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an array of
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businesses, services
and things to do



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Haverhill's best restaurants



Anthony and Paul Tomacchio of STACKS

The city's restaurant scene has blossomed in recent years with an influx of new eateries, each offering their take on a mix of traditional and innovative meals, desserts and drinks.

Just as they did last year, members of the Gaiero family topped this year's list of Haverhill's Best voting with Joseph's Trattoria and Bakery Cafe, operated by Deanna Gaiero, taking the top spot. Her brother-in-law, Matt Gaiero, and his wife Denise came in second place with their downtown eatery, G's Texas Southern Flare.

"We're happy to come in second behind Deanna," said Matt Gaiero. "I was hoping for first place but if you're going to get beat by a family member, it hurts less."

Readers of the Haverhill Gazette raved about

Joseph's, which is located on Route 125 just south of the Ward Hill Connector.

Patrons say this Italian restaurant brings a "taste of Tuscany" to the area, and its menu is a delight to the palette. Offerings include brick oven roasted and breaded eggplant smothered in fresh mozzarella, roasted peppers and Pomodoro sauce; panko parmesan crusted veal with cherry tomatoes, arugula, white beans, basil, lemon basil vinaigrette and shaved Parmigiano Reggiano cheese; pan seared fillet of sole, a grilled 12-ounce rack of lamb and other tempting fare.

"Our Pomodoro sauce is our original recipe. We cook all of our stocks in house, and we use all fresh pastas and ravioli," Deanna Gaiero said, noting that all of her restaurant's

desserts are made in-house as well, such as the tiramisu and the crème brûlée. Joseph's also has an extensive gluten-free menu, while the bakery is known for its pastries and breads.

"Our Italian cookies are from an original recipe and our chocolate mousse, lemon heaven, death by chocolate and wild berry tortes are very popular," she said, also noting several gluten-free dessert items.

"It's all about consistency of the food and the service," she said. "We're in our 26th year and our customers know they are going to get the same experience as they did during their last visit."

Downtown at G's, Matt Gaiero says his customers love the fact that he and

See RESTAURANTS, Page S5

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Haverhill's best restaurants

RESTAURANTS

■ Continued from Page S4

his wife Denise are on the premises during every shift their restaurant is open.

"Denise and I do everything most other restaurants pay people to do, including washing dishes, tending the bar and seating customers," Matt Gaiero said.

G's is probably best known for its Corpus Crispy fried chicken sandwich, but the menu offers much more.

"It's a combination of good food and good drinks, including craft cocktails such as infused tequilas and vodkas," Matt Gaiero said. "Our signature cocktails include the G's Louise, made from fresh strawberry-infused vodka

with organic lemonade. And for our Coming in Hot cocktail, we use tequila infused with fresh pineapple and habanero peppers.

"Our Chico's BBQ platter is made from brisket that we smoke for 22 to 24 hours in our electric smoker. One of our most popular appetizes is the Land-N-Sea, which is blackened shrimp with house-made chorizo on a bed of homemade creamy grits."

G's also serves a "local burger" crafted from Maine Family Farms ground beef and served on a Fantini Bakery brioche with a side of house-cut fries. You will also find a variety of canned, bottled and draft beers along with a selection of red and white wines.

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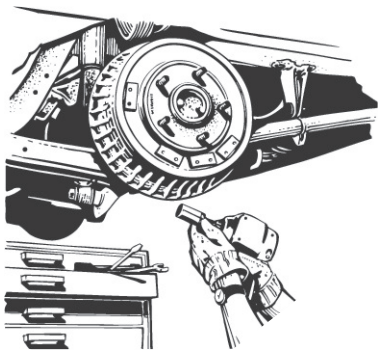
See RESTAURANTS, Page S6



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RESTAURANTS

■ Continued from Page S5

businesses such as Carter's Ice Cream and Fantini Bakery," Matt Gaiero said.

The Hidden Pig, this year's third place finisher, is where bacon is king. The menu features a variety of craft burgers such as the Red Riding Hood, which is topped with white cheddar, hot honey, pork belly and red raspberry jam. Appetizers include bacon jam crab Rangoon and a "bacon board" with homemade candied bacon, confit pork belly slab, pepper crusted slab and fruitwood smoked pickle chips.

