

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.



November 1, 2024



It has been a tough year for many of us, for many different reasons. It's been made worse by an extremely hate filled election season. I usually write about stuff and nonsense because I like to provide a cheerful outlook on life, but sometimes I need to release my stress and I do it through my fingertips, either by sewing, knitting, or writing.

So today I'm writing about the upcoming election. I know most of you have probably already voted. This is just simply a plea to everyone else who may be on the fence about voting.

It's time to vote, if you haven't already done so.

In every election the issue is the same: How do I choose? I'll get back to that in a minute.

But for some people, unfortunately, the issue often is, should I vote. We are a democracy, which is a system of government in which all citizens have a say in how the government is run. We are also a republic which is a system of government that votes for its leaders and is against rulership by one person. It is also a system of rules, and the rules protect the citizens.

Democracy is more of an ideology, while republicanism represents the mechanics of democracy. The two concepts are often used interchangeably simply because they refer to the process by which citizens choose who will represent them in their governments.

The Declaration of Independence, which was written to establish the purpose for our revolution from the monarchy rule of England, states that governments should be established to secure the unalienable rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. It also instructs that governments must derive “their just powers from the consent of the governed.” So democracy by way of a republic.

Our governments, state, local and federal, only get the power to govern through our consent. Thus, we vote. We must choose. Doing nothing, as in not voting, is simply not a choice. Doing nothing is never a choice. But that’s a different philosophical discussion.

So vote. Call it civic pride, civic duty. Call it bragging rights or critiquing rights. Whatever. Just do it. But how to decide?

I can’t take the time to understand, nor am I smart enough to understand, stuff like economic policy. Or foreign policy. Or how the government should be funded. Or why there is a debt ceiling. Or whose infrastructure should be built first or at all. Or which social programs are most important. Or how do we bring down drug costs. Or what should we do about immigration. Or.....the list goes on and on.

I hire my governmental leaders to figure all of that out. To make the best choices they can under all the circumstances. That's what they are there for. It's their job, not mine.

But how to pick these leaders? I'll admit, it's tough. But since I have been of age to vote, there has only been one overriding issue that concerns me personally. My body. My choice. It's just that simple for me.

I'm not here to persuade you or debate you about my choice. All I'm suggesting is that you choose one issue that is meaningful to you personally. Something that you don't want to lose. Something that you believe in personally and deeply. Any one of the three biggies would work: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. If you are still uncertain, ask a loved one what her big issue is, and support her choice at the polls.

Now I realize governments aren't instituted to preserve my specific individual need. But if I have a leader dedicated to looking after my welfare, then, perhaps, that beneficial spirit will pervade other aspects of leadership. I know that sounds ridiculous and probably irresponsible, as a way of choosing a leader. But it's all I've got. It's all I can hold onto.

I trust you are passionate about one thing in today's world of constant crises. Climate, wildfires, polar bears, bit coin, books, job security, nuclear war, gun control, immigration, drug prices. Choose one thing. Find one candidate that has actually done something supportive about your issue. Done something, not just talked about it. And vote.

Our presidential candidates are very polarized, more so than in any other election, I think. They stand for very different things. But my choice is based upon my strongly held belief regarding who has the right to tell me what medical rights I have when it comes to my body. I will not surrender my freedom of choice, my freedom of life and liberty, to somebody else's opinion.

So I have made my choice. I have voted. I encourage everyone to vote. If you are undecided, find one thing, just one. And let that one thing guide you. Democracy doesn't ask you to be clairvoyant. Or perfect. Or right. It just asks that you choose. And it demands that you fight for the right to choose every time. Every election.



Christmas Mystery 2024

Part Three or Step Two

(Just go with it)

Note: Please click on the link for the pattern with pictures. It is next to impossible to include the needed pictures and place them where they are supposed to go. So it's easier to do this part of the pattern as a link. [Christmas Mystery Step 2](#)

Step two:

1. Make 56 flying geese: 52 have green backgrounds and 4 have light/neutral backgrounds. NOTE: If using the Creative Grid flying geese ruler, follow the directions for making the size C flying geese. You will need $13\frac{3}{4}$ " squares of green and 1 square of background. You will also need 56 squares of gold cut at $2\frac{3}{4}$ ". Follow instructions on the ruler.

If you are not using the ruler, on each $2" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle (52 of them), and on each of the background $2" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$ rectangle (4 of them), place a gold $2" \times 2"$ square on the rectangle, sew from corner to corner. Trim. Press away from center. Place second square on the other corner & repeat. Square to $2" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$. Make 52 greens and 4 lights. Note: You can keep the greens (or neutrals) the same fabric, or mix it up. Your choice. I am keeping all the backgrounds the same.

