



BEST OF
 The **DAILY NEWS**

2017





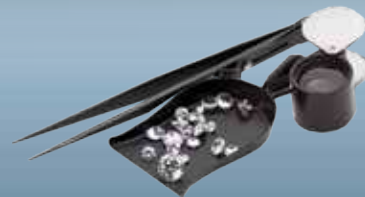
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WINNERS

BEST OF THE DAILY NEWS 2017

ACTIVITIES/SPORTS

- Best Dance/Gymnastics School:** The Dance Place of Newburyport
- Best Golf Course:** Olde Newbury Golf Course, Newbury
- Best Health Club:** Latitude Sports Clubs, Salisbury
- Best Personal Training:** Fitness Together, Newburyport

BEAUTY/APPEARANCE

- Best Barbershop:** Inn Street Barbershop, Newburyport
- Best Day Spa/Massage:** Interlocks Salon + Spa, Newburyport
- Best Hair Salon:** The Parlor, Newburyport
- Best Manicure:** Le Nail, Rowley
- Best Tanning Salon:** Sun Fun Tanning, Salisbury

AUTOMOTIVE

- Best Auto Repair:** Hatheway Automotive Services, Salisbury
- Best Car Dealer:** Gray's Garage, Salisbury
- Best Car Wash:** Clipper City Car Wash, Newburyport

FOOD/DINING

- Best Bagel:** Abraham's Bagels, Newburyport
- Best Bakery:** Chococoa Baking Company, Newburyport
- Best Bar/Pub:** The Grog, Newburyport
- Best Breakfast:** Angie's Food, Newburyport
- Best Burger:** Lexie's, Newburyport
- Best Candy Shop:** Willey's Candy Shop, Salisbury
- Best Caterer:** Carry Out Café, Newburyport
- Best Chicken and Ribs:** The American BBQ, Rowley
- Best Coffee:** Atomic Café, Newburyport
- Best Ethnic Food:** Mr. India, Newburyport
- Best Family Restaurant:** Loretta, Newburyport
- Best Fine Dining Restaurant:** The Poynt, Newburyport
- Best Fish Market:** David's Fish

The votes have all been counted and we're ready to crown The Daily News' Best Of 2017 winners.

Once again, we at The Daily News of Newburyport asked our readers to pick their favorite places in Greater Newburyport in more than 80 categories covering a broad range of areas, interests and attractions — from restaurants to boutiques, doctors to lawyers, florists to salons, and much more.

Our winners — as chosen by you, our readers — include several perennial favorites along with some first-time honorees.

We applaud them all!

- Market,** Salisbury
- Best Ice Cream/Frozen Treats:** Hodgie's Ice Cream, Amesbury
- Best Italian Food:** Guiseppé's, Newburyport
- Best Martini:** Ceia Kitchen + Bar, Newburyport
- Best Nightlife:** Newburyport Brewing Company, Newburyport
- Best Pizza:** Anchor Stone Deck Pizza, Newburyport
- Best Roast Beef:** Courtyard Roast Beef, Newburyport
- Best Salad:** Middle Street Foods, Newburyport
- Best Sandwich:** Port City Sandwich Co., Newburyport
- Best Seafood:** Brine, Newburyport
- Best Specialty Foods:** Wolf Meadow Farm, Amesbury
- Best Sushi:** Hana Japan, Newburyport

LOCAL STANDOUTS

- Best Band/Musician:** Freevolt
- Best Barista:** Commune Café, Newburyport
- Best Bartender:** Susan, at Loretta
- Best Hair Stylist:** Wendy Card,

- Backstage Salon & Spa, Rowley
- Best Politician:** Rep. James Kelcourse, R-Amesbury

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- Best Accountant:** Fritz DeGuglielmo, CPA, Newburyport
- Best Attorney:** Thomas G. Nicholson, Esq., Newburyport
- Best Bank:** Institution For Savings
- Best Customer Service Experience:** Chase & Lunt, Newburyport
- Best Dentist:** Dr. Sam Merabi, Portside Family Dentist, Newburyport
- Best Dry Cleaner:** Anton's Cleaners, Newburyport
- Best Financial Planner:** Stephen P. Blanchette, CPA, Newburyport
- Best Flooring:** Hastings Floor Covering, Groveland
- Best Heating/Air Conditioning:** Leighton's Heating and Cooling, Newburyport

- Best Insurance Agency:** Arthur S. Page Insurance, Newburyport
- Best Interior Designer:** Worthington Interior Design, Newburyport
- Best Pediatrician:** Children's Health Care, Newburyport and Haverhill
- Best Pet Day Care:** Muddy Creek Animal Care Center, Rowley
- Best Physical Therapist:** Holmes Physical Therapy, Salisbury
- Best Physician:** Dr. Lydia Jeffcoat, Newburyport
- Best Plumber:** Stark & Cronk, Groveland
- Best Real Estate Agency:** Bentley's Real Estate, Newburyport
- Best Real Estate Agent:** Robert Bentley, Newburyport
- Best Service Club:** Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce
- Best Veterinarian:** Muddy Creek Animal Care Center, led by Blake Liebert, Rowley

RECREATION/ATTRACTIONS

- Best Annual Event:** Yankee Homecoming, Newburyport
- Best Beach:** Plum Island

- Best Family Entertainment:** WNBP Car Show, Newburyport
- Best Historical Spot/Landmark:** Custom House Maritime Museum, Newburyport
- Best Museum:** Custom House Maritime Museum, Newburyport
- Best Scenic Place:** Maudslay State Park, Newburyport

SHOPPING

- Best Antique Shop:** Flukes & Finds, Newburyport
- Best Appliance Store:** Appliance Warehouse, Seabrook
- Best Bookstore:** Jabberwocky Bookshop, Newburyport
- Best Butcher Shop:** The Butchery, Newbury
- Best Clothing Boutique:** Clay's, Newburyport
- Best Consignment Shop:** Pandora's Box, Newburyport
- Best Convenience Store:** Black Duck Market & Deli, Newburyport
- Best Farmstand:** Tendercrop Farm, Newbury
- Best Florist:** Beach Plum Too Flower Shop, Newburyport
- Best Furniture Store:** Amesbury Furniture Outlet, Amesbury
- Best Garden Center:** Beach Plum Farms, Salisbury
- Best Gift Shop:** Sisters We Three, Newburyport
- Best Hardware Store:** Kelly's True Value, Newburyport
- Best Jewelry Store:** M.K. Benatti Jewelers, Newburyport
- Best Liquor/Wine Store:** Leary's Fine Wines & Spirits, Newburyport and Amesbury
- Best Men's Clothing Store:** Farley's of Newburyport
- Best Pet Supply:** Just Dogs, Newburyport
- Best Shoe Store:** Hyman's Penynworth's, Newburyport
- Best Ski Shop:** Paul's Sportswear and Ski Shop, Salisbury
- Best Sporting Goods Store:** Greater Boston Running Company, Newburyport



BEST WINNER!

Kathleen Schoonmaker of Newburyport is awarded a \$100 gift certificate to Market Basket as the winner of The Daily News of Newburyport's 2017 Best Of ballot drawing. One winner was chosen at random from the ballots cast in this year's contest. Managing Editor Richard Lodge presented Schoonmaker with her prize at The Daily News office on Liberty Street.

Staff photo

BEST REAL ESTATE AGENCY

★ **Bentley's Greater Newburyport**

2A Winter St., Newburyport
978-572-1200
Newburyport.com

Owners: Robert Bentley and Alissa Christie
Years in Operation: 1

Highlights: We are a real estate firm with an advertising focus offering elevated customer service and process. We are staffed with the highest-level professionals to whom performance matters.

Why it's the Best: Our exclusive relationship with Newburyport.com attracts 700 new local buyer visits daily, with more than 53,000 following us on Facebook. We command the largest, most-engaged social media platform, according to Robert Bentley.

