

PENINSULA PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS 2010

Choosing the crème de la Creamery

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From the top tire shop to the freshest fish, Daily News readers have weighed in with their picks of the best the Peninsula has to offer.

Hundreds of readers voted in The Daily News' People's Choice Awards 2010, which span a wide range of categories, from coffee houses to burrito shops to gas stations to pet stores.

Looking for a juicy quarter-pound burger with cheese? Head to The Counter in Palo Alto for the area's best, according to Daily News readers.

Need to unwind after a rough week at work? Treat yourself at Destino Spa, the readers' selection for best massage and best spa and wellness center.

"What my customers think is gold to me,

and really we're very, very blessed in that regard," said John Bentley, owner and chef at the John Bentley's restaurants in Woodside and Redwood City, which won the award for best fine dining.

Readers favored businesses both large and small, choosing corporations such as Bank of America (for best bank) as well as mom-and-pop shops like the 87-year-old Peninsula Creamery Dairy Store and Grill (for best breakfast place) in Palo Alto.

Some businesses set themselves apart by doing things a little differently than the competition.

A lot of places make french fries, but the Old Port Lobster Shack in Redwood City cooks them Belgian style. Owner Russell Deutsch takes hand-cut potatoes, fries them once at a low temperature, then fries them again at a high temperature right before they

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Your picks for best and worst



EATS AND DRINKS

- BEST BREAKFAST PLACE**
FIRST PENINSULA CREAMERY
SECOND HOBEE'S
THIRD DAN BROWN'S LOUNGE AND SPORTS BAR
- BEST CHINESE RESTAURANT**
FIRST SU HONG
SECOND JING-JING SZECHWAN AND HUNAN GOURMET
- BEST ITALIAN RESTAURANT**
FIRST OSTERIA
- BEST JAPANESE RESTAURANT**
FIRST MIYAKE RESTAURANT
SECOND SUSHI TOMO
- BEST MEXICAN RESTAURANT**
FIRST PLAYA GRILL
SECOND PALO ALTO SOL
- BEST SERVICE AT A RESTAURANT**
FIRST HOBEE'S
SECOND FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE AND WINE BAR
THIRD DINAH'S POOLSIDE GRILL
- BEST PLACE FOR COFFEE**
FIRST PEET'S COFFEE & TEA
SECOND DOUCE FRANCE
- BEST DESSERTS**
FIRST CHEESECAKE FACTORY
SECOND FRAICHE YOGURT
- BEST BURGER**
FIRST THE COUNTER
SECOND IN-N-OUT
THIRD JEFFREY'S HAMBURGERS
- BEST FINE DINING**
FIRST JOHN BENTLEY'S RESTAURANT
- BEST FRENCH FRIES**
FIRST OLD PORT LOBSTER SHACK
SECOND THE COUNTER
- BEST MEAL UNDER \$10**
FIRST SPROUT CAFE
- BEST PIZZA**
FIRST SOPRANOS PIZZA
SECOND PIZZA CHICAGO
THIRD PIZZA MY HEART

- BEST BAR**
FIRST RUDY'S PUB
- BEST SEAFOOD RESTAURANT**
FIRST OLD PORT LOBSTER SHACK
SECOND THE FISH MARKET RESTAURANT
THIRD COOK'S SEAFOOD
- BEST BURRITO**
FIRST LA BAMBA
SECOND CHIPOTLE
- BEST DOUGHNUT**
FIRST PROLIFIC OVEN
SECOND SUGAR BUTTER FLOUR
- BEST BAGELS**
FIRST NOAH'S BAGELS
SECOND HOUSE OF BAGEL'S
- BEST BAKERY**
FIRST LA BAGUETTE
SECOND SATURA CAKES
- BEST HAPPY HOUR**
FIRST FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE AND WINE BAR



