

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



Dear Stitchers,

WELCOME BACK! We are over-joyed to be open once again, as we operate under the yellow phase (and soon green) of re-opening. Knitting and crocheting is a community built around our common threads, if you will. During our temporary closure, we found comfort in our craft --feeling the yarn slip through our fingers and over the smoothness of our needles or hook. It fills a need in needlecrafters to construct, create order, and to share. Our art grounds us in a time when the future is uncertain and provides us with solace, working our way through good news, bad news, and the daily journey of life. Home is where the yarn is!

Lately, we've been thinking quite a bit about the merits of knitting and crocheting. Those of us who stitch as often as we can will tell you that we yearn for this activity because of the way we feel while we are knitting or crocheting. We're reluctant to put our work away, whether we are focusing on basic stitches, color work or an intricate lace panel. This very activity helps take us out of the realm of the latest news and social media broadcasts, as we concentrate on the immediate project at hand (literally!). Repetitive motion does great things for us -- it is almost meditative. Our latest project is like a friend we can have on hand whenever we need it to provide a source of calm in our stressful world.

Now, it's time to hit the refresh button with a new twist on cozy, fun-loving projects and happy, colorful yarns. Make it now, wear it all summer!

It's "Back to Business" Month!
10% off all purchases of all regularly-priced
BERROCO YARNS in stock
throughout June 2020

STORE HOURS

10:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Saturday, closed Sundays
Please call us at 724-238-9320 for mail orders or curbside pick-up availability

EXTENDED SUMMER HOURS PLANNED DURING LIGONIER NIGHT MARKET EVENINGS

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

Private knitting and crocheting lessons

Instructions are available by appointment

Finishing services & gift certificates 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 kathy@kathys-kreations.com
please visit our website <http://www.kathys-kreations.com>





*** GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Don't assume that knitting is only appropriate for cold weather -- there are plenty of great knitted tops that are awesome for summer! Just because it's hot doesn't mean that you have to pack away your yarn. Summer stitching conjures up thoughts of airy tank tops, lace patterning and cool, breezy yarns. Knitted tees are highly underrated -- lightweight stripes are the definition of summer style! We are working on new patterns and stocking new yarns for now and beyond...

Sometimes, a yarn is so squishy and wonderful that all you need is a simple design. *Budis* (\$4.00 Ravelry Pro download, shown upper left), designed by Laura Dobratz, is a simple yet stunning wide scarf, knit on the bias. It's sure to be a go-to accent for every jacket. Pick 2 contrasting colors of fingering or DK weight yarn -- directions are given for both -- then, knit one up in your favorite team spirit colors or have a bit of fun pairing something wild. Kathy's choice for our shop model is May 2020 Crazy Beautiful Yarn Club selection and a cheery shade called "Tealicious" in EMMA'S YARN "Simply Spectacular DK" (\$26.95, 100 grams, 255 yards, 75% superwash merino wool/25% nylon).

Later this month, we will introduce "Comfy Cotton DK" (\$29.50, 100 grams, 231 yards, 50% superwash merino/50% cotton, CYCA #3), perfect for warm weather knitting. 50% cotton is breathable, wicks away moisture, and is comfortable on the skin, while 50% wool helps your garment maintain its shape over time. If you've been waiting for a sign to knit that cute summer sweater you've been eyeing -- this is it! Your all-time favorite colors may look a bit more muted on this base, but they are just as beautiful in their own way. EMMA'S YARN is lovely to work with and sure to become a favorite...

UNIVERSAL YARN "Cotton Supreme DK" (\$10.50, 100 grams, 230 yards, 100% cotton, CYCA #3) has the same great feel, machine washability and depth of color as its big cousin, "Cotton Supreme" (\$10.50, 100 grams, 180 yards, 100% cotton, CYCA #4), but in a lighter weight for your finer gauge projects. Superb ply twist will provide excellent stitch definition and also make "Cotton Supreme DK" a good choice for colorwork. In a bright range of cheery summer colors, this will be your go-to yarn for warm weather garments and accessories...

