

# NEWS RELEASE

Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau



## Skip the Chain Stores and Shop for the Unique and Original in Rockford, Ill.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28, 2010

ROCKFORD, IL — If you're the type who's always looking for gifts that are unique and meaningful to the recipient rather than the everyday items you'd find in a chain store, then the Rockford Region is your perfect shopping destination. Rockford's locally-owned stores are full of unique and original items, whether you're shopping for the artistic, foodie, culturally-aware, girly, globally-conscious or the sports enthusiast.

### Artsy

Lovers of the artsy and whimsical will find a great selection of unique gift items throughout the Rockford Region. The [Coronado Corner Gift Shop](#), located adjacent to the Coronado Performing Arts Center, features Coronado souvenirs and other fine-crafted gifts, from handbags to jewelry, cards to candles. The Gift Shop is currently open one hour before and after all performances and during all performances, so visit the website or call the store before visiting.

For one-of-a-kind gifts, from jewelry to glass works to Rockford mementos, [J.R. Kortman Center for Design](#) is the perfect stop. This upscale shop and art gallery is dedicated to contemporary design in all aspects of life, from functional objects to fine art. The store features a unique mix of both decorative and utilitarian items, including architectural housewares, interior lighting, kaleidoscopes, toys, folk art, watches and more.

The [Rockford Art Museum](#) store, located in the front entrance to the museum's galleries, has gifts for all occasions, from children's books to beautiful, contemporary jewelry. The store features glass from Kosta Boda, pieces from the Frank Lloyd Wright Collection and gifts featuring artwork from the museum's permanent collection.

- Coronado Corner Gift Shop, 324 N. Main St., Rockford, 815.966.2100, [www.coronadopac.org](http://www.coronadopac.org)
- J.R. Kortman Center for Design, 107 N. Main St., Rockford, 815.968.0123, [www.jrkortman.com](http://www.jrkortman.com)
- Rockford Art Museum Store, 711 N. Main St., Rockford, 815.972.2865, [www.rockfordartmuseum.org](http://www.rockfordartmuseum.org)

### Foodie

What foodie doesn't go all gooey for handcrafted chocolates? At [Chocolat by Daniel](#), all of the chocolate pieces are handcrafted for the pure pleasure of indulging your sweet tooth. Choose from a selection of European-style truffles, gourmet chocolates, specialty chocolates and desserts made from the highest

– MORE –

quality raw Belgian, French, Swiss and Venezuelan chocolates. Chocolat by Daniel's servings contain no wax, preservatives, artificial flavors, corn syrup or added sugar and don't have an "assembly line" appearance. Have your chocolates elegantly boxed for that special someone.

- Chocolat by Daniel, 211 E. State St., Rockford, 815.969.7990, [www.chocolatbydaniel.com](http://www.chocolatbydaniel.com)

### Cultural

The Midwest usually isn't top of mind when it comes to finding gifts inspired by other cultures, so the Rockford Region's variety of culturally-inspired shops makes it a unique Midwestern destination. The gift shop at [Anderson Japanese Gardens](#), ranked the top Japanese garden in North America, is open year round. Shop for Asian-inspired gift items, such as glass and ceramic items, authentic Japanese teas and tea pots, wind chimes, stone garden lanterns, Momiji dolls and accessories and more. Be sure to enjoy a meal of Asian-fusion cuisine in the restaurant located on-site.

The Rockford Region is well-known for its strong Swedish background, so it's no surprise a fine Scandinavian gift imports store like [Finials](#) has made Rockford its home. When Finials opened in 1985, it served as a lamp shop with a wide variety of lamp shades. Over the years, the owners have embraced their Swedish heritage and expanded their inventory to include unique Scandinavian gifts, from handcrafted wood pieces to fine hand-blown Orrefors crystal to hand-woven sweaters and more.

For the Scottish or Irish, whether by birth or just in your heart, the magical Celtic spirit is alive at [The Kilt & Clover](#). The Kilt & Clover has become known for its wide range of high-quality, authentic and unique Irish and Scottish imports and gift items, including jewelry, garden items, plaques, clothing and more.

