

Penn Bookstore

The Penn Bookstore kicks-off the holiday season with its 25th Annual *Sale-A-Bration*, December 14 through 16, offering storewide savings of 20%. Complimentary refreshments will be served on Thursday, December 14, 5 to 8 p.m. in conjunction with a musical performance by the Arpeggio Jazz Trio. Also that day, gift-wrapping (normally \$2) will be free with any Penn Bookstore purchase and shoppers will get the opportunity to have their picture taken with Santa. And that's not all . . .

Now through December 22, Barnes & Noble offers holiday discounts of 25% off all glassware and ceramic mugs; jewelry; domestics/small electronics; lighting; storage; boxed cards; wrap boxes; wrap & bows; gift bags; backpacks; posters; school spirit outerwear; and AT&T prepaid phone cards.

Let's not forget the books, now. Truly a mega-store, the Penn Bookstore is a picture-perfect definition of one-stop-shopping. With its massive in-store stock and two large levels of wall-to-wall books, spanning the equivalent of one city block, the Bookstore may seem overwhelming, at first, for those of us who get shopping anxiety around the holidays. Nevertheless, the proficient signage demarcating sale items and offering gift ideas and multiple, conveniently located information desks/cash registers make the shopping quick and easy.

For children, the Bookstore provides a wonderful haven called *Penn & Me: the Funderburg Community Bookstore*. Featured items include the Madeline collection, anything from books and audio read-along cassettes, to a plush Madeline toy with a backpack (\$34.95). Rugrats, Winnie-the-Pooh and Friends, Disney's 102 Dalmatians, Harry Potter and Dr. Seuss paraphernalia are also well represented.

Walking back on the first level, shoppers will come upon items from the University of Pennsylvania Collection. Classy and school spirited gifts from this collection can get pretty pricey, but prepackaged gifts—such as decorated Penn beer mugs containing Penn chocolates (\$7 to \$22)—or charming teddy bears bearing a knit Penn sweater and a Santa hat or yarmulke (\$20 to \$50) can bring a smile to the face of even the Grinchiest officemate. Some other gift items are a wide assortment of picture frames, framed and unframed prints and calendars that feature everything from fine art to cartoons to sports to animals (\$9.95-\$11.95).

Upstairs, shoppers will be relieved to find the Penn Café, where they can take a break from their holiday purchasing pursuits, though even the Penn Café has an entire Godiva chocolate gift center as well as coffees and coffee-related items for the holidays. Predominantly containing textbooks and housewares, the upper level also has a music department on the end opposite the Café. Complete with listening booths, the music department has special holiday themed CDs on sale (\$6.99) as well as portable CD players and walkmen, CD cases and racks, and select box sets. Though the Bookstore's CD shop sells music from a wide range of genres, including pop, classical, jazz, new age and world music, it is also the only place to purchase CDs of your favorite Penn singing and instrumental groups. Penn authors' books, as well as books about Penn and Penn Press books (see page 4), are prominently displayed in the center of the upper level, making it easy to share the heart of

Holiday Shopping On Campus and On the Web

As Almanac once again sent its elves all over campus to find the best gifts of the season, they found the shops on campus have much to offer shoppers whether they want to visit the traditional venues or their online counterparts. A new on-line Penn shopping destination is www.shopatpenn.com/ with links to eight options from Annenberg Center to WXPN. Holiday shopping at Penn would not be complete without the traditional *Sale-A-Bration* at the Bookstore—this year is the 25th annual celebration. The Museum continues its own tradition, which adds an element of surprise with their *Scratch and Save Sale*. From books to bikes—from computers to cosmetics—from teas to ties—there are more choices than you might suspect.

Penn with loved ones this holiday season.

Holiday Hours: Monday-Saturday, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sunday, December 24: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Monday, December 25: Closed; Tuesday, December 26-Friday, December 29: 8:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

On the Web: The Penn Bookstore offers a wide variety of gifts and apparel for students, alumni, family, friends and kids. At www.bkstore.com/upenn you will find a number of the Bookstore's best selling items. Just grab your selection and toss it in your shopping cart. If you would like to order by phone, call (800) 237-8400 ext 210. —T.B.

Penn Book Center

An old favorite among the scholarly community, the Penn Book Center, at 34th and Sansom, offers the gift of personalized attention to its holiday patrons. A seemingly smaller shop in the shadow of the Penn Bookstore, the Penn Book Center should not be confused with its titanic competitor; what it may lack in size, it more than makes up for in attention to detail. The staff is extremely knowledgeable when it comes to their stock and adept at tailoring customer requests to order. New to the store are three sections: Religion & Science, Globalization, and Ecological Sustainability. In addition to their stock of course books, fiction and non-fiction works in various genres and fields of study, the Penn Book Center has a special section reserved for new Penn author releases downstairs, as well as an entire collection of works by Penn authors on their upstairs level. New to the Penn Book Center are exquisite, blown glass art objects in varied sizes (\$80; \$55; \$36).