New supplies of URTH YARNS "Harvest Worsted" are brought to you by nature and now are here (\$25.50, 100 grams, 220 yards, 100% extrafine superwash merino, CYCA #4). Each skein is hand-dyed with natural dyes from roots, nuts and fruits. The result is a squishy merino collection of earthy colors. Colors are sometimes subject to subtle variation as each harvest is different...

Also from URTH comes a new *Tigress* Limited Edition hand-dyed sock kit in "Uneek Sock" (\$26.50, 100 grams, 440 yards, 75% extrafine superwash merino/25% nylon, CYCA #2). This kit features two 220 yards of orange and black tiger print (attention, GLHS Wildcat fans!). There is sufficient yardage to make a colorful matching pair of adult self-striping socks...

PLYMOUTH YARNS "Forget Me Not" (\$10.50, 136 yards, 100 grams, 100% cotton, CYCA #5, shown lower right) is a softly textured 100% cotton chunky yarn that not only provides the perfect amount of texture, but is very soft and lightweight. It also imparts a natural-looking, semi-matte finish to garments that look effortless. Its unforgettable color palette includes natural, baby and fashionable hues...



*** MORE GREAT NEW STUFF ***

Venezia Shawl (\$6.00, Ravelry Pro download, shown right) is a one-skein wonder that's made for easy, breezy summer knitting! This one is a beauty that will quickly become one of your favorite projects to make -- it's special, unique, and ideal for treasured skeins and making elegant gifts. This shawl is designed to use up a full skein of yarn in fingering weight, but it can be made with a thicker yarn or a skein with more yardage.



According to its designer, Joji Locatelli: "*Venezia* is a precious, delicate shawlette, perfect for any single skein of fingering weight yarn. It is worked from tip to tip, with a reversible lace pattern and a diamond shape. It is framed by a gorgeous reversible diamond lace motif, and the main body of the shawl is worked in ribbing".

The Pennsylvania Road Trip Mystery Shawl fun continues! Clue/leg #3 released recently and uses beads. We have just received a new supply of MIYUKI size 6 seed beads which is used in this leg featuring birds of the National Aviary in Pittsburgh or Undulating Waves inspired by Presque Isle State Park, Lake Erie. Price varies between \$5.50 - \$10.50 per pack depending on transparency and luster. Beads are a fun technique and add glamour to summer shawls. We also carry the small steel crochet hooks from CHIAOGOO (\$3.95 with bamboo handle) and HIYA HIYA (\$3.50) for applying beads...

One of our customers' favorite take-along portable summer projects are socks -- they are a lightweight, entertaining knit and who doesn't appreciate well-made socks that fit? The *Oxford Sock* (\$8.50, pattern shown lower left) is a smart little member of CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS roster of basic sock patterns. With a super-easy short-row shaping at the toe and heel, it's easy to start, easy to finish, easy to remember, and easy to master. The ingenious construction of this toe-up sock means it's a snap to play with simple stitch patterns, to switch up the cuff and foot, and to add contrasting colors at the toe and heel. We've had great fun playing with the infinite variations! For durable, long-wearing socks, we recommend EMMA'S YARN "Practically Perfect Sock" (\$26.95, 400 yards, 100 grams, 80% superwash merino/20% nylon, CYCA #2). This fingering weight is twist spun with a touch of nylon for durability. It's wonderfully soft and highly resistant to pilling, excellent for a variety of knitting projects that undergo a bit of wear, like socks! We have recently received some new shades -- dewdrop, mom jeans, denim and the June 2020 Crazy Beautiful Color Club...

