

The Auburn community has voted for their favorites and the results are in.

*and the winner is ...*



**BEST**  
of the **BEST**



PHOTO BY KIM PALAFERRI

**BEST EVENT: AUBURN HOME SHOW**



**BEST ATTORNEY:**  
**ALLISON HARVEY A.L. HARVEY LAW**



**BEST MUSIC STORE:**  
**ENCORE MUSIC**



**BEST PRODUCE:**  
**FOOTHILL FARMERS' MARKET**



**BEST AUTO BODY SHOP:**  
**AUBURN AUTO BODY**



# FAMILY FRIENDLY AUBURN RACQUET CLUB VOTED BEST

## JOURNAL STAFF

As a single parent in the 1980s, Jack Drimmer found that a tennis club in Redwood City was a godsend.

He could drop his young kids there and know they'd be OK.

"I wouldn't worry, because we knew virtually everyone there. The kids would be busy and they'd be safe," he said.

Drimmer, now the owner of the Auburn Racquet and Fitness Club, works hard with his staff to make sure his club is also family-friendly.

To that end, Drimmer, who purchased the club in 1992, is constantly innovating to make the club more inviting and enjoyable — especially for families.

Though he's now recovering from knee surgery, Drimmer is an accomplished athlete who became addicted to tennis in his late 20s. He was raised in San Francisco and holds both undergraduate and graduate degrees in economics from San Francisco State University.

On a recent tour of the club, he was energetic and enthused about how the club has adapted.

"This is our mini-splash park," he said, pointing out a colorful tower of splish-splashing tubes and pipes,

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with children cavorting below it. Nearby were three swimming pools and a wading pool. "It's a hot day today; this is the perfect place for kids and families to be."

When Drimmer took over the club, tennis was losing popularity. He's steadily been adding fitness and children's amenities since then, with strong success.

The club features a Kid's Club with a variety of activities; Kids Night Out, which allows parents a breather and their kids a fun and recreational evening; babysitting services and a summer sports camp.

While he loves tennis, the sport doesn't draw the interest it once did.

On the drawing boards, Drimmer said, is replacing one tennis court later this year with enclosed Pilates and aerobics spaces.

The idea is to create a place that's nourishing to the mind, body and social life.

"We want this to be a club where people connect and have relationships. That's different from being strictly a gym," he said. "I want the same atmosphere here that we all enjoyed at that club in Redwood City years ago."



COURTESY

Jack Drimmer is the owner of Auburn Racquet Club which features kids' activities, mini-splash park, swimming and wading pools as well as tennis courts and more.

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# SUTTER HOSPITAL BRINGS IN CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY

JOURNAL STAFF

Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital has been providing patient-centered care for 50 years, and it shows. It shows in the way the Auburn community continually supports the hospital by raising money through the Sutter Foundation for bringing in cutting edge technology. Most recently Sutter Foundation raised \$350,000 which was matched by other organizations to purchase a \$1.5 million CT scanner. It's the only scanner of its kind between Stockton and Reno, and it's so precise and fast that it can scan the entire body in less than a minute. Faster scanning means less radiation for patients. It also has the ability to scan the heart and lungs which wasn't possible in the past.

"People in Auburn and the foothills value local health care, and they have been very generous to this hospital," said Mitch Hanna, chief executive officer. "This investment was spearheaded by our community."

Another new technology at Sutter Auburn Faith is a 3-D mammogram machine that takes a more complete image of the breast, making it



COURTESY

Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital is open 24 hours and offers emergency care.

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more effective at catching breast cancer early.

Other recent improvements to the hospital include wrapping up a six-year, \$20 million capital improvement project that turned most of the shared rooms into private rooms. The new rooms include patient lifts located in the ceiling to save the backs of the nurses who regularly turn their immobile patients in their beds.

On the horizon is a behind-the-scenes \$750,000 project to expand the pharmacy to meet the rising demands of need from the Infusion Therapy Center, which was built in 2008.

Because infusions can be physically debilitating, Sutter Auburn Faith didn't want patients to have to drive to other towns for treatment.

In addition to an ER that's rated higher than the national average in 12 out of 12 categories, Sutter Auburn Faith also offers procedures such as orthopedic hip and joint, urological, ear, nose and throat and bariatric surgeries.

Finally, Sutter Auburn Faith is proudly employs more than 500 local residents. Thank you to the Auburn community for voting us the Best of the Best for 2016.

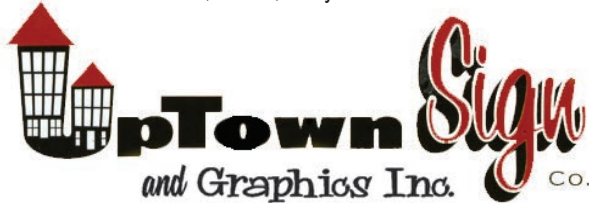
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Bruce, Aaron, Jerry

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# AT AUTOVANTAGE, GREAT SKILLS AND GREAT SMILES

## JOURNAL STAFF

It was a puzzle.

