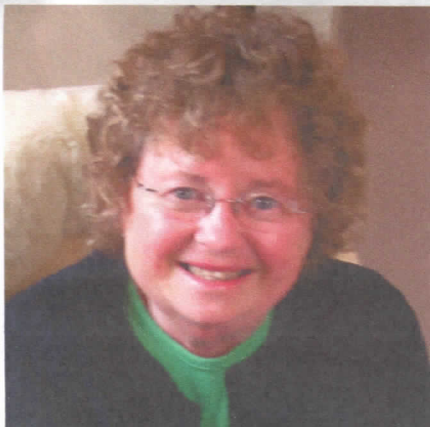


CEDAR VALLEY RIDGE NEWS

Reprint from the April 2009 Issue

The Cedar Valley Art Scene

Marie Colombo has lived in the red house near the far end of Cedar Valley Ridge Drive since she moved here from Wisconsin two years ago. Marie will tell you she's a recluse, but that has not been my experience of her. She's bright, funny and full of stories.



And when you walk into her house, your first impression is a combination of her colorful artwork and the delightful hominess of her environment. Almost everything that's movable in her house is either something she has made or is an heirloom of some sort. What isn't movable reflects

her straightforward sense of design and colorful palette.

Marie grew up in Iron River in the Upper Peninsula. She moved to the Detroit area to study Medical Technology at Michigan State University, and then settled in Chelsea to raise her three children. She moved to Wisconsin about ten years ago before coming to Traverse City to be close to her kids and grandkids. She has two cats, Basil and Julius, which have somewhat retiring but distinctive and friendly personalities.

Marie loves hiking and snowshoeing the trails in the private nature reserve that



comprises the Common Area at Cedar Valley Ridge. Her love of nature is also evident

in her art. From the subtle hues of these spruce trees in Winter to the vibrancy of her watercolor vegetables and



fruits, to the warm fuzziness of the black bear lounging in her rocking chair, all her work celebrates a deep appreciation of her natural surroundings.



Marie is also an accomplished knitter and fabric artist. She has sold her work in shops around Michigan and Wisconsin.