Coming in fourth place in our reader's poll is Butch's Uptown, where a variety of American, Italian and Mediterranean-inspired dishes keep customers coming back for more.

Some of the favorites include chicken cutlet and pork cutlet sandwiches, a satisfying prime rib, and fettuccini with shrimp, scallops, mussels and calamari.

BEST NEW RESTAURANT

Stacks, which took eighth place in the Best Restaurant category, took first place this year as Haverhill's Best New Restaurant. Owned and operated by executive chef brothers Paul and Anthony Tomacchio, Stacks, which is located downtown on Washington Street, has a rotating menu with creative offerings and is wowing customers with its over-the-top milkshakes. The drinks come with or without alcohol and are topped with dessert items such as a slice of



See RESTAURANTS, Page S8 Matt and Denise Gaiero of G's Haverhill

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Elaine Barker - Owner

~ Elaine Barker



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Haverhill's best restaurants

RESTAURANTS

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cheesecake or a decadent brownie. Among Stacks' various sandwiches are craft burgers that are now available with a single, double or triple patty along with toppings such as goat cheese, peach jam and bacon jam. There's also the chicken barb, a juicy, shredded chicken sandwich first served decades ago in a Merrimack Valley restaurant.

United Cakes Bakery at 21 Washington St. took second place in the Best New Restaurant category. The menu features cupcakes, doughnuts, waffles, specialty milk shakes, ice cream and smoothie bowls.

Placing third is the Roasted Coffee Bar at 181 Groveland St.

One of the most recent additions to Haverhill's restaurant scene, this cafe prides itself on its coffee beans supplied by Flight Coffee Co.

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Edward Benedetti



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Haverhill's best scenic spots, historic places and best events

If you're looking for something to do, Haverhill offers a variety of recreational and educational outlets ranging from walking trails and swimming to fishing, museums and more. The 2022 reader's poll offers insight into places that locals say are the best to visit.

Favorite historical site

The John Greenleaf Whittier Birthplace and Museum took first place in this year's poll in the category of Favorite Historical Site, edging out last year's winner, the Buttonwoods Museum and last year's second place winner and perennial favorite, Winnekenni Castle. The castle is currently closed as it is in need of major renovations.

Kaleigh Pare, who was named executive director of the Birthplace in 2020, has done a lot to boost visitation and encourage repeat visits by introducing a host of new programs throughout the year.



John Greenleaf Whittier Birthplace and Museum

"Although people were aware of us, we didn't give them a reason to return," she said. "But with our new event schedule, there are lots of ways for people to get involved. We've invited the public to walk the Freeman

Trail and to come here and snowshoe or cross country ski in the winter. We're giving people many other reasons to keep coming back."

One program for adults and families is a kite flying day in October.

"We worked with a group called Kites Over New England that held a kite making station, sold kites, offered instruction in kite flying and flew some really big kites, taking advantage of our 60 scenic acres," Pare

said.

The Birthplace launched a monthly virtual lecture series via Zoom in March 2021 and has since held 11 lectures. The series returns in September after a summer hiatus. Guest speakers

have included author Edith Maxwell, of Amesbury, and John Porter, who discussed the history of agriculture and barn styles on New England Farms.

"This past spring we held a 'food ways' talk and taste program," Pare said. "The first was on bees and honey, along with a honey wine maker tasting, and the second was with an apple grower paired with a hard cider maker with appetizers from Carbone's Kitchen in Bradford. We try to partner with local organizations as much as possible."

In April, the Birthplace introduced its Poetic Justice Project featuring live readings of Whittier's poems and works by the River Bards.

"The goal is to bring poetry readings to places where people gathered, such as the Art Walk downtown," Pare said. "The focus is

See SCENIC, Page S11

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SCENIC

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on Whittier's poems having to do with justice and abolition."

She added, "All of this leads up to part two, a live theater performance in our apple orchard in September called 'The Abolitionist's Refrain' by Michael Cormier of Haverhill."

