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QUILT SHOW OPENING AND FABRIC ART CLASSES

BEREKELY SPRINGS, WV – The annual Delectable Mountains Quilt Show opens at the Ice House on Friday, April 17 with a meet-the-artists reception at 7:30 p.m. Produced by the Morgan Arts Council and curated by Denise Cline, the show is titled, “Anything Goes!”

“Quilters love to think outside the box—or block,” said Cline. “The creative process often turns up something unexpected. This year we wanted the quilters to ‘let it go’ and have fun.”

Sue Kipp’s quilt, “The Angler’s Daydream,” in shades of blues and greens, featuring swirls, leaves, fish, a turtle and other creatures so perfectly fit the theme that it was used on the announcement postcard.

Nearly 100 quilts in a wide range of designs, from those made from traditional blocks to embroidered works to hand-dyed fabrics fill the first and second floors of the Ice House. In addition to full-size quilts, the show includes the guild’s Flower Pot Challenge wall hangings and a boutique featuring purses, table toppers, tooth fairy pillows, tote bags, the popular microwave potholders, and more.

New this year is a “show within a show” at the Ice House on May 16 and 17. Guild members demonstrate a variety of quilting techniques, and Pam Pampe, an American Quilter’s Society certified appraiser, appraises quilts by appointment. “Visitors will be able to see our quilters demonstrate hand quilting, machine embroidery, thread painting, and other examples of the quilter’s arts,” said Cline.

In addition to the quilt show, three fabric workshops are scheduled for beginners or experts. On April 18, Cheryl Rink teaches Pen and Ink Fabric Painting; on May 2, Jane Frenke teaches Screen Printing on Fabric; and on May 9, Rika Bennett leads two sessions in Ice Dyeing. Registration for the workshops can be made through the Ice House.

The 11th annual Yard-Square Quilts – a display of more than 40 small quilts hanging in local businesses – transforms the entire town into a quilt show for six weeks. The quilts are auctioned on Sunday, May 24 at 2 p.m. at the Ice House to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society, which aids local residents in financial difficulty.

The quilt exhibit, which hangs through May 24, is funded in part from the National Endowment for the Arts, the West Virginia Commission on the Arts and local hotel/motel taxes.

The Ice House is at the corner of Independence and Mercer Streets in downtown Berkeley Springs, WV. Gallery hours are Monday and Friday, 1-5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information on this and other MAC activities, call 204-258-2300 or visit www.macicehouse.org.