Sale tables throughout the store encourage shoppers to browse and the window display on the Sansom Street side of the store features affordable gifts of interest such as *The Beatles Anthology* (\$45), *The New Yorker Cartoon Collection* (\$30) and *Jewish Art Masterpieces* (\$12.95). Store hours are Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Shoppers are advised to place any special orders in advance as the holidays approach; orders can take anywhere from three days to a week. —T.B.

House of Our Own Bookstore

For the anti-shopping shopper, weary of the overbearing commercialism of the holiday season, there's no place like House of Our Own—a book shop housed in an old Victorian home on Spruce Street—between 39th and 40th Streets. Open Mon.-Thurs., 10 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Fri.-Sat., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., this reader sanctuary provides an eclectic mix of literature from all over the world and nearly every area of interest imaginable. The peaceful, reflective setting is enhanced this time of year with antique Victorian ornaments hung beneath the lead and glass front window; the green pine garlands adorning the upstairs wrought iron balcony; and the smells from the coffee and holiday refreshments. Not only does House of Our Own alleviate the chaos caused by the hectic holiday rush, but it also is a good place to find non-mainstream books and

magazines for someone who appreciates works off the beaten path—with topics such as cultural studies, current politics and feminist theory. The staff is friendly and quite helpful and, aside from the huge selection of new books downstairs, House of Our Own has an entire second floor filled with used books (treasures waiting to be found!) which are, on average, much lower in price. Keep an eye out for holiday specials and extended hours as the season progresses. —T.B.

Museum Shop

Run to the December 5-22 surprise coupon sale at the Museum Shops. Bring your red postcard and PENNCARD for a chance to save from 15-75%. This year's selection includes brightly colored wooden animal sculptures from Mexico. Dragons, crabs, horses, cats, dogs, donkeys, elephants, in blue, purple, red, and yellow delight the eyes and make great gifts.

Enamel miniature teapots and vases in various shapes and exciting colors are painted and numbered by Kelvin Chen (\$24-\$26).

A collection of Venetian glass necklaces, bracelets, and earrings in iridescent colors are a must for the jewelry lovers on your list.

There is a room full of African artwork. Soapstone sculptures of animals and human forms in pale mauves and beiges, deep blues and black.

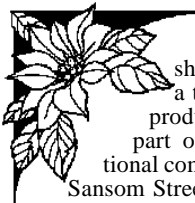
Silk scarves and ties inspired by ancient Roman designs and Batik-style vests, coats, and jackets and one-of-a-kind embroidered jackets from India.

Books, holiday cards, Egyptian jewelry, board games, tee shirts, mugs, limited edition blown glass, Polonaise Christmas ornaments, distinctive mouse pads, wrapping paper and more will be part of the Coupon Sale. —M.A.M.

Pyramid Shop

For the kids on your list the Pyramid Shop offers a nice change of pace from the Nintendo and pooh chi dogs on their lists. With a great selection of books from around the world, and games and toys you're not likely to find elsewhere—take the walk. The Make A Mummy discovery kit shows what a tomb looks like and provides a model and wrap to wrap your own mummy. There is also the wildlife toy and book collection of animals including polar bears, tigers, pandas, kangaroos, elephants, gorilla and more (\$9.95 and up). Give Roman coins (\$3.75) or great stocking stuffers of tattoos, Egyptian jewelry, flowers and stickers and transfers (\$1). They have a great selection of handmade Christmas ornaments from around the world (\$2-\$32). An ancient Mesopotamian school tablet, Sumerian pictograph tablet, and ancient Egyptian heart scarabs sell for \$9.95 and come with descriptive information.

Scratch and Save: The Museum has continued the tradition of the "surprise discount" for shoppers at both the Museum and Pyramid Shops. A card has been mailed to all faculty, staff and students valid today through December 22, to present upon purchase. As the cashier scratches off the patch on the card it reveals a discount of 15% to 75%. Shop on line at www.upenn.edu/museum/PublicServices/shops.html. —M.A.M.



Black Cat

A trip to the Black Cat gift shop is a trip around the world, a truly global experience with products from practically every part of the national and international community. The quaint shop on Sansom Street now has a counterpart on the web (www.blackcatshop.com)—both offer an eclectic assortment of products made from recycled materials and handmade items from a variety of cultures.

