

Quilt...from Page 1A

When Wiley opened the box earlier this year and saw the stars, her memory immediately flashed back to her mother cutting out those stars, and she was inspired to finish the project.

Fortunately, there was enough material in the box to not only finish the quilt but to make a pillowcase to store it in when the quilt was done.

"My mother and father were very patriotic," she said. "They believed in the country and they did everything they could to make our country great and give their contribution of whatever they could do. They loved the country until the day they died."

But that's only half of the story. When she decided to finish the quilt, she realized right away she would need help, as she had no quilting experience and didn't know how to proceed.

She remained determined to complete her mother's work, however, and she reached out to a new friend she'd made recently.

Wiley is a regular attendee of First United Methodist Church in Blairsville, and it was there that she met Peggy and Harold Hergert, who moved from Texas to Union County last year and began attending the church.

Peggy just happened to



"The Quilt That Slept for 75 Years" was started in 1944 by Edna Cross, and her daughter, Kathleen Wiley, finished it in 2019.

Photo by Mark Smith

be a talented quilter who had previously won First Place in a statewide quilting competition in Texas, and when Wiley mentioned she was looking for a quilter at church one Sunday,

Hergert said she "might be able to help."

"And that's how we got to know each other," said Hergert. "We go to lunch every Sunday after church, and it's really a good relationship."

So, with Hergert's help and expertise, Wiley was able to realize her dream of finishing the quilt her mother started 75 years ago for Wiley's father while he was away fighting the Nazis halfway around the world.

Just as Wiley's mother had done years before, the friends handstitched the quilt, affixing their names as a finishing touch.

The project took about three months to complete. When they concluded their work in April, they dedicated the quilt to the memory of William and Edna Cross, with plans to give it to Wiley's son for safekeeping.

Fittingly, Wiley named the perfectly preserved, recently completed project "The Quilt That Slept for 75 Years," and what a beautiful quilt it turned out to be.

Register now for Miss Georgia Mountain Fair

The pageant is on July 22nd, Monday. Application deadline is Sunday July 14, 2019. Applicants must be between the ages of 17-24, never been married, nor have children. Money and prizes will be

awarded. All information can be found on the website for the GA Mountain Fairgrounds!

If they have any further questions, feel free to contact Sonya at 770-480-4777, or sonyamcc@bellsouth.net.

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