



June 23, 2023

I have a mushroom growing in my back yard. It's probably not the only one. I haven't ventured off the sidewalk in more than a week. It's a little scary back there.

But that's not what I want to talk about. And no, in case you are wondering, I don't want to talk about the submersible, the Titan, that imploded probably 2000 meters below what it was rated for. Those issues will be part of the upcoming movie and documentaries on why it's a bad idea to go poking around in places where you shouldn't. I'd wait for everyone who is anyone to spout off why the accident was an accident, who should pay for all the rescue efforts, why they weren't responsible, and why there should be laws and regulations to protect silly people from doing foolish things.

You can also watch Tik Tok recreations of what it would have been like in the moment of implosion. Shudder. I'm sure it's an authentic recreation. I mean it's Tik Tok, after all.

And not to be prescient, I was talking to my physical trainer, Mary, this week about other foolish things people do, like go up in space rockets for the thrill of it. Frankly, I would love to do that, but not on any of the current companies' "space" ships, whose rockets have a tendency to blow up more often than not. I mean, if we had lost Captain Kirk in an accident in "space," can you imagine the hoopla? And then today, I saw an article about commercial space travel that said this kind of expensive tourism adventure shares the same issues with the Titan excursion: embarking on unregulated vehicles into dangerous territories.

Of course, participants sign waivers, often called informed consent. You do the same thing on less risky adventures: horseback riding, zip lines, sea kayaking, para sailing, scuba diving. But all it takes is for a horse to spook at an unexpected snake, you fall off, break an arm, get bitten by the snake and get stomped on by the horse. I mean, they write law school tort exam questions asking who is liable. And then insurance gets involved as to who should pay, regardless of whether you signed the consent form, and whether someone else can be blamed in order to share responsibility for the cost. I mean, it's just messy, and that's when there are regulations in place for these kind of things.

But...that's not what I want to talk about.

"Well, get with it, then," Becca said irritably. She was snoozing by the rug, listening with half an ear. Becca, for those of you new to the post, is my know-it-all mini Australian Shepherd. She watches more news than I do, and could probably give you the scoop on the Titan disaster.

"I could," she said. "But you don't want to talk about that."

“Well, I would, but so much has happened this week, including the mushroom, that I couldn’t just ignore what’s been happening around the world,” I said.

“You ignore most things,” she said, grinning slightly, which is never a good sign. “The mess that’s happening in Congress, the mess that’s centered about Budweiser and Starbucks, or the baby shark toys that are being recalled because they are cutting kids—I think you can call that ironic?— or the headline that reads, ‘Lion Gives Pregnant Buffalo a C-section.’ Trust me,” she said, “that’s not a story you want to read during lunch.”

“Becca, you’ve got to stay off the internet. It will only get you in trouble,” I told her.

“But the Tik Tok videos of Great Danes are so lame, they are funny. The Dane that can’t get on a bed or the Dane ‘rescuing’ its owner from falling into the water. So phony. People actually believe them,” she said. “But I don’t. I know that Dane would rather push his owner into the water. Now that would be funny.”

“Becca!”

“Well get on with it then. You’ve kept everyone in suspense for too long.”

She’s right. You all want to know, if you don’t already. A young man lost his brakes coming down the hill in the parking lot. He plowed through the shop windows on the classroom side of the store. What saved the store, and the 9 of us in the classroom at the time, from getting hurt was the heavy hide-a-bed couch. I think the couch stopped the truck and bounced it back toward the parking lot, otherwise the truck may have travelled further into the shop.

No one was hurt. No kids were running around the sidewalks, as they usually do on Saturday raising money for some sport team or another. No exercise runners were out taking laps. And no one was walking to their cars when he came barreling down the lot.

We did have a class going on, and other than being extremely startled by the crash and the noise, a cross between a lightning strike and, well, a lightning strike, no one was hurt. And the driver also was not hurt, although he was shaken up a bit. Understandably so.

So the mess in the shop will continue for a while. We will get the space usable in the next day or two, but repairing the window itself will take time. And yes, the young man has insurance, and yes that aspect of accident is proceeding normally – which means time spent talking to insurance companies, clean up and repair companies, property managers, and everyone else who has an interest and monetary stake in all of it.

