

Amish quilts exhibited

The second annual Amish Country Quilt Show will be held Feb. 28-29 and March 1 at the William and Mary Shop, 7600 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield. Over 50 quilts will be displayed and sold, along with other items of interest to quilters. Accompanying the quilts will be quilters from Holmes County, Ohio who will discuss quilting and answer quilting questions. Reflecting the ever-increasing popularity of quilts as decorative items as well as functional bed coverings, the show will have a limited number of wall hangings and other quilted accessories. Staff members of the William and Mary Shop will be on hand to advise people on how to use quilted items to obtain a custom look for either contemporary or period rooms. Hours of this free show are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

QUILT MAKERS, quilt collectors and all who are fascinated with this heritage craft are invited to attend the exhibit, talk quilting and see the handiwork of Amish and Mennonite residents from Holmes County. Ten years ago, only senior citizens quilted. Now, more and more young people have taken up quilting and, indeed, the top quilt designers are young. One group of people who have had a continuing tradition of quilting are the Amish. Amish quilt for social reasons as well as the practical ones. The old traditions of every bride having at least one quilt in her dowry, and generally more than one, is still practiced in Amish communities in Ohio, Indiana and Pennsylvania. Church sewings are regularly held to make quilts for disaster victims as well as Amish fund-raising events.

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Joining the carnival

Being bedridden has not stopped Valentina Fritz from joining the carnival of fun and games in Oak Hill Nursing Home, scheduled from 1-1 p.m. Saturday, March 1 to raise money for Michigan Heart Fund. The collection above her bed is a sample of the items she creates, but yarn puppies were the items at hand this week as her contribution to the fundraiser. All handcrafted items on sale have been made by the residents. There is no charge to the building. (Staff photo by Randy Horst)

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