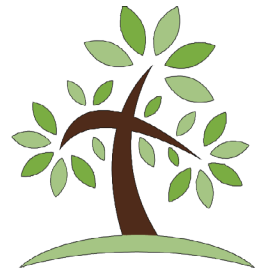


Inn Sider

Spring 2021

A Quarterly Newsletter of **The Inn at Walnut Creek** of the goings on in **Holmes County, Ohio Amish Country**



Chestnut Ridge Sewing- Machines, Fabrics, Classes, Furniture and More

We recently caught up with Dawn Krier, owner and operator of Chestnut Ridge Sewing. Dawn is a tough lady to pin down as she is constantly on the go, planning and executing classes and overseeing the very busy Bernina sewing machine shop, service center, fabric, notion and quilt shop. Dawn has been the owner of Chestnut Ridge for over five years, having worked at the shop for 9 years prior to that time. She commissioned the large addition to the shop that provided well-lit, state of the art classroom space for up to 48 participants to sew in comfort, using their machine or a shop provided one. Dawn has been interested in sewing since she was 10 years old, inspired by her aunt who helped teach her. In her not very spare time, she most enjoys paper piecing projects.



Chestnut Ridge Sewing is 3rd in the nation in Bernina sales and carries the entire line of machines, including sewing machines both new and pre-owned, embroidery machines and long arm quilting machines. And is staffed by a great team including Mike Miller and a staff of 16, including both Amish and English sewers and crafters. Chestnut Ridge regularly participates in quilt shop hops, shows and expositions, including the upcoming Original Sewing and Quilt Expo in Akron (formerly Cleveland) at the John S. Knight Center July 15-17, 2021.

Chestnut Ridge offers literally hundreds of classes each year, frequently as often as 5-6 times per week. Many customers like to bring

Staff Highlight

Donna Thomas

Donna Thomas is a long-time member of our staff who has worked in laundry and housekeeping at the Inn for over 20 years. Donna is meticulous and regularly inspects the rooms to make sure that they are cleaned and maintained to her very high standards. We got each of our staff members a Fitbit for Christmas a few years back, and Donna regularly clocks over 20,000 steps on a busy housekeeping day. This lady knows how to work hard and our guests notice and tell us in the hundreds of reviews that we have received complimenting the cleanliness of the guest rooms.

When she's not working, Donna can usually be found spending time with her husband, adult children and grandchildren. Donna and her husband Tommy have taken many trips on their Harley Davidson motorcycle as well. We asked Donna to share some of her favorite Easter recipes and traditions with us and she shared the following:

“My favorite holiday tradition for Easter is spending time with my family. When my kids were young, my parents would come to my house and we would celebrate together and have an Easter egg hunt. Now that my parents are gone and my children are grown, we still carry on the tradition. I love having them come for a family dinner and afterwards, the grandkids have an Easter egg hunt. These are memories that I will cherish forever.

Also, celebrating what Easter means, the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. I have a favorite song by David Phelps called End of the Beginning. This is a great song with a powerful message.”

Donna also shared a few of her favorite family Easter recipes with us, including her grandmother's pecan pie and her aunt's scalloped cheese potatoes.

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Pecan Pie

- 1 ½ cup white corn syrup
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- 3 eggs, slightly beaten
- ½ tsp salt
- 1 ½ tsp vanilla
- 3 T flour
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1 cup pecans
- 1 prepared pie shell

Preheat oven to 450°.

Mix all ingredients together except pecans. Pour pecans on bottom of pie shell and pour mixture over top. Bake at 450° for the first 10 minutes and lower temp to 350° until done, approximately 50 minutes.



Scalloped Cheese Potatoes

- 6 medium sized potatoes
- 4 T butter
- 4 T flour
- 2 tsp salt
- 2 ½ cups milk
- 1 ½ - 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 375°.

Peel potatoes and slice medium thin. Melt butter in sauce pan, stir in flour and salt. Slowly stir in milk. Cook on medium heat until thickened. Remove from heat and add cheese. Place potatoes in greased casserole dish; cover with sauce and bake, uncovered, for 1 – 1 ½ hours at 375°.