The annual open house takes place during Trails and Sails, Sept. 16 to 18, when admission to the museum is free.

The 1697 Duston-Dustin Garrison House on Hilldale Avenue placed third in this year's poll. The historic building often hosts open house events as well as reenactments of life in Colonial America, and is available for tours.

The Buttonwoods Museum on Water Street, which took fourth place, showcases over 375 years of history and preserves a collection of property, artifacts and landscape

with historical significance to Greater Haverhill. The museum features three important properties: the 1814 Duncan House, the 1859 Daniel Hunkins Shoe Shop, and the 1710-1810 John Ward House.

Some of the collections include domestic objects, decorative arts, textiles, furnishings, military artifacts, shoes and other items from Haverhill's former shoe industry, archaeological artifacts from the Frederick A. Luce collection, and the Moody collection pertaining to the Supreme Court Justice William Moody.

The Haverhill Firefighting Museum on Kenoza Avenue is a popular stop for children and adults looking to explore the history of firefighting in the city. The museum has a display of firefighting apparatus and equipment, while kids can enjoy the interactive and educational "Hero Headquarters."

Most scenic place

Once again, readers chose

Winnekenni Castle and its park and trails as the most scenic place in the city. Kenoza Lake came in second place, with the downtown boardwalk and downtown stretch of the Merrimack River coming in third.

The castle is surrounded by 700 acres and nine and a half miles of woodland trails. The park is considered a four-season destination for a variety of leisurely activities.

Kenoza Lake, which sits adjacent, is a protected body of water critical to Haverhill's drinking water supply. Fishing, boating and swimming are not allowed, unless you happen to be a duck, a swan, or one of the many Canada geese that gather at the lake and in the springtime raise their young. Fishing is allowed in the basin. Walking trails abound, including trails that skirt the lake.

For a trail map, visit winnekenni.com and click on "Trail Map."

This year the castle's grounds have featured

medieval-style armored combat events presented by The Knights Hall, which have attracted large crowds. The next combat event is Sept. 10. For a schedule, which is being updated, visit online at the knights hall.com/events-list.

The downtown waterfront offers expansive views of the Merrimack River, especially from the expanded boardwalks, and also provides outlets for renting a kayak from Plum Island Kayak and docking a small boat.

The city recently added a convenient kayak and canoe launch and dock and is looking to introduce a tour boat business run by Yankee Clipper Harbor Tours out of Newburyport. Owner-captain Paul Aziz expects to receive final approvals for the Rachel Carson, which was anticipated to go into service as early as Aug. 6.

Best event of the year

Our readers love the events held in the city each year. Topping the list for

Best Event of the Year is Team Haverhill's River Ruckus. This annual event celebrates the natural resources and beauty of the Merrimack River and the economic and culture revitalization of the city. This year's festival is planned for Sept. 24 in the downtown Riverfront Cultural District. This festival, now in its 11th year, features live music, classic cars, a kids zone offering a variety of hands-on activities, local foods, a beer and wine garden, and a spectacular fireworks display over the Merrimack River.

Climbing up the ranking this year to second place is The Longest Table, a sold-out event scheduled for Aug. 18 that kicks off this year's fifth annual Restaurant Week, Aug. 19 to 25, presented by the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce.

Taking third place in our reader's poll is the annual VFW Lorraine Post 29 Santa Parade, the longest running annual holiday tradition in the city. The parade draws

huge crowds that line the route from Bradford through downtown Merrimack Street. Young and old are treated to marching bands, stunning floats, dance performances and of course an appearance by Santa, who sits on his reindeer drawn sleigh.

This year's 58th annual Santa Parade, with the theme "Santa's Ugly Christmas Sweater Party," is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 20, starting at 1 p.m. in front of the Bradford Fire Station. The public is invited to line the route and dress in their ugliest Christmas sweater. For more information on how to participate, visit haverhillsantaparade.com.

Our readers chose the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill's annual Casino Royale Night as their fourth best event of the year, and the downtown Art Walk as their fifth favorite. The next Art Walk is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 13. More information is available at creativehaverhill.org/haverhill-art-walk.