And as for the mushroom in the backyard, it may have to stay there for even more days. We still have rain coming.

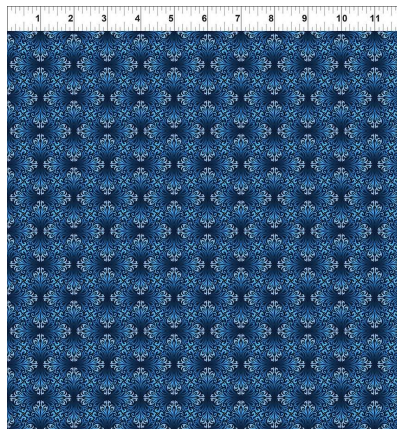
What's New

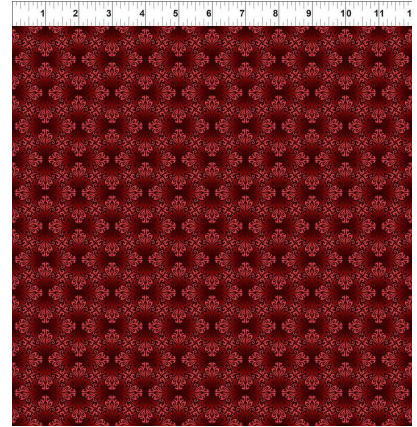


From Riley Blake. BIG FOOT is here!

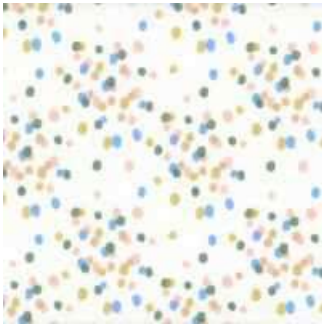


From In the Beginning





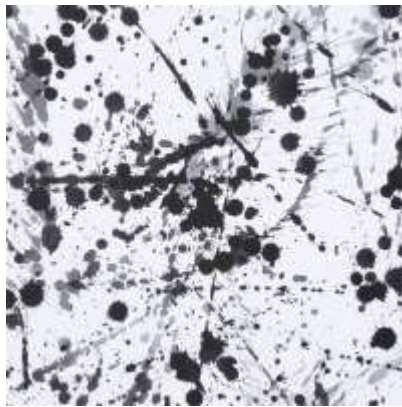
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From Dear Stella (NOTE The Hedgehogs) & Oasis (the horses)

Plus we got whites in from P & B. I won't put thumbnails in, because they will just look white.



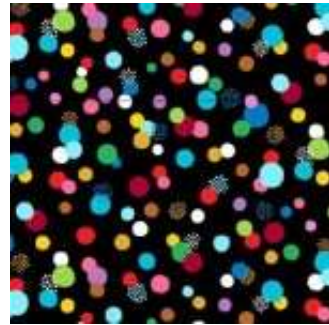


Alexander Henry

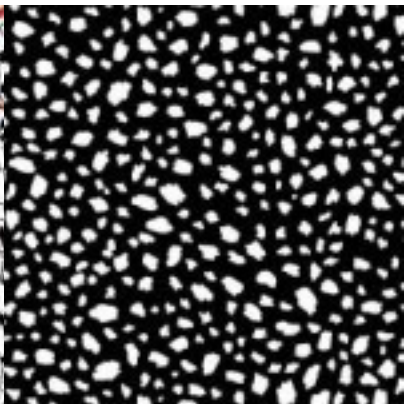
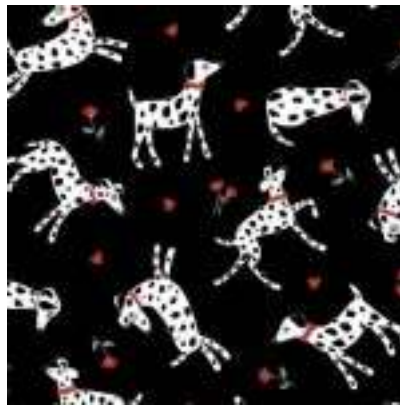