The air conditioning on the late-model car wouldn't work, and several technicians at other shops couldn't figure it out.

To the rescue came John Farber, this year's Best of the Best technician at the Best of the Best independent repair shop, Autovantage.

Farber, who's been repairing cars since he was a teen, loves a challenge. He checked computer read-outs, scanned through repair manuals, and most important, focused his own keen diagnostic skills.

Turns out, a power steering issue was at the root of the air conditioning problem.

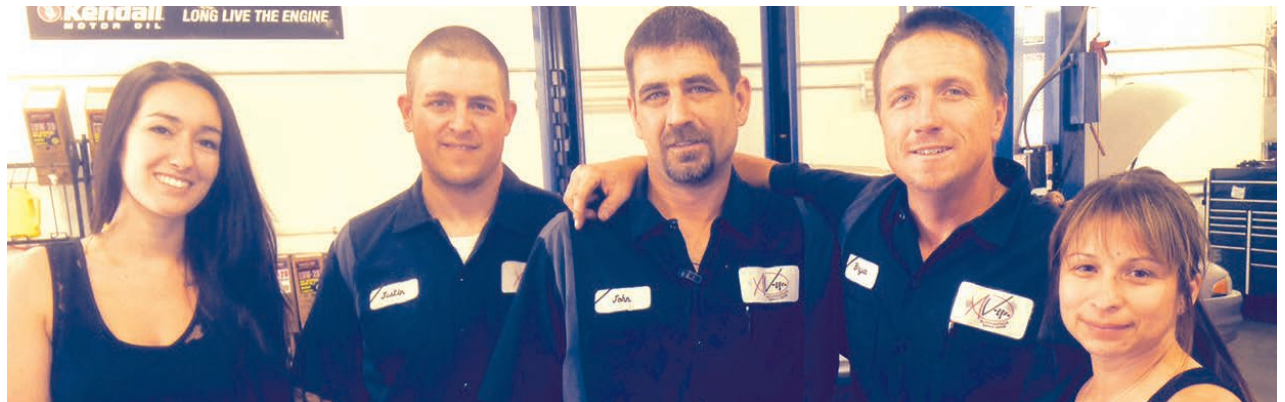
Farber is a crack tech who spends his lunch hours comparing notes with fellow techs on repair trends and issues.

"I've always loved working on cars," he said. "It just makes sense to me. I like making things work."

Things, in fact, work very smoothly at Autovantage, where exceptional care is extended to both cars and their owners.

The business is the passion of owners Bryan and Becki McGinnis. Bryan, formerly a tech at the now-closed Nissan dealership in Auburn, handles the repair side. Becki, with wide experience in business, purchasing, management and human resources, handles the office and customer service.

She stresses that Autovantage is built on customer loyalty and satisfaction. Customers drive from Richmond, Chico and even



COURTESY

Best of the Best Mechanic John Farber, center, with the team at Autovantage.

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Downieville to have their cars repaired at Autovantage.

A local couple that enjoys having lunch at the nearby Wings restaurant at the Auburn Airport drop off their vehicle at Autovantage, where workers happily drive them to the restaurant and then pick them up when their meal is done and their car is ready.

Another customer likes to drop off her car and go shopping. Autovantage employees take her to her favorite shopping area and

then pick her up.

"Our customers are number one, and we will do anything possible to keep them happy," Becki McGinnis said.

That extends from a clean and pleasant waiting rooms with neatly arranged magazines, water and coffee, to pre-appointment reminder phone calls and follow-up calls to make sure all went well.

The shop also offers a three-year, 36,000 warranty on their work.

The vibe at Autovantage is a mix of good cheer and good work ethic. Becki McGinnis said employees are chosen for their exceptional attitudes along with their strong competencies.

"You can't teach someone how to smile," she said.

## BEST SALAD



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# Autovantage Service Center

What were the Readers of the Auburn Journal thinking voting for these goofy people as the **Best Independent Auto Repair Facility**?!



What about that guy wearing that silly hat that was voted one of the **Best Mechanics**?! What were the readers thinking?!



*Just kidding!* We take every customer and their vehicle seriously. We believe in building long lasting relationships with our customers. Since we opened our doors 8 years ago, our customers have amazed us with their support and encouragement. We love being part of such an amazing community and look forward to many more years of having fun and being silly.



