

# a Gift for Giving

By Gloria Hildebrandt

**W**inter is a time to get together with others.

Work parties. Religious holidays. Cultural festivities. New Year's Eve and Day. Birthdays. Simple dinner parties with friends and neighbours. All can be occasions when you don't want to arrive empty handed.

If you need a little inspiration, some ideas to start brewing, browse these pages for shops to explore and delights to consider, from low cost to *how much?* Turn the pages and start dreaming...



▲ More than 2,000 antique glass windows, most from England, to choose from. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. The Stonehouse of Campbellville, thestonehouse.ca.

◀ **Make Your Own Advent Calendar** — Fill the countdown calendar with homemade treats! Use the flexible, non-stick, dishwasher-safe silicone mould to make 25 individual designs. The kit comes with recipes, a reusable cardboard calendar with 24 numbered flaps and a plastic tray that slides out for easy filling. \$19.95. Lee Valley, Burlington, Niagara Falls, leevalley.com



▲ **Antiques in Wine Country** — Over 6,000 square feet are filled with the antiques and collectibles of 20 dealers. Fine china and crystal, primitives, textiles, military, jewelry, furniture, and tools are just some examples of the treasures on offer. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. Lakeshore Antiques & Treasures, Niagara-on-the-Lake, lakeshoreantiques.ca.



◀ **Colourful custom glass pieces** fill a window of The Gallery Upstairs, which offers a huge selection of unique gift ideas beyond fine art. Prices vary. Photo by Mike Davis. The Gallery Upstairs, Milton, thegalleryupstairs.com.

▲ **The Regency Series New York View** linear gas fireplace features a seamless clear view of the fire and can be used in any décor style. Features include an invisible glass safety barrier; reflective panels and interior lights to accentuate the flame; the ability to use any finishing material to the edge of the fireplace, even wood; and the option of placing a TV right above the fire. Around \$7,000 depending on options. Caledon Fireplace, Caledon, caledonfireplace.ca



▶ A vast selection of unique toys, books, crafts, games and more, at five locations in southern Ontario, including Collingwood. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. Minds Alive!, Collingwood, mindsalive.ca



▼ **Starry Night Cookie Stamps** — Easy to use, these sturdy stamps let you press designs into raw dough, rendering a detailed pattern that remains even after the cookies are baked. Made from cast aluminum, the birch-handled stamps are 3" in diameter. \$36.50 set of 3. Lee Valley, Burlington, Niagara Falls, leevalley.com



◀ **High-quality toys** even for the youngest child. Staff can provide expert advice to help select the right toy. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. **Minds Alive!**, Collingwood, mindsalive.ca



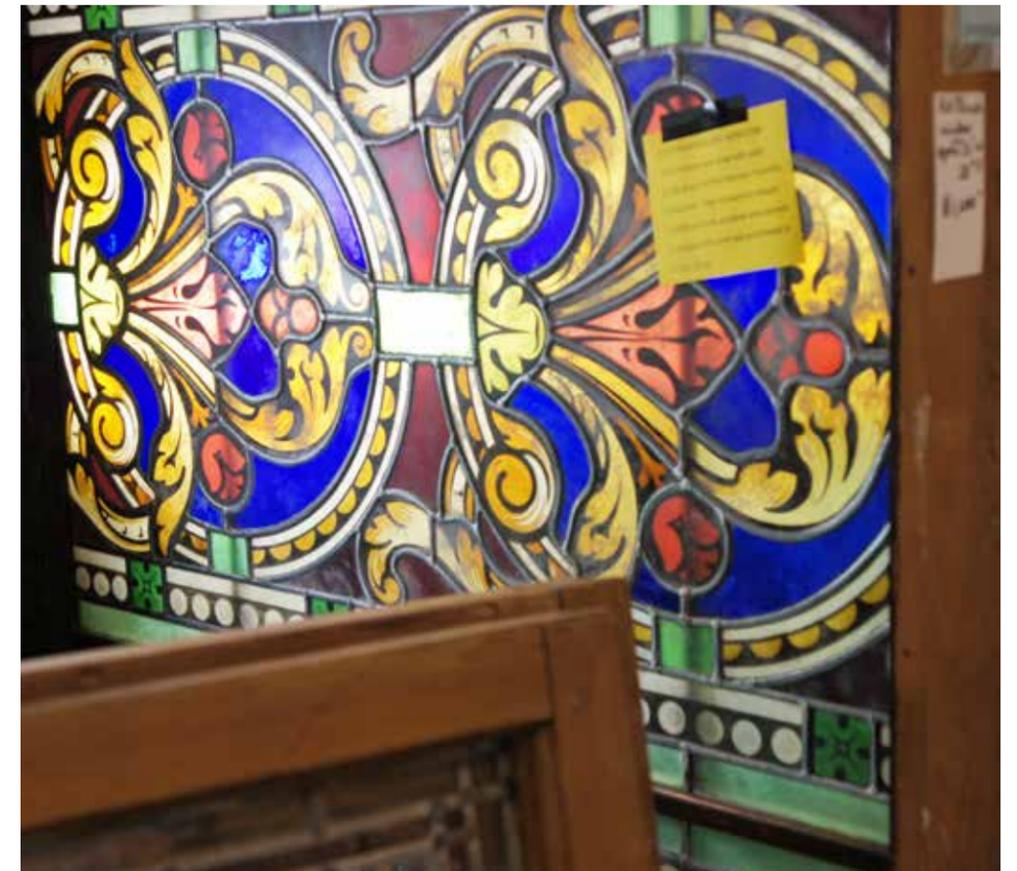
◀ **Musical Instruments** — Guitars to sitars, gongs to bongos and more. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. **Vinyland, Acton**, vinyland45.com.



