



October 28, 2022

“You can’t tell me what to do!” Becca demanded. Becca, for those of you who don’t know, is my dog. Don’t ask, just go with it.

“Of course I can,” I told her.

“But that’s not right,” she complained. “You bi...” “Becca!” “...complain all the time about the ads on tv telling you whom to vote for or what Medicaid plan to sign up for based on your zip code.”

Well, she’s right about that. I am tired of all the politicians who think they can order me around, tell me what I can do, what I can read, what I can say and when, and who I should trust and believe. The barrage of ads just seem to spread lies, half truths, and hate. Did I mention lies? At a minimum, they are just incessant. It’s always been that way, of course, or at least since 2010 when the U.S. Supreme Court decided Citizen’s United, which did away with corporate campaign limits on electioneering. It’s a little more complicated than that, but not much more. But these days, it just seems ?is? worse.

And I’m tired of the major insurance companies that spend billions (I’m sure) on advertising for Medicare and Medicaid plans when they could, instead, simply reduce costs to consumers by running one ad once a week—maybe once a day I could handle. I’m getting tired of the same ad 5 times during a half hour show. And the ones that yell or screech at you with funky ways to say “Freeeeee!” when referring not to the plan itself but only to the phone call you make to check to see if you qualify. And then, can you imagine what will happen if you do call? I can just see the algorithms whipping into action creating pop up ads on your computer, your phone, your tablets, your emails..... You’d never be rid of them.

Becca, directing addressing you: “See what I mean? She just bi..... complains and complains. She’s getting so hard to live with.”

“Becca?” I asked. “What did you say?”

“I thought you were going to talk about scary Halloween things and not scary politicians. We don’t have all day or all week. Just the last half of this story.”

She’s right about that. Two rights in one posting. That’s got to be a record.

So Halloween is almost upon us and we know that trick or treating is a fairly recent tradition, dating back to sometime after the turn of the last century. Halloween traditions, though, go back thousands of years, like the carving of jack o’ lanterns, which is based on old Irish folklore, where the carved pumpkin and light inside help to guide wayward spirits home. Halloween also marked the Celtic New Year and was called Samhain, which translates to summer’s end.

Black cats, usually seen as symbols of bad luck, are tied to the Dark Ages and witchcraft. Elderly, solitary women with their pet cats were targeted as witches.

“You’re elderly,” Becca interrupted. “And solitary and you have a cat.”

“Padfoot’s not black,” I said. “Can we get on with it?”

“Grouch.”

“Bats,” I went on, “are also symbols of bad luck. If you find a bat flying around your house 3 times, someone in the house will die. If you see a spider on Halloween it means that some spirit is watching you.”

“Good thing it’s cold now. All the spiders are gone,” Becca observed.

“Witches, on the other hand, were seen as symbolizing wisdom, change and the turning of the seasons,” I said. “In Irish culture, she was referred to as a crone or the “old one,” and was considered as kind of an Earth mother.”

“Well, that image hasn’t lasted,” Becca said.

“Any more than the image of the witch’s cauldron,” I said. “In the Irish folk lore, all the new souls went into the cauldron, which allowed the old souls to be reborn, or something like that. Kind of a reincarnation thing.”

“Now,” Becca said, “we have witches stirring evil potions over a cauldron. Probably thanks to Shakespeare and his witches in Macbeth.”

“I didn’t know you were so well read,” I told her.

“You pick up things,” she said casually.

“So we can’t talk about witches without talking about broomsticks,” I said. “Once again, it’s an old woman’s story. Elderly, solitary and introverted women were often poor and didn’t have access to transportation – think horses. So they had to walk everywhere and needed a ‘cane,’ or in this case a broomstick, for a walking aid. Apparently there was also a night time ritual that ‘witches’ engaged in where they rubbed an hallucinogenic ointment on their body which kind of caused them to think they were flying.”

“We have that very thing these days,” Becca said. “Only we call them brownies.”

“Becca!”

“Not sold in Wyoming. Yet.” She smirked.

“So costumes came into being as ways to fool ghosts and ward off evil. Or, depending on the myth, the ghost dressed up in human form, like as a beggar, and went knocking on doors. If you turned away the beggar, he would come back to haunt you.”

