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Quilt expert shares history, stories behind vintage quilts

Quilter and quilt shop owner Chris Campbell will discuss the stories and history behind vintage quilts during a special free program, If Only These Vintage Quilts Could Talk," on Sunday, February 21, 2 p.m., at Neosho County Community College.

In addition to being a source of warmth and a piece of art, a quilt develops a history of its own. During her four decades as a quilter, Chris Campbell has amassed a collection of vintage quilts, and each quilt comes with a story, whether it's about the quilter, the owner, or how the quilt found its way to Campbell's collection.

Campbell's interest in quilting began in the 1970s when she made her first wall hanging completely by hand. In 1984, she opened Chris's Corner Quilt Shop at its original location at 229 South Main in Ottawa, Kansas. In 2005, the shop relocated to 3593 Old Hwy 59. She is a charter member of both the now-disbanded Ottawa Quilter's Guild and the still-active Sunflower Piecemakers. Campbell's quilts have been featured in *Quilters Newsletter*, *Miniature Quilts*, and *Quilt Pink*.

"If Only These Vintage Quilts Could Talk" is offered by the Franklin County Historical Society as part of the Old Depot Museum's newest exhibit, *Around The Block: Traditional Patterns in the Quilts of Vera Anderson*, which explores how traditional quilt patterns—some more than two centuries old—continue to be used in modern quilts. The museum will offer free admission from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on February 21 so guests can visit the exhibit before attending the program at Neosho County Community College. For more information, please call (785) 242-1250.

Founded in 1937, The Franklin County Historical Society strives to preserve, present, and promote the history of Franklin County, Kansas.

The Old Depot Museum strives to educate visitors about the importance of trains in small towns and the history of Franklin County, Kansas. It is operated by the Franklin County Historical Society.

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