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Cindy Jacobs
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From the Publisher

Welcome Summer! The days are the longest of the year and the mid-summer heat wave typical in Kentucky and Tennessee has finally settled in. Fortunately in our neck of the woods there are plenty of rivers and lakes to beat the heat. My family and I recently moved to Western Kentucky and it’s so good to be back home close to family and friends in the land of sweet tea and catfish dinners!

In your summer travels, be sure to stop and visit the shops that advertised in this issue. My hope for this paper is that it can help connect readers to their favorite shops and shops to their favorite customers. I have loved the Country Register as a reader for many years and I’m excited now to be a part of its creation.

If you would like to see your local shop advertised in a future issue, please send a note to kentucky-tennessee@countryregister.com and I’ll make sure to send them a free paper. Also be sure to visit me on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ky-tncountryregister or see pictures of your favorite shops across Kentucky and Tennessee on Instagram at [kytn-countryregister](https://www.instagram.com/kytn-countryregister). If you are a shop owner wishing to advertise, visit www.countryregister.com and click on the Kentucky or Tennessee Publisher listing for a copy of the media kit.

Thank you so much for reading this issue! I am excited to start this new venture and I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the previous publishers, Kelly and Chris Kennedy for their help with the transition. The September/October issue is coming up soon so be sure to look for it in your local shops. Take care and enjoy the summer!

Brandie



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Events

Events

July/August

June 21 to September 5.....Row By Row Kentucky & Tennessee, (p.8)

September

5.....Last Day of Row by Row Experience (p. 8)

7-9.....Quilt Expo, Madison, WI (p. 8)

The Country Register Story

The Country Register began in Arizona in 1988 to provide effective and affordable advertising for shops, shows and other experiences enjoyed by a kindred of readership. Since then, the paper has spread to many other areas, all of which are listed on the opposite page. Look for the paper in your travels. To receive a sample paper from another area, mail \$3 in the USA or \$4 in Canada to that area’s editor. Advertising rates are available upon request. If there is not a paper in your state and you are interested in publishing a paper, contact the editor of the Arizona paper at 602-942-8950. The Country Register is available at the shops that advertise and often at other unique locations. We hope you enjoy this bi-monthly publication and let the advertisers know.

Meet the Cover Artist:

Cindy Jacobs



Paint and create! That pretty much sums up everything Cindy Jacobs loves to do. As a designer, Cindy thinks it’s so much fun to decorate homes, faux paint walls, make jewelry, and to refinish or refurbish furniture and cabinetry. As an artist, Cindy loves to dabble in graphic arts and calligraphy and thinks that designing fonts is super fun! Cindy loves photography and enjoys painting in both watercolor and acrylic.

Cindy also creates artwork with pen and ink and three-dimensional paintings with plaster, metal and wood ornaments or any combination of all of the above! Cindy appreciates every different texture, medium and subject!

Cindy’s inspiration comes from fond recollections of growing up on the farm in Nebraska. The long summer days of her childhood and winter fun building snow forts and going on exciting toboggan rides behind the tractor created unforgettable pictures in her mind. Family was a big part of Cindy’s life; aunts, uncles and cousins! The love of family, farm and her strong faith is reflected in the verses and images of her artwork.

Cindy has four amazing grown children who managed to pick out four super-amazing mates! From that gifting she has been blessed with seven grandchildren, five with us and two who are in heaven with Jesus.

Cindy loves creativity and believes it is something that comes from within, a gift given by the Lord. Cindy prayed for the “work of her hands” from Proverbs 31:31 and you will see this particular scripture reference by Cindy’s autograph as a thank you and tribute to THE Author of all art! (Think nature and all its grandeur!)

To view Cindy’s art prints, go to www.PennyLanePublishing.com or call Penny Lane Publishing at 800-273-5263 for more information.

Wit and Wisdom

GARDEN TRADITION

By Roxanne J. Ferguson

I love gardening. There is nothing more fulfilling than putting a seed into the ground and watching it sprout and grow. Maybe it is the witnessing of the miracle of life that excites me. Whether it is the nurturing of an indoor plant or hoeing a row of vegetables, the feeling is the same.