▲ **Trendy and stylish beadwork pieces and costume jewellery** start at \$10. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. **The Gallery Upstairs, Milton**, thegalleryupstairs.com.



▲ **Incense & Holders** — A large variety of incense lets you choose how to improve your mood and the scent of your space. From \$1 to \$3; holders \$6 to \$18. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. **The Down to Earth Shoppe, Dundas**, theowntoearthshoppe.ca.



▶ **A vibrant stained-glass window** salvaged from (Honest) Ed's Warehouse in Toronto, approximately \$1,200. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. **The Stonehouse of Campbellville**, thestonehouse.ca.

When I was a child, my father used to take me Christmas shopping for the family. One year when I was a young teen, he waited until late afternoon of Christmas Eve. As our family is of German descent, we always celebrated on Christmas Eve.

So this was cutting things close. As well, for some reason he decided to shop at the local country general store. In those days the store was crammed full of everything the farming community could use, from open barrels of nails and screws of all

sizes, to heavy-duty rubber boots, metal pails, denim overalls, gloves for work and for dressing like a lady, as well as rows of cans of food.

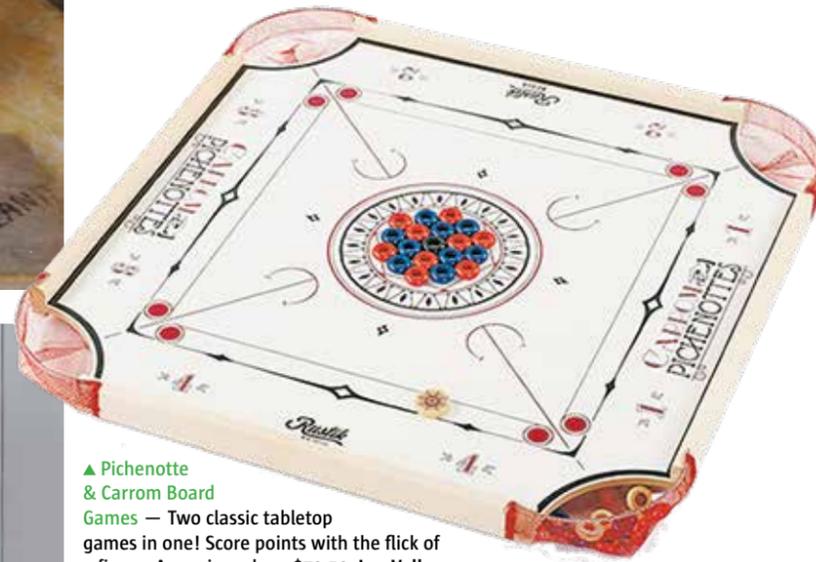
My Dad and I scoured that store for suitable presents and the pressure was on, because it was this store or nothing

under the tree later that evening. I had even younger nephews to buy for and wondered what we might find for them. We scored colouring books and crayons. Then we saw wooden toy puzzles. A flute. A little glider to put together. I think we added

some candy and chocolate bars, and were relieved to have some gifts to give. We may have wrapped the toys in the brown paper from my mother's stash of grocery bags, and tied them with my father's gardening twine. We may not have put anyone's



◀ **Old Vinyl & More** — Proudly selling “nothing new,” Vinyland has vintage albums from the ‘60s, 45s from before, and CDs from Indie groups. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. Vinyland, Acton, vinyland45.com.



▲ **Pichenotte & Carrom Board Games** — Two classic tabletop games in one! Score points with the flick of a finger. Ages six and up, \$79.50. Lee Valley, Burlington, Niagara Falls, leevalley.com



▲ **The Contura Ri50** is a modern statement piece with its clean, elegant lines and three glass viewing windows. Equipped to accommodate top and rear venting, the freestanding design makes it easy and economical to add a wood burner to any room. The optional steel side box can be used both as a contemporary bench seat and a stylish storage solution. Around \$7,000 depending on options. Caledon Fireplace, Caledon, caledonfireplace.ca

name on them, because it didn't matter who got what.

