

Buyer's Edge



Join today at www.kudzu.com/deals. Get deals of up to 75 percent off services for your home and family from top-rated Atlanta businesses.

Where can I find it?

By Sabine Morrow
sabinem.morrow@gmail.com

Q: I'm trying to find Blue Hill Grains. These are heirloom grains, and I would love to try making some recipes using them, but I can't find them. I'm willing to try different ones, but I'm especially eager to see the spelt and emmer combination. I'm computer illiterate, so researching online doesn't work for me. Can you help me in locating these, please? Thank you so much.

— *Caroline Smith, Marietta*
A: Move over heirloom tomatoes, here come the grains. Blue Hill Grains offers several heirloom varieties, including Waspie Valley corn and emmer wheat. You'll be pleased to know that Williams-Sonoma, 4475 Roswell Road, Marietta, 678-560-3660, recently started stocking these. You can find 2-pound bags of Blue Hill Grains Spelt-and-Summer blend, which offers a combination of emmer wheat (also known as farro), Bavarian spelt and Oberkulmer spelt for \$12.95. These organic grains are grown on small sustainable farms in upstate New York.

Q: I am looking to see if you can find Grandma Brown's Home Baked Beans. They are made in Mexico, N.Y. You take them from the can and then bake them in the oven. Thanks.

— *Christine Denslow, Norcross*
A: Christine, I spoke to someone at Grandma Brown's and was told there are no retail outlets in Georgia that sell these New York favorites that have been around since the Great Depression. And while the company has no website or email, you can reach Grandma Brown's Beans Inc. by calling 315-963-7221 if you want to place an order. They're available in cases of a dozen 16-ounce cans for \$45 and two dozen 16-ounce cans for \$71. Prices include shipping to Georgia. They're also available online at www.amazon.com.

Q: Where can I find Pinaud Clubman talc? It was widely available, but I can't find it anywhere now. Thanks for your help.

— *Morton Slutsky, Atlanta*
A: This talc has been around since 1810, according to Pinaud. Today, it's still used in many barbershops. You can find Pinaud Clubman talc in the green shaker can for \$4.39 each at Sally Beauty Supply, 2625 Piedmont Road, Atlanta, 404-231-4750.

Q: A good friend of my husband's will be visiting us from Australia. I would love to surprise him with the traditional sweet called Lamington. I don't bake at all. Is there some place where I can purchase these cakes freshly baked, and not online? The bakeries I've talked with don't make them. Thank you.

— *Barb Younger, email*
A: These famous Australian desserts are a simple teaming of small squares of yellow sponge cake dipped in chocolate, then covered with finely chopped coconut. You'll find Lamington baked fresh at Australian Bakery Cafe, 48 South Park Square, Marietta, 678-797-6222. Each individual Lamington costs \$2.65. At the cafe, you'll also find a wide variety of Aussie favorites, including meat pies and even Vegemite.

Having trouble finding a particular item? We'll try to help you locate it. Because of the volume of mail, we cannot track down every request. Write to us at Buyer's Edge Find It, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, 223 Perimeter Center Parkway N.E., Atlanta, GA 30346; e-mail sabinem.morrow@gmail.com (include your name, the city you live in and a daytime phone number); or call 404-526-7205.

SOUTHERN MADE

August offerings

As summer winds down, favorites include porch-swing beds, gourmet pickles and vintage gift tags. **By Linda Jerkins** for the AJC



A South Carolina company offers five models of bed and porch swings. VINTAGE PORCH SWINGS

In the swing

Brent McHenry loved making things for his house near Charleston, S.C. He built fences, benches and dollhouses. One day, McHenry crafted a swinging bed for his porch. A neighbor saw it and wanted a swing. So did another neighbor — and another. In 2008, McHenry founded Vintage Porch Swings in the basement of his home.

Last summer, McHenry's business and family out-

grew their home. With a full-time job in cancer research, McHenry knew he needed help. Valdosta native Vann Cochran joined the company, which now has a production facility and showroom.

The five models of bed and porch swings are named after McHenry's children (he has six plus another baby on the way). The Emerson is a top seller. So is the Avari, which is the original model. But three

new models are in the works.

Made of treated yellow pine, the charming handmade swings come with hardware, rope and simple instructions for hanging. They accommodate a twin mattress.

Prices range from \$949 to \$1,199. Visit www.VintagePorchSwings.com. If you are in the Charleston area, stop by the new shop at 1145 S.C. 41, Mount Pleasant, S.C.

Pickles give mouth-watering taste

In 2009, Ashlee Furr and Jenny Fulton were in a pickle. The friends and co-workers had been laid off from their financial jobs and were looking for work. Since Fulton had always made pickles on the side, her husband urged the women to start a business. After trying various recipes, they started Miss Jenny's Pickles in May 2010 in Kernersville, N.C.

The company, which grows its cucumbers on Fulton's grandmother's land, offers four flavors of its all-natural, gourmet pickles. In the South, the Traditional Bread and Butter Pickles are No. 1, followed by the Signature Salt and Pepper Pickles, said Furr, a Uni-



Miss Jenny's Pickles come in four flavors. MISS JENNY'S PICKLES

versity of Georgia grad who grew up in Atlanta.

