

The votes are in!



The people have spoken.

They've voted in the Concord Monitor's Best of 2009 contest, on the finest this area has to offer . . . in dozens of categories, including Best Pizza, Best Breakfast, Best Grocery Store, Best Clothing Store, Best Drinks and Best Place to Meet People.

Take a look inside and see who won, or check us out on the web:
ConcordMonitor.com/Bestof2009.

We think you'll find this guide to the area's most popular businesses helpful, and we hope you'll join our voters in electing next year's area favorites.

Stay tuned for our next Best Of online election: It'll take place in the spring, and we'll be sure to let you know in the Monitor and our other publications. Make your vote count!

Again!

Thanks Concord
for again naming us
"Best Florist!"



In the Merrimack Center
89 Fort Eddy Road, Concord
(603) 228-5980

*...for flowers, gifts &
fabulous home décor!*

COBBLESTONE
florist company

Thank You
To our customers who voted for us...
**But it is our staff that deserves
all the credit!**



Voted:
Best **Dessert**
Best **Takeout**
Best **Ice Cream**
Best **Burger**

(Take that, Barley House!)



P.S. unofficially voted best place
to get your Christmas tree
in Concord

228-3225

Open 11:00 am to 10:00 pm Every Day!

164 Loudon Rd.

NEWICK'S

LOBSTER HOUSE



BEST SEAFOOD 2009 RESTAURANT!

Thank You Concord!

894133



Thanks for
helping us win
Best Jeweler in
the Concord
Area.



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CONCORD ANTIQUE GALLERY



*We wish to thank all of our loyal customers for
making (and voting) the Concord Antique Gallery #1*

To our dedicated dealers and staff, thank you also and
congratulations for earning the Gallery this great achievement.

Best in the Region for the 4th straight year!

*Come in and see for yourself what Designers and
Interior Decorators have discovered.*

Store Hours: Mon-Sat 10-6, Sun 11-5 www.concordantiquegallery.com

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ACROSS FROM BURLINGTON COAT FACTORY

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BEST GIFT SHOP
2009



*Thank you for Voting us
Best Gift Shop in Concord!*

Caring Gifts

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Rate the winners
yourselves at
ConcordMonitor.com/Bestof2009

In the category of eating . . . the winners are:

- Best Atmosphere: **The Common Man**, 5 Water St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-DINE, thecman.com.
- Best New Restaurant: **Boloco**, 10 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH 03301. 410-3089, boloco.com.
- Best of the Best: **The Common Man**.
- Best Breakfast: **City Side Grille**, 25 Manchester St., Concord, NH 03301. 227-0884, citysidegrille.com.
- Best Brunch: **The Red Blazer**, 72 Manchester St., Concord, NH 03301. 224-4101, theredblazer.com.
- Best Buffet: **Red Apple Buffet**, 161 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 226-8866.
- Best Burger: a tie between **Arnie's Place**, 164 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301, 228-3225, arniesplace.com, and **The Barley House**, 132 N.

Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com.

- Best Deli: **In A Pinch Cafe**, 146 Pleasant St., Concord, NH 03301. 226-2272. 2 Pillsbury St., Concord, NH 03301. 369-3598. inapinchcafe.com.
- Best Dessert: **Arnie's Place**.
- Best Diner: **Tilt'n Diner**, 61 Laconia Road, Tilton, NH 03276. 286-2204, thecman.com.
- Best Drinks: **The Draft Sports Bar & Grill**, 67 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 227-1175.
- Best Ethnic Food: **Siam Orchid**, 158 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-1529, siamorchid.net.
- Best Fast Food: **Wendy's**, 106 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 224-9423, wendys.com.

- Best Ice Cream: **Arnie's Place**.
- Best Pizza: **Constantly Pizza**, 39 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. (603) 224-9366.
- Best Salad: **Ruby Tuesday**, 327 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 223-2505, rubytuesday.com.
- Best Sandwich: **In A Pinch Cafe**.
- Best Seafood: **Newick's Lobster House**, 317 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 225-2424, newicks.com.
- Best Service: a tie between **The Draft Sports Bar & Grill** and **The Red Blazer**.
- Best Steak: **Longhorn Steakhouse**, 217 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 228-0655, longhorn-steakhouse.com.
- Best Takeout: **Arnie's Place**.

And in the category of essentials . . .

- Best Bank: **Merrimack County Savings Bank**, various locations, www.mcsbnh.com.
- Best Car Wash: **Unos**, 164 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 225-4757, unoscarwash.com.
- Best Cellular Phone Service: **Verizon Wireless**, 75 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH 03301. 226-

0033, www.verizonwireless.com.

- Best Credit Union: **New Hampshire Federal Credit Union**, 70 Airport Road, Concord, NH 03301. 224-7731, www.nhfcu.org.
- Best Day Spa / Salon: **Creative Color & Cuts**, 259 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-1158.

- Best Dry Cleaners: **Arnos Cleaners**, 267 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 224-4461.
- Best Radio Personality: **Nazzy (105.5 WJYY)**.
- Best Radio Station: **New Hampshire Public Radio (WEVO 89.1)**.



