

Friendly Reminder: By order of the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, a face mask covering the nose and mouth is required to enter any business. Please use our hand sanitizer before shopping or touching merchandise, and practice social distancing.



December

KATHY'S KREATIONS
141 East Main Street
Ligonier, PA 15658
724-238-9320
DECEMBER 2020 UPDATE

Dear Stitchers,

It's the simple comforts that matter most! A cozy neck scarf so soft that it feels like a hug, a hat so warm that a frigid winter walk feels cozy, or toasty mittens that say "I love you" – these are simple comforts that last long after the sparkling lights come down. Embrace the season to infuse more warmth into chilly days and make long, dark nights merry and bright. Make it personal – make it a handmade holiday!

That's where we come in, by helping you make gifts they'll put on first and wear all day. Kathy's Kreations has current takes on timeless styles with accessories that are just right, for all ages, sizes, and shapes. From warm winter gear to the finest cashmere scarves, from soft sweaters to cozy slippers, create your own great lasting gifts with pride. This year, we share a renewed appreciation for so many things traditional (old and new), as it's the little things that make us feel at home. Warm heads, hands and hearts, but best of all, enjoy all the holiday smiles...

IT'S HAVE A WOOL YULE MONTH!

**10% off all purchases of all regularly-priced
100% wool yarns in stock (all weights and brands)
throughout December 2020**

STORE HOURS -- WE ARE OPEN!

10:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Saturday, closed most Sundays

**Townwide Merchants' Holiday Open House Sunday, December 6, 2020 12 noon–5 pm
Closed Christmas Day Friday, December 25, 2020 and New Years' Day, January 1, 2021
FREE PARKING IN LIGONIER EVERY SATURDAY UNTIL CHRISTMAS!**

Please call us at 724-238-9320 for mail orders or curbside pick-up availability

We accept Mastercard, VISA, Discover, AX, Apple Pay & Google Pay

Private knitting and crocheting lessons

Instructions are available by appointment

Finishing services & gift cards available

Mail orders available -- no order too small!

Shopping at Kathy's Kreations has never been easier

COME IN - CALL UP - LOG ON

Like us, follow us and share us on Facebook

(Kathy's Kreations; Ligonier, PA)

"We Love Kathy's" on Ravelry

#kathyknitz on Instagram

Find us at our Ligonier Valley Chamber of Commerce Member Page



e-mail kathyknitz@gmail.com

please visit our website <http://www.kathys-kreations.com>



***GREAT NEW STUFF ***

What makes the Christmas/Hanukah season so wonderful? It's what we share with each other — whether a gift, a smile, or our hearts. We've put extra care and thought into our latest collection of yarns, needles and accessories. Here's a sampling of our new arrivals, as well as tried-and-true exciting gift project ideas, to spark your creativity. Holiday happiness starts here...

EMMA'S YARN December 2020 is just what knitters and crocheters have been dreaming about — cheerful and festive! The latest selection is shown upper left in base “Practically Perfect” (\$26.95, 100 grams, 400 yards, 80% superwash merino/20% nylon, CYCA #2). We are having visions of sugarplum socks dancing in our heads, probably because winter has arrived here in the Laurel Highlands and we need our woollies. Our customer knitters-in-the-know favorite pick for sock knitting is “Hermione's Everyday Socks” worked cuff down with a clever garter stitch edged slip-stitch heel...

Are you new to knitting or crochet? Or perhaps just looking for a quick project for a holiday gift? You'll love our collection of user-friendly CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS patterns! Each one utilizes easily mastered techniques and basic construction, so that you can make your own accessories and love every step of the process — from hats to shawls to cowls and scarves that you will be proud to gift or wear. Beginners or those in a hurry will appreciate CHURCHMOUSE CLASSROOM *Crocheted Handwarmers: 1 Stitch 3 Ways* (\$7.50), a must-have accessory in simple single crochet — make one pair or all three! A perennial cozy yet modern favorite with our knitting customers is CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS *Mistake Stitch Beanie & Scarf* (\$6.50), in both classic worsted or luxurious chunky gauges. It's worked in the soothing rhythm of K2, P2 ribbing with a “mistake” that gives a more complex texture yet is easy to knit. CHURCHMOUSE AT HOME *Basic Christmas Stockings* (\$8.50) will have you knitting up a creative tradition with your family. This pattern features simple shapes perfect for adding your own personal touches like color blocking, stripes and even buttons! The possibilities are endless — directions are given for wee, medium and jolly big. They're sure to prompt a hearty “ho, ho, ho” from St. Nick!

