



April 1, 2022

“Can I, can I can I?” Becca whined. “You said last week you’d talk about it this week. Can I do it?” Becca, for those of you who don’t know, is my mini Australian Shephard. And before you dismiss the idea that she’s talking to me, let me remind you...your pets talk to you, too. Although, probably not in complete sentences. And yours probably don’t have their own credit cards, televisions, flag poles, queen flags, etc. Anyway...

“Yes, you can tell the story.”

“So there was this box of heads that got stolen out of a truck in Denver,” Becca said. She paused.

“That’s it? That’s all you got?”

“Well...they tracked the heads to Hollywood and they were going to give them as prizes at the Oscars. I hear Will Smith was supposed to get one so he could...”

“Becca, that’s not true. You’re making stuff up now. The box of heads was to be delivered to a scientific center that was planning on using them for scientific research and education. Authorities still don’t know what happened to them, although maybe Hollywood could use them in the Walking Dead shows. You know, as models.”

“Gross,” grunted Becca. “Okay, did you hear about the lion that jumped into a safari jeep and laid its head on a tourist’s lap? It happened at the Belos, Belal—can’t pronounce it, park.”

“You mean the Taigan Safari Park in Belohorsk, Crimea,” I said.

“Yeah, that one. That’s why Russia is trying to invade Crimea. They want the safari park back.”

“Okay, that’s not true either,” I said. “Russia did annex” "invade".... "Crimea in 2014, and territorially it’s either seen today as independent, part of Russia or part of Ukraine. But that part of the war had nothing to do with the lion jumping into the jeep with the tourists. Once everyone got a chance to pet the lion, it jumped back out. Nobody got hurt.”

“What about the bear that was attacked by two pigs?” Becca said.

“You mean the story about the three little pigs and the wolf who huffed and puffed?” I asked.

“I don’t read those kind of fairy tales,” Becca said. “I get my fairy tales off the internet. No, it’s the story about the two pigs chasing the bear out of their sty.”

“Oh, you mean Hammy and Mary, the Vietnamese pot-bellied pigs who live in New Milford, Connecticut. A young bear cub...” “the picture showed a pretty big bear, bigger than the pigs, for sure” “...climbing into the pen with the pigs,” I said. “The owners told the press, ‘I am very proud of them because Hammy, the little one especially, he’s afraid of his own shadow and the way he came charging out when he seen Mary tussling with the bear. He was like, Oh no, no way, get out.’ And so it did.”

“And the pigs lived happily ever after,” said Becca.

“Did you hear about the seagulls in Venice?” I asked her. “The Gritti Palace and Hotel Monaco and Grand Canal are providing hotel guests with orange water pistols to shoot the seagulls off the tables and balconies.”

“Why orange?” Becca asked.

“That’s your question? Not why water pistols?”

“Well it’s obvious the seagulls are a nuisance and, just like cats, you use a water pistol to scare them away.”

“Becca, you’re not shooting the cats, are you?” Becca just grinned.

“To answer your question, seagulls don’t like orange.”

“Come on, how do they know that?” Becca said.

“They just do, apparently,” I said. “The seagulls have gotten really aggressive these days. They’ll even steal food right out of your hand. So it’s either water pistols or bigger birds of prey.”

“That won’t end well,” Becca said. “Next they’ll have to recreate the tetradactyl to eat the birds of prey. Wait a minute. They already did that. Jurassic Park.”

“Okay, this story involves a crane, but not a bird,” I told Becca. “Did you hear about the guy who got caught trying to steal a 70-ton crane? He tried to flee the police...”

“I bet that was a slow pursuit, kinda like OJ and the White Ford on the LA highway,” Becca smirked.

“How do you know that? You weren’t even alive then. Wait...I don’t want to know. Well, he got caught because he ran off the road into a ditch and got stuck in the mud.” Becca laughed. “You could almost see that one coming,” she said.