*** GUIDELINES FOR SHOPPING IN THE YELLOW PHASE ***

Until we are given the "all clear" from Governor Wolf and the Health Secretary, Dr. Rachel Levine, we are currently permitted to open with the following guidelines for health safety:

- All customers must wear a mask which covers the nose and mouth to shop (available at our entrance if you do not have one)
- All customers must use hand sanitizer (available at entrance)
- Please respectfully maintain social distancing 6 feet apart while shopping
- In addition to cleaning hard surfaces frequently, we have installed a plexiglass partition at the checkout.
- We have a contactless credit card machine and accept MC, Visa, Discover, AX, Apple Pay and Google Pay
- All sales are final -- no returns or exchanges
- We will gladly wind yarn at time of purchase ONLY. We will not wind yarn once it has left the building.
- Store hours effective June 1, 2020 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Saturday, closed Sundays





*** JUNE 2020 KNIT-ALONG (KAL) ***

Attention, all Casapinka fans! Designer Casapinka made a huge impact on the knitting community with her *Breathe and Hope Shawl* pattern introduced for a "modified LYS DAY" in April. And now we can confirm rumors about a companion "sister shawl" are true! Casapinka will release her new *Hug Shot* design (shown upper left) on Friday, June 5, 2020, just in time for a limited in-shop KAL here at Kathy's Kreations. Sharon from Security has declared the weekend of June 5 - 7 International Hug Your Pet weekend (if you don't know Sharon, soon you will) and the result is a reason to celebrate with a cast-on!

This boomerang-shaped shawl is similar in shape to *Breathe and Hope* and uses the same yardage. However, the stitches are simpler, making it suitable for a beginner -- no knitter left behind this round! Simply purchase two complimentary shades of our in-stock fingering-weight yarns (the same as for *Breathe and Hope*), and receive a code for a free Ravelry download, good from June 5 - 7, 2020. We have put together a handful of yarn combinations suitable for this project. You will need two complimentary 400 yard skeins of fingering weight yarn in two solids, two tonals, a tonal and a variegated, or a solid and a speckle. Pick two from our large selection of yarns (such as new arrivals from Dream In Color & Emma's Yarn) and cast on! After the giveaway weekend, you can still order the yarn and we can download the pattern into your Ravelry library (\$6.00). Kathy has chosen "Practically Perfect Sock" in mom jeans and denim for our shop model in progress.

Another upcoming cool design from Casapinka is the *Criterion Cowl* (a secret reference in the new Sherlock Holmes). It requires 3 colors of fingering 200 yards each, and a US #4 needle. It is 24" at the top and 34" at the bottom.

Since you can't join us in person quite yet (we're hoping you will be able to do soon when we return to the green phase), follow us on the Ravelry June 2020 shop thread at "We Love Kathy's" and like/follow us on Facebook at Kathy's Kreations Ligonier, PA...

*** 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

Our continuing knitting class series based on books by Michelle Hunter and taught by instructor Karen McCullough continue. Take your knitting to the next level with new skills. *Building With Lace* has been postponed and re-scheduled for **Tuesday, June 2, 2020; 9:30 am - 12:30 pm** and focuses on *Nupps*. A nupp is a textured stitch with its origin in Estonian Lace. Nupp (rhymes with "loop") is the Estonian word for "button" or "knob". Commonly worked into designs as berries or flower buds, nupps add old world charm and interest to any fabric. These bobble-like nubs grace the most sophisticated and envied of all lace patterns. Class registration is \$20.00 for the class plus purchase of book and yarn from Kathy's Kreations.

AND, improve your knitting skills one square at a time with *Building Blocks*, designed to help knitters navigate through major knitting techniques and principles. The recommended yarn is HiKOO "Simpliworsted", a lovely blend of superwash merino and premium acrylic/nylon that is very soft and durable. We continue the lessons by learning *Slip Stitch*. Unless otherwise stated, a stitch is slipped as if to purl with yarn in back (wyib). This allows the slip stitch to sit correctly on the right hand needle with the working yarn hidden on the wrong side. In this block however, all stitches are slipped as if purl with the working yarn held in front (wyif). Moving the working yarn to the front as you slip the stitch makes for an interesting and decorative design element, and is one of the (otherwise stated) exceptions to the slip stitch rule. The class is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 2, 2020, from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm**. Registration fee is \$15.00 plus purchase of book and yarn from Kathy's Kreations...

