The garden is designed to motivate residents to go outdoors to view the seasonal changes that occur throughout the year. Trees, shrubs, perennials, and ground covers offer a variety of color, texture, size, shape and scent and bloom periods, orienting residents to the time of year and providing familiar plants reminiscent of home.

Shrubs and perennials provide a habitat for birds and butterflies. The bird feeders are placed within the garden beds close to the windows to provide interest even for those who don’t go outdoors.

The garden has extended the opportunities for residents to experience and enjoy nature, improving the quality of life and the feeling of home.

Garden Sculptures
Charlotte Lees

Gardens lift our spirits and heighten our senses. Zoann Dusenbury had a vision of a garden that incorporated artwork to exemplify the celebration of life. How fortunate that we met. Zoann asked me to create garden sculptures that would be joyful, uplifting and reflect the cycle of life. These also are the predominant themes that describe the attitude of Kethley House.

Many images come to mind – how to best present them become the challenge. After much thought I selected the quilt image as the format to integrate both life and nature. The quilt pieces and holds together the history of our lives, connecting the past and present. It is a valuable possession – one that is handed down generation to generation. To illustrate this idea I selected intimate vignettes of life, choosing activities that relate to various stages of childhood, adulthood and senior years. The cast glass placed around the edges of the quilt reference fabric threads as well as adding the element of color – essential for a winter garden.

The Quilt, along with the other garden sculptures are meant to draw you near – then reward you with delightful images and rich textures, perhaps rekindling fond memories.

Tucked within the garden are 3 additional sculptures, some with poetic quotes to stir the imagination. All were created with a desire to express a celebration of life.