Fun Fact: Everyone at Bentley's comes from a highly proven pattern of success. Business owners, CPAs, attorneys, executives and high-level sales professionals – there are no part-time social Realtor types.

BEST DANCE GYMNASTICS SCHOOL

★ **The Dance Place of Newburyport**

The Tannery, 50 Water St., Newburyport
978-465-1485
danceplacenbpt.com

Owner/operators: Fontaine Dubus, owner/director; Jen Steeves, manager

Years in Operation: 32 1/2

Highlights: Classes for children and adults at The Dance Place run year-round, in ballet, jazz, modern, contemporary, tap, zumba, aerial, flamenco, African, lyrical and more.

Why it's the Best: The Dance Place offers a nurturing, noncompetitive environment. Students of all ages are welcome and encouraged to express themselves through the art of dance.

Fun Fact: Oscar-winning actor Chris Cooper came to The Dance Place for some coaching on hip-hop moves for his role in "The Muppets" movie.

BEST BAKERY

★ **Chococoa Baking Company & Café**

The Tannery, Mill No. 1, 50 Water St., Newburyport
978-499-8889
chococoabaking.com

Owners: Julie Ganong and Alan Mons
Years in Operation: 8

Highlights: We are a husband- and wife-owned artisan bakery that is home to The Whoopies; fresh-baked goods, including Greta's Great Grains breads and pastries; and an espresso bar. We pride ourselves on our great customer service.

Why it's the Best: The Whoopie is Chococoa's

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7 Brown Sq., Newburyport, MA
978-462-4590

PortsideFamilyDental.com



hallmark. A twist on the classic whoopie pie, the bite-size, triple-chocolate cake treats with all-natural ingredients and fillings pack a lot of decadence, at only 130 to 160 calories apiece.

Fun Fact: Sixteen Whoopie flavors, in addition to gluten-free options, are available, with new inspirations each year. The top seller is chocolate/vanilla. Chococoa produces 8,000 Whoopies weekly, and more during the holiday season.

BEST FINE DINING

★ **The Poynt Newburyport**

31 Water St., Newburyport
978-358-8501
poyntnewburyport.com

Owners: John and Laura Wolfe
Years in Operation: 1 1/2
Highlights: We serve up creative, handcrafted dishes, including small plates, wood-fired pizzas, and entrees, in an upscale, casual, "industrial suburban" atmosphere tucked in the heart of downtown Newburyport.

Why it's the Best: Our culinary team crafts its dishes by hand using locally sourced ingredients whenever possible. Handmade pasta and carefully crafted sushi rolls are a mainstay.



Fun Fact: The owners also own Brick & Ash, a new comfort and barbecue spot across the street from The Poynt. Patrons can enjoy dinner at The Poynt, and drinks and a game of pool at Brick & Ash.

BEST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

★ **Port Broadcasting**

6 Federal St., Newburyport
978-462-1450
wnbp.com

Owners/operators: Carl Strube, general manager; Pete Falconi, operations manager

Years in Operation: 58

Highlights: WNBPN is the "local" radio station covering the Greater Newburyport, Salisbury, Amesbury and Seabrook areas. WNBPN is focused on providing local news, local information, local public affairs programs, local high school sports broadcasts, plus oldies music from the '60s and '70s as "The Legends."

Why it's the Best: The station is "live" and "local" with a focus on the Newburyport area.

Fun Fact: WNBPN started the "Cruisin' the '50s" event to help promote Newburyport and give people another reason to visit the city on a summer evening, enjoy the car show, and shop and dine in the community.

BEST BUTCHER SHOP

★ **The Newbury Butchery**

2 Morgan Ave., Newbury
978-463-3001
danversbutchery.com

Owners/operators: Glen St. Cyr, owner; Matthew Tilley, general manager; Ryan Crowley, store manager
Years in Operation: 22

Muddy Creek Animal Care Center

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993 Haverhill St, Rowley, MA 01969

muddycreekanimalcare.com • clientcare@muddycreekanimalcare.com

Daycare • Boarding • Grooming • Training

Highlights: This local butcher shop offers quality hand-cut and marinated meats, as well as prepared foods, a deli and a full assortment of beer and wine.

Why it's the Best: We are a one-stop shop, with a wide selection of beer, wine, produce, grocery, and prepared foods.

Fun Fact: All of our marinated meats are produced in our own U.S.D.A.-inspected facility to ensure quality and food safety.

BEST FINANCIAL PLANNER

☀ **The Blanchette Financial Group, Inc.**

21 Pleasant St., Suite 228, Newburyport
978-462-9500
blanchettefg.com

Owner: Stephen P. Blanchette, CFP, AIF

Years in Operation: 10-plus

Highlights: For 25 years, Blanchette Financial has worked to create a comfortable environment for our clients to help them make life-defining financial decisions. We remain dedicated to helping clients pursue and achieve their unique financial goals from start to finish.

Why it's the Best: As active members in the community, we seek to build long-term relationships based on trust,



BEST PET DAY CARE
Muddy Creek Animal Care Center

knowledge industry experience, and the drive to do what is best for each client, given his or her unique financial condition. We have no parent company or product pressures driving recommendations; we answer only to our clients.

Fun Fact: Blanchette Financial is proud to be an example of a modern, functioning business amid

Newburyport's historic downtown district with its uniquely preserved architecture and storied heritage.

BEST GARDEN CENTER

☀ **Beach Plum Farms**

88 Elm St., Salisbury
978-465-3542

beachplumfarms.com

Owners: Maureen and Freeman Condon

Years in Operation: 33

Highlights: Our full-service garden center specializes in healthy, hardy, well-maintained plants with a focus on coastal plantings.

Why it's the Best: Our friendly,

Thank You!

To Our Members,

Thank you for Voting us as the Best Sports Club in the Newburyport Area!

We are grateful to have the opportunity to help you reach and maintain your health and fitness goals!



L A T I T U D E .
sports clubs

courteous and knowledgeable staff is always ready to assist.

Fun Fact: Beach Plum is a family-run shop and, yes, it offers beach plums.

BEST SPORTING GOODS STORE

★ **Greater Boston Running Company/JackRabbit**

27 Water St., Newburyport
978-255-1737
Jackrabbit.com

Owners/operators: Critical Point Partners; Pat Fullerton, store manager

Years in Operation: 7 years

Highlights: Our store looks to help and inspire any new or experienced runner enjoy their healthy, active lifestyle.

Why it's the Best: Our staff takes the time to properly fit people for shoes and can also help with training and dealing with nutritional needs.

Fun Fact: Jenny Simpson, a Rio 2016 Olympic Bronze Medalist in the 1500m, has visited the store with her medal and shared it with the staff.

BEST CLOTHING BOUTIQUE

★ **Clay's**

72 State St., Newburyport
978-462-1119



claysclothing.com

Owners: Kurt and Laura Reichelt

Years in Operation: 7

Highlights: Clay's is a full-service, women's clothing store specializing in comfortable apparel and accessories that fit and flatter every body.

Why it's the Best: Our unique boutique stocks clothing that is both modern and distinctive – not too trendy, but always in style.

Fun Fact: Clay's is a family-run company that has been in business since

1972. It believes its focus on customer service is the key to its success.

BEST GIFT SHOP

★ **Sisters We Three**

57 Pleasant St., Newburyport
978-462-4500
sisterswethree.com

Owners: Ann Baldwin, Jan Morgan and Cathy Sweazey

Years in Operation: 8

Highlights: Sisters We Three is an

artisan shop featuring an eclectic mix of fine art and handmade goods from Newburyport, throughout New England and the world.

Why it's the Best: Everything in the shop is handmade. The inventory is changing every day with inventory deliveries from local to global artists. Our artists do a lot of custom work as requested by customers.

Fun Fact: People always ask the owners if they really are sisters and yes, they actually are. Their mother, Sylvia, always wanted them to do something together, to be like the Andrew Sisters or the Lennon Sisters, but the problem is that, although Ann and Jan can sing, Cathy cannot.

