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Morgan Arts Council – Berkeley Springs, WV
304-258-2300 – www.macicehouse.org
Press Contact Only: Mickie Sienko 908-420-9236
Photo Available: Donna@macicehouse.org

ANNUAL QUILT SHOW OPENS IN BERKELEY SPRINGS

BERKELEY SPRINGS, WV – The annual Delectable Mountains Quilt Show and Sale opens at the Ice House Gallery on Friday, April 12 as the first major event of Quilt Month in Berkeley Springs. The white-glove, meet-the-quilters opening reception is at 7:30pm. Produced by the Morgan Arts Council (MAC), and curated by quilt guild members Mickie Sienko and Kate Llewelyn, the popular and colorful exhibit titled “Music to my Eyes” hangs through May 26, and features quilts inspired by songs and their lyrics, or using musical themed fabrics. Gallery hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday 11am to 5pm.

As always, the quilt show takes over most of two floors of galleries in the Ice House. More than 20 guild members have work on display including almost 60 full-size quilts and wall hangings for display and sale as well as smaller pieces like stuffed toys, placemats and hot pads, purses, baby items and other fabric items for every budget in the upstairs “boutique”.

The quilts are made in a variety of sizes from throw to queen and king, and feature both contemporary and traditional designs. Although some quilts are on exhibit only, many are available for purchase.

The 2019 Apple Butter Festival quilt once again makes its debut at the show. Named “Cotton Candy,” the colorful queen-size quilt is made by Mary Roach and quilted by Mickie Sienko. Chances on the quilt are available at the show and at the Chamber of Commerce with the winner drawn at the conclusion of the October festival.

Other Quilt Month activities include a certified appraiser from the American Quilter’s Society available to appraise new and old quilts on Saturday, April 20 during Gallery hours. Payment and appointment information can be found online at the quilt guild website.

The annual Yard Square Quilts – a display of more than 50 quilts hanging in local businesses – transforms Berkeley Springs into Quilt Central for six weeks. On Sunday, May 26 at 2pm, all the Yard Square Quilts are sold in a live auction in the Ice House Theater. This year’s proceeds will go to benefit Streetscapes, an organization working to beautify our downtown and to help ameliorate flooding.

New this year will be an open discussion about quilts prior to the auction. Held on May 26 at noon and led by a quilt guild member, the discussion will cover such areas as the history of quilts, their styles, construction methods and materials, and a look at new directions in quilting.

This program is presented with financial assistance from the WV Department of Arts, Culture and History, and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the WV Commission on the Arts, and local hotel/motel taxes. The Ice House is at the corner of Independence and Mercer in downtown Berkeley Springs, WV. For more information on this and other MAC activities, call 304-258-2300 or visit www.macicehouse.org.

