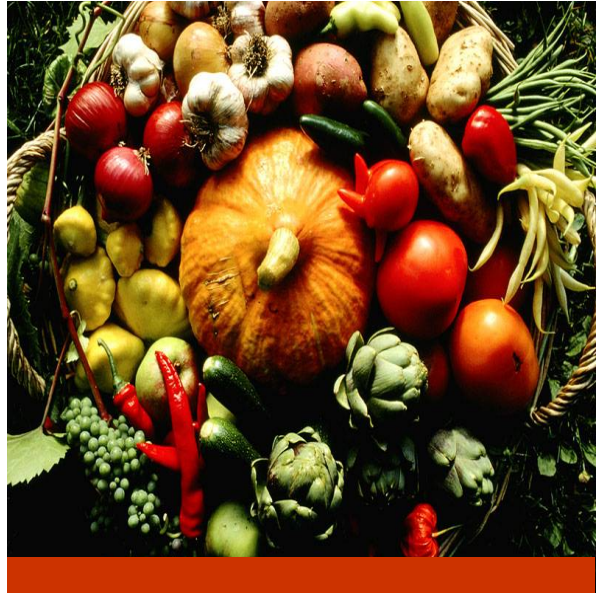


Homespun Harbor News

Get Ready For - YIKES - FALL!

We know - what happened to Spring and where the heck is SUMMER going? SCHOOL is about to start! We put our Autumn fabric out on the shelves in June, and got the usual comments - "Fall so soon?" Right about now the comments have changed to "Hmmm I better get busy!" Ahem.

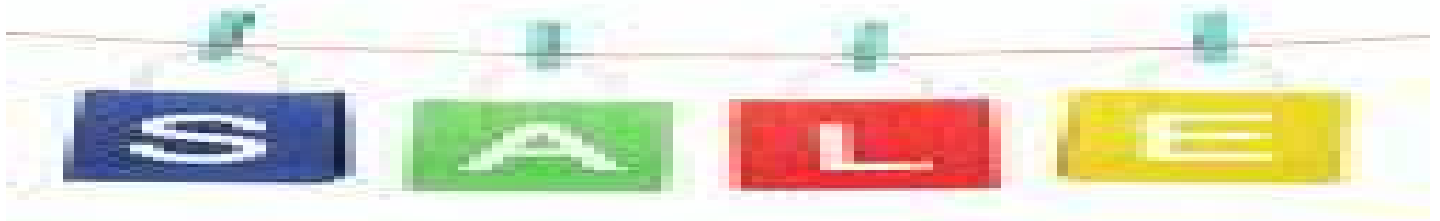


We don't call this the End Of Summer. We call it the Super Slide into the Holidays. If you have kids, or grandkids, very soon you will be hearing what costume they want for Halloween. Pretty soon you will be getting out your calendars to start scheduling parties and get togethers. And, the most important items for quilters - "What am I going to make for (fill in the blanks)"

The past few years we have made a wish list. This is not only what others wish for, but what we wish we could make. Then we make another list. We call this the "We wish for a lot of things, but this list is what we can actually DO!" Trust us, follow the second list.

Everyone loves a handmade gift. Well, okay, not everyone. There are people out there who cannot tell the difference between a quilt and a drop cloth. (Generally we make ONE quilt for them and then stop.) We know people treasure stuff, because we still have macaroni necklaces and popsicle stick picture frames that are over 30 years old. You have a skill, a gift, a talent. Make a memory. It doesn't matter if you are a barely beginner, or super advanced. If you give it as a gift from your hands and heart, it will always have a special place. (Just hopefully not on the garage floor)

YARD Sale!!!



When we say YARD SALE, we're not kidding!

ALL precut yards - storewide - will be on sale at \$5.00 per yard. On some of those yard cuts it's a savings of almost 50%! And trust us, we have a LOT of them. It's time to shovel out the nest. Focus, novelty, blenders and batiks.

