holiday GIFT GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2026

It's giving season!

From a limited budget to full luxury, the best holiday shopping is local.

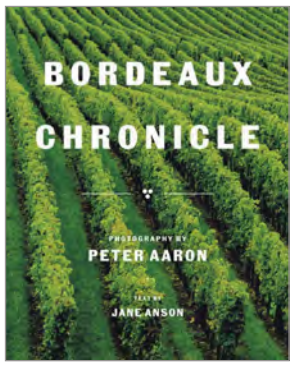




A Supplement to The Lakeville Journal, The Millerton News, Compass, lakevillejournal.com, millertonnews.com

OBLONG BOOKS

GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR ADULTS & KIDS



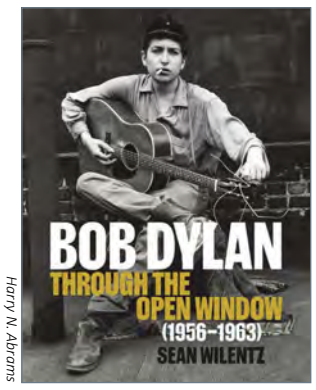
Vendome Press

Bordeaux Chronicle
by Peter Aaron & Jane Anson
A richly woven portrait of Bordeaux, its traditions, wines and chateaux.



Harry N. Abrams

Hudson Folk:
Creative People and Places of the Hudson Valley
by Amanda Benchley, Tamara Weiss & Elizabeth Cecil (Photographer)



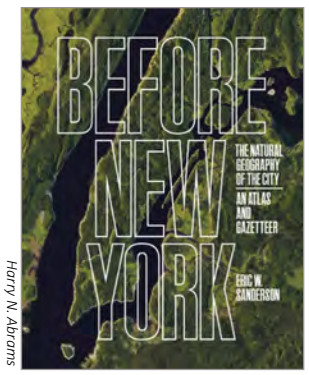
Harry N. Abrams

Bob Dylan:
Through the Open Window, 1956–1963
by Sean Wilentz
A treasure trove of wonderful images from the Bard's early years.



Harry N. Abrams

Better At Home:
Recipes for Big Nights In
by Colu Henry
A collection of *Food & Wine* and *NYT Cooking* contributor Henry's signature relaxed-but-impressive recipes.



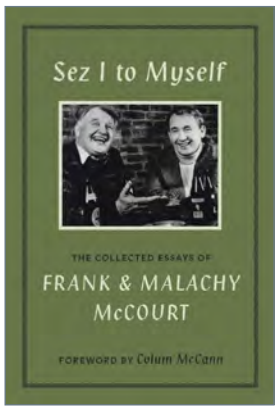
Harry N. Abrams

Before New York:
The Natural Geography of the City
by Eric W. Sanderson
An Atlas & Gazeteer of the region that would become New York City from before 1609 to present day.



Harry N. Abrams

Itty Bitty Kitty Corn Gift Box
by Shannon Hale & LeUyen Pham (Illustrator)
Includes book and Itty Bitty Kitty collectible backpack pull.



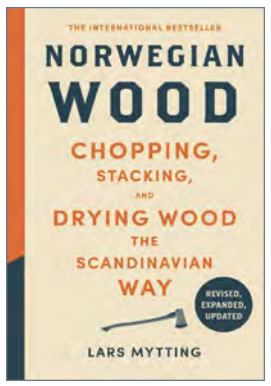
Harry N. Abrams

Sez I To Myself:
The Collected Essays of Frank and Malachy McCourt
edited by Tom Allon & Jonah Allon
A treasure chest of never-before-collected essays with a foreword by Colum McCann.



Candlewick

The Snowmansion
by Gideon Sterer & Stella Lim (Illustrator)
A wordless winter picture book about a snowman, friendship & magic.
Ages 4-8



Harry N. Abrams

Norwegian Wood:
Chopping, Stacking, and Drying Wood the Scandinavian Way
by Lars Mytting
Revised, expanded, and updated edition.



Harry N. Abrams

Diary of a Wimpy Kid #21:
Fight or Flight
by Jeff Kinney
A laugh-out-loud knockout!
Ages 8-12



Holiday House

The Night Before Christmas: Gift Edition
by Clement C. Moore & Tomie dePaola (Illustrator)
A gorgeous gift edition of a Christmas classic.
Ages 3-7



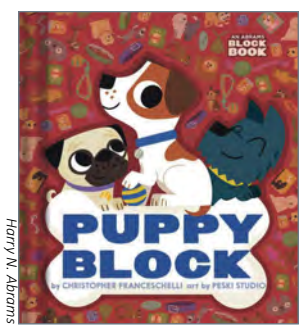
Candlewick

Santa Post
by Emma Yarlett
Interactive activities with letters to open, holiday humor and festive fun.
Ages 5-9



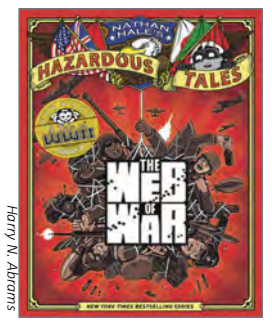
Candlewick

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
by Kate DiCamillo & Bagram Ibatoulline (Illustrator)
Deluxe Collector's Edition.
Ages 7-10



Harry N. Abrams

Puppyblock
by Christopher Franceschelli & Peski Studio (Illustrator)
Adorably paw-fect!
Ages Baby-3



Harry N. Abrams

Nathan Hale's Hazardous Tales #14: The Web of War
by Nathan Hale
The story of one of the most pivotal battles of WWII.
Ages 8-12

Holiday Gift Guide

November 26, 2026

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Dec. 3, 7:30 PM - Saint James Place, Gt. Barrington MA
Dec. 4, 7:30 PM - St. John's Church, Salisbury CT

A Celtic Wintertide



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Christine Gevert, Direction & Organ

Early Carols, Celtic Folk Tunes, and Sacred Polyphony of the British, Scottish and Irish Renaissance and Baroque traditions.

