



# Around the Block

## QUILT SHOP

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November 13, 2020

This is a good day to talk about rural living. Have you noticed? It's windy today.

So swiping through the headline stories on the internet I came on this little nugget: Want to ditch city for country life? The "slide show" of things to be ware of or is it be aware of or is it beware of....regardless, the article really didn't describe the joys of living outside the city limits. It was more the pitfalls of country living.

The first three cautionary warnings reminded the potential city to county mover that you are going to be driving more-like up to 10 miles to get back into the city. Which also means, reason #2, that grocery stores are farther away and, reason #3, take out and pizza delivery won't happen. You can probably get take out, of course, but it will be cold by the time you get home.

Those of you who live in the country already know this, of course. Since I have been in Cheyenne, I have never lived in a home where I could get pizza delivered, even when I lived within 2 miles of a grocery store. I now live about 10 miles from a grocery store and still can't get pizza delivered. You just have to figure out the work arounds, like learning to cook - and not from those pricey meal delivery kits delivered fresh to your door, because....

Mail delivery in the county can be very iffy during the winter and delivery people tend to drop off packages at your driveway entrance, and then you just have to trust that no one will come along and take what isn't theirs. Or the packages get leaned against a fence, put in a shed, or secured under a cement block during a snow storm. I've had Christmas presents that I only discovered 6 weeks later, because of this. So it's never a good idea to have food delivered and left ... somewhere in the vicinity of the house because even if it doesn't get stolen or buried under 2 feet of snow, it could get eaten by one of the other perils of country living....

Wandering wildlife (or as the article puts it, wild animals and poisonous plants). I'm not overly worried about the rabbits, but I don't plant many bulbs or gardens because those are just smorgasbords for them. I worry more about bigger animals with more teeth, so when I have my Christmas ham delivered, it comes to the shop.

Other areas of concern for city dwellers thinking of making a change are health care (it's called driving 50-100 miles sometimes); distance from family (although that's why some people choose to live beyond the reach of their relatives); utilities (the article talked about outhouses here, so now we're not just talking rural living, we're discussing mountain homes); maintenance (although maintaining a house in the city is just as bad, but the article was targeting chopping wood and using tractors to clear snow); no "social scenes" (which means you're back to playing cards on Friday nights for entertainment, I guess); and weather.

Which brings us back to the wind and the discussion yesterday in the shop. If you don't tie down your outside lawn furniture, you may find it flying through your big living room window. All of my lawn furniture is either inside right now or collapsed and lying on the deck. I am worried about my little wifi dish, sitting at the very apex of my roof. It's a perfect wind catcher. The guys that installed it, though, told me that they'll come back & reattach if something happens, but I still have visions of my roof getting peeled off as the little dish hurls itself toward Nebraska. Although it might make a great insurance commercial....

Other perils of living outside of where most of humanity finds itself are nonpaved roads, and I'm not talking about the country roads, I'm talking about the driveways. I mow a lot of rocks during the summer because I have an uneven dirt and gravel road. I've heard tales of rocks flying through plate glass windows, thrown up by the riding lawn mower. We won't talk about needing bobcats or tractors with blades to clear snow during the winter (snow blowers are basically useless). We may get snow this weekend and I don't want to jinx anything.

But I was actually happy to see this little article detailing the perils of country living. It may keep city dwellers from invading the countryside. It's a little like talking to tourists who are thinking about moving to Wyoming and they always are worried about how much snow we get. I generally tell them the snow is nothing. You'll get used to the feet of snow that lands during a typical storm and the ground blizzards that hamper getting around to the grocery stores that are 10 miles away.

And you'll get used to seeing snow from September through May. And that you can always get your produce through that 10-mile away grocery store, rather than from your garden, because of the feasting wild life and the lack of a growing season for anything around here.

No, I emphasize the 70 mph wind that blows during the winter. That's scarier than wild life, chopping your own wood, out houses and long driving distances.

Don't blow away.

