

# great finds –

## from *CHA!* by Dawn Gehring

As we began work on this December issue, under the hot July sun, we had the opportunity to attend the summer Craft and Hobby Association trade show just down the road from our offices in Des Plaines, IL. All the new papers, surfaces and embellishments delight the eye and doom the pocketbook! Here's a sneak peek at some of the most exciting paper-crafting and mixed media products we discovered at the show; look for them in a store near you or visit the manufacturers' Web sites for more information. And watch for more product sneak peeks in upcoming issues of *Crafts 'n Things*®!

### Townsend Atelier: Knead-a-Mold®

This blue putty works miracles! Simply mix equal parts white and blue putty; the heat from your hands activates the product. Press any object into the putty – antique buttons, found objects, natural materials, paper-crafting embellishments and more – and leave in place for up to 10 minutes to create a soft, flexible silicone rubber mold that can be used again and again. Let the mold cure for 1 hour; then fill with resin, melt-and-pour soap, air-dry or paper clay, polymer clay, wood putty and more to create unique crafting embellishments. You'll be amazed at the realistic, detailed results and won't waste time looking for the perfect mold anymore – now you can create it! Non-toxic molds are food-safe, too; just set aside any food molds for food-use only – think custom chocolates for special parties or holidays! [www.townsendatelier.com](http://www.townsendatelier.com)



### Glue Arts®: Glue Glider Pro®, Crop and Glue™ Ribbon Adhesive, WallArt Décor Adhesive

Have you seen the Glue Glider Max®? It's a jumbo-sized adhesive runner containing 114 feet of high-quality adhesive, ensuring you'll never run out of adhesive in the middle of a project again. (Well, you might eventually, so keep an extra refill cartridge on hand!) It's easy to use and oh-so-smooth. Well, the Max has a smaller sibling called the Glue Glider Pro® and it will be available in October. It allows you to precisely place a ¼" strip of "the best performing and most permanent adhesive ever offered" with quick, one-handed application. Glue Arts® Crop and Glue™ Ribbon Adhesive is another great product for paper crafters, available in sheets or on a handy spool with a clear liner that ensures accurate placement every time. Ribbon lays perfectly flat and remains secure – often a challenge when using other types of adhesive. Be sure to look for new WallArt Décor Adhesive – it allows you to turn any paper artwork into a wall decal, beautifully blending paper crafting with home décor. [www.gluearts.com](http://www.gluearts.com)



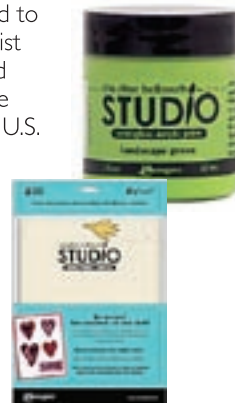
### Karen Foster Design: 3D Countdown Calendar, Christmas Cooking Collection

Create your own 3D treat calendar using the Karen Foster Design Countdown Calendar. This durable, blank chipboard calendar is made for customized countdown projects and includes 25 boxes with easy-to-use finger notches and a sheet of clear number stickers to get you started. Decorate the outside of the boxes and fill them with candies, trinkets, toys or other fun rewards. Consider options beyond traditional holiday advent calendars, too – last day of school, anniversary countdown, small game pieces, etc. Holiday bakers and paper crafters will adore the new Christmas Cooking paper and embellishment collection – don't miss the new Deco Brads! [www.karenfosterdesign.com](http://www.karenfosterdesign.com).



### Ranger Ink: Claudine Hellmuth Studio Line

The line at the make-and-take table was several people deep when we stopped to learn more about Ranger's newest artist line. Claudine is a nationally recognized collage artist, author and illustrator. She also teaches collage workshops in the U.S. and Canada – and was actually demoing at CHA. Her new line was the talk of the show! New Sticky-Back Canvas, available in both 8½" x 11" and 12" x 12" sheets, is a self-adhesive canvas sheet you can decorate with paints, inks, dyes and markers, then cut out with scissors or a die-cut machine and stick onto cards, mixed media creations, altered items for your home and more. New Studio Semi-Gloss Acrylic Paints look fantastic on the canvas and paper and anything else! Try this collection of 15 highly-pigmented, artist-quality acrylic paints and you'll have a hard time switching back to your old acrylics. Acid-free, non-toxic, archival-quality paints are perfect for memory crafting, too. Claudine even helped develop affordable, artist-quality brushes to accompany the line. [www.rangerink.com](http://www.rangerink.com)



For even more great craft projects and ideas subscribe to *Crafts 'n Things*® today!

**Cosmo Cricket: Metallic Rub-Ons, Oh Joy™ Strip Tease Paper, Just Your Holiday Type Stickers**

Stunning 6"x6" rub-on sheets will add glistening magic to any project, but will look especially beautiful on your holiday cards. Motif and border designs are available in multi-design packs. We've long been big fans of Cosmo Cricket's unique strip paper designs; they look great as-is but can be cut apart and used for quick, gorgeous cards or altered projects, too. The new Oh Joy™ collection also includes a fabulous spiral-bound book filled with 144 alphabet, sentiment and image stickers. Such rich colors and sophisticated patterns – watch for it! [www.cosmocricquet.com](http://www.cosmocricquet.com)



