattern and fabric is from *Moda: Basic Mixologie*. I’m tweaking it to make a king size. I used a “kite in a square” ruler to make the squares.” At left, a just-finished carrying case for her Featherweight using old denim, Tula fabric and a Tula patch. She admits, “I’m a bit of a Tula freak.”





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Quilt photo by John Clement

## "Modern Metamorphosis" finds a home

The quilt raffle ended, as promised, on Saturday March 21 at 4:30. Laurel Sutton and Jo Matthias (the logistics duo) convened in the driveway of Nancy Graves (the raffle cfo). She dumped the tickets in the drum, and Dana Pearson, Member Featured Artist, Make It Modern founding member, quiltress of "Modern Metamorphosis" drew the winner – Carmen Anders of Sunnyside!



"That is AMAZING!" Carmen texted. "Such a beautiful piece of art. I joined the quilt guild after chatting with the ladies at the Sportsmen's Show where I bought the tickets." Before a delivery could be arranged, the stay home/stay healthy order went into effect, so Carmen suggested we delay until the next member meetings. "The wait will make it all the sweeter," she said. Below with husband Dan in Barcelona, and at right with their pup who "won't be allowed near it!" she said.

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## Printing & Advertising Information for Quilters' Press

- **Quilter's Press:** published six times/year by the Tri-City Quilters' Guild
- **FOR PAID ADS:** Send payment to **Tri-City Quilters' Guild Treasurer at PO Box 215, Richland, WA 99352**
- **Subscription:** (6 issues/year) \$10.50 per calendar year, or included in the annual membership dues.
- **Send to Editor (in writing):** your comments, information, articles, announcements. Future events for all quilt groups published free of charge. Editor: Carol O'Callaghan 509-289-9065 [oc.carol@gmail.com](mailto:oc.carol@gmail.com)
- **Advertisements:** **TCQG members receive one free personal advertisement (business card size) per year.** Business Advertisements: quilt-related shops, fabric shops, and persons who operate a home-based quilt related business. Rates are listed at right. Display ads need not be camera ready.
- **Deadline for Newsletter Input:** 15th of Feb, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec.

### Quilters' Press Advertising Rates Per Issue

<b>Business Card</b>	\$10 non-members — \$5 for members
<b>Classified</b>	\$1 per line - \$5 minimum (same for members)
<b>Quarter Page</b>	\$20 non members — \$10 for members
<b>Half Page</b>	\$40 non-members — \$20 for members
<b>Full Page</b>	\$80 non-members — \$40 for members
TCQG members may place one free business card size ad per year.	

# Masks

from page 6

rapidly produce masks." Other hospitals are asking sewists to wait for an approved pattern.

Guidelines from the CDC and a study published in Disaster Med Public Health Preparedness both confirm that properly fitted, washable fabric masks made by healthy volunteers can help reduce transmission. However, the study suggests that a "homemade mask should only be considered as a last resort to prevent droplet transmission from infected individuals, but it would be better than no protection."

## Makers Offering Help

Fashion designer Christian Siriano answered the call to manufacture personal protective equipment. Coordinating his staff of sewists to work from their homes, Siriano is aiming to produce 1000 nonmedical grade masks for hospital support staff and private individuals by the end of the week.

"It's very important before anyone does anything to help, please make sure what you are making is safe and hopefully FDA approved," Siriano said, "We must be smart." Masks should be made from a fabric that can be bleached, and withstand frequent washing.

Patterns now abound for cloth masks that can be made at home. Some sewists are making masks for their own family and friends when they need to go out, and others are donating to hospitals and other health care institutions to use if they have no other option. There are many organizations that are now working to organize the effort, including Joann Fabrics, Relief Crafters of America, Masks for CV19 Workers, and Craft Hope.

Some hospitals are declining donations of home-sewn masks. If you want to sew face masks to donate, check first with your local hospital or healthcare provider to see what donations they'll accept. One thing most medical professionals agree on: if you purchased N95 masks and have them at home, you should safely donate them to a hospital immediately.

The fact that sewists are being called upon in 2020 to make emergency medical equipment seems remarkable in and of itself. Printmaker and author Jen Hewett is reflecting on this moment as a maker. "I'm in the final stretch of finishing a manuscript about textile/fiber arts and crafts," she noted, "at the same time that people are being asked to sew masks for healthcare workers. These skills that are often denigrated as silly hobbies for women, this work that is often low paid, are being put into use to save lives."

More at: [craftindustryalliance.org/should-makers-sew-fabric-masks-for-healthcare-workers](https://craftindustryalliance.org/should-makers-sew-fabric-masks-for-healthcare-workers)



— My 2 Cents:—

## BY CAROL O'CALLAGHAN

There are articles being written daily from all kinds of news sources about the efficacy of homemade masks. Do they help by preventing droplet sharing or harm by making people feel safe and then acting more carelessly? No definitive studies have been done to prove that wearing masks can help slow the spread of an epidemic — it just seems logical.

