

Meet The Makers

Edition 4: Vickie Smith



Jordan Weddle 6/5/2024

Crafting Beauty and Community at Dragonfly Crafts

Vickie Smith, the industrious woman behind Dragonfly Crafts, has transformed her passion for leatherworking, crocheting, and other methods of crafting into a prospering business at the Makers Market in Knightstown. With a diverse skill set and a deep love for handmade artistry, Smith has carved out a niche for herself in this vibrant community market.

Smith's journey into the world of crafting is rooted in her love of building a legacy with her own two hands. "I like to make all kinds of different crafts. Leatherworking is what I think my favorite method is, but I also

love to crochet. I love using my hands to create different things," she says. Her enthusiasm for a variety of crafts ensures that Dragonfly Crafts offers a unique and diverse range of handmade goods.

An Apothecary's Dream

Smith notes that plenty of her works have been inspired by a particularly unique aesthetic: Renaissance era apothecaries. "I love to make different hats, masks, satchels, and other goods that look like they belong in an apothecaries shop. I've always been fascinated by this style, and it has helped me come up with some of my most creative ideas." Smith's whimsical and carefree style has earned the admiration of her peers and

consumers. "From dragons to dragonflies, if you name it, Vickie can make it," one shopper testified. In an era dominated by minimalism and uniformity, Smith's aesthetic stands out as uniquely and beautifully colorful.

Embracing Entrepreneurship

For Smith, entrepreneurship is about more than just making a living; it's a way to merge passion with purpose. "What drew me into entrepreneurship was that it's something that allows me to create the things that I love while also finding a way to bring in money for yourself. Entrepreneurship isn't always a get-rich-quick method, but it's a very rewarding and



The Appeal of Leatherworking

Leatherworking holds a special place in Smith's heart, not just for its creative possibilities, but also for its practicality. "Since I'm older, I can do it even when my hands don't work right! Crochet needles are often very particular, but leatherworking I can do all the time without much issue," she explains. This adaptability has allowed her to continue crafting and creating despite physical challenges. Smith's resilience and dedication to her work can be seen in the amazing crafts that she produces.

but it's a very rewarding and validating experience. It also keeps me busy and gives me something to do," she shares. Her commitment to her craft and her business reflects a deep-seated belief in the value of hard work and creativity.

The Unique Charm of Handmade Goods

Smith is passionate about the enduring appeal of handmade items. "Not only does it last longer, it also gives you an opportunity to own something that was authentically made with love. This makes it the best place to get gifts," she notes. The personal touch and craftsmanship involved in each piece make her products stand out in a world dominated by mass production.

One of the highlights of Dragonfly Crafts is the live demonstrations that Smith conducts. "Many people don't realize that a lot of our vendors, myself included, do live demonstrations in front of our cottages. If you ever want to see some leatherworking, come to my cabin. Jan McGuire also does demonstrations in front of her cottage as well," she encourages. These demonstrations provide a unique opportunity for visitors to see the skill and dedication that go into each handmade item.



(Vickie Smith performing a live demonstration 6/4/24)

Crafting a Community Legacy

Through Dragonfly Crafts, Vickie Smith not only shares her talents with the community but also helps foster a sense of connection and appreciation for handmade art. Her story is one of perseverance, passion, and the joy of creating something beautiful and lasting. As she continues to craft and inspire at the Makers Market, Smith embodies the spirit of entrepreneurship and the enduring value of handmade goods in the Knightstown community.