I think my fascination with growing things comes from my grandparents on both sides of the family. My paternal grandmother gardened and had a porch full of houseplants. In her outdoor garden I remember the garlic, the beautiful columbine, and clematis. My maternal grandmother had nice African violets and a big indoor fern. Outside were peonies, dahlias, gladiolas, and a garden full of vegetables.

My interest in gardening started early. There is a picture of me as a three or four year old digging potatoes with my maternal grandparents, Grandma with a scarf on her head, Grandpa with a hoe in his hands.

When my husband and I were first married, we started gardening with my grandparents. I suppose we thought we were helping them, but they helped us, teaching us how to plant, tend, and harvest the right way, at the right time. We bought our first tiller, moved up on the farm, and have been gardening ever since.

As our children came along, they joined in on the gardening, learning to love the land as we did and how to live off what we grew. My first born daughter called her great grandparents Grandma and Grandpa Hoe, a name that came from the activity we did the most with them, gardening. My middle daughter loved to eat onions at an early age. She also would eagerly remove Japanese beetles from berry bushes, a penny for each bug! I cherish a picture of my grandfather with my youngest child. It shows her toddling through the raspberry bushes, with a berry bucket in her hands (and probably a purple berry-stained face!)

As they got older, my daughters always knew there would be three rows of green beans in the garden, one row for each of them to pick. Then we would sit, under the big shady red maple tree and snip beans, along with great grandma and great grandpa, for as long as they were able.

Now, I garden with my grandchildren. They love to plant seeds and cover them with dirt. Sometimes seeds are put where I might not have planned, but that’s alright! They will bloom where they are planted!

This spring, we planted corn together, along with several other things. As I showed them how to place onions in a row two by two, my grandson asked, “Why do you plant them this way?”

I answered, “That’s how my grandma taught me.” That is the best and only reason I could come up with. Just like knowing that I should put 5 or 6 seeds to a hill of corn.

For the same reason I put a row of zinnias at the end of the garden. I can still hear my grandfather tease, “You can’t eat flowers”!

We would sprinkle radish seeds in with the carrots. Radishes always come up quicker than carrots, so they help mark the row and can be pulled early. Grandpa would always say to plant a dozen tomato plants. “If they do well, that’s enough. If they do poorly, that’s enough.”

Grandma would always put in Black – seeded Simpson leaf lettuce. We planted green beans, but a row of yellow wax beans, because Grandpa said they were easier to see and pick. We would plant red potatoes and white potatoes; we planted the pumpkins with the corn, and grew dill with the cucumbers. So many traditions. I have kept some of the old ways, but have added some of my own preferences, but I continue to garden. Best of all, I delight in watching my adult daughters enjoying flower and vegetable gardening at their own homes.

I guess I love gardening because I love to help things grow. That includes children and grandchildren. Fresh air, clean dirt, green plants, good conversation, lessons of life, working together, making memories. Gardening is a family tradition.

Roxanne Ferguson lives in the Tug Hill region of New York State. She has recently retired from teaching and can now enjoy more gardening time with her grandchildren.

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Quilting with Barbara

A Year in the Life of a Guild

Have you ever wondered about quilt guilds? What are they? What do they do? How does one become a member? Should I join one?

What is a guild? A guild is defined as an association of people for mutual aid or the pursuit of a common goal (Oxford English Reference Dictionary) and, to a great extent, this definition of a guild in medieval Europe remains valid today. But a quilt guild is so much more!

What are the membership requirements? Most guilds welcome anyone who likes to sew and/or is generally interested in crafting with fabric. Some larger guilds limit their membership to a certain number and have smaller groups (bees) that are offshoots of the main group, but this is rare in small centres.

What does a guild do? An account of one year's activities of the small guild I know best – the one to which I belong – may help to answer this question. Keep in mind that different guilds have different programs and guidelines, but most will be similar. Our program varies somewhat from year to year, but the year detailed below is typical.