- Gift Shop at Anderson Gardens, 318 Spring Creek Rd., Rockford, 815.997.1197, [andersongardens.org](http://andersongardens.org)
- Kilt & Clover, 1645 N. Alpine Rd. (Edgebrook Center), Rockford, 815.229.5458, [thekiltandclover.com](http://thekiltandclover.com)
- Finials, 4626 E. State St., Rockford, 815.398.4428, [www.ifinials.com](http://www.ifinials.com)

### Girly

Sometimes shopping isn't about what you come home with but the thrill of spending a day with the girls. Crimson Ridge and [Roxy Carmichael](#) are two Rockford Region stores that really get it and are all about the girls-day-out. If you're looking for a nice selection of name brand items, including jewelry, handbags and accessories, Crimson Ridge is the perfect stop. Shop for Godiva Chocolate, Waterford Crystal, Swarovski, Vera Bradley, Brighton, Dooney & Bourke and more. Crimson Ridge also delivers flowers locally and worldwide through FTD and TeleFlora. Roxy Carmichael is all about what women want: purses, jewelry, home decor, gifts and more. This warm, social and intriguing boutique is where men and women alike find the perfect gift; a woman finds her own special pick-me-up; and friends meet to shop and hang out.

Both shops are great stops for men looking for the perfect gift for the special lady in their life.

- Crimson Ridge, 735 N. Perryville Rd., Rockford, 815.399.9000
- Roxy Carmichael, 310 N. Alpine Rd., Rockford, 815.316.7396, [www.roxycarmichael.com](http://www.roxycarmichael.com)

### Global

The globally-conscious shopper will find the Rockford Region is passionate about fairly traded and eco-friendly items. [JustGoods Fair Trade Store](#) is a socially-conscious store that promotes Fair Trade Organizations, which provide better trade opportunities for developing communities. Shop for food items such as coffee, tea and others; jewelry; housewares; clothes; toys; games and more.

[Phoenix Traders, Inc.](#) is another Fair Trade store in the Rockford Region, and it features an eclectic mix of merchandise from around the globe, including clothing, art, silver jewelry, household furnishings, incense and much more. [Minglewood, Inc.](#) offers a unique selection of merchandise from around the world, including natural incense, perfume, clothing, jewelry, handmade olive oil soap, aromatherapy candles, Indian tapestries, counterculture and alternative books and many other decor items

- JustGoods Fair Trade Store, 201 Seventh St., Rockford, 815.965.8903, [www.justgoods.info](http://www.justgoods.info)
- Minglewood, Inc., 1302 Broadway, Rockford, 815.961.1795, [www.minglewood.us](http://www.minglewood.us)
- Phoenix Traders, Inc., 215 Seventh St., Rockford, 815.962.4212, [www.phoenixtraders.com](http://www.phoenixtraders.com)

### Sporty

Chicago may have the Bears and the Cubs, but Rockford is home to the world's oldest family-owned Harley-Davidson dealership: [Kegel Harley-Davidson/Buell](#). This award-winning facility features a Harley and Buell showroom, as well as a shop chock full of gear and accessories, including items for kids and pets. Be sure to grab a bite to eat at the classic 50's homestyle Harley Diner located on-site!

And who doesn't know at least one golf enthusiast? [The Golf Shack](#) is an all-encompassing golf superstore – the largest golf complex in Illinois – with a 10,000-square-foot retail showroom, 50-tee super driving range with 20 covered and heated tees, a teaching academy, bent grass putting green and practice sand trap. Shop for all-things-golf, then enjoy a meal at Garrett's Restaurant & Bar, an upscale, full-service, casual cafe, bar and beer garden located on-site.

- Kegel Harley-Davidson/Buell, 7125 Harrison Ave., Rockford, 815.332.7125, [www.kegelmotorcycles.com](http://www.kegelmotorcycles.com)
- The Golf Shack, 1631 N. Bell School Rd., Rockford, 815.397.3709, [www.golfshack.com](http://www.golfshack.com)

*Rockford, IL, is located approximately 60 minutes west of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport off Interstate 90. For information on accommodations and things to do, visit [www.gorockford.com](http://www.gorockford.com). The Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau is a private, non-profit organization that champions efforts to promote and further develop the Rockford Region as an overnight visitor destination. RACVB generates positive economic impact for the community through investments in tourism marketing, sales, promotion and advocacy.*

###

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Mika Doyle, RACVB Communications Coordinator: 815.489.1678, [mdoyle@gorockford.com](mailto:mdoyle@gorockford.com)