“Ahhh. We have that today, too,” Becca said. “If you don’t give the teenagers who come knocking candy, they’ll come back and tepee your house.”

“Or worse,” I agreed.

“And finally Halloween colors,” I said. “Black and orange, with orange symbolizing the harvest end and black symbolizing the summer’s end. Green, purple and yellow have wormed their way into our current Halloween color schemes.”

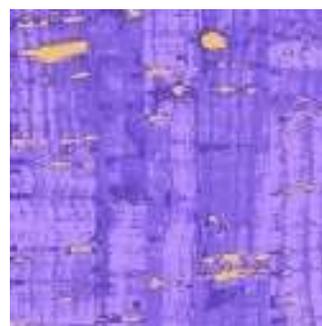
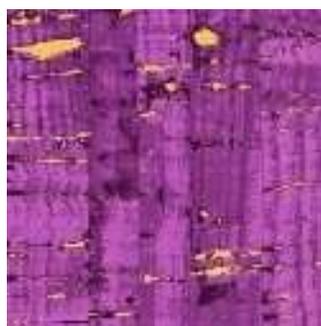
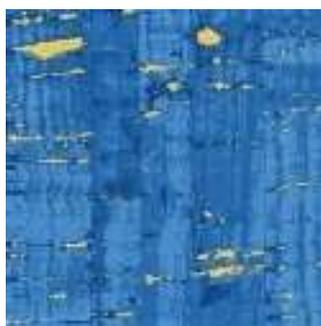
“And pink,” Becca said. “You’ve got a great pink, purple, yellow, black and orange quilt.”

“That’s true,” I said. “I like that quilt.” I smiled at Becca.

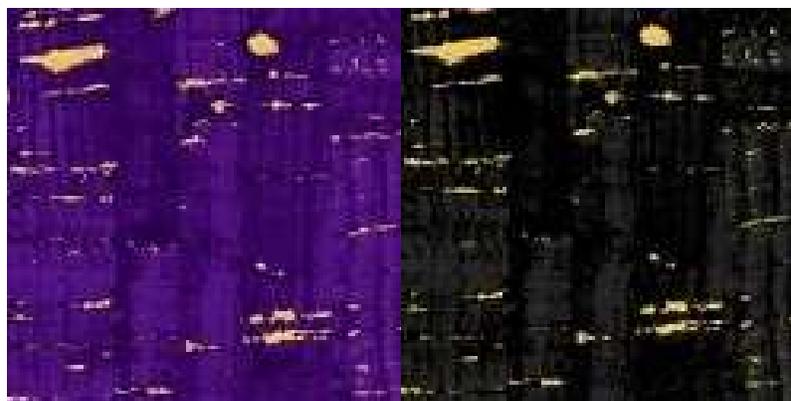
“Feel better?” she asked.

