

THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

1.27.07

My Sister's Closet offers designer clothes at a fraction of original price

SCOTTSDALE

One of the best-kept secrets for shoppers in north Scottsdale is My Sister's Closet, a consignment store for recycled designer apparel.

You're probably thinking: not.

Think again. The 3,100-square-foot shop is ornamented with a boutique appeal with gold-framed mirrors and chandeliers. The antique-like



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chairs are for shoppers who might need a break from bargain hunting.

This is no store cluttered with outdated attire from decades ago.

Located at the Desert Village Shopping Center, 23435 N. Pima Road, near Pinnacle Peak and Pima roads, the store is stocked with high-end labels such as Prada, Gucci, Chanel, Rena Lange and Juicy Couture.

It also has designer shoes — most of them hardly worn — that fill a wall of shelves. Signs throughout the store tell shoppers where items are located. And most of the goods are less than 5 years old.

The shop will unveil its stash of spring of fashion at 8 a.m. today.

Who knows? You might find a something to sport at next week's Birds Nest concert-party during the FBR Open golf tournament.

One of 11 stores owned by Ann Siner, the north Scottsdale location of My Sister's Closet is the only one that offers fur coats. Siner also runs My Sister's Attic, Well Suited Men's Resale and Small Change-Recycled Kid's Stuff.

Fur coats that averaged \$6,000 to \$15,000 when new, now sell for \$400 to \$2,000 used at the consignment store.



PHOTOS BY SUZANNE STARR/THE REPUBLIC

Ann Siner is CEO and founder of My Sister's Closet and other consignment stores in the Valley. Fans of Scottsdale's premier events know to shop for designer labels at discounted prices.



A pair of Guess jeans are offered for sale (\$8.95) by My Sister's Closet, a Valley-wide chain of consignment stores.

Winter visitors and fans of Scottsdale's premier events even know about this spot.

"We get a lot of drive from the FBR Open, Barrett-Jackson auction and Arabian Horse Show," said Carol Weinstein, the store manager. "It's a good deal for everyone. Bargains are always fun."

A fast-growing industry

A multibillion dollar industry, resale stores are a growing sector of the retail industry, according to the National Association of Resale & Thrift Shops, a professional group with 1,000 business members.

The Michigan-based group defines a resale, thrift and con-

signment shops:

■ A consignment shop accepts merchandise on consignment and pays the owner a percentage when an item is sold.

■ A resale shop buys their merchandise from individual owners.

■ A thrift shop is run by a non-profit organization to raise money for charitable causes.

More discount clothing

My Sister's Closet isn't the only resale store in the Valley. There are plenty of them, such as Secrets!, also in Scottsdale, and the Buffalo Exchange in Tempe.

Imagine last season's Yves Saint Laurent suit, barely worn by its owner for \$89.95. You can't beat that.

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