Our guild year runs from September to June, coinciding with the school year. We elect our executive and program planning committee in May or June so we are ready to go at our first September meeting. This year our first meeting was full of surprises and happy exclamations as members returned the round robin challenge quilts (which had circulated the previous year) to their owners. Oohs, aahs and cries of delight! At the same meeting the coming year's program was presented to the membership, as was information about our upcoming biennial quilt show. The quilt show committee had been working hard over the summer, and their plans were immediately set in motion.

We have found that two meetings a month is a workable format for our group. This year the first meeting of the month was devoted to business and the demonstration of a skill or small project by one of the members or the viewing of a relevant video. Bob Purcell's video concerning the properties and uses of threads was both informative and entertaining. The highlight of these meetings, however, was Show and Tell time. Our guild is small but prolific, and an admiring audience always appreciated the variety of really beautiful items, from simple to complex, shown by members. We all basked in the appreciation of our efforts.

The second meeting of the month was the "mystery meeting." We brought our sewing machines and appropriate materials from the list previously e-mailed to members, but we didn't know what we would be sewing until that night. We knew only that the project would be fun and useful, and that we would be able to finish it by the end of the meeting. Items completed at these sessions include micro-wave bowls, infinity scarves, zippered pouches, casserole mitts, and some cross-stitch. The element of surprise piqued our interest and built anticipation.

One day a month, usually between the two regular evening meetings, we met to work on a full-day project often taught by a member of the group. Until the New Year these day-long sessions were devoted to making items for ourselves or for gifts, e.g. a one-day charm-square quilt. After the New Year, our full-day sessions were used for charity projects. One such activity was the construction of "slab quilts." Our national organization (Canadian Quilters' Organization/Association Canadienne de la Courtepointe) as this year's sesquicentennial (150 year anniversary) project set its goal at 1000 quilts made by members to donate to Ronald McDonald Houses nationwide. Our guild was pleased to be able to donate 21 completed quilts to this cause. As a group we have sewn for the organization Days for Girls for a number of years. Accordingly, one of our all-day sessions and a couple of follow-up sessions supported this worthy group.

However, the "work" of the guild, enjoyable though it is, was just part of the year's program. Members were challenged to produce a wall hanging consisting of exactly 150 squares, one for each year of Canadian Confederation, to be displayed at the year-end quilt show. Quilters do enjoy a challenge! Twice during the year representatives of neighbouring quilt shops spent an evening with us, teaching and/or presenting small trunk shows (displays of their work). In addition they showed us their latest fabrics, patterns and notions; many of us went home with lighter purses. In the spring the guild hired a bus and driver for a "field trip" (read "shop hop") to shops farther afield, an enjoyable day indeed. And then there are the parties... quilting related of course!

An underlying current of the above activities was the preparation for our year-end quilt show. Unsurprisingly, the theme was Canada's Sesquicentennial. Planning, organization and fund-raising (half the proceeds for our local Health Centre) were ongoing. After the show we discussed what went right (almost everything) what went wrong (very little) and what we will do differently next time.

Why should you join a guild? Fellowship, support and commitment to the community all come to mind. What is more life-enriching than spending time working and playing with people who share your passion? Lifelong friendships and bonds are formed in guilds. We could all use a few more of those, no?

Barbara Conquest writes her column from Blue Sky Quilting in Tofield, AB.
© Barbara Conquest.

From the Recipe Box:

Peanut & Fudge Ice Cream Dessert

Ingredients:

Dessert Layers

regular size package chocolate sandwich cookies
1/2 cup margarine, melted
1/2 gallon vanilla ice cream
1 pound salted peanuts

Fudge Sauce

2 cups powdered sugar
1 cup chocolate chips
1/2 cup margarine
1 can evaporated milk

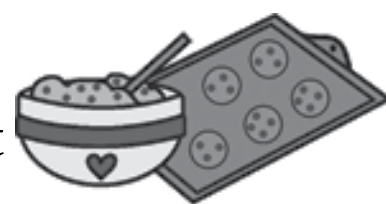
For the dessert layers, combine crushed cookies with 1/2 cup of melted margarine. Press into the bottom of a 13x9 pan. Spoon the softened ice cream over the crumb mixture. Sprinkle the top of the ice cream with peanuts. Place in the freezer while you prepare the fudge sauce.

