



Darby Rush & Samantha Givans

VISIT: 2205 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria
or kiskadeeshop.com.

SHOP TALK

Kiskadee

Friends Neil Hall and Darby Rush didn't initially intend to start a business venture together, but as great stories go, it was love at first sight. Nearly five years ago, Hall agreed to accompany Rush in scouting available locations for her future boutique. The pair fixed their eyes on a historical family home, and the rest is history.

The hospitable ambiance of Kiskadee's exterior could easily be attributed to the fact that it was once a family home. This quaint yellow house with black shutters, a brick walkway, fresh green shrubbery and a welcoming patio arrangement bears more than just a physical resemblance to a homestead.

Though Kiskadee caters mainly to women, the shop offers unique items for every member of the family. "We are a lifestyle shop. A customer may come in for a hostess gift and leave with a dress for herself as well," says Rush.

The owners—with manager Samantha Givans—maintain a consistent store identity that revolves around providing eclectic, distinctive brands at affordable prices. On the main floor, shelves are stocked with designers like Lily Pulitzer, Jude Connally, Milly, Paige Denim, Spanx and Nicole Miller. The upstairs houses spa products; baby clothes; sleepwear; home, garden and gourmet accessories; and shoes by Aquatalia, Jack Rogers and Elaine Turner. —**HA**

FAB FINDS



DERMAdoctor KP duty

SO LONG, CHICKEN SKIN!

This spring pesky dry patches and conditions like keratosis pilaris shouldn't keep anyone from showing some skin. A solution is as close as the nearest Sephora.

DERMAdoctor KP duty (\$44 for 16 oz.) is a body scrub that delivers medical-quality exfoliation by combining components of a mini-chemical peel and microdermabrasion into a simple-to-apply, single at-home treatment. Moisturize skin, apply a dab, exfoliate with fingertips, rinse and pat dry. Voila! Smooth skin.

I've been using KP duty for a few weeks, twice a week, and could tell a major difference after just one treatment. Back-of-arm bumps: gone. —**NK**

GOLD CUP-FRIENDLY FOOTWEAR

Ahh, Gold Cup, the unofficial start of spring! Who cares about April showers? Everyone in Horse Country just hopes the first weekend in May is pleasant so we can bare our shoulders, whip out the sandals and sport a proper topper that wows. But more times than most, we're talking major mud. The challenge: Find some Gold Cup kicks that are stylish and sensible. Mission accomplished at The Shoe Hive in Old Town Alexandria [store.theshoehive.com].



Spring's go-to hue, mud-proof and a little lift. Lovely.

\$225

Belle by Sigerson Morrison "Wallis" tangerine patent pointed toe slingback wedge, \$225



Let the record show that flats can be oh-so fun, dare we say sexy.

\$195

Belle by Sigerson Morrison "Verena" blue patent almond toe flat, \$195



Peep-toes rule, and this shimmering, sophisticated pair is beyond versatile.

\$265

Butter "Giggle" gold-washed linen demi wedge with gold leather-wrapped heel, \$265

BUYER'S RESOURCE:

During May, **Chic Envy** [11895 Grand Commons Ave., Fairfax; www.chicenvy.com] is offering readers 10 percent off their entire purchase. • Plus-size consignment store **Beautyfull Boutique** [118 N. Fayette St., Alexandria; www.beautyfullboutique.com] is giving customers 25 percent off a purchase of \$50 or more throughout the month. • The code NOVAMAG means 10-percent savings at lpmvintage.com this month. • Mention the magazine when checking out at **Zoe Boutique** [130 S. Union St., Alexandria; shopatzoe.com] in May to score a 15-percent discount. • And **Kiskadee** [2205 Mount Vernon Ave., Alexandria; www.kiskadeeshop.com] is offering 20 percent off one full-price item with mag mentions through May 15.