Dec. 17, 7:30 PM - St. Paul's Church, Stockbridge MA
Dec. 18, 7:30 PM - First Presbyterian Church, Hudson NY
Dec. 26, 4:00 PM - St. Andrew's Church, Kent CT
Dec. 27, 4:00 PM - Saint James Place, Gt. Barrington MA

Info & Tickets: CrescendoMusic.org

Hand-crafted gifts and hands-on skills at Andrew Jack Woodworking

By D.H. Callahan

292 S. Main St., Sheffield, MA ***andrewjack.net*** ***@andrewjackchairs***

Andrew Jack, a woodworker who lives in East Canaan, Connecticut, builds furniture and teaches the craft. He specializes in Windsor chairs and is branching out by experimenting with unexpected forms. A graduate of the art program at SUNY Purchase, he's known for his ambitious spins on traditional furniture and his green woodworking method, which uses freshly cut wood instead of seasoned timber. Beyond his creations, Jack is a celebrated teacher who has guided many an aspiring woodworker to new heights of understanding and expertise. He offers classes for a wide range of experience levels at his studio in Sheffield.

Wooden Spoons

Everybody who's ever cooked anything could use a wooden spoon. Andrew Jack's are some of the most distinctive around. $30 to $80.

Spreaders

Not everybody has access to the finest artisanal meats or cheeses, but anyone can make an exceptional charcuterie board with an expertly handcrafted spreader for guests to use. $18 to $25.

Spoon Class

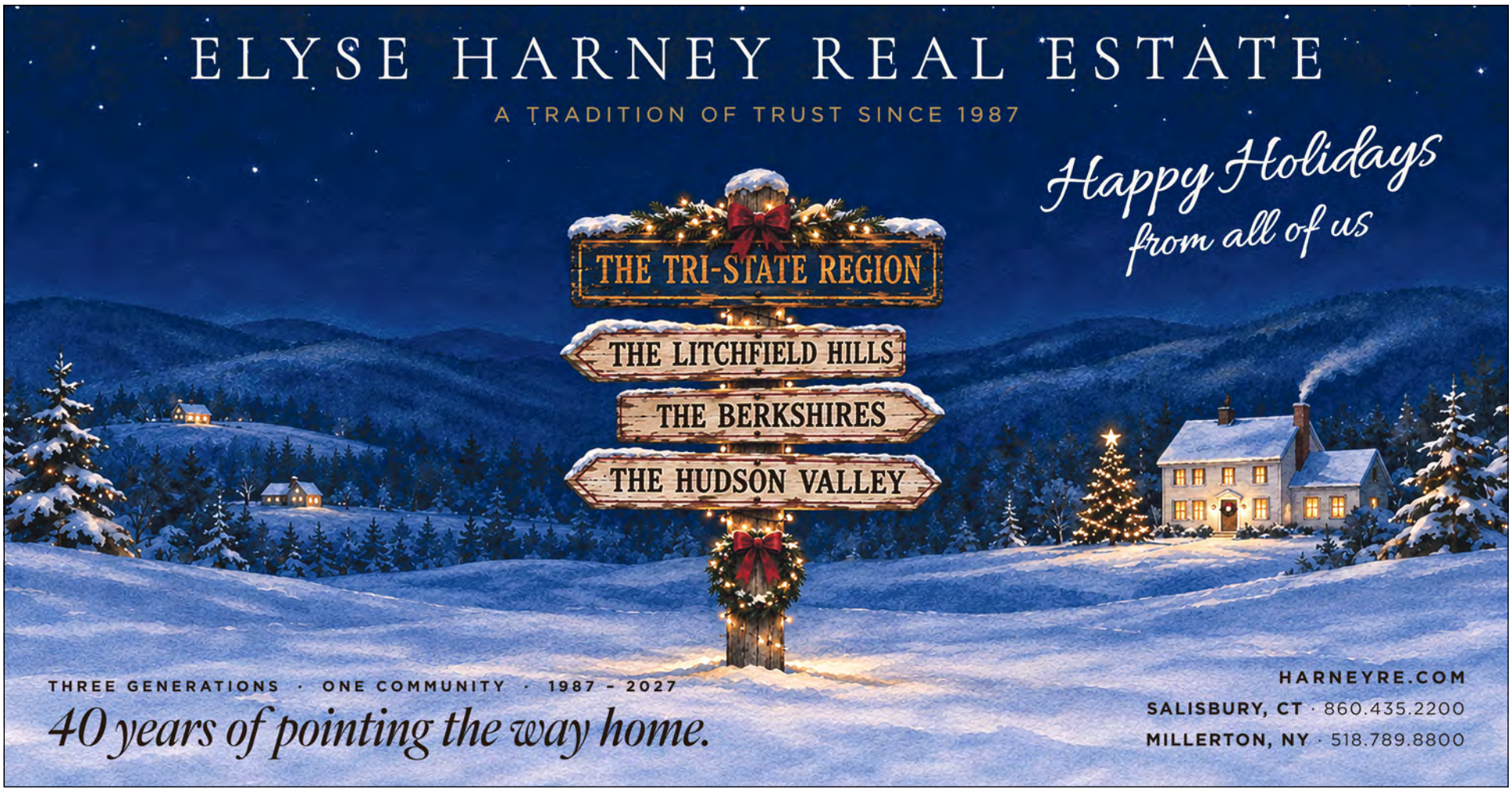
If there's a curious crafter in your life who has yet to dive into the art of woodworking, this introductory class offers a chance to get familiar with the tools and materials needed to make small wooden objects by hand. $65.

Furniture Classes

For those handy folks on your list who know a thing or two about woodworking but aren't quite making their own furniture yet, Jack offers classes to help take their skills to the next level. $600 to $2,000.