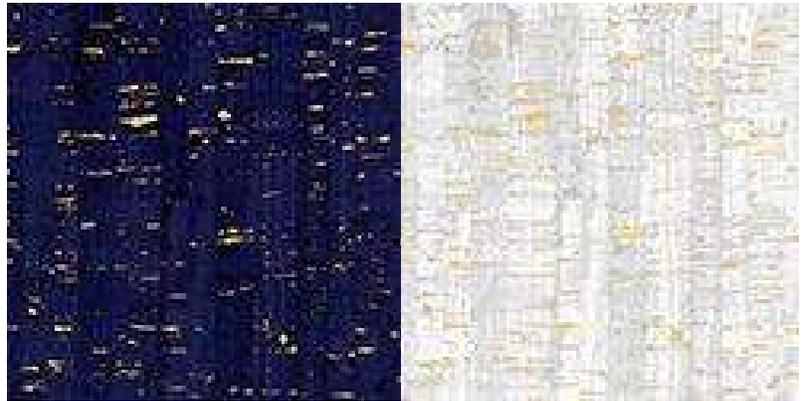
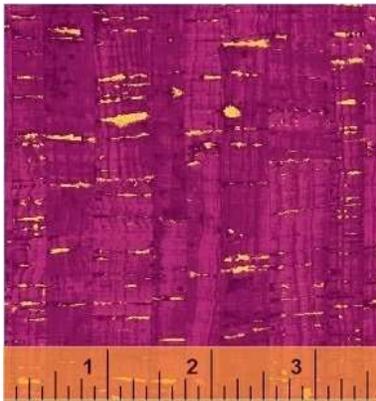
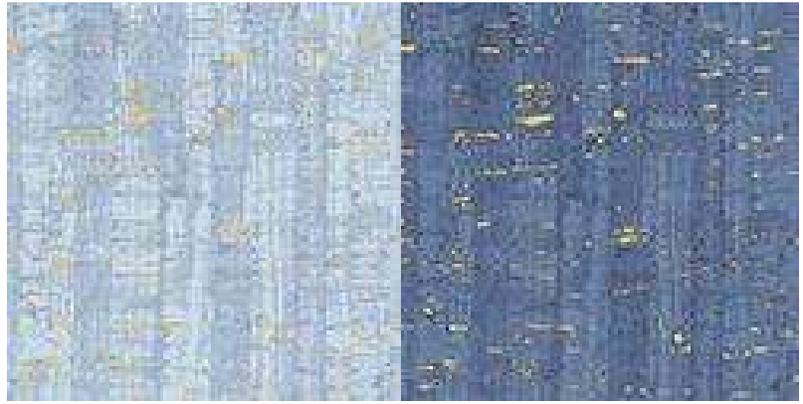
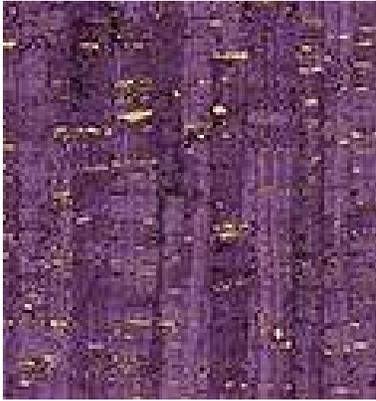
“Much. I feel like knitting you a Halloween costume. Something cute, with a hat perhaps. Heidi sent me pictures of dogs with hats for costumes. Becca? Becca? Where’d you go?”

