

staff picks



BEST STREET MARKINGS

We appreciate that all the bike dudes painted in the bike lanes around town have helmets on. But the bike lanes near campus have dudes with helmets with horns and spikes!

BEST FELICIDADES HOUR

Mission Mexican on Franklin, time and time again, has been there for us when we need a little booze before 5 o' clock. With a happy hour that lasts all afternoon until 6 pm, and really good Mexican food to boot, we really can't complain.

BEST REASON WHY EW DIDN'T WRITE ABOUT YOUR BAND, YOUR EVENT, YOUR DOG'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

We hate you.

No really, we don't even know you. We love everyone, but we totally extra-love folks who send us their events in advance accompanied by extra-large pictures you took with a real camera. But we do enjoy your conspiracy theories, too.

BEST PLACE TO GET PICKED UP BY CLUELESS OLDER MEN

The wine section of Market of Choice. Seriously, since when is "Excuse me, does this wine have sulfites?" a pick-up line?

BEST PLACE TO GO CAMPING AND CALL IT ACTIVISM

The scenery under that bridge at Jefferson Park was so beautiful, it's a wonder Occupy Eugene ever bothered moving. Feel like catalyzing change while enjoying the primitive life? Head on down to the warehouse at 1274 W. 7th Ave. and pitch that tent.

BEST REASON TO SUPPORT EMX MASS TRANSIT

Woo-hoo! You can roll your bike right on and off the bus.

BEST PLACE TO GET NAILED FOR SOMETHING LEGAL

"Oh man, that midterm was really difficult; I'm freaking out right now. OK, it'll be fine. There's nothing you can do to change it. Just breathe. Breathe in the calming fumes. Oh, sorry, sir, I forgot campus was smoke-free now. Thirty bucks you say? Holy crap. Do you take Mastercard?"

BEST WAY TO HAVE A PORTLANDIA MOMENT

Go to Kiva, but hide your reusable cloth bag under your coat. Wait for the cashier to sigh "I guess you will need a BAG" and then whip out the one you brought. This works at Capella and Sundance too.

BEST USES FOR THOSE PROLIFIC ART ROBINSON BOOKS

Firestarters, butt-wipes, bird cage liners, door stops, origami, fantasy and science fiction reading, drinking games

BEST TATTOOS WE SAW AT THE OREGON COUNTRY FAIR

Loved that string of Disney characters dancing just above your cute rear cleavage. They would look good on women, too.

BEST MEDITERRANEAN-GREEK-INDIAN

1. **Poppi's Anatolia** 992 Willamette St. 343-9661. www.poppisanatolia.com
 2. **Evergreen** 1525 Franklin Blvd. 343-7944.
 3. **Café Soriah** 384 W. 13th Ave. 342-4410. www.soriah.com
- A Eugene fixture since 1987, Poppi's Anatolia has definitely made its mark on our town, consecutively winning Best of Eugene. As to its secret, "The people, the people who work here are what make us the best!" Poppi's tells EW. Operating out of a humble-sized restaurant in downtown Eugene, Poppi's is definitely more about quality than show, aiming to provide meals that are friendly and nurturing while providing our taste buds the opportunity to travel across the globe in a single meal. To its fan base the restaurant says: "We appreciate the long-standing customers and clients who keep coming back even when we mess it up."

BEST MEXICAN-LATIN

1. (tie) **Chapala** 68 W. 29th Ave., 683-5458; 136 Oakway Center, 434-6113. chapalasmexicanrestaurant.com
- Red Agave** 454 Willamette St. 683-2206. redagave.net
3. **Mi Tierra** 638 Blair Blvd. 743-0779. mitierraeugene.com

BEST THAI

1. **Ta Ra Rin** 1200 Oak St. 343-1230. www.tararinthai.com
 2. **Sweet Basil** 941 Pearl St. 1219 Alder St. 284-2944. www.sweetbasileug.com
 3. **Sabai** 27 Oakway Center. 654-5424. sabaicafe.com
- Mmm. Pumpkin curry sounds like the perfect dish for an autumn eve. Made with Asian pumpkins (similar to squash, these pumpkins are mottled green on the outside, like a watermelon, with a slightly sweet yellow inside), bell peppers, basil and a red curry sauce, Ta Ra Rin highly recommends it. And as it's the most popular Thai joint in town, you should probably go order it. Ta Ra Rin says customers love its food because "we keep the food the same quality. The owner checks the food quality all the time." Arna "B" Khongkhaning, the restaurant's founder and head chef hailing from Bangkok, cooks the traditional Thai fare from recipes that have been passed down over generations.