Custom-Made Furniture

A special gift for those special people. Jack's website features an assortment of expertly crafted furniture made to order, with options to specify woods, paint colors and even styles for a variety of custom pieces. $600 to $3,500.





Wooden spoons hand-carved by Andrew Jack.



PHOTOS BY D.H. CALLAHAN

Andrew Jack shares studio space with similar businesses in Sheffield.



A furniture class at Andrew Jack's studio.

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PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Store manager Francesca D'Allessandro

Secondhand treasures for little ones at Cedar Closet

By Graham Corrigan

3 Factory Lane, Pine Plains, NY

facebook.com/people/Cedar-Closet/61586839633698/

Cedar Closet specializes in gently used clothing for children of all ages. The store, which opened in March just off Academy Street, is offering coupons and a raffle drawing as part of its end-of-year specials. Books, toys and a variety of gifts are available in addition to clothing, with prices ranging from $5 to $25.

Store manager Francesca D'Allessandro said the raffle winner will receive a holiday basket filled with clothing, toys and books.

Cedar Closet is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

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The raffle winner will receive a holiday basket filled with clothing, toys and books.



Warm feet, cool finds at Dutchess Trading Company

By Graham Corrigan

42 Main St., Millerton, NY

dutchesstradingco.com

(518)592-1063

At Dutchess Trading Company in Millerton, the home goods and clothing boutique in the former Terni's building, the holidays mean new inventory. First and foremost are the Wool Warmers by Christophe Pourny. The 100% wool slippers were identified by proprietor Jason Jobson as one of the season's bestsellers. They're available for $64.

DTC is also the area's only supplier of Filson outerwear. Filson is famous for its thick jackets and vests, available at Dutchess Trading Company for $165 to $400. The brand is a reminder of the building's past: Filson was on the shelves back when it was Terni's, too.

Other holiday offerings include luxury matchbooks from England for $18, a variety of candles and cards and new merchandise from the Sharon Land Trust. A portion of the proceeds from the latter's sales will go directly to supporting the land trust.



PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Filson outerwear will keep you warm this winter.



Keep your feet warm this winter at Dutchess Trading Company.

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PHOTOS BY NATALIA ZUKERMAN

Holiday treasures abound at Sharon's Bargain Barn.

Holiday treasures await at Sharon's Bargain Barn

By Natalia Zukerman

3 Low Road, Sharon, Conn.

860-364-5202

thebargainbarnsharonct.com

For holiday shoppers who love the thrill of the hunt, Sharon's Bargain Barn offers a treasure trove of possibilities, where the perfect gift might be a vintage necklace, an antique serving dish, a piece of art or something wonderfully unexpected.

Tucked behind the Good Neighbors building on Low Road, the year-round thrift shop is packed with an ever-changing assortment of clothing, jewelry, antiques, books, household goods, furnishings and collectibles. With prices ranging from pocket change to a few hundred dollars, there's something for nearly every taste and budget.

"We have items from $0.25 to $200," said manager Heidi Haskell, who has been running the shop "pushing 10 years I think."

More than just a place to find bargains, the Barn has become something of an unofficial community center, where regulars stop by to browse the latest donations, catch up with neighbors or simply hang out. Shoppers have been known to travel from as far away as Maine.

Operated by Tri-State Public Communications, the nonprofit organization behind Robin Hood Radio, the Bargain Barn is also preparing for a new chapter. Haskell said the shop will remain open through Christmas before moving to the white house next to Le Gamin in Sharon.

"We're really hopeful it'll be ready by then," said Haskell, "but things are looking good."

For now, holiday treasure hunters can visit the Bargain Barn at 3 Low Road, Sharon, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations are accepted those days from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Lots of stocking stuffers and more!

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Books, puzzles and plenty of presents at Lakeville Books

By Patrick L. Sullivan

329 Main St., Lakeville, Conn.
63 State St., Great Barrington, MA

lakevillebooks.com

@lakevillebooks

Just in time for Christmas shopping, Lakeville Books and Stationery's Lakeville store manager, Alice Peck, has put together, at the request of The Lakeville Journal, a list of books with wide appeal to readers. The titles are expected to be in stock when holiday shoppers visit the Lakeville or Great Barrington locations.

This is particularly important this year. Owner Darryl Peck recently emailed customers to explain that titles once easy to obtain have become harder to find because of problems on the publishing end of the business.

Alice Peck's recommendations include three works of fiction: "Country People" by Daniel Mason, "Peck & Peck" by Bonnie Garmus and "The Thoroughbreds" by Elin Hilderbrand and Shelby Cunningham.

For nonfiction, she recommends "What Could Possibly Go Right? The Essential Journey to Scale an Enduring Culture" by Danny Meyer and "Sleeping Beauties: Why Good Ideas Go Dormant and How They Wake Up" by former Talking Heads frontman David Byrne.

And for the cook in your life, there's Ina Garten's latest cookbook, "Simply Ina."

"I've read all of them, as did my parents, and can vouch for them," Peck said.

"We tried to appeal to everyone with the fiction, and with non-fiction we tried to stay away from politics."

The store also has an abundance of nonbook items.

"Puzzles," said Peck. "Lots of puzzles."

The puzzles range in price from $20 to $50, while wooden puzzles from Liberty Puzzles cost $125, contain roughly 500 pieces and are highly prized by serious puzzle fiends.

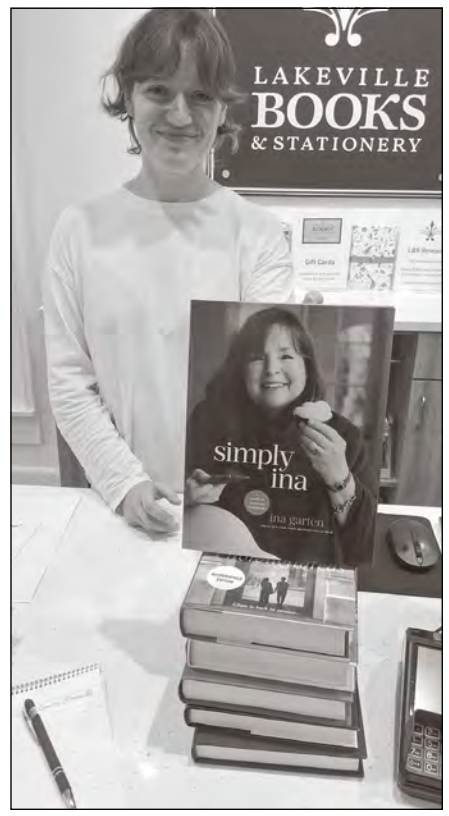
If your giftee has an artistic streak, a set of 12 colored pencils costs $33.95, as do Blackwing notebooks featuring classic Disney characters on their covers.

Another nook is devoted to trivia games with titles such as "Dad Rock," "I've Venn Thinking" and "Incredibly Pointless Trivia." The games cost between $10 and $20.

Right by the cash register is a shelf of books by local authors and on local topics, including the "Sarum Samplings" series of oral histories about Salisbury, compiled and edited by Jean McMillan; Arnold Whitridge's "A Short History of Salisbury, Connecticut"; and Steve Culton's "Fly Fishing Guide to the Farmington River."

Lakeville Books also carries day planners, greeting cards ranging from the serious to the silly, calendars and all sorts of notebooks and writing implements.

In short, there's something for everyone here, and you don't even have to try very hard.



Store manager Alice Peck.



PHOTOS BY PATRICK L. SULLIVAN

Puzzles for cold winter afternoons.



A wonderful selection of books by local authors.



PHOTOS BY JENNIFER ALMQUIST

Peter Crippen and Marinell Madden-Crippen.

Holiday cheer in Connecticut's Icebox

By Jennifer Almquist

10 Station Place, Norfolk, Conn.

@icbxcafe

860-671-0005

When winter winds blow, Norfolk, the Icebox of Connecticut, becomes a cozy haven.

Celebrate the season at the 2026 Norfolk Holiday Stroll on Saturday, Dec. 5, from noon to 8 p.m. Local businesses open their doors to welcome visitors for a festive day of holiday shopping, local makers, vintage collectors, bakers, crafters, artisans, food demonstrations and good cheer. Norfolk nonprofits and community groups offer activities, while pop-up shops add a little spice to the punch!

Begin the day at the Norfolk Hub, 2 Station Place, where members of Norfolk Artists & Friends will display their work, then stroll up to the cheerful Icebox Café for a cup of great coffee, Rishi tea or its signature homemade shortbread.

Peter Crippen and Marinell Madden-Crippen opened the café, which serves breakfast and lunch, in December 2024. It quickly became the heartbeat of the town.

For holiday shoppers, a gift card to the Icebox Café makes a perfect present or stocking stuffer, whether for soup and sandwiches with friends, a loaf of Peter's famous sourdough bread or the café's Sunday morning cinnamon buns.

Another seasonal favorite is the café's rich fruitcake, offered only at Christmastime. Peter explained that his mother, now in her 90s, uses fresh ingredients and a little help from her grandson Rex to create this traditional holiday treat.

"Mrs. Crippen's Fruitcakes were a traditional gift during the holidays from our grandmother Mary Crippen in Litchfield. Our mother Sylvia Crippen has continued the tradition of making these delicious bourbon molasses fruitcakes."

Each luscious fruitcake costs $22.



Mrs. Crippen's rich fruitcake is a seasonal favorite at the Icebox Cafe.

MILLERTON FARMERS MARKET

Millerton Farmers Market Winter Schedule

Saturday, December 19th
in collaboration with the Millerton Businesss Alliance

Second Saturdays:
February 13th, March 13th, April 10th

10 am - 2 pm
6 Dutchess Avenue
inside the Millerton Methodist Church

NECC North East Community Center

Follow us for weather related changes
Instagram: @neccfarmersmarkets or neccmillerton.org/farmers-market

Gifts for the home at Milton Market

By D.H. Callahan

14 Cobble Court, Litchfield, Conn ***miltonmarketct.com*** ***@miltonmarketct***

In 2019, Milton Market opened in a former blacksmith shop in Litchfield's historic Cobble Court. Fashion executive Margaret Fish took the plunge and moved her family to the county after 14 years as a weekender and never looked back. Her expertly curated shop is packed to the brim with thoughtful objects for the home. From kitchens to bathrooms, dining rooms and even the garden, Milton Market has the perfect item to elevate any space. Her goods come from all over the world, but she always makes room for local artists and craftspeople.

Canvas Totes

Milton Market carries a selection of sturdy bags from Steele Canvas, a family-run company in business since 1921. One style is made exclusively for the shop, and a local artist can hand-paint custom designs on the bags. $65 to $85.

Garden Goods from Niwaki

From gloves to pruning snips and even a giant reusable leaf bag, British brand Niwaki takes inspiration from simple Japanese design to create timeless tools for all your gardening needs. $10 to $48.

Stick Candles

For something truly unique, bring a touch of the outdoors inside with beeswax candles molded from branches, some complete with fungi. $38 per pair.

Soft Woolen Blankets

Keep your loved ones warm this winter with wool tartan blankets imported from the United Kingdom.

Gift Cards

With something for every adult on your list, a gift card to Milton Market lets your recipient choose something special. Gift cards can also be used for the shop's popular workshops taught by celebrated artisans.



Soft woolen blankets.





PHOTOS BY D.H. CALLAHAN

Canvas totes and unique beeswax candles shaped from branches.





A fresh blend of gifts at Muanjai Tea

By Graham Corrigan

28 Main St., Millerton, NY

muanjaitea.com

@muanjaiteabar

There's a new tea shop in town. Muanjai opened a few months ago, offering Thai tea, matcha lattes and Thai cuisine in a renovated space on Main Street. But there's more than just food, drink and soft lighting on offer — one of the shop's walls is dedicated to merchandise and gifts. Hats, candles and cookbooks are available for $20 to $40, and gift cards can be purchased directly from the shop.

Owners John Schildbach and Kanchisar Jaradhanaiphat have been loving Millerton during their first few months in the space. Schildbach said they plan to introduce a complete matcha set for the holiday season, priced at approximately $50, that includes a whisk, sifter, matcha bowl and more.



PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Matcha sets and more at Muanjai's wall of gift offerings.



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Open Daily 9 am - 5 pm

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SCAG POWER EQUIPMENT

From lessons to live performances at The Music Lab

By Sally Haver

97B Main St. in North Canaan, Conn. ***musiclabct.com*** ***860-671-7996***

For the aspiring rock star, the lifelong music lover or anyone who's ever dreamed of picking up an instrument, The Music Lab in North Canaan offers a gift that strikes just the right chord. The nonprofit organization is dedicated to music education, performance and community engagement. It hosts Acoustic Nite Live on Thursdays from 6:30 to 10 p.m., along with music jams, open workshops and special events such as Kids Karaoke Singalong.

Students and graduates perform at local farmers markets, fundraisers and private parties throughout the area. Attendees at Canaan's Railroad Days festivities may have seen Music Lab musicians performing outside throughout the weekend.

Founder, President and CEO Sean Claydon, a guitarist, has more than 40 years of experience performing, recording and teaching. His organization's motto is "Learn, Rehearse, Perform."

Claydon and a team of teachers and instrumentalists are versed in acoustic music, heavy metal, rock, blues, folk and country. They offer lessons in guitar, bass, drums, keyboard and voice. Gift certificates are available, and lessons range from $40 to $60, depending on the teacher, instrument and level of instruction.

"There is no kid too young to start, if they have the desire," said Claydon, "and no adult too old to refresh their musical skills."

And unlike most gifts, this one might just lead to an encore.



PHOTO PROVIDED

A music jam at The Music Lab.

Berkshire Hills Design
Kitchens and Baths
Happy Holidays!
Tue-Fri: 9am-5pm • Sat: 9am-3pm
14 Church Street, Canaan, CT 06018 • 860.824.0209
danielle@berkshirehillsdesign.com





PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

This year's bestsellers at Oblong Books in Millerton.

Season's readings at Oblong Books

By Graham Corrigan

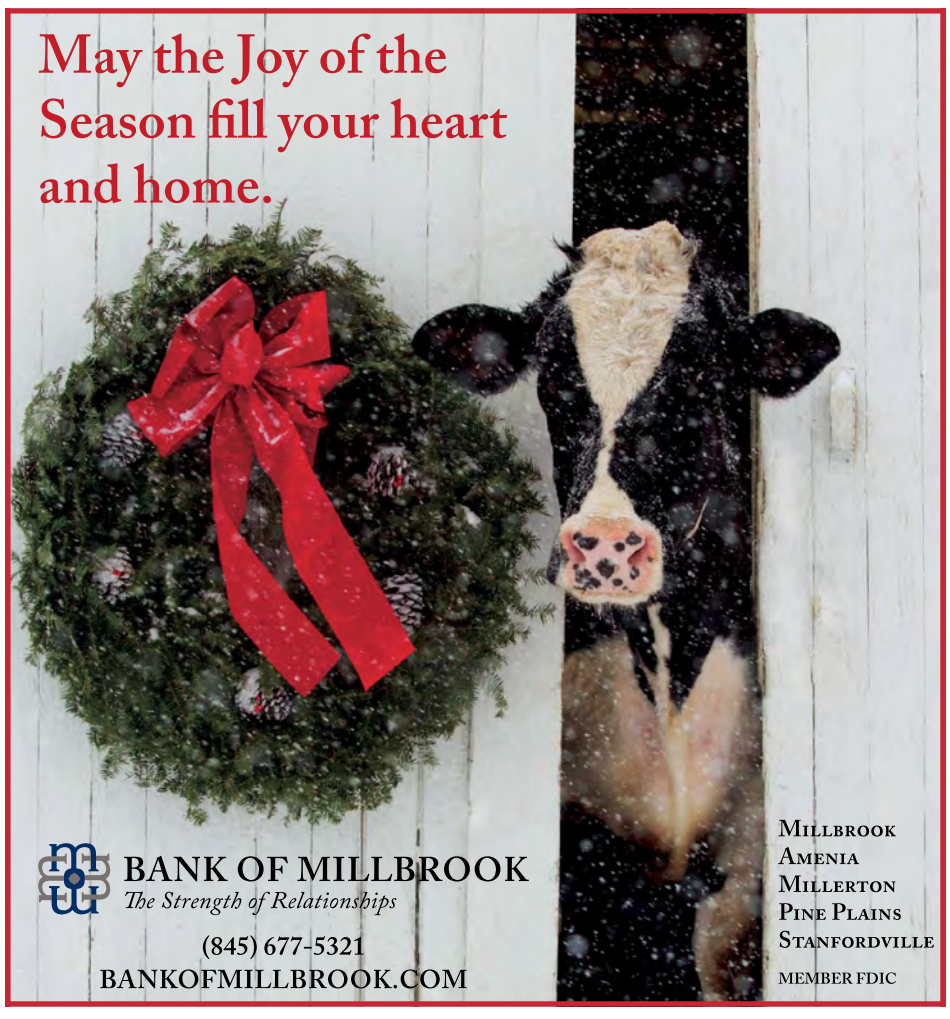
26 Main St., Millerton, NY
6422 Montgomery St., Suite 6, Rhinebeck, NY

oblongbooks.com ***@oblongbooks***

At Oblong Books, the holiday season is heralded by fresh racks of greeting cards, a new display of themed puzzles and posters and plenty of questions about the year's bestsellers. For 2026, those include Emily St. John Mandel's "Exit Party," "American Hagwon" by Min Jin Lee, Marlon James' "The Disappearers" and "Theo of Golden" by Allen Levi.

Oblong traditionally extends its business hours during the holiday season.

Last year, the Millerton and Rhinebeck locations stayed open until 8 p.m. in the weeks leading up to Christmas.





Fresh racks of greeting cards.



Lots of gifts for book lovers and beyond.

All things local at The Local

By D.H. Callahan

415 Sharon-Goshen Turnpike, West Cornwall, Conn. ***hughesmemorialunion.org/the-local*** ***@thelocaltheunion***

In the heart of West Cornwall, up the hill from the covered bridge and right by the train tracks, sits The Local, a beacon of the community filled with locally made goods and crafts. The Local is a nonprofit shop created to showcase the craftsmanship of the area. Owned by the Hughes Memorial Union, whose goal is to create shared spaces for the Cornwall community, the shop is run by the ever-tenacious and perpetually welcoming Libby Mitchell, who seems to have personal relationships with everyone who contributes.

The Local invites all kinds of craftspeople and creators who live or work in the Northwest Corner to contribute whatever they happen to make. The crafts are complemented by a wide variety of ingredients from local farmers and producers and a scrumptious array of prepared foods from chefs, bakers and cottage kitchen cooks with something special to share. Since the store is only open on Fridays and Saturdays, those prepared foods are always fresh and always delicious.

Coffee, Coffee, Coffee

Cornwall Bridge Coffee imports carefully selected coffee beans from around the world and roasts them in small batches at its home roastery in the shadow of the Cornwall covered bridge. Its blends and single-origin offerings can make any morning as cozy as you'd like it. $20.

Bespoke Shoes for Stylish Women

Lauren Brinkers is a cobbler based in Cornwall Bridge who crafts custom shoes with leather she paints herself using hand-mixed dyes. One-of-a-kind fashion for the one-of-a-kind gal on your list. $475.

Handmade Hearth Brooms

Honey Tuttle is a local artisan who makes a variety of crafts adorned with engravings and wood burning, but her hearth brooms are perfect for all those little messes. $30.

Cutting Boards

Phill West is a local woodworker who blends different kinds of wood to make creative cutting boards in a variety of shapes and sizes. $30 to $70.

Greeting Cards

April Stewart Klausner is a local artist whose Northwest Corner-inspired cards are the perfect complement to any good gift. $7.



PHOTO BY D.H. CALLAHAN

The Local offers a selection of handmade crafts from shoes to notecards.

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PHOTO BY LEILA HAWKEN

Crystal Smith at Pretty Little Things and Co.

Pretty Little Things, thoughtful little gifts

By Leila Hawken

5329 Route 44, Suite 2, Amenia, NY ***845-789-1035*** ***@prettylittlethings_co18***

Since October, Pretty Little Things and Co. has been welcoming shoppers to a well-stocked gift shop with a familiar community feel. Millerton resident and owner Crystal Smith has assembled a variety of artisan products, both her own creations and those of other local makers, including soy candles from A&C Creations' and baskets by Liz.

"I love offering the things that I have made as well as those of other creative people," Smith said. She celebrates the shop's local focus as well as her affordable prices, important in today's economy.

Pretty Little Things is definitely worth a browse for those seeking small, unique items that might delight on their own as a gift item or perhaps find their way into a holiday stocking. The shop offers custom apparel, hand-crocheted Santa hats, gift items, permanent jewelry (ask about it!), cards and more.

Here are five gift ideas from Pretty Little Things and Co.:

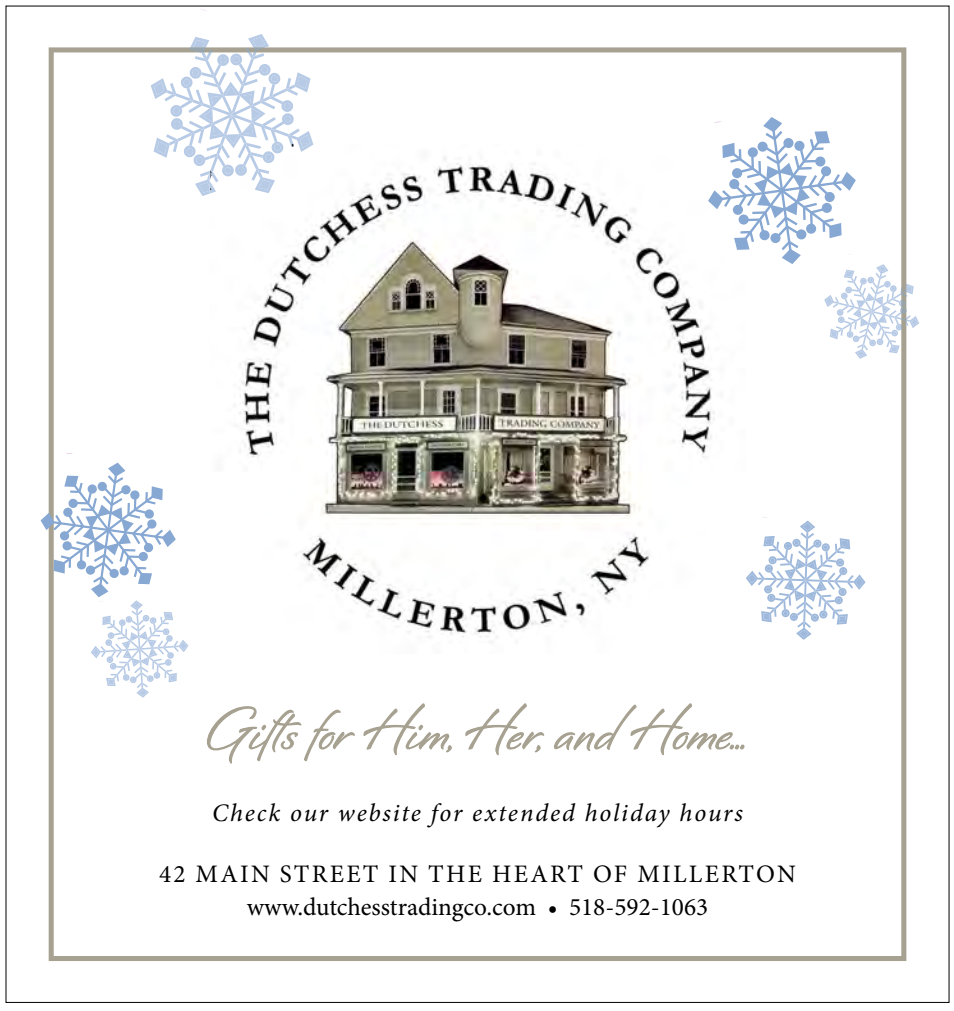
Permanent Jewelry — $50 to $65

Sterling silver and gold-filled bracelets, ankle bracelets and rings offer a personal touch. "It is a custom-fit piece of jewelry," Smith said. "I do a lot of jewelry parties."

Cutting Board Gift Sets — $15 to $45

An affordable, useful gift, tastefully presented with the holidays in mind. Perfect for a host, coworker or client.





Blind Date with a Book — $28

Choose a genre and give it as a gift to anyone who loves to read, without knowing the title. The presentation, wrapped in a holiday theme, is artful and adds a little mystery to the experience. "Kids love these," Smith said.

Santa Hats — $20

Hand-crocheted by Liz Cash of Falls Village, Conn., these Santa hats are ready for holiday party fun. There are also Cash's crocheted hats and bags in stock for around $25.



Custom apparel — $18 to $25

Smith creates these shirts and jerseys to order. Customers can provide their choice of print or logo design to be applied to selected apparel, making for a personalized holiday gift.

With its mix of locally made goods, affordable prices and one-of-a-kind finds, Pretty Little Things and Co. offers plenty of possibilities for thoughtful holiday giving.

Pretty Little Things and Co. is open Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Cutting board gift sets and hand-crocheted Santa hats at Pretty Little Things.



PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

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Chelsea Miller's knives are made by hand in Falls Village.



PHOTOS BY MADI LONG

Hand-carved cutting boards.

Chelsea Miller's handcrafted knives

By Natalia Zukerman

chelseamillerknives.com ***@chelseamillerknives***

Raised in rural Vermont by a carpenter-blacksmith father, Chelsea Miller grew up surrounded by tools and materials that could be transformed rather than thrown away. But it wasn't until 2011, when Miller's father became seriously ill, that she found her own way into the family workshop.

"I was living in New York. My dad got sick, and I was just ... trying to figure out what it is I wanted to do with my life," Miller said. "I just really needed to come back to my center and work with my hands."

Returning home to spend time with her family, Miller began experimenting with the tools and materials in her father's workshop. Knifemaking emerged from that period of uncertainty and improvisation.

"I make kitchen knives by hand right here in Falls Village, and I forge them from reclaimed horseshoe rasps," said knifemaker Chelsea Miller, whose signature blades retain the distinctive textured teeth of the original rasps. The high-carbon steel is shaped, heat-treated and sharpened, then paired with wooden handles, giving each knife a unique character and a visible connection to its former life.

Her work has attracted national attention, with features in The New York Times, Saveur, Food & Wine, Robb Report and Bloomberg.

For holiday shoppers, Miller offers a range of distinctive gifts, from paring knives starting at 120tohandmadebutterknives(250), cheese knives (350),asignaturechefknifewithawalnuthandle(375) and steak knives ($500 to $700). Combining beauty and function, her knives make thoughtful gifts for home cooks, food lovers and collectors alike.



Knife maker Chelsea Miller in her kitchen in Falls Village.

Miller has also begun making hand-carved cutting boards, carrying on another part of her family's woodworking tradition. "All the wood comes from where I grew up," she explained. "Maple, oak and ash that are all from wood that my dad milled."

While she does sell her knives at 100 Main in Falls Village, much of Miller's inventory is made to order, so shoppers should allow additional time for production and delivery.

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Gifts with a past, treasures for the present at Flora Vintage

By Leila Hawken

3300 Franklin Ave., Millbrook, NY ***floravintage.co*** ***845-677-4035*** ***@flora_vintage_***

Flora Vintage offers the thrill of discovery as shoppers find something unexpected and delightful to bestow upon friends and family as holiday gifts. Newly opened on Franklin Avenue in Millbrook, the welcoming shop is definitely worth a look.

Owner Brooke Savona has devoted years to traveling, collecting and connecting with creative minds in fashion, design and art. The result is a business rooted in nostalgia, craftsmanship and care for clothing and objects that will become heirlooms.

These are pieces with a past, collected for the present — unique finds that carry stories.

"These are my favorite things," Savona exclaims, noting that the shop is organized by gift category: pantry, garden, jewelry, home and table, apothecary, office and stationery, and clothing.

Embroidered canvas bag: $75-85

Found in the shop's floral and garden section, these charming bags are embroidered by the owner's mother, Beth Savona.

"They are really fun and great for visiting the local farmers markets," Brooke Savona said, recommending the bags as a gift idea.

Daisy Chain Necklace: $150-220

Vintage glass beads combine to create charmingly modern daisy chain necklaces made by Icky Beads of Portland, Maine.



Daisy chain necklaces.

Hand-knit fish: $95-110

These delightful fish, created by Karen Angelo of Sherman, Connecticut, come in a variety of sizes. They can serve as whimsical wall hangings or function as trivets.

Vintage Cotton Nightgowns from France: $110-185

Sourced from the south of France, these charming cotton nightgowns date back to the early 1900s, each one unique in design. The nightgowns help define Savona's vintage collection. She added, "It's really for someone else to love today."

