

Suburban Focus

2009
BEST
of the
**Western
Suburbs**
RESULTS

Your Holiday Planner
Stress Zappers
Fitness Myths
Get Into College

**GetAways, Events,
Dining & More!**



2009 BEST OF THE CHICAGO WESTERN SUBURBS - RESULTS



The votes are in. With over 3000 entries in our 2009 Best of the Western Suburbs polling the winners have been identified and are presented here. You can imagine that with over 80 categories, we've been adding, counting, tabulating and listing like crazy. But, it was well worth it as your fellow Suburban Focus reader's have cummulatively made some terrific recommendations!

The winner's - that is #1, #2 and #3 - are based purely on vote totals which came from reader surveys made available in both the magazine and online. Those establishments listed under *Runners Up* were multiple vote getters worthy of special mention. Enjoy visiting these great places.

Dining Out

Best RIBS

#1: The Patio - Bolingbrook, Darien, Bridgeview and Orland Park

#2: Sweet Baby Ray's Barbeque Restaurant, - Wood Dale and Elk Grove Vill.

#3: Gematos Wood Pit BBQ - Naperville

Runners Up: Uncle Bub's - Westmont, Smiley's - Arlington Hts., Nick's Fat Boy - Romeoville, Rib House - Crystal Lake, Famous Dave's - Mult. locations, Salt Creek Barbecue - Glendale Heights

Best BEEF

#1: Buona Beef - Mult. locations

#2: Portilla's - Mult. locations

#3: H.P. Schmaltz & Co. - Naperville

Best BURGER

#1: Country House - Clarendon Hills, Geneva, Lisle

#2: Boston Blackie's - Aurora, Arlington Heights and other Chicago locations

#3: Alpie's - Glen Ellyn

Runners Up: Bally Doyle - Downers Grove, DuPage Inn - Downers Grove, Cheeseburger in Paradise - Lombard, Weber Grill - Lombard

Best PIZZA: THIN CRUST

#1: Phillies Pizza - Willowbrook

#2: Home Run Inn - Mult. locations

#3: Aurelios - Mult. locations

Runners Up: Ats A Nice Pizza - Romeoville, Maciano's - Aurora and Yorkville, Barone's - Mult. locations, Papa Passeros - Mult. locations, Jerseys - Hoffman Estates

Best PIZZA: THICK CRUST

#1: Lou Malnati's - Mult. locations.

#2: Girodano's - Mult. locations.

#3: Nancy Pizzeria - Mult. locations.

Runners Up: Vita Bella - Plainfield, Numero Uno - Schaumburg, Gino's East - Mult. locations, Barones - Mult. locations

Best CHINESE

#1: House of Emperor, Naperville

#2: Fu Yuan - Wheaton

#3: PF Changs - Mult. locations

Runners Up: China Buffet - Silver Lake - Roselle, Hong Kong - Downers Grove,

Best FRENCH

#1: Mon Ami Gabi - Oak Brook

#2: Suzette's Creperie - Wheaton

#3: La Titi de Paris - Arlington Heights

Mult. locations, Central Continental Bakery - Mount Prospect, The Italian Bakery - Addison, Sauer's - Carol Stream, Patty Cakes - Lockport, Napoleon - Naperville

Best BANK

- #1: West Suburban Bank - Mult. locations
- #2: Chase Bank - Mult. locations
- #3: Harris Bank - Mult. locations

Best BED & BREAKFAST

- #1: Oscar Swan Country Inn - Geneva
- #2: The Wicker Park Inn - Chicago
- #3: The Mansion B & B - West Dundee

Best BIKE

- #1: Midwest Cyclery - Wheaton
 - #2: Mill Race Cyclery - Geneva
 - #3: Prairie Path Cycles - Winfield
- Runners Up:** Hartley's Cycle - Hinsdale, The Bike Shop - Glen Ellyn, Prairie Path Cycles - Winfield, Bicycle's etc - Lisle

Best BOOK STORE

- #1: Anderson Book Store - Naperville and Downers Grove
- #2: Barnes & Noble - Mult. locations
- #3: Border's Books - Mult. locations

Best CHILDREN'S CLOTHES

- #1: Children's Place
- #2: Kohls's
- #3: Target

Best MEN'S CLOTHES

- #1: Mark Shale - Oak Brook
 - #2: Brook's Brothers - Mult. locations
 - #3: Macy's - Mult. locations
- Runners Up:** Kohl's, Men's Warehouse

Best WOMEN'S CLOTHES

- #1: Nordstrom - Mult. locations
 - #2: Ann Taylor Loft - Mult. locations
 - #3: Von Maur - Mult. locations
- Runners Up:** Saks's - White House Black Market, TJ Maxx, Marshal's

Best COFFEE SHOP

- #1: Starbucks - Mult. locations
 - #2: Caribou Coffee - Mult. locations
 - #3: Dunkin Donuts - Mult. locations
- McDonald's, Grahams 318 - Geneva, Brew House - Carol Stream, Coffee Bean - Aurora, Funky Java - Villa Park, Joyful's Café - Downers Grove

Best CELLULAR PROVIDER

- #1: Verizon
- #2: AT&T
- #3: T-Mobile

Best CATERER

- #1: My Chef - Naperville
 - #2: True Cuisine - Wheaton
 - #3: Belgio's - Naperville
- Runners Up:** Marino's - Wood Dale, Ali Tuckerr - Lemont

Best DAYCARE

- #1: Chesterbrook - Lisle
 - #2: Green Tree - Glen Ellyn
 - #3: The Learning Tree - Elgin
- Runners Up:** KinderCare - Mult. locations, Childtime Daycare - Mult. locations, Rainbow Academy - Carol Stream, A Bright Beginning - Glendale Heights, Lamb's Fold Daycare - Warrenville

Best FITNESS CLUB

- #1: Life Time Fitness - Mult. locations
 - #2: Good Samaritan - Downer's Grove
 - #3: Edward's Fitness - Naperville & Woodridge
- Runners Up:** Delnor Health & Wellness Center - Geneva, Midtown - Willowbrook, Five Seasons - Burr Ridge, Wheaton Sports Center - Wheaton, Northwest Athletic Club - Itasca, The Wellness Center - Arlington Hts

Best FLORIST

- #1: Flowers du Jour - Lombard
 - #2: Phillip's Flowers - Mult. locations
 - #3: Heritage House - Downers Grove
- Runners Up:** Anderson & Bohac - Glen Ellyn, Sweet Pea - Naperville, Jonlee Florist - Aurora, Petal Play Design - Lemont, Flowers By Christine - Hanover Park, Walden - Downers Grove, Jane's Blue Iris - Hinsdale, Town and Country - Geneva, Flowers of Lisle - Lisle

Best GARDEN SUPPLY

- #1: Johansen Farms - Bolingbrook
 - #2: Wannemakers - Downers Grove
 - #3: Alsip Nursery - Alsip
- Runners Up:** The Growing Place - Naperville, The Pure Gardner - Geneva, Sid's Green House - Bolingbrook, Pesche's - Des Plaines, Prosek's - Winfield, Home Depot

Best HAIR SALON

- #1: Salon Aria - Woodridge
 - #2: Morgan Peris - Westmont
 - #3: ZaZu Salon - Mult. locations
- Runners Up:** Great Clips - Mult. locations, Mario Tricoli - Mult. locations, Charles Ifergan - Oak Brook, Katrina Salon - Batavia, Lisa's Place - Lombard, Bukes - Western Springs, Artistic Creations -

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Gym rentals are also available