From handmade colorful Armenian mittens and apple-scented candles (\$5) to a mirror in a wooden frame from Zanzibar (\$65) there is also a range of prices as well as country of origin. The Brazilian Rain Forest hand puppets are adorable (\$10) critters: jaguar, bat and squirrel. A company in Oregon has turned bike chains into earrings and bracelets. Meanwhile, another company, Motherboard, uses reclaimed circuit boards to create clocks, notepads and clipboards. Think you've heard it all? Not until you see the purses (\$60) from Relan made from real billboards! If you are old enough to remember the time when such things didn't exist, then you'll want to read, *Do You Remember Technology: Geeks, Gadgets & Gizmos* and *Do You Remember TV: The Book That Takes You Back* (\$10.95).

The Black Cat even has a whimsical selection of clever bird houses. A mother-daughter company in Pennsylvania makes rustproof vases, platters and candle plates that are hand-cast from recycled aluminum cans and auto parts. Hand-crafted picture frames from Italy (\$40) would enhance any photograph. The sleek wooden letter openers from Kenya (\$11) and the 12-inch rules with names of Women Rulers, Native American Rulers and Rulers of the World printed on the flip side would make special stocking stuffers. The soft-soled moccasins for kids (\$21) will keep the little ones' feet warm and colorful. Hemp socks (\$13) and shoelaces (\$4) are just a pair of the many items made from hemp, including paper and personal care products. Of course, the Black Cat carries a full line of White Dog cookbooks, aprons, mugs and more.

They also have quite a selection of jewelry, some is made of sterling silverware. Their selection of scarves is spectacular and colorful.

For a gift that looks like you went to the ends of the earth to get it, there's nothing like a whirlwind trip to a shop that has cornered the market on the unusual and unexpected. —M.F.M.

Saturn Club

Nestled behind Black Cat and White Dog Café, along Moravian, is Saturn Club, which provides the expected services along with skin care, nail polishes, hair care products, and hair accessories such as head bands and barrettes. Tempted to try a tattoo? They have temporary tattoos. For the holidays, they have gift sets, some have a picture frame, shampoo and conditioner (\$15) while others include a candle instead of frame. Know someone who has tension in their back? Hit the Spot massage tool (\$18) is intended to relieve their stress. Gift certificates are available. The shop is open 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Mon-Sat. —M.F.M.

Sprint

A new store at 3401 Walnut, the Sprint Store has cellphones for those of you who have until now resisted the urge. They carry a variety of cellphones including Sprint, Motorola, Nokia, Qualcomm, Samsung, and Sanyo. There are plans ranging from \$29.99 for 1,000 minutes per month to \$84.99 for 2,000 minutes a month for the family. They also carry adapters, and covers. Or visit www.sprintpcs.com. —M.A.M.

Computer Connection

No time like the present to start the little one on computers. Jumpstart Baby (\$35) is perfect for the 9-24 month-old who can't wait to get their little hands on a computer. With CD and large mouse, babies can learn about shapes, music, color, clothing and animals. For the older kids on your list there is the Dr. Seuss, Blues Clues and Dinosaur Hunter Deluxe software (\$19.99).

For the really big kids on your list the Mac Cube looks good on any computer table (\$2,249). But the must-have for that student is the Palm Pilot. They are available (\$149-\$439) as are all the accessories for your computers and lots and lots of software.

They have a website www.upenn.edu/ccx. By the way, they have price categories on the website to make shopping easier. —M.A.M.

Camera Shop Inc.

From minimum to maximum this store has it all for your photographic needs. Start a little one off taking pictures with the Talking Big Bird Camera (\$14.99) or the Barbie 35 mm Camera Kit for (\$17.99). For the computer savvy there are digital cameras from the Kodak i-Zone (\$99.99) to the Olympus D-360L (\$299) to Nikon Coolpix 880 Zoom (\$799).

For the gadget lover on your list there is the Aiptek PenCam Trio. It is a digital camera, camcorder and a web camera in one (\$79.99). Of course, there are video cameras, film, picture frames and photo albums available. You can shop on line for these items and much more at www.ritzcamera.com. —M.A.M.

Radio Shack

Other than the usual audio and video products that you expect at Radio Shack, it also carries items such as radio control cars (\$14.99-\$99.99) and internet accessories like web cameras. Want to get someone a cell phone this holiday? Radio Shack carries a comprehensive stock of cell phones, including Motorola, Ericsson, Sprint, and Nokia. If you want to save a walk to 40th Street, you can also shop on-line at www.radioshack.com. —A.L.

