

more to chose from in town, with list prices the same as any Ace Hardware or Sentry or NAPA. Kids of all ages and sexes might prefer shopping at the brand-new Radio Shack, which stocks new-fangled toys for all sorts of kids.

### RADIO SHACK (AT THORNTON'S)

For those grown-up kids of all ages and sexes: ZipZaps, big electronic cars, phones, TVs, keyboards, a Karaoke machine. Cost: same as any Radio Shack. Even I was amused by these ZipZaps, little \$20 remote cars that made me long for a little son. The sales manager reminded me big kids can buy 'em or receive them as gifts (HINT, HINT).

### SHADOWLAND THEATRE

For the theatre buff, a season ticket @ \$68 for five Sunday matinees. Another BEST buy, too good to pass up; check their website for details. Once you apply discounts and such, it's almost like they're paying you to come! Deep discounts for kids, "pay what you can" seats, and more. Compare with a \$10 cinema ticket, or a \$100 Broadway show (that's \$100 PER show!)

### JM ORIGINALS

For my cousin's little newborn son, the cutest denim overalls and cute red T-shirt with airplane logo. \$9 total. This is summer 2003 stock and was on the final sale rack. It lists for about \$80 at Bloomingdale's! Their winter line goes on 50% discount December 1<sup>st</sup> to make room for the summer '04 line. The staff was nice enough to explain this when I mentioned a newborn snowsuit was beautiful but above my budget. There's a playroom for the little ones, excellent handicapped-access. Enough said?

### WAGS

For my special neighbor, a bird feeder (starting at around \$10) or red harness for her little pooch (\$5), for my pet-loving friends, some silly little chews (hot dogs, hamburgers, kebabs, and mini bones) that I've made into ornaments/fridge magnets at a dollar a pop. This store has all sorts of neat items for the farmer, outdoorsman, bird lover, or gardener, and at prices generally competitive with the larger stores, and well below the prices you see in those upscale pet boutiques.

Well, I proved my point! You can shop in Wawarsing, save some money and time, and run home for lunch and a nap during your travels. Or, you can visit with old friends during your jaunts, coerce one into taking you to lunch at the *Lighthouse Deli* or *Wilson's* or *Richard's*. Then check out local authors at the *Library*, buy your stamps and a good number of neat presents at the Post Office, and still be home long before the meteor showers. Trust me on this one. I did it.

HAPPY SHOPPING!



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