BEST DENTIST

★ **Portside Family Dental**

7 Brown Square, Newburyport
978-462-4590
portsidefamilydental.com

Owner: Dr. Sam A. Merabi

Years in Operation: 5

Highlights: Portside is a family- and cosmetic-focused dental office that strives to provide accessible and comprehensive dental service at an affordable price point.

**A HEARTFELT THANK YOU
TO OUR GREATER NEWBURYPORT CLIENT FAMILY
FOR YOUR CONTINUED CONFIDENCE AND TRUST IN US.**



Shining light on your financial future

Stephen P. Blanchette, CFP®, AIF®

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Phone: 978.462.9500 • steve@blanchettefg.com • www.blanchettefg.com

Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser.

Why it's the Best: In addition to comprehensive dental treatments such as restorations, crowns and emergency appointments, the office provides root canal/endodontic and implant/periodontal services by its specialists.

Fun Fact: Portside is a solar-powered dental office. Dr. Merabi installed solar panels more than four years ago and the office has produced more than 40,000 kilowatt hours.

BEST INTERIOR DESIGNER

☀ **Worthington Interior Design**

Newburyport
617-633-3005 or 978-255-3001
worthingtoninteriors.com

Owner: Debra Worthington

Years in Operation: 20-plus, serving Boston/Wellesley, Newburyport/North Shore, Portsmouth, York and beyond

Highlights: Worthington Interior Design offers complete residential and commercial design services. Designing spaces with timeless beauty is its credo. Worthington works in all styles, but especially loves mixing classical with a little rock 'n' roll.

Why it's the Best: Worthington is known for her perceptiveness, listening to clients to deliver honest, pure interior

design solutions for homes/offices/shops/restaurants that pay homage to the architecture. In addition to her decorating experience, Worthington also possesses in-depth training in codes/space planning, electrical/plumbing/lighting, reflected ceiling plans, millwork/cabinetry, detailing/elevations and more.

Fun Fact: Interior designers are really the architects for the inside.

BEST ANTIQUE SHOP

☀ **Flukes & Finds**

80 State St., Newburyport
978-358-7041
flukesandfindsandfriends.com

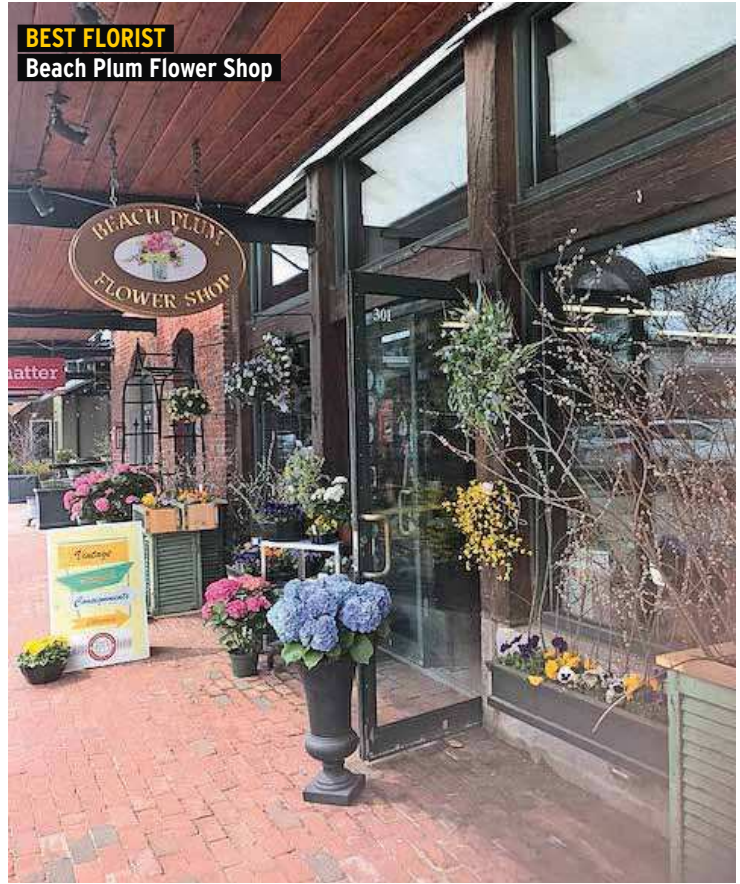
Owner: Susan Dieker

Years in Operation: 24

Highlights: Flukes and Finds seeks to provide customers with an appealing blend of old (antique, vintage, retro, mid-century modern), revitalized and new home furnishings, accessories, collectibles, artwork and gifts.

Why it's the Best: Our customers always tell us they can find unique items at a lower cost in the store.

Fun Fact: We boast multiple vendors who sell their unique products, making it a fun and eclectic place to visit. We also buy items, and are happy to work with



BEST FLORIST
Beach Plum Flower Shop



Jennifer, Mark, Jack, Charlie, Sam, & Cooper Tramontana

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978-463-3313

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BEST PERSONAL TRAINING

*** Fitness Together
Newburyport**

3 Graf Road, Suite 6, Newburyport
978-961-0335
FTNewburyport.com

Owners/operators: Sean Stellmach, owner, and Hannah Stellmach, manager
Years in Operation: 8

Highlights: Fitness Together aims to provide superior personal training services led by experienced, certified fitness coaches, in a clean, modern and welcoming studio environment. Its focus: one trainer, one client, one goal.

Why it's the Best: Our staff members create personalized programs specific to clients' goals, taking into account any unique needs, limitations, injuries, and other specifics. All ages and ability levels are welcome.

Fun Fact: Our youngest client is 22, our oldest client is 82.

BEST HEALTH CLUB

*** Latitude Sports Club**

191 Elm St., Salisbury
978-462-5662



BEST BAR/PUB
The Grog Restaurant

latitudesportsclubs.com

Owner: John Grossi

Years in Operation: 35 years

Highlights: Our mission is to provide the ultimate destination for members' health and wellness needs.

Why it's the Best: We operate four family-owned locations, stocked with the latest equipment, and backed by more than 30 years of experience in the sports club industry.

Fun Fact: Latitude Sports Club owner

John Grossi was the first Gold's Gym owner east of the Mississippi. In 2005, he left Gold's to open his own brand, Latitude Sports Clubs, which represents "freedom from restrictions; without restraints."

978-948-2345

muddycreekanimalcarecenter.com

Owners, operators, directors: Vetcor Corp., Dr. Blake Liebert, COS, and Ana Hubbard, practice manager

Years in Operation: Since 1989

Highlights: Muddy Creek works to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for both the client and pet.

Why it's the Best: Our dedicated and committed team goes above and beyond to know each client and pet. Our staff's

BEST PET DAY CARE

*** Muddy Creek Animal Care Center**

993 Haverhill St., Rowley

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goal is to make each pet feel part of the pack and each client part of the Muddy Creek family.

Fun Fact: Our team strongly believes it's important to be part of the community. We participate in many local events, including Photos with Santa, Teddy Bear Clinics and Adoption Day events.

BEST VETERINARIAN

☀ **Muddy Creek Animal Care Center**

993 Haverhill St., Rowley
978-948-2345
muddycreekanimalcarecenter.com

Owners/ operators: Vetcor Corp.; Dr. Blake Liebert, COS, and Ana Hubbard, practice manager

Years in Operation: 28

Highlights: Dr. Blake Liebert looks to provide exceptional and compassionate care to each patient, and exceed client expectation at every visit.

Why it's the Best: Our team values its clients and their pets and strives to make them a part of the Muddy Creek community.

Fun Fact: Every year, Muddy Creek holds a Photos with Santa event. Santa (Dr. Liebert), with the help of his elves, takes photos with families and their pets.

BEST HEALTH CLUB
Latitude Sports Club



The money raised is donated to local animal shelters.