**Thank you Auburn for voting us as the Best Independent Auto Repair Facility!**

From the Autovantage Service Center Family –  
Bryan & Becki McGinnis, John Farber, Justin Fischer & Sylvia Stevens



### Best Mechanic – John Farber

We at Autovantage could not be more proud of John. This man is the best at what he does. There is no one that has a bigger heart and a desire to make sure your vehicle is running at its best. Thank you for being with us since the beginning. We would not be here without you! We love you Farber!



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# EDWARD JONES FINANCIAL ADVISORY TEAM TOPS IN AUBURN

## JOURNAL STAFF

The name is trusted and the brand they work under – Edward Jones – has a rock-solid reputation in Auburn and around the nation for sound investment strategies.

In Auburn, the Edward Jones financial adviser roster – Brian Mishler, Bill Kenney, Natalie Litchfield, Mark N. Mishler, David P. McHugh, Steve Cowles and Bob Mason – continue a tradition of trust that started locally in 1987 and has proven its worth through economic upturns and downturns.

It's a testament to Edward Jones and the people who work out of at six Auburn offices that this year Auburn Journal readers have again voted it Best of the Best Investment Company.

Brian Mishler, a financial adviser for 22 years in Auburn with Edward Jones, said that his fellow advisors are honored to again be selected Best of the Best.

"We're dedicated to the serious investor and what's best for the client," Mishler said.

Edward Jones, with headquarters in Des Peres, Mo. has established a branch network of more than 12,000 locations in the U.S. and Canada.

It has become a key player in helping make financial

Edward Jones offices in Auburn  
 544 Auburn Ravine Road  
 13346 Lincoln Way  
 13620 Lincoln Way  
 500 Auburn Folsom Road  
 11990 Heritage Oak Place  
 11899 Edgewood Road

decisions in communities, particularly on retirement and wealth allocation.

Overall, nearly 7 million clients rely on Edward Jones to help manage almost \$1 trillion in assets.

One of the differences between Edward Jones and many other money managers is its independence from quarterly corporate expectations. Instead, Edward Jones analysts can take a long view on many decisions for clients. Edward Jones is a subsidiary of a limited liability partnership owned by its current and retired employees. As a result, it's not publicly traded and subject to the pressures of the market corporate entities are.

With several offices in the Auburn area to serve clients, Edward Jones has become a welcome part of the community that is reflected in one more Best of the Best awards.



COURTESY

Edward Jones financial planners have gained a rock-solid reputation in the community and are this year's Best of the Best Investment Company. From left, Bob Mason, Steve Cowles, Bill Kenney, David McHugh, Brian Mishler.

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# BEST OF THE BEST ATTORNEY ALLISON HARVEY CARES ABOUT COMMUNITY

## JOURNAL STAFF

It's a return to the Best of the Best Attorney winner's circle for Allison Harvey.

The CEO of A.L. Harvey Law said she's excited about the honor of being voted Best of the Best Attorney for 2016, the second time the Nevada Street law office has been the top vote-getter in the past three years.

"This couldn't have happened without the support of clients, family, friends and this wonderful community," Harvey said.

Harvey has a reputation for community mindedness that manifests itself in everything from sponsorship of Little League teams in Auburn to non-profit board memberships. Those include the Auburn Ski Club and The Ripple Effect, a relatively new organization in Auburn focusing on philanthropic works that channel youthfulness and energy.

Harvey has even hit the dance floor to help her community, taking part in Stand Up Placer's Dancing With the Placer County Stars. She was taught to dance and showed off her dance moves at Stand Up Placer's annual gala, coming away with the title of Star Fundraiser.

Harvey's five-year-old firm has major focuses on business law, employment law and estate planning. Sue McCurnin, an associate attorney with A.L. Harvey Law, focuses on estate

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planning and family law. She's known for her work providing pro bono legal assistance to victims of domestic violence through Stand Up Placer.

Previously corporate counsel for a tech company in Roseville, Harvey said that she put out her shingle in Auburn because she saw the need within the small business community for services ranging from starting a business to moving up to a limited liability corporation to dissolving a business.

As A.L. Harvey Law established itself, Harvey also incorporated estate planning into the mix because of the need by many businesses for succession planning,

Harvey knows her community like a local. She grew up in Meadow Vista and graduated from Colfax High School before going on to earn her law degree from McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento.

And she has a simple formula for finding a notable niche in Auburn that has rewarded her with two Best of the Best awards.

"We genuinely care about our clients," Harvey said.



COURTESY

Allison Harvey has been voted best attorney in Auburn.

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*Thank you Auburn*  
 FOR YOUR SUPPORT & VOTE NAMING  
*Allison Harvey*  
**BEST ATTORNEY**  
 FOR THE SECOND TIME



# BAM DAZY BBQ SERVES UP GOOD FOOD, GOOD TIMES

JOURNAL STAFF

Not long ago, Brendon and Meghan Sullivan limited their barbecue exploits to backyard gatherings.

