



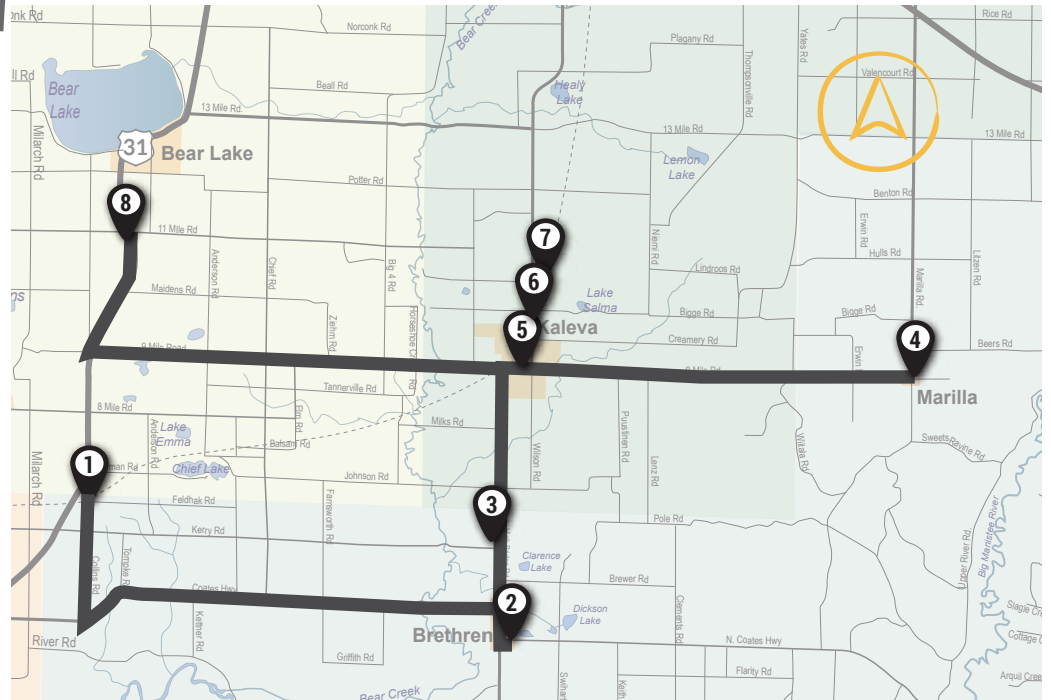
The Manistee River Valley Quilt Tour is an ongoing project of the Arts and Culture Alliance of Manistee County. Community members have designed and created quilt patterns related to the history of buildings or communities in the county. They are then painted and affixed to the side of the building or other structure. There is also an explanation of each design. For more information, visit [www.allartsmanistee.com](http://www.allartsmanistee.com)

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## START

Begin just off US-31. The first quilt is located on “Old US-31,” Collins Road, just off of Lyman Road. From here, continue south on Collins until reaching Coates Hwy. (part of Collins will be a dirt road). Turn east and continue until reaching the Lakeview Church of the Brethren and Brethren Heritage Association Quilt, both located in Brethren (2)(3). Continue north on High Bridge Rd. until reaching 9 Mile, then east to Marilla Rd. Turn left and travel 2 miles to the Marilla Museum & Pioneer Place (4). Back track down 9 Mile and turn north on Healy Lake Road/Osmo St. in Kaleva. The Autumn Star is at the Kaleva Art Gallery on Wuoski Ave. (Turn left from Healy Lake Road and it is across from the United States Post Office). From here, turn north onto Healy Lake Road/Osmo St. and continue 1 block until reaching Walta Street and the Tribute to Finnish Immigrants Quilt (6) and the Kaleva Railroad Depot Quilt (7). From there back track to 9 Mile Rd. and turn west. Continue on 9 Mile to US-31 and turn north until reaching the Fox Farm Nursery Quilt (8).

the county opened in Norwalk in 1863, but it wasn’t until the railroad came through in 1888 that this little out-county community really turned into a bustling village.

Norwalk saw its heyday between 1910 and 1920 because of the wealth of railroad related activity, which included railway express and passenger service. A pickle station sat alongside a loading dock and a Depot, which was dismantled in the 1970s. That same decade regularly scheduled train runs stopped, and in 1984 the railroad tracks were taken up. In 2005 the last visage of the railway disappeared when the train viaduct was removed from U.S. 31, leaving only a railroad gang shed, and ironically the old Chief, Michigan Railroad Depot (which was moved to Norwalk in 1998) to recall Norwalk’s importance as a part of the halcyon days of the American Railway.