BEST SALAD

☀ **Middle Street Foods**
25 Middle St., Newburyport
978-465-4100
middlestreetfoods.com

Owners: John Coyle and Justin Radulski

Years in Operation: 4

Highlights: Middle Street Foods is an old-school, neighborhood bakery/cafe that prepares everything in-house, from

scratch. We offer locally roasted coffee, handmade pastries, breakfast sandwiches, soups, salads and more.

Why it's the Best: We take care and time to prepare our own bread and bakery items and roast our own meats. Our large selection of specials changes daily so there's always something new to try.

Fun Fact: The eatery originally opened in 1983 and has a unique connection to Newburyport that stretches back more than 30 years, as do its recipes and even some of its regular customers.

BEST HAIR SALON

☀ **The Parlor**

50 Water St., Suite 136, Newburyport
978-463-4630
the-parlor.com

Owners: Richard and Jane Nocera

Years in Operation: 22

Highlights: At The Parlor, we believe customers' hair is their most important accessory. It's something people wear everyday. Treasure it. Invest in it.

Why it's the Best: Richard Nocera studied with hairstyling industry icons Vidal Sassoon, Irvine Rusk, John Sebastian and Paul Mitchell.

Fun Fact: Nocera opened The Speak-easy, the first men's salon in Massachusetts, because in the 1970s, it was illegal to cut men's hair in a beauty shop.

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE

☀ **Eastern Insurance**

65 Parker St., Newburyport
1-800-333-7234
easterninsurance.com

Owners/operators: Hope Aldrich, president and CEO; Jay Howlett, executive vice president and regional director, leader of Newburyport office

THANK YOU
NEWBURYPORT, SALISBURY
AND AMESBURY FOR THE
AWARD AGAIN THIS YEAR.
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Board Shorts,
Boogie Boards and
so much more...



107 Bridge Rd. Salisbury, MA
978-462-9475

Years in Operation: 28
Highlights: As the largest insurance agency headquartered in Massachusetts, Eastern Insurance provides access to competitive and comprehensive personal, commercial and benefit coverage for individuals and businesses.

Why it's the Best: Though Eastern Insurance has been widely recognized for professional accomplishments, we feel that our differentiator is community commitment through both corporate donations and employee volunteerism.

Fun Fact: The recent acquisition of the Newburyport office has increased our employee count to nearly 400 experienced professionals, ready to assist with all of their clients' insurance needs.

BEST BANK

★ **Institution for Savings**

93 State St. and 68 Storey Ave., Newburyport, and 11 other locations
 978-462-3106

Operator: President and CEO Michael Jones

Years in Operation: 197
Highlights: As a mutual savings bank, Institution for Savings' vision is to have a positive effect on every business, individual and employer by offering convenient, cost-effective and state-of-the-art banking and financial services.

Why it's the Best: We offer amazing benefits such as 100 percent, fully paid health, dental and vision insurance; reimbursed gym memberships and more. To our customers, we offer the best rates on mortgages and retail products on the market, delivered with professionalism and amazing customer service.

Fun Fact: We celebrate our employees' "firsts" – first marriage, first house, first baby – with a \$500 gift.

BEST ACCOUNTANT

★ **Fritz DeGuglielmo LLC Certified Public Accountants**

8 Essex St., Newburyport
 978-462-2161
 fd-cpa.com

Owner: Stephen DeGuglielmo
Years in Operation: 40

Highlights: Fritz DeGuglielmo is an independent, certified public accounting firm providing business and individual tax preparation, strategic tax planning, and assurance services to clients throughout Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire.

Why it's the Best: Our success is directly attributable to our talented employees who provide exceptional professional services to our clients, and have made this award possible.



BEST PHYSICIAN

★ **Lydia Jeffcoat, MD Coastal Medical Associates**

1 Wallace Bashaw Jr. Way, Newburyport
 978-465-0635

Years in Medicine: 22
Highlights: Dr. Jeffcoat has a personal interest in fitness and nutrition. She earned her medical degree from the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, and completed her residency at the University of South Florida in Tampa. She is board certified in internal medicine.

Why she's the Best: Jeffcoat says she really tries to spend time with each patient, to be a good listener and to pay attention to details.

Fun Fact: She loves to travel the world. But at the end of the day, she can't wait to hug her black Lab Gracie and tug on her cat Rocket's tail.

BEST HEATING/AIR CONDITIONING

★ **Leighton's Heating and**

Cooling

Newburyport
 978-462-5155
 leightonsheatingandcooling.com

Owner: Peter Leighton
Years in Operation: 10-plus
Highlights: We are a full-service heating and cooling company that sells heating oil, too. We are committed to our customers and their comfort. We can install or repair all brands of heating/cooling equipment.

Why it's the Best: We offer a personal touch, dealing with customers as if they are family.

BEST PLUMBER

★ **Stark & Cronk Plumbing & Heating**

308 Main St., Groveland
 978-372-6981
 starkcronk.com

Owner: Gregory Stark Jr.
Years in Operation: 70
Highlights: Our focus is on providing customers with quality work at a fair

price. Establishing a lasting relationship with our customers is our top priority.

Why it's the Best: Stark & Cronk's greatest asset is our technicians and the quality service that they offer every day. Our technicians have one end goal: happy customers.

Fun Fact: We pride ourselves on our experience in the industry. Our technicians have a combined total of 168 (and counting) years providing the highest quality service.

BEST PET SUPPLY

★ **Just Dogs**

37 Pleasant St., Newburyport
 978-465-8400
 justdogsnewburyport.com

Owner: Judy Hoover
Years in Operation: 8
Highlights: We offer a carefully chosen selection of leashes, harnesses, collars, toys, outdoor gear, healthy treats and accessories for dogs and their owners will love.

Why it's the Best: Our in-store, hand-decorated treats are the finest around. We offer the best American-made products, and work to stock items that are made locally and all natural.

Fun Fact: We let customers "test drive" harnesses before they buy them to make sure their dogs are comfortable and the fit is perfect.

BEST BREAKFAST

★ **Angie's Food and Diner**

7 Pleasant St., Newburyport
 978-462-7959
 angiesfoodanddiner.com

Owners: Steve and Kim Luz
Years in Operation: 47
Highlights: Angie's serves breakfast (all day), lunch and dinner seven days a week. We provide great service, and homemade food, at a reasonable price. Beer, wine and fresh-squeezed orange juice and mimosas are available.

Why it's the Best: As one of Newburyport's time-tested institutions, we have been proudly serving locals and visitors since 1970.

Fun Fact: We are still welcoming regular customers who were here when Angie and Mary opened the diner 47 years ago.

BEST BAR/PUB

★ **The Grog Restaurant**

13 Middle St., Newburyport
 978-465-8008
 thegrog.com

Owners/operators: Nicole and Bill Nichelmann, owners; Peter Cormier, general manager; Patrick O'Neill, chef

BEST DAY SPA/MASSAGE
Interlocks Salon + Spa



Years in Operation: 46
Highlights: The Grog has been serving as the place locals and tourists alike meet for great food, drinks, live entertainment and cheer for nearly a half-century.

Why it's the Best: Our menu boasts fresh seafood, steak, gluten-free options and weekly specials that satisfy any appetite. Our extensive selection of local and regional craft beers changes daily.

Fun Fact: The Grog has been family-owned and -operated since it opened its doors.

BEST CHICKEN AND RIBS

☀ **The American BBQ**

5 Railroad Ave., Rowley
978-948-2626
tabbbq.com

Owners: Steve and Michele PIERRO

Years in Operation: 15

Highlights: We offer Tennessee-style barbecue at its best with a focus on Southern hospitality in our restaurant and catering services. We are a family-owned business specializing in genuine smoked BBQ right on the premise. Arrive unknown and leave as family.

Why it's the Best: Our 20 years of experience smoking barbecue with customers' preferences always in the forefront is what makes us stand out. We provide consistent, fresh, home-cooked quality meats; mouthwatering sauces and a whole mess of sides to choose from.