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- Third: Dance Works

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- Second: Bradford Country Club
- Third: Haverhill Country Club

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- First: Cedardale Health & Fitness
- Second: Planet Fitness Haverhill
- Third: Choice Fitness
- Third: Hustle

Best After School Program

- First: Ocasio's True Martial Arts
- Second: Haverhill YMCA
- Third: Boys & Girls Club of Greater Haverhill

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- Second: Jake's Chop Shop
- Third: Charisma

Best Hair Salon

- First: Charisma



Hillary and Catherine Rogers of Rogers Realty Team

- Second: Willow and Company Hair Loft
- Third: Pizzazze Hair Salon

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- First: Spa Najoli
- Second: Skin Serenity Medispa

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- First: Royal Nails & Spa Haverhill
- Second: Mani Q Spa Haverhill
- Third: J and J Nails
- Third: Le Posh Salon Automotive

Best Auto Repair

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- Second: White Street Auto

- Third: Mike's Sunoco
- Third: Ray's Auto Service

Best Car Dealer - New

- First: Bill Deluca's Dealership

- Second: Smith Motors
- Third: Jaffarian Toyota

Best Car Dealer - Used

- First: Bill Deluca's Dealership
- Second: Smith Motors
- Third: Jaffarian Toyota Local People

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- Second: Kiwanis Club of Haverhill
- Third: Haverhill Rotary

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Mary and Ted Murphy

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First: Tim Jordan
Second: Andy Vargas
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Best Community Worker or Volunteer

First: Peter Carbone
Second: Jeff Grassie
Second: Elaine Barker
Third: Leanne Eastman

Favorite Local Personality/Artist

First: Lindsay Paris
Second: Tomaso Schena
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---	---



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EZ Way cleaners is closing its doors after over 70 years in business!

On behalf of everyone here at EZ Way we want to thank you for your loyalty and continued support of our business throughout the years!

*Peter Carbone
& David Gaiero*



August 13th will be the last day to pick up any orders at the White Street Haverhill location.

September 17th will be the last day to pick up at the Bradford location.

The Hampstead, NH location will be taken over by Wendy & Joel Angel who own Westgate Cleaners in Haverhill

Westgate Cleaners will also continue our pick up and delivery service.

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- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>Best Lawyer
 First: Paul Magliochetti, SSJM Attorneys
 Second: Jay Cleary
 Third: Gleason Law Office
 Third: Elaine Dalton</p> <p>Best Physician
 First: Dr. Lydia Zuser
 Second: Yvonne Wilson MD</p> <p>Best Real Estate Agency
 First: Four Points Real Estate LLC
 Second: Coldwell Banker
 Third: Berkshire Hathaway Verani</p> <p>Best Real Estate Agent
 First: Michael Joy
 Second: Andrew Chapman
 Third: Hillary Rogers
 Third: Angelica Leblanc</p> <p>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</p> <p>Best Senior Living Care
 First: Hannah Dustin Healthcare Center
 Second: Haverhill Crossings
 Third: Bethany Homes</p> | <p>Best Veterinarian
 First: Bradford Animal Hospital, Dr. Maxman
 Second: Riverside Veterinary Clinic
 Third: Have a Heart Animal Hospital</p> <p>Best Landscaper
 First: Thompson Landscaping
 Second: Kelleher Landscaping
 Third: Mark Mazzaglia
 Third: Sweet Magnolia Gardens</p> <p>FOOD & DRINK</p> <p>Best Restaurant
 First: Joseph's Trattoria
 Second: Gs Texas Southern Flare
 Third: The Hidden Pig
 Fourth: Butch's Uptown in Haverhill
 Fifth: Keons Bistro
 Sixth: The Peddlers Daughter
 Seventh: Essex Street Grille
 Eighth: Stacks
 Ninth: Barrio's
 Tenth: Marias Family Restaurant</p> | <p>Best New Restaurant
 First: Stacks
 Second: United Cakes
 Third: Roasted Coffee Bar</p> <p>Best Fine Dining Restaurant
 First: Keons Bistro
 Second: Joseph's Trattoria
 Third: Essex Street Grill</p> <p>Best Family Restaurant
 First: Marias Family Restaurant
 Second: Gs Texas Southern Flare
 Third: Butchs Uptown</p> <p>Best Mexican Restaurant
 First: Azul Mexican Restaurant
 Second: Casablanca
 Third: Barrios</p> <p>Best Asian Restaurant
 First: Wang's Table
 Second: Han's Garden
 Third: Li's Fine Asian Cuisine</p> <p>Best Burger
 First: Hidden Pig
 Second: Gs Texas southern flare
 Third: Stacks</p> |
|--|--|--|