"NAZZY"
**VOTED BEST RADIO
 PERSONALITY**

WEEKDAYS
5:30 - 10:00 am



HOLLYWOOD DIRT

Horoscope Quickies

NEED to KNOW NEWS



**Birthday SHOUT
 OUTS**

NEWS 9 WEATHER

Plus fun contests with great prizes,
 and the most music in the morning!



NAZZY and the
'JYY WAKE-UP CREW

WEEKDAY MORNINGS 5:30 - 10AM

**NAZZY WOULD LIKE TO THANK
 EVERYONE WHO VOTED!!**

*"Hey, it's Nazzy! Thanks so much for voting
 me Best Radio Personality. It means a lot to
 me that so many people from Concord and
 surrounding towns wake up with us each and
 every day. I'm humbled and honored by this
 award, and I look forward to being your go-to
 guy in the morning for many more years to
 come! Remember, think positive, and positive
 will happen...this is proof. Peace!"*

Nazzy

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wjyy.com

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twitter

twitter.com/1055jyy

myspace
 a place for friends

myspace.com/1055jyy

In the category of **things to do . . .** the winners are:

- Best Bar / Pub: **The Draft Sports Bar & Grill**, 67 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 227-1175.
- Best Coffee Shop: a tie between **Dunkin' Donuts**, various locations, dunkindonuts.com, and **Starbucks**, 242 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 223-2395, starbucks.com.
- Best Fitness Center: **Living Yoga**, 120A N. Main St., 2 Pillsbury St., Suite 302, Concord, NH 03301. 226-YOGA (9642), www.yoganh.com.
- Best Large Live Music Venue: **Capitol Center for the Arts**, 44 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 225-1111, ccanh.com.
- Best Golf Course: **Beaver Meadow Golf Course**, 1 Beaver Meadow Drive, Concord, NH 03301. 225-7033.
- Best Small Live Music Venue: **The Barley House**, 132 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com.
- Best Movie Rental Store: **Blockbuster Video**, 50 Storrs St., Concord, NH 03301. 223-9876, blockbuster.com.
- Best Movie Theater: **Red River Theatres**, 11 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org.
- Best Place to Hang Out After Work: **The Draft**.
- Best Place to Meet People: **Grace Capital Church**, 542 Pembroke St., Pembroke, NH 03275. 415-4000, www.gccnh.com.
- Best Place to Take Visitors Around Concord: **Downtown Concord**.
- Best Place to Watch TV Sports: **The Draft Sports Bar & Grill**.
- Best Ski Area: **Pats Peak**, 686 Flanders Road, Henniker, NH 03242. 1-888-PATS PEAK (1-888-728-7732), www.patspeak.com.

Merrimack Style **is exceeding expectations.**

For more than 140 years, The Merrimack has been working hard to meet the financial needs of our neighbors and exceed their expectations for service and value. We call it Merrimack Style, and it's one way that we are making a difference for the people, businesses and communities we serve.

We are honored to be named "Best Bank" and wish to thank everyone who has helped us achieve this distinction.



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**No wonder you
voted us "the best
place to meet people."**

And, in the category of shopping . . . the winners are:

● Best Antique Store: **The Concord Antique Gallery**, 97 Storrs St., Concord, NH 03301. 225-2070, www.concordantiquegallery.com.

● Best Appliance Store: **Sears**, 270 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 229-0100, www.sears.com.

● Best Art Supply Store: **Michael's Arts & Crafts**, 86 Damante Drive, Concord, NH 03301. 226-3684, www.michaels.com.

● Best Book Store: **Borders Books & Music**, 76 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH 03301. 224-1255, www.borders.com.

● Best Bridal / Formal Wear: a tie between **A Day to Remember**, 1 N. Main St., Concord NH 03301, 228 8031, www.adaytorememberbridal-boutique.com, and **Cassie's Bridal**, 41 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301, 227-0561.

● Best Candy Store: **Granite State Candy Shoppe**, 13 Warren St., Concord, NH 03301. 225-2591, www.nhchocolates.com.

● Best Children's Clothing: **Target**, 80 Damante Drive, Concord, NH 03301. 227-0809, target.com.

● Best Men's Clothing: **Bon-Ton**, 270 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 227-9999, bonton.com.

● Best Women's Clothing: **Gondwana Divine Clothing Co.**, 13 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-1101, www.gondwanashop.com.

● Best Craft/Hobby Store: **Michael's Arts & Crafts**.

● Best Department Store: **Target**.

● Best Electronics Store: **Best Buy**, 78 Damante Dr., Concord, NH 03301. 227-0826, bestbuy.com.

● Best Factory Outlet Store: **LL Bean Factory Store**, 55 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH 03301. 225-6575, www.llbean.com.

● Best Florist: **Cobblestone Design**, 89 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH 03301. 228-5980, www.cobblestonedesigncompany.com.

● Best Furniture Store: **Endicott Furniture**, 12 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 224-1421, www.endicottfurniture.com.