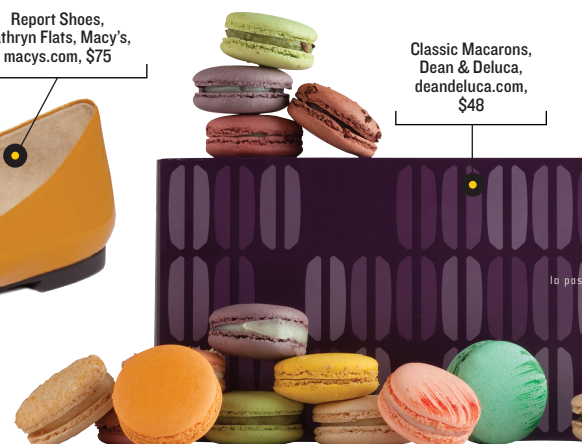


Horizontal Kite Necklace, Top Shop, us.topshop.com, \$20

Report Shoes, Kathryn Flats, Macy's, macys.com, \$75



Classic Macarons, Dean & DeLuca, deandeluca.com, \$48

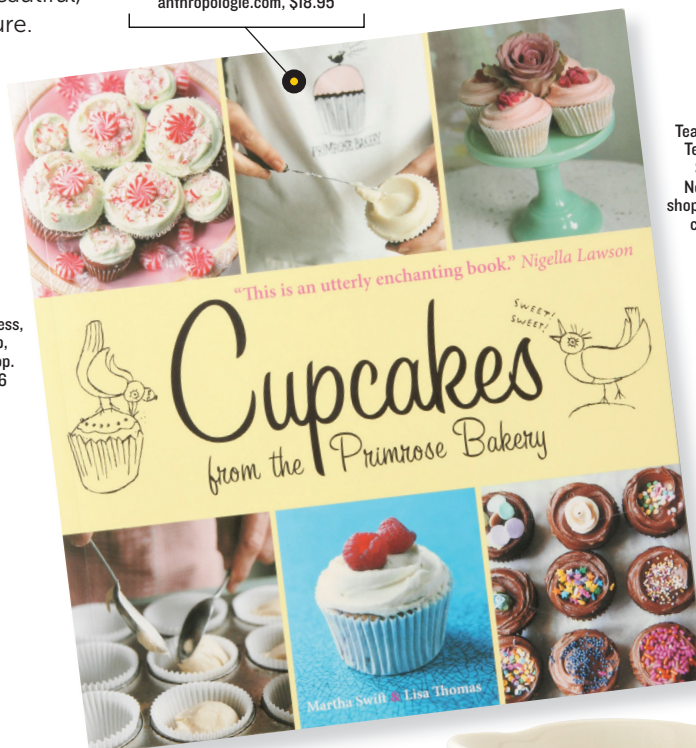


INSPIRATION BOARD

Tea Time

Revive the classic child's tea party with a matured guest list in mind. A simple brunch can be a beautiful, heartfelt Mother's Day gesture.

"Cupcakes from the Primrose Bakery," Anthropologie, anthropologie.com, \$18.95

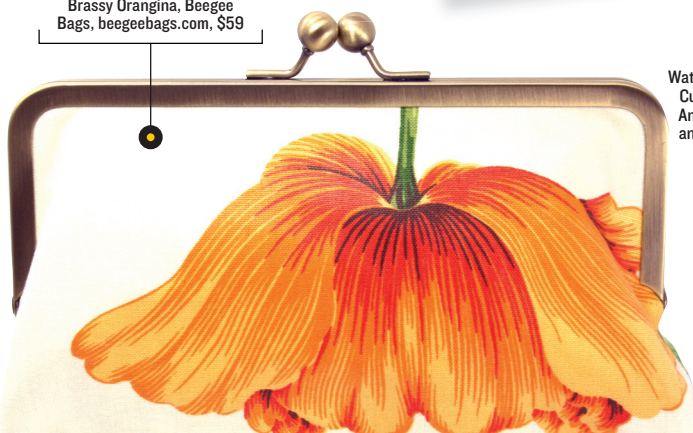


Lace Georgia Dress, Top Shop, us.topshop.com, \$96

Tea Forté Iced Tea Pitcher System, Nordstrom, shop.nordstrom.com, \$30



Brassy Orangina, Beegee Bags, beegeebags.com, \$59



Watercolor Petals Cup & Saucer, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com, \$18

