

NOVEMBER 2009
THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO GO®

Chicago

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WRAP IT UP

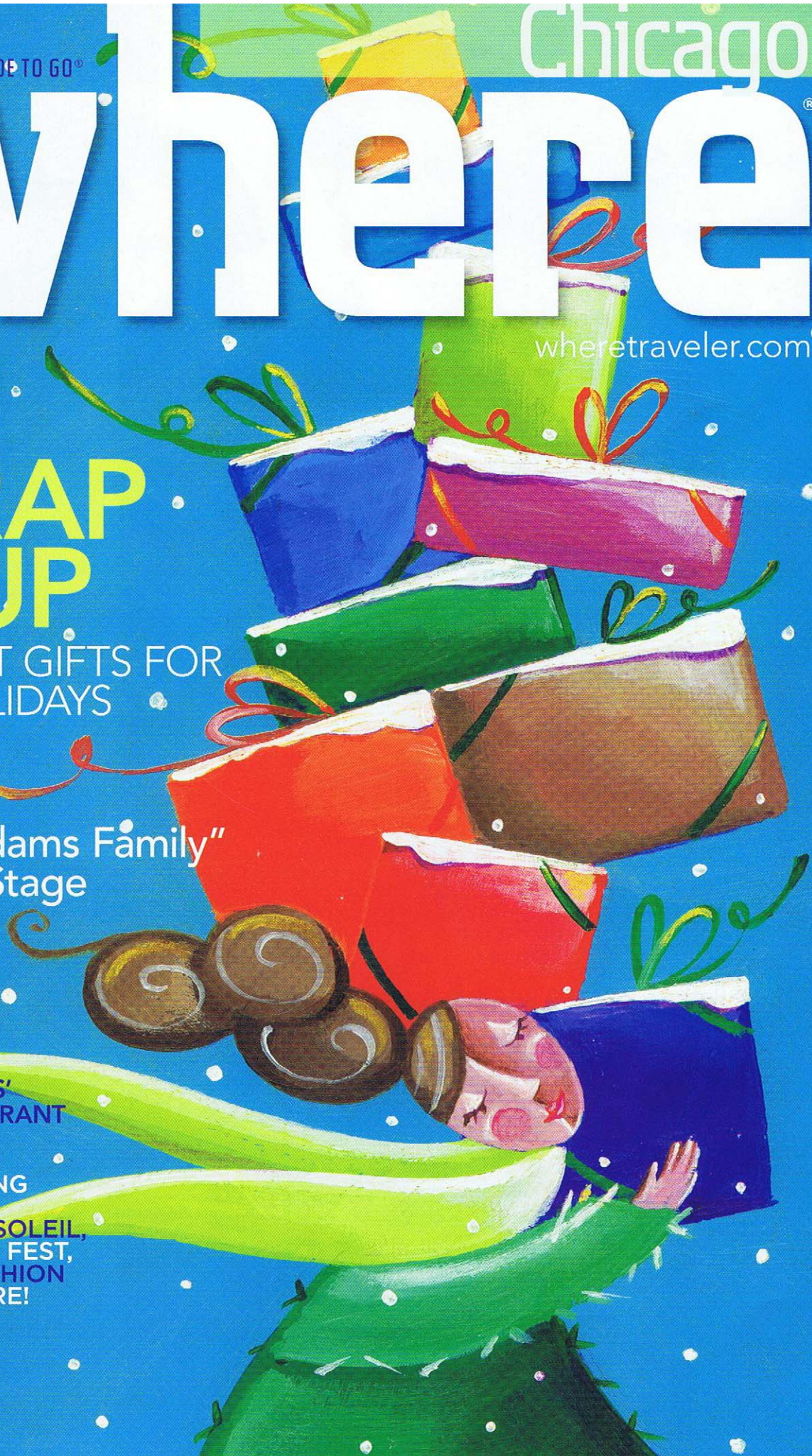
13 GREAT GIFTS FOR
THE HOLIDAYS

Also:
"The Addams Family"
Hits the Stage

RICK BAYLESS'
NEW RESTAURANT

**MILLENNIUM
PARK SKATING**

**CIRQUE DU SOLEIL,
HUMANITIES FEST,
WINTER FASHION
PICKS & MORE!**





REALLY READY TO WEAR

Attention pear-shaped women: You're not the wrong shape—it's just that clothes simply aren't made for you. Chicagoan Kathryn McKechnie got so tired of seeing narrowly cut clothing that she left a career in finance to create **Crescendo Apparel**. Watching makeover shows like "What Not to Wear," McKechnie realized "Oh, all these other women have these fit issues too," she says. So she teamed up last summer with designer Kristen Burger and came up with a collection of elegant, timeless and versatile pants and skirts that start at size 4, but fit around fuller hips and smaller waists: a stretch wool pencil skirt, cargo pants in leather and lambswool, even skinny jeans—all designed and manufactured right here in Chicago. "We design to flatter a woman's figure, not to make her feel uncomfortable," she says. Priced in the mid-\$200 range, they work for office or fun with just a switch of accessories. Next up? McKechnie is considering items for big-busted and petite women. 2150 S. Canalport, Suite 3-A2 (open by appt.), 888-215-0270, www.crescendoapparel.com.