No more.

Since 2011, the couple have owned and operated Bam Dazy BBQ restaurant and catering just off Highway 49 at Shale Ridge Lane.

They offer up savory brisket, pulled pork, chicken and more in a cozy atmosphere.

The couple took their time in moving from a culinary hobby to a business.

Encouraged by friends, they began entering "backyard" barbecue competitions in 2009. With tri-tip cooked up in their very own root beer barbecue sauce, they won the first contest they entered. They honed their skills with a stint at famed barbecue guru Myron Mixon's cooking school in Unadilla, Ga.

Then they began entering professional barbecue contests. And losing.

"The jump from 'backyard' to pro is a tough one," Meghan Sullivan said. "Once, we took dead last. But we learned a lot. We also made many, many great friends."

On May 28, 2010 came a turning point: Their chicken earned fifth place in a pro barbecue competition in Brentwood.

"It was a great feeling. People were rooting and cheering for

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brendon@bamdazybbq.com

us," she said. "It was a real breakthrough."

They started winning, gaining confidence and creating a vision for their own barbecue place.

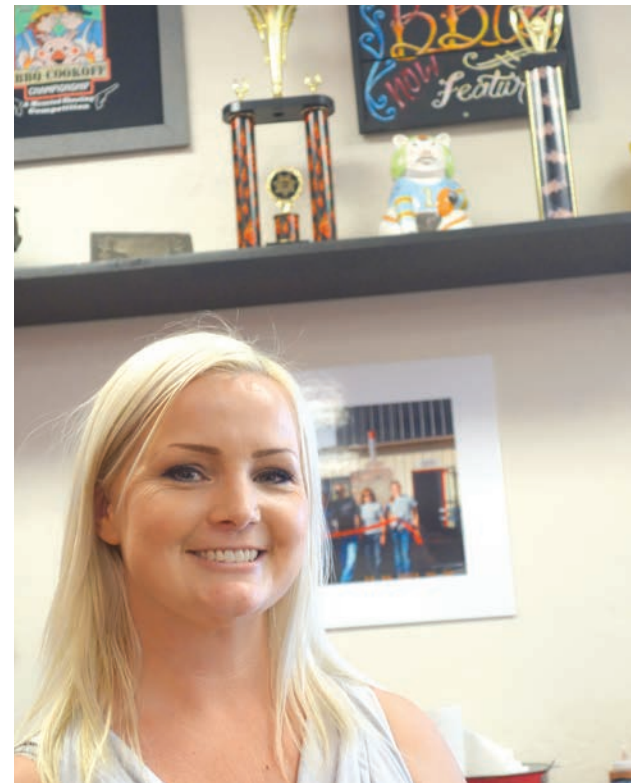
They opened Bam Dazy the next year after hearing from a friend that the space next to the motorcycle business was open. Where did the name originate? The family's two Boston Terriers are named Bam and Dazy.

The Sullivans take special pride in the quality of meats they use and prepare all sauces on the premises. They've been busy since they opened, to the point at which Brendon gave up his job as an emergency medical technician to devote full-time to the restaurant.

"He's passionate about our food, and he loves spending time with our customers," Meghan Sullivan said. She handles the books and paperwork while her husband works 15 hours a day with the food preparation and connecting with customers. Their kids, Aidan, 13, and Shea, 8, help out around the premises, too.

The Sullivans' barbecue skills have advanced considerably, but the essence of Bam Dazy's is simple:

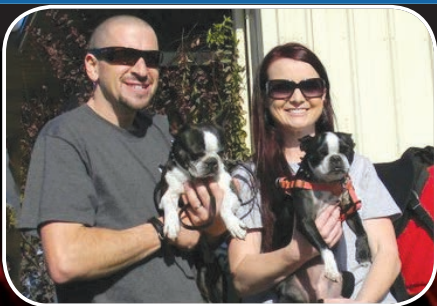
"We want this to be like having barbecue in our backyard. With good food, good drink, music playing and friends laughing," Meghan Sullivan said.



COURTESY

Meghan Sullivan of Bam Dazy BBQ was voted Best of the Best by Auburn Journal readers, and has won trophies in barbecue contests.

## BEST BARBECUE



We want to thank all of our **Bam Dazy BBQ** fans for making us **#1 BBQ**. It goes to show that when what you want is real, honest BBQ, you gotta put a little **Bam** in your **Dazy**!



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**www.bamdazybbq.com Tues-Thur 11-7pm • Fri-Sat 11-8pm | Closed Sun and Mon**



# FOR HUBER PROPERTY MANAGEMENT: SERVICE ABOVE ALL

JOURNAL STAFF

Huber Property Management is a success because of the quality of its employees, according to founder Pat Huber.

