

Coffee shops can offer a break and a gift purchase

BY ERIN ANDERSON
Special to the Record-Eagle

While you're out braving the crowds to shop this year, why not take a break from the hectic pace, congested parking lots and long lines? Sit for a moment, sip a beverage and give yourself the well-deserved gift of a respite from shopping. You may even be able to cross a person or two off your shopping list while you're at it.

Here is a sampling of area coffee shops:

Downtown Traverse City
Crema is a stop for a full-scale meal or a quick snack with homemade pizzas, sandwiches and salads, plus an array of teas, pastries and coffee drinks. If you're looking to shop, check out the T-shirts, sweatshirts, insulated coffee mugs, coffee and gift certificates. Hours: 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Monday - Saturday, 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Sundays.

Good Harbor Coffee and Bakery: Under the same ownership as Crema, this intimate gathering place has long been a favorite local stop. In the gift department, Good Harbor offers bulk teas, cocoa and whole bean coffee, and gift certificates. Hours: 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Monday - Saturday, closed on Sundays.

Espresso Bay: Not only

can you pick up fresh pastries, but you can order virtually any drink imaginable. From smoothies to lattes, from cappuccino to bubble tea (you'll want to ask about this), there's something for most tastes. Check out Espresso Bay's dozens of gift basket ideas, either pre-made or made-to-order. Gift baskets can include CDs, T-shirts, mugs, coffee, tea, truffles or chai. Hours: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m., 7 days a week.

Latte Dah: Next to Ace Hardware in downtown Traverse City, this new café serves pastries, sandwiches and drinks both hot and cold. The work of numerous local artists are on display.

"We try to feature as many local products as we can," said owner Kelly Hollinger.

Not only are the paintings, purses, scarves, flower pots and other craft items indigenous to the region, so is the cuisine. Latte Dah serves coffee roasted by Leelanau Roasting of Glen Arbor & Great Northern Roasting of Traverse City. Their assortment of salad dressings, mustards and praline sauces are also locally made by Traverse City's Carp River Trading Company. Hours: Monday - Saturday from 7 a.m. - 3 p.m., Sundays from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., with extended hours over the holidays.

Traverse City
Beaners Gourmet Coffee: Across from Meijer in Traverse City, Beaners has custom-blended coffees and teas, as well as pre-packaged holiday treats. From candy and cookie assortments to holiday coffee mugs, to their own holiday coffee blend, cinnamon toffee, Beaners has a variety of stocking stuffers. Hours: 6:30 a.m. - 9 p.m. from Monday - Saturday, Sundays from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Starbucks: Located in the Meijer Food Court, you can treat yourself to a cup of Starbucks brew and give

someone on your holiday list a gift card, which works just like a debit card and comes in a gift envelope. Hours: 6 a.m. - 10 p.m., 7 days a week.

Cuppa Joe: On Garfield just off Front St. And **Another Cuppa Joe** at Building 50. Aside from their coffee and baked goods, the shops will soon have gift certificates, coffee, mugs and beanie hats for sale. If you bring in an item on their Women's Resource wish list or make a \$10 donation, you get a free cup of joe. Another Cuppa Joe has signed copies of Heidi Johnson's photo book on Building 50,



Record-Eagle/Meegan M. Reid

Beaners in Traverse City offers pre-packaged holiday treats in addition to coffee and snacks.

"Angels in the Architecture." Monday - Friday, 6 a.m. - 7 p.m., Saturdays from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m., and Sundays, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Outside TC
Java Jake's: For a shopping break, stop in or drive

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Record-Eagle file photo/John L. Russell

Crema, in Traverse City, has a light food menu in addition to serving coffee drinks, smoothies and other beverages.

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