

The Weekender

NEWS, VIEWS AND LIFESTYLE FROM THROUGHOUT THE WEST KOOTENAY/BOUNDARY · VOL 12 · ISSUE 65 · FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2006

They are the latest rage in **family collectibles**, and they're finally here in the West Kootenay/Boundary.

They're called photo memory quilts. You might have seen them on primetime TV's *Extreme Home Makeover*.

Castlegar's Rita Crawford and her new company **Kootenay Custom Quilting** are amongst the first in the region crafting the innovative quilts, in which Crawford takes your actual photographs and family memories and re-prints them onto whichever fabric you chose.

Crawford says the quilts — which are entirely washable — are like your very own work of art, a memory quilt to treasure and pass onto generations.

Memory quilts are popular for celebrating new births, birthdays, graduations, weddings, anniversaries, pets and especially for memoriam. A recent recipient of a memorial quilt expressed how therapeutic the quilt was in his grief process. Crawford knows this first hand as she lost her seven-year-old stepson in a tragic accident not long ago.

The quilts range in size from a small wall hanging (12" x 12") to a queen size bedspread and anything in-between. Prices start from \$150.

Info? Call 250-365-2006, e-mail quiltingqueen@shaw.ca or click on www.kcquilting.com.



— DARREN DAVIDSON PHOTO

SEW LONG. Castlegar's Rita Crawford and her new company Kootenay Custom Quilting are amongst the first in the region crafting photo memory quilts. Crawford takes your favourite family photographs and re-prints them onto whichever fabric you chose, as small wall hangings or huge bed covers. Photo memory quilts were recently showcased on primetime TV's *Extreme Home Makeover* show.