For the fudge sauce, combine the remaining ingredients in a medium saucepan. Bring to a boil and simmer 10 minutes. Let cool completely before pouring over dessert. Freeze until firm.

Have a Great Recipe?

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Use this pattern for embroidery, wool applique, punch needle or rug hooking, painted projects or whatever your imagination can dream up! Reduce or enlarge pattern as desired.
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Town and Country Cooking

By Janette Hess

Fun with breakfast food

With the school year just completed, hot weather is beckoning. We’re feeling the need to flee the kitchen, but kids of all ages still want tasty, homemade treats. What’s a cook to do? Simply turn to simple recipes!

This summer, create quick desserts out of traditional breakfast foods. Melted marshmallows have long served as the miracle binder for cookie bars made with -- yawn -- crisp rice cereal. So why not switch out the plain cereal for chocolate cereal? Why not brighten things up with fruit-flavored cereal? Let the kids help or even take over, especially with the recipes involving use of the microwave. Sticky fingers are a sweet problem to have.

No-Bake Chocolate Drop Cookies rely on another breakfast staple, oatmeal. Nutty Cereal Bars bring peanuts into the no-bake equation. Choose any or all, and enjoy your break from “real” cooking. Have some fun with your food!

No-Bake Chocolate Drop Cookies

- ½ cup granulated sugar
- ½ cup brown sugar
- 2 generous tablespoons unsweetened cocoa
- ¼ cup (½ stick) butter
- ¼ cup milk
- 1½ cups old-fashioned oatmeal
- ½ teaspoon vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
- ¼ cup almond or peanut butter (optional)

Mix together sugars, cocoa, butter and milk. Slowly bring to rolling boil. Boil and stir for 2 minutes. Remove from heat and add oatmeal, vanilla, dash of salt and almond or peanut butter, if desired. Drop by generous tablespoons on parchment or waxed paper. Cool to set. Makes 18 cookies.

Rainbow Bars

- ¼ cup (½ stick) butter
- 1 10½-ounce package miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups fruit-flavored cereal rings (or other fruit-flavored cereal)

Melt butter in large microwavable bowl. Stir marshmallows into butter. Return to microwave. Cook 30 seconds; stir and repeat until marshmallows are softened just enough to combine with butter. Add cereal and stir to combine. Transfer to sprayed or buttered 9- by 13-inch dish. Tamp down with well-buttered fingertips. (Plastic kitchen gloves may be used, if desired.) When cool, cut into 18 bars.

Crispy S’mores Bars

- ¼ cup (½ stick) butter
- 1 10½-ounce package miniature marshmallows
- 6 cups sweetened, chocolate-flavored crisp rice cereal
- 1 cup graham cracker crumbs (regular or chocolate)

Melt butter in large microwavable bowl. Stir marshmallows into butter. Return to microwave. Cook 30 seconds; stir and repeat until marshmallows are softened just enough to fully combine with butter. Add cereal and half of graham cracker crumbs. Stir to combine. Transfer to sprayed or buttered 9- by 13-inch dish. Tamp down with well-buttered fingertips. (Plastic kitchen gloves may be used, if desired.) Sprinkle with remaining graham cracker crumbs. When cool, cut into 18 bars.

Variation: Substitute 1 cup crushed or processed chocolate sandwich cookies (with white filling) for graham crackers.

Nutty Cereal Bars

- 2 cups toasted, ring-shaped oat cereal
- 1 cup corn flakes
- 1 cup roasted, unsalted peanuts
- 1/3 cup butter
- ½ cup white sugar
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- ½ cup peanut butter

Combine cereals and peanuts. Set aside. Combine butter, sugar and corn syrup in large saucepan. Slowly bring to rolling boil. Remove from heat and stir in peanut butter. Add cereal mixture, stirring to coat. Spoon into sprayed or buttered 9- by 13-inch dish; spread evenly and tamp down. When cool, cut into 18 bars.