“And under the category of bats, in Gotham City, Missouri, the bat signal went out to everyone who owns a cellphone alerting them to a missing purple and green 1978 Dodge 3700GT.”

“You mean people were supposed to be looking for the car the Joker used in the Batman movies?” Becca asked.

“Yup, it was a mistake. The alert was supposed to be a test of the Blue Alert system that alerts the public when an officer is killed or seriously injured in the

line of duty. The test, though, wasn't supposed to be sent to the public."

"Did they also put the Bat signal in the air over the police department?" Becca asked.

"Probably not, since there isn't even a Gotham City in Missouri," I said.

"And the final animal story is that Cheyenne has decided to bring back the zoo in Lions Park. But instead of bison, they're going to turn it into a petting zoo," I told Becca.

"With real live lions, like in Crimea?" she asked.

"No, more like goats, sheep, a cow or two, llamas, pigs, horses, chickens. The kind of animals that kids can interact with," I said. "They hope to finish the pens by early June and stock the animals for summer."

"I think they should add some dogs and cats," Becca said. "It might make things a little more interactive.

"So can I say it? Pretty please?" she said.

"Go ahead."

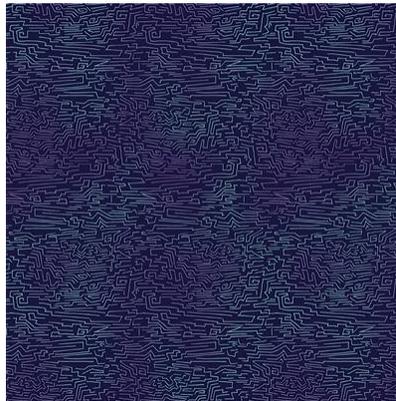
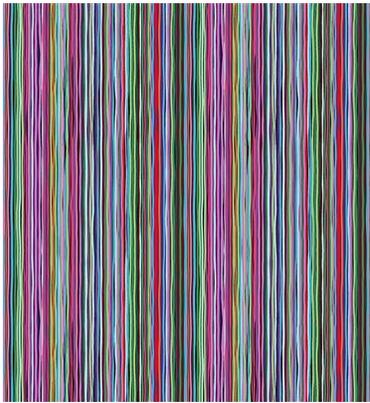
"Happy April Fools' Day. Which story or stories isn't or aren't real?"

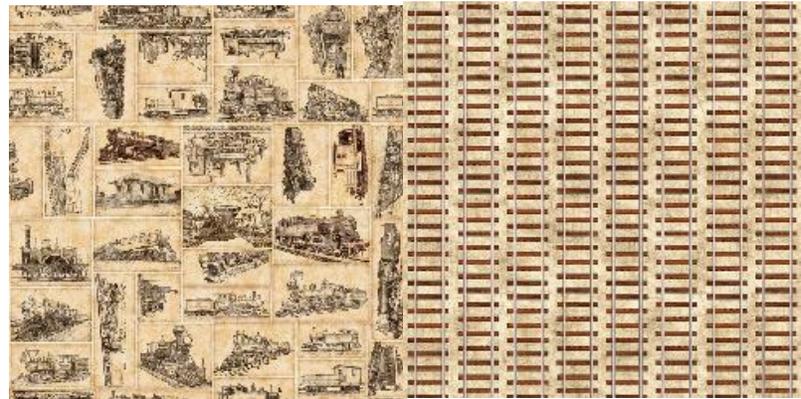
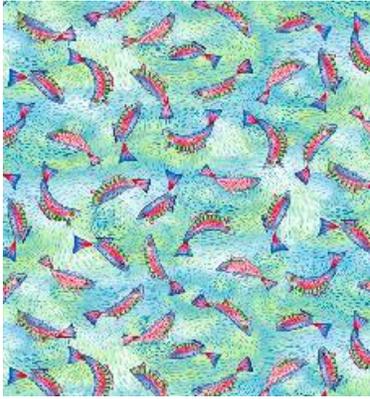
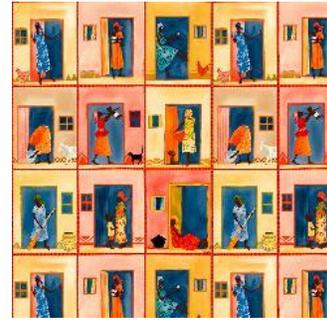
Look below the fabric for the answer.