**October Afternoon™: Good Cheer Collection, Night Light Collection**

Sweet and soft, the Good Cheer papers and embellishments are sure to color your holidays happy! Coordinating chipboard shapes and journaling cards provide endless creative options for ornaments, cards and gifts. Stickers, rub-ons and clear stamps round out the collection. Not holiday specific, but too darn cute to leave out of this review, the Night Light collection is destined to become a paper-crafter favorite. We all remember worrying over "what's under the bed?" Now, we know – it was these playful, crazy critters. Kids will love 'em, and so will adults. Watch for two adorable Valentines coming up in our February 2009 issue, designed by Kelly Grundhauser. [www.octoberafternoon.com](http://www.octoberafternoon.com)



**Ellison®: Sizzix® Movers & Shapers™ Dies, Sizzix® Bigz™ XL Dies**

Movable magnetic dies allow you to create a card or envelope with a window anywhere you want it! Line includes four versatile kits and eight add-on options. Bigz™ Dies are great for special occasions, like the holidays! Our favorites were the Celebration Cupcake Holder, perfect for classroom treats and neighborhood parties, and the Hanging 3-D Snowflake. Use snowflakes for ornaments, package ties, or both! [www.sizzix.com](http://www.sizzix.com)



**Stampendous!®: Jumbo Perfectly Clear™ Stamp Sets & Shape Shifter Technique. Elegant Angels**

Extra-large clear stamps make quick work of holiday cards, tags and photo displays. Visit the Stampendous! Web site for information on using these stamps with the new Shape Shifters technique – allowing you to create several different looks using one stamp. Versatile new angels set can be used year-round for any occasion requiring a little extra blessing! [www.stampendous.com](http://www.stampendous.com)



**Stamper's Anonymous: Studio 490 by Wendy Vecchi Large Cling Mounted Stamps**

These were one of our most unique stamp finds at the show! Wendy has an eclectic, fun style that translates across craft categories. Her images are whimsical, yet spot-on for more advanced creative techniques. Mix her images with Tim Holtz™ grungeboard™ to create wonderful dimensional art or stamp over various other materials to make interesting collage and mixed-media masterpieces. [www.stampersanonymous.com](http://www.stampersanonymous.com)



**Tonic Studios: Border System and New Paper Punches**

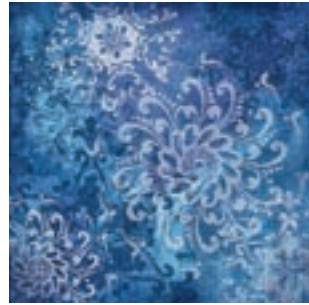
Tonic Studios' innovative system is compatible with all Tonic Studios punches, giving users unparalleled flexibility in their punched paper designs. There's even a built-in adapter for smaller Tonic punches. Using the easy guide system, you can create beautiful borders effortlessly without having to buy several expensive border punches. New punch designs include many holiday offerings – Snowfall, Stocking, Deer – as well as some lovely autumn options. [www.tonic-studios.com](http://www.tonic-studios.com)



**Spellbinders®: Mega-Nestabilities™ Collection**

The maker of the uber-popular Nestabilities™ Dies and the Wizard® Universal Craft Tool had something to celebrate at the summer show – Nestabilities™ just turned 11! New mega shapes include these elegant curved rectangle dies, perfect for custom labels, dynamic cards, even larger mixed-media creations. A new raspberry-colored Wizard® was also debuted at the show, at a new lower retail price. How many manufacturers offer voluntary price decreases, while still improving their product? Look for Spellbinders online at [www.spellbinders.us](http://www.spellbinders.us).





**The Paper Element: Blizzard Collection**

The Paper Element's booth was one of our show favorites – unique altered art samples and rich, double-sided, card stock-weight patterned papers. Great people and great product from this up-and-coming company will be appearing in future issues of Crafts 'n Things. Visit their site to see their complete paper and embellishment line. The Blizzard Collection whispers “Winter

Wonderland” – brrrilliant! [www.thepaperelement.com](http://www.thepaperelement.com)

**Tsukineko®:VersaMark™ Dazzle Watermark Ink and Memento™ Dual-Tip Markers**



We wish we could send every reader a sample of Tsukineko's new VersaMark Dazzle – it's absolutely beautiful! Subtle and sparkling,

this product belongs on every paper crafter's work table. Available in Frost and Champagne in both full-sized ink pads and re-inkers, VersaMark Dazzle can be heat-set on glossy papers and brayered over with Memento dye inks for

a shimmering resist effect. Use it for elegant monochromatic creations, too. Water-based, archival, acid-free and fabulous! A new addition to the colorful, versatile Memento line is the Memento Dual-Tip Marker. Available in 24 contemporary shades to match the full-size and Dew Drop™ ink pads, durable brush- and fine-tipped tools can be used for stamping, journaling and more. [www.tsukineko.com](http://www.tsukineko.com)

**Avery®:Wizard Holiday Edition Software and New Printables**

We didn't learn about this exciting new product at CHA, but it's too timely and versatile not to mention here! Busy holiday paper crafters, let us introduce you to time-saving, sanity-saving software FREE from Avery. As you create your handmade cards and gifts this holiday season, create smarter using the new Avery Wizard Holiday Edition software to customize mailing labels, envelopes and so much more. You can even create cards using customizable templates and Avery Matte White Postcards or Matte White Note Cards, then embellish them with traditional paper crafting products if you like. Visit the site to download this free software now. And be sure to look for new Pop-up Edge™ Easy Peel Labels, available in clear and white – just bend back the column on the label sheet to expose the Pop-up Edge. Makes addressing all those envelopes so much faster! Thanks, Avery! [www.avery.com](http://www.avery.com)