But how would the little boys respond to these humble items? Turns out, they were delighted.

I think there were some rapid exchanges once the gifts were unwrapped – someone

swapped the flute for the glider, but the toys entertained them for the whole of Christmas Eve. It wasn't the price of goods that gave value. It was simply their fun.

This winter, if you have gifts to buy for young or old, for Christmas, birthdays or



▼ **Decorative finds** from oil lamps to baby booties. Prices vary. Lakeshore Antiques & Treasures, Niagara-on-the-Lake, lakeshoreantiques.ca.



Statuary large and small, plus an international assortment of fine, fun and funky garden art are displayed outdoors. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. The Gallery Upstairs, Milton, thegalleryupstairs.com.

▼ **Earth-friendly Finds** — Local and fair-trade clothing, all-natural products and more, are all sourced with body, mind and the environment as a top priority. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. The Down to Earth Shoppe, Dundas, theowntoearthshoppe.ca.



For gifts that gladden ...

**10,000**  
local, Ontario,  
Canadian and  
international  
food items



**FOODSTUFFS**  
Specialty • Bulk • Health

89 Main Street South  
Downtown Georgetown  
foodstuffs.ca • 905.877.6569

## MIGWETCH

An exhibition and sale of fine works of art by leading indigenous artists:

**Norval Morrisseau**  
**Mishibinishima**  
**Leland Bell**  
**Randy Trudeau**  
**Carl Ray**  
**Carl Beam**  
**Josh, Goyce and Robert**  
**Kakegamic**  
and many others

Gallery de Boer - Fine Art  
969 - 2nd Ave East, Owen Sound  
(519) 376-7914  
Hours: Tues - Fri 9:30 - 6; Sat 9:30 - 8  
www.gallerydeboer.ca



▲ Puzzles for kids of all ages, plus building toys, science kits, craft kits and more. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. Minds Alive!, Collingwood, mindsalive.ca



▲ Festive Christmas china. Royal Albert tea cups & saucers in the "Poinsettia" pattern, made in England. \$20 each. Lakeshore Antiques & Treasures, Niagara-on-the-Lake, lakeshoreantiques.ca.



▲ T shirts and albums are good sellers at Vinyland in Acton, according to owner Frank Gaveckas. Prices vary. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. Vinyland, Acton, vinyland45.com.



► Didgeridoos, Djembe Drums — Playing Australian didgeridoos is said to help with sleep apnea. The coils are a lesser-known kind of didge. \$225 to \$410. At bottom are African Djembe Drums, up to \$360. The Down to Earth Shoppe also hosts didgeridoo workshops and drumming circles. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. The Down to Earth Shoppe, Dundas, thedowntoearthshoppe.ca.



▲ Lavish decorations for Christmas, including lights, large figures and story display cabinets, have been an annual presentation by The Stonehouse of Campbellville, which specializes in selling antique glass windows. The full spectacle can be seen from mid November to New Year's Eve. Admission to the grounds is free but there is a voluntary donation box with all the money collected, going to a women's shelter in Halton. PHOTO BY MIKE DAVIS. The Stonehouse of Campbellville, thestonehouse.ca.

one of the other holidays or celebrations, you may not have an old-fashioned general store nearby. You may also want to bring your gift giving up a notch or two.

From the pages of our magazine this past year, which is our 10th anniversary as we'd like to remind you, are some ideas and offerings from stores that

welcome your custom and are worth your visit. **NEV**

*Gloria Hildebrandt and Mike Davis are co-founders and co-publishers of this magazine.*

**The Gallery Upstairs**  
 3 Mill St., Milton L9T 1R7 • www.thegalleryupstairs.com

Come & visit The Gallery Upstairs  
 Milton's most exquisite "hidden gem" art gallery and gift shop!

Robert Bateman Art, Calendars & Mugs available

*Give the Gift of Garden Art*

Come and find your favourite gift  
 20% Off all garden art while quantities last!  
 For inquiries call: 905-875-8134

Niagara Escarpment  
**Views**  
 SPRING 2019

Available March 1  
 Reserve ad space by Jan. 25  
 Contact Mike: 905.877.9665  
 ads@NEViews.ca

**JOTUL** 

**CALEDON Fireplace**  
 Traditional Quality  
 Certified Sales & Installations  
 www.caledonfireplace.ca  
 888 212 4413  
 Located at the S.W. Corner of  
 Hwy. #10 and King St. in Caledon