



Bedford Arts and Crafts Society Newsletter April 2020

Dear friends,

On behalf of the board, I want to pass on our wishes for your good health and peace of mind. It's a difficult time, but we are fortunate to live in such safe communities and under comfortable conditions. And technology is certainly keeping us well informed and closely connected. In addition to all the video conferencing resources, there is a lot of great art to view online, along with infinite fun posts to keep us smiling!

This newsletter departs from the norm given that there are currently no official BACS activities to cover. It features information on BACS members' art and craft projects and on resources to check out as we shelter at home. We hope you will enjoy it, and we welcome suggestions and general feedback. And do please continue to tell us about your projects, as well as interesting resources you turn up.



Best,
Sylvia

BACS Card Makers Unleash Their Creativity

Sandi Rosenfeld is busy making cards. Here are some lovely examples that sing spring!



Meanwhile, **Barbara Kupfrian** sent this colorful card from her vacation home in Naples, Florida, where she's sheltering by herself. One way Barb is reaching out to others is to **send a home-made card to someone every day**. She is currently creating stamped cards and plans to experiment with adding some watercolor touches to her designs. What a great reason to create! Perhaps you will want to start your own card-a-day project.



Barb with an important message

Warm thanks to Sandi and Barb for sharing their charming designs.

Fabric Art and Crafts from Laura Wallace



Laura Wallace sent this photo of her latest batik project, a cheerful, intricate view of Great Brook Farm in Carlisle. Needless to say, we're looking forward to rescheduling Laura's workshop as soon as we can.

Laura also provided images of the "household helpers" she is knitting. She reports, "These are pretty mindless to make and come out beautifully! They are about 8 inches square or circular and can be used as fancy doilies under bowls or plants (with plastic underneath for the latter). They are even handy as wipes for counters and dishes." Materials are Lily Sugar 'n Cream 100% cotton 4-ply yarn (available at Joann Fabrics) and knitting needles, with size 7 being preferable.

Laura notes that the samples in the photo (right) have yet not been blocked to make them more square. Two are a diagonal pattern, where you start with four stitches and then increase and then decrease to make the square. One is a basket weave, and the last is a



circular pattern where at the end you need to stitch the circle closed with a crochet hook or a needle with a large eye. If you would like the patterns, let Laura know: laura.b.wallace@gmail.com

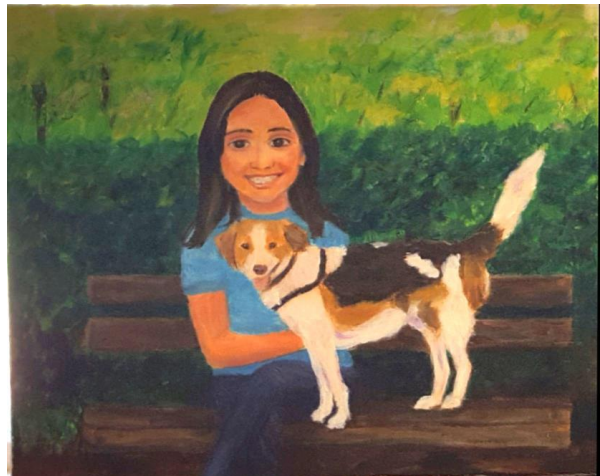
Margo Zelermyer's Crewel Girl



Margo Zelermyer put her drawing and embroidery skills to work in creating this cute fabric portrait. Maybe this is just the quick project to try with that old canvas and embroidery thread! Contact Margo for tips: margozelermyer@gmail.com

The BACS Artist Support Group Is Zooming . . .

Judi Babcock reports that the artist support group is continuing to meet through the miracle of Zoom. Here's an appealing work-in-progress by Judi that she presented for comment at the last meeting. The group's next get-together will begin at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 24. If you are interested in attending, contact Judi at judibabcock@gmail.com



Michelle and Sonny (in progress) by Judi Babcock

David Hockney's Springtime Art from Normandy

A recent BBC News article explores how the artist **David Hockney** is busy creating images of spring on his iPad while he is in lockdown at his Normandy home. Hockney has shared several of his recent images (including one animation) for everyone to enjoy at this difficult time. Take a look:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-52109901>



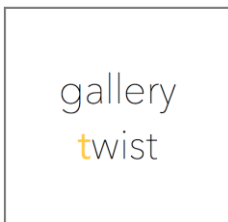
Art by David Hockney

Concord Art Learning Demos to Enjoy

Concord Art is offering informative original demos by some of its member teachers and making them available to members while the organization is closed. Perhaps you will enjoy one of these:

- **Janet Schwartz Pastel Demo: Sketch Your Pet**
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1T8ioXSKMA2h5z1tS68fYi-sZIJ1giy2L/view>
- **Martha Wakefield Acrylic Painting Demo: Pepper and Lime**
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/16gHw5gBlkRN73eI26S9wR9Y-QB61VD7c/view?ts=5e8e290b>

Open House for Gallery Twist's Printmaking Show, "Impressions V"



Via a 360° tour, photos, and regular videos, viewers can engage virtually with Gallery Twist's just-hung show, "Impressions V." The show features 200 original works by 50 artists and will run until May 10. So grab a cup of tea or a glass of wine and take a stroll around this fresh and upbeat exhibit, which one BACS member says is "like springtime and joy!"

<https://www.gallerytwist.com/current-exhibition>

Virtual Crafting at Cary Library

On Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:00 PM, join others at Lexington's Cary Library for an hour of virtual DIY crafting via Zoom. The website invites you to bring your own needle arts project, whether knitting, crocheting, sewing, felting, beading, embroidery, needlepoint, or another needle craft. Prepare your favorite tea and spend the afternoon enjoying a cuppa with friends who like to create.



Register for each individual meeting on the library's website: <https://www.caryllibrary.org/>
You will receive the Zoom link a few days before the session. If you have questions, contact caryprograms@minlib.net

Additional Resources You Can Explore

Members sent these suggestions. Thanks to all!

- **Mary Jane St. Amour** has been enjoying the website for the Mother Nature Network. It has timely articles about nature, food, medical conditions, crafts, and more, she reports. Visit <https://www.mnn.com/>
- **Judi Babcock** suggests visiting <https://archive.org>, a nonprofit library of millions of free books, movies, software products, music selections, websites, and more.
- **Doris Smith** and **Judi Babcock** each passed along links to websites that asked people to post photos of themselves recreating their favorite works of art. See some of the contributors' amazing and often hilarious results here: <https://mymodernmet.com>

