

The Community Page

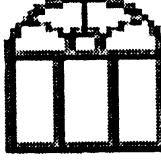
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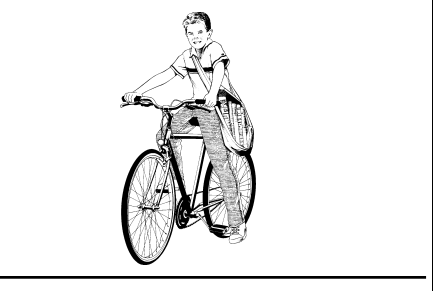
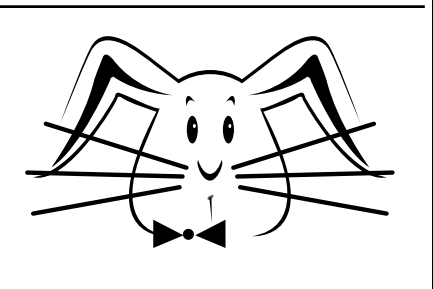
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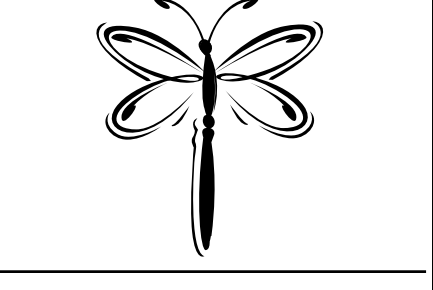
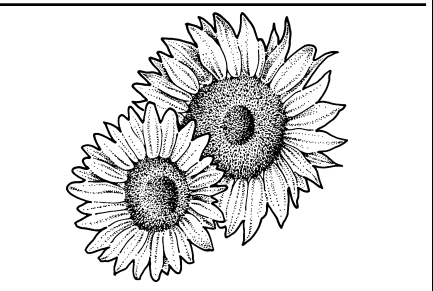
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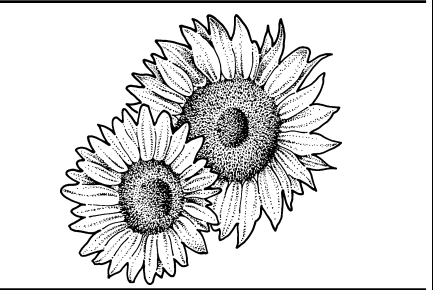
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Bonnie McQuillen (left) and Carol Tupper, members of the Prairie Piecemakers quilting guild, gave four quilts to the Goodland Regional Medical Center to be used in the critical care unit. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

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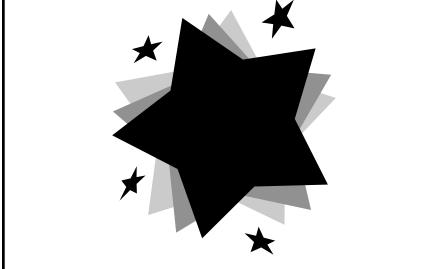
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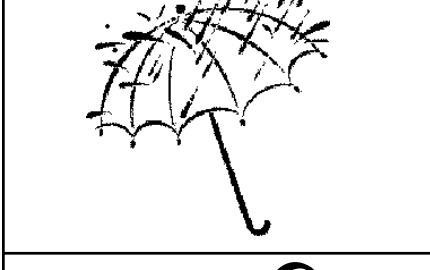
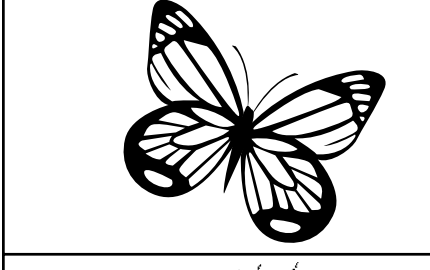
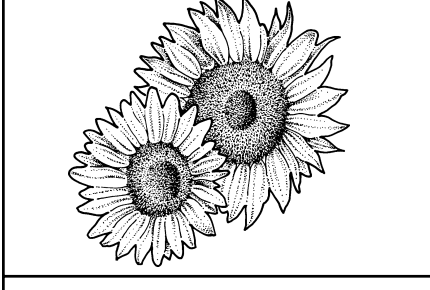
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Colorful quilts give boost to spirit, warmth to sick

By Pat Schiefen

The Goodland Star-News

With bright colors, quilters hope to treat the eyes and boost the spirits of the sickest people in the hospital.

Members of the Prairie Piecemaker quilting guild gave four colorful quilts for beds in the critical care unit for terminally ill patients Goodland Regional Medical Center.

Members bought bright-colored fabric to make the quilts, and pieced the four tops together and tied and bound the layers by hand.

A patriotic quilt, made with red, white and blue-patterned fabric, had a pieced top and bottom. Another had a bright back with a yellow background and colored frogs.

Members meet the second Thursday of each month at "The Rock House," 326 E.

6th., run by Calvary Gospel Church. They bring their sewing machines, get together and learn new techniques.

They also made quilts for Kansas Highway Patrol troopers to give to children involved in wrecks, and quilts for sick children.

Members make those quilts using leftovers from their stash of fabrics at home or from donated supplies. Sizes vary from crib to twin bed. The quilts come in all styles, from prequilted panels that need just binding to work pieced and quilted by machine or hand.

Members include Cora House, Joan Reed, Debbie Fixsen, Frieda House, Carol Tupper, Glenda Garrett and Dixie Chatfield from Goodland, and Bonnie McQuillen, Shirley Ochsner, Charlsie Rogers, and Jean Loyd from St. Francis.

They hold a quilt show as part of the Flatlander Fall Festival every two years. This year, 116 quilts were displayed at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

The group was organized four years ago, said Cora House.

"We met informally for a year before at Wheatridge (Acres Retirement Community)," she said. "People brought any type of needlework until we decided to focus on quilting."

The guild's regular meetings feature "show and tell," with members bringing their projects. They also have demonstrations on different techniques.

The guild has had workshops with guest speakers. They are looking forward to the Tri-State Quilt Show in Goodland on Friday through Sunday, July 27 to 29.



Cora House (left) and Debbie Fixsen, member of Prairie Piecemakers, worked on tying quilts at a show the group gave at the Flatlander Fall Festival in September at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

