

A FEW OF OUR *Favorites*



Salsa isn't just for summer. You can eat it with chips, mix it with a block of cream cheese to create a dip or serve it over baked, broiled or grilled chicken or fish. (Some even pour cherry salsa over their meatloaf.) **Mrs. Fogg's Kitchen** offers four varieties of fruit salsa year round at www.mrsfoggskitchen.com. Mrs. Fogg's salsa is pictured in **Mesa's** unique Tuscan pattern, designed by local artist and former Colby-Sawyer College Professor Martha Andrea.



Warner resident Amy Witmer and her daughter Hannah, 13, were looking for something to do together. They came across a pattern book and an idea: **Needle-felted wool ornaments**. It looks like an easy project, but each ball takes about an hour. Amy, a longtime knitter, and Hannah use a long needle to repeatedly poke cotton ball-size pieces of unspun wool over the ball until it adheres to the styrofoam. The result? Fun ornaments, safe for kids (and cats). Four sizes in a variety of colors are available at Artisan's Workshop; \$5 for small and \$8 for extra large.

Favorite Things

Kearsarge Magazine's
holiday gift guide features
locally made products

PHOTOGRAPHY BY *Andrew Wellman*

It's so easy to buy online — no traffic, no parking and packages are delivered right to your door. But that's just convenience; it's not the true meaning of giving. There's more to be said about a homemade gift: A jar of blueberry preserves paired with freshly baked shortbread, a quilt that includes scraps of fabric from each cousin or a fingerpainted picture frame for nana and grampa all speak from the heart because the gift was handcrafted with you in mind. Local artists are doing the same, handcrafting with you in mind, all year round. Here are a few of our favorite things.

If you'd like to read longer profiles of the local artisans featured in the gift guide, please go online at www.kearsargemagazine.com/giftguide

Every piece of jewelry by **JoJo Beads** has a story. For this necklace and earring set, jewelry maker Joanne Rutledge-Davis twisted fine gauge sterling silver wire into branches, and each branch has a freshwater pearl on the end. Rutledge-Davis, a longtime Upper Valley and now Springfield resident, created the set in honor of the New England falls she grew up with. Creations by JoJo Beads are available at Artisan's Workshop in New London, Bridgman's Furniture in West Lebanon, Artful Things in Lebanon and the Library Arts Center Gallery & Studio in Newport in November.



Kevin Turgeon at **KRT Woodworking** first created his maple leaf jewelry and keepsake boxes as Christmas gifts for his family. Now they are available at Artisan's Workshop in New London. His precision work — several small cuts and turns with a scroll saw — create the delicate leaf pattern on the lid. The pictured box (with a yellowheart base, a padauk leaf and walnut trim) is priced at \$65.





Old MacDonald had a farm — and a bear and moose? Well, thanks to Grantham resident **Pat Masone**, Old MacDonald can have a menagerie of adorable animal ornaments out of paper clay. The E-I-E-I-O set — which includes a pig, horse, cow and chicken — debuted in April. A moose and bear, extremely popular with New Hampshire residents, were added in August. Each ornament is \$11, and can be found at Artisan's Workshop.

New London resident **June Erla** describes the weaving process using terms like “hettles,” “threading,” “warp beam” and “dents,” but all you can think is “gorgeous.” The 100 percent cotton hand towels are made with vibrant colors, almost too pretty for wiping dishes or hands. But, looking over at June's dining room table, you see that they can also serve as placemats. June's eye for detail results in high quality, heirloom items that are reasonably priced: Hand towels range from \$18 to \$20, runners from \$20 to \$55 and scarves from \$60 to \$80. The plate is from **Mesa**, a Warner-based company with a retail shop in Elkins.



All Terrain

wants to get you outdoors. You don't have to be hiking the himalayans, but just reading a book on the deck, taking a walk down the road or watching the trees sway in the wind will help you destress and improve your health. The Sunapee-based company creates a line of products made from all natural ingredients, such as a DEET-free insect repellent and therapeutic foot rub for tired feet and ankles, that really work. Pictured here is All Terrain's Winter Travel Kit — protect yourself against the elements with Aloe Gel Skin Repair, Skin Saver moisturizing lotion and Lip Armor with SPF 25. Find All Terrain products at 14 Carrots and Hannaford in New London; Merrimack Farm & Country Store in Bradford; and Warner Garden Center in Newport.