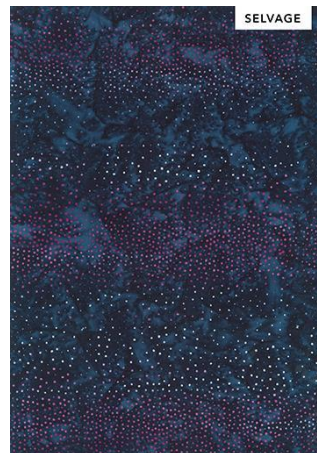
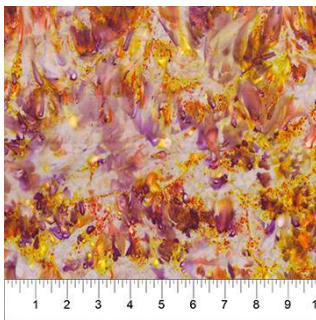
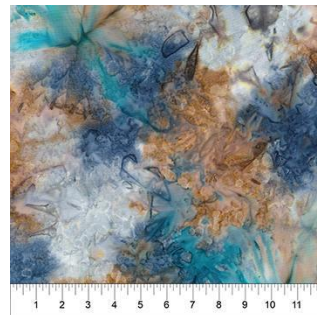
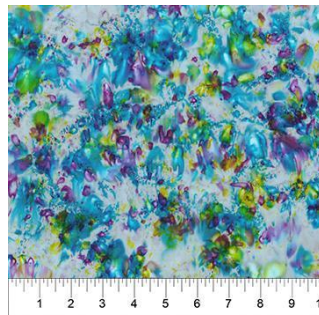
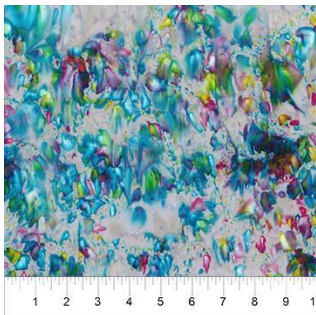
**Tula Pink's Linework**

Tula Pink's Linework collection is in. I only bought a few bolts, including the "sketch pad" fabric in wide back. I have 10" squares and fat quarters of the entire collection. I have one kit of Daydream left. The kit is \$210 - call if you are interested, I wouldn't wait. I really wouldn't.

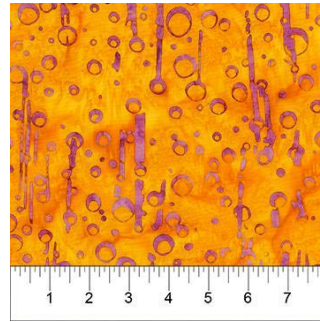
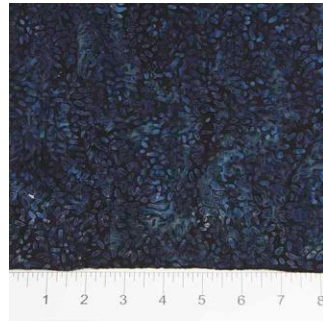
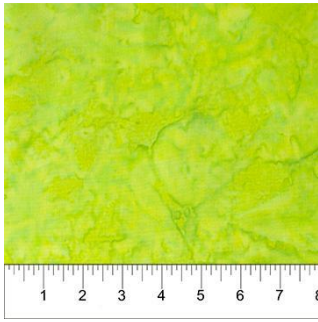


## WHAT'S NEW!!

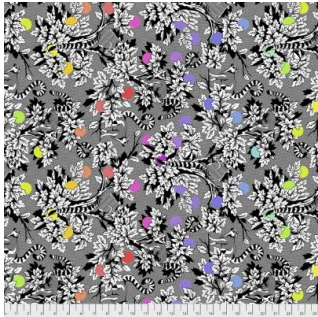
From Northcott:







From Tula Pink:



wideback



One Daybreak kit



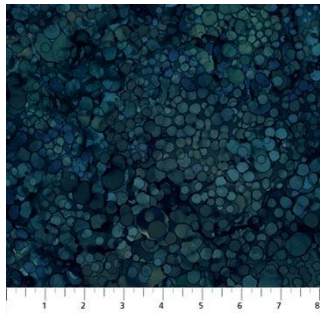
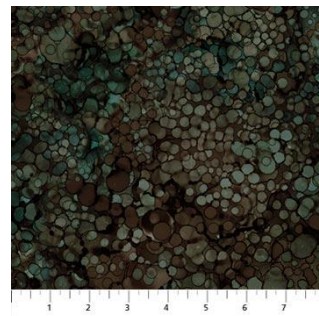
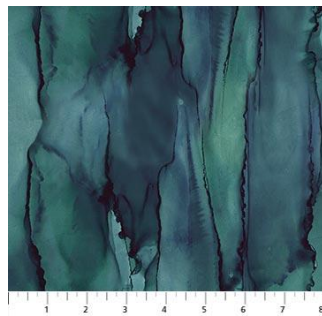
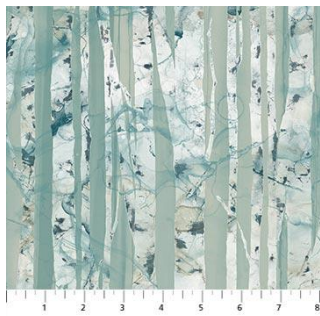
10" squares & fat  
quarter bundles,  
limited supplies

From Northcott (really cool) (we're doing kits for a quilt):

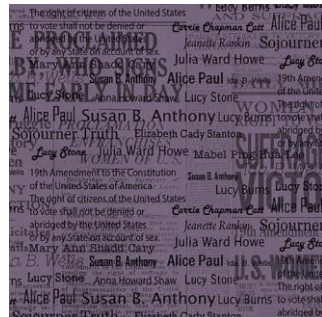
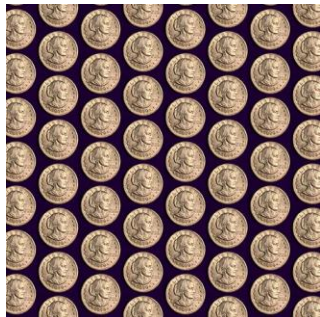


Also in wideback





From Benartex (and more from this line should be coming)



From Studio E:

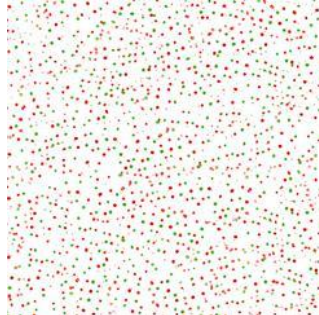




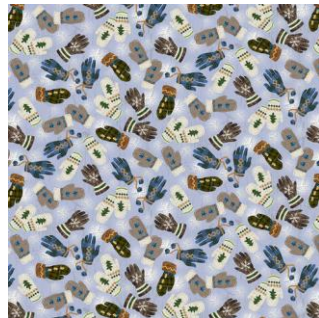


We'll have a quilt soon,  
showing off this line.

From Quilting Treasures:



From Henry Glass:

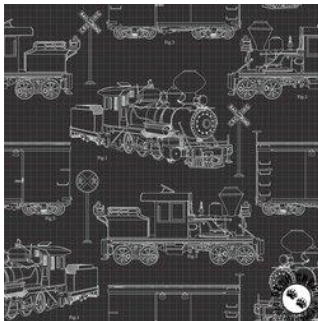
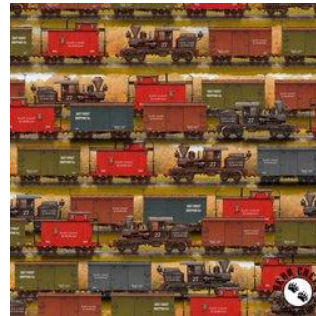
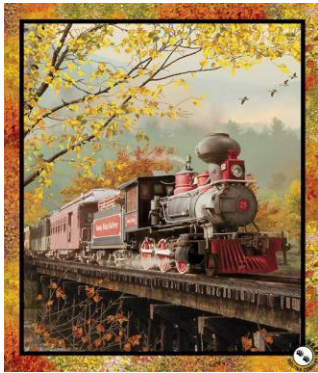


These 3 are flannels

From Alexander Henry:



From 3 Wishes:



We're working up a quilt for this one, off a free pattern using this fabric.

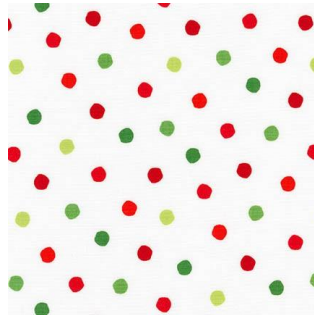
From Robert Kaufman:







We've made this into a quilt. No kits, but fabric requirements are mainly the 2 panels plus borders.



