

Pink Ribbon Quilt Project Debuts

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**Elk County Extension Agent
RIDGEWAY (Elk Co.)** —

Pink ribbon quilt projects are coming to town! That's the word from Pink Ribbon Millennium Quilt project director, Teddy Armstrong of Johnsonburg. More than 50 projects will be making their debut at the Elk County Council of the Arts on North Broad Street, Ridgway, in conjunction with Ridgway's In-

dependence Day Festival.

The projects will be displayed from June 22-July 7. After being in Johnsonburg and Kane, the display will return in late July until early September. Best of all, there is no charge to view the exhibit.

The program is sponsored by the Elk County Cancer and Tobacco Education Coalition, which is part of the Appalachia Cancer Network. ACN is funded by the National Cancer

Institute. The mission of the Elk County coalition is to provide education and information on cancer prevention.

Several quilts have been made by breast cancer survivors. According to Teddy, "The survivors want to impress upon everyone else how important it is to discover cancer and treat it early. With self-exams each month, a yearly professional exam and a mammogram, you are giving yourself a present for

life."

Ridgway participants in the Pink Ribbon project include Judy Kay Morris, Martha Kink-ead, JoRae Yorns, Barb Young, Joyce Rhines, Jean Brian, Marge Gaylor, Laura Gulnac, and Barb Miller.

According to Teddy, "The projects range from traditional to contemporary. There are quilted pillows, framed pictures, wall hangings, and small quilts. Projects have been made by

both groups and individuals, of all ages, from preteens to senior citizens, from four counties in north central Pennsylvania and one county in New York."

Perhaps most interesting of all is the unique story behind the projects. Thus the stories will be displayed with each quilted project. Many quilts have been made in memory of someone who died of cancer or in honor of a cancer survivor.

For example, one piece, entitled "A Nun in the Run," features a nun running a race, from start to finish. Several years ago, a nun ran in the Susan B. Komen Foundation Race for the Cure to encourage a local woman who had breast cancer. The woman is now a 10-year breast cancer survivor. To thank her friend the nun, she made the project in her honor. The nun pictured on the wall hanging was made by the lady's daughter, now an art student in college. The Sister was her second-grade teacher.

People looking for unique gifts will have an opportunity to bid on projects they especially like. In mid-November, the bids will be opened and the highest bidder will be notified. Proceeds will be shared between the Elk County Cancer and Tobacco Education Coalition and local cancer societies.

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Not only will this guide be inserted into the Aug. 19, 2000 issue of Lancaster Farming, the books will be made available at Empire Days, Ag Progress Days, All American Dairy Show, Keystone International Livestock Exposition, Keystone Farm Show 2001 and Pennsylvania Farm Show 2001.

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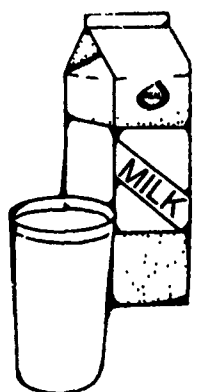
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