Sew a flying goose unit to each side of a gold $3\frac{1}{2}" \times 3\frac{1}{2}"$ square. Make 14. (13 green, one light/neutral)

Sew a green 2" X 2" green square to each side of the remaining green flying goose units. Make 21 green ones. Repeat for the light/neutral background geese (make 2).

Sew together in rows to make 14 stars.

Next make 17 half square triangle units. Using the 9 7" X 7" green squares and light squares, place a light square on top of the green square. Draw a line from corner to corner and sew 1/4" from each side of the drawn line. Cut apart and square to 6 1/2" X 6 1/2". You will need 17 half square triangles, so you will have one extra.

Next take 1, 6 1/2" X 6 1/2" green square and sew the 3 1/2" X 3 1/2" background squares to the top, like doing a flying goose construction. (easiest to see this in the pattern link)

That's it! Next week: Assembly time!

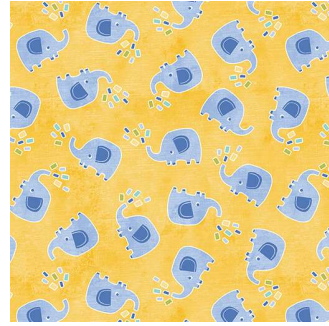
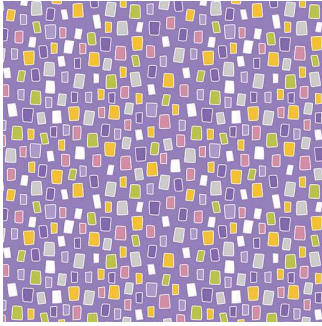


New Fabric

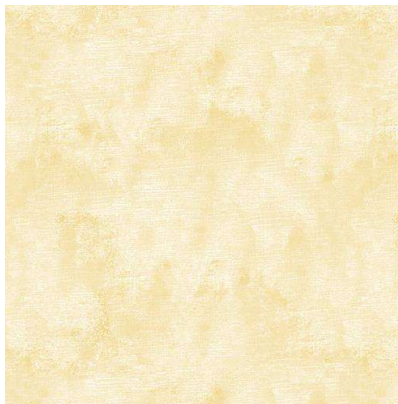
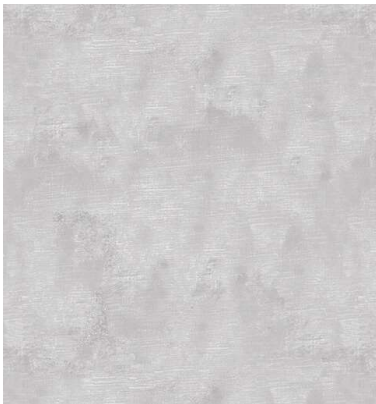


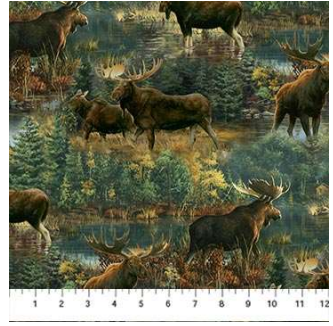
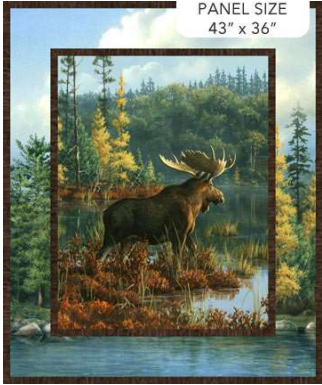
From Quilting Treasures



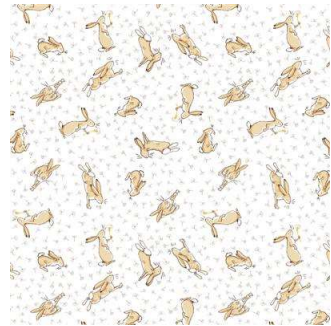
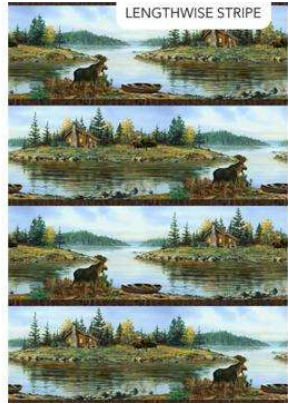
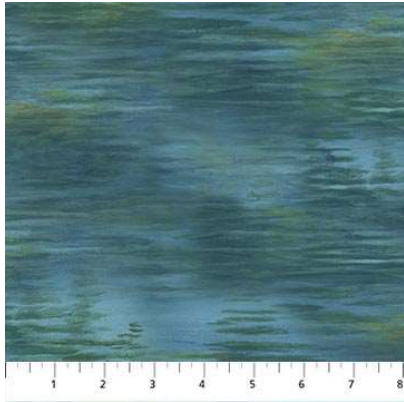


From Benartex. All but the yellow is flannel.