ALL EYES ON YOU

The eyes are the window to the soul—and the focus of this fall's big makeup trend, the smoky eye. To perfect the look, long lashes and neat brows are a must. Head to **The Lashe Spot**, the city's only salon specializing in eyelash and eyebrow grooming and maintenance. Of special interest are the OutLashe semi-permanent eyelash extensions, customized by a technician to flatter individual eye, brow and face shapes to create a surprisingly dramatic effect that lasts for 60-90 days. The salon also offers lash and brow tinting, brow waxing and shaping, and even lash perms for that subtle curl. Can't decide? Pick one of the packages for a total eye makeover. \$30-\$500. 24 W. Erie St., 312-863-7678, www.lashespotchicago.com.



Luxurious lashes, please

TIP OF THE MONTH

BUDGET TREND. The latest entry onto Chicago's cheap-n-chic State Street retail scene is **A'Gaci**, a Texas-based chain making its first foray into the Midwest. The two-floor store is a temple to the latest fads-of-the-moment—think sequins, grunge revival and Madonna-wannabe bustiers—but also features more classic pieces, such as elegant strapless dresses and great accessories like polka-dotted plastic bangles and headbands festooned with fabric flowers. Best of all, everything is under \$100, with most items priced at less than 30 bucks. 107 S. State St., 312-658-0401, www.agacystore.com.

EXTERIOR COATS

You won't want to hide from the cold weather when you've got a coat that makes a bold statement. We've rounded up a few cool examples for him, her, the kid and even the dog.

» In Chicago, winter means snow. But even in snow-less climates, the ivory wool knee-length coat from **Snoflake** brings to mind a blanket of fluffy flakes. Big buttons lend a vintage feel, while the dramatically wide collar adds a contemporary take on the classy Audrey Hepburn look. \$440. [Florodora](http://Florodora.com),

330 S. Dearborn St., 312-212-8860, www.florodora.com.

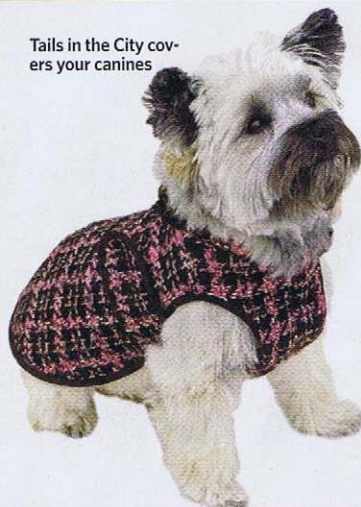
» Dogs may have built-in coats, but that doesn't mean they don't appreciate an extra layer on walks when during frigid Windy City winters. Fido will look super-snappy in the fully lined brown and pink tweed Mag Mile coat with a fur collar—faux, of course—from **Tails in the City**. All the other pets at the park will bark with envy. \$80. 1 E. Delaware Pl., 800-266-1118, www.tailsinthecity.com.

» The reversible down jacket for boys and girls from **Hanna Andersson** has all the lining and cold-repelling details you would expect from a company founded in snowy Sweden, including a hood and well pockets. Its added

oomph? Turn it inside out and it goes from colorful stripes like pink and pumpkin or navy and green to simple, stylish solid. In sizes from infants to teens. \$98. 2228 Northbrook Court, Northbrook, 847-291-9275, www.hannaandersson.com.

» For guys, the Toggle coat by D Collection from youthfully chic shop **Urban Outfitters** (\$168; 935 N. Rush St., 312-640-1919) is an updated version of the classic look in warming felted wool with toggle button closures. Looking for something more upscale? The Malcolm coat by NSF Clothing available at **Apartment Number 9** (\$464; 1804 N. Damen Ave., 773-395-2999) has a sleek, minimalist silhouette and accents like slit pockets and a stand-up collar.

Tails in the City covers your canines



→ At this month's Fashion Café series, you can meet local designers, check out their wares and get great gift ideas. Nov. 12. www.chicagofashionresource.com/events.