What's New

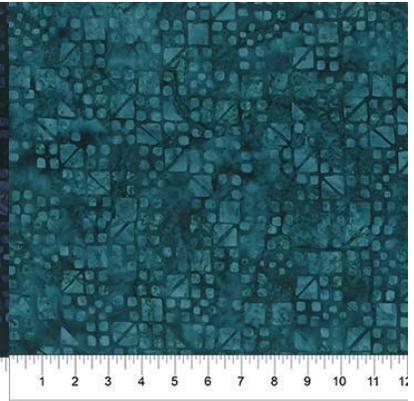
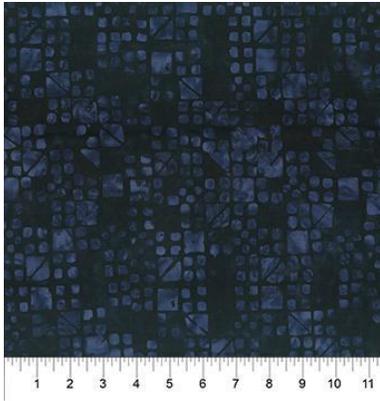
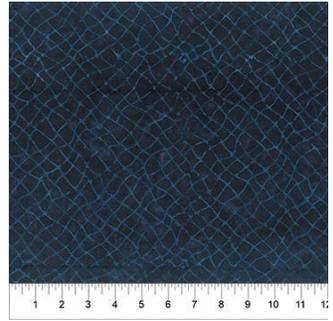
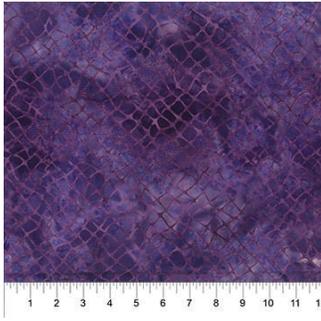


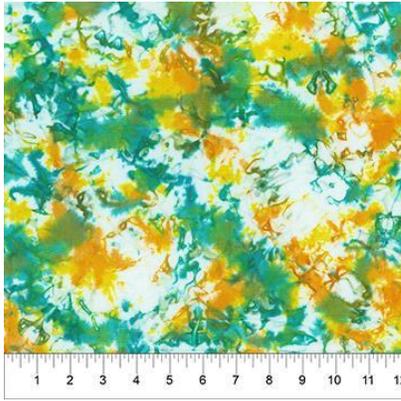
From Clothworks





From QT





From Northcott

We got 10 bolts of whites from P & B. They are hard to show, so I'm not putting the pics in.

