## HOLIDAY CHFT GUIDE

## **Bargains For Budget-Conscious Consumers**

(NAPSA)—With this year's extra-short shopping season only adding to everyone's stress levels, savvy shoppers should be thinking of ways to maximize two things: their time *and* their wallets.

Many people have already learned to turn to one-stop shopping destinations such as offprice retailers for gift ideas. But with Thanksgiving falling later than usual on the calendar, the attraction of places like Marshalls may be even greater. There, you can often find a variety of choices from gift sets to gourmet baskets to designer fashions and accessories at discounts from 20 to 60 percent off retail prices.

"Luxury gift sets are always convenient, and—if you have time to spare—you can create a personalized gift by delivering seasonal fashions and gifts in decorative boxes, baskets and totes," said Colleen Healy, a Marshalls shopping expert.

Here are some gift suggestions to try on for size:

• Ladies Only: Matching cashmere scarves and gloves rank high with the fashionista in the family. Bath and body sets, including luxurious lotions, fragrances, soaps and candles offer pampering, while fine jewelry can be a great romantic gesture. Also look for suede, leather, cashmere and faux fur fashions and accessories to help complete any holiday look.

• The Manly Man: Gifts including suede gloves, cashmere scarves, leather wallets and designer fragrances are invariably a hit. Leather coats with shearling



Many people are turning to offprice retailers this holiday season for gift ideas for less.

accents and heavy wool sweaters can add luxury and style. Not sure what to get? Consider designer neckties.

• Kidding Around: Picture books, sticker and stationery sets, jewelry boxes and dolls make fun gifts for girls, while science kits, wooden blocks and mystery books for boys can be great choices, especially when given in backpacks and tote bags. Ski-influenced clothing is also hot for both sexes.

• Home for the Holidays: China, decanters and ornaments can bring holiday cheer into any home. For the hostess, gifts of Belgian chocolates, gourmet cookies and Italian biscotti and assorted English teas and jams are appreciated.

Marshalls features daily shipments of new merchandise, extended shopping hours and flexible layaway plans. To find the nearest Marshalls, you can call 1-800-MARSHALLS or visit www.MarshallsOnline.com.