From Northcott:

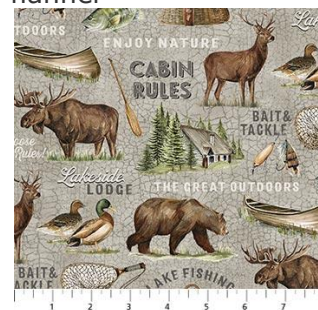


flannel

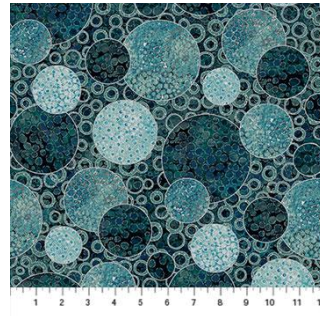
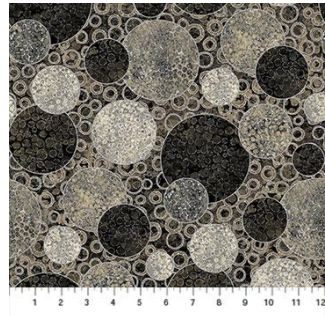
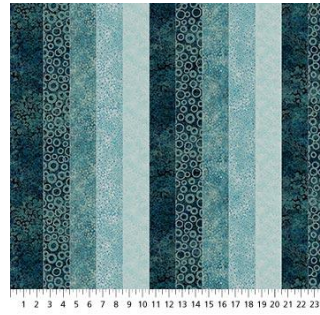
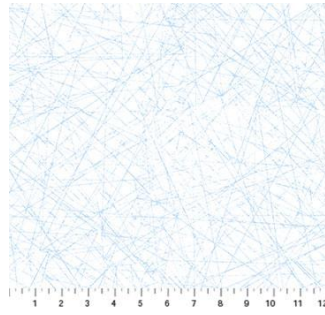


flannel

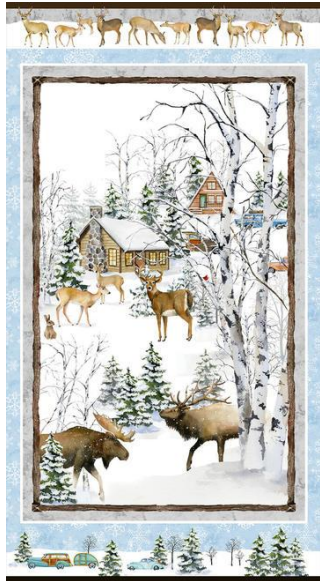
flannel







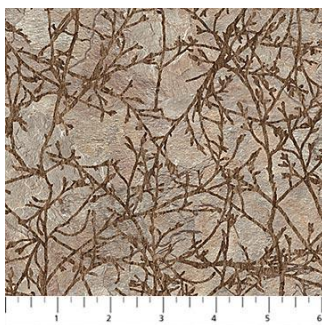
From Henry Glass:



From Northcott:



We've got a cute quilt made up with these pups.





# NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
1  Closed	2	3  Hand work Club 2-4	4	5  Long Arm Rental Day	6	7  BOM 10:30  Paper Pieced Christmas Tree noon-5
8  Beginning Quilting 1- 4	9	10  Hand work Club 2-4	11  Knit Pickers' Club 3-7 Veterans Day	12  Long Arm Rental Day	13	14  Embroidery Club 10-noon Wool Ornaments 1-5
15  Beginning Quilting 1- 4	16	17  Hand work Club 2-4	18	19  Long Arm Rental Day	20	21  Christmas Tree (not paper pieced) Noon-5
22  Binding 1- 4	23	24  Hand work Club 2-4	25  Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	26  Thanksgiving Day Closed	27  Black Friday Sale	28  Shop Small Business Sale
29  Shop Small Business Sale	30  Full Moon	Color of the month: flannels				

# DECEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Friday	Sat
	Color of the month: red	1 Hand work Club 2-4	2	3 Long Arm Rental Day	4	5 BOM 10:30 Let's Do Christmas! BQ Quilt 1-5
6 Closed	7	8 Hand work Club 2-4	9 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	10 Long Arm Rental Day	11	12 Embroidery Club 10-noon Christmas Club 1-4
13	14	15 Hand work Club 2-4	16	17 Long Arm Rental Day	18	19
20	21	22 Hand work Club 2-4	23 Knit Pickers' Club 3-7	24	25 Christmas Closed	26
27	28	29	30 Full Moon	31		



**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 is to use polka dot fabric in each block. The quilt will be whimsical, and will lend itself to bright colors, stripes, stars, and dots. To start you off we will give you a fat quarter that you must use in your blocks use (at least in some of them). But...if you don't like the fat quarter or dots, you can choose any color scheme you like.