The best case scenario for the general public wearing masks seems to be that masks *can* slow the spread *if* worn by those who are already infected and don't yet know it, because they are not sharing as many germs through the droplets that come from not just their coughs and sneezes, but by their breathing, singing, talking. However if those same people are not practicing social distancing, are touching public surfaces without sterile gloves, and are then tossing their mask onto the car seat after a trip to the grocery store, then they can be doing more harm than good.

Out of curiosity, I contacted Shirley Riel in Patient Relations at Kadlec Hospital on March 26 to see if there was a need in their system for homemade masks, and this was her reply"

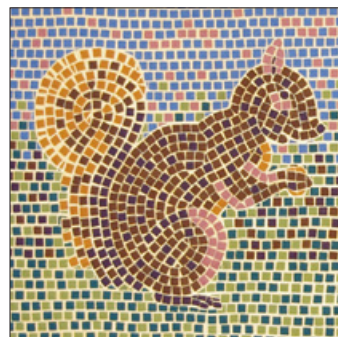
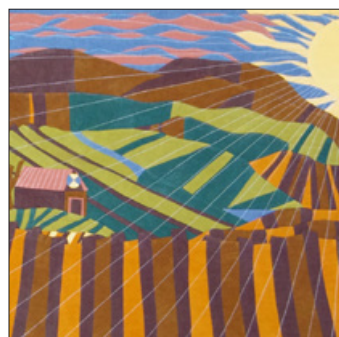
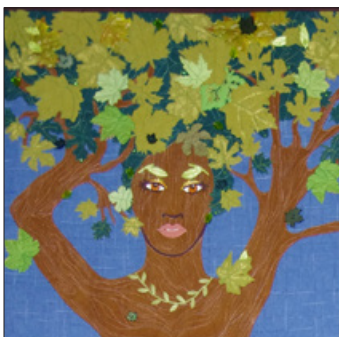
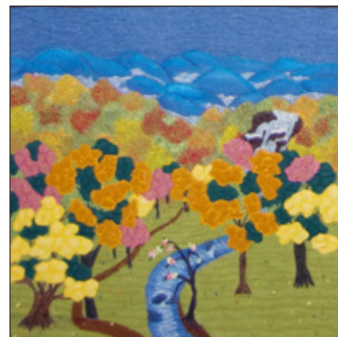
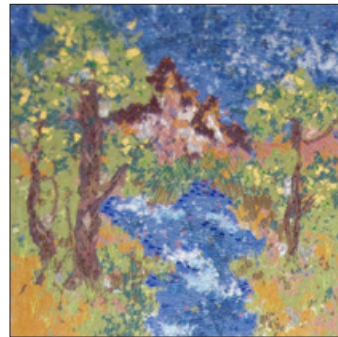
*"Thank you to you and all of your associates for your thoughtful and generous offer. We are deeply grateful. Our community members like yourself have been amazing in willingness to answer the call. At this time our hospital is well supplied with masks as manufacturing companies have stepped up and provided for us on a mass scale. We will share opportunities as they are available. For now, the best way to support us is to stay home and practice social distancing. We appreciate you contacting us. Happy sewing :) — Shirley Riel, Patient Relations"*