They are capable, hard-working and dedicated. They are, in fact, a reflection of the founder herself: wonderfully bright and impeccably organized. Huber agreed to an interview, but stressed that she doesn't like the limelight. She prefers to be low-profile.

She founded the firm in 1974 and has been guiding it since. Huber, or HPM, provides management services for residential and commercial properties as well as homeowners associations.

Through the years, there have been many investors who've come to rely on Huber, and thousands of renters who've found homes through the company.

The firm handles a range of residential properties, from modest apartments to multi-million dollar estates.

Huber is a certified property manager and has taught extensively in real estate-related fields.

She's especially pleased that HPM has provided homes to many young people just starting out.

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www.hpmrentals.com

"Some of them come to us and say, 'I just need a chance.' Well, we will give them the chance and we're almost always glad we did. But we will also give them the rules. And if they break the rules, they can't stay," she said.

"We're firm but fair."

The company has had tenants remain in homes for many years. Others have rented from HPM but moved on to buy their own homes, invest in rentals, and come back to HPM to manage their rental properties.

The firm, with locations in both Auburn and Lincoln, also gives generously to the community, from donating to the Placer High grad night to Sutter Hospital and the Placer Land Trust.

"The list is extensive, and giving for us is a delight," she said.

Demand for good housing is a constant.

After all, Huber said, two essentials are food and shelter.

"We are here to serve the community," she said.



COURTESY

Huber Property Management has been in business since 1974.

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# FOOTHILL FARMERS MARKET: MUCH TO BE DISCOVERED

BY DEBRA NESBITT

My, the colors, the smells, the sounds, the people ... a typical Saturday at The Foothill Farmers' Market. While there are many tasty, nutritional delights at hand, many buyers at the market realize there is simultaneously a subtle yet definite undercurrent of savory food for the soul. Realizing one is in excellent company is harvest enough, yet the company of farmers who work the land (lovingly and often at the whim of weather and drought conditions), painstakingly nurturing soil and plants to bring all of the rest of us such nutritious, savory produce, is the true "eureka!"

Generosity is the theme here, from giving tasty samples to the sharing of their bounty.

I grew up in Southern California and to this day, nearly 50 years later, I remember our dear friends, the Gutierrez family, lovingly handing me the first fruits of the harvest. While my adult taste buds, although admittedly a bit dulled by the decades, have the memory indelibly planted there, my heart has an even stronger memory of their generous spirits in sharing their harvest with my family.

That same generosity lives on in the hearts of our own farmers, creamery owners and local ranchers selling and sharing their wholesome goods at our own market.

On a recent Saturday I had the privilege of strolling through the market with Angela Atteberry, outreach coordinator of The



COURTESY

The Foothills Farmers' Market.

Salvation Army Auburn Unit.

I was a silent observer as Angela gave warm greetings to the many individuals who work our local market and I remain in awe of what she was doing there: distributing bins to collect vendors' donations to The Salvation Army.

Angela's vocabulary was replete with warm adjectives and phrases: "It's an honor and a privilege to be in the company of such generous individuals, a true blessing."

The many clients who are served by The Salvation Army's Social Services on Sutter Street are the beneficiaries of the bountiful

8 a.m. to noon Saturday • Corner of Auburn Folsom Road and Lincoln Way in our Old Town Courthouse Parking Lot

goodness of the individuals who work so hard to bring fresh, healthy local produce to all of us who benefit from the value.

Jennifer Brumbelow, the energetic, friendly manager of the Saturday morning market, stated that one of her many learnings is "... a greater appreciation for all the work these farmers must do to bring their produce to market."

She also stated, "I get such a wonderful sense of community in watching these farmers and it reminds me that Auburn is a great place to be."

From the elderly trying to eke out a living with a small social security check to the many families who struggle to pay the bills and who often have to decide between staying in a small apartment or having enough food to eat, our local farmers and our local food closets make a demonstrable difference.

What a beautiful example of the depth of character of those who work the land and an equally sweet reminder of our many blessings living in a warm and generous community. Take a stroll any Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at the corner of Auburn Folsom Road and Lincoln Way in our Old Town Courthouse Parking Lot.

Oh, and please smile and thank a farmer.

## BEST PRODUCE

# THANK YOU!

Auburn Old Town Farmers' Market awarded  
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Visit us Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon in the Old Town Courthouse Parking Lot for award-winning, farm-fresh produce, meat, eggs, gourmet cheese and more.

[foothillfarmersmarket.com](http://foothillfarmersmarket.com)



WINNER BEST: SHOE STORE



# THE PATH TO COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER



COURTESY

From left: Carolyn Bartsch, Mike Lawton and Jerry Lawton. This family owned and operated business was started by Jerry in 1982. Lower photo: The Footpath is located in downtown Auburn on Lincoln Way.