BEST SUSHI

1. **Sushi Domo** 1020 Green Acres Rd., 343-0935; 2835 Oak St. www.sushidomoeugene.com
2. **PURE** 296 E. 5th Ave., 654-0608. www.pureeugene.com
3. **Izumi** 2773 Shadow View Dr., 683-1201. www.izumisushieugene.com

THE POT OF GOLD

BEST BIKING STORE

1. **Paul's Bicycle Way of Life** 234 W. 6th Ave., 344-4150; 3870 W. 11th Ave., 343-2250; 152 W. 5th Ave., 344-4105; 2480 Alder St., 342-6155 www.bicycleway.com
2. **Arriving By Bike** 2705 Willamette St. 484-5410. arrivingbybike.com
3. **Collin's Cycle Shop** 60 E. 11th Ave. 342-4878. collinscycleshop.wordpress.com

BEST BOOKSTORE

1. **Smith Family** 768 E. 13th Ave., 345-1651; 525 Willamette St., 343-4717. www.smithfamilybookstore.com
 2. **Tsunami Books** 2585 Willamette St. 345-8986.
 3. **J. Michaels** 160 E. Broadway. 342-2002.
- Holy leather-bound book, Batman, there's a mountain of titles here. Walking into Smith Family Bookstore is sort of like venturing into a jungle; you'll probably need eyes sharp as a machete to handle the sheer volume of type-ridden book-spines ahead of you. This said, we've never needed to go elsewhere just because Smith Family was "all out" or "didn't carry that title," even if we were searching for an exact volume about gastropod behaviors. Thanks, Smith Family, for broadening our literary columbaria time and time again.

BEST KOREAN

1. **Noodle Bowl** 860 Pearl St. 686-1114. noodlebowlrestaurant.com
2. **Café AriRang** 485 E. Broadway. 302-4542.
3. **Korea House** 1306 Hilyard St. 345-9555.

BEST EATS UNDER \$6

1. **Burrito Boy** 510 E. Broadway, 344-8070; 497 Hwy 99, 607-5513; 30 W. 10th Ave., 343-8089.
2. **Café Yumm** 1801 Willamette St., 686-YUMM; 130 Oakway Center, 465-YUMM; 730 E. Broadway, 344-YUMM; 1005 Green Acres Rd., 684-YUMM; The Crossroads, 3340 Gateway St., Spfd., 747-YUMM; Sacred Heart, 3333 River-Bend Dr., 736-YUMM www.cafeyumm.com
3. **Laughing Planet** 760 Blair Blvd., 868-0668; 2864 Willamette St., 505-5399.

BEST FROZEN DELIGHTS

1. **Prince Pückler's** 1605 E. 19th Ave. 344-4418. princepucklers.com
2. **Vanilla Jill's** 460 Coburg Rd. #300. 844-2286. www.vanillajills.com
3. **Red Wagon Creamery** redwagoncreamery.com

As the summer months come to a close, it is hard to imagine seeking out a sweet treat as cold as ice cream. Yet there are numerous studies that tell us that people eat as much, if not more, ice cream in the colder months. All things considered, it's a great thing we have Prince Pückler's, a Eugene tradition since 1975, to provide us our favorite sweet, creamy, cold treat year round. Prince Pückler's uses the utmost quality when selecting ingredients to bring us their array of unique flavors and old standards. And since it's election season, why not go down for a scoop of Obama's favorite — the one he happily consumed on his visit to Eugene — the mint chip.

BEST PLACE TO TAKE VEGETARIANS

1. **Laughing Planet** 760 Blair Blvd. 868-0668. 2864 Willamette St. 505-5399.
2. **Cornbread Café** 1290 W. 7th Ave. 505-9175. www.cornbreadcafe.com
3. **Café Yumm** 1801 Willamette St., 686-YUMM; 130 Oakway Center, 465-YUMM; 730 E. Broadway, 344-YUMM; 1005 Green Acres Rd., 684-YUMM; The Crossroads, 3340 Gateway St., 747-YUMM; Sacred Heart, 3333 RiverBend Dr., 736-YUMM, www.cafeyumm.com

BEST ENTERTAINMENT SHOP

1. **CD/Game Exchange** 30 E. 11th Ave. 302-3045. cdgmexeug.com
2. **House of Records** 258 E. 13th Ave. 342-7975.
3. **CD World** 3215 W. 11th Ave. Suite B. 683-6902. gotocdworld.com

BEST CLOTHING SHOP

1. **Deluxe/Kitsch** 1331 Willamette St. 686-0205. deluxefashionshop.com
2. **Redoux Parlour** 780 Blair Blvd. 342-1942. redouxparlour.com
3. **Sweet Potato Pie** 20 E. 11th Ave. 344-8810.

BEST RESALE STORE

1. **St. Vincent de Paul of Lane County** www.svdpc.com
2. **Deluxe/Kitsch** 1331 Willamette St. 686-0205. deluxefashionshop.com
3. **Redoux Parlour** 780 Blair Blvd. 342-1942. redouxparlour.com

BEST PET SUPPLY STORE

1. **Mini Pet Mart** 974 W. 6th Ave., 344-9603; 2636 Willamette St., 345-3399; 2775 River Rd., 688-8619; 1999 Main St., Spfd., 744-0665.
2. **The Healthy Pet** 2777 Friendly St. 343-3411. www.thehealthypet.com