A trained journalist, Janette Hess focuses her writing on interesting people and interesting foods. She is a Master Food Volunteer with her local Extension service and enjoys collecting, testing and sharing recipes.



Become Inspired!

Decorating, Entertaining and Living
in the Early American Style

A Soulful Glimpse

By Annice Bradley Rockwell

The height of the summer beckons us to spend more of our time outdoors tending to the needs of our perennial herb gardens or our flourishing vegetable garden beds. Days spent happily working on these tasks provides us with a soulful glimpse into what it would have been like to live in colonial days. In colonial New England the dooryard would typically be a sunny location used to conduct the work of the home. It was customary to have a fenced in dooryard garden which provided remedies and flavorings for the eighteenth-century home. Having these special plantings close at hand gave the housewife a more self-sufficient homestead. Today we can create our own small garden to add depth to our outdoor spaces and to our everyday lives.

Colonial Dooryard Gardens

Kitchen dooryard herb gardens would have been carefully planned and tended with cooking in mind. Useful, hardy herbs such as parsley, marjoram, thyme, dill, basil, lovage and chives thrive when clipped often and can be a perfect addition to a summer-fresh evening meal. Picnic potato salads pop with the celery-like herb, lovage. Cold or hot tomato dishes come alive when adorned with basil or oregano from one’s own patch of earth.

The joy of herbs is not limited to culinary use. One only needs to brush up against garden beds filled with the vibrant smell of lemon balm to be inspired to cut a few stems to blend with beautiful blooms of beebalm to put into an early crock for a fragrant and visually appealing summer bouquet. Nature’s bounty being brought indoors reminds us of this especially beautiful time of year when nature’s fireworks are in full, spectacular bloom.

Summer Simplicity

Our vegetable gardens give us a feeling of being productive and self-reliant. As we bring in an early chopping bowl filled with tender green beans we feel a kindred connection to a much simpler time. Baskets brimming with tomatoes and zucchini can inspire us to try new dishes for our family to love and enjoy.

Somehow in summer the demand of outdoor work coupled with the satisfaction of an abounding yield, leaves one feeling genuinely happy. Our time spent working the way generations before us did, reminds us of the value of hard work and the joy that can come from simplicity. This summer season give yourself a chance to feel closer to a less complicated time. Use the abundance of nature to enhance your days through hard work, tender care and an appreciation of the benefits of what nature can always provide.

Annice Bradley Rockwell is an educator and owner of Pomfret Antiques. She is currently working on her book, New England Girl. NewEnglandGirl2012@hotmail.com

The Knitting Savant

My (Local) Knitting Heart

By Andrea Springer

In the early 1970’s, my mother went to a yarn shop and took me – a young knitter – along on the errand. I’m sure she didn’t know the impact that first visit would have on me, or that we would bring home a bag full of red, white and blue yarn and a poncho pattern. I entered that poncho in the County 4-H Fair, took home a blue ribbon, and became a lifelong knitter – all because of the inspiration and encouragement at a local yarn shop.

A decade ago, our area had eight Local Yarn Shops (LYS) in a 50-mile radius (a quick drive in our part of the world). As I write, that number is down to three. Knitters and crocheters still gather to work on projects and enjoy each other’s company, but in my interpretation, there’s a big hole where skeins of yarn, tools and inspiration once lived and breathed.

Our yarn shop closed over a year ago, and I’m not going to lie – I miss it terribly. We still have a big box retailer in town, but when my LYS closed their doors, I made a commitment to continue to buy my knitting supplies from local retailers.

Why am I so loyal to local?

On almost every occasion, I get great customer service and, more often than not, from the owner of the shop. Their knowledge of the products they sell, insight into trends and their personal assistance keep me coming back to the experts. Shop owners are on the front lines of fiber craft every day, and I find their expertise is valuable.