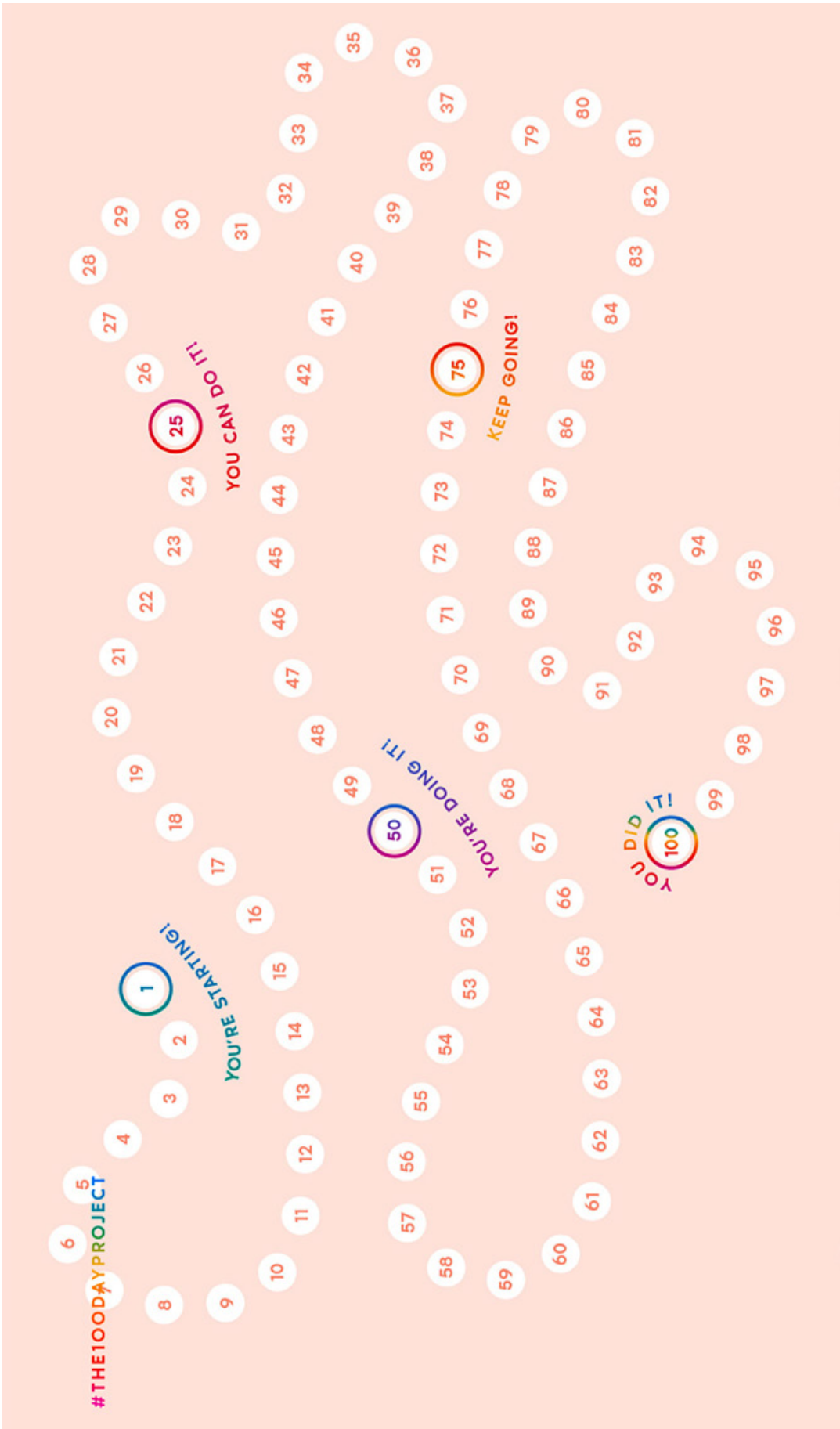
On the other hand, some agencies might not be so well equipped. On March 29, *NBC Right Now* reported that Chaplaincy Health Care in Richland, which specializes in end of life, palliative and grief care, has asked the public who know how to sew to help provide homemade masks and gowns. Donations can be dropped off at 1480 Fowler Street in Richland.

Despite the lack of studies proving the opposite, common sense makes it hard to imagine that there can't be some small benefit from wearing homemade masks for non healthcare professionals, like personnel in essential jobs and even the general public when they are forced to venture out, as long as extreme caution is used and social distancing is still practiced. It's only "better than nothing" when masks are not treated as an impervious layer. If you use a homemade mask, change it often, bleach in between uses, don't handle other people's masks (or even your own if you can help it), don't touch your face or anything before washing your hands with soap. Essentially, behave as if you are not wearing one. It may not be yourself you are protecting, but someone else.

# A taste of the Bob Ross Cherrywood Challenge we missed

Karen Michaels wanted to make sure members were able to see the Bob Ross Cherrywood Challenge quilts we would have enjoyed at the show this year. When the show was canceled, she photographed them all and put them on Facebook, but in the interest of those who did not see them, she sent them on for the Newsletter too. Here are just some of what would have hung alongside our creations. Acknowledging Karen's efforts, show chair Candy Crandall's words that were in this year's program are still true: "You have done a wonderful job bringing us the 'Bob Ross Cherrywood Challenge' for us to enjoy. May we all be inspired to create little happy quilts." (This is only about 1/3 of the pieces the Guild received. Each quilt is 20" x 20". In the interests of space, the artists and titles are not listed. See Facebook and prepare to scroll a while and zoom in.)





# What IS this??



See page 3.

## A motivational toner-friendly printout for your 100 Days Project!

Sharpen your pencils, dust off your paintbox and organize your supplies – #the100dayproject starts April 7!

Some tips from the organizers:

“Now it’s time to prepare. What tools will you need for your project? Where will you do your project? What time of day will you do it, or will it vary? A little planning ahead of time can go a long way to setting yourself up for success.”



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**Earn a fat quarter for every completed UFO you show and tell through November.**

During the quarantine while meetings remain canceled, posting on Facebook and emailing photos will suffice

Carol: [dcapelle@mac.com](mailto:dcapelle@mac.com) • Lois: [timnlois4@gmail.com](mailto:timnlois4@gmail.com)

**REMEMBER** each listed UFO completed also earns a chance to win a grand prize.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Project **March** Name/Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **April** Name/ Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **May** Name/ Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **June** Name/Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **July** Name/Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **August** Name/ Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **September** Name/Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **October** Name/Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_

Project **November** Name/Explanation \_\_\_\_\_

What Needs To Be Done \_\_\_\_\_