Fun Fact: The minute customers walk in the door, they are consumed with smells of barbecue, antiques from all over the country provided by customers and friends and fresh-popped popcorn for everyone. It's acceptable for people at The American Barbecue to lick their fingers.

BEST NIGHTLIFE SPOT

☀ **Newburyport Brewing Company**

4 New Pasture Road, Newburyport
978-463-8700
nbptbrewing.com

Owners: Chris Webb and Bill Fisher

Years in Operation: 4

Highlights: The privately held craft brewery is dedicated to brewing the highest quality beer products for its local and regional customers.

Why it's the Best: Newburyport Brewing Company is Massachusetts' own exclusive keg and can brewery, aiming to capture the essence of Newburyport's quaint seaside character across its line of handcrafted ales.

Fun Fact: We sponsor live, local music in our tap room Thursday through

Sunday, and host three live outdoor music festivals a year.

BEST LOCAL BAND/MUSICIAN

☀ **Freevolt**

176 State St., Newburyport
603-235-2508
enjoyfreevolt.com

Owner: Michael Bernier

Years in Operation: 4

Highlights: Freevolt is a "roots, rock, Americana, jam, reggae, funk, trop, pop" act that encourages listeners to enjoy their life. Freevolt reminds people to be triumphant, be themselves, and to make it a ritual to celebrate every day. Through music, freevolt is on a mission to bring love, freedom and joy to all.

Why it's the Best: The band realizes that people are all brothers and sisters of the same world and that no one man or woman is greater than the next. Together we enjoy every moment.

Fun Fact: Freevolt loves its loyal listeners.

BEST PIZZA

☀ **Anchor Stone Deck Pizza**

44 State St., Newburyport
978-463-3313
anchorpizzeria.com

Owners: Jenn and Mark Tramontana

Years in Operation: 9

Highlights: The Newburyport

family-owned pizzeria serves up award-winning, thin-crust artisan pizza, while pouring local craft beers and wines. Dine-in, take-out, free delivery and catering are available.

Why it's the Best: Our commitment to the enjoyment and well-being of our customers, our support of the Newburyport community, and our respect for our amazing employees are our hallmarks.

Fun Fact: All of our specialty pizzas are named after Newburyport landmarks (the "Plum Island," for example), our four boys (like "Cooper's Steak Bomb") and their grandparents (the "Bertolino").

BEST PHYSICAL THERAPIST

☀ **Holmes Physical Therapy**

191 Elm St., Salisbury
978-499-1870
karenholmespt.com

Owner: Karen Holmes, PT, DPT

Years in Operation: 10

Highlights: We are a highly trained, dedicated team of professionals whose goal is to provide excellent care for people with orthopedic and sports-related injuries.

Why it's the Best: We perform comprehensive assessments in order to individualize and optimize our treatment plans; our approach is evidence-based and hands on, and has proven successful.

Fun Fact: Everyone from the front office to the rehab team loves what they do and takes great pleasure in watching our patients' quality of life improve.

BEST BARBERSHOP

☀ **Inn Street Barbershop**

50 Inn St., Newburyport
978-462-9900

Owner: Esther M. Sayer

Years in Operation: Sayer started working there in 1981, and bought the shop in 1996.

Highlights: Haircuts, fades and hot lather shaves.

Why it's the Best: We're an old-fashioned barbershop where small talk, fun and lollipops are always in play.

Fun Fact: Our clients range from 1 year old to 100.

BEST INSURANCE AGENCY

☀ **Arthur S. Page Insurance Agency**

57 State St., Newburyport
978-465-5301
arthurpage.com

Owner: Jacqueline Page, great-granddaughter of Arthur S. Page

Years in Operation: 95

Highlights: We are a fourth-generation, independent insurance agency that writes all lines of property and casualty insurance.

Why it's the Best: Our service sets us apart. Clients can call or stop by anytime. We continue to support our community through schools and sports as much as we can.

Fun Fact: Arthur S. Page started the agency in 1922. The original location was on Pleasant Street, and it sold real estate and insurance. Arthur S. Page Jr. moved the agency to its current location on State Street in 1960.

BEST PEDIATRICIAN

☀ **Children's Health Care**

257 Low St., Newburyport, and 2 Water St., Haverhill
978-465-7121
chcmass.com

Owners/operators: Carolyn Thumser, MD; Lars Lundgren, MD; Stacey Sheehan, MD; Thomas Carmichael, MD; Eric Bucher, MD; and Christine Riccardi, MD

Years in Operation: 45

Highlights: We are a full-circle pediatric healthcare practice, caring for patients from birth through adolescence, with services covering a full range of preventative and urgent care.

Why it's the Best: We are dedicated to providing each patient with a high-quality, compassionate and personalized



BEST HAIR SALON
The Parlor

plan of care. Sick call is available seven days a week.

Fun Fact: We have patients who represent the third generation of their families to seek our care.

BEST JEWELRY STORE

☀ **M.K. Benatti Jewelers**

1 State St., Newburyport
978-462-2768
mkbenattijewelers.com

Owners: Matt and Karyn Khatib

Years in Operation: 10-plus

Highlights: M.K. Benatti Jewelers is a top North Shore destination for fine jewelry, employing state-of-the-art technology and old-world craftsmanship to custom design and manufacture fine jewelry onsite in downtown Newburyport.

Why it's the Best: People are always pleasantly surprised at how easy and uncomplicated our process is for custom jewelry design. Because our jewelry is made from start to finish onsite, the client is able to work directly with the

master jeweler or designer who will create the perfect piece.

Fun Fact: M.K. Benatti Jewelers loves to support the local community, and prides itself on not only giving personally, but inspiring others to also give, with the hope of expanding what's possible within the city that the Khatibs call home.

BEST SKI SHOP

☀ **Paul's Ski & Snowboard**

107 Bridge Road, Salisbury
978-462-9475

Owners: Paul Michaud and Paula Hall
Years in Operation: 31

Highlights: We are a specialty ski and swim shop supplying skis, snowboards and swimsuits year-round.

Why it's the Best: We are a family business and share our knowledge with our customers. Our employees have been with us for many years.

Fun Fact: Paul's Ski & Snowboard sells swimsuits during blizzards and skis in a heat wave.

BEST AUTO REPAIR

☀ **Hathaway Automotive**

66 Bridge Road, Salisbury

ANGIE'S FOOD

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To the readers of the
Newburyport Daily News

We wish to thank all the readers of the Daily News who voted this year for the 2017 best of Newburyport awards. It's an honor and privilege to be selected as this year's recipient of the Best Accounting Firm for 2017.

To be recognized by the readers of the Newburyport Daily news is very special as professionals serving the community. We also want to thank our staff for providing the highest quality of service to our clients which has made this award possible. Thank you for voting us the best Accounting Firm.

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978-465-9525

Owner: Nick Hathaway
Years in Operation: 20

Highlights: We offer complete service and repair on cars and light-duty trucks.

Why it's the Best: Good communication, fair prices and accurate repairs are keys to our success.

Fun Fact: We've been proud to be named Best Automotive for several years in a row.

BEST FISH MARKET

★ **David's Fish Market**

54 Bridge Road, Salisbury
978-462-2504

Owner: Gordon Blaney
Years in Operation: 70

Highlights: Our longstanding seafood retail market has built a loyal, consistent following. We offer fresh seafood delivered daily.

Why it's the Best: Professional and courteous service is provided to each client.

BEST DAY SPA/MASSAGE

★ **Interlocks Salon + Spa**

58 Merrimac St., Newburyport
978-465-3010



interlockssalon.com

Owner: Ginny Eramo
Years in Operation: 29

Highlights: Interlocks provides luxury services in beauty and wellness, and features a wide selection of luxury brands to equip clients with the best in personal-care products.