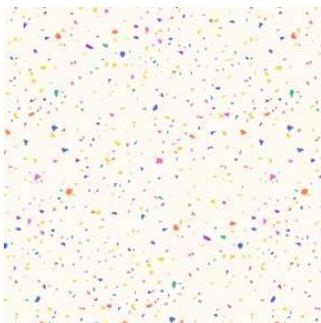
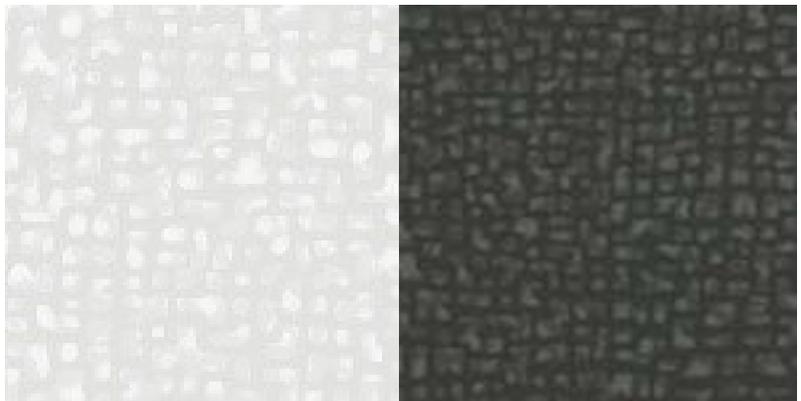
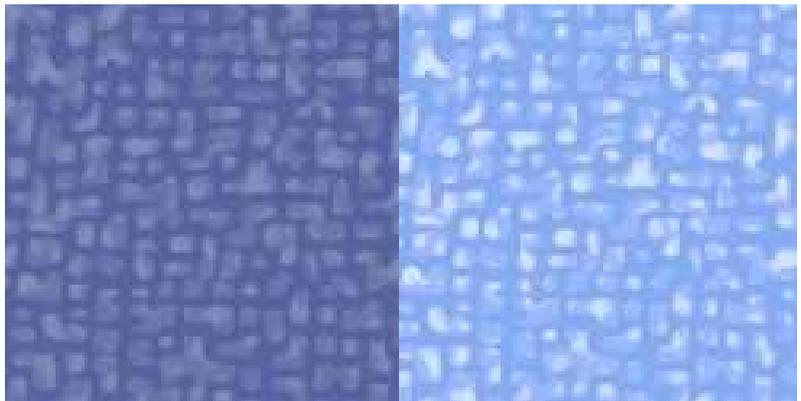
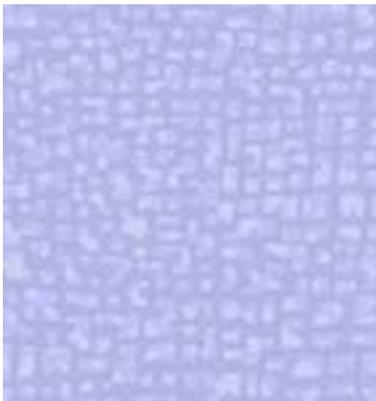
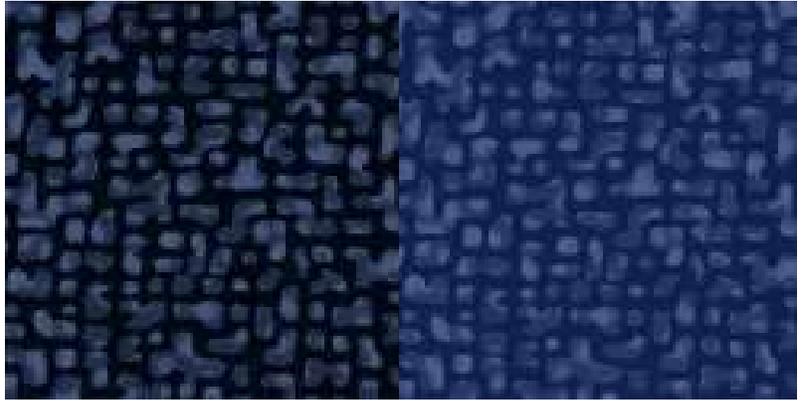
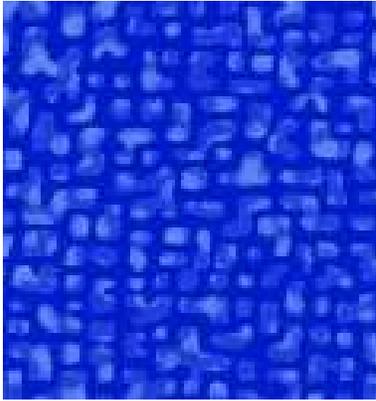
What's New



From Windham: For the Waterfall class in December. We are not knitting these, so you can choose your own colors. Don't wait too long to choose.



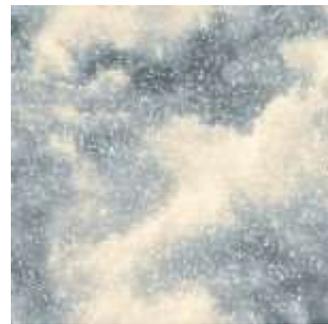


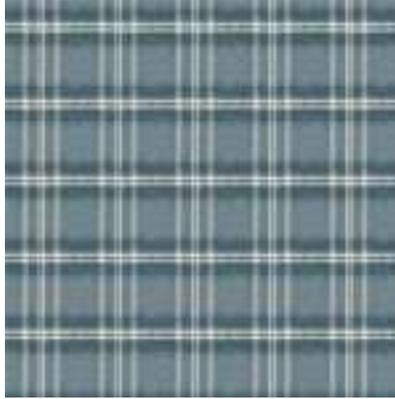


RJR



From Henry Glass &

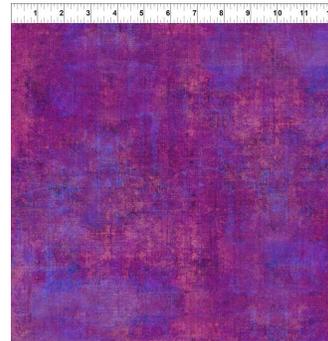
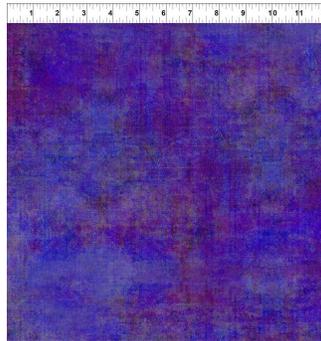