Haverhill's best winners



Dr. Isaac Maxmen, of Bradford Animal Hospital, smiles alongside his family.

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Haverhill's best winners



Jeanne Canovitch of Charisma Salon

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Best Family Restaurant
Best Function Location



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www.thegalleriabanquetroom.com/marias-family-restaurant

Haverhill's best winners



Thea Tsagaris and Sarah Wescott of the Exchange Club of Haverhill

Best Spot for Chicken/Ribs
First: Chicken Connection
Second: Gs Texas Southern Flare
Third: Mother Cluckers

Best Breakfast Restaurant
First: Duffy's
Second: Jimmy K's
Third: Raffe's cafe

Best Waitstaff
First: G's Texas Southern Flare
Second: Peddler's Daughter
Third: Kit Leahy (Peddlers Daughter)
Third: The Hidden Pig

Best Bar
First: Peddlers Daughter
Second: G's Texas Southern Flare
Third: The Hidden Pig

Best Pizza
First: Beach Pizza
Second: La Pizza Di Forno
Third: Krugers flatbread



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 Two Years in a Row*

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The Exchange Club of Haverhill is committed to supporting our service programs by organizing and participating in a variety of events and initiatives, in areas including school system youth-oriented programs, community service initiatives, and projects focused on our commitment to our country:

- Hometown Heroes Banners
- St. Patrick's Day Breakfast
- Hillie Hunt
- Freedom Shrine
- Child Abuse Prevention
- Flagpole Installations
- Junior Firefighter Program
- Holiday Cheer Raffle
- Junior Police Program
- National Day of Service
- First Responders Awards Luncheon
- So Proudly We Hail Awards
- Youth Scholarships



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Haverhill's best winners



Matt Belfiore, Chris Bowden and Lindsay Paris of HC Media

Best Pizza Delivery Drivers

- First: Romano's
- Second: Dominos
- Third: La Pizza Di Forno

Best Sandwiches/Subs

- First: Benedetti's Haverhill
- Second: Giovanni's Main Street
- Third: Carbone's Kitchen

Best Roast Beef Sandwich

- First: Costello's
- Second: Steve's Famous Roast Beef
- Third: Mediterranean pizza

Best Seafood

- First: Bradford seafood
- Second: Costello's

Best Salad

- First: Giovanni's Main Street
- Second: Gs Texas Southern Flare
- Third: Krueger Flatbread

Best Wings

- First: Sparky's Wings



Angelica LeBlanc
MA & NH Real Estate Agent
978-994-9547



*I am honored to be recognized by
the people of Greater Haverhill.
Thank you for all of the support!*


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Haverhill's best winners



Four Points Real Estate Team

Second: The Hidden Pig

Best Bakery

- First:** Albie D's Italian Bakery
- Second:** Joseph's Trattoria Bakery
- Third:** United Cakes Bakery

Best Coffee

- First:** Battlegrounds Coffee Co.
 - Second:** Heav'nly Donuts
 - Third:** Wicked Big Cafe
- Best Donut Shop**
- First:** Heav'nly Donuts
 - Second:** Dunkin Donuts

Best Caterer

- First:** Carbone's Kitchen
- Second:** Simply Elegant Catering
- Third:** Chicken Connection

Best Function Location

- First:** Marias Family Restaurant
- Second:** Bradford Country Club
- Third:** Haverhill Country Club