Video Library

You'll find little surprises at the Video Library if you're willing to walk that extra block to 41st and Locust. You can get videos of recent movies including *X-Men* and *Chicken Run*, or you can go for the classics like *The Wizard of Oz*. Ever wonder what movies are out on tape? Get the latest *Video Movie Guide 2001* (\$8.99). Be sure to look at the overstock shelf that carries used videos for sale (\$1 to \$10.95). Here you can get *Toy Story 2* or *Girl, Interrupted* (\$9.95). If you know someone who will have fitness on their New Year's Resolutions list, get them Jane Fonda exercise videos or better yet, Cher Fitness videos (\$2.95) on the overstock shelf. If you can't make up your mind as to what videos to buy, simply get a gift certificate. You can put any amount on a declining balance, and the recipient can use it for both rentals and purchases at the Library. —A.L.

Spruce Street Records

As the only place left on campus entirely devoted to music, Spruce Street Records is a great place for shoppers who would rather buy their music in person and close to home than on-line or downtown. Open Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Sun., noon-5 p.m., Spruce Street carries a large selection of new CDs at regular prices (\$12 to \$16) as well as rare LPs and box sets (prices vary). Unlike the Penn Bookstore's music department, Spruce Street Records boasts

a large and diverse collection of used CDs for much less (around \$7 or \$9) which are well worth perusing. Shoppers even have the option to sell their old CDs, should the ol' holiday budget need a little extra padding. Gift certificates are available, if you aren't sure what to buy, but if you need any help, the owner, Jim, is friendly and very knowledgeable. Special orders for those hard-to-find CDs, like imports, are not an obstacle, either, and can be ready for pickup in as soon as 24 hours.

—T.B.

Bike Line

This store stocks plenty of bike accessories that would make great gifts. If someone you know bikes all seasons, Pearl Izumi gloves will keep their hands warm this winter (\$39-45). These also work well as cross-country skiing gloves. Warm riding jackets made from reflective materials are also available. Has the biker complained to you about the hard saddle? Oasis gel saddles designed by urologists will ensure a comfortable ride. For those who park their bikes in the city, better get the ultimate New York City Lock by Kryptonite. Although this chunky chain link lock costs \$100, replacing a stolen bike will cost much more. For the child biker in your family, 12- and 16-inch bikes are just their size (\$110-\$150). This holiday season, Bike Line will be open on Sundays for last-minute shopping, and from December 8 to 10, the store will take 10% off all clothing. Also, don't miss the daily sale that is only available at the University City store location, featuring a different item everyday. If you like, browse the on-line catalog at www.bikeline.com before you visit the store. —A.L.

Eastern Mountain Sports

You don't have to be an extreme sports aficionado to take advantage of the sales at EMS. Now through December 10, expect to find high quality outdoorwear such as Columbia, North Face and EMS's own line at sale prices, for instance, their most popular item, a men's fleece jacket or pullover (\$39.50). Another sale, on the heels of their current one, runs from December 11-17, and knocks 20% off all insulated outdoorwear as well as all hats, gloves, mittens and sweaters. For the serious nature enthusiast, the store offers equipment for a variety of activities, such as camping, hiking and rock-climbing. Some of the items include backpacks, blankets, hiking boots, binoculars, cookware, and even snowshoes! In particular, EMS carries a wide selection of Leatherman tools (\$20-\$80).

On a more playful note, the store also offers seasonal items such as a plush polar bear, moose or otter in a can (\$10/ea.); youth and toddler teddy bear hats, too cute to bypass (\$14.99); National Parks Monopoly (\$35); and high quality stuffed animals (\$25-\$50). The best thing about EMS is the store's atmosphere: the service is friendly, the staff is well informed, and there is an abundance of informative pamphlets and signs next to almost every display of merchandise. As always, gift certificates are available in any amount.

Shopping on-line at www.emsonline.com has the added advantage of a "Holiday Gift Guide" detailing the 100 most popular presents EMS has to offer. EMS on-line also has helpful sections like "ideas for women," "toys for the techie," and "great gear under \$50." Remember to order all your items before noon on December 18, for guaranteed delivery by Christmas. —T.B.



Roses Florist

This year, although Roses Florist has less space than before, there is still plenty to choose from. A variety of Christmas decorating plants including poinsettias (\$3.99 and up), wreaths (\$10 and up), Christmas cactus and small decorated Christmas trees for those with little time (\$7.99) are perfect. Irises, Asiatic lilies, roses, of course, and many more flowers round out a great array for bouquets and arrangements.