I like that almost every local yarn shop I’ve ever visited has offered instruction for knitters of all skill levels – from beginners to advanced practitioners. Having problems with a pattern or need assistance with a mistake? Your LYS has your back, giving you guidance, work arounds, moral support and in the most extreme instances, ripping out your mistake when you can’t bring yourself to do the deed. In my experience, online instruction videos are great for reference, but it’s the one-on-one coaching and encouragement that makes a good (and confident) knitter.

The LYS is a great place to meet people. I met some of my favorite folks at our weekly Knit Night – people I would have never crossed paths with had we not had a common interest and place to gather. They’ve taught me new skills, supported me when things were tough, and helped me look at the world in new ways. We forged deep personal bonds all because of our LYS.

For me, buying yarn isn’t just about dollars and cents. We all like a bargain when we shop, but as a friend once said, “Sometimes things cost more than money.” Each purchase I make at an LYS is an investment in the community I’m shopping in. It’s supporting an entrepreneur, energizing a shopping district, funding a local school system through sales tax dollars, and keeping a source of creative expression and friendship alive. Here’s to our Local Yarn Shops – may we continue to support the service they provide all of us.

Andrea Springer blogs at www.knittingsavant.com where she helps folks remember that they have everything they need to be successful in knitting and in life. You can share comments or ideas with her at andrea@knittingsavant.com or follow Knitting Savant on Facebook and Twitter. (c)2017, Andrea Springer. Please do not reprint without permission.

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Grace Coolidge

The American public first knew Grace Coolidge as the glamorous spouse of the Vice President and quickly became the most popular woman in the capital. When she became First Lady at the age of 44, her public silence only enhanced her mystery and glamour. Because her husband was perceived as 'Silent Cal,' Grace was outgoing, joyous and impressed visitors and dignitaries who visited the White House. She received a gold medal from the National Institute of Social Sciences for her "fine personal influence exerted as First Lady of the Land." In 1931 she was voted one of America's twelve greatest living women.

Grace Anna Goodhue, born in 1879, grew up an only child in Burlington, VT. In 1902 she graduated from the University of Vermont and went to teach at the Clarke School for the Deaf that autumn.

The meeting of Grace and Calvin was rather comical. One morning Grace saw Calvin standing in his window shaving, wearing long underwear with a derby hat on the back of his head to hold down part of his hair. She laughed and he heard her—and the rest is history.

In October 1905 they married at her parents' home. They lived modestly in half of a duplex. The couple had two sons, John and Calvin (who died when he was 16). Grace's cheery friendliness helped her in her husband's rise in politics.

When Calvin became president, Grace planned the new administration's social life in an unpretentious but dignified manner, just as her husband wanted it. Her time and friendliness now belonged to the nation, and she was generous with both. After the sudden death of young Calvin at 16, Grace never let grief interfere with her duties as first lady. Grace truly was one of the most popular first ladies, and she had the country's respect and love when the couple left Washington in 1929.

The Coolidges bought and retired to "The Beeches," a large house with spacious grounds they bought in Northampton, MA. Calvin Coolidge died there in 1933.

After his death Grace sold "The Beeches" and moved to a smaller home. Grace enjoyed serving as a trustee of the Clarke School and her great pleasure was enjoying the family of her surviving son, John. In time she spread her wings and took her first airplane ride and her first trip to Europe. She kept her aversion to publicity and her sense of fun until her death in 1957.

The Calvin and Grace are buried side by side in Plymouth Notch, VT.

Calvin Coolidge summed up their marriage in his autobiography, writing: "For almost a quarter of a century she has borne with my infirmities, and I have rejoiced in her graces."