Best Ice Cream Stand

- First:** Carter's Ice Cream



Angelica LeBlanc

BRASS TACKS PHOTO ANDREA LEAHY

- Second:** Biggarts ice Cream
- Third:** Benson's
- Third:** Mad Maggies



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Haverhill's best winners



Peter Carbone and Dave Gaeiro of EZ Way Cleaners

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Best Retail Business in Haverhill

First: The Winged Rabbit
Second: Opal and Oak
Third: STEM Haverhill

Most Unique Business

First: Evens and Oddities
Second: The Winged Rabbit
Third: STEM Haverhill

Best Appliance Store

First: Baron's
Second: Foucault's

Best Butcher Shop

First: Haverhill Beef Co.
Second: Butcher Boy

Best Carpet/Flooring Store

First: Hasting Floor
Covering

Best Hardware Store

First: Shoe City Hardware
Second: Aubuchon
Hardware

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Owner / Veterinarian



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Haverhill's best winners

Best Farm Stand

First: Chris's Farm Stand
Second: Srybny Farmstand
Third: Wally's Vegetables

Best Florist

First: Flowers by Steve
Second: Welcome to Floristry
Third: Holland's Flowers

Best Garden Center

First: Rogers Spring Hill Garden Center
Second: Cottage Gardens
Third: Nunan's

Best Pet Supply Store

First: Pet Supplies Plus
Second: Gimme Chews and Moore
Third: State Line Pet Supply

Best Pet Groomer

First: Scruffy to Fluffy
Second: Paw Zazz
Third: Canine Design

Best Shoe Store

First: Red Shoe Barn

Best Invitation Service

First: Paper Potpourri

PLACES TO BE

Best Event of the Year

First: River Ruckus
Second: The Longest Table
Third: Santa Parade
Fourth: Boys and Girls Club Casino Royale Night
Fifth: Art Walk

Most Scenic Place

First: Winnekenni Park and Castle
Second: Kenoza Lake
Third: Boardwalk & Merrimack river downtown

Favorite Historical Site

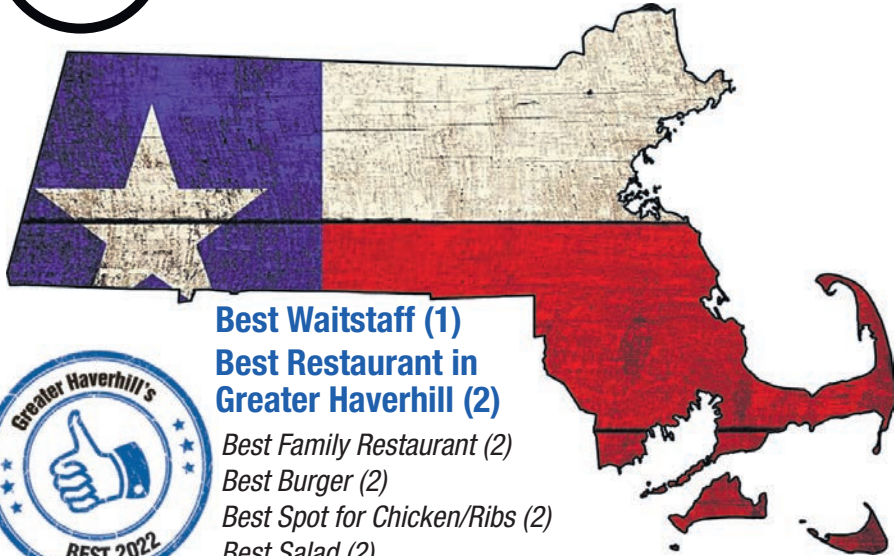
First: JG Whittier Birthplace
Second: Winnekenni Castle
Third: Duston-Dustin Garrison House
Fourth: Buttonwoods Museum
Fifth: Firefighting Museum



Tony Hans of Hans Garden



THANK YA'LL!



Best Waitstaff (1)
Best Restaurant in Greater Haverhill (2)

Best Family Restaurant (2)
Best Burger (2)
Best Spot for Chicken/Ribs (2)
Best Salad (2)
Best Bar (2)



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