



Marsha Siegel is surrounded by treasures at her Country Spun Treasures Quilt Shop on Flaghole Road. Photo: Anne Hewitt

Country Spun Treasures Quilt Shop

By Anne Hewitt
Beacon staff

Exceptional results are often the result of passion in action. The multitude of exquisite hand-crafted wares on display at Country Spun Treasures illustrates that principle quite well.

Shop owner Marsha Siegel became interested in quilting while working for Linda Wilcox at the former quilt shop on Andover's Main Street. She first decided to display her quilting projects – along with creations of other local artists – at a holiday open house at her home on Flaghole Road.

The success of the annual open houses led to year-round operations in 2003. This year she began stocking quilting fabrics, offering a variety of early American, primitive, and country prints along with accessory notions needed to construct various fabric projects.

Quilting classes for beginners and intermediate-level quilters are offered at the shop. If a bed-size project seems daunting, there are numerous other options: lap quilts, wall hangings, oven mitts, or placemats can get a beginner started with the technique.

Fabric colors and quilting designs – such as Log Cabin, Ohio Star, or Irish Chain – can be selected to match any decor. Finishing touches can be either hand tying or machine finishing to complete a project.

Country Spun Treasures features

crafts of more than 20 local artisans. Handmade items include hooked rugs, woven baskets, nostalgic signs, nature paintings on wood, fabric and cut/pierced lampshades, purses, apparel, and nursery accessories. Honey and maple syrup are also available.

Unique to Country Spun Treasures is the homegrown wool used for quilt batting, needle felting, and yarn. Marsha lovingly cares for a herd of 18 Jacob sheep, an old breed highly regarded for their fleece.

Marsha enjoys working the sheep with her three Border Collies and is active with the annual Sheep and Wool Festival at the Hopkinton State Fair Grounds. Last May the Festival celebrated its 30th anniversary.

Country Spun Treasures Quilt Shop is located at 711 Flaghole Road. Regular hours are 10 AM to 4 PM, Wednesday through Saturday. The fifth annual Olde Thyme Christmas Sampler weekend extends through Sunday, December 3, and runs from 10 AM to 4 PM. You can reach the shop at 934-3885 or CountryStitch@adelphia.net.

Donate!

The *Beacon* relies on voluntary donations for a substantial part of its budget.

Ed Becker Joins Lake Farm Realty

By Anne Hewitt
Beacon staff

"The people, the people, and the people," was Ed's answer. The question was "What attracted you to the real estate business?"

Ed Becker may be Lake Farm Realty's newest real estate agent, but he's no stranger to the customer service industry. If there is such a thing as a "typical salesman," Ed's ideas on the occupation don't quite typify the stereotype.

Ed Becker: Throughout my career, I've been customer oriented. I get warm, positive feelings from serving a customer well and giving them solutions that solve their problems and needs. When I do my job well, the customer will smile every time they cross the threshold to their home.

I'll have earned – and I stress the word "earned" – a commission. It's a win-win situation.

But, you tell me, who got the better part of the deal – the customer with a lifetime of smiles, or me with part of a month's salary?

Andover Beacon: What strengths do you bring to the job?

EB: I love being able to work in town and with the people in Andover. I've come to know the community through my involvement as former Town Administrative Assistant and Moderator, and my volunteer work with the Rescue Squad, East Andover Fire Department,

and Master Plan Committee.

Salesmanship is really a set of skills that include analytical problem solving, market understanding, negotiation, communication, and complete honesty. A professional salesman will be loyal to solving the customer's problem, use his best effort on behalf of his principal, and enlist his client's hope and trust in the process of closing a sale.

AB: Why did you come to Lake Farm Realty?

EB: Lake Farm Realty is serious about being the client's agent and putting ourselves in their shoes, working for their best interests and following the six fundamental duties of agency: obedience, loyalty, disclosure, confidentiality, accounting, and responsible care.

AB: What's the most surprising thing you've learned at Lake Farm Realty?

EB: The impact that Andover's zoning laws have had on the shape and character of the town over the past two decades. With the acreage and frontage requirements, the lack of neighborhood or cluster type development has really driven prices up to where it is difficult for a young middle-class family to find their first home in town.

Andover is shifting to a well-to-do demographic and needs to be aware of how to provide housing for all of us, or otherwise the vitality of the town will

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Our 5th Holiday Open House at
COUNTRY SPUN TREASURES

Olde Thyme Christmas Sampler

Please join us in our 18th-century colonial home.

Each room is decorated for the holidays and brimming with unique treasures for that special someone on your list.

Festivities thru Sunday, Dec. 3rd, 10 am to 4 pm

Starting December 6th, all fabrics, books, and patterns are on sale at 25% off the regular price until December 24th.

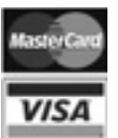
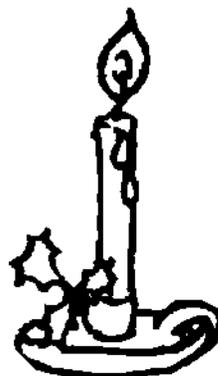
Holiday gifts still available. Shop in a relaxed atmosphere. Ask about classes starting in the New Year.

Holiday Respite: Closed December 25th through January 2nd.

Hours: Wed - Sat, 10-4
Other times by chance or appointment.

711 Flaghole Road ♦ Andover
934-3885

Flaghole Road is off
Route 11, across from
Lakeview Cemetery.
Follow the sheep signs!



Your Neighborhood Experts

For information call

735-5444