## NORWALK RAILROAD CROSSING QUILT SQUARE

Near 6759 Old US 31 affixed to fence  
GPS: 44.341669, -86.162308

Folks were living in Norwalk when the State Road, now called Old U.S. 31, was built through it in the 1850s. The second post office in



**NORWALK RAILROAD CROSSING QUILT**

## LAKEVIEW CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 2

**14094 N Coates Hwy., Brethren, MI 49619**  
**GPS: 44.304359, -86.019105**

How can a quilt block have similarities to a church? Perhaps this way. One quilt block alone can be beautiful. Let it be joined by other 'blocks' and it becomes a fine quilt top. Add 'filler' and 'backing' and you have an inviting, warm comforter!



**LAKEVIEW CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN**

## BRETHREN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION 3

**17955 Coates Hwy., Brethren, MI 49619**  
**GPS: 44.306185, -86.015449**

The Brethren Heritage Association Quilt Square is a Log Cabin design, chosen because the museum itself features much of the logging industry at the turn of the 20th Century when Brethren was established and many of the settlers built log cabins too. The main museum itself is a log cabin.



**BRETHREN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION**

## MAPLE LEAF AT MARILLA MUSEUM & PIONEER PLACE 4

**9991 Marilla Rd., Copemish, MI 49625**  
**GPS: 44.380541, -85.880027**

The Maple Leaf pattern has been chosen because of Marilla's long tradition of producing maple syrup and the area's abundance of maple trees. The pioneering Chesboro family of Marilla Township held a family tradition of planting a maple tree for each new birth in the family. In the early years of Marilla Township, according to the 1883 agricultural census, maple syrup was described as maple molasses. The Marilla Historical Society maintains four historic buildings (on site).



**MAPLE LEAF AT MARILLA MUSEUM**

## AUTUMN STAR AT KALEVA ART GALLERY 5

**14449 Wuoski Ave., Kaleva, MI 49645**  
**GPS: 44.373211, -86.011066**

Autumn Star is the quilt pattern chosen by the members of the Kaleva Art Gallery. They liked the simple pattern and used blue as a predominant color reminiscent of the Finnish flag.

The Kaleva Art Gallery cooperative was started in 1997 and has occupied this building, the oldest in Kaleva, since 2004. In 1900 the building housed the office of the New York Land Company which was formed to sell the land after the white pine had been cut down. The Siirtolainen, or immigrant, brochure was printed here and sent out to Finns in the US and Finland encouraging them to settle in Kaleva.

The town was named after the epic poem, the Kalevala, and the streets were given Finnish names. For many years after that enterprise ended the building was known as the Drug Store, famous for cherry cokes, 45 rpm records and various drugs and sundries.



**AUTUMN STAR**

## TRIBUTE TO FINNISH IMMIGRANTS 6

**Centennial Walkway, Walta Ave., Kaleva, MI 49645**  
**GPS: 44.372363, -86.012703**

Three 4x4 foot panels with Finnish inspired symbols serve as a memorial to the Finlander immigrants to Kaleva. One of the panels features a crowned lion, the coat of arms of Finland. The other two depict Finnish designs, including a poem about the homeland. These quilt patterns are found along the Centennial Walkway established by the Brethren High School's Service Learning Class for the town's centennial in 2000.



**TRIBUTE PANELS**

## KALEVA DEPOT RAILROAD MUSEUM

**14420 Walta Ave., Kaleva, MI 49645**  
**GPS: 44.375170, -86.010108**

The quilt pattern on the side the of Kaleva Depot Railroad Museum represents the tracks on which trains traveled to and from Kaleva in the late 1880s, transporting lumber from harvested white pine, and immigrants from Finland who settled the town.



**FINNISH IMMIGRANTS  
TRIBUTE IN KALEVA**

## FOX FARM NURSERIES

**7615 Eleven Mile Rd., Bear Lake, MI 49613**  
**GPS: 44.399024, -86.149087**

Here thousands of seedlings and transplants of both deciduous and evergreen varieties are grown for mail order as well as the Michigan Soil Conservation Districts. The quilt on the barn is an original design by Ray Lebert of Manistee. He chose and painted the abstract design using bright colors and incorporating symbols relating to the nursery.



**FOX FARM  
NURSERIES QUILT**