Why it's the Best: The Interlocks team undergoes advanced training by top educators at venues both nationally and internationally to guarantee clients

the highest level of service.

Fun Fact: Interlocks opened its doors nearly 30 years ago in the same location on Merrimac Street where it is still based today. It has expanded from its original single commercial unit to now occupy six units within the property.

BEST FLOORING

★ **Hastings Floor Covering**

919 Salem St., Groveland

978-521-8848

hastingsfloorcovering.com

Owners: Hank and Linda Hastings
Years in Operation: 41

Highlights: We provide commercial and retail flooring, offering major brands, personalized service and in-house installers for all our customers' flooring needs.

Why it's the Best: As a family-run business, we are a blend of the past, present and future of flooring needs and trends, always remaining on the cutting edge while still offering quality service and installation.

Fun Fact: Despite the fact that we work together and see each other on a daily basis, we get minimal time to connect on a personal level so we still have family dinners every Sunday.

BEST HAIRSTYLIST

★ **Wendy Card**

Backstage Salon + Spa
225 Newburyport Turnpike (Route 1), Rowley
978-948-7772
backstagesalonandspa.com

Director: Heather Blais
Years in Operation: 31 as a stylist, 27 at Backstage Salon + Spa

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Highlights: Card started working at Backstage on Nov. 1, 1989, as one of two employees. She and Maryann Richardson worked many hours to build the business, answering phones themselves and scheduling their own appointments. They went to many classes to keep up with the latest trends. My main focus was to hire students right out of cosmetology school and train them to build the business.

Why she's the Best: Card says she loves haircutting the most, looking at the guest's face shape and designing a hairstyle that best suits their features. Building trust and a relationship with my guests is very important to her.

Fun Fact: She is proud to say that she is the educator of haircutting at Backstage, and feels confident that the service provider will do their best when they get on the floor.

BEST BOOKSTORE

★ **Jabberwocky Bookshop**

50 Water St., Newburyport
978-465-9359
jabberwockybookshop.com

Owner: Sue Little
Years in Operation: 40-plus
Highlights: We started with the premise that if we offered the best books we



BEST CLOTHING BOUTIQUE
Clay's

could find, the books we loved, then the store would prosper. Today, as one of the largest independent bookstores on the North Shore, we still believe this. Our goal is quite simply to offer the community the most unique, the most beautiful, the most interesting, the most timely, and the most entertaining books.

Why it's the Best: At Jabberwocky, we bring people and books together. Our staff of avid readers has knowledge,

dedication, and the proven ability to help our customers find the perfect books.

Fun Fact: Little says people and books are the reason she opened her store so many years ago, and the reason she still loves bookselling today.

BEST LOCAL POLITICIAN

★ **State Rep. James Kelcourse**

23 Green St., Newburyport
978-465-1777
jameskelcourse.com

Years in Politics: Since 2008
Achievements: As a resident of the district since childhood, I understand the unique promise our community offers to everyone who lives, works or visits here. As a small business owner, husband and father of two young boys, I also know the challenges that we face in continuing to realize that promise for ourselves and the generation to come.

Why he's the Best: As your state representative, I will continue to be an independent voice for our community who makes the right choices rather than the partisan or politically expedient ones. That means I will keep working tirelessly to foster a business climate that provides people with both the confidence and tools to start and grow businesses right here in Newburyport, Salisbury and Amesbury.

Fun Fact: Aside from my selfies, I really enjoy just spending time with my family and volunteering in the community.

BEST CAR WASH

★ **Clipper City Car Wash**
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Newburyport

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clippercitycarwash.com

Years in Operation: 13

Highlights: Locally owned and operated, we have been established since 2004, with two convenient locations in Newburyport. Offering both Touchfree and Soft Touch car washes, we use environmentally friendly products made by the leader in our industry, Simoniz.

Why it's the Best: We recycle a significant portion of the wash water used while still providing a high quality wash for our customers.

BEST CANDY SHOP

☀ **Willey's Candy**

4 Broadway, Salisbury
978-465-5541

willeyshandmadecandy.com

Owner: William Silsby

Years in Operation: 103

Highlights: Located on the beautiful ocean seashore of Salisbury Beach, we are a third-generation candy maker using our original recipes to make exceedingly well-crafted chocolates, candies and confections. We also serve ice cream in season.

Why it's the Best: Handcrafted chocolates, candies and confections, salt water

taffy and caramel corn made onsite to maintain the quality of the product.

Fun Fact: The look of the shop has not changed, so the store carries a sense of nostalgia for adults who used to come in as kids.

BEST FURNITURE STORE

☀ **Amesbury Furniture Outlet**

63 Clinton St., Amesbury
978-388-6025

amesburyfurnitureoutlet.com

Owners: Bob and Robin Carey

Years in Operation: 15

Highlights: We carry a wide range of furniture for every room in the home and our family is with out customers every step of the way.

Why it's the Best: Being a small, family business, we pride ourselves on superior customer service, a large selection as well as our everyday low prices.

Fun Fact: We have more than 100 recliners on our floor to test drive.

BEST LIQUOR/WINE STORE

☀ **Leary's Fine Wine & Spirits**

202 Merrimac St., Newburyport
978-462-4451



BEST BANK
Institution for Savings,
President and CEO Michael Jones

learysfinewines.com

Owner: Todd Leary

Years in Operation: 120

Highlights: With stores in Newburyport and Amesbury, Leary's strives to offer its customers the best prices, selection and service possible. It has among the most extensive selections of beer and wine on the North Shore and a very knowledgeable, helpful staff.

Why it's the Best: The fact that Leary's has been voted No. 1 Wine Shop in the area for 17 straight years validates our mission of being the North Shore's premier fine wine destination.

Fun Fact: Opened in 1897, Leary's is the Bay State's oldest purveyor of wine and spirits. Cornelius Leary used horse and wagon to sell his libations throughout the area. Customers living nearby brought their own pails to

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Leary's to fill them from large beer barrels.

BEST MANICURE

★ **Le Nail Rowley**

319 Newburyport Turnpike (Route 1), Suite 102, Rowley
978-948-8444
lenailrowley.com

Years in Operation: 3

Highlights: We provide professional nail manicures and pedicures in a clean and comfortable setting.

Why it's the Best: Experienced technicians treat clients' nails nicely and carefully.

BEST GOLF COURSE

★ **Ould Newbury Golf Course**

319 Newburyport Turnpike, Newbury
978-465-9888
ouldnewbury.com

Years in Operation: 101

Highlights: Nine-hole gem of the North Shore offering challenging golf in a picturesque setting. Competitive tournaments, leagues and social morning groups are the hallmarks of men's golf at Ould Newbury.

Why it's the Best: Our semi-private club has been open for more than 100 years. We offer family tees, women's tees, junior golf clinics, plus The Pub at Ould Newbury features a range of delicious, pub-style food at reasonable prices.

Fun Fact: No matter what a golfer's playing ability is, they will fit right in with Ould Newbury's friendly membership. It doesn't matter if someone has been a member for 40 years or just joined last week – all members at Ould Newbury are like an extended family.

BEST CONSIGNMENT SHOP

★ **Pandora's Box Consignment**

141 Bridge St., Salisbury
pandorasboxconsignment.com

Owner: Karyn Nicholson

Years in Operation: 11

Highlights: Cool new and resale shop for women of all sizes, featuring clothes, jewelry, accessories, hats, home goods and more.

Why it's the Best: We are a veteran woman-owned business that caters to woman's needs.

Fun Fact: Our new location with plenty of parking combined our two

stores and is only one-quarter mile from our old location.

BEST FLORIST

★ **Beach Plum Flower Shop**

The Tannery, 50 Water St., Suite 301, Newburyport
978-465-1739
beachplumtoo.com

Owners and Creative Director: Pat Cannon and Lisa Greene

Years in Operation: 24

Highlights: Beach Plum Flower Shop has been the community flower shop for more than 20 years – celebrating the major milestones and our customers' lives, from births to birthdays, engagements to weddings, graduations to weddings. We've also participated in countless fundraising events throughout the area that are near to our heart. We love Newburyport and are grateful to be such a special and critical part of the Newburyport community for more than 20 years.