JOURNAL STAFF

Jerry Lawton, owner of the Footpath in downtown Auburn, started the business in 1982 after selling shoes for many years in the Grass Valley area.

"Our slogan is, 'We're here solely for your comfort' and we do our best to live up to that every day, through quality products and friendly customer service," said Lawton.

The store is family owned and operated with co-managers Mike Lawton and Carolyn Bartsch (Lawton's children). The brother and sister team have been working in the store since 1983 for Carolyn and 1996 for Mike; a combination of 53 years of experience.

Lawton's personal preference in shoes is whatever is comfortable and stylish.

"Our shoes are perfect for professionals who are on their feet all day," said Lawton. "We have brands like Birkenstock for those casual days and Dansko or Merrell for business attire. Our shoes are designed to help elevate foot pain caused by planter fasciitis."

At the Footpath, comfort and convenience are top priorities for every customer. If you know your shoes size and style, visit the Footpath online, find what you need and give the store a call.

"We will ship your shoes to you free of charge!" added Lawton.

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# OLD TOWN PIZZA: FAMILY COMES FIRST

JOURNAL STAFF

The flavors of Old Town Pizza have stayed the same since its Auburn inception, offering families delectable pizza while expanding to Lincoln and Roseville.

Even the recipes have stayed true to Brian and Maureen Hayes' original dough and menu.

"The dough and other recipes set us up for success," said Russ Yeager, marketing director and co-owner. "We want it to be very family friendly . . . You come in and you'll be taken care of."

The snoring miner has also stayed, to show even hard-working miners would eat and rest there. The restaurant is full service, offering a variety of specials, beer, salad, many sandwiches, stuffed bell peppers and gluten-free options.

Reese Browning, CEO, worked with them in the Auburn location, learning to run the pizza restaurant before he and his family purchased it in 2002. They have been winning the Best of the Best award every year since. Browning's kids learned serving and management while his parents specialized in decorating, maintenance and safety. Since it opened in 1999, area youth have worked there, now for generations, Yeager said.

150 Sacramento St, Auburn  
(530) 888-7600 • otpizza.net

"Older brothers have gone on to college and the younger ones come in," Yeager said. "We want to be a place that's cool to work at."

The business grew in 2004 with a new Lincoln Location. Reese's son, Mason, was general manager and it has won Best of the Best for Lincoln from 2005 until now. Other family members have taken over since.

The business grew again in 2012 with an "OTP To Go" in Lincoln, and in 2015, its biggest growth yet: An 8,000-square-foot Roseville location. Through it all, Yeager said the community-focused values remained.

"When it comes to our marketing dollar, a lot of money goes back to the community. We try never to say no," Yeager said, as long as donations are direct to charities or schools. "We like giving back and supporting Auburn, having everyone be successful."

This July, that means Customer Appreciation Month: 50 percent off medium and large pizzas and 25 percent off small gluten-free pizzas on Tuesdays. On Sunday, Happy Hour is all day.



COURTESY

Old Town Pizza offers families a good place for pizza and more, as a full-service restaurant.

Old Town Pizza is proud to be recognized for the 15th consecutive year as Auburn's Best Pizza! Thank you to our loyal customers and Auburn Journal readers for voting us #1 - we are truly honored!

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**150 SACRAMENTO ST, OLD TOWN AUBURN, 95603**

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# PLACER TITLE STARTED IN AUBURN 43 YEARS AGO

## JOURNAL STAFF

Most homebuyers and sellers don't realize that they have a choice when it comes to a title company, but they do.

It's the title company's job to make sure that a property is free of encumbrances and insure the holder, so it's important to choose a company with experience.

Placer Title is one of the only locally-owned and operated title companies in Northern California. Of the 13 employees in the Auburn branch, four are very knowledgeable escrow officers who assist with residential real estate, commercial business transactions, mobile home sales and refinancing. One escrow officer, Debbie Yue, has been with the company for 35 years.

Placer Title was founded by Leo French, who opened two branches in Auburn and Roseville in 1973.

Since then, Placer Title has grown to 50 branches with 20 locations in Northern and Central California and other locations in Arizona, Maryland and Washington.

The business has expanded in other ways, too. It now includes a National Lender Division (National Closing Solutions) and a Reverse Mortgage Division (Premiere Reverse Closings) in order to meet customers' varied needs.

Leo French had a plan to build a business where the employees cared about each other and in turn cared about their customers. He believed that his philosophy would create success.