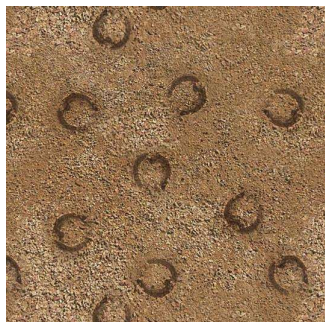
From Riley Blake





From Michael Miller





From Kennard & Kennard



PANEL SIZE APPROX 24" x 44"



Spring Newsletter

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 Starry Skies. Challenge #1 is to use at least 25 different fabrics in the quilt – should be easy. Challenge #2 is to choose backgrounds for the blocks that aren't the typical cream/white neutrals that we generally use. Instead, we will mix it up a bit, using both traditional backgrounds for some blocks, and then choosing "colors" in both light and dark fabrics for other blocks.

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 Garden Belles. Each block features a lady in vintage costume, in the garden, or similar outdoor setting. These are old fashioned ladies in dresses, which offer all sorts of stitchery creativity.

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.

June Classes

Beginning Quilting 8 weeks \$65 Barb Boyer Starting Sun June 4

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.

Quilt #6, Organized Chaos: Fat Quarter Favorite Quilts Sat June 24 10:30-4 Jean Korber \$35 (or \$120 for all 6 quilts)

The last quilt is called Organized Chaos. You can work with 22 fat quarters or 11 half yard cuts for a little less chaos. Jean has a great way to keep the chaos organized as you put the interlocking looking blocks together.

July Classes

Fun Ways to Use Your Panels: A strategy and Design Class Sat July 1, 1-5 \$35 Barb Boyer

Bring your panel(s) and some graph paper and we will strategize how to design a quilt around your panel. We will work with my EQilt program for help designing extra blocks, choosing settings, and getting the math right.

Machine Binding Sat July 8 1-5 \$40 Jean Korber

This is hands on class. You will need a small project (10" to 40", table runner, small wall nagging, 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.

Elizabeth Hartman Quilts, your choice Sat July 29 10:30-5 Barb Boyer 10:30-4

E.H. Quilts are made using a 45 degree flip & sew method. The trick is in the organization & keeping track where you are in the piecing. These make great kid quilts, wall hangings, ones with all the animals—bed quilts. You can start by making one animal from the quilt, and build out from [there](#).

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).

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: January 6; February 4 (observed); March 7; April 6; May 5; June 4

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

January purple; February red; March green; April yellow; May whites, June blue

June 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				Long Arm Rental Day		BOM 10:30 Full moon Make Your Own Grocery Bag 1-4 <u>Free</u> , with fabric purchase
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1-5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		Embroidery Club 10-noon Shakespeare in the Park 1-5 \$35
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1-5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Laura Heine <u>\$40 10:30-4</u>

18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Dads' Day Shop Is now open 1-		Hand work Club 2-5	Long Arm class 10:30	Long Arm Rental Day		6 fat quarter quilts: Quilt #6 10:30-4 \$35
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1- 5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Color of the month: blue

July 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 BOM 10:30 Fun Ways to use your panels: A strategy & design class 1-5 <u>\$35</u>
2 Beginning Quilting 1-4 Shop Is now open 1- 5!	3 Full moon	4 CLOSED	5 Long Arm class 10:30	6 Long Arm Rental Day	7	8 Embroidery Club 10- noon Machine Binding 1-5 \$40
9 Shop Is now open 1- 5!	10	11 Hand work Club 2-5	12 Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	13 Long Arm Rental Day	14	15
16 Shop Is now open 1- 5!	17	18 Hand work Club 2-5	19	20 Long Arm Rental Day	21	22

23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Shop Is now open 1- 5!		Hand work Club 2-5	Knit Pickers' Club 2-5	Long Arm Rental Day		Elizabeth Hartman Quilts: Your choice 10:30-4
30	31					Color of the month: Christmas
Shop Is now open 1- 5!						



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 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