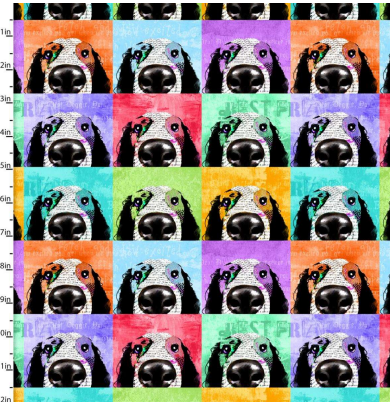
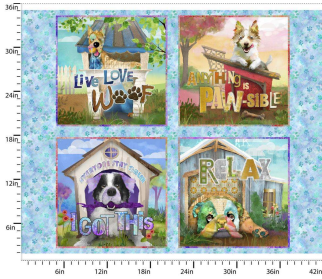
From Northcott



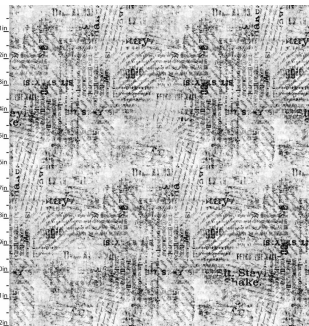
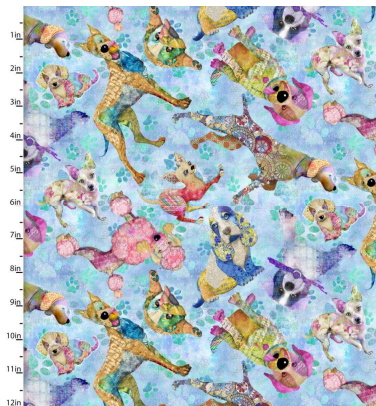
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From Clothworks



From 3 wishes

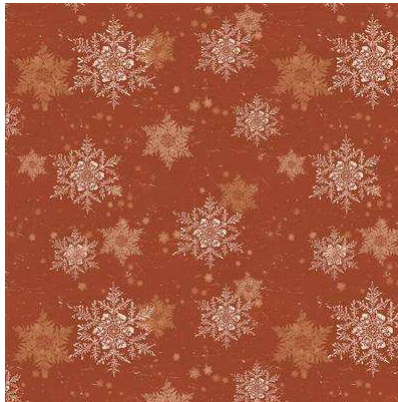




From Clothworks

Flannel

Flannel





From 3 Wishes



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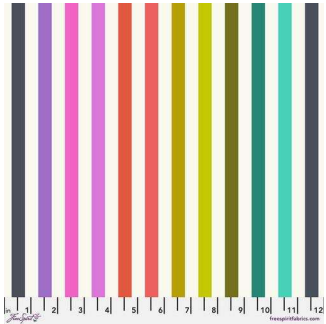
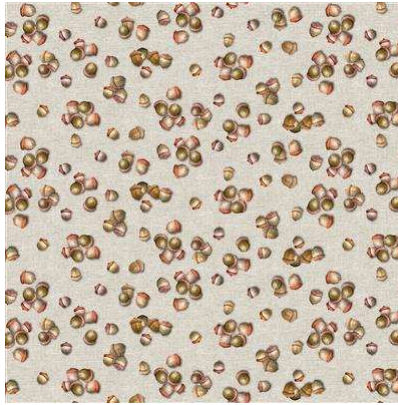
From Riley Blake

