urban buy

Bead it

Forget necklaces in New Orleans; celebrate Mardi Gras with homemade strands

JUST BECAUSE you can't make it to Mardi Gras in New Orleans next week doesn't mean you have to miss out on all the fun. Beantown may not host parades or allow drinking in the streets, but you can get some beads 'round here, and you can even learn to make necklaces much nicer than those thrown off the floats down south. Another advantage to the homemade version: no one will expect you to flash anything except a few dollars to get them.

At the **Boston Center for Adult Education**, for example, you can create a one-of-a-kind beaded necklace while learning a knotting technique. The one-day **class on European knotted beaded necklaces** ($38 plus a materials fee) is being offered on March 22 and April 12. For those who want to take things a step further, you can also sign up for the BCAE's **glass-bead-making class** ($179) on March 29, where you'll learn all the basics of creating your own beads. It'll even cover how to turn your home into a bead-making studio.

Along the same lines, the **Cambridge Center for Adult Education** offers a class on **designing and making beaded jewelry** ($83 plus a materials fee) on April 5, where students will learn basic techniques, and design and make a few pieces of jewelry.

For more advanced beaders, artist Wendy Ellsworth will teach a two-day class April 6 and 7 that will cover techniques used to make one of her very intricate necklaces ($160). The class, held at the **Crystal Blue Beading Co.** in Watertown, is for experienced beaders. While you're there, you can also check out the store's selection; it specializes in small glass beads that cost anywhere from $3 for a package of about 4000 beads to $100 for a single handmade bead.

Beadworks, which sells just about every kind of bead you can imagine at its Cambridge and Boston locations, also offers classes in how to use what you buy ($25–$45). You can learn knotting techniques, how to string beads, and how to work with wire. Classes are held most weeks.

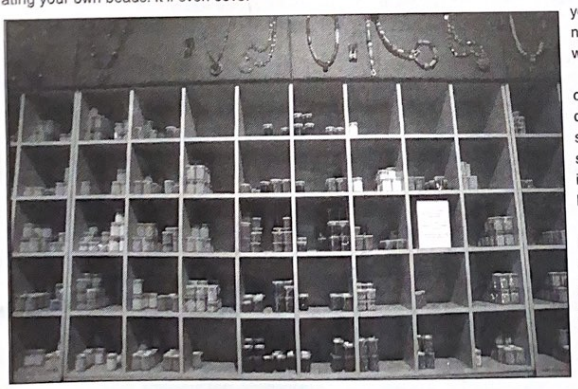
People just looking to stock up on beads can check out the **Divine Bead Festival** on April 13 at the Holiday Inn in Dedham. Twenty vendors will be on hand selling all kinds of beads — including antique, crystal, silver, handmade, and clay varieties. It costs $4 to get into what the organizer calls a "nonstop, frantic bead-buying frenzy."

And if you don't want to leave your house on a cold winter's day, you can always hit the Internet (or use more old-fashioned mail-order methods). The **Boston Bead Company** only opens its Newton doors a few times a year to shoppers, but it sells all the time through its catalogue and the Web.

— **Christine Junge**

Where to find it:

- Beadworks, 167 Newbury Street, Boston, (617) 247-7227; 23 Church Street, Cambridge, (617) 868-9777.
- Boston Bead Company, 25 Aberdeen Street, Newton, (617) 332-6588; www.bostonbead.com.
- Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm Ave, Boston, (617) 267-4430; www.bcae.org.
- Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle Street, Cambridge, (617) 547-6789; www.ccae.org.
- Crystal Blue Beading Co., 565 Mount Auburn Street, Watertown, (617) 923-2337.
- Divine Bead Festival, Holiday Inn, 55 Ariadne Road, Dedham; funkystuffbeads@aol.com.



PHOTOS BY KELLY DAVIDSON

moon signs

BY SYMBOLINE DAI

When market business was bad in the East
End the trader would exclaim: "Ah! I expect I forg
to bow to the new moon!" Peter Ack

PERSONALLY, I LOVE a waning moon. Once yo figure out that everything is supposed to be low-energy, low-voltage, sea-level, life makes more sens And Peter Ackroyd is right — figure that even after th moon is new, things will rev up again, but slowly.

Thursday, February 27
Waning moon in Capricorn/Aquarius. The best-laid plans go completely awry today, so the smart reade will have nothing but contingency plans in store. You'll have t do more than clean your glasses to find focus, but hang with creative folks. Capricorn, if you must be "Eeyore," at least be amusing. Aquarius, keep track of what you're doing, or make sure an earth- or cardinal-sign person in your life does this fo you. VOC 7:58 a.m. to 2:24 p.m.

Friday, February 28
Waning moon in Aquarius. Good day to be out shop ping for things with wires or cords. Taurus, make sur your comments aren't too sharp (this applies to all of March, actually). Aquarius, don't let the air and fire people drive you nuts. Be less available. This may mean turning the answering machine *off* when you leave your pad. Gemini, of course, wouldn't dream of this. Twins may want the rest of us to conn more than we think we do.

Saturday, March 1
Waning moon in Aquarius. Where'd I put my keys? Where'd I put my car? Yes, it's those lazy, hazy, cra days of the waning moon. Aquarius might be particularly aimless, but Leo could get stirred up over shadows. Hold o decisions or doing what you think people want you to do. T is also true for scorpions and bulls — not your day to shin guys (unless you work in the "combative" fields of psychia nursing or direct sales). VOC 9:30 to 10:26 p.m.

Sunday, March 2
Dark of the moon. [illegible] but little focus, though artists could be happy creative (if given enough time, space, and silence). Dor [illegible] temporary, but unkind words spoken to you today could r rankle. Avoid the stress-producers in your life. Cancer, it's good day for declarations, and even better for cooking. Ju double-check ingredients.

Monday, March 3
New moon in Pisces; Venus moves into Aquarius uary and February were about the fire and air pe — this month, it's water and earth time. Cautious new begi nings are the theme today, though romance for air signs co be more impetuous. December Capricorns get to make a decision this week and develop projects that stalled in the And today, that might be a relatively painless process.

Tuesday, March 4
Waxing moon in Aries. It could be easy to jump conclusions, especially for Aries or Cancer, who feel they've not been getting all the facts. Sagittarius, pret the weekend didn't happen, and pursue other avenues/a tances/arts. Gemini and Aquarius could get everyone tog or at least have (dis)agreeable unity on a matter. VOC 8: 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, March 5
Waxing moon in Aries; Mars moves into Capri The planets are all about getting you riled up – particularly you Libra and Cancer people who think you so easygoing. Ha-ha-ha, say the rest of us. Aries, those born in March need to avoid getting forced into a corne sider finding middle ground with people who want som different than what you want.

Key to Moon Signs

This horoscope traces the passage of the moon, not the Simply read from day to day to watch the moon's influen moves through the signs of the zodiac.

When the moon is in your sun sign, you are beginning 28-day emotional cycle, and you can expect increased i and emotionality. When the moon moves into the sun sig opposite yours (see below), expect to have difficulties d with the opposite sex, family, or authority figures; social romantic activities will not be at their best.

When the moon is in Aries, it opposes Libra, and vic Other oppositions are Taurus/Scorpio, Gemini/Sagittari Cancer/ Capricorn, Leo/Aquarius, and Virgo/Pisces. T stays in each sign approximately two and a half days.

As the moon moves between signs, it will someti become "void of course," making no major angles t Consider this a null time and try to avoid making or implementing decisions if you can.

For Symboline Dai's sun-sign horoscopes and advi visit our Web site at www.bostonphoenix.com.

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