

Best of Ballard

At last the votes are in and the readers of the Ballard News-Tribune have spoken. For the past decade we've been polling you about your favorite places in our neighborhood to do business and this year the response was overwhelming.

It took our volunteer Flo two extra days to complete the tallying of your votes. The ballots were taken from our newspaper over the summer, our Web site and at our booth at the Seafood Fest.

With so many choices in Ballard of places to eat and shop almost every business you can think of got a vote (or at least voted for themselves) but most categories had obvious winners and here they are. Let the debate begin!

Best Place to Bring a Date

This year's winner of this highly popular category wasn't bed (although it received a lot of votes). Ballard likes to go to the movies at our own Majaestic Bay Theater on a date! Other romantic spots were The Balmar and The Locks.

Best Happy Hour

After a long day of doing whatever it is you do, there's nothing better than great drink and food specials and you'll always find those at The Matador on Market Street. The Balmar, the Sloop and Ray's all followed close behind.

Best Cocktail

Where do you go to get that special drink that makes your taste buds tingle? Clearly, with their creative cocktail concoctions in 2007, it was The Balmar located at Market and Ballard Avenue. The next

Best Restaurant

More than 50 local eateries received votes here but our clear winner in 2007 is the always-scrumptious Italian restaurant Voltaire on Ballard Ave. Carnegies and Thaiku both received a hefty number of votes too.

Best Coffee Shop

If our readers know anything (and we think you do) they know coffee. I mean, this is Seattle for gosh sakes! In our most heated competition this year Equal Exchange Coffee at Ballard Market out dueled Java Bean for your favorite cup of Joe.

Best Pizza

Ladies and gentlemen we have a new champion! One of Market Street's newest additions, Snoose Junction Pizza won this tasty competition by a slice over Madame K's and Zeeks.

Best Haircut

Where do you go when you need a new hairdo? In 2007 BaBa Louise, located at 6th and 65th was our champion! Habitude and Rudy's followed.

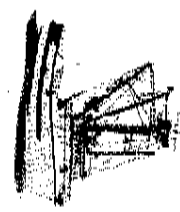
Best Florist

You know where to go to bring home smiles...Ballard Blossom on Market Street wins again! Juniper Flowers gave them a little bit of a race this year.

Best Customer Service

This category received more nominations than any other, but our clear winner in 2007 was Bernie's Automotive. Equal Exchange Coffee and All Aboard 2nd Hand got a lot of votes, too!

Best New



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