● Best Garden Supplies: **Lowe's**, 90 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, NH 03301. 573-4101, lowes.com.

● Best Gift Shop: **Caring Gifts**, 18 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. (800) 585-8382, www.caringgifts.com.

● Best Greenhouse/Garden Shop: **Cole Gardens**, 430 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 229-0655, www.colegardens.com.

● Best Grocery Store: **Market Basket**, 108 Fort Eddy Road and 80 Storrs St. No. 2, Concord, NH 03301. (603) 224-5479, (603) 228-3228.

● Best Home Accessories: a tie between **Cobblestone Design** and **Target**.

● Best Jewelry Store: **Mark Knipe Goldsmiths**, 2 Capital Plaza, Concord, NH 03301. 224-2920, www.knipegold.com.

● Best Music Store: **Pitchfork Records**, 2 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 224-6700.

● Best Musical Instrument Store: **Strings & Things Music**, 113 S. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 228-1971, www.strings-things.com.

● Best New Car Dealership: **Banks Chevrolet**, 137 Manchester St., Concord, NH 03301. (800) 439-6262, www.banksautos.com.

● Best Pet Shop: **PetSmart**, 299 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 224-1028, stores.petsmart.com.

● Best Pharmacy: **CVS**, 44 N. Main St., Concord, NH 03301. 225-9300, www.cvs.com.

● Best Sports Store: **Dick's Sporting Goods**, 295 Loudon Road, Concord, NH 03301. 224-1564, www.dickssportinggoods.com.

● Best Toy Store: **French's Toy Shop**, 10 N. State St., Concord, NH 03301. (866) 744-0152, www.frenchstoy.com.

● Best Used Car Dealership: **Banks Chevrolet**.

Thank-you

for Voting us
Best Salon
3 Years in a Row!



Gary
Owner/Master Colorist

Creative The COLOR Experts Color & Cuts



Dan
Owner/Salon Coordinator

Salon Owner Swears Under Oath...

“You Get The Best Service Ever, Or It’s Free!”

If you are the type of person who cares about looking your best and wants to get the most from a professional salon, then call for details: 228-1158.

Look Like You Just Stepped Out Of A Salon Everyday!

Now comes the hard part... choosing the best salon for you. But, there are thousands of salons, and you’ve probably seen your fair share of them - how do you choose just one? How do you find one that best suits your needs while avoiding getting any sloppy or insufficient services?

Use These Tips To Select A Salon

TIP ONE: *Choosing a salon solely by price doesn’t work.* The truth is, when we invest wisely, we get what we pay for.

Beware of unbelievably low prices. Call the cheapest salon and I’ll wager you get a so-so job with very little service.

It only makes sense that the cheapest salons have to cut costs by using cheap, low-wage, (usually low skilled) employees, cheap products, and cheap methods spending as little times as possible addressing your needs. (After all, they have to make up for “quality” with “quantity”.)

Are you really going to be happy with cheap, rushed service and no guarantees? If not, then... *the lowest price salon really isn’t a bargain at all.*

TIP TWO: *What kind of results does the salon get?* Many professionals claim to have experience or talent. Often people are upset when they expect their hair to look like a picture they brought in to a stylist, but reality sets in about the time they see chunks of their hair (much longer than they anticipated) falling to the floor.

Avoid this tragedy, through excellent communication. Ask to see pictures of the professional’s work. If they don’t have any ask if they have a few clients you can call for a reference or testimonials you can read through. Make sure the salon professionals are straight with you. Often times the difference between leaving the salon in tears or with a smile is simply communication.

TIP THREE: *Doing it yourself is a waste of money and time.* Sure you can buy a set of clippers attached to a vacuum, or stand over the bathroom sink and go crazy with the scissors. But, will you really look your best?

If those methods could make you look like a million bucks I would never have spent the money and time going to college to become a licensed professional and invested thousands of dollars to open a salon.

Furthermore, when you consider the value of your time, you stand to lose more money than you could allegedly save, especially if you botch it up and have to end up visiting the salon anyway.

Are you really going to be happy with cheap, rushed service and no guarantees? If not, then... *the lowest price salon really isn’t a bargain at all.*

Call Today For A **FREE Hair Audit**

More than a consultation, I will address your specific hair needs, discuss the “look” that suits you best and build a professional product profile for you.

There is no cost, or obligation and it only takes 10 minutes.

Call Creative Color & Cuts today!

228-1158

We are a full service salon, specializing in skin, hair & nail care.

My Personal Guarantee To You

If all you want is a cheap, low-quality service, please call someone else. My salon is designed only for those who want the best service ever. You will feel, relaxed, pampered and gorgeous. That’s right, you will feel my salon gives the best service possible or I will re-do your service for free. If you are still not pleased, I will not accept payment. No hard feelings. No questions asked.

--Gary Benson

Visit us at www.creativecolorandcuts to sign up for our newsletter & our free consumer’s guide...

**7 Biggest Mistakes People Make When Choosing A Salon & How to Avoid Them
& 5 Beauty Secrets Revealed by Our Experts**