Winter's chill will soon be here for good. We will all want to burrow in with the coziest cowls, comfiest sweaters, and cuddliest wraps we can find! Fortunately for knitters and crocheters, the solution is right at our fingertips. ChiaoGoo premium bamboo patina circulars have arrived as well as “Twist” interchangeable sets. KNITTER'S PRIDE recently introduced its “Mindful” collection of stainless steel lace circular knitting needles, which are beginning to arrive. PRYM crochet hooks are available once again, too...

Cowlmazoo! Fun to say and fun to knit! It's knit from the top down in one piece with increases down the front to create the illusion of a shawl. “You get the look of a shawl with the stay-on ability of a cowl” says Laura Dobratz. The designer isn't sure that is a proper sentence but you know what she is talking about (\$5.00 Ravelry Pro download).

Laura grew up in Kalamazoo, MI, and hence the name. Designed for fingering weight yarn, it works perfectly with our new EMMA's YARN SUPER SILKY (\$29.95, 100 grams, 400 yards, 80% superwash merino / 20% silk, CYCA #2) or with two 200 yard skeins. Perhaps you have some yarns remaining from our Garden Variety Shawl MKAL in EMMA's “Beautifully Basic” — these would look beautiful! Or choose one in the colors of the season like “The Floor is Lava” and “Canopy” for the perfect holiday accessory!



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Fa, la, la, lovely! In our humble opinion, this year's final DREAM IN COLOR "Pop-Up Club" selection saved the best for last! You need to see this colorway to appreciate its rich beauty, a true gem of a yarn. Hand dyer extraordinaire Veronica Van has outdone herself with this shade inspired by DEEP SPACE, specifically the Crab Nebula. The purple pops out at us, and this "Smooshy Cashmere" (\$34.50, 100 grams, 400 yards, 70% superwash merino/20% cashmere/10% nylon, CYCA #2) base is one we are gifting to ourselves under our own tree, for a special self-indulgent project after the holiday knitting is done. Quantities are limited, so get yours now. By the way, it's fun to be your own Secret Santa (we give you permission to do so)...



© Dream In Color

Advent kits are very popular right now. These come in a set, with individual mini-skeins. Ideally, you unwrap and knit or crochet with one mini each day. We have a few sets remaining and it's OK if you do not have time to start until after the holidays (no extra pressure!). Choose from Kathy's Kreations ADVENTuring kit with DREAM IN COLOR "Smooshy" (\$97.50), 12 Days of Mad Tosh (\$110.00), or Emma's Yarn (\$149.00). We'll also help you come up with your own set by choosing four full skeins of fingering yarn from our large collection. There are also a few DREAM IN COLOR "Nest & Burrow" Cowl kits in "Smooshy Cashmere" Holiday Kits remaining from Small Business Saturday (\$82, in your choice of owl or bunny tote bag)...

Thanks to all our wonderful customers who knit and crocheted green cotton dishcloths and handmade ornaments for our holiday tree on display in our window this season. The items will be donated to the area food bank after the holidays. The clever and talented Vina McLeod Rudolph has done a beautiful job designing and constructing our "We Care" tree...

