

Community Quilt

JUDE SIEKER

com·mu·ni·ty (ke - myoo' - ni - tee)

n. pl. com·mu·ni·ties

1. a. A group of people living in the same locality and under the same government.
b. The district or locality in which such a group lives.
2. a. A group of people having common interests: the scientific community; the international business community.
b. A group viewed as forming a distinct segment of society: the gay community; the community of color.
3. a. Similarity or identity: a community of interests.
b. Sharing, participation, and fellowship.

The ladies of the Herrickville Sewing Club work together to make a quilt each year that is raffled during their Fourth of July Celebration to raise funds for the volunteer fire department in our community.

This year, the ladies each hand-embroidered individual blocks depicting wild flowers. Sally Ross put the blocks together with a floral sashing to create the quilt top. In previous years, the quilts were tied.

My son Andy Jr. was a member of the Herrickville Volunteer Fire Department and drove for the ambulance crew for a number of years. When he became suddenly ill, the community was very supportive and went well above and beyond “the call of duty” to help in every way they could, and lessened our burden by sharing our grief when he died.

Our quilting studio now occupies what was our son’s home next door to our house. It allows us to hang on to the place that meant so much to him, at least for now. To honor him and to thank the community for their friendship, I volunteered to do the quilting for the raffle quilts. I think Andy would have liked that – he was so much a part of the community.



Close-up of detail on the quilt made by the Herrickville Sewing Club ladies to be raffled at the Fourth of July celebration to raise funds for the volunteer fire department – Summer 2008 –