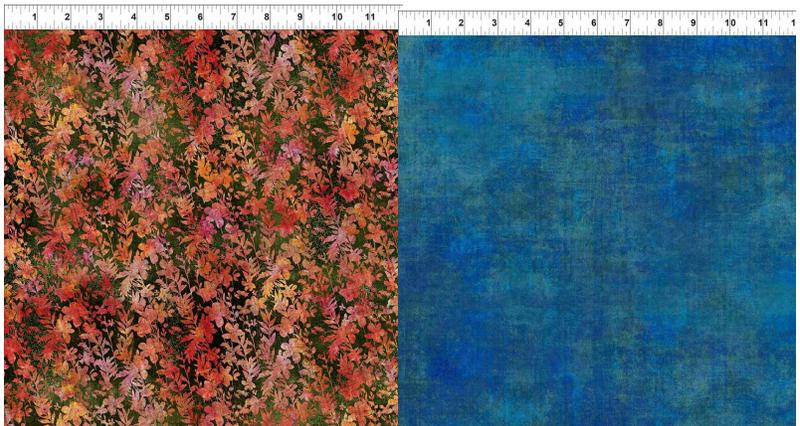
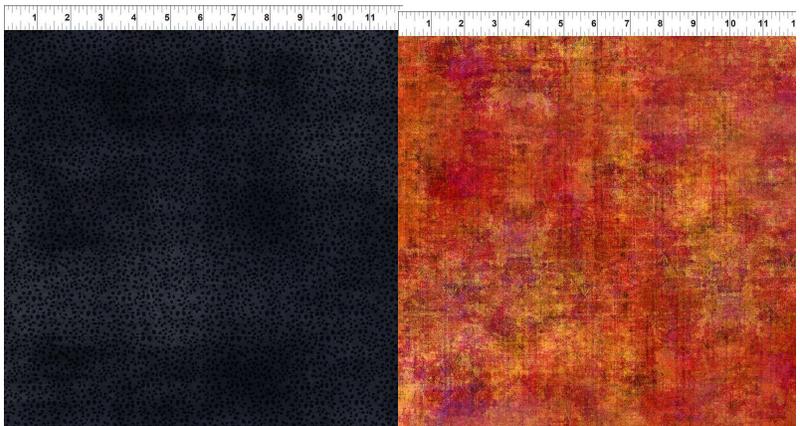
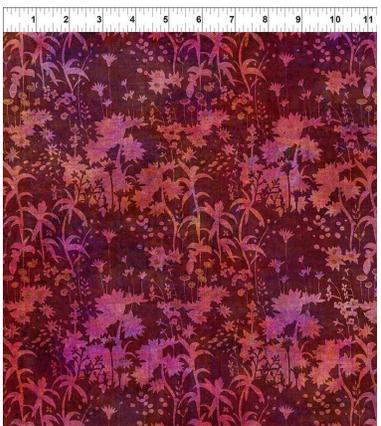