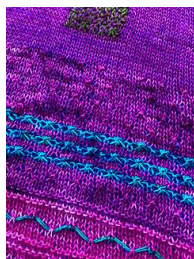
Stocking stuffers are always a stitcher's delight! We have quite a selection including:

- KNITTER'S PRIDE Needle View Sizer \$3.95
- TEMPESTRY Needle Wranglers set \$8.50
- FIBER TO FABRIC Needle Keeper "Magic Wand" \$8.50
- BUFFY ANN DESIGNS Yarn Cozy set of three \$13.50
- BRYSON DISTRIBUTING T-Pins 35-pack \$5.25
- HIYA HIYA Knitter's Safety Pins \$3.50
- CLOVER Point Protectors small set of four \$4.50
- LEE Highlighter Tape \$6.50
- KATHY'S KREATIONS stitch marker set of eight handmade \$6.00
- CLOVER Mini-knitting counter \$10.95
- EUCALAN 3.3 oz. cleaner \$5.50, 16 oz. \$15.95
- KNITTER'S PRIDE Magma Knitting Pattern Holder Small \$17.95, Large \$24.50

Celtic Roots (\$5.00 Ravelry Pro download) is a "cable lover's delight! This headband features a wide Saxon cable over the forehead and down to the ears where the cabling then attractively diminishes to a single cable at the nape allowing the headband to be worn with a variety of hairstyles, both up and down. The headband is provisionally cast on and finished grafted using Kitchener stitch and the pattern directs you how to treat every single stitch in your graft. No guessing and no worries. The pattern is fully charted but includes complete directions so the ability to read a chart is not required to work this pattern. Our recommended yarn is MADELINE TOSH "Vintage" (\$24.50, 100 grams, 200 yards, 100% merino wool, CYCA #4)...



© Apiary Knits



*** DECEMBER KNIT ALONG (KAL) ***

Our December 2020 knit along (KAL), *The Secret Life of Cats (and dogz)* from designer Casapinka begins December 1, 2020, and has 25 sections. The idea is to do one section per day, or a little less. It will loosely finish up December 31, so there is built-in room to slack off. Honestly, there is no deadline. This project is perfect for one of our 24 mini-skein Advent kits or four skeins of fingering weight yarn. The pattern is for a rectangular scarf or shawl. There will also be directions to turn them into infinity cowls of the same size. Half the fun with these is the color chatter! There is also a new technique, marling (don't worry, it's easy!).

Join us in person every Friday during December 2020 (rsvp please, occupancy limited) to work on this project in person from 10:00 am–2:00 pm or follow along on our December 2020 thread on our Ravelry group, We Love Kathy's...

*** UPCOMING CLASSES (please call 724-238-9320 to register for all classes) ***

PLEASE NOTE: CLASS IS SCHEDULED TENTATIVELY AND WILL BE DEPENDENT ON HEALTH SAFETY CONCERNS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH OF PA DEPT OF HEALTH

Join Karen McCullough for *Cable Channel*, a stylish pillow featuring an original cable pattern from Michelle Hunter. Knit in HiKOO "Kenzie", this design creates a rich fabric to add beauty and texture to any decor. Pillows provide the perfect platform to explore new techniques and to hone finishing skills. They also make great gifts! *Cable Channel* is knit in one piece with simple seaming and features a button closure to allow for easy washing and assembly. The front and back are knit in different stitch patterns to keep the project interesting and texturally charming. Both written and charted instructions, along with video support, are provided to guarantee success. "Kenzie" delivers excellent stitch definition and durability best suited for casual luxury. There is a shade to match every decor or to provide that perfect "pop" of color. With our wide selection of SKACEL Buttons, it's a snap to find the perfect button. The series will continue on Tuesday morning **December 15, 2020, 9:30 am – 12:30 pm**. Registration fee is \$20.00 per session plus purchase of pattern and yarn from Kathy's Kreations...

Let's Knit A Hat! is a brand new learning opportunity offered from instructor Karen McCullough beginning **Tuesday, December 15, 2020; 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm**. This year-long series of skill-building techniques will include cast ons, colorwork, stitch patterns, shaping and more as you learn to make a different hat in each session -- it's a year of hats! This class project features Anne's Seed Hat (shown lower right). Class supplies include one skein of worsted weight yarn, US size 6 & 8 circular needles in 16" length, US size 8 double-pointed needles, and your knitting bag with usual gadgets. Registration fee is \$20.00 per session plus purchase of pattern (\$5.00) from Kathy's Kreations...

