

\$hopGirl: Bustling corner on Broadway enchants

By Jennifer Rodriguez / Special to the Express-News
Published 06:30 p.m., Thursday, August 11, 2011

VIEW: Larger | Hide

1 of 5

◀ PREV NEXT ▶



This Consuela bag, \$69, Guatemalan pillow cover, \$38-\$48, and table runners, \$165, are all at Tienda al Garza. JENNIFER RODRIGUEZ / SPECIAL TO THE EXPRESS-NEWS



Comments (0) **0** tweets
Larger | Smaller
Printable Version tweet
Email This
Font

Latest Headlines

- Big Bend's black bears on the move
- Delicious smokin' at barbecue camp
- Readers' dining downers
- Food Calendar: Aug. 14-20
- Food Flashes: Aug. 14-20

Yes, \$hopGirl knows it's summer and that downtown is full of tourists, but head to The Shops at the 110 Broadway area and you'll forget all about the heat and crowds. There are some seriously fun stores \$hopGirl thinks you should know about. From traditional Mexican silver jewelry and classic western wear to a contemporary art glass shop and fun Mexican and South American finds — with a boutique thrown in for good measure — we're going to have a great time.

While downtown, check out the new restaurant Bella on the River, which is getting lots of love from critics. And Cariño's Boutique is a just a few blocks away (we'll visit it

another time, but it's worth checking out). Warning: \$hopGirl spent too long shopping and got a parking ticket, so be sure to keep up with the meters or pay to park. An \$8 lot around the corner takes cash and credit.

Drive a little further and get a **better deal**
CHAPARRAL FORD INC.
111. 39 S. Exh. 124 Bigfoot Rd., Bexiro, TX 78010



Most Read | Most Commented

1. Vet ID holders cannot vote?
2. A family is exiled from the U.S.
3. Motorcyclist killed in North Side crash
4. Legal maneuvering at hand in Aggies' plans for SEC
5. Man killed in South Bexar County crash
6. Official: 'Ball in Aggies' court' concerning SEC
7. Buck Harvey: Only pride would keep UT, Ags apart

Put Your Social Network to Work.
INTRODUCING **BeKnown.**
from **monster.com**

Learn More

NEWS



Man killed in ambush shooting at bar

Tienda la Garza

Tienda la Garza, 110 Broadway, Suite 100, is a treasure trove of Mexican and Latin American finds, with amazing items and brands you won't find other places, including \$hopGirl's current fave, Pineda Colavin. This brand uses aspects of Mexican culture to create beautiful scarves, ties, handbags, ponchos, sunglasses and more.

There's a variety of fab Mexican dresses and tops for women and girls and shirts for men. The store also carries cool men's wallets decorated with lotería icons and Mexican bank notes. \$hopGirl loved the Ene-Arte hearts and cross hangings, \$50, and lotería paintings, \$80, as well as the Guatemalan table runners and pillow covers.

Tienda la Garza also sells filigree earrings with real stones, Mexican oilcloth that can be purchased by the yard and large, detailed woodcarvings by Jacobo and [Maria Angeles](#). You'll love the candleholders, pots, pitchers and fun potholders. Be sure to check out the one-of-a-kind vests, \$350, and goods made with Jumex cans. Good to know: The store will also custom-embroider guayaberas.

Gallery Vetro

Amazing art glass by 100 artists from "as local as we can get" to throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe is on sale at this gallery, 513 E. Houston St. \$hopGirl was drawn to the gorgeous jewelry — it really is a treat just to get to check it out.

But this great shop also has everything from lighting and vases to wine stoppers and wall hangings. There are fabulous blown-glass, hand-painted ornaments in fun shapes — a sugar skull, [Virgen de Guadalupe](#), El Día de los Muertos altar (complete with pic of Pancho Villa), [Pope John Paul II](#), Milagro Cross and more, \$45 each.

The Alamo candle tea lights would make great gifts for wedding parties, and the glass cascarrones are fun. Have a hard person to shop for? The paperweights are perfect in a variety of prices; \$hopGirl liked the Celestial series best (around \$115). And then there are the really amazing pieces, such as chandeliers that can be custom-designed and cost an average of \$7,500; the Buddha by Victor Chiarizia; and the masterpiece violin by Dino Rosin.

Gallery Vetro also carries adorable salt-and-pepper shakers, glass flowers and tall and skinny altos, which are perfect for those little niches in your home.

While you may want to leave your kiddos at home for this one, it's good to know that this store will validate Hyatt parking with a purchase in its store.

Mar Imports

For traditional Mexican silver jewelry and pieces, Mar Imports, 110 Broadway, Suite 105, needs to be on your radar. It carries beautiful filigree earrings, lots of Aztec pieces and roses (all made from one sheet of silver) in pendants and rings. Most of the store is divided by color of stone, so it's easy to find what you like.