COOLIDGE TOMATO MARMALADE

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 12 whole tomatoes | 2 small oranges |
| 1 lemon | Sugar |
| 1 3-inch cinnamon stick | 1 1/2 teaspoons. whole cloves |
- Blanch the tomatoes with boiling water, and remove skins. Slice into shallow kettle. Slice the oranges and lemon very thin, and quarter the slices. Pour off half the juice from the tomatoes. Measure the sliced tomatoes, and add an equal amount of sugar. Stir until sugar is dissolved. Now add the oranges, lemon, cinnamon stick and whole cloves. Cook over high heat at first to keep the lovely color. Stir often, and reduce heat somewhat after marmalade has begun to boil. Boil, stirring often, until mixture shows signs of crinkling a little when dripped on a cold plate. Remove cinnamon stick, pour into hot sterilized jars and seal.
- This marmalade was a favorite of President Calvin Coolidge, who insisted that it be served regularly at White House breakfasts and brunches.*

Grace Coolidge's Ice Box Cookies

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 cup butter or shortening | 2 cups brown sugar |
| 3 1/2 cups flour | 1 teaspoon baking soda |
| 1/2 teaspoon salt | 1 cup pecans or walnuts |
| 2 eggs, well beaten | |
- Cream the butter and sugar. Sift the flour, soda and salt three times. Add nuts, eggs and flour. Mix all thoroughly and form long narrow and wrap in waxed paper. Let stand overnight. The next day, slice very thin, and bake on an ungreased cookie sheet. If these cookies are baked at 375° for 10 minutes, they will be nice and moist and chewy. Bake them a little longer if you want them crispy.

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'Before We Were Yours'
New Lisa Wingate Novel



Before We Were Yours is a new Lisa Wingate novel that is inspired by a true story of two families, generations apart, that were changed by a heart-breaking injustice.

Memphis, Tennessee, 1939. Twelve-year-old Rill Foss and her four younger siblings live a magical life aboard their family's Mississippi River shanty-boat. But when their father must rush their mother to the hospital one stormy night, Rill is left in charge until strangers arrive in force. Wrenched from all that is familiar and thrown into a Tennessee Children's Home Society orphanage, the Foss children are assured that they will soon be returned to their parents but they quickly realize the dark truth. At the mercy of the facility's cruel director, Rill fights to keep her sisters and brother together in a world of danger and uncertainty.

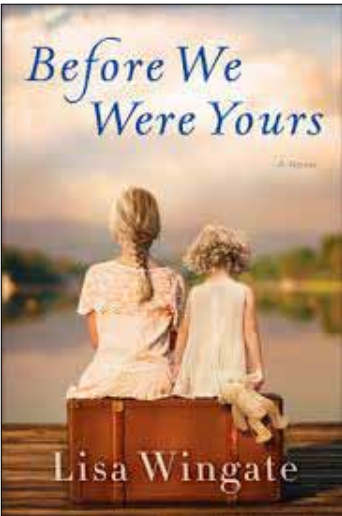
Aiken, South Carolina, present day. Born into wealth and privilege, Avery Stafford seems to have it all—a successful career as a federal prosecutor, a handsome fiancé and a lavish wedding on the horizon. But when Avery returns home to help her father weather a health crisis, a chance encounter leaves her with uncomfortable questions and compels her to take a journey through her family's long-hidden history on a path that will ultimately lead either to devastation or to redemption.

Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country, Lisa Wingate's riveting, wrenching and ultimately uplifting book, Before We Were Yours, reminds us how, even though the paths we take can lead to many places, the heart never forgets where we belong. The Ballantine hardcover book will be on sale beginning June 6, 2017.

Lisa Wingate is a former journalist, inspirational speaker and bestselling author of more than twenty novels. Her work has won or been nominated for many awards, including the Pat Conroy Southern Book Prize, the Oklahoma Book Award, the Utah Library Award, The Carol Award, the Christy Award, and the RT Booklovers Reviewer's Choice Award.

The group Americans for More Civility, a kindness watchdog organization, selected Lisa along with six others as recipients of the National Civics Award, which celebrates public figures who work to promote greater kindness and civility in American life. Booklist summed up her work by saying, "Lisa Wingate is, quite simply, a master storyteller."