In addition to flowers there is an unusual candle gift, Kahl Candlepots, which are hand-made (\$11.95 and up). There is an assortment of picture frames, cards, vases, and baskets. Roses carries a collection of Gund stuffed animals and small Winnie-the-Pooh characters that can adorn your packages (\$9.99).

Want gifts delivered? There is a \$3.50 charge for campus, \$6 in state, \$8 in the United States and \$18 to deliver to Europe. If you want to send a Christmas arrangement, they start at \$30. Mention seeing this information in *Almanac* and get free delivery on campus through the holidays. —M.A.M.

The Paper Garden

Formerly University of Cards, the shop has relocated to 3402 Sansom Street and occupies two floors. One of the many fun things in the store is a collection of pop-up Christmas cards, (\$5), for that person on your list who collects Christmas cards. They have a large collection of stuffed animals, and carry Harry Potter journals (\$8.99-\$12.95) and stationery (\$10.95).

In addition, they have academic weekly calendars (\$9.99-\$19.99), photo albums (\$24-\$30), address books (\$5.99 and up), candles, and stationery by the sheet (.15-.30), gift wrap, and paper goods. Need candy, boxes of cards, stickers, balloons? It's all here in one shop. —M.A.M.

Houston Hall Card Shop

Since Houston Hall's reopening this year, there is a new card shop at the west end of the lower level. More spacious than the old one, it has much more than cards. The boxed Hanukkah and Christmas cards are now on sale: buy one box and get the second for 50% off. Looking for Advent calendars or 2001 calendars? They have some of both types including the official 2001 Millionaire calendar (\$10.99) for the fan of that popular TV show.

Want to spice up your life? They have an assortment of aromatic spiced candles with delectable scents. Mugs, mugs and jumbo mugs (\$12.99) for those with a serious thirst. The shop has an old-fashioned candy counter where you can buy by the pound. Santas are plentiful here in many variations on the theme.

The stuffed animals are downright exotic: frogs, ostriches and otters are among the menagerie. The Gund snowpeople (\$26) are charming for kids of all ages. Speaking of snow, there are Snow Buddies, a line of adorable collectibles, for the wintery weather. Need another stocking stuffer? The miniature editions of books (\$4.95) are on dozens of topics. For those who cherish memories, the Keepsake box and photo album sets (\$18.99) provide a safe haven for treasures. The shop is open 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.; and 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sun. —M.F.M.

Avril 50

To step inside Avril 50 is to experience the smells and tastes of other worlds as well as their magazines without leaving campus. This Sansom Street tobacconist is one of the few shops in the city that carries the world's most authoritative magazines for the graphic artist, photographer, techie or designer. Why not share the news of

other nations with a friend and give them a gift certificate?

Or coffees by the pound (\$10-12) or half-pound (\$5-6). Avril 50 also carries aromatic loose teas, from Earl Grey to passion fruit, averaging \$5 per half-pound, with some from Japan a bit higher (\$12 per half pound). While stuffing your stockings, remember chocolates from Belgium, Holland, Germany, England and Switzerland (under \$4). New this year is a popular British tea called "Fortnum & Mason", as well as chocolate favorites like the German "Milka", the French "Michel Cluizel" and "Valrhona", and the Belgian "Côte d'Or".

Calendars and engagement books make timely and sophisticated gifts, and Avril 50 has them, as well as pretty paper to wrap it all up in. Their elegant seasonal stationery (\$12.95-\$15.95) complete any holiday package. For those who would like to add exoticism to their gift-giving this season, Avril 50 has imported hookahs from the Middle East with its special style of tobacco in a tin. —T.B.

Messages

The new kid on the block at Sansom Common this year is Messages. Located on Walnut Street—between Steve Madden and The Ivy Grille—Messages is open seven days-a-week (Mon.-Sat.; 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun., noon-5 p.m.) and offers all the answers to your gift-giving wishes. This spacious store is fully stocked with just about anything holiday-related, from card sets, wrapping paper and decorative gift bags to tables, racks and shelves overflowing with Hanukkah, Christmas and other seasonal items. As an added bonus, Messages is having a special promotion on seasonal boxed cards: buy one, get the second for half-price.