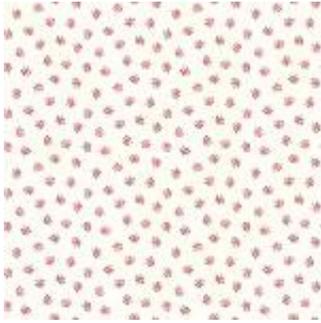


From RJR Cotton + Steele



Michael Miller





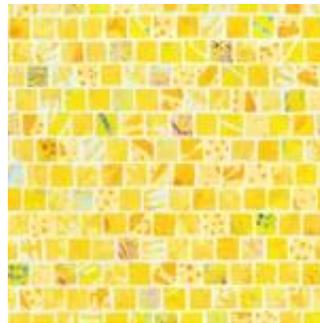
From Riley Blake



Houses



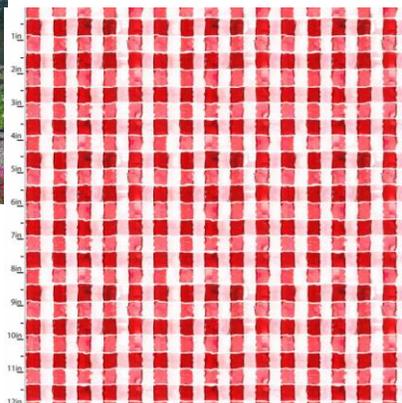
From Hoffman







From 3 Wishes





Riley Blake



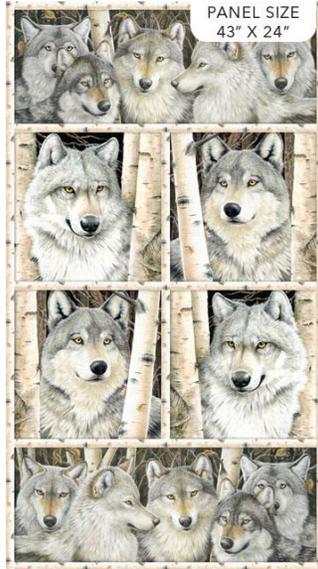
We made 2 Easter table runner kits with these, and other, fabrics.



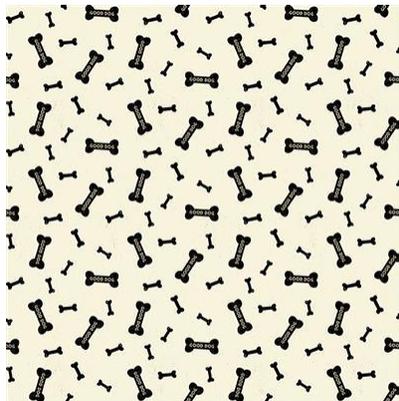
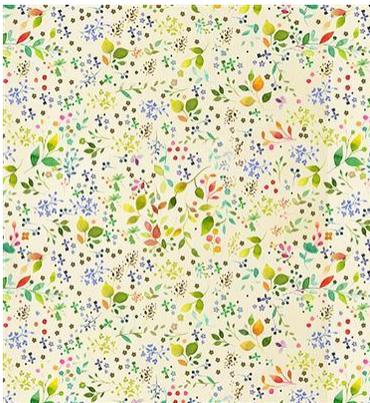
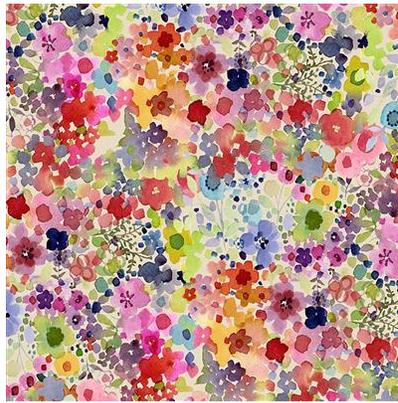
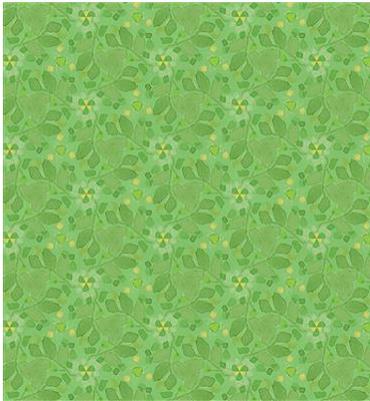
From Clothworks



Northcott: We have one kit left



From Clothworks





Northcott

April Fools' Answer:

The story about Cheyenne building a petting zoo. All the other stories are real!