More information about Lisa Wingate, her books and appearances can be found at <http://lisawingate.com/blog3/appearances>. You can also join Lisa on Facebook and Youtube and <http://pinterest.com/lisawingate-book/boards>.



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Sandwiches

Spontaneity is a wonderful thing, so it's good to plan for it! For summer weekends you can make up a big plate of different sandwiches & you'll always be ready for a picnic, a trip to the beach, or the arrival of surprise guests. For extra cuteness, wrap them in waxed paper & stick on a decorative label to identify them. While trying new combinations, don't forget these old favorites:

- Liverwurst on white bread with mustard, red onion, iceberg lettuce & thinly sliced cornichon pickles.
- Egg Salad ~hard-boiled eggs, mayo, pickle relish, minced celery & onion, celery seed, salt & pepper.
- Tuna with potato chips, Cucumber.

For more Summer fun come to www.susanbranch.com

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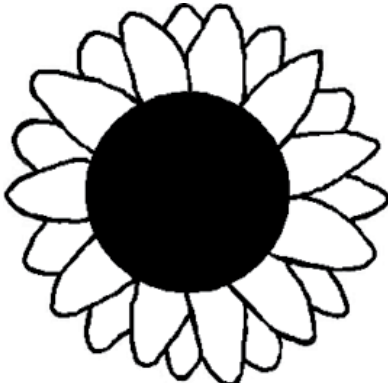
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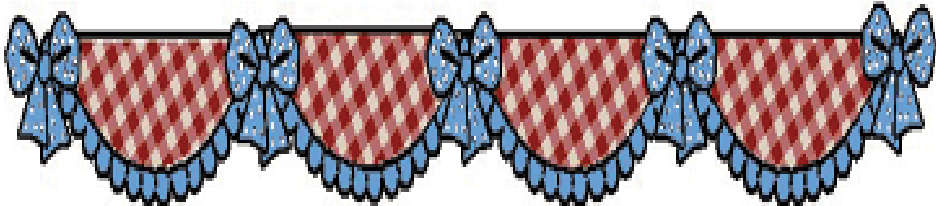
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Tennessee

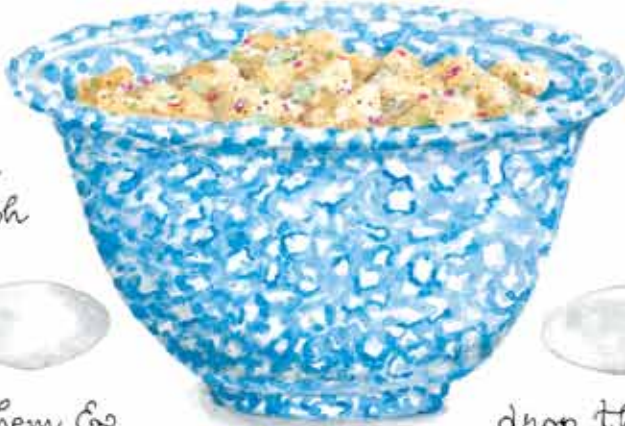
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POTATO SALAD

Serves 10-12

Every family thinks their potato salad recipe is the BEST. I've put some really great but less traditional potato salad recipes in my books, but this is the one we ate at home. Old-fashioned, the mayo melts into the hot potatoes & eggs & makes bowl-licking de rigueur! If your family hasn't hooked up with a potato salad worth fighting for, try ours, which is.

7 large Idaho potatoes
7 eggs
2 c. mayonnaise
1 3/4 c. minced red onion
3/4 c. sweet pickle relish



3-4 celery stalks, diced
1 tsp. celery seed
1/2 tsp. salt (or to taste)
lots of freshly ground black pepper

Peel potatoes, halve them & drop them into a big pot of boiling water & cook till fork tender. Meanwhile, hard boil eggs. Peel them, put them in a big bowl & mash them with a potato masher to the chunkiness you like them to be. Drain potatoes, cut them into bite-sized pieces & add to bowl along with other ingredients ~ stir gently. Chill.

From The Summer Book by Susan Branch For more delicious summer recipes go to susanbranch.com