



FINDS

Write On Gifts

The year is coming to a close, so make sure to include a journal on your holiday wish list. Then you'll be able to write down your New Year's resolutions—or at least chronicle how you didn't keep them! Many different kinds of journals can be found at the following trio of island stores, all of which opened their doors this past year.

BY LIBBY GRIMM
PHOTOS BY KATHLEEN BLASE



ARTISTIC ALBUMS

Attractive watercolor paintings of a dragonfly, fish, or frog decorate blue spiral-bound, lined-paper Authentic Rhino Journals by Running Rhino and Co. of Seattle. You'll find the journals at **Pedlar Jim's Gifts**, a "store within a store" that started half a year ago at MacIntosh Book Shop. Owner Jim Dowling, who notes that the gift shop is named after "an old poem," also sells island-themed photo frames, wind chimes, mobiles, candlesticks, and "many more items on the way."

The shop's Colby Photoart journals have "160 pages of unlined, recycled paper for use as a diary, sketchbook, travel log, hikers journal, recipe book, a book for your thoughts, poetry, short stories, or whatever you would like it to be." They're from Kennebunk, Maine, with covers showing classic Down East scenes such as boats, sunflowers, and cottages. *Pedlar Jim's Gifts at MacIntosh Book Shop, 2365 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 239/472-1447.*





FOR BEAUTY AND THE BACKBITER

You can't go wrong looking for journals at **The Write Stuff**, a store chock-full of "papers and possibilities," opened last spring by Sanibel native and former journalist Jennifer Workman Lessinger. The shop's Capri Collection of Carter Journals is designed by Alfredo Muccino, with suede covers bound by hand in Florence, Italy. Colors include red, yellow, aqua, khaki, lime, ocean, and violet. The larger-sized volumes are blank inside and the smaller ones are ruled.



Another popular choice is ruled Bandelier journals by The Paper Company, which have elegant hand-embroidered covers in blue or gray. And Boston International makes little blank books for "Libelous, Scurrilous, Backbiting, etc... Notes." (Lessinger heartily recommends the company's "Any Damn Year Diary" and "Blab! Address Book," too.) *The Write Stuff, The Village Shops, Unit C, 2340 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 239/472-8289, writeonsanibel.com.*



STROKES FOR PET OWNERS

Kirby Rambo Collections is Pamela Kirby Rambo's brand-new store at The Village Shops, which specializes in "decorative home accents." The shop's wares are quite distinctive, as evidenced by a line of popular-selling journals for pet owners. "My Cat's Life: A Photo Journal of Independent Love" and "My Dog's Life: A Photo Journal of Unconditional Love" have room for such priceless information as "favorite tricks" or "favorite antics." Each volume holds up to sixty-five photos and a portion of the profits goes to the ASPCA.

Unusual alternatives to regular journals are Cardswell Keepsake Albums, newly patented "albums for storing and displaying cherished greeting cards. The richness of life lies in our memories. Memory is a present that never stops passing." Kirby Rambo explains that the hand-decorated albums come from Troy, Michigan, and each holds up to twenty cards. "Refills are available and fabric covers are coming out soon," she adds. "They're great. They're the lazy person's journal." *Kirby Rambo Collections, The Village Shops, Unit G2, 2340 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 239/472-4944, www.kirbyrambo.com.*



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