


**Gifts From
Around the
World**

EYES



**OF THE
WORLD**

Unique clothes, jewelry, blankets,
candles, incense, and other gifts
from around the world.

122 N. 14th



Kiley Timperley/DN

Cheryl Conner is the owner of Always Christmas, which is a little corner of her antique store that displays and sells Christmas decorations year round.

Here's A Sweet Gift Idea:
Christmas Cookies Made To Order

\$3.50 a Dozen,
with one day's
notice.



138 N. 12th
475-0625

It's always Christmas

*Year-round store prolongs holiday joy
through unique and festive decorations*

By Paula Lavigne
Staff Reporter

Every year, Christmas falls on December 25, unless it's "Always Christmas," where the holiday never ends.

Always Christmas is nestled in the back of Conner's Architectural Antiques store at 7th and P streets in the Haymarket. It boasts an eclectic selection of Christmas ornaments, figurines, trimmings and other holiday decorations.

Cheryl Conner, owner of Always Christmas, said her interest in opening a year-round Christmas store stemmed from her own obsession with the holidays.

"When you're a Christmas nut, you leave Christmas decorations up all year round," Conner said. "It looks so festive."

Although November and December are her busiest months, the store attracts customers all year round.

"You get a lot of people travelling and going to conventions over the summer," she said. "You also get a lot of collectors who buy a lot of individual ornaments."

Visitors often want to take home something that will remind them of

Nebraska, she said, such as a Santa snuggling a chicken or Christmas cows.

"People are always looking for festive things," Conner said.

Conner is always looking for new and different ornaments to add to her inventory. And it appears she has done just that. Ornaments range from singing pigs in Santa suits to glass icicles hanging from the ceiling. Christmas cows on wheels and hand-carved Santas sit next to silver deer and nativity sets of all sizes.

The main difference between Always Christmas and department stores is the originality of the ornaments, Conner said.

"We have a diverse inventory," she said. "We have a little bit of everything. We don't have a back room where we have 100 of each ornament."

Conner said she tries to keep unique items for collectors and people who want an ornament as a gift for a special occasion. Scrap ornaments are among her more unique ornaments, she said, which are made from magazine scraps and tinsel from the 1930s.

“We have a little bit of everything. We don't have a back room where we have 100 of each ornament.”

— Conner
owner of Always Christmas

Hand-made items by local artists are another specialty of the shop.

"We have an artist in Omaha who carves Santas," she said. "We have blown-glass ornaments done by a man in Lincoln, too."

Conner said the success of Always Christmas results from a desire to preserve the Christmas season.

"This season always brings out the best in us."

Tis the night before Christmas,
And throughout the University
You're looking for gifts,
unique with diversity.

Your roommates are nestled
All snug in their beds,
And you have no ideas
For gifts in your head.

So put on your kerchief,
And put on your cap,
And head to Nebraska Bookstore
As quick as a snap.

The shelves how they twinkle,
The salesclerks how merry,
The store has more gifts
Than a reindeer could carry.

There's gift books and sale books,
Big Red and Framing,
There's Electronics and Hallmark
And others worth naming.

I heard a shopper exclaim
As he walked out the store
Arms full of packages
"There's Free Gift Wrap and more!"

Come home for Christmas.



**NEBRASKA
BOOKSTORE**

13th & Q 476-0111

Free Gift Wrap!
with any purchase.

Free Parking!
with park & shop.

Free Delivery!
with minimum purchase
within Lincoln city limits