Also, we will have on hand some kits from older projects. There always seem to be one or two left over. It's time for us to move them on out. Cash in on the savings. 25 to 50% OFF! AND we have SCRAPS! Fill a gallon zip lock bag for \$5.00 (The only rule is the bag has to close)

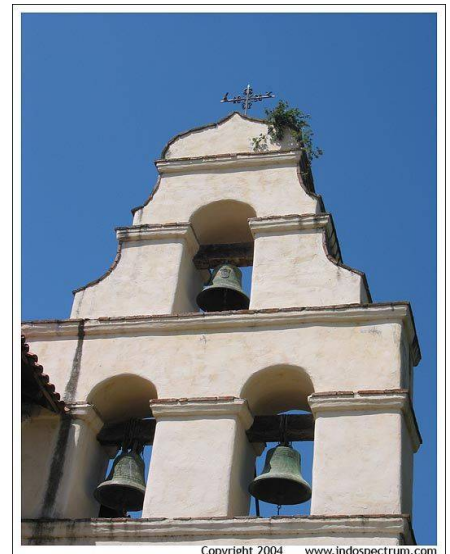
Starts Saturday August 22 and runs through Saturday August 29th.

Good News - Bad News

We are sure most of you already know this. But since we were remiss in sending out our newsletter in a timely manner, here it goes. The good news is Anneke Wheaton (The Last Stitch), our longarm quilter, has moved and opened up her own studio! The bad news is Anneke Wheaton (The Last Stitch) has moved and opened up her own studio! We miss her!

But we are also very excited for her. She has her studio in San Juan Bautista, and has BOTH machines there! She can now get twice as much done in the same time AND she has her living room back. She's a happy camper. Her studio is right on The Alameda. Stop at the first stop sign, and look to your left.

Her new address is 107 The Alameda, Suite B, San Juan Bautista, CA 95045.
(831) 623-4330.



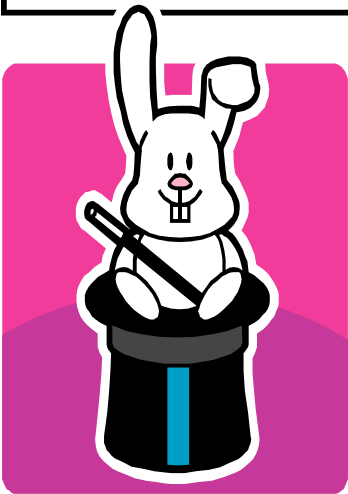
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Nothing To Do With Quilting - But EW EW EW

This has absolutely nothing to do with Quilting, but we thought we would pass it on. We learned this in Honolulu, which as a HUGE Pigeon problem. And twice those icky birds found us here on the Mainland. I talked with an exterminator not too long ago, and they wanted a lot of money to "DePigeonize" our roof. So we did what we did in Hawai'i. Get a few of those hanging block moth ball thingies. Put them where you see them nesting, or hanging out a lot. Generally the poop will give you a BIG hint. Within hours they are gone. Really! You just have to remember to replace them every 6 months or so. Also, keep in mind that moth balls can be fatal to animals. But, most of the animals we own don't hang out on the roof! It really does work. And at the end of the day, Pigeons are truly EWWW.



Pat's Place - It's Magic!



Let's see. How do you turn those kid's jeans that are like new, but don't fit anyone in your household into food? Hmmmm. And how do you help to feed a family with that dining room set that has seen better days? Hmmmm. Wait, we got it! PAT'S PLACE!!!! TADA - Magic! Welcome to the new thrift store in town. The San Benito County Food Bank (formally known as The Pantry) has just opened their very own thrift shop. Right downtown. This is a great opportunity to shovel out YOUR nest AND help feed the hungry.

This is the brainchild of Pat St. John. When the time came to name the shop it didn't take long to name it in honor of Pat. Not only was it a great idea, it also took an enormous amount of planning, organization and plain roll up your sleeves hard work.

The address is 101 5th Street. (corner of 5th and Sally 637-5500)

The hours for shopping are:

Monday Wednesday Friday 10 to 4 Saturday 9 to 1

Donations accepted:

Monday through Friday 10 to 4 Saturday 9 to 1

So, head to your closets and make a little magic!