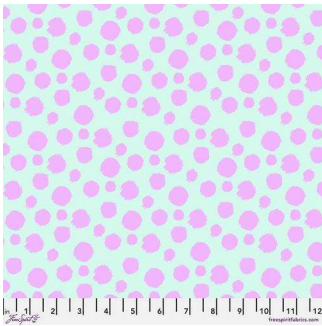
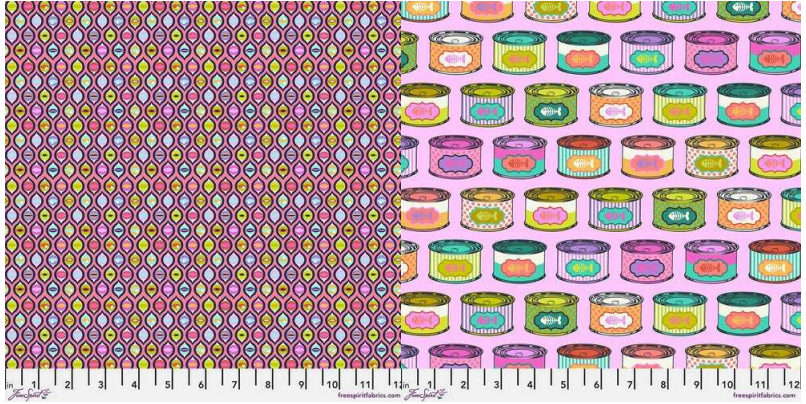




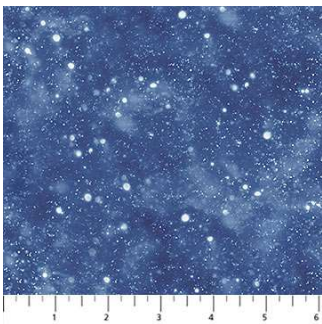
From Clothworks: Secret Life of Squirrels II







From Tula Pink



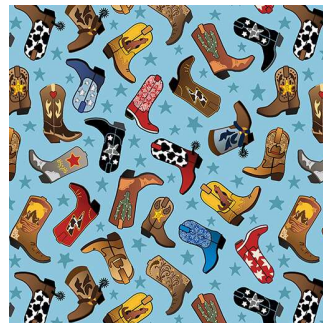
From Northcott: flannel, except for the 2 sports fabrics



Yoy 7 remaining!"

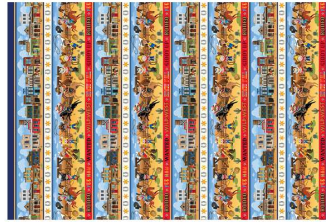


From Hoffman





AS SHOWN 42" X 24"

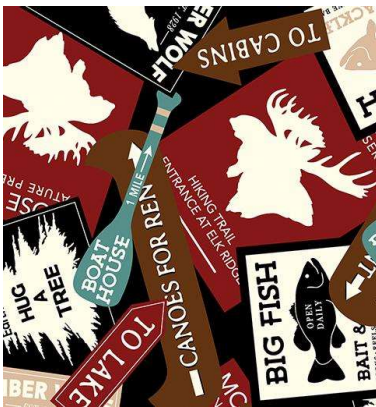
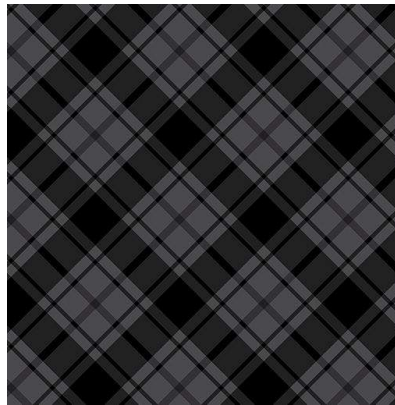
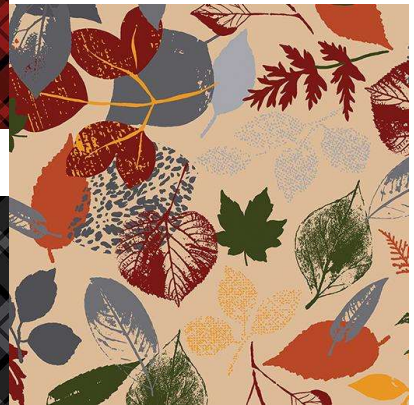
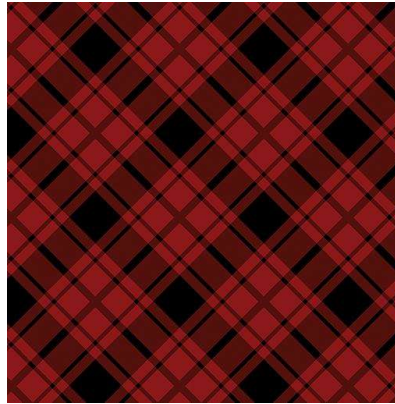
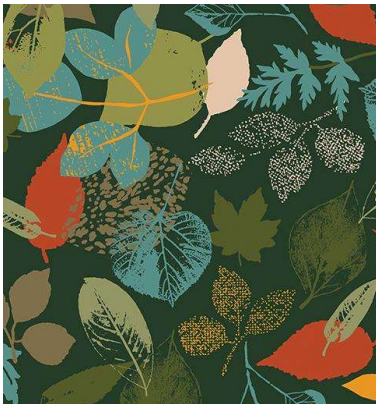


AS SHOWN 44" X 30"
*stripe runs parallel to selvedge



PANEL MEASURES APPROX. 18" X 27"

From Benartex: The fall looking ones are flannel



A Reminder:

First Saturdays of the month, from September thru December, is the Finish Your Quilt Sale! Backing, Binding and Batting are 20% off any of the three, BUT you have to bring in your finished quilt top for show & tell to get the sale price. No exceptions. We want to see your quilts!

NOVEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Color of the month: Purple					1	2 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and battings Bison Wall Hanging Part I 1-5
3 CLOSED	4	5 Hand work Club 2-5	6	7	8	9 Embroidery Club 10-noon Bison Wall Hanging Part I 1-5
10 CLOSED	11 Veterans Day	12 Hand work Club 2-5	13 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	14	15 Full Moon	16 Strip Quilts 10:30-4
17 CLOSED	18	19 Hand work Club 2-5	20	21	22	23 Krista Moser Christmas Tree Skirt 10_30-4
24 CLOSED	25	26 Hand work Club 2-5	27 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	28 Thanksgiving Day	29 Black Friday Sale	30 Shop Small Business Sale

DECEMBER 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 CLOSED	2	3 Hand work Club 2-5	4	5	6	7 BOM 10:30 Finish your quilt sale: 20% off backings, bindings and battings Machine Quilting with your BSR 1-4
8 CLOSED	9	10 Hand work Club 2-5	11 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	12	13	14 Embroidery Club 10-noon Storm at Sea Part <u>I</u> 1-4 Full Moon
15 CLOSED	16	17 Hand work Club 2-5	18	19	20	21 Storm at Sea Part <u>II</u> 10:30-4
22 CLOSED	23	24	25 Christmas	26	27 Toad Toter Sale	28 Year End Sale
29 CLOSED	30 CLOSED	31 CLOSED				Color of the month: red

Please look on the calendars above for times and dates. NOTE: I will be doing a pillow case workshop in October on Thursdays in the afternoon. I will post the times and details soon.

Also, we did not include Machine Binding in the class schedule, but I will try to include it in November. Details to follow.

We may also do something special on Veteran's Day. So much to plan....

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 are sheep! From Crabapple Hill

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: September 17, October 17, November 15 and December 14.

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 and Book of the Month

September orange; October Book of the Month; November purple; December red

November Classes

Bison Wall Hanging Parts I & II, Nov 2, 1-5 and Nov 9, 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

The Bison Wall Hanging comes from Wyoming pattern designer Sewn Design. The head of the bison is made in a crazy quilt style or from left over bits from your stash. The rest of the bison is created from one piece of fabric. The two pieces are then fused into place on a background. I'll show you how to "window pane" the bison, to reduce the amount of fusible needed for the quilt. Then the bison is secured using a machine blanket stitch—or any other decorative stitch. Part I is making the head and Part II is fusing in down and appliqueing in place.

Let's Strip! Quilts Sat Nov 16 10:30-4 or 5 Jean Korber and Barb Boyer \$130

March's quilt is Tulip Patch. You will need 25 assorted green strips for stems and 25 assorted strips for the tulips, plus background (and borders, if you want them). This quilt teaches different ways to use the 45 degree flip method for making flying geese-styled blocks.

Krista Moser Christmas Tree Skirt Sat Nov 23 10:30-4 \$45 Jean Korber

Krista has done it again with a great eloquent tree skirt. We love Krista Moser patterns because they go together so well and look like they are so complicated: Not. We also like offering her classes because the quilts use a 60 degree diamond ruler and we like to get as much use out of our specialty rulers that we can!

December Classes

Machine Binding with your BSR Sat December 7, 1-4 \$45 Jean Korber

Do you have a Bernina and you have the BSR (stitch regulator) and don't know how to use it? This class is for you. Jean will show you the ins and outs of machine quilting on your Bernina with the BSR. This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10" to 40", table runner, small wall nagging, place mat, etc) that is ready to be quilted. When you sign up, we will tell you how to prepare your project so you are ready to quilt in class.

Storm at Sea Sat December 14 1-4 and 21 10:30-4 \$35 Barb Boyer

This quilt used to be intimidating—then a ruler was developed and now it's a breeze! We will work with Deb Tucker's ruler for the construction of the block. We will also talk about various color schemes, one of which includes coloring the blocks to make a heart appear within the design.



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