**Hand Embroidery Club** 2<sup>nd</sup> 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. We are still doing the Gardner's Alphabet Quilt Block of the Month by Crabapple Hill. We will explore a variety of embroidery stitches for each block each block (2 letters per month), plus we will learn how to color with regular crayons to enhance the blocks. Each month Kathy Sconce shows us a new stitch to try, plus, she guides us through thread choices, how to knot, fabrics to use, and tracing techniques. We are also looking at new patterns, for those you do not want to do the Alphabet quilt or who have finished those blocks.

**Knit Pickers' Club** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wed of each month, 3-7 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 3. For those of you who work, we'll still be knitting > till 7. 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 work on some felting projects, fingerless mittens, mittens, and socks. And we are working on a group project meaning everyone does the same pattern. Each month we will learn a different pattern, make it into a square and eventually put all the squares into one project Afghan, scarf, bag, etc.

### **Other Classes**

TBA Our schedule is limited this fall because of the pandemic. Face masks will be required in class and space will be limited. Classes will not run through lunch, so no eating (snacking & water okay, but no lunching). Bathrooms may or may not be available, but there are facilities within walking distance.

Other classes that I hope to schedule include Hand Quilting, Hand Applique, teaching long arm quilting, pillow case class, a quilt using our new ombres, machine quilting, machine applique, and machine applied binding. So stay tuned as we continue to tweak the schedule.

### **November Classes**

**Beginning Machine Applique** TBA \$30 Barb Boyer

So many quilts use applique these days. Learn the ins and outs of machine applique, from points to curves. We will practice the button hole/blanket stitch, satin stitch, and you can also play around with your decorative stitches. Threads, fusibles and stabilizers will be discussed.

**Beginning Machine Quilting TBA 1-4 \$30 Sue Frerich**

Be prepared to quilt! You will practice your quilting skills on various samples, using both your walking foot and darning foot. Batting, threads, needles and patterns will be discussed. Who knows? By the time you leave you may even be able to write/quilt your name!

**Binding Sun Nov 22, 1-4 Barb Boyer \$25**

You'll learn how to accurately cut your bindings, whether bias, cross or straight. When to use which one. You'll learn how to cut, then sew, join (so easy) and hand stitch part. Bindings so easy peasy you'll wonder why you were ever nervous about putting on the binding.

**Christmas Tree Wall Hanging Nov. 21, noon-5 \$30 Sue Frerich or Barb Boyer**

This cute quilt uses a fun batik collection that includes plaids, stripes and sheep! The pattern comes with its own ruler and the hardest part is deciding what fabric to go where.



**Paper Piece Christmas Tree Sat Nov. 7 noon-5 Sue Frerich \$30**

Sue taught this quilt last season and it was a hit! You can choose to make your tree using traditional green colors, black and white, or mix it up with a Northern Lights look. The pieces are big so the quilt is finished quickly. It's a perfect accessory for a door or wall hanging for Christmas.



**Wool Ornaments Sat Nov. 14, Noon-5 \$30 Barb Boyer**

Choose any wool ornaments patterns, pick some wools for your projects, and come learn you to make easy Christmas ornaments. I'll teach you easy ways to assemble the wool, easy embellishing stitches (you can go simple or crazy with your stitches), and we'll talk about turning your old wool sweaters into "ugly" sweater ornaments. It's fun!

## December Classes

**Let's Do Christmas! Sat Dec. 5, 1-5 \$25 Barb Boyer**  
TBA



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### 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.

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#### Hand Work Club FREE!

Every Tuesday afternoon from 2-4, 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.

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#### 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). We are discussing trying to do a group project meaning everyone does the same pattern. Each month we will learn a different pattern, make it into a square and eventually put all the squares into one project Afghan, scarf, bag, etc.

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#### 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.

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#### 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 1, October 2 & 31 (we'll do something special for this Blue Moon), November 30, December 30

### 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 progra



mmable stitch regulation. You can stitch in 4 different stitch modes plus single stitch and needleup/down. It also has an adjustable brightness LED work light. This machine can also be equipped with a computer.



Nolting also has a commercial machine 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.

**Normal Shop Hours:  
Monday-Saturday 10-5  
Sunday 1-5  
Closed first Sunday of month (and some holidays)**

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](http://www.aroundtheblockquilts.com)