*** PENNSYLVANIA ROAD TRIP MYSTERY SHAWL KNIT-ALONG CONTINUES ***

A fun knit-along among PA yarn shops (and beyond) kicked off on Saturday, April 25, 2020 and runs through the end of August! Your "tour guides" are Cynthia Spencer of REALLY CLEAR DESIGNS / STITCH YOUR ART OUT and her techy friend Valerie Reed who have designed an exciting shawl that you can combine with retail therapy by visiting local yarn shops as health safety concerns permit! They are both experienced knitters with a love of beautiful yarn, local yarn shops, and the wonderful community of people that share our love of knitting. They have decided to take inspiration from the things they have seen and experienced while living and traveling in their home state of Pennsylvania to make a stunning shawl with a variety of stitch patterns. Every stitch pattern they've included is inspired by a shape or pattern or color they've seen in the beauty that surrounds us all.

So far, we have virtually "armchair visited" the following PA locales with the first 3 legs of our journey and were inspired by: either Centre Hall or State College, Bedford or Fallingwater, the Pittsburgh National Aviary or Presque Isle State Park, Erie.

*** KNITTING TIPS ***

From Nan R, gleaned from Facebook: If your needle tips are interchangeable, replace the left-hand needle with a smaller size -- one or two sizes down. This prevents feed side bunch-up when knitting in the round. Clever idea!

From Joji Locatelli, referring to a technique in the *Venezia Shawl*: Here's a common question about slipping the first stitch on every row. You can do it knitwise or purlwise, whatever you like best, as long as you keep consistent throughout the shawl". Joji's preference: knitwise with the yarn in back...

From CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS, referring to how to customize socks: For slightly narrower or wider feet, simply use needles one size smaller or larger than gauge needle. Kathy adds: some of our sock knitting customers tell us they sometimes use a larger needle on the cuff than on the foot. That's the cool thing about knitting socks -- you can tweak your "recipe" to get a perfect fit!

CHILDREN'S RHYME TO LEARN KNITTING: In the the front door, once around the back, out through the window and off jumps Jack!

*** DIXIE'S FEEL GOOD SCARF ***

We have been hearing from so many of you about your stay-at-home projects during the COVID-19 outbreak. Here is Dixie V's scarf created from leftover sock yarn. She tells us that there was no rhyme nor reason for how many rounds or repeats of each color. It depended on how much yardage of each color she had, and "whatever made me feel good". Thanks for sharing, Dixie -- it looks good, too!

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: approx. 5-1/2" X 64"

MATERIALS: US Size 2 dpns or 9" circular knitting needle as preferred for working in the round, odd lots of fingering weight yarn approximately 400 yards, size C crochet hook

GAUGE: approx. 7 sts / 9 rounds = 1" in stockinette

DIRECTIONS: Cast on 78 stitches; join, being careful not to twist stitches. Knit all rounds, alternating colors as desired, until piece measures 64" or desired length. Bind off all stitches. *Single crochet one round around cast on edge. Fold scarf in half. Crochet front to back using single crochet or slip stitch to close end (a matter of taste). Repeat from * on bound-off edge. Block lightly.



*** SAVE THE DATES -- EVERYTHING HAS RE-SCHEDULED OR CHANGED! ***

Recent events surrounding the COVID-19 virus has required the postponement or rescheduling of important fiber events. Here's the updated calendar for the summer...



- KATHY'S KREATIONS SPRING BREAK "Versa Lace Workshop" weekend with nationally-recognized instructor Jolie Elder originally planned for April 17 - 19, 2020 will now be held June 19 - 21, 2020. Workshop is filled.
- Pennsylvania Road Trip Mystery Shawl KAL began Saturday, April 25, 2020 and continues throughout the summer -- see <https://roadtripmystery.com/>
- 16th ANNUAL PITTSBURGH KNIT & CROCHET / CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL has been re-scheduled for Thursday, August 27, 2020 through Saturday, August 29, 2020 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Green Tree, PA. This "can't-miss" event is the area's largest and best fiber festival! Look for us in the Market at booths 25 & 26 once again in the Green Tree Ballroom.