April							2022
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Color of the month: yellow					1	2	
						BOM 10:30 Nova/Sidekick ruler quilt 1-5	
CLOSED 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
		Hand work Club 2-4	Beginning Machine Quilting 1-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Spider web 1-5	
CLOSED 10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Deb Tucker's Tumbling Triangle w/V Block Ruler	
CLOSED 17 Easter	18	19	20	21	22	23	
		Hand work Club 2-4	Beginning Machine Applique 1-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Spider web 10:30-4	
CLOSED 24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
		Hand work Club 2-4	Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	Long Arm Rental Day		Sewing Apron with lots of pockets 10:30-4	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2	3 Hand work Club 2-4	4 Long Arm class 10:30	5 Long Arm Rental Day	6	7 BOM 10:30 Zig Zag Quilt 1-5
8 CLOSED	9	10 Hand work Club 2-4	11 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	12 Long Arm Rental Day	13	14 Embroidery Club 10-noon Beginning Paper Piecing 1-5
15 Moms' Day CLOSED	16 Full moon	17 Hand work Club 2-4	18 Long Arm class 10:30	19 Long Arm Rental Day	20 Potluck Long Weekend	21 Potluck Long Weekend
22 Potluck Long Weekend Shop Is now open 1-5!	23 Potluck Long Weekend	24 Hand work Club 2-4	25 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4	26 Long Arm Rental Day	27	28 One Block Wonder Panel, getting started, choosing panels, first cuts 10:30-4
29 Shop Is now open 1-5!	30	31 Hand work Club 2-4	Color of the month: whites			

April Classes

Beginning Machine Applique Wed April 20 1-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

Learn the basics of machine applique. I will teach you how to do the satin stitch and button hole (blanket stitch) around the edges of you applique, including doing points or tips (like on Christmas trees and stars), corners and curves. I will provide the samples for your practice. All you need is a foot that will allow wide (zig zag) stitching.

Beginning Machine Quilting Wed April 6 1-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

Learn the basics of machine quilting from start to finish: Getting the top pieced properly, pinning the quilt sandwich, choosing the pattern and thread, and quilting. You will practice on samples provide in class. You will need a hopping/darning foot as most of the class will focus on free motion quilting.

Deb Tucker's Tumbling Blocks Saturday April 16 10:30-4 \$35 Jean Korber

By Combining two contrasting fabrics you will create triangles tumbling down the quilt. Using your V Block tool, this quilt is fun and quick. Just jump right in and give it a whirl! It's fun to work with new rulers to create new and interesting blocks!

Nova/SideKick Ruler Saturday April 2 1-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

The SideKick ruler is another of the Jaybird Quilt rulers (Hex N More). The Nova pattern is for a table topper and you will learn how to cut a piece using the SideKick ruler. And just like the Wonton class it's a perfect class for learning a new skill and a good introduction to the ruler. I know it's really early to start

thinking about it: But this table topper would be great in Christmas colors. I'm just saying..... Coming this summer, look for additional quilts using both the SideKick and Hex N More rulers!

Sewing Apron with lots of pockets Sat April 30 10:30-4 \$30 Jean Korber

You've seen Jean and her sewing apron that she wears during classes? One with all sorts of pockets for all the things you need to keep handy when you're sewing? Well, she's not teaching that apron (she'll show you how she does it, though, in class). But she is teaching a similar apron pattern, with lots of pockets. You may even get the entire apron made in class! And think what fun gifts aprons would be for Christmas! It's not too early to get started!

Spiderweb Quilt April 9 (1-4) and 23 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt incorporates strip piecing/panel sewing and 60 degree triangles. You will need a 60 degree triangle ruler (8 or 10 inch is the most useful size, but if you have the 12" which is used in Triangle Frenzy quilts, it will work just fine). You will also need lots of 2" scraps. I suggest cutting all your strips (or a bunch of them) prior to class. Most useful is 2" X 42", but shorter strips can also be used. Best colors are medium and dark—scrappy is fun! The first class is sewing & cutting the blocks. The second class is sewing the rows together: new skill learned is how to make the seams all meet properly!