193 Fulweiler Ave., Auburn  
(530) 885-7722 • [www.placertitle.com](http://www.placertitle.com)

Placer Title's ability to continually win Best of the Best in Auburn is a testament to the founder's wisdom.

"Our customers are our lifeblood," said spokesperson Diane Felt. "We are all about customer service."

In fact Placer Title offers free information on its website about choosing a dream home, the buying, selling and escrow process, a moving checklist and much more.

Many people think of insurance as something they have to pay every quarter, but title insurance has only a one-time fee, so check out Placer Title Company and see how its friendly staff can help you today.



COURTESY

The staff at Placer Title celebrates their win for being voted best title company.

We know you had a choice.

# Thank You

for voting **Placer Title's Auburn Team**  
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in the Auburn Journal.

*Curt Roth, Kerri Ringe, Christina Reese,  
Debbie Yue, Maria McCall & Diane Felt*

*Elizabeth Hove, Kim Madruga,  
Kendra Lipsmeyer, Helen Herron,  
Sheri Sarantopoulos & Aly Montgomery*



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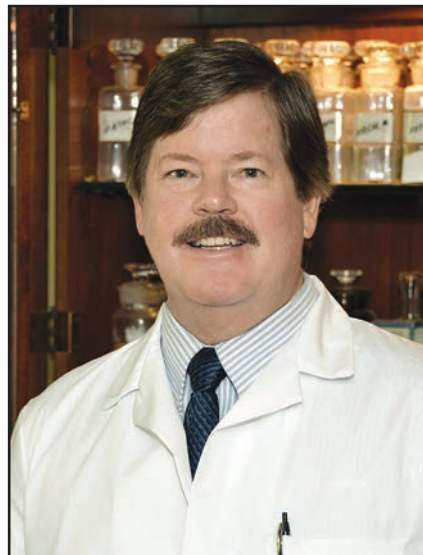


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# THE KIDS' PLACE: CARE AND TRUST

## JOURNAL STAFF

The Kids' Place is where friends and family come together to nourish children.

It's also a business that's endured 30 years, based on a reputation of being a safe and caring environment for little ones.

Owner Kim Lynch began working at the preschool/day care center in 1995 as a high school student. Her mom, Linda Bliss, and a partner owned the school at the time.

In 2000, while studying at Sacramento State, Lynch became an owner.

"I was newly married and knew that this would be a great job, especially when I decided to have a family of my own. I have two boys, 6 and 8, who were able to have a wonderful preschool experience with their mom, grandma and a group of very loving teachers," she said.

Lynch credited a superb staff, led by Head Teacher Jessica Garofalo, for creating a unique team spirit that's both fun and enriching for their young charges. (This year, Garofalo was voted Best of the Best Teacher of the Year.)

Their success is built squarely on the trust developed

956 Meadowgate Road, PO Box 1147,  
Meadow Vista  
(530) 878-7875 • thekidsplace.biz

over generations among local families. Many kids come to the school at 2 or 3 p.m. and stay until they no longer need care. A typical day includes plenty of hugs, along with play, arts and crafts, manipulatives, interactive circle times and plenty of songs and music. There are also weekly science experiments and movement activities, such as obstacle courses and animal yoga.

In the summer, field trips are planned and there is daily swim time. The school also creates a child-run carnival during the summer months, one of the highlights of the year.

When asked what it takes to operate an exceptional day care and preschool, Lynch responded: "The first key is to have a true love for kids (not just the cookie cutter kids, but little ones from all walks of life and family situations). That is the most important starting point because children know immediately if you are sincere! It spills right over into the relationship with the parents as well. I want every family to know that their kids are in the best hands when they have to be away."



COURTESY

From left: Jessica Garofalo, Kim Lynch, Katriana Graham, Brianne Chaney and Heidi Stuck comprise the preschool staff at The Kids' Place.

## BEST DAYCARE, PRESCHOOL AND TEACHER

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# PROACTIVE PERSONAL TRAINING: YOUR TEAM AWAITS

## JOURNAL STAFF

Misconceptions are often tackled first at ProActive Personal Training, before any iron is pumped. Many first-timers think a personal fitness coach is only for the hardcore pros, ProActive's owners said.

"We're really just a big family," explained Suzanne Gove-O'Rourke, a former competitive figure skater. "Fitness should be fun. It's why most of our clients have stayed with us from the beginning."

Suzanne and her husband, Michael O'Rourke, founded the business in 2008 after working in several athletic worlds. Suzanne worked as a personal trainer and is focused on body mechanics, exercise and sports. Michael worked in physical therapy at Sutter Health and is a cyclist and trainer in national cycling competitions.

He never thought he'd get there, another common sentiment.

"If you doubt anything, doubt your own limits," Michael said.

ProActive is all about personal interaction, paying close attention to clients and their success.