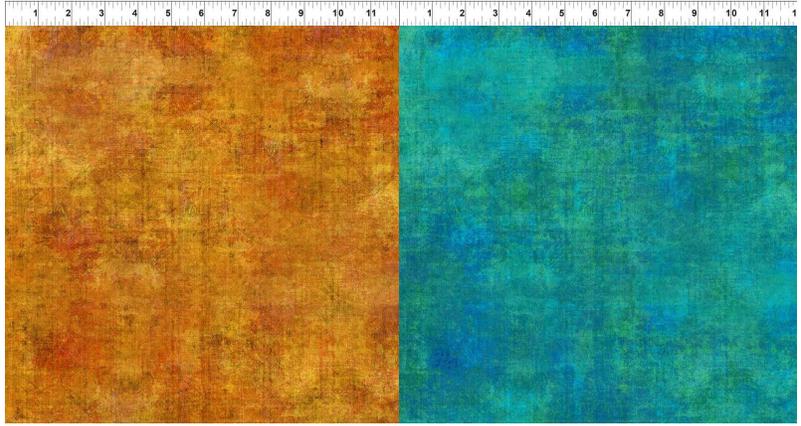
From Michael Miller



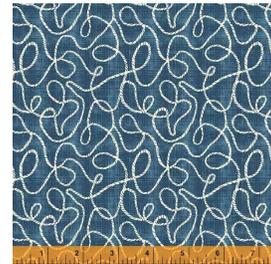
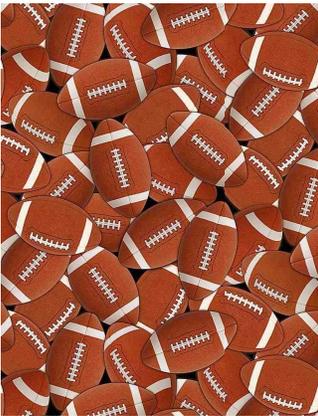
We have one kit left. And we're making different kits for a different quilt from remaining fabric. When we're done, supplies will be limited of remaining fabric, just so you know.







From Henry Glass



From Windham

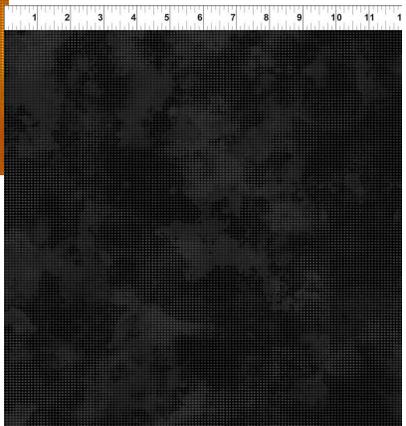
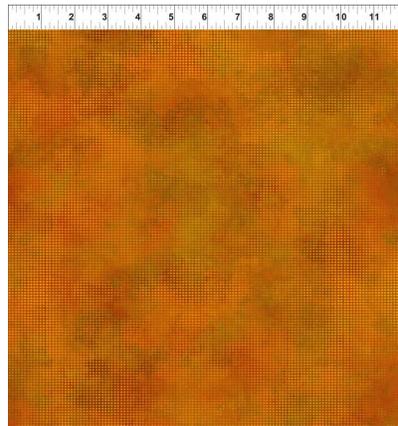
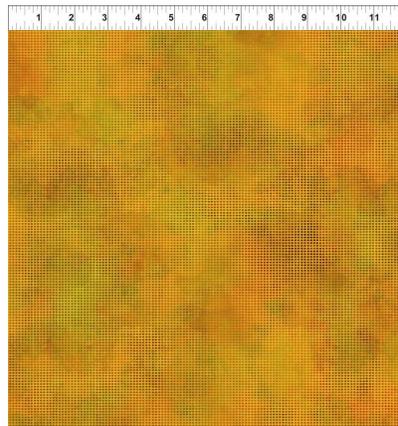
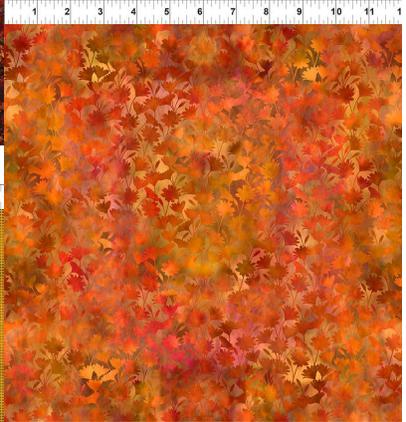
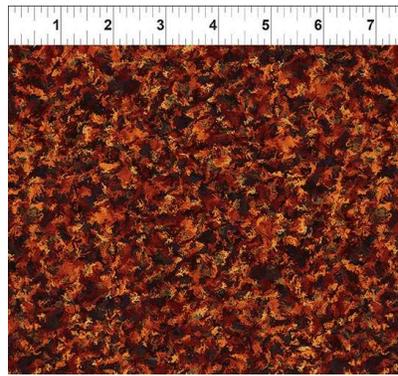
From Timeless