Hand-woven wall hanging: $2,400

Local weaver Alexandra Kohl of North Salem, New York, has created this horsehair and cotton wall hanging, just one of the equestrian-themed offerings in the shop.





PHOTOS BY LEILA HAWKEN

Flora Vintage offers delightful gifts for friends and family.

A little something for every reader at Whistle Pig Books

By Robin Roraback

62 Main St., North Canaan, Conn. ***whistlepigbooks.com*** ***@whistlepigbooks***

Co-owners Emily Peterson and Thom Wilson describe Whistle Pig Books as "tucked into a cozy little space at 62 Main Street in North Canaan."

The used bookstore offers hundreds of books for readers of all ages and interests. With paperbacks priced at just $2 and hardcovers at $4, there's something for everyone, especially holiday shoppers looking for affordable and thoughtful gifts.

Peterson and Wilson's top five gift suggestions include:

Books for every reader

From romance, thrillers and historical fiction to fantasy, science fiction and classics, the shop offers a wide selection of fiction and nonfiction. Shoppers will also find cookbooks, biographies, history, hobby books, coffee-table books and titles for children and young adults.

Blind Date with a Used Book

For $8, shoppers can pick up a hand-selected mystery book, festively wrapped with clues about its genre and story. "Our Blind Date with a Used Book is a fun way to try something new and enjoy a little surprise — whether you gift it or keep it for yourself!" Peterson said.

Comics

The shop carries new comics at cover price, with selections for longtime collectors and newcomers alike. "We are one of the few around to carry new comics and can pre-order comics in advance for customers," Wilson said.

Role-playing games

For gamers and imaginative adventurers, Whistle Pig Books offers role-playing games, dice and metal miniature figures.

Gift cards

When in doubt, let your favorite book lover choose their own next great read with a Whistle Pig Books gift card.

With affordable prices, an eclectic selection and plenty of unexpected discoveries, Whistle Pig Books makes holiday shopping feel a little like a treasure hunt.

Whistle Pig Books is open Thursday and Friday, noon to 6 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For new arrivals and store updates, visit whistlepigbooks.com or follow @whistlepigbooks on Instagram. The shop is also on Facebook and TikTok.



Used books for readers of all ages and interests.



PHOTO BY EMILY PETERSON

Blind date with a used book makes a great gift — or keep it for yourself!

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A little luxury for everyone on your list

By Jennifer Almquist

27 N. Main St., Kent, Conn. ***860-927-1255*** ***www.terston.com*** ***@terstonkent***

Geraldine Woodruff grew up in Scotland and brought her extensive retail experience at Heal's of London, Conran's and Pottery Barn to Litchfield County when she opened her boutique in 1992.

Terston began as a home accents store and has since expanded to include a curated collection of women's apparel, including sumptuous sweaters, jewelry, accessories, dresses and warm coats. The bright, welcoming emporium features soft music and inviting scents to soothe the senses.

At Christmastime, Terston offers a particularly festive collection. "Treat your best friend, hostess, glam girl, teacher or stylish sister to thoughtful pieces for someone who deserves a touch of luxury," Woodruff said.

From fine table linens and glassware to scented diffusers, LAFCO candles, cozy scarves and gloves, colorful South African pottery and whimsical stocking stuffers, Terston makes holiday shopping a pleasure.

"Whether you're finding the perfect gift or treating yourself, Terston is here to make your holiday shopping joyful and effortless. Wishing you a warm, bright and beautiful holiday season," Woodruff said with a smile as she turned to wrap another colorful package.

For shoppers looking for a more personalized experience, Terston also offers private shopping appointments before and after regular business hours.

Faux Fur
Pull-Through Scarf — $65

Made in the USA, this scarf is the ultimate cold-weather accent piece. Soft and sumptuous, with a bouncy, cloudlike texture, it's as cozy as it is glamorous. The signature satin-lined pull-through slot lets you effortlessly create a polished bow look in seconds, with no fussing required.

Martini Glass
With Platinum Rim — $19.50

These stylish martini glasses are an elegant gift for the cocktail connoisseur!

April Cornell
Table Linens — $40 to $125

A perennial favorite, April Cornell's hand-printed chickadee linens offer a touch of whimsy to your holiday tablescape. A set of four napkins is $40, while tablecloths are available in two sizes: 60 by 90 inches ($95) and 60 by 108 inches ($125).

Cereria Mollá
"Velvet Wood" Candle — $58

Made in Spain and beloved by proprietor Geraldine Woodruff, this line of candles offers exceptional scents, including Black Orchid & Lily, Basil & Mandarin and more. Luxury incense and body care items are also available.

Potterwork Bud Vase — $50

Hand-painted in South Africa, these ceramic bud vases come in dazzling colors and are sure to bring joy to someone on your list! They are part of a collection that includes trinket dishes, bowls and serving platters.



PHOTO PROVIDED

Faux-fur pull-through scarf.





PHOTOS PROVIDED

Potterwork bud vases.



April Cornell table linens.



Cereria Mollá candles.

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PHOTOS BY GRAHAM CORRIGAN

Hand-knit warmth at Whistle Stop Boutique

By Graham Corrigan

3 Factory Lane, Pine Plains, NY

facebook.com/whistlestopboutique61

After shopping for the kids, consider stopping next door. Whistle Stop Boutique is just steps away from Cedar Closet and offers a variety of clothing and accessories for adults and children. Its specialty is hand-knit winterwear. Proprietor Naomi Calabro and her sister, Denice, make everything from hats ($25) and purses ($6) to sweaters and blankets ($35 to $60).

There are also mittens for adults ($27) and children ($13), along with potholders ($13). The boutique carries plenty of other items not handmade by the Calabros, including workwear, vintage clothing and unique household goods.





Hand-knit hats, mittens and potholders at Whistle Stop Boutique.



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