Why it's the Best: Our mission is to serve the highest quality and unique custom-designed arrangements to our Newburyport community and celebrate events from life to death with the spiritual-ity of flowers and plants.

Fun Fact: We offer fun classes in floral design for company team building as well as anyone who is interested. We just won a prestigious award at the Boston Flower Show.

BEST FARMSTAND

★ **Tendercrop Farm**

108 High Road, Newbury
978-462-6972
Tendercropfarm.com

Owner: Matthew Kozazcki

Years in Operation: 31 years

Highlights: Since 1985, Tendercrop Farm has provided the highest-quality selection of produce available. We have a variety of pick-your-own crops in season, and select fresh produce grown year-round in our greenhouses.

Why it's the Best: At Tendercrop Farm, we raise our own hormone-free and antibiotic-free chickens, Black Angus beef and turkeys, so customers can be assured they are getting the very best quality products.

Fun Fact: Tendercrop makes its own raw pet food from its high-quality beef and poultry. It also offers a large selection of raw bones that will not only help to keep dogs' teeth clean, but are a great

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BEST ROAST BEEF

★ **Courtyard Roast Beef**
192 State St., Newburyport
978-462-2144
courtyardnewburyportrestaurants.com

Years in Operation: 34 years
Highlights: Courtyard Roast Beef serves the finest roast beef, subs, seafood, pizza and more. Our restaurant uses only the freshest, high-quality ingredients and we're proud to serve only the best food available

Why it's the Best: We offer healthy menu choices and use no trans-fat. Not just fast food, it's great food.

Fun Fact: All of its plates are served with french fries, onion rings and cole slaw.

ambiance. Our great-tasting food is presented to diners as a complete culinary masterpiece.

Why it's the Best: In line with the restaurant's creative mission and for the pleasure of diners' palates, we have introduced Nepali/Himalayan cuisine at our regular service. It is based on a more than 5,000-year-old recipe of Himalayan food and taste. The beauty of Himalayan food is the use of several Himalayan herbs and spices grown for centuries and cooked in extremely healthy style to create mouthwatering taste, flavor and aroma.

Fun Fact: In addition to offering healthy menu choices and using no trans fat, we prepare our meals to suit diners' tastes, with choices of spicy level.

furnishings make the fresh fish and butchered meats the stars of the show. Drop by to choose from a daily smorgasbord of ceviche, crudo – fresh bivalves, tartare, sashimi, carpaccio – cotton, brandade, and espumas, in addition to select prime cuts and butchered chops. Carpet baggers, Daily Dock specials and po'boys round out a menu of Italian and Spanish influences.

Why it's the Best: Like our oysters, we know variety is the spice of life. Our market-driven menu, seasonal craft beers and other surprises always give customers a reason to stop in for lunch, dinner or some bites and libations in between.

Fun Fact: Brine's kitchen is open extra late on weekends, and offers "Buck a Shuck" in Thursday nights.

Years in Operation: 51 years

Highlights: The Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce & Industry is the leading membership organization in the Port region that advocates for sound, balanced economic and workforce development. As a vital organization that represents the diverse interests of our 750-plus members who are from many different business sectors and locations, the Chamber speaks as a collective voice on issues that impact business, the economy and the community at large.

Why it's the Best: Our goal is to represent the entire business community as effectively as possible so that not only businesses thrive, but the region as a whole, and so we may continue to experience improvements in our overall quality of life. Through collaboration, education, legislative forums, informational meetings, networking and advertising opportunities, we provide our members with the information and resources they need to succeed in today's economy.

Fun Fact: In 2016, Chamber staff walked more than 15 million steps serving our members and the community.

BEST ETHNIC RESTAURANT

★ **Mr. India**
140 High St., Newburyport
978-465-8600
courtyardnewburyportrestaurants.com

Highlights: We offer delicious Indian and Himalayan cuisine in a cordial atmosphere with an elegant and intimate

BEST SEAFOOD

★ **Brine**
25 State St., Newburyport
978-358-8479
brineoyster.com

Owner: Nancy Batista-Caswell
Highlights: Brine's sleek, stainless and Carrera marble bar, industrial lighting and ample galvanized

BEST SERVICE CLUB

★ **Greater Newburyport Chamber of Commerce & Industry**

38 R Merrimac St., Newburyport
978-462-6680
newburyportchamber.org

Leaders: Ann Ormond, president; David Strand, chairman of the board

Thank You

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BEST MARTINI

★ **Ceia Kitchen & Bar**

38 State St., Newburyport
978-358-8112
ceiakitchenbar.com

Owner: Nancy Batista-Caswell
Highlights: The best memories, traditions and celebrations are created while enjoying good food and drink. We share our customers' affection for stories shared while dining, told through delicious food and great wine. Ceia celebrates the heart and soul of our cultures.

Why it's the Best: Our chefs partner year-round with local farmers to include reserving fields for crops grown exclusively for our restaurant. Executive chef Jeremy Glover is also an organic farmer, and in season shares his daily picks of heirloom harvests with his guests, because he feels they are dining in his home.

Fun Fact: Ceia is pronounced "Say-ah," and means supper in Portuguese.

BEST TANNING

★ **Sun Fun Tanning**

175 Elm St., Salisbury



BEST FINE DINING
The Poynt Newburyport

Photo by Dawn Norris

978-465-1680
sunfuntanning.com

Highlights: Our new location is in the Tom's Discount Plaza next to Annarosa's Breads, only a short distance from Latitude Sorts Clubs. We are equipped with the latest technology, meaning deeper and faster tans.

Why it's the Best: Our large

selections of tanning units guarantee availability for our clients. We offer tanning beds, stand-up booths and UV-free spray tan booths.

BEST BAGELS

★ **Abraham's Bagels**

11 Liberty St., Newburyport

978-465-8148
abesbagels.com

Owner: Linda Garcia
Years in Operation: 29 Years
Highlights: Widely known for the best bagels in Newburyport, Abraham's bagel production is a labor of love. Starting with the finest ingredients to create our dough, the bagels are then gently boiled to a high sheen and baked in a brick oven. This old-world process produces a mouthwatering delicious bagel.

Why it's the Best: Abraham's quality foods don't stop at bagels. We also make delicious pizza, a wide variety of salads, and choice of sandwiches using the finest breads, all designed to please the heartiest of appetites

BEST CATERER

★ **Carry Out Café**

155 State St., Newburyport
978-499-2240
carryoutcafe.com

Owner: Paula Simpson
Highlights: Whether it's dinner for one or lunch for 200, we pride ourselves on preparing fresh, delicious food for friends, families and businesspeople on the go. We serve healthy, homestyle

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foods and continue to expand our offerings to include more of the foods our customers want, such as fish, whole grains, and locally grown ingredients

Why it's the Best: Our daily specials and pick-up meals to go from our coolers are second to none. Our cafe is warm and welcoming, with an art gallery featuring local talent.

Fun Fact: Our cafe is equipped with Wi-Fi for those needing a working lunch.

BEST SANDWICH SHOP

★ **Port City Sandwich Co.**

40R Merrimac St., Suite 102E,
Newburyport
978-358-8628
portcitysandwichco.com

Owner: Tyke Karopoulos

Highlights: Port City Sandwich Company understands the need for a quick bite to eat, and serves real, fresh food at a brisk pace and an honest price. The menu includes homemade soups, salads, sandwiches, breakfast items and sweet treats to enjoy with coffee.

Why it's the Best: Port City Sandwich offers a list of specialty sandwiches and luncheon combinations, but guests are encouraged to build their own perfect sandwiches, too. We believe our fresh

bread, quality cold cuts, and a variety of condiments will make diners want to try something new each time they visit.