Right now, silver hoop earrings are especially hot, so it has a great variety of those as well. The shop offers the classic concho belt, baby spoons and rattles, and ID bracelets and buckles for men. It also has a few charms, including a Star of David and one of the Ten Commandments.

\$hopGirl loved the wood and silver domino set, silver rosary beads and three shapes and sizes of sterling napkin rings.

While 90 percent of the store is Mexican silver, it does carry amber from Poland and a few American Indian pieces as well.

El Vacquero

El Vacquero, 110 Broadway, Suite 110, carries quality western wear for those who want to wear their boots for more than a season. You'll find name brands for boots and hats, including Lucchese, Dan Post, Laredo and more. There are some beautiful sterling belt buckles by

ENTERTAINMENT



Review: Maria Bamford at Laugh Out Loud Comedy Club

SPORTS



Father of Chelsea player Mikel abducted in Nigeria

Montana Silversmiths and Vogt. \$hopGirl loved the sterling earrings and bracelets with turquoise, and [Lucchese Diva](#) boots (if only she could afford them!). Good to know: This store's owner says that if you have a western accessory that needs to be repaired, he can do it.

Hip Dingo

The motto at Hip Dingo, 515 E. Houston St., Suite 110 (a second store is at 17502 La Cantera Parkway, Suite 106), is "it shouldn't cost a lot to look hot." And this fun store offers something for kids up to women and plus sizes. There are funny signs everywhere, all available for purchase. It also has lots of fun jewelry, sunglasses and dresses.

There are plenty of jeans and T-shirts with lots of sparkle, and fun flips by [Lindsay Phillips](#) and Yellow Box. The S.T.A.M.P. watches are cool and can be worn as necklaces and key chains. There are Lolita glasses, iPhone skins and Bauble Lulu beads. Hip Dingo also has a fun variety of gift items for men, including "BBQ Sh*t Kit" seasonings, which, despite the name, are delish, \$hopGirl was assured.

Jennifer Rodriguez is a local freelance writer/researcher who loves to shop in her spare time. \$hopGirl can be reached at thebizwriter@gmail.com.

Printable Version Email This [Share](#) **0** **0** tweets

We Recommend

- [Woman accused of offering girl for sex gets prison](#)
- [Lawyer: CA toddler crawled in oven while dad slept](#)
- [Musician dies in motorcycle crash](#)
- [\\$hopGirl: Pearl's offerings go way beyond food](#)
- [Review: 'The Lincoln Lawyer'](#)
- [Texans put new roles to test](#)

More from Our Partners

- [Larry Flynt: Why I Asked Casey Anthony to Pose for Hustler \(AOL.com\)](#)
- [Alzheimer's Activities: How Making Lemonade Can Trigger... \(Caring.com\)](#)
- [Jeffs' jail pleasures \(The Daily\)](#)
- [A Debt-Free Life: 5 Must-Have Habits \(CareOne\)](#)
- [New Angelina Jolie Photos \(StyleBistro\)](#)

[Sponsored links]



Add Your Comment

New to the site?	Already a member?
To use commenting, you need to sign up.	Please log in. (Forgot Password?)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="button" value="Register"/>	<input type="button" value="Password"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Remember Me <input type="button" value="Sign In"/>	

Mortgage Rate at 2.37%

Get the Best Mortgage Rates. Refinance & Lower Your Mortgage. [LeadSteps.com](#)

\$79/HR Job - 476 Openings

Make \$79/hr Working From Home. Requirements: Computer. www.selectonlinejobs.com/

Money Market Accts (MMAs)

Find the highest yields in the US Plus calcs, news, www.bankrate.com

[Ads by Yahoo!](#)

MYSA

- Home
- News
- Blogs
- Business
- Sports
- Columnists
- Editorials
- Education
- Entertainment
- Forums

Life

- Events Calendar
- Multimedia
- National/International
- Obituaries
- Politics
- Travel
- Traffic
- Weather
- Food
- Spurs

TOPICS

- Community
- Health
- Living Green SA
- Military
- Outdoors
- Visitors' Guide
- SA Paws
- SA Cultura
- Do Good

MARKETPLACE

- Autos
- Classifieds
- Find San Antonio jobs
- Real Estate
- Shopping
- Business Directory
- Fan Shop

COMMUNITY SUBMITTED

- Calendar
- Photos
- OTHER EDITIONS**
- e-Edition
- Mobile
- Facebook
- Follow us on Twitter

ABOUT US

- About Us
- Contact Us
- Advertise online
- Advertise in print
- Newspaper Delivery
- Place a classified ad
- EN Subscription Services
- Buy Photos
- Archives
- Privacy Policy

[Terms and Conditions](#)
[Ethics Policy](#)

San Antonio Express-News
© 2011 Hearst Communications Inc.
HEARST *newspapers*

[RSS](#)