Chestnut Ridge Sewing, contd.

their machines to Chestnut Ridge for a “spa treatment” cleaning and servicing as well. Chestnut Ridge’s instructors include big names from all over the country teaching sewing, quilting, bag making, embroidery, garment making and more. Bernina educators help users master their machines. In addition to the exceptional sewing space and instructors, Chestnut Ridge class attendees frequently get to experience authentic Amish country fare as they use a local home style chef to provide meals and refreshments for the group.

In addition to classes, material and machines, Chestnut Ridge offers locally made hardwood custom sewing cabinets. They have a large inventory of sewing cabinets in stock with over 18 styles available. They also offer long arm services, including edge to edge training and rental time on both standing and sitting machines so that sewers can have a DIY experience in finishing their projects. Chestnut Ridge has taken to the web not only to advertise their many, many classes on their website and Facebook, but also have opened a vibrant eBay store featuring patterns, notions and embroidery thread.

My personal favorite feature of the shop is what I call the Bernina museum – there are vintage Bernina machines on shelves encircling the perimeter of the shop – all the way back to first edition machines. It is extremely interesting to see the progression and evolution of the sewing machine from its earliest ancestors to the high tech machines available today.

In addition to the classes offered at Chestnut Ridge, they offer multi-day sewing retreats. The Inn at Walnut Creek is pleased to provide lodging for many retreat participants. Chestnut Ridge is featured in the Inn’s upcoming Stitch and Stay Quilt Retreat – Ohio Amish Country Quilt Shop Hop.

Chestnut Ridge Sewing is located at 5079 Township Road 401, Millersburg, Ohio, just off Rt. 39 outside of Berlin. Store hours are Monday – Friday, 9 – 5 and Saturday, 9 – 1. Check them out on the web: www.chestnutridgesewing.com and on Facebook and Instagram.

Ashery Country Store



There was steam everywhere and a heightened sense of interest and excitement in the air as we approached Ashery Country Store a few weeks ago. The front porch leading to the store entrance had a maple syrup cooking operation going and the sun was shining and the syrup was flowing. Fresh out of production maple syrup was being packaged and set out for sale in the store literally as

it came out of the cookers. This front porch has seen a lot of foot traffic and often is the stage for seasonal food and flower displays.

Ashery Country Store, located off OH-241 in Fredericksburg, is a culmination of bulk foods with thousands of candies, mixes, flours, sugars, seasonings, local honey, baking items, snack foods and much more, a vast array of spices, locally sourced

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Ashery Country Store, contd.

produce, an expansive deli with exceptionally priced meats and cheeses, local baked goods and my personal favorite, Cecil's custard. In the summer for a very limited time, they offer fresh peach milk shakes that are worth making a special trip to experience. The store has more than doubled in size in recent years in an attempt to keep up with customer demand, but this place is always hopping.

Sovilla has worked for the Ashery for over 35 years and has developed the Ashery's Own line of products. These include seasonings, snack mixes, granolas, baking mixes etc.

Did we mention the samples? Unique cheeses, dips, meat sticks and candies are frequently offered to taste.

Second generation owner, Curt Yoder, operates the business with his family following his father Cecil's death in 2004. Ashery Country Store celebrates 42 years in business in May and continues its faith-based tradition. Curt shared with me, "Our prayer is that we can share the goodness of God that we have experienced in life with those around us." Curt grew up in the home attached to the business and the grain bin sign by the road was salvaged from the neighboring Ashery Feed Mill that is no longer in business. The company purchased the mill in 2014.

Seasonal highlight events include:

- 1 week winter sale in February
- Maple syrup cooking demo in March
- Free Ice Cream day on April 1 – no joke!
- Anniversary sale in May
- 1 week summer sale in July
- Fall harvest sale in September / Live musicians on the porch
- 1 week baking sale in November, featuring great deals on baking ingredient items.
- Free calendar give away in December (a customer favorite)

In addition to the retail space, the company is also building out its website to include an online shopping cart.

