

Some Gift Ideas for Everyone on Your List...

For the Oenophile...

The Bijou Café in Sarasota has launched Le Jardin Cuvée Prestige, bottled exclusively for the Bijou by the renowned Les Freres Couillaud winery in France.

"We wanted to introduce our own signature wine to take our fine dining experience to the next level," says Knaggs. "Our good friend and wine guru and importer, Freddy Matson, helped us establish a partnership with Les Frères Couillaud winery to bottle their celebrated Le Jardin Cuvée just for us," says Knaggs.



Amelie Dugue-Couillaud with Clive Coates MW (Master of Wine), one of the world's leading wine authorities.

Photos by Evelyn England

"In the case of this wine, it's about knowing a variety of elements that influence the vine, including the type of soil it grows in and the people who grow and harvest it. By cooperating with the vintner and importer, we're able to bring a taste of real French wine to Florida at a great price. We hope our guests will enjoy the new wine as much as we enjoyed collaborating with Les Frères Couillaud."

Les Frères Couillaud produces high-quality wines on its family vineyards in the Loire Valley. "The Couillaud family is one of the outstanding winegrowers of the western Loire Valley," says Knaggs. "They produce Muscadets, Chardonnays and Sauvignon, which are renowned around the world. They follow the tenants of sustainable agriculture, which is very important to me."

Knaggs describes Le Jardin Cuvée Prestige as: "100 percent Chardonnay. It's refreshing, thirst-quenching and perfect for the Florida climate." He says the wine offers tropical fruit aromas of pineapples, yellow peaches, apricots and tangerines, which leave "a clean, citrusy fruit in the mouth and a hint of white flinty stone on the finish."

Le Jardin Cuvée Prestige is now available by glass and bottle to restaurant guests and will also sell retail by the case or bottle. The Bijou Cafe is located at 1287 First Street, Sarasota. Call 941-366-8111 or visit www.bijoucafe.net.



Le Jardin Cuvée Prestige

Photos by Evelyn England

For the Fitness Queen...

Working out is hard enough—packing your workout gear shouldn't be hard too. With designated spaces for sneakers, clothes, underwear, socks, and hats, this cleverly designed "One Stop Workout Packing Bag" is all that fitness buff on your list needs to get to the start line. Designed to make packing workout gear easier when traveling, this bag can also be your gym bag so now there's no excuse to sit on the couch. Available at GreatUsefulStuff.com. Cost: \$30.



For Fun and the Kid in all of us...



Peeps are not just for Easter! The iconic marshmallow brand, PEEPS, now offers a variety of holiday shape marshmallows and flavors such as red velvet, sugar plum, chocolate mousse, hot cocoa, candy cane and sugar cookie.

They also teamed up with the popular and trendy "Minion" characters and developed a banana cream flavored marshmallow that is the perfect addition for holiday celebrations.

Keep in mind PEEPS are gluten free, low fat and most varieties are less than 100 calories. And they're the perfect size for a stocking stuffer—yours or anyone else who is also a PEEPS lover. Available at most grocery stores.



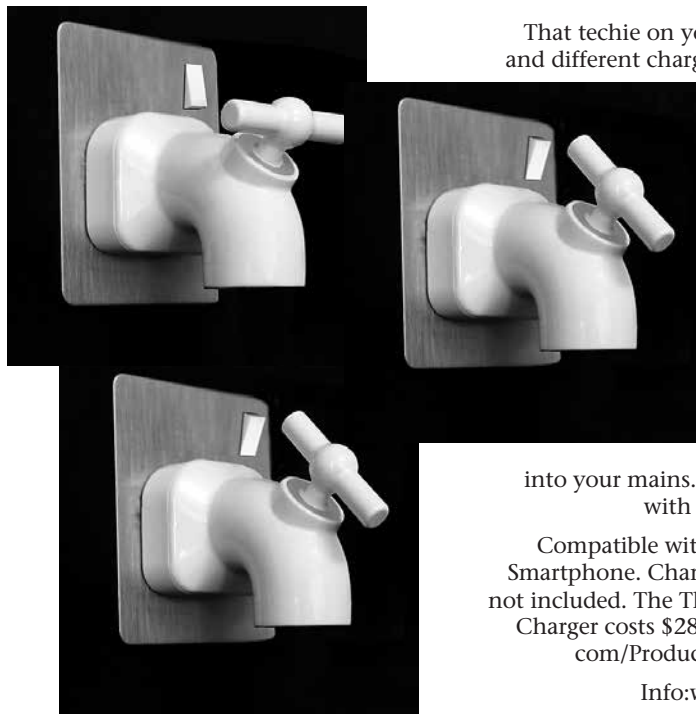
For the Art Lover...

