

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES



SHOP CRAWL

Maureen Jenkins takes you to places worth a visit and your cash in the **SOUTH LOOP**

DOWNTOWN PETS, 1619 S. Michigan, (312) 360-1619

Talk about a canine welcoming committee — super-friendly puggles Jerome and Violet hold court at this well-stocked pet emporium. It's all about dogs, cats and fish here, with an impressive array of supplies for each. A groomer visits twice a week, and owner Mia Karoutsos' staff delivers in the South Loop and beyond (if your bill's \$50). Save 5 percent if your pet shops with you.



FLAUNT BOUTIQUE, 75 E. 16th, (312) 360-1000

One of the few women's apparel shops in the area, this store sells uniquely shaped and patterned coats, dresses and simple sportswear in small/medium/large sizes. Label ORI-EN by Cyndi Chan gets an entire wall, featuring wool/cashmere wrap coats with red-contrast lining and silk/polyester evening versions in chocolate and copper. Check out Flaunt's selection of "support" accoutrements, everything from dress protectors to Fashion Forms Gel Petals that allow wearers to go (tastefully) braless.



PANOZZO'S ITALIAN MARKET 1303 S. Michigan.

We've got Jewel, but the South Loop is starved for real gourmet eats. But this carry-out brainchild of former Far South Sider Mike Panozzo and wife Ellen brings the flavor of Old World-Italian delis to this area. Prepared foods — think Lasagna Bolognese made from spinach pasta — from chef John Asbaty star alongside house-made gnocchi and gnudi, a ricotta dumpling. Pick up prosciutto di Parma, mozzarella di bufala, and other antipasti fixins if you want to cook yourself.

YOLK, 1120 S. Michigan, (312) 789-9655.

On either the front or back end of your South Loop shopping foray, drop into this sunny yellow-and-blue breakfast and lunch spot. As the name suggests, egg specialties reign — think skilletts, frittatas and omelettes. And "Create Your Own Scramblers," served with diced red potatoes and a steaming short stack of flavorful buttermilk pancakes, are a \$7.99 bargain. The friendly, good-looking staff, cozy booths and creative menu will keep you coming back.

Getting around. CTA buses: 1, 3, 4, 18, 29, 62. Trains: Red (Roosevelt/State), Orange and Green (Roosevelt/Wabash). Metra: Metra Electric line's 12th or 18th Street stops. Metered street parking available.

