

BY KATE PANCERO

A busty solution

Bust lines come in all shapes and sizes. For moms more endowed than others, wearing low-cut shirts can be a nightmare. Beat that peep show fashion disaster by battening down the hatches with the Bosom Button.

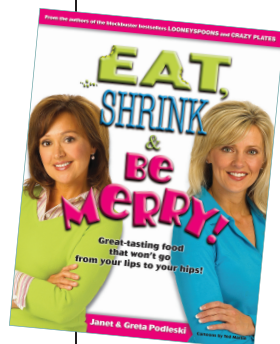


The buttons, which come in a variety of colorful gems, Swarovski crystals and white pearls, secure your shirt by connecting the outer layers to your bra or the shirt itself. The buttons can also be used to secure saris and scarves.

Bosom Buttons retail for \$12 for individual buttons and \$25 for the collections and are available at bosombutton.com.

Cooking up a little fabulous

With tight schedules and tighter wallets, moms will do just about anything to get meals quickly. That doesn't always equal healthy, though, and too many quick meals can add up to extra pounds.



Why not challenge yourself and your family to a lifestyle change? A great place to start is on your bookshelf with the new cookbook from Canadian sisters Janet and Greta Podleski, *Eat, Shrink & Be Merry!: Great-tasting food that won't go from your lips to your hips.* The delicious recipes are easy and fun, with titles such as "Life in the Fast Loin" and "Fromage à Trios." Nutritious facts are scattered throughout the book, so you'll find new ways to

cut back on fat.

For more information, visit eatshrinkandbemerry.com. The cookbook is available for \$29.95 with a buy one, get one free special so you can share the health with your friends.

Fab sites on the Web

Being a mom can leave you completely out of the fashion loop, kid items not included. *SheFinds.com*, a weekly newsletter and daily blog, keeps you up to date on all of the latest beauty and fashion products. Occasionally the site will suggest cool home goods as well.

If you're looking for more fabulous finds for your family, check out its sister site, *MomFinds.com*.



Trés chic jewels

You don't need diamonds to look fabulous, but having a little something flashy around your neck definitely makes your outfit sparkle. Next time you're looking for that oh-so-perfect necklace, bracelet or earrings, check out Chicago-based Chic Gems, etc.

With a passion for the latest in fashion, owner Sarah Ratford takes pride in the design and craftsmanship of her pieces. "This season (the necklace trend) is going to be bigger," Ratford says. "I love that look."

The gem line's signature feature, flower and leaf toggles, are something Ratford chose to help the company stand out. "I like to have things that are different," she says.



Many of the necklaces, bracelets and earrings are made with Czechoslovakian crystals and glass from the Murano Glass Company, based in Venice, Italy. The collection also features semi-precious stones such as agate, jaspers, quartz and turquoise.

On her blog, *chicgemsetc.blogspot.com*, Ratford discusses her favorite fashion picks, the latest trends, upcoming events and the new pieces in her jewelry line.

Most of Chic Gems, etc.'s pieces have been designed to wear year-round with reasonable price tags. Necklaces range from \$49.95-\$129.95, bracelets are \$25.95-\$65.95 and earrings are \$25.95-\$39.95. For more information, visit chicgemsetc.com.

Wear your shining star

You're proud of your kid and you aren't afraid to show it. Recent new mommy and Chicago Parent Associate Editor Jennifer Gilbert (pictured) is delighted to show the world she's "Landon's Mommy" with a shirt from Mommystars. The hip shirts come in a variety of whimsical patterns and styles that will have other moms glowing with envy.

The custom shirt company, owned by local Batavia mom Lisa Waters, offers plenty of different styles of long and short sleeved crew neck shirts as well as short sleeved v-necks. Waters

plans to add more options, including sweatshirts and looser fitting shirts. There are seven font designs available with more on the way. You also have the option of adding a star.

Sizes do tend to run on the small side, so plan on ordering one size larger. Long sleeved shirts are \$38 and short sleeved shirts are \$35. Dad doesn't need to feel left out—the company offers Daddystars shirts as well. To check out all the styles, go to Mommystars.com.