If you like a kick, try the award-winning Habanero Bread and Butter Pickles. A 16-ounce jar of the hand-cut,

hand-packed pickles is about \$7. To order, visit www.MissJennysPickles.com or check Fresh Market stores in the Atlanta area.

Tag it in style

After working as a paralegal for seven years, Priscilla Williams retired to become a stay-at-home mom to her three children in Trinity, N.C. About the same time that she became a mother, Williams started quilting. In her current job in the Randolph Quilters Guild in nearby Asheboro, Williams serves as the "Sunshine Lady," sending cards for birthdays, illnesses and other occasions.

To keep up with demand, she started making her own cards and other paper products. Two years ago, Williams opened Blossom and Twig, a paper goods store, on Etsy.

Her Mason jar gift tags (six for \$5.50) with red gingham bows are popular and perfect for food and beverage gifts. Near the holidays, there is a big push for the Christmas tags (six for \$4.95), showing vintage sheet music on vanilla cream stock and stamped in red cherry ink. For foodies, the "Bon Appétit" tags, featuring vintage silverware in sepia and black ink, are a favorite. Visit etsy.com/shop/BlossomandTwig.



Gift tags are a hit. BLOSSOM AND TWIG/ETSY.COM

BEST OF THE SOUTH

Do you have favorite finds from across the South that you give as gifts, buy for your home or rave about to friends? If, so please share them with us. Send your suggestions to: ljerkins@bellsouth.net. In the subject line, write Southern Made. Please include your name and a contact number.



The Milian Double Decker Art Kit is useful for any grade level. The double-decker zip case contains two erasers, a pencil sharpener, 18 broad tip markers, 12 colored pencils, a ball point pen, a graphite pencil and a 6-inch ruler (\$19.79, www.amazon.com).

PHOTOS BY ERIK M. LUNSFORD / ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH



This English-style school bag made of latigo leather cowhide will hold a laptop and features an extra pouch in the front (\$175, from Sole Survivor Leather and Shoes, www.solesurvivorleather.com).



The Graphic Lap Desk provides a stable and comfortable working space that is perfect for in the dorm or on the go. The solid writing surface includes a cup holder, a comfortable pillow underneath and comes in several different patterns (\$24.99) at the Container Store.



Perfect for packing a large lunch or a few beverages for a party, this Life is Good cooler is perfect for college kids (\$35, www.lifeisgood.com).

By Karen Deer, Amy Bertrand and Alexia Mcghee
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

As parents prepare to send their kids to school, kids are hoping their parents are sending them back in style. We scoured stores and a few websites to find you great looks and unique items.

Get ready to shop!

- The Mickey Loves Minnie clutch wallet, by Harveys for Disney Couture, will hold pencils, credit cards and more (\$98, www.seatbeltbags.com).
- Bella Butterfly pink lunch bag and Scootin' Turtle blue lunch bag, by Melissa and Doug, will bring a spirit of playfulness to a young child (\$9.99 each, www.amazon.com).
- Decorate a dorm wall with

a Peacock Art Board by Curly Girl Design (\$23, www.curlygirldesign.com).

- Whether you are carrying a little or a lot, a Life is Good backpack is perfect for older kids (\$46, www.lifeisgood.com).
- College kids can keep their laundry organized in this Vera Bradley laundry bag (\$48, www.verabradley.com).
- The Wonder Hanger is ideal for downsizing in closets with limited space. It is designed to triple closet space, and it works with any type of hangers (\$9.99, www.drugstore.com).
- Make cooking in the dorm room easy with the Black & Decker Single-Burner Portable Buffett Range. The single-burner is lightweight for easy portability and storage (\$24.99, www.amazon.com).

- The washer set by Fold-N-Go Tailgate Games is easy to assemble and enjoyable to play whether you're in a stadium parking lot with fellow tailgaters or hanging out in the quad with roommates. It is a great way to socialize around campus, and it comes with a deluxe carrying bag for easy transport (\$39.99, www.amazon.com).
- Containers in the 9-piece Aladdin Recycled Lunch Set come in multiple sizes and are safe to use in the microwave, refrigerator and dishwasher. The recycled material is not only Earth-friendly, but it is also leak-proof. A matching, recyclable bag is included for easy transport (\$24.99, www.amazon.com).
- The Colton Backpack provides plenty of pockets to ensure organization. The dura-

ble, water-resistant polyester bag features a padded laptop compartment, mp3 player pocket with grommet for headphone wires and organizational pockets that offer plenty of room for books. Personalization is available for an additional fee (\$49.50, Pottery Barn Kids).

- Express yourself with the Talk Magnetic Chalk Board from Umbra. The magnetic blackboard is shaped like a talking bubble and has a side clip that keeps track of the chalk (\$25, www.umbra.com).
- Umbra Fotofalls for Office Desktop is a creative way to hold and organize pictures, notes, reminders and more. It stands about 18 inches tall and has nickel-finished clips at the end of each prong that will not damage photos (\$25, www.umbra.com).

Hot new items for back to school