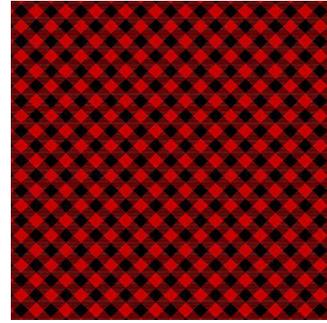


From In the Beginning

NOTE: This collection is called A Year of Autumn, from the Year of Art collection. We have a limited number of kits.

I am not getting the Reflections of Autumn collection. I will be getting Halcyon collection soon.





Henry Glass

| October | | | | | | | 2022 |
|-----------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--|------|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| | | | | | | 1 BOM 10:30 Pieced Baltimore Beauty quilt 1-5 \$40 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and battings | |
| 2 Beginning Quilting 1-4 | 3 | 4 Hand work Club 2-4 | 5 Long Arm class 10:30 | 6 Long Arm Rental Day | 7 | 8 Embroidery Club 10-noon Full moon (observed) Drunkard's Path quilt 1-5 \$30 | |

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|------------------------|---|----|---------------------------------|
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| Beginning Quilting 1-4 | | Hand work Club 2-4 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-4 | Long Arm Rental Day Hand Applique: Welcome to the North Pole 1-4 | | Curvy Log Cabin 10:30-4 \$35 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| Beginning Quilting 1-4 | | Hand work Club 2-4 | Long Arm class 10:30 | Long Arm Rental Day Hand Quilting 1-4 Part 1 | | Kaleidoscope Quilt 10:30-4 \$35 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| Beginning Quilting 1-4 | | Hand work Club 2-4 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-4 | Long Arm Rental Day | | Ribbon Candy 10:30-4 \$30 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |
| Beginning Quilting 1-4 | Halloween | Color of the month: green | | | | |

November

2022

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|-------------|--------|--|-----------------------------|---|--------|---|
| | | 1 Hand work Club 2-4 | 2 Long Arm class 10:30 | 3 Long Arm Rental Day Hand Quilting 1-4 Part 2 | 4 | 5 BOM 10:30 Pieced Baltimore Beauty quilt 1-5 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, <u>bindings</u> and battings |
| 6 CLOSED | 7 | 8 Hand work Club 2-4 Full moon Veteran's Day | 9 Knit Pickers' Club 2-4 | 10 Long Arm Rental Day Hand Applique: Welcome to the North Pole 1-4 | 11 | 12 Embroidery Club 10-noon Triangle Frenzy 1-5 \$25 |

| | | | | | | |
|--------|----|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| CLOSED | | Hand work Club 2-4 | Long Arm class 10:30 | Long Arm Rental Day | | Krista Moser Tree Skirt 10:30-4 \$35 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| CLOSED | | Hand work Club 2-4 | Knit Pickers' Club 2-4 | CLOSED Thanksgiving | Black Friday Sale | Shop Small Business Sale TBA |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| CLOSED | | Hand work Club 2-4 | | Color of the month: flannels | | |

Please look on the calendars above for times and dates.

Ongoing Classes & Clubs

Block of the Month First Sat of month 10:30-11:15 FREE Barb Boyer

Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block. This year the challenge will be Where Are You Going and Where Have You Been? Or This is Your Life. The challenge is to find fabrics that represent your life and your interests: travel, gardening, reading, quilting, where you've lived, family, etc. The some of the blocks will also represent your life: Wyoming and Cheyenne blocks, flowers or baskets – I'll do my best to find blocks that represent some of our mutual interest. The other challenge is to make some of the blocks in both 12" and 6" sizes (don't worry, I'll supply the cutting directions).

Hand Embroidery Club 2nd Sat. of the month, 10-noon FREE Kathy Sconce

If you want to learn to hand embroider or just brush up your technique, join us on the second Saturday of the month from 10 to noon. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing, which is Snow Women. Each block features a snow woman doing every day chores – or deciding to go sledding instead. Each has a funny saying and all blocks have quilt patterns to embroider within.

Knit Pickers' Club 2nd and 4th Wed of each month, 2-5 Carol Moler

We are changing up the Knit Pickers Club. We're going to knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, and we'll start earlier in the day at 2 and go to 5. The Club is open to all skill levels. We want to share what we've learned, find new patterns, and simply just sit and knit. We may work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks. By

summer, we may extend the knitting time into the evening.

Hand Sewing Club every Tuesday afternoon 2-5

This club is open to everyone. Bring your hand sewing (embroidery, binding, knitting, crochet, etc) and sit & stitch.

October Classes

Ribbon Candy Sat Oct 29 10:30-4 \$30 Jean Korber

This Christmas quilt uses 2 ½” precut strips and is pieced in such a way that it resembles the ever popular ribbon candy. We will be cutting our own strip sets for this quilt, so if you are interested in our selection of fabrics, be sure to grab a set because the “kits” will be limited. You can also make the quilt from any 2 ½” strip set.

November Classes

Tree Skirt by Krista Moser Nov 19 10:30-4 \$35 Jean Korber

For the Krista Moser fans, and especially if you already have the ruler, why not make this great tree skirt. The tree skirt can double as a table topper, and the pattern also includes placemats and a table runner. The pattern shows using black, white & grays for the main part of the tree skirt (the trees are done in greens), but you could make it in other “buffalo check” colors, from green & black, red & black, or assorted Christmas prints.

Triangle Frenzy Sat Nov 12 1-5 \$30 Barb Boyer

We’ve been putting the Triangle Frenzy quilt table runner on the schedule for several years now because it is so popular. It is the perfect table runner and it uses the great 10” wide border stipe fabrics. You need a 12” 60 degree triangle ruler and 1-1 ½ yards of a border stripe. These table runners are quick to make and are great gifst for the holidays.

December Classes

Letters to Santa Sat Dec 10 1-5 \$30 Barb Boyer

Kids put out cookies and carrots for Santa and his reindeer on Christmas Eve. This little pieced “mug rug” has a pocket for Sant’s letter and a space on the side for the cookies, milk and carrots. It’s quick to piece and is a perfect gift for the child in your family. The pattern calls for embroidery as well, but a flair tipped pen works just as well.

Waterfall Sat Dec 17 10:30-4 \$35 Jean Korber

The Waterfall pattern is a cascading colored quilt block, using 7 different fabrics from light to dark made in a half log cabin styled block. You can make the quilt using one color family (pattern is shown in blue) or you can make it in various colors, cascading from light to dark in each color family. I hope to be able to bring in at least one fabric group that uses 7 different colors in one color family. Stay tuned.

CLUBS

HAND EMBROIDERY CLUB FREE!

If you want to learn to hand embroider or just brush up your technique, join us on the second Saturday of the month from 10 to noon. You can work on your own projects or you can join the project we are doing.

Hand Work Club FREE!

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2-5, join us to just sit & hand stitch, crochet, bind, or knit group. Bring what you're working on, sit up at the table in front by the window and work on your projects for a while. You can get advice & suggestions from your fellow quilters and share your experiences about your projects.

Knit Pickers' Club FREE!

This is another get-together class to sit & knit, work on our projects, share information and get some help. We will share techniques, suggest patterns, but mainly we'll sit & knit (or pick). Every 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 2-5.

Block of the Month Club FREE!

First Saturday of the Month, 10:30-11:15. Join at any time. You get a free fat quarter if you come to class with the previous month's completed block.

Toad Toters Club

On full moon days (as noted in the calendar) you will get 20% off all purchases (not otherwise discounted) that you can fit in your bag. You must bring your bag to participate.

Full Moon Days: September 10; October 8; November 8; December 7

Discount Policy

We will honor only one discount -- whichever is largest. You can't combine a 10% with a 25% discount to get a 35% discount. On this we can't be bribed.

Color of the Month

September orange; October green; November flannels; December red





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 Winter Time (starting Nov 7-May 22)

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