May Classes

Beginning Paper Piecing Saturday May 14 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

This small wall hanging will teach you all the basics of paper piecing! Paper piecing is a skill to be learned in person, but it is also a skill that is perfect for beginners. You sew directly on the lines on the paper and your points come out perfect everytime!

Pot Luck Retreat Friday-Monday May 20-22 \$50 Barb Boyer

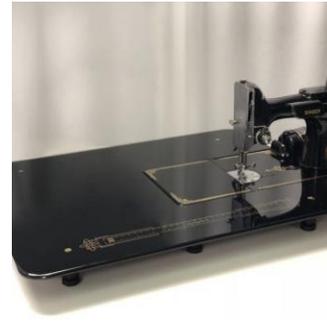
Pot Luck is just the name of the quilt, but it is also a good description of the quilt. Freddy Moran and Gwen Marsden are the creators of Liberated Quilts, that are made from left overs (often called the parts department). Black fabrics can feature prominently in their quilts and red is often used as a neutral. Blocks tend to be "liberated" or free form, kinda made up as you go. It is a liberating way to make a quilt. The retreat will focus on choosing various blocks to put into your quilt, finding your "neutral" color, sharing ideas and fabrics, and incorporating orphan blocks into the mix. These quilts are fun, and it's on the schedule because I want to finish my quilt that I started 2 years ago. Which means a second quilt, with all the left over parts, will be soon coming.

One Block Wonder Panel 1st class Saturday May 28 10:30-4 \$50 Jean Korber

Back by popular demand! This quilt uses 7 identical panels, 6 of which are cut up into equilateral triangles and pieced around the panel, which is worked into the center, the top, the bottom, the side—you choose! First class is getting your panels cut. Subsequent classes (2 more) in June will follow for designing and sewing. If you haven't made one of these quilts, now is the time to learn. And an in person class, especially for this quilt, is the way to do it.

Zig Zag Quilt Saturday May 7 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

A change up from the traditional Jelly Roll Quilt. Zig Zag uses one bundle of 2 ½" Strips plus additional fabric. The cascading colors make a stunning, simple to piece quilt. Perfect for that last minute gift: graduation, wedding, Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc.



Nolting Quilting Machines



Nolting Longarm Machines

Nolting has 5 main machines, each with different reaches: from 17" to 30" depending on the machine. They are sold with or without a frame, but after I saw & helped set up one of the steel frames this week, I recommend buying the frame. All machines, except for the Standard--the most economical machine-- have a stitch regulator. I recommend a stitch regulator. All machines can be equipped with a computer and there are a couple of different ones to choose from. In addition, you can get an extended table base so that you can use rulers, you can get larger bobbins on some of the models and on the frames you can get hydraulic lifts to raise and lower the tables. In the coming weeks, I will print out more information on each model.

The best entry level machine is the Fun Quilter. It comes in 17", 20" & 23" reach. It comes with the Intellistitch Equalizer stitch regulator, standard speed control, needle up/down, and fixed handles in the front & rear. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

The Pro Machine has the Intellistitch Turbo stitch regulator, single stitch option, standard speed control, needle up/down and customizable handles in the front & rear. The Pro Machine comes in 20", 24" and 30" reach with 10-12" of inside height. There are easy dials on the front to set stitch length and other options. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

The NV Machine is the newest in the fleet of Nolting machines. This machine has a touch screen with programmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needle up/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.

**Normal Shop Hours:
Monday-Saturday 10-6
Sunday 1-5
Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)
New Hours for Standard Time (starting Nov 7-March 13)
Monday-Saturday 10-5, closed Sundays unless a class is scheduled. Then we're open 1-5.
Check the schedule.**

Join the fun and come feel the difference of quality fabrics.

Happy quilting!

Sincerely, Barbara Boyer
Around the Block
307-433-9555
www.aroundtheblockquilts.com