Henri Matisse was everywhere in major exhibits around the world this past year. Now he can be on your wall at home...Workman Publishing's 2016 Calendars offer the Matisse Cut-Outs Frameable Poster Calendar (plus some of the most colorful, eye-catching, and innovative calendars out there).

Late in his career the artist Matisse turned almost exclusively to a stunning new medium—large swaths of vibrantly painted paper, cut out with scissors and arranged into unforgettable compositions. This beloved work was the subject of the most popular exhibition ever shown at London's Tate Modern, and at MoMA in New York.

Matisse Cut-Outs is the gift that every art lover will treasure. Showcasing a dozen works that are striking for their play of color, form, and contrast—including Blue Nude II, Snow Flowers, and Icarus—the calendar celebrates the brilliant final chapter in the career of one of the towering figures of modern art. Each piece is printed on a large-format page designed to be framed and displayed. Cost: \$16.99. Visit workman.com.

For the Trend Setter...



That techie on your list will love this stylish and different charger. This is a great addition to Smartphone accessories. The tap can be turned off and on as you would expect, changing the LED light from red to blue to indicate the phone is charging.

To charge your phone, plug your device's USB charging cable into the spout and then plug the Power Tap directly into your mains. The charger is compatible with most USB charging cables.

Compatible with iPhone, iPad, Tablet and Smartphone. Charging cable and connectors not included. The Thumbs Up! Power Tap USB Charger costs \$28.95. <http://www.vonmaur.com/Product.aspx?ID=1292271&pg=1>

Info:www.thumbsupuk.com/US

For the Coffee Fiend...



If you've ever been to the "Land of Enchantment" aka New Mexico, maybe you had the pleasure of enjoying piñon coffee. Sure to draw a smile, the nutty, creamy and mild coffee captures the scent of the southwest.

Whether you've ever been to New Mexico or not, this is a tasty bean that makes a nice cuppa and a wonderful gift for a coffee lover. New Mexico Piñon Coffee Company roasts more than 800,000 pounds of coffee per year and offer more than 50 flavors of coffee, including their traditional and decaf coffees. Flavors include: Almond, Apple Empanada, Chocolate Coffee Cake, Cinnamon, Coconut Almond Delight, Dulce de Leche, French Vanilla, Mexican Hot Chocolate and Pumpkin Spice to name a few.

Their coffee is made with a unique mixing of piñon (pine nuts, picked in the southwest), a multi-bean blend of high-altitude Arabica coffee and their custom flavoring. All coffees are hand-roasted in small batches.

The results are a rich, medium dark coffee with a smooth nutty flavor. If you're in New Mexico, they're in every grocery store. Some stores here sell it, but for sure find it at www.nmpinoncoffee.com. A 12 oz bags start at \$9 and Gift Boxes start at \$16.99.



A delightful and delicious way to prepare those piñon-infused beans is with a coffee press. A company called bobble offers such an item called simply, presse. It's a 2-piece stainless steel coffee press that brews coffee in just 3 minutes. Fill it with coffee grounds and hot water, wait 3 minutes, push down inner mug to filter, then grab and go. It's available in a silver and black SKU, with white and red SKUs launching in November. \$29.99 at www.waterbobble.com.