Fun Fact: Some of our sandwiches are named for local communities.

BEST LOCAL HARDWARE STORE

★ **Kelly's True Value**

163 State St., Newburyport
978-462-2951
kellystruevalue.com

Owner: Peter G. Kelly

Years in Operation: 71

Highlights: Our local hardware home center specializes in a wide range of products and services. Our mission is to be the best at what we do and focus directly on customers' needs.

Why it's the Best: We strive for superb customer service and have a convenient location.

Fun Facts: Four generations of family – and a feisty mascot named Flynn the cat – have been involved with the business since it opened in 1946.

BEST ITALIAN FOOD

★ **Giuseppe's**

257 Low St., Newburyport
978-465-2225

giuseppesfinefood.com

Owner: Giuseppe Masia

Years in Operation: 22

Highlights: Since 1995, we've been serving homestyle, Italian pasta dishes in generous portions, with a family-friendly atmosphere. We're still family-owned and operated, and now feature a full bar, deli, party trays, and a grab-and-go case.

Why it's the Best: Our highly customizable, mix and matchable menu makes it possible for everyone to find something suited to their taste. Eat in or grab food from our case; our customers say the

whole family is always pleased.

Fun Fact: Our bar is a little piece of history. We recycled it from the former Hilltop Steakhouse on Route 1.

BEST MEN'S CLOTHING STORE

★ **Farley's Of Newburyport**

47 State St., Newburyport
978-462-5401
farleysofnewburyport.com

Owners: T.J. Conte and Lisa C. Burke

Years in Operation: In business for two decades; current owners since 2014

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www.willeyshandmadecandy.com

Highlights: The decades-long legacy of John Farley Clothiers lives on as we continue to bring customers well-made men's apparel, from casual denim to custom clothing. We offer select garments for work, play and everything in between.

Why it's the Best: We specialize in casual sportswear, formal men's clothing (both custom and in store), and a variety of men's accessories, leather goods and more. We make an effort to keep our look both classic and updated.

Fun Fact: Farley's is Conte's first foray into apparel. He owns funeral homes in Newburyport, Andover, North Andover and Georgetown. But he had been a regular shopper at Farley's for 10 to 15 years before buying the business.

BEST SHOE STORE

☀ **Hyman's Pennyworth's**
45 Storey Ave Newburyport
978-462-2711
hymanspennyworths.com

Owner: Lowell Blitt
Years in Operation: Business dates to early 1900s; at current location since 1972

Highlights: Our mission from the start has been to give excellent service, selection and fit to every customer. We know there are many shoe stores in business, but our commitment to service and selection remains unmatched. Come by and visit us today for the best variety of shoes for men, women and children.

Why it's the Best: Our unparalleled customer service and knowledge of footwear is what make us the best family shoe store in the area.

Fun Fact: Hyman's Pennyworth's started as a family shoe repair business in the early 1900s in downtown Newburyport.

BEST APPLIANCE STORE

☀ **Appliance Warehouse**
6 Smiths Lane, Route 1 traffic circle, Seabrook
603-474-8333
appliancewarehouse.com

Owners: Jay Morrill
Years in Operation: 43 years
Highlights: Appliance Warehouse is a family-owned discount appliance and electronics store serving the Seacoast and Merrimack Valley areas and beyond. Low prices on products, top-notch customer service and knowledge of the appliances and electronics they sell set them high above the competition.

Why it's the Best: Appliance Warehouse is an authorized dealer of such brands as Amesbury Chair, Barca Lounger, Lancer, Telescope Casual



Furniture and more, and can help customers select their new purchase at any budget.

Fun Fact: There's an art gallery upstairs that showcases local artists' work.

BEST LAWYER

☀ **Thomas G. Nicholson, Esq., Finneran & Nicholson, P.C.**
30 Green St., Newburyport
978-462-1514
finnerannicholson.com

Years in Operation: 33 years
Owner: Atty. Thomas G. Nicholson, president
Highlights: Atty. Nicholson joined Finneran & Nicholson, P.C. in 1988. He has extensive litigation and arbitration experience, handling a wide range of matters involving securities, commercial, business, corporate, real estate, wage and employment disputes. His experience includes appellate, securities and a variety of other regulatory enforcement matters. The firm also offers experienced and skilled representation in all aspects of business law, including matters concerning formation, operation, mergers/acquisitions and dissolution.

Why it's the Best: The law firm brings big-firm sophistication and effectiveness to Main Street, offering quality legal services efficiently and economically.

Fun Fact: Atty. Nicholson formerly served as an assistant clerk magistrate at Gloucester District Court.

BEST BEACH

☀ **Plum Island**

Highlights: The 11-mile barrier island just off the Massachusetts northeast coast offers miles of public sandy beaches. Sandy Point on the southern tip of Plum Island is a state park and a

wonderful place to swim, sunbathe or go tidepooling. Northern Plum Island Beach is accessible from several points along Northern Boulevard.

Why it's the Best: Walking, beach-combing, fishing, swimming and birding are all popular pastimes on Plum Island. Plus there's a lighthouse to tour, as well as Parker River National Wildlife Refuge to explore and Mass Audubon Joppa Flats Education Sanctuary to visit. The wildlife refuge and Audubon sanctuary both have headquarters based nearby and offer nature programs throughout the year.

Fun Fact: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on Plum Island is home to more than 800 species of birds, plants and animals on 4,662 acres.

BEST SCENIC PLACE

☀ **Maudslay State Park**
Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport
978 465-7223
mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-north/maudslay-state-park.html

Highlights: Formerly called Maudsleigh, the 480-acre horticultural and agricultural estate became the property of the state Department of Conservation and Recreation in 1985.

Why it's the Best: The property features miles of carriage roads and walking trails over stone arch bridges, passed a flowering reflection pond and through fields and meadows, with some affording views of the Merrimack River. There are also 19th-century formal gardens and an impressive collection of rhododendrons, azaleas and specimen trees.

Fun Fact: Cultural events are a regular feature in the summer, with Maudslay Arts Center offering weekend concerts, and Theater in the Open regularly performing on the fields.

BEST FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT

☀ **WNPB Classic Car Show**
Downtown Newburyport
wnbp.com

Highlights: Launched in 2012, the annual "Cruisin' the '50s" event has become a popular summer attraction, bringing car enthusiasts, lovers of design and families to downtown.

Why it's the Best: The free event fills the downtown streets with 250 vintage cars, with '50s music, promotions, and entertainment rounding out the fun.

Fun Fact: Past events have featured a DeLorean from "Back to the Future" fame and a \$1 million Delahaye.

**BEST LOCAL MUSEUM/
LANDMARK**

☀ **Custom House Maritime Museum**
25 Water St., Newburyport
978-462-8681
customhousemaritimemuseum.org

Highlights: The Custom House was built in 1835 to facilitate growing overseas trade and tax collection of imported goods on the waterfront. Today, it is managed by the Newburyport Maritime Society and operates as a museum, educational center, research facility, and meeting place for people seeking a unique venue for professional or social gatherings.

Why it's the Best: Visitors will enjoy a collection of maritime art, model clipper ships, displays of famous shipwrecks, displays on the history of the Coast Guard and more.

Fun Fact: Newburyport's Custom House was designed by Robert Mills, architect of the Washington Monument and U.S. Treasury Building.

BEST ANNUAL EVENT

☀ **Yankee Homecoming**
Downtown Newburyport
yankeehomecoming.com

Highlights: This nine-day festival, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, is all about family, friends and fun. Planned for July 29 through Aug. 6 this year, it features events for all ages and for all interests.

Why it's the Best: It brings together locals and visitors into a community-wide celebration aimed at highlighting the city, its landmarks and all that makes it special.

Fun Fact: The original Homecoming concept was conceived in 1957 through artist Jack Frost to revive appreciation for the heritage and beauty of New England by bringing back natives and visitors to the region's towns and cities.



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