Our *Building Blocks* series will continue on **Tuesday, December 22, 2020; 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm** with instructor Karen McCullough and the foundation of all knitting -- knit and purl pattern reading. This knitting series was designed by Michelle Hunter specifically to help grow your skills while you navigate through major knitting techniques and principles while knitting sampler squares. Each class will focus upon a technique to broaden your understanding. Each of the 12 patterns isolates a new skill, which you master with confidence before moving on to a more advanced concept. At the completion of the series, the reward is an abundance of knitting know-how along with gorgeous blocks to assemble into a sampler afghan. The recommended yarn is HiKOO "Simpliworsted", a lovely blend of superwash merino and premium acrylic/nylon that is very soft and durable. Registration fee is \$20.00 per session plus purchase of book and yarn from Kathy's Kreations. Want to learn more? Please give us a call at 724-238-9320 for information on any of our upcoming classes or to schedule a private lesson...





*** SPRING BREAK 2021 ANNOUNCEMENT ***

Kathy's Kreations invites you to join us for our 10th annual annual "Spring Break" Knitting Workshop Weekend, to be held **April 16-18, 2021**, hosted by Kathy Zimmerman. We are delighted to announce that Cynthia Spencer of Pine Grove Mills, PA will be our featured instructor (Cynthia's photo, shown upper left). Kathy first met Cynthia at the Knitter's Day Out, where her classes received rave reviews. More recently, Cynthia and friend

Valerie Reed teamed up to design the popular *Pennsylvania Road Trip Mystery Shawl*. This knit along was very popular with our customers. And now, we are bringing her to Ligonier!

Cynthia Spencer has spent the past 15 years writing patterns and surrounding herself with knitting, quilting, color, and creativity. Her *Really Clear* pattern series came about as a result of working with hundreds of knitters and learning what they wanted in a pattern. She loves it when knitters understand how to make whatever they want to make!

Cynthia will be teaching a nine-hour knitting workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA with colorwork knitting topics.

WEEKEND DETAILS

The weekend package includes an after-hours Soup & Sliders party and special shopping time at Kathy's Kreations (Friday evening); an informal meet & greet on Friday evening to get acquainted; an optional Friday evening knit-along; morning coffee breaks and two lunches at the Ramada; classes Saturday and Sunday; extended lunch break on Saturday with time to shop in the pretty little town of Ligonier and goodie bags.

Registration is \$250 per person. Overnight lodging is not included and is optional for local participants. The Ramada has set up a special rate for us, so please make your own reservations by calling 724-238-9545. Space is limited on a first-come, first-served basis, and the workshop is already partially filled. Please e-mail or call Kathy at 724-238-9320 for more information.

SKILL LEVEL

Intermediate to advanced

CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

About *Make A Million Shawl* (shown lower right), Cynthia tells us: "This 'recipe pattern' will allow you to combine different colors and textures to create a beautiful shawl! You can use any type of yarn for this shawl. Start with 3 or 4 colors (all the same weight), and if you need to buy more, you can do that later! Bring a long circular needle two sizes larger than the yarn normally takes. (ex., If you're making this shawl out of fingering weight yarn, you should bring a size 4 or 5 long needle.)" The pattern is *Make A Million Shawl* by Really Clear Designs, and will be provided by Kathy's Kreations.

There is nothing like Fair Isle to give the knitter the creativity to combine vibrant colors with stunning patterns. Fair Isle is traditionally done using one yarn in each hand. This sounds intimidating, but it's easier than you think -- and far more addicting than you ever bargained for. This pattern *Fair Isle Headband* (shown page 8, upper left) will also be provided by Kathy's Kreations and contains two different headbands. The first has just two colors, and the second amps up your skill level with a few more!

On Sunday, we will talk mitered squares. "The project for this day will be open-ended, but we'll give you ideas for hats or scarves." Cynthia will have a general mitered-square handout for that day. The project is her *Four Corners Hat* (shown page 8, lower right).



Take your Time Leg Warmers

Jennifer Ferrence (Tricotlore on Ravelry and Instagram)

Making leg warmers is so nurturing. They are a luxury, not a necessity, and when you wear them, you are reminding yourself that it is time to slow down, be mindful, and focus on some calm, and cozy of mind and body. Thanks to Jen for sharing this pattern and tips!

You can make these with 1 strand of Bulky or 2 strands of Worsted held together. I love one skein projects and stash busters, and this is perfect for that. For the decreases to work correctly in this pattern, you will need a yarn or combination of yarns that knits up to a gauge of 3 stitches per inch in Stockinette Stitch.

Tips for using your stash yarn:

—Choose colors that can blend into each other, like blue to purple to black, or red to orange to gold. Using two strands of worsted, you can gradually introduce one strand of the new color before changing to two strands of that color. This will create a beautiful gradient effect.

—When choosing colors, it is helpful to use a kaleidoscope to see how they will blend together in the finished piece. Just put all your balls of yarn together and look through the kaleidoscope. Move them around, take some out, and see what you like best!

—For extra softness and warmth, hold a strand of kid silk mohair (lace weight) along with your main yarn.

—Final Tip: Just try it out! Don't worry if you start it and don't like it, don't worry if you are following "color rules". It only matters that you enjoy what you are making and are happy with it. The great thing about these is that they are so quick to knit that you can try new color combinations on the next pair!

Materials:

-200 to 300 yards Bulky Yarn, depending on circumference and length

OR

-400-600 yards Worsted Weight yarn, two strands held together throughout

-Size 10 double pointed needles (dpns) or needles of choice for other methods of knitting in the round

-Tapestry needle to weave in ends

-Stitch marker to mark beginning of round

Gauge:

-3 stitches per inch on size 10 needles in stockinette stitch

Pattern Notes:

-Leg warmers are knit from the top down, decreasing as you go. You can adjust decreases, if you like, by trying them on as you knit.

-When changing colors, do so in a knit section to make it less choppy looking (unless you are going for that look!)



Directions:

1. Measure the circumference of the fullest part of your calf in inches.
2. Knit a gauge swatch in st st, and determine how many stitches you need for the fullest part of your leg warmers.
3. Cast on a multiple of 4 that is close to that number of stitches. Join into the round and place on dpns, or a long circular for the magic loop method.

Take your Time Leg Warmers (continued)

1. Work in K2, P2 ribbing for 8 rounds, working the first three stitches of the first round holding the cast on tail with the working yarn. This will eliminate the gap at the beginning of the round.
2. Knit 3 Rounds.
3. Purl 3 Rounds.
4. Repeat steps 5 and 6 three more times, for a total of 4 purl welts.
5. On the next knit round, decrease 4 stitches evenly.
6. Continue in the knit 3 rounds, purl three rounds welt pattern two more times until you have 6 welts, ending with a Purl section.
7. On the next knit round, decrease 2 stitches evenly.
8. Continue in the knit 3 rounds, purl three rounds welt pattern for one more section, 7 welts total, ending with a purl section.
9. On the next knit round, decrease 2 stitches evenly.
10. Continue in the knit 3 rounds, purl three rounds welt pattern for one more section, 8 welts total.
11. Knit 3 more rounds.
12. Work in K2, P2 ribbing for 8 rounds.
13. Bind off using a stretchy Bind off (Instructions below).

Stretchy Bind Off:

1. Work 2 stitches. Place both stitches back on left needle.
2. Step Two:
 - If second stitch worked is a Knit Stitch, insert Right needle into the backs of both stitches and knit them together.
 - If second stitch worked is a Purl Stitch, insert Right needle into the fronts of both stitches and purl them together.
3. Work one stitch. You will now have two stitches on the Right needle again. Move them to the left needle and Repeat Step Two.
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 until all stitches are bound off.

Abbreviations: K—knit; P—purl

*** HOLIDAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

- Ligonier HOLLY DAYS means you can enjoy free parking every Saturday through December 19, 2020, compliments of Ligonier Borough. Our refurbished Diamond Park with its iconic gazebo is beautifully aglow with lights. It's like a step back in time. Did you know that Ligonier was named by Hallmark Channel as one of the 10 Prettiest Christmas Towns in America? We all need an extra bit of cheer this year – come check it out!
- Townwide Open House Sunday, December 6, 2020 noon–5 pm – Shop close to home this holiday season! Shopping locally helps everyone in the community prosper. While Christmas shopping in Ligonier, enjoy sleigh rides, kettle korn, and carolers. Keep your eyes open for a portly, jolly, white-bearded man – sometimes with spectacles – wearing a red coat with white fur collar and cuffs, white fur-cuffed trousers, red hat with white fur, and black leather belts and boots walking around town!
- Gingerbread House Walk/Contest December 4–13, 2020 with a different twist provides an opportunity for you to bid on a house for your own pleasure, and/or vote for your favorite.
- SATURDAY SIT & KNIT post-holiday stitching for projects purchased here December 26, 2020 and January 2, 2021, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 30th Annual Ligonier Ice Fest January 23–24, 2021





*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

Your safety and well-being are our utmost concern. All in-shop events are slowly resuming in compliance with the extended social distancing and health safety guidelines. We are limiting the number of attendees and social distancing at our Friday knit-alongs and classes, so please call ahead for space availability. For everyone's health safety, a face mask

covering both nose and mouth is required, as well as the use of hand sanitizer upon entry.

Please check in with our Facebook page (Kathy's Kreations; Ligonier, PA) and Instagram (#kathyknitz) for updated information.

*** DECEMBER KNIT-ALONG (KAL) ***

Stop by on Fridays, December 4, December 12, and December 18, 2020, from 10 am - 2 pm (rsvp please, as occupancy is limited) to work on our newest KAL with your stitching friends to cheer you on. This month, we feature Casapinka project *The Secret Life of Cats (and dogz)*, with a variety of colorful stitches to make you happy, knitting a colorwork scarf or shawl that can be made into an infinity cowl. Not working on the KAL? **You are still welcome to come -- simply bring any knit or crochet project purchased at Kathy's Kreations and join the group (free!).** Follow us on "We Love Kathy's" Ravelry group December 2020 thread...

*** FUN FRIDAY, December 18, 2020; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm ***

Come in for the yarn and leave with friendships! Join our "knitting community" for fellowship, stitching, and how-to's for projects purchased here. Whether this is your first project or your hundredth, this is the place for you to learn, grow and enjoy being with other knitters and crocheters just like you. RSVP please, as occupancy is limited...

*** SATURDAY SIT & KNIT HOLIDAY EDITION December 26, 2020 and January 2, 2021; 10:00 am—2:00 pm***

The winter holidays fall on a Friday this year, and it's time to wind down by knitting something for yourself in the company of like-minded knitters. RSVP please, as occupancy is limited. Simply bring any project purchased at Kathy's Kreations and join in the relaxation time...

*** TOWNWIDE HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE, Sunday, December 6, 2020, 12 noon—5 pm ***

*** "CABLE CHANNEL" Tuesday, December 15, 2020; 9:30 am - 12:30 pm ***

*** "LET'S KNIT A HAT!" Tuesdays, December 15, 2020 & January 4, 2020; 1 - 3 pm ***

*** "BUILDING BLOCKS" Tuesdays, December 22, 2020, & January 19, 2021; 1—3 pm ***

Private knitting and crocheting lessons available by appointment. Learning to knit or correcting mistakes are not the only reasons to have a one-on-one tutoring lesson. Learn specialized skills like lace or short rows, or get help with a pattern before starting -- our instructors can do it all! Additional group classes are forming -- ask us for details. We would be glad to do a specific class topic for groups of 4 or more. Kathy's Kreations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for more than 40 years!

This year's holiday goal: more stitching, less stress! Stop in for gift ideas, spirited style, and HAPPY & MERRY festive looks you'll love. Keep knitting and crocheting! HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Kathy