SHOPS & SERVICES

- BEST PLACE FOR AUTO REPAIRS**
FIRST KEVIN'S AUTO REPAIR
SECOND LARRY'S AUTOWORKS
- BEST PLACE FOR AUTO TIRES**
FIRST FIRESTONE COMPLETE AUTO CARE
- BEST BANK**
FIRST BANK OF AMERICA
SECOND WELLS FARGO
- BEST BARBER SHOP**
FIRST HAIR INTERNATIONAL
- BEST BEAUTY SALON**
FIRST HAIR INTERNATIONAL
- BEST BOOKKEEPING & TAX SERVICE**
FIRST MORTON AND ASSOCIATES, INC., CPA
- BEST DELI**
FIRST LETTUCE
SECOND WHOLE FOODS MARKET
- BEST PLACE FOR EYE WEAR**
FIRST SUNNYVALE OPTICAL
- BEST HOTEL**
FIRST THE WESTIN PALO ALTO
SECOND SHERATON PALO ALTO HOTEL
THIRD COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

- BEST FRESH SEAFOOD MARKET**
FIRST COOK'S SEAFOOD
SECOND WHOLE FOODS MARKET
- BEST SKIN CARE**
FIRST DESTINO SPA
- BEST PLACE FOR FLOWERS**
FIRST TRADER JOE'S
- BEST GAS STATION**
FIRST CHEVRON
SECOND SHELL
- BEST HARDWARE & HOMEWARES**
FIRST ACE HARDWARE
SECOND THE HOME DEPOT
- BEST HEALTH & FITNESS CLUB**
FIRST CLUB ONE FITNESS CENTER
SECOND GOLD'S GYM
- BEST HEALTH FOODS STORE**
FIRST WHOLE FOODS MARKET
- BEST JEWELRY STORE/JEWELER**
FIRST GLEIM THE JEWELER
- BEST NAIL SALON**
FIRST PINKIES NAIL SALON
SECOND HAIR INTERNATIONAL
- BEST MESSAGE**
FIRST DESTINO SPA
- BEST TANNING SALON**
FIRST DESTINO SPA
- BEST SPA/WELLNESS CENTER**
FIRST DESTINO SPA
- BEST GARDEN & NURSERY CENTER**
FIRST SUMMERWINDS NURSERY
- BEST SUPERMARKET**
FIRST WHOLE FOODS MARKET
SECOND SAFEWAY
- BEST PRODUCE**
FIRST WHOLE FOODS MARKET
- BEST PET STORE**
FIRST PET CLUB
- BEST PHARMACY**
FIRST WALGREENS
SECOND CVS PHARMACY
- BEST REAL ESTATE FIRM**
FIRST INTERO REAL ESTATE SERVICES
SECOND KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY
- BEST YOGA STUDIO**
FIRST DARSHANA YOGA
- BEST DANCE STUDIO**
FIRST COMMUNITY DANCE JAM



THE BEST & THE WORST

- WORST PLACE FOR SPEEDING TICKETS**
FIRST ALMA STREET
- BEST PARK**
FIRST Foothills Park
- WORST HAPPENING OF THE PAST YEAR**
FIRST CUTTING TREES ON PALO ALTO'S CALIFORNIA AVENUE
- BEST PLACE TO BUY A CHRISTMAS TREE**
FIRST WEBB RANCH
- BEST PLACE TO BUY A PUMPKIN**
FIRST WEBB RANCH



BEST FOLKS IN TOWN

- BEST GOV. EMPLOYEE-MAIL SERVICE**
FIRST HUGO FRANCO
SECOND ROB BECK
- BEST CHIROPRACTOR**
FIRST PEAK PERFORMANCE CHIROPRACTOR
- BEST PERSONAL FITNESS TRAINER**
FIRST AL PAINTER, INTEGRATE PERFORMANCE FITNESS
- BEST BUSINESS PERSON**
FIRST PAM DECHARO, HAIR INTERNATIONAL
- BEST VETERINARIAN**
FIRST DR. KENNETH J. WEIGEL, PALO ALTO PET HOSPITAL
- BEST NEW BUSINESS**
FIRST LAVANDE NAIL SPA
- BEST REAL ESTATE AGENT**
FIRST GARY CAMPI, CAMPI PROPERTIES, INC.
SECOND JOHN W. KING, ALHOUSE + KING
- BEST STYLIST**
FIRST NIKKI SAFARI, HAIR INTERNATIONAL
SECOND ALMA MARQUEZ, HAIR INTERNATIONAL
- BEST YOGA INSTRUCTOR**
FIRST CATHERINE DE LOS SANTOS, DARSHANA YOGA
SECOND KEITH ERICKSON, YOGA WITH KEITH