In the center of the store, you'll see a horse-shoe-shaped register area, which doubles as a confectionery display case; it showcases delectable holiday treats such as holiday malt balls, speckled with green and red (\$4.95/lb.) and chocolate-dipped pretzels with covered in toffee crumbs (\$11.95/lb.). Oversized plush toys, mainly bears, (\$30 to \$75). And you can't miss the largest collection of miniature Santa's on campus: made of resin, they average \$50 and range from traditional Victorian likenesses to motorcycle Santa. Messages impresses with their extensive Hanukkah display, featuring decorative cake plates (\$34) and hand-painted candy dishes in the shape of a dreidel (\$12). Collectibles of all shapes and varieties adorn the store, and the abundance of interesting and cute decorative items ensure that shoppers may get away with making all of their holiday purchases at Messages without giving the same gift twice. —T.B.

CVS

CVS on Walnut Street (and www.cvs.com) has lots of tasty treats—more flavors of candy canes than ever before, popcorn tins which now include not only popular popcorn but a 500-piece puzzle which matches the tin's design (\$8.99), Hickory Farms gift sets including cheeses (\$7.99), and boxed chocolates which are pre-wrapped for that last-minute gift. CVS also has a silly Sax-playin' Santa which is sure to amuse (\$19.99) a music-lover who can hum along. A Currier & Ives stoneware set of sugar bowl, creamer, napkin holder and salt and pepper shakers from the Museum of the City of New York (\$5.99) would bring back that feeling of the olden days. Want to make bath time fun for the little ones on your list? Wash cloths named Harry the Horse, Dusty the Dog, Connie the Cow and Betty the Bunny (\$3.99) will add some character to tub time. —M.F.M.

Inn at Penn Gift Shop

Just inside the Sansom Street entrance to the Inn at Penn is the Gift Shop which has an unexpected collection of Museum silk ties to complement virtually any man's personality. There are so many to choose from: the Constitution, crossword puzzles, musical notes, and the Zodiac, just to name a few (\$15.75 each or 3 for \$40). Their Vincent VanGogh notepads, mugs and balls with quotes would have the art lover on your list seeing stars. For the real Philadelphian there is the mug with Philadelphia: A View of the World (\$8.99) and Philadelphia hats (\$12.99). The shop, which is now open 7 a.m.-10 p.m., 7 days/week also doubles as the hotel's Business Center with a fax machine and copier available and a computer coming soon. —M.F.M.

Sheraton Gift Shop

Sheraton's Gift Shop has a variety of socking stuffers like mugs, key rings and magnets. The angel dolls have their own names—Hope and Faith—and personalities. If you want to give a little piece of Philadelphia, they have things to make anyone feel welcome such as collectible souvenir spoons and thimbles featuring the Liberty Bell. Even though it may be small, the shop has an assortment of practical gifts such as glow-in-the-dark alarm clock, photo albums, picture frames and snowglobes. —S.R.

Penn Tower Gift Shop

The Penn Tower Gift Shop has a great selection of note cards. In the shape of stores—an antique store, pet store, and tea shoppe—the note cards inside are shaped like items you would find in the store (\$8.95). Magnetic note pads in the shape of potted flowers (tulips, hydrangea, etc.) look great in any kitchen. They also have collectible Room With a View wall scenes (\$20-\$40) that are a great gift for the collector on your list. New this year, they carry Gertrude Hawk candy and Sweet Shop Chocolates. Oh, yes they do carry a great assortment of flowers, poinsettias, and Norfolk pines (\$5-\$50). There is a 10% off cash and carry on flowers if you are a Penn employee. —M.A.M.

HUP Gift Shop

The HUP Gift Shop has men's silk socks and ties, stuffed animals including the singing Grinch (\$19.99) and the snowman that sings and dances to Jingle Bells (\$21.99). Cards, and a selection of costume jewelry help the hurried shopper complete their work. —M.A.M.

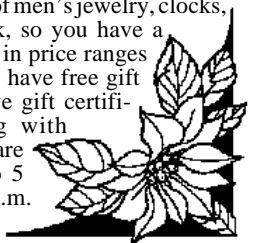
CHOP Gift Shop

The CHOP Gift Shop has some cute stocking stuffers including puzzles, games and stuffed animals. They also carry a selection of angels for decorating the house or office. —M.A.M.

University Jewelers

University Jewelers has a large selection of watches for your perennially late friend or relative, including Mavado, Seiko, Pulsar and Toso. For the jewelry lover on your list the selection of bracelets, necklaces and earrings glitters from sterling silver to gold to platinum and semi-precious stones to emeralds, sapphires, diamonds, and pearls.