That success is based on clients' goals, with the belief that everyone should have a trainer, even if just a couple times a month. Whenever clients doubt their progress, trainers point

1676 Auburn Ravine Road, Auburn  
(530) 888-0727 • proactivepersonaltraining.com

to how their reps have changed – growth they might not see.

The space, on Auburn Ravine Road off Interstate 80, is opened-up with large training areas, high ceilings, a lofty group room and spa-like changing areas.

Rockin' music fills the studio, with top-notch, indoor cycling machines in one room and mock surfboards in another. The boards help riders' cores, lessen fat and promote stability. Soon, yoga will be offered on them.

Nearby, Ron Sands lifted weights, while Kim Cagle finished her stretches.

"I lost four inches off my belly in the last year and a half," the ox-strong Sands said grinning.

"You had four inches?" Suzanne asked.

"She helps me with my body. I feel better," Cagle said. "I'm stronger than I ever was!"

Suzanne, originally from Canada, said she got into this work as a body "engineer," following in her father's engineering footsteps. Now, she does it for the community.

"I want to improve the community as a whole," she said.

Michael added, "The biggest misconception is that you can't do it."



COURTESY

The ProActive team leading the personal fitness charge: Michael O'Rourke, Suzanne Gove-O'Rourke, Cori Tomlin and Drew Milam.

## BEST PERSONAL TRAINERS

*The ProActive Personal Training Team would like to thank all of our loyal clients, family, friends and the Auburn community for the support. We are honored to be named Best of The Best for the 3rd year in a row for Personal Training.*

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Michael O'Rourke, Suzanne Gove-O'Rourke, Cori Tomlin, Andrew Milam



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[www.ProActivePersonalTraining.com](http://www.ProActivePersonalTraining.com)



"Losing weight? It's a struggle. Keeping it off? That's the real challenge! But overall, the goal is to be happy and healthy. I started overeating when I was four because my parents split up and I've had a constant battle with food and my weight. As I went into high school, I was well over 250 pounds and 6' tall, so I was a big kid. Left on my own, I watched TV and played video games. Sure, I went out for the football, track, and wrestling teams, but I was naturally lazy. When I graduated, I was over 300 pounds. Since starting at ProActive several years ago, I have lost over 50 pounds. Even better than that, I haven't had yo-yos and I've been able to keep it off. I hit some plateaus over the years, but with the team's encouragement, and help, I've been able to continue going down. I'm now 39 and holding steady around 235 pounds. I don't remember the last time I weighed less than 250. I exceeded my own goal! I am happier and by all measures in better health than I was at 19. I have the team at ProActive and my family to thank for this. I hope others can be inspired to meet their personal goals, too."

~ Jesse Johnson, Auburn, CA



# YARD GUY UP FOR A LANDSCAPING CHALLENGE

JOURNAL STAFF

The client had, of all things, a pig that could fly. At least he had a statue of a flying pig, and he wanted Tim Perron to build a landscape design around it.

Perron did. As owner and president of The Yard Guy landscaping, Perron loves a creative challenge.

He and his team designed a little asphalt runway, complete with stripes and lights, and wound it around a spruce tree. Then they integrated the porcine flyer and the runway into a larger landscape design.

"It's a great satisfaction coming with up new ideas," Perron said. "I love working with customers to create a design we can all be proud of."

An ultimate challenge, he said, is when a customer has a space that's vacant. "That becomes like a blank canvas. It's wonderful to see the canvas unfold."

The Yard Guy started 25 years ago, and Perron has steadily built the company with a blend of creativity and work ethic.

When asked if he had any guiding principles, Perron said, "Treat people with respect, listen carefully to the customer and take pride in your work."

PO Box 5171, Auburn  
530-887-YARD (9273) • theyardguy.com

The business is based in Newcastle, where Perron lives, but most of his work is in the Auburn area.

A sizable portion of The Yard Guy's business is irrigation installation and repair. One of his key employees, Ryan Bonari, is especially adept with irrigation projects, but he enjoys other aspects of the work, too.

"In my job, every day is different, and I have the opportunity to learn so much," he said. "It's also a great satisfaction to work directly with customers."

Part of his firm's success, Perron said, is attention to detail. Perron and his employees maintain files on every irrigation system they've ever installed so that they know the layout of each system and the manufacturer of the major parts. That way, when something goes on the blink, they can quickly make a repair instead of doing on-site research that can consume many hours.

What's in the future?

In coming months, Perron's son, Adam, will be assuming the role of vice president.

Perron sees his company continuing its growth, but the core will remain: A blend of hard work and creativity.



COURTESY

Ryan Bonari, left, and Tim Perron. Bonari is a key employee at The Yard Guy, owned by Perron.

BEST LANDSCAPERS

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# AUBