

Exciting news!

We are launching a new web page! This is a soft launch.

Michelle Gess is the inspiration behind this new look. She has done all the work. And I am learning. So for now, you can click on this link to see what we're up to. Let me know what you think.

<https://sites.google.com/view/aroundtheblockquiltshop/home>



February 7, 2025

“Look! Look!” Becca hollered at me. “Padfoot has figured out how to climb trees!” I looked up from reading on the reclining cot on the deck and watched Paddy burst up the tree, pause, and zoom back to the deck. It’s hard to describe what she’s doing except to say she does it at light speed. Like she does almost everything else.

“She needs a tree house,” Becca told me.

“She already has a house. Yours,” I told her, “and if I build her a treehouse I bet she won’t use it any more than you use your doghouse.”

For those of you who don't know my household, I live with two Australian Shepherds, one full size and one mini, red and opinionated. Becca. The cats are Padfoot, because she has that extra toe, and Mags.

"But tree houses are so cool," Becca whined.

"Becca, you'd never be able to use it. You can't climb." Becca opened her mouth. "Let me rephrase that. You can't climb 8 feet up a tree."

"Well maybe we can rent one somewhere. Go clamping," she said.

"Clamping? How do you even....never mind, I don't want to know. Have you looked at the price tags for a nightly visit to a tree?" I told her. "I thought Air B&Bs were a strange way to go when they first came out. If I go to a hotel, I want someone to make my bed. Not me. I don't want to cook and clean up after myself. I have to do all that for myself at home. The word is 'vacation.' And tree houses are even more primitive and you probably have to carry your own luggage. At \$300+ a night."

Becca just stared at me. "Whimp," she said. "Are you through complaining?" she asked. "Are we going to vacation anywhere this summer?"

"We? Becca, you hate to travel. And besides, it's too hot for you to be in the car. But I am going to Omaha in a couple of weeks," I told her.

"That's like going to Phoenix in June for a wedding," she said sarcastically.

"Been there, done that," I said. "I know it will be hot, but I'm going for tomatoes. And peaches. And watermelon. And corn."

“You can’t get that here? Seriously? Add up the gas miles and that is a he...” “Becca, watch your language” “of an expensive tomato,” she concluded. “Aren’t you forgetting something else?”

“Oh yeah, I’ll see my brother, too,” I said. “Always a plus.”

“Well at least you’re going to Nebraska,” she said. I looked at her quizzically. “It has a great commercial on tv right now. ‘Nebraska, honestly it’s not for everyone,’” she quoted.

She’s right about that. Nebraska launched a new come-to-Nebraska-for-a-visit campaign this summer. “People love the campaign,” said John Ricks, Nebraska Tourism Commission executive director. “They love the humor and the honesty of it. Since unveiling ‘honestly, it’s not for everyone,’ we’ve seen an increase in travel guide requests, website traffic and lodging tax collection.” One ad depicts quirky destinations, like the Carhenge in Alliance sculpture coupled with a 9-year-old kid, who represents the campaign as “that odd kid who didn’t say much in school, slightly peculiar maybe. But when you took the time to get to know him, turned out he was pretty interesting.” You see him darting in and out of odd buildings and working at playing a cello. Another ad focuses on the sport of tanking, or floating down a creek in a horse tank. It all looks fun and inviting.

“I’m glad we’re not going to Texas, though,” Becca said.

“I told you, you’re not going anywhere. But why not Texas?” I was intrigued.

“I think they hired the same ad company to do their commercial but it’s not funny like Nebraska’s. It’s just down right snotty and Pretentious.”

“Becca! That’s not nice.”

“Neither is their commercial,” she retorted. “I don’t want to go anywhere near Texas.”

And....I’ve got to agree with her. So I’m sorry Texas. I find your ad about coming to Texas for a vacation annoying and not very inviting. And those are my nice words. You show all sorts of people doing all sorts of fun things, but then one of them says, “This is my vacation. Go get your own.” And that is just not very friendly, especially since it is said in a kind of snotty way. This ad is all over tv and the internet and my take away is ... I can find more hospitable places to visit. And they also turned the word Texas into a verb: Let’s Texas. I misuse/abuse words all the time when I write, but turning the noun Texas into an action verb....maybe if the ad were a little less pretentious I might find it cute. But I don’t.

“So Texas is out,” Becca said. “And you’ve decided that the busy summer vacation is going to Nebraska to get tomatoes. Your life is a bit boring, isn’t it?”

“I’d say quirky. I am from Nebraska, after all.”



.Spring Challenge



Click on the link for the pattern:

[Spring mystery 2025](#)

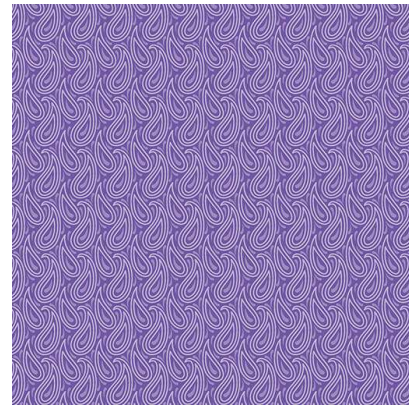
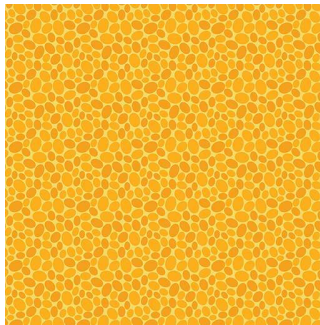
BINGO!

We're starting another game. The bingo challenge is to encourage you to finish projects, learn new things, take classes and buy a little product from ATB.

I have also provided a link to the information. [Bingo Game](#)

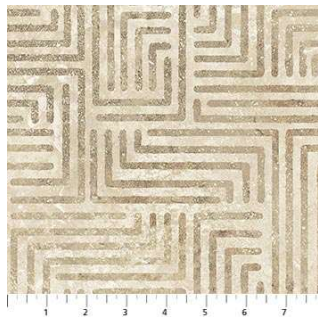


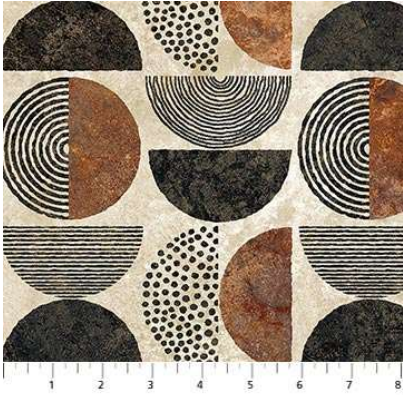
New Fabric



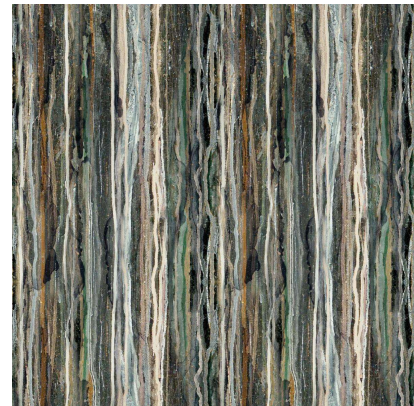
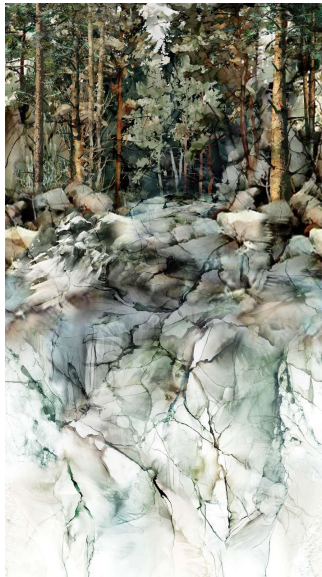
From Benartex, the first image are 10" squares, 42 pieces

"





Northcott

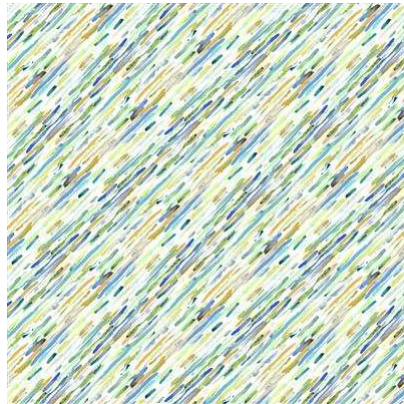


From Northcott (second image is also in wideback)

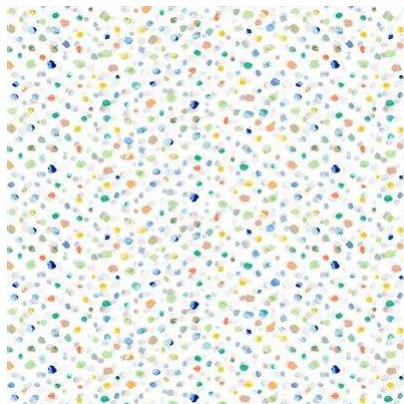




From Marcus Bros and
Timeless



From Clothworks

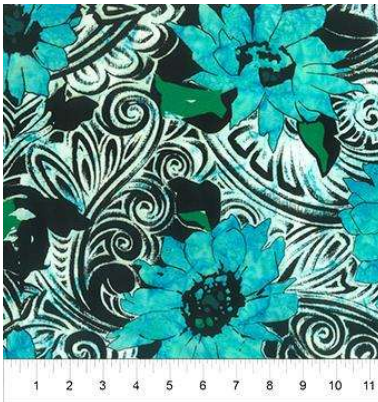
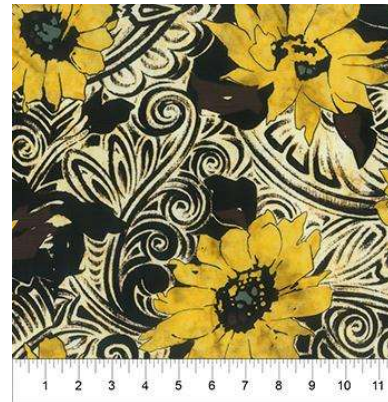
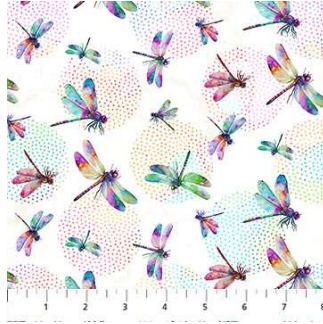
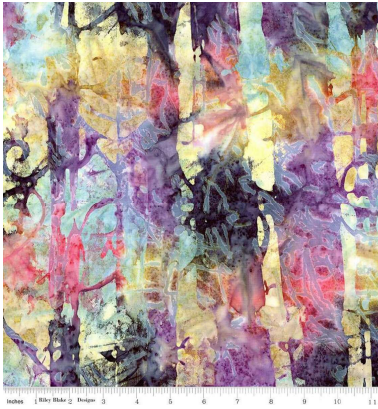




From Michael Miller



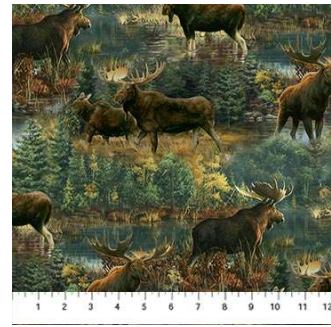
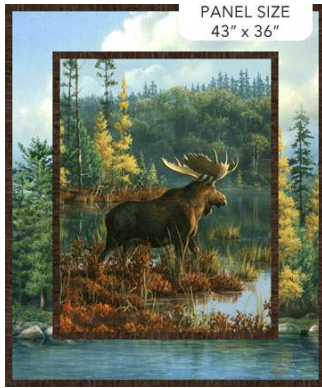
From Northcott



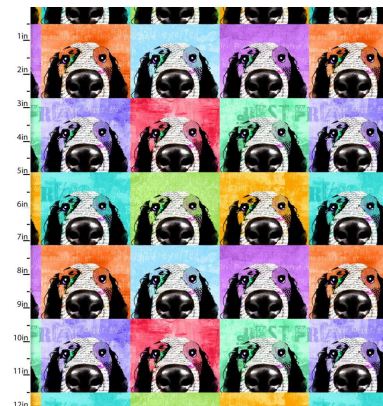
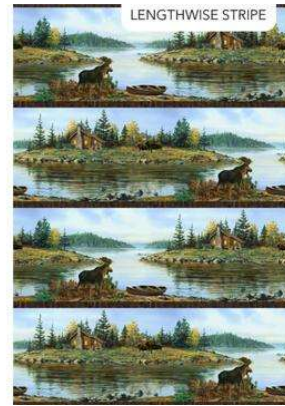


From Quilting Treasures

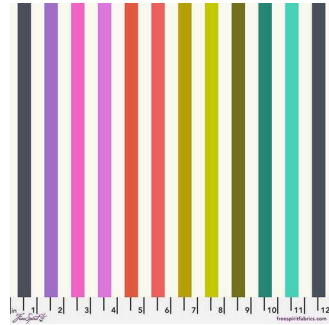
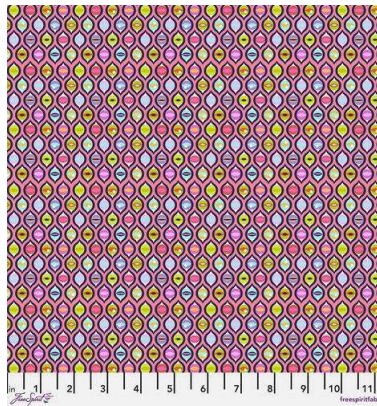
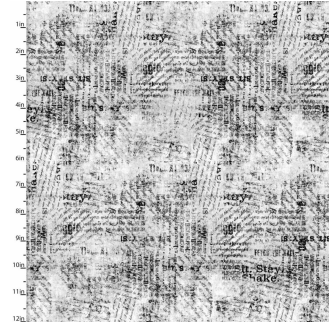
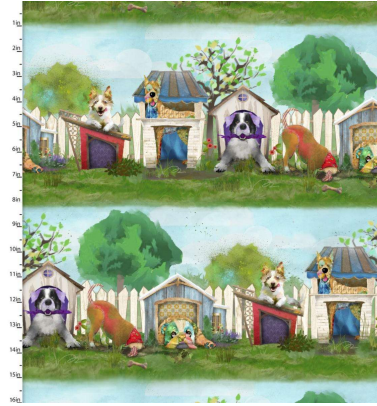
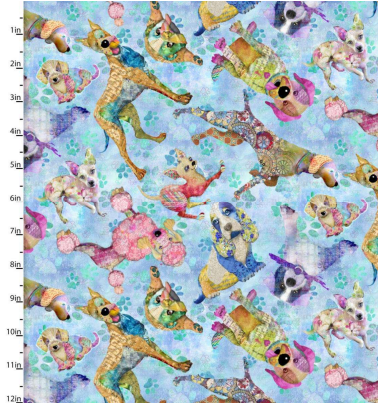


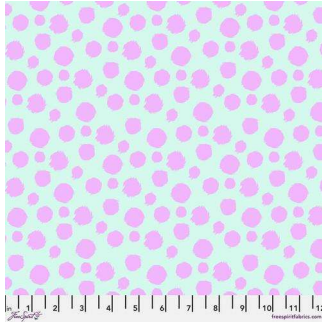


From Northcott



From 3 wishes





From Tula Pink



Full Moon Days: January 13 (Monday), February 12 (Tuesday), March 15 (Saturday
NOTE: observed), April 12 (Saturday), May 12 (Monday) NOTE: These did not get onto
the calendar

January 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		CLOSED	1 CLOSED	2	3	4 10:30 BOM <u>Pillow Case</u> Party! 1-4
Pi5 CLOSED	6	7 Hand Sewing club 2-5	8 Knit Pickers 2-5	9	10	11 Free Embroider Club 10-noon Flannel Snowballs 1-5
12 CLOSED	13	14 Hand Sewing club 2-5	15	16	17	18 Delectable Mountains 10:30-4
19 CLOSED	20	21 Hand Sewing club 2-5	22 Knit Pickers 2-5	23	24	25
26 CLOSED	27	28 Hand Sewing club 2-5	29	30	31	

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:30 BOM Machine Binding 1-4
2 CLOSED	3	4 Hand Sewing club 2-5	5	6	7	8 Free Embroider Club 10-noon
9 CLOSED	10	11 Hand Sewing club 2-5	12 Knit Pickers 2-5	13	14	15 Counterpoint Part 1 10:30-4
16 CLOSED	17	18 Hand Sewing club 2-5	19	20	21	22 6 Quilts, One Book 10:30-4
23 CLOSED	24	25 Hand Sewing club 2-5	26 Knit Pickers 2-5	27	28	

March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 10:30 BOM Tennessee Waltz Part 1 1-5
2 Beginning Quilting 1-4	3	4 Hand Sewing club 2-5	5	6	7	8 Free Embroider Club 10-noon Merry Snowmen 1-4
9 Beginning Quilting 1-4	10	11 Hand Sewing club 2-5	12 Knit Pickers 2-5	13	14	15 NATIONAL QUILT DAY
16 Beginning Quilting 1-4	17	18 Hand Sewing club 2-5	19	20	21	22 Counterpoint Part 2 10:30-4
23 Beginning Quilting 1-4	24	25 Hand Sewing club 2-5	26 Knit Pickers 2-5	27	28	29 Cats in PJs 10:30-4
30 Beginning Quilting 1-4	31					

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 ... come in January and find out!

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 Modern Herbal Block of the Month by Sewn Wyoming.

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

Come join our Knit Pickers= Club. We knit 2 days a month every second and fourth Wednesday, from 2-5. The Club is open to all skill levels and, despite the name, includes crocheters as well. 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. We can even help you get started—teach you the basics.

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.

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: January 13 (Monday), February 12 (Tuesday), March 15 (Saturday NOTE: observed), April 12 (Saturday), May 12 (Monday)

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 and Book of the Month

January dogs and cats; February red; March green; April blue; May flowers

January classes

Delectable Mountains Sat Jan 18 \$45 Barb Boyer

From the book *Scrappy & Happy Quilts, Limited Palette, Tons of Fun* by Kate Hendersen. The book is out of print, but you can find it on used books sites, like Amazon. To make the mountains, you will also need the Creative Grid Ruler, 2 Peaks in One, and a special ruler for the largest mountain will be provided in class. The mountain block is a form of a “kite” construction. You will learn how to use the templates to create perfect mountains.

February Classes

Machine Binding Sat Feb 13 1-4 \$45 Jean Korber

This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10” to 40”, table runner, small wall hanging, place mat, etc) that is quilted and ready for binding. In class Jean will show you how to cut your binding, press it, and stitch it down (DO NOT CUT YOUR BINDING IN ADVANCE), how to stitch it down & miter the corners and then how to apply decorative stitches to the edge. In class you will cut your binding, stitch it to your project, miter your corners and then stitch it down by machine on the other side, using decorative stitches.

Counterpoint Sat Feb 15, 10:30-4 AND Sat March 22 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber

The pattern is by Mountain Peak Creations. The quilt provides large spaces to showcase fabrics. Follow the pattern for fabric amounts. While the quilt has few parts to sew, it is tricky to get things lined up properly. We will show you the easy way to keep the quilt square and perfectly pieced. No special rulers are required.

6 Quilts, One Book Sat Feb 22, April 26, June 28, Aug 30, Oct 25, Nov 22 10:30-4 \$140 for all six classes or \$35 per class. Jean Korber & Barb Boyer will team teach the class.

6 quilts, 1 book, every other month, 1 price for all 6 classes. (or \$35/class if you pick & choose). This is our third year doing 6 quilts out of one book. This year the book is a

Christmas book, but don't be fooled. Our sample quilts include a Halloween quilt, a dog quilt, a wildlife quilt, an autumn flavored quilt, a star quilt (the Christmas quilt) and a dragon quilt. We want you to learn something new in each class. The book is Simply Modern Christmas by That Patchwork Place. This is another out of print book so look for it on the used sites, like Amazon. The first quilt we will teach is Argyle. 2 is Coming Together, 3 is Joy, 4 is Funky christmas, 5 is Snowball Games, and 6 is Peppermint Float

March Classes

Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun Mar 2

This comprehensive 8-week course will introduce to you almost everything you need to know about piecing a quilt top. Along the way you will learn about color, batting, thread, machines and various techniques to give you the skills to make almost any quilt.

Tennessee Waltz Sat Mar 1 and Sat April 5, 1-4 \$45 Barb Boyer

This is a classic quilt design that incorporates the 54-40 of Fight block and a snowball block. The result? The quilt will look curvy, but it's all pieced straight. Pattern will be given out in class. You will need the 2 Peaks in Once ruler by Creative Grid. Yardage needed for a 61" X 70" is app. 2-3 yards of the focus fabric for the center squares, 1 ½ for the stars and 1 yard for the 4-patch squares. Border app. 2 yards.

Merry Snowman Sat Mar 8, April 12, May 10 1:00-4 Cindy Hamann \$45

Pattern Merry, Merry Snowmen by Bunny Hill Designs. The applique in the sample quilt is done with wool. We will teach both wool options, traditional needle turn or finished edge applique, or raw edge applique. Skill level: Confident beginner

NATIONAL QUILT DAY SATURDAY MARCH 15 DEMOS AT NOON

We will have a special sale for National Quilt Day. We will have demos and other activities going on, TBA.

Counterpoint Sat Feb 15, 10:30-4 AND Sat March 22 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber ongoing

Cats in PJs Sat March 29 10:30-4 \$40 Barb Boyer

This is an Elizabeth Hartman Cats in Pajamas pattern. Follow pattern instructions for fabric amounts. And think creatively about fabrics for the cats and for the PJs. Footballs, stripes, dogs, plaids, ballerinas—anything you can think of for cute PJ fabrics. And the cats can be all different colors, and some may have different tail and ear colors, as well.

April Classes

Tennessee Waltz Sat Mar 1 and Sat April 5, 1-4 \$45 Barb Boyer ongoing

Merry Snowman Sat Mar 8, April 12, May 10 1:00-4 Cindy Hamann \$45 ongoing

Fanfare Sat April 19, 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber

Fanfare pattern by Krista Moser required. Follow pattern instructions for fabric requirements. You will also need the Creative Grid 60 degree triangle ruler, 8 1/2" size. Skill level: Intermediate

6 Quilts, One Book Sat Feb 22, April 26, June 28, Aug 30, Oct 25, Nov 22 10:30-4 \$140 for all six classes or \$35 per class. Jean Korber & Barb Boyer will team teach the class.

The second quilt we will teach is Coming Together.

May Classes

T-Shirt Quilt Sat May 3 & 24 1-4 \$45 Barb Boyer

So you've got all these t-shirts and want to turn them into a quilt? It's easy, but you need the right tools. The class is taught in 2 parts: First, preparing your t-shirts, and second, designing your top—which is where I come in, because I can help with all of the math that might be involved.

Merry Snowman Sat Mar 8, April 12, May 10 1:00-4 Cindy Hamann \$45 ongoing

Drip Drop Sat May 17 10:30-4 Barb Boyer \$45

The quilt is in Graphic Quilts book by That Patchwork Place. We have copies. Templates will be provided for the curved pieces. Follow fabric requirements in the book. Skill level: Intermediate



Normal Shop Hours:

Monday-Saturday 10-5:30

Sunday 1-5

Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)

New Hours for Winter Time (starting Nov 5-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