Ashery Country Store is located at 8922 OH-241, Fredericksburg, Ohio. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.; www.asherycountrystore.com



Stitch and Stay Quilt Retreat at The Inn at Walnut Creek

We are again hosting our Stitch and Stay Quilt Retreat **Sunday, June 13 – Tuesday, June 15, 2021**. Cost for the retreat is \$300 per person/double occupancy and includes shared lodging for two nights (double occupancy), two dinners including group dinner at nearby Der Dutchman Restaurant, and continental breakfast during stay, quilt kit for queen sized quilt top featuring Moda fabric and Missouri Star Quilt Company pattern with veteran quilt instructor Jeri Fickes, Quilt Shop Hop with local quilt shops, goodie box and some delightful extras. Space is limited and will fill up fast.

More information and registration form is available on our website:

<https://www.theinnatwalnutcreek.com/events-specials-and-newsletter>



Stitch and Stay

Quilting in Amish Country
at The Inn at Walnut Creek

John's Corner – Part 1

Innkeeper, financial controller and regular guy - owner John Kirkbride, shares some of his favorite spots to shop and enjoy in Ohio Amish Country.

1. **Air Works** (Apple Creek) – contractor grade tools, including DeWalt, Makita, Milwaukee and many others. The annual consignment auction and customer appreciation day events are not to be missed.
2. **Keim Lumber** (Charm) – a mecca of all things wood, tools and accessories. A personal favorite is the exotic wood room, including dozens of boards from all over the world.
3. **Charm Harness and Boot** (Charm) – jam packed with quality top name outdoor footwear and apparel, including items for hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. The outlet store across the street is also a must-stop spot.
4. **Walnut Creek Hardware** (Walnut Creek) – cast iron cookware, tools, accessories, paint and everything a DIYer (or handy innkeeper) needs.
5. **Kidron Sports Center / J & L Sports Center** (Kidron and Berlin) – guns, ammo, hunting equipment and more.
6. **Premier Outdoors** (Mt. Hope) – A great hunting, sport shooting, outdoor activity place in the heart of Mt. Hope.
7. **Yoder Blacksmith Supply** (Fredericksburg – across from The Ashery) – Everything you ever wanted to shoe a horse or forge metal products.
8. **Walnut Creek Cheese** (Walnut Creek) – Uncle Mike's beef jerky is the best. Mudd Valley Custard would be a close second.
9. **Miller's Bakery** (Millersburg, outside Charm) – Cheese tarts that are compact bites of deliciousness in several flavors. Pecan is my personal favorite.
10. **Kauffman's Lawn Furniture** (Berlin) – Some great outdoor furniture and architectural features.

Congratulations to Fabulous Foster Family Winners



We recently held a contest on Facebook inviting nominations of deserving foster families for an Amish country getaway. We were blown away by the nominations and great people who care for children from hard places every day. The

winners Jimmie and Dawn Larriuz, as nominated by their daughter, Allannah:

Jimmie and Dawn Larriuz have loved on over 42 foster children in the last 15 years. Each of these children has a beautifully unique story; what makes these children's stories even more unique is that they all have a pre-existing medical condition that prevents them from living life as designed.

Over the years Dawn and Jimmie have cared for many of the children that can't find homes- children who are special needs, need attentive care, or children in sibling groups. Over the past 15 years, they have not only given these kids a home, but they have fought in court over and over again for services such as a cystic fibrosis percussion vest, wheelchairs, IEPs, counseling services, therapy, and so much more.

Their daughter shares, "Over the years people have told me 'I don't know how your parents do it; foster care is so hard.' Foster care is hard. Really hard. To love a child through trauma is to suffer with them and then help them heal. It's getting attached and giving them every bit of love you have to offer. I have never seen a more beautiful picture of sacrificial love than the life my parents live. I have seen it all from the inside and there is nothing more selfless and beautiful than the passion they carry for their kids!"

Please join us in congratulating, and celebrating, this fabulous foster family. We had several great nominees and it was a tough decision to make. We appreciate all foster and adoptive families, as well as those who work hard to help kids in special circumstances with special needs and challenges every day.