We plan to take a large selection of items including hand-dyed yarns from DREAM IN COLOR, DRAGONFLY FIBERS, MADELINE TOSH and EMMA's YARNS. We will also be bringing SKACEL HiKOO yarns, SCHOEPEL "Zauberball" and more yarn, yarn, yarn. Our booth will also feature a large selection of accessories like NEEDLE KEEPERS, LO-LO BARS, CLOVER tools, our own CABLE KNITS custom stitch markers, EUCALAN wool wash, blocking wires/supplies, PRYM crochet hooks, FlexiFlips needles, sock cozies, "cool tools" for repairs, highlighter tape, NEEDLE WRANGLERS (new), fixed circular and interchangeable needles from CHIAGOO and yes, as much as we can fit into the van!

We will feature patterns from Kathy Zimmerman, Kathy Erhard, CHURCHMOUSE CLASSICS as well as your favorites from Ravelry PRO. If there is something special that you would like to have us bring to the show or need class supplies, please call us at 724-238-9320 and we will do our best to have it there waiting for you!

We stocked quite a bit of extra merchandise in preparation for the April date which was postponed. Looking on the bright side, that means we have plenty of inventory on hand in the shop.

For additional details about the Festival, visit the website at www.pghknitandcrochet.com

- LIGONIER COUNTRY MARKET is expanding! Due to overwhelming requests, there will be a LIGONIER NIGHT MARKET ON THE DIAMOND from 5 pm - 9 pm on Thursdays June 18 (this date may be subject to change), July 16, August 20, September 17 and October 15, 2020. What does this mean for our customers? Kathy's Kreations WILL BE OPEN UNTIL 8:00 PM on those evenings as well!
- KATHY'S KREATIONS 40th birthday celebration (AKA The Yarn Crawl That Wasn't) July 31- August 9, 2020 -- it's the ten best days of summer! The Steel Valley Yarn Crawl may have been cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns (next year's dates July 30 - August 8, 2021), but we are going forward with plans for a birthday bash with door prizes, our special "Ruby On Main and The Diamond" yarn colorway from DREAM IN COLOR and free pattern & a small giveaway item with purchase. Kathy's Kreations 40th anniversary celebration was originally scheduled for Saturday, March 28, 2020.



- LYS DAY Saturday, September 12, 2020 -- our birthday fun continues!

*** FASHION TRENDS ***

Let's be grateful to a return of normalcy to our lives -- it's time to think about fashion trends once more. It may not seem like it now, but we will find occasions worth dressing up for again. You will feel more like yourself when you express your personal style through fashion. For Summer 2020, VOGUE KNITTING forecasts trends in the following major categories: 80s Revival, Menswear inspired, textures, blocks, and lace.



© Copyright 2020
Kathy Erhard

- 80s REVIVAL

People are drawing inspiration from the bold fashion choices of the 80s. "Everything old is new again! With silhouettes getting more oversized, focus being shifted back up to the shoulders, mixing novelty yarns with standard yarns and colors in every shade imaginable, the 80s are back in full swing. Look for ways to draw attention up the body".

- MENSWEAR INSPIRED

"With growing trends towards genderfluid dressing and genderless fashion, we're seeing more and more menswear inspired details on the women's catwalk. These details include: oversized silhouette (the boyfriend sweater, boyfriend jeans, etc.); heritage-focused (Fisherman and Aran sweaters); vintage, varsity-style clothing; raglan and saddle shoulder sweaters; styles that both men and women will wear".

- BLOCKING

"Not just color blocking, but also pattern blocking and texture blocking. Combining multiple patterns and/or textures into one garment to create something that looks truly unique and modern".

