

Spending a day in Truckee, Odds & Ends

Reno Gazette - Journal - Reno, Nev.

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Date: Apr 6, 2009

Start Page: C.1

Section: Living

Text Word Count: 568

Document Text

SIOBHAN SHOPS

By Siobhan McAndrew

Cookies shaped like bears and ladybugs are reasons enough to spend a day in Truckee.

Just 40 miles from Reno, Truckee is the perfect spot to spend an afternoon. The town, founded in 1863, has an upscale wild west charm. There are dozens of funky shops and cute restaurants.

On Truckee's main drag, you can purchase cookies shaped like bears, flowers and ladybugs. They seem like the perfect treat for the snowy town of Truckee.

I spent a lazy Monday there recently and felt as if I had gotten out of town. I met a friend for lunch at Dragonfly Restaurant and Sushi Bar and then spent the afternoon strolling the main street window shopping.

This time of year is perfect because the afternoon temperatures are in the mid-50s, and while you walk through the quaint town, you get postcard picture perfect views of the surrounding snow-covered mountains.

Three places not to miss when you go:

* The Niche, a household and clothing store opened in November. It's owned by the same people who run The Niche in Shoppers Square Mall in Reno. The store has great affordable clothing and cute home decor items. I picked up this pair of his-and-her metal hooks. I thought the hooks paired with towels would make the perfect wedding gift.

* The Cooking Gallery is two stories of cute kitchen gadgets. It's full of stuff you don't need, but want. I picked up this Basil Blue Sage kitchen Countertop Cleaner that is fabulous.

* Moody's Bistro & Lounge has a great selection of small plates and appetizers. I'd highly recommend the Tomato Soup en Croute and the Ahi four ways.

Directions to downtown Truckee: From Reno take Interstate 80 to the first Truckee exit. Turn right from the exit and then left onto Donner Pass Road toward downtown Truckee. After the stop sign continue straight. Parking on the main drag is done through new high tech meters. You pay at one of several ATM-like machines and display your paid ticket in your car window.

Odds & Ends

* Queen Beez, a new boutique at 1001 Pyramid Way is having its grand opening Tuesday through Saturday. The shop is owned by sisters Misty Lacey and Stacey Williams and is located over Sparks Florist. The shop sells clothing, bags, wallets, belts, jewelry and home decor items.

* Catholic Community Services is selling its Mother's Day cards to raise money for services that help area needy families. For \$25 your mother, sister, grandmother or friend will receive a card and her name on the "Mothers Wall of Fame," at St. Vincent's Center.

Donations that are given in the memory of an individual can have the tribute card sent to anyone they designate. Deadline is May 4. Details: Sandy Isham at 775-322-7073 ext. 224 or sisham@ccsnn.org.

* The Purple Pumpkin at 5057 South McCarran Blvd. is having its Mystery Egg Give Away through April 11. Stop in the store for an egg filled with a 15, 20 or 25 percent off coupons good for same day purchases of new items.

Send in your items to be included in Odds & Ends to smcandrew@rgj.com.

Captions:

PHOTOS BY SIOBHAN McANDREW/RGJ

Bear and ladybug cookies found in downtown Truckee.

His-and-her hooks found at The Niche in Truckee.

Basil Blue countertop cleaner found in downtown Truckee.

Downtown Truckee is a great, easy getaway for shopping.

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Abstract (Document Summary)

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