Someone have writers block? Cross pens with the Penn seal may be just the thing. There is also a large selection of men's jewelry, clocks, and picture frames. Ok, so you have a budget; they have gifts in price ranges from \$10 and up. They have free gift wrap, engrave and have gift certificates available along with friendly service. Hours are Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. —M.A.M.



ma jolie

Even if you think you won't buy here, go in and take a look. Scarves, silk, and wool in colors that will warm on the coldest night. Knit hats that just snuggle around your ears (\$20), and sweaters big and loose and bright and tight-priced from practical to not are a delight to the eyes. For the party season it's velvet, velvet, velvet. Soft and clingy, the selection of dresses and jackets for the holidays is great.

Of course the jewelry is the perfect accessory to the outfits. Beads in all colors, light and dark necklaces and bracelets are great fun to wear.

For the very little ones on your list why not start them out in style? ma jolie has a small but fun collection of one piece outfits for newborns to about two years. The Jameez in a Jar is great, 100% cotton pajamas in a plastic jar (\$26.88). For the collector of retro there is the Felix The Cat Snack Box (\$18). Also a nice collection of wooden puzzles. Gift certificates are available.

They too have a website www.majolie.com if you want to shop on-line. —M.A.M.

Urban Outfitters

OPEN 24 HOURS is plastered all over the glassy facade of Sansom Common's own Urban Outfitters, providing a sigh of relief to last-minute shoppers of all ages. Upon closer inspection, however, passersby will realize that the sign refers not to the store itself, but to the newest addition in the ever-changing Urban Outfitters repertoire—their website—www.urbn.com. Not to fear, late-shoppers, the store itself is one of the few at Penn which stays open late (Mon.-Wed., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri., 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sat., 10 a.m.-7 p.m.). Besides their presence on the web and their elaborate window installations amongst the shops at Sansom Common, there is no indication elsewhere of what the store has to offer. So, in keeping with the air of mystery surrounding this Sansom Common staple, all I can tell holiday shoppers is what they may go and see for themselves. The look this season at Urban Outfitters appears to be young and hip, with a bit of rock 'n' roll thrown in for good measure.

With their clever floor displays, Urban Outfitters has really made it easy for its shoppers to keep their gift ideas fresh and diverse. Walk through and see for yourself, or shop on-line at www.urbn.com. The website offers diverse ideas for ensembles befitting men, women and the home, with gift certificates available in \$25, \$50, \$100, \$150 and \$500, to boot! —T.B.

The Gap

Bucking the traditional reds, greens, blues and golds, The Gap has painted the winter holiday season in cool, yet vibrant pastels taking shoppers—young and old—by storm. On her must-have list is the “chunky” turtleneck sweater (\$48); the season's essential chunky sweater in cozy wool with a great classic fit. Choose her favorite shade and add the matching chunky scarf, hat, or mittens to complete her look. The “candy cane crew” (\$48) is a striped lambswool sweater that makes a great gift when paired with matching striped accessories (hat, \$16.50; scarf, \$22). The top holiday item for teens and the young-at-heart alike is The Gap's luxe stretch velvet boot-cut jeans (\$58) “because it's your favorite jean dressed up”—also available in satin and glitter materials. For men, Gap offers a supersoft fleece pajama top (\$26) paired with plaid pj pants (\$29.50), perfect for lounging at home. Boxers are packaged in sets of 3 (\$25) in seasonal prints and prepackaged pajama sets for both him (\$48, in flannel) and her (\$49.50, in

fleece) give loved ones a warm feeling inside and out this winter.

Being a part of a big chain lets The Gap work to your advantage providing gift certificate options for any amount, which may be redeemable at any Gap, Gap Kids, Baby Gap or Gap Outlet. Quick, easy and convenient shopping seems to be the motto: all of their staff have undergone special “holiday training” to accommodate the shopper on-the-go. Whether you frequent the store or are a relative newcomer, expect to go into The Gap and see signs labeled “Here's the gift” during this time of the year—it doesn't get any easier than that. From prepackaged bath and body sets to comfort moccasins, The Gap is full of gift ideas for the clueless.

The Gap merchandise is mostly casual and sporty, but there are some elegant gift sets that seem tailor made for “Secret Santa” or “Pollyanna” purposes. “GapScents” return this season with “dream” (a unisex scent), and “Blue No. 655” for him and her. GapScents come in gift sets (\$2-\$35), including candles, fragrant bath beads, terry wash mitts and bars of glycerin soap. With special in-store only promotions, shoppers can pick and choose from the many lip shiners and fragrances to create their own gift.

Gap's website, www.gap.com, not only has outfit ideas (too numerous to count), but they have provided web surfers with their entire winter print ad campaign; so if you saw something in a magazine or on a billboard, ordering the items from that very ad is merely a click away. Though they don't have a campus shop, GapKids and BabyGap are both on-line at www.gapkids.com and www.babygap.com. —T.B.

