

SECOND CHANCES NEWSLETTER

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Okay, so July was a “wash” for me! I got through my family’s ever growing Independence Day Bash; I managed to get my daughter to the rehearsals and filming of the first episode of the television show she is doing in Chicago; I then saw my daughter off on her student ambassador trip; and then my son off to scout camp. I topped off July with Corn Stock for Kids Summer Workshop. Throw in life (and death) and the July, then August, then...(well you know the rest!) the newsletter took a backseat! As we all know with any habit, chore, whatever, once you get out of the groove, it is difficult to get back on track! The good news is... I am back and have lots of new things to share!

Come see what’s new!

From Around the World



- I found another artist, [Key West Bottles](#), who flattens liquor bottles into cheese plates, spoon rests, and trays. She offers a different selection of beer, wine, and liquor labels! From the name of the company, I bet you can guess where she gets her “raw material” from!
- [Smart Glass Jewelry](#) is here! Recycled from wine and beer bottles, glass is set in sterling silver. Many styles of earrings, necklaces, and bracelets to choose from. (It’s what the celebrities are raving about!)
- [Nahui Ollin](#) candy and food wrapper purses are a great complement to our Ecoist bags. We have sizes from large totes down to very affordable wristlets! We also carry the exclusive Coca Cola purses! You have to see these to appreciate them!
- From a fair trade company in association with National Geographic, we have amazing metal sculptures from [NOVICA](#). We have everything from guitars and motorcycles to construction equipment and more. These sculptures are made from scraps and discarded mechanical parts.
- If you like Tofu Bear, you’ll love [Soyphia Goat](#) and [Sir LanceSOYlot Ram](#), our new SOY pals from the makers of SOYSILK yarn. We also have warm, cuddly robes made of bamboo!
- [Zulugrass](#) necklaces and bracelets round out our new jewelry selections. A product of the Leakey Foundation’s goal to provide a fair trade environment and provide economic opportunities for the Maasai women of Africa.
- [Tokens & Coins](#) make fun charm bracelets from Travel Scrabble tiles
- Gummy candy, cake decorations, starlight mints, and fruit slices are just a few items used to make fun jewelry from [Glitterlimes!](#)
- [English Retreads](#) are here! Purses, totes, wallets, and more are made from recycled rubber tires.
- Got a baby and need a good laugh? [Babygags](#) has organic baby clothes with fun messages!
- We now offer a larger canvas tote bag to counteract the age-old question, “paper or plastic?” Printed with a fun message, you can get your “message” across!
- Want a fun bag made from used advertising banners? [RetroActif](#) is here with wallets, totes, purses, and more made from vinyl advertising and seat belt clasps.
- Another Fair Trade company has supplied us with some really cool can art lizards and steel drum animals.
- [Abra Couture](#), designer to the stars has agreed to let us showcase some of her items! Beautiful, vintage beads retooled into new jewelry!



Local Artisans

- A mother/ daughter team of artists have created some beautiful items from wallpaper. Come see their gift bags, bookmarks, stationery sets, French bulletin boards and more! Clever, clever!
- What can you do with vintage buttons? One local artist has made magnets that are adorable! No more tacky refrigerator magnets to hang your child's precious artwork!
- Our record bowl artist got creative once again with the album covers! One of a kind bottle gift tags and wine chimes are perfect hostess gifts! Match it with the record bowl and record cover gift boxes and voila!
- Wearable art by DeDe is here! You may have seen her gorgeous stained glass jewelry at local shows or the museum! Now we have them! There are one of a kind necklaces, earrings, and purse charms!
- New quilts and rugs by our local seamstress, Alfredda are here! Alfredda takes scrap fabric and cuts from old clothing to make one of a kind quilts and rugs.
- Crocheted plastic bags make for a very durable tote bag! You have to see how countless grocery and big box store plastic bags can be reused in a GREAT way!
- Local artist Robin Albright has brought a new twist to "The Twist"! Come see her painted LP record art!

WishListWishListWishListWishListWishListWishListWishListWishListWishList

**Local teachers, scout leaders, or crafters can post their wish lists here!
Call me with your requests!**

Check the website for a complete listing of requested items!

We are continuing to save 20 ounce soda bottles for the TerraCycle Bottle Brigade. TerraCycle has put a hold on collecting the bottles until they get a sponsor but we will continue to collect them anyway!



As always...

If you know of any scouts, civic groups, or church groups, etc. that would like a guest speaker, let me know. We have been known to attempt to spread what wisdom we can about recycling, living green, or just how to save money by reclaiming, reducing, and reusing!



Retailer Spotlight!

Kroger has joined the ranks of canvas toting shoppers!

We love to hear that stores are promoting the use of reusable shopping bags! First IKEA announced that they would no longer give the plastic bags away. You

can buy them for your purchases or better yet, purchase their reusable big blue bag for a little more and use it over and over! Next, San Francisco banned the use of non-biodegradable plastic bags for use by retailers and promoted the use of reusable bags. Then came Anya Hindmarch's "I'm Not a Plastic Bag" that has created a frenzy since Keira Knightley was spotted carrying one! (The bag sells upwards of \$300 on e-bay! Just nuts for a canvas bag!)

But guess what?!

We have had CHICO bags and WRAPSACKS long before these other wannabes! We haven't seen any Hollywood celebrities carrying them yet, so there is still a chance to get one here before the frenzy begins!

Upcoming Classes

I really want to have that weaving class! Do I have to throw a tantrum?! Who is with me? For those of you who are new to the newsletter or do not remember this class being offered a few months ago, here is the 411!

During a recent Arts Day where I exhibited, I met a woman who took the class and was making beautiful rugs! She connected me with the 2 artisans who teach others to weave old bed sheets and cotton fabrics into rugs and placemats. This class will last approximately 3 hours. Space is limited! The cost of this workshop is \$35.00 and includes the loom for you to keep. Supplies needed: An old bed sheet, sharp scissors, and an easily torn cotton fabric of your choice. In all, the rugs require 10 to 12 yards of fabric (only part of this will be used during the class).

Call me if you want to do this with me! I will schedule the class based on interest! Please, please, please!

This one is for the kids! -the young and the young at heart!

Boredom Buster Project - I SPY BOTTLE 6 pm November 13th

Are you traveling to see out-of-town relatives for the holidays? Don't want to hear the inevitable, "Are we there yet?" I have a project that will entertain all ages! Bring a clear, clean, dry water bottle with the label removed. I will provide the rest! Cost per bottle is \$4.00.

Alternative Gift Wrap 6pm November 28th

How many times can you use that paper gift bag you have passed between friends? Let me show you ways to wrap a gift using ordinary household items as well as alternatives to traditional "wrappings"! You will never look at this chore the same way again! Cost for this class is free!

Call today to reserve your spot!

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Tip of the month:

Unplug! 10% of electricity used in your home is burned by appliances, etc. when they are turned off! Yes, off! Unplug all appliances, electronic devices, etc. when not in use!