- LACE

Look for "pieces that incorporate both unique lace patterns and a plain stitch. Also expect to see garments that incorporate both fringe and lace in the same garment, with the fringe appearing in more area than just the edge and sides of the garment". An interesting design feature...

- GARMENT DETAILS

Looking forward to the future of feel-good fashion, "We've pinpointed some key details that will become bigger trends such as unique collar designs (camp collar, mock neck, etc.), A-line shaping, and pleats".

Other elements of style trends we've noted from other sources include layers that navigate changing temperatures and varying rainfall to embroidery details in lightweight sweaters...

*** SHORT ROW PICK UP ***

Short rows tend to strike fear into the hearts of the uninitiated. They are used to create sloped wedges within your knitting to shape everything from bust darts to sock heels to ear flaps. Basically, a short row is just that -- a row that is not worked to the end of the needle. Note that in garter stitch when it is time to work back the other way, you just turn the piece and work back. There are several ways to execute this technique and recently Kathy F asked us how to pick up wraps when using a technique called "wrap and turn" (w&t).

Once you've completed your short rows, you'll notice gaps in the knitting where the stitches were wrapped. To correct this, you work across the entire row to close the gaps by "picking up the wrapped stitches".

- On the knit side of stockinette: pick up the wrap with the right needle underneath from front to back. Insert the right needle into the stitch that is wrapped. Knit the wrap and the stitch together.
- On the purl side of stockinette: pick up the wrap with the right needle from back to front. Place the wrap onto the left needle, over and behind the stitch it was wrapping. Purl together the wrap and the stitch that is wrapped.



*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

Your safety and well-being are our utmost concern. All in-shop events for June 2020 are on pause in compliance with the extended social distancing guidelines. Please check in with our Facebook page (Kathy's Creations; Ligonier, PA) and Instagram (#kathyknitz) for updated information. We look forward to seeing your smiling faces and completed projects just as soon as is safely possible! In the meantime, we are planning an exciting upcoming future event, Fall Fling! Here are the details:

*** FALL FLING WEEKEND 2020 ***

Kathy's Creations invites you to join us our 11th annual "Fall Fling" Knitting Workshop Weekend, to be held **October 2 - 4, 2020**, hosted by Kathy Zimmerman. We are delighted to announce that TKGGA-certified Master Knitter and Technical Editor, Kathy Erhard of Export, PA will be our featured instructor (Kathy's photo upper left).

CLASS DESCRIPTION

Kathy will be teaching a nine-hour knitting workshop at the Ramada Inn in historic Ligonier, PA, with the topic *Twisted Knitting*. Travel back in time to 18th century Europe, to a valley located on the border of Austria and Germany, where the knitting tradition known as Twisted-Stitch Knitting was born. Resembling cables, Twisted-Stitch patterns comprise twisted knit stitches traveling diagonally across a purl background to create a captivatingly textured fabric.

In this class, you will learn about the origin and history of this tradition, characteristics of and methods for creating the stitches, and swatch several different stitch patterns. Traditional twisted-stitch patterns are represented graphically. This class takes a look at both historical representations of stitch patterns as well as current methods. You will learn all the skills you need to knit any charted twisted-stitches pattern, however, the *Bavarian Byways Beanie* project (shown page 7, upper right), which we will cast on and work in class, contains both written and charted instructions.

WEEKEND DETAILS

The weekend package includes an after-hours Soup & Sliders party and special shopping time at Kathy's Creations (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 (includes yarn for class project).

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 more than half-filled. Please e-mail or call Kathy at 724-238-9320 for more information.

Private knitting and crocheting lessons will be once again available by appointment when we are in the green phase "all clear" to return. Kathy's Creations has been the helpful hands of experienced knitting for over 40 years!

It is our pleasure to welcome you back after the world has been on pause. Ligonier Valley is a refreshing step-back in time that epitomizes resilience, history and charm. Did you know that we have been named one of America's most charming small towns? Please visit us again soon! KEEP KNITTING AND CROCHETING~
Kathy