What is it about moose?

The MooseMan, also known as Rick Libbey, knows: "There's a mystery and complexity about moose. A quick sighting on the side of the road grabs people. But the more you spend time

"with them, the more it grabs you," the Andover resident says. Now you can see (and share) moose year round with a Six Pack of Moose, a package of six photo note cards. Cards and prints are available at Artisan's Workshop in New London, Harbor Gallery in Sunapee, the New Hampshire Audubon gift shop in Concord or through The MooseMan at www.moosemannaturephotos.com



How about some coffee by the pound as a stocking stuffer?

White Mountain Gourmet Coffee, located in Warner and Concord, offers a wide range of specialty coffees from around the world — but roasted and packaged here in New Hampshire. All beans in the store have been roasted within three days — not many coffee companies can say that — and ground on site. Price ranges from \$5.69 to \$6.59 for a half-pound bag or \$9.95 to \$13.99 for a pound.

Bill Whyte has been in love with herbs since he was a kid. From his first preparation — a cabin fever remedy for the long New England winters called the "anti-brown and grays" — to his first healing balm, Whyte has transformed his love of herbs and healing into a successful natural body care product business in Gilsum: **W.S. Badger Company Inc.** "We make stuff the way it would have been made in the old days, before the advent of chemicals, using very fine, pure and natural and organic ingredients. So our stuff actually works better for a variety of problems than anything else you can buy...pretty much anywhere in the world," says Badger Bill. Badger products can be found at Yankee Farmer's Market in Warner and the Co-op Food Stores in Hanover and Lebanon.



Duck decoys may be one of the earliest American folk arts, and Dale Carlisle is continuing the tradition of art with a purpose through his award-winning gunning decoys. Dale carves and paints each decoy by hand, and each one is water-ready for hunting. Prices range from \$250 for a smaller shore bird to \$1,600 for a larger goose or loon.

Gunning Decoys Dale A. Carlisle are available at www.gunningdecoys.com



Pam Lacasse has always loved stained glass, and it shows in her wonderfully detailed ornaments. Last year's stocking ornament, made of china and stained glass, had a whimsical design with curves and curls that warranted year-round attention (and not just hung once a year on the Christmas tree). Lacasse, a nine-year Concord resident, says she does stained glass for mental health, but her use of recycled items, eye for design and sense of humor provide a little mental health for us all. Look for her ornaments at Artisan's Workshop in New London; this year's design is a partridge made with a pear of green glass (\$32).

ABOUT THE PHOTOGRAPHER

Andrew Wellman was born in Rochester, New York to a now retired Kodak Chemist who helped develop the widely misunderstood disk camera. Wellman's passion for photography was cultivated as an assistant in San Francisco for Geoff Nilsen, master photographer and close friend. Andrew's work can be seen at www.andrewwellmanphotographer.com

With just one bar, you can wash your hair, wash your body, wash the kids — even wash your socks.

J.R.Liggett, based in Cornish, hand creates an old-fashioned shampoo bar that does everything (except spill). It is made entirely from natural oils — no animal products, artificial colors or preservatives — and is great for anyone with allergies, skin conditions or concerned about the environment (packaging is ecofriendly). Available at 14 Carrots in New London and the Co-op Food Stores in Hanover and Lebanon.



S. Maloney

Grantham resident **Joe Watts** gave bowls as wedding and Christmas presents, and only started selling them because his wife asked, "What are you going to do with these bowls?" This bowl was made from a cherry root burl he hauled a mile out of the woods with his ATV and skidder. Joe's wood bowls can be found at The Center for Traditional Arts at Center Harbor, the Shaker Museum in Canterbury and Artful Things in Lebanon. You can also contact him directly at 863-6034. Prices range from \$75 to \$1,000.

