

For Immediate Release

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Snowmass Village, Colorado, combines cool gift ideas with perfect powdery slopes

(Snowmass, Colorado) Holiday shopping can be a drag, so this year combine it with something fun! Snowmass Village, Colorado, which has received over 100 inches of snow since September offers special gifts ideas and plenty of snow to tempt shoppers and skiers/snowboarders alike. Come after December 16 and check out the long-awaited opening of the speedy new gondola to Elk Camp as well!

Unique Gifts Ideas from Snowmass Village, Colorado, include:

Books:

Hikers, nature lovers, and birders will be thrilled to receive **Snowmass Village: Wild at Heart**, a natural history field guide to Snowmass and the surrounding wilderness areas. Winner of the 2006 Colorado Book Award for nonfiction, **Wild at Heart** provides detailed information and color photos on nearly 600 southern Rockies plants, birds, and mammals in addition to regional hiking and ecosystem information. **Wild at Heart** is available at Snowmass Photo & Books (970-923-5898), Tattered Cover and in local bookstores throughout the Roaring Fork Valley. \$29.95

Children, both real and at heart, will appreciate Snowmass local Johnny Boyd's illustrated book **First Tracks**, which follows a little girl's first adventures on the slopes. A must read for all little skiers ages 2-7, the book is in its second printing and available at Snowmass Photo & Books (970-923-5898), local Roaring Fork Valley book stores and at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, and Tattered Cover. \$17.95

Music:

Local band **Take the Wheel** has been a Snowmass après-ski institution for years, and now you can bring their sound home as well. This summer the group put out a debut album of modern rock classics. **Take the Wheel** plays acoustic tunes on Thursdays and electric music on Saturdays from 3-6 pm at The Cirque. CDs are available during their shows or on www.cdbaby.com for \$20.

Fine Foods:

Krablooniks, renowned for its unique dogsled rides, also offers a rustic gourmet dining experience for lunch & dinner. Take home a can of the signature Wild Mushroom soup for only \$5/can or stock up on their home-made jams (chokecherry, cherry walnut conserve, pear currant pecan brandy, apricot almond brandy, or tangerine plum cognac) for \$6.50/jar. www.krabloonik.com

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In addition to gift baskets of all size and shapes, Grain Fine Foods on the Snowmass Village Mall sells a slice of local heaven with “**Gates of Heaven**” **honey**. Made locally near the Benedictine Monastery in Old Snowmass, this pure and raw honey is the product of bees foraging on 7,000 pristine acres of Alfalfa, Clover and Sage. \$7/jar. Grain Fine Food: 970-923-4105 or www.gatesofheavenhoney.com.

With new amenities, better teaching terrain, a bigger shop, and a new rentals, lessons, and lunch package, the Snowmass Cross Country Center (which connects to the largest free groomed network of trails in the U.S.) has entered a grand new phase. Consider a gift certificate for a “**Gourmet Glide**” **package**. Winter enthusiasts get a lesson and rental from the cross country center, and a gourmet 3 course prix fixe lunch at the Sage Restaurant at the Snowmass Club. (970-923-5600)

Original Art

Anderson Ranch Arts Center is renowned for its arts programs and illustrious artists in residence. Come check out the offerings of residents and teachers at the gallery, open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. daily, and you might find unique pottery, painting, photography, sculpture or woodwork for that someone special. www.andersonranch.org

Apparel

Those seeking the **perfect ski hat** will find it in the front window of Gene Taylor Sports on the Snowmass Village Mall, where Detha Mika custom-designs handmade hats, scarves and headbands to order. Her knits can incorporate any color, design or size and typically take a couple days to make. Hats start at \$45, www.snoknits.com.

Pets

If your dog likes to hang his head out of a window or nap outside on a sunny day, protect his eyes from the high altitude elements with **Doggles**, eyewear for dogs that strap on and protect the eyes like normal sunglasses. Available in sizes ranging from Dachtsunds to Great Danes, Doggles come in a variety of colors and styles and are available at Cool Dog Sunglasses on the Snowmass Village Mall for \$25. 970-923-5618.

Kids

An offshoot of its popular Basalt, Colorado, location, new store **Wienerdog Kids Toys** on the Snowmass Village Mall specializes in unique and specialty toys from around the world and includes brands like Melissa and Doug, Haba, Lego, Carrera, Bruder Trucks, and Jam Town in addition to selling favorite retro candy like Mary Janes. 970-927-TOYS (8697) www.wd-toys.com

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