Steve and Barry's

Steve and Barry's not only has a complete stock of Penn clothing and paraphernalia, it also has the best deals. Get a longleeve t-shirt and get three other items (t-shirts, boxers, or hats) free. Or get two pairs of shorts for the price of one. There are other bargains on sweatshirts and windbreakers. Not into clothing? Steve and Barry's also carries stuffed animals wearing Penn shirts or ties, keychains, mugs and glasses, wallets, and stickers, all with Penn logos on them. —A.L.

Steve Madden

The Steve Madden store has certainly “held its own” at Sansom Common as the only shoe store on the east side of campus. Complimenting its surrounding boutiques, this store is sure to provide the finishing touches to any holiday outfit or gift. There is literally something new at Steve Madden every day, as one of their staff told me, they constantly replenish their stock with the most popular sellers, or “classics” as they call them, as well as the newest in footwear fashion. The big thing this season (besides the beloved knee-high boot) seems to be a hybrid of the sneaker or running shoe and the leather dress shoe. Steve Madden has them in spades (\$50 to over \$100). Most boots and shoes are on sale now, with prices averaging from \$50 to \$80. Dress shoes (\$59-\$89); casual, basic versatile styles (\$49-\$99); and ankle to knee-high boots (\$79.99 and up). Steve Madden offers other non-shoe items like fashionable and reasonably priced handbags and backpacks. Select handbags in all shapes and sizes have been marked down (\$9.99) and there are specials on certain outerwear items.

Fuzzy slippers make great gifts for virtually anyone and Steve Madden has them in pastels as well as leopard, dalmatian and zebra prints on sale (\$25-\$29). They even have a fuzzy slipper in the shape of a big bear claws in baby blue, lavender and pink (\$39).

But if you're having trouble picking out a present for your favorite shoe maniac in your life, gift certificates are available in any amount. Although the store is open 7 days-a-week (Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sun., noon-6 p.m.) “moonlight madness” sales (where the store stays open later than usual) may be in the wind later on this month so keep checking in with the store for details.

Or, shop on-line at www.stevemadden.com, where each shoe in stock has its own name and personality; there are even suggestions on how to wear any given shoe and what outfit would suit it best! —T.B.

Grand Shoes

This little shoe shop on Spruce carries mostly dress shoes for men and women. From conservative pumps to funky faux-fur boots and soft walking shoes to sandals, Grand Shoes has it all. You can also get some nice leather bags here to go with your shoes. The store will have a 20% off holiday sale, so be sure to drop by for some bargains. —A.L.

Natural Shoe Store

Not only does Natural Shoe Store carry name brands like Nine West, Saucony, Steve Madden, and Dr. Martens, just about every shoe in the store is on sale. Does someone you know need a good pair of walking shoes? Get some Birkenstock sandals or Danskin clogs. Saucony sneakers are good choices for the young hipsters in your family. (\$36.95-\$42.95). For the athletic ones, Nike Air sneakers are as low as \$59.99. In case it snows more this winter than the last one, get some warm Timberland boots (\$68.95 to \$108). —A.L.

Douglas Parfumerie

If you have to do any holiday shopping someone on your list will want something from here. Bubble bath skin toner, baths salts, holiday soaps, candles, boxed sets for men and women of fragrances and skin products it's here. No walking through department stores being sprayed with every scent imaginable. Go in, browse and buy. All the well known manufactures including Clinique, Lancôme, Estée Lauder, Elizabeth Arden, Gucci, Shiseido, Origins, Hard Candy, Cliarns, and Ahava have value packs.

There are train cases, cosmetic brushes, umbrellas, purses, an eclectic collection of sponges and body brushes. Douglas provides a 10% discount to those with a PENNCARD for purchases of \$25 or more and free shipping anywhere in the U.S.

The paint can Pajama Party Kit for Six or the Goddess Gathering Kit for Four (\$37.50) add up to excitement. But, should four goddess be in one room at the same time? These could be the start of a fun night. Douglas Parfumerie also has a website, for those who want to shop way past bedtime, www.douglascosmetics.com. —M.A.M.

Modern Eye

How about a gift for yourself while you're shopping for others? You've put it off long enough. Glasses that actually have the right prescription is a good idea. Modern Eye has a large selection of frames including Ray Ban, Calvin Klein, Ralph Lauren, Armani, Vogue, Gucci, and Union Bay. However if you want to really treat yourself take a look at their exclusive lines like, i.a. Eyeworks, Lunor, Freudenhaus, and Lafont. —M.A.M.