If you use chalk to mark your quilt —NEVER iron over the chalk. We've seen where it sets the chalk, and it will never come out. In Hawai'i we have witnessed it setting just by leaving it in a hot car. Our best advice is to mark only the portion you will actually be working on, and removing it immediately.

Pin a square of batting to your shoulder to collect threads while you are sewing. OR, wear a black waffle weave dress and the thread will JUMP right to you!

Have any of you noticed Dennis' ruler at the counter? The one with NO NUMBERS left on it? Applying Invisigrip will not only help keep your ruler from slipping when rotary cutting, it will also prevent those pesky numbers and lines from wearing off.

If you sew on carpet, attach a piece of sticky back Velcro to the bottom of your foot control. It will keep it from walking away.

Do you have a heck of a time getting a thimble to fit? Have any that are too big? Get a rubber finger cot and cut the band off. Put the cot on your finger, and then put it into the thimble.

If you find a flaw in your fabric, and cannot remember where you bought it, try this. Mark the flaw with a safety pin. That way when you are cutting, you can easily avoid using the flawed portion.

Have an old sweatshirt that isn't good enough to hand down or donate? Cut up sweatshirts make GREAT batting for small projects.

Inexpensive plastic tie racks are great for holding strips as you cut. Plus, you can keep different colors separate.

Next time you go to sign a piece of fabric, whether for a label or a signature quilt, put a piece of masking tape on the wrong side of the fabric. This will allow you to easily write on the fabric.

Tired of constantly replacing needle threaders? Use a teensy drop of super glue right where the wire goes into the handle.

Sheila is Doing FINE!

Our Vice President of Education and Department Head of Models and Research (otherwise known as Sheila) is doing beautifully after a QUADRUPLE BYPASS! A funny thing happened on the way to her routine hysterectomy. A little blip showed up on a test, one thing led to another, and she did end up checking into the hospital. Just with a different surgeon operating on a different organ. But as we said, she is doing GREAT! TOO great when she gives us heart failure by trying to pick up bolts when she stops by the shop. Her biggest and pretty much only complaint is she can't drive yet. She expects to be back on the road SOON. You go Sheila!



Email Are You Missing Out?



Mail has been going up up up. And we keep saying, PLEASE give us your Email address. Before long the Post Office will most likely stop Saturday service. Also, in between Newsletters we send out a lot of information via Email. Sales, new arrivals - cool stuff, If you are interested, and you are still receiving this via snail mail, please send us your email address. If you don't have an Email address, or hate that darn contraption, never mind - no problem.

Fall Challenge

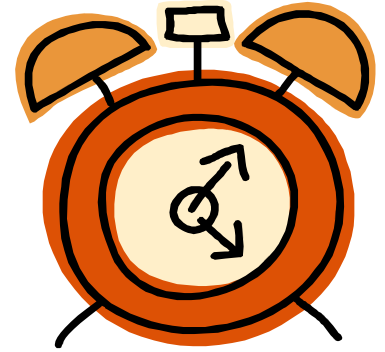
It's been a while since we have done this, but it is SO much fun! We have a new Fall Challenge in the works. This year it is a Table Runner. The packet can be picked up anytime starting September 19th. The entries are due November 6th. They will be on display November 7th through the 14th. Viewer's Choice judging will take place during that time. The prizes are:

- 1st \$75.00
- 2nd \$50.00
- 3rd \$25.00

Be sure to enter. It's a lot of fun, and you can WIN! WOO HOO

Tuesday Shop Hour Changes

By the time you get this, school will be back in full swing. We've decided to close at 5:00 on Tuesdays, rather than 7. A lot of this has to do with all the grandkids back in school. Dennis is in charge of Math help. One, because he is really good at it, and second, the rest of us are clueless! As everyone gets older, it seems time fills up quicker. Another reason is we have finally found a Halau for Hailey to learn Hula! Of course, it is in San Jose, and of course it is on Tuesday nights! So, remember our hours now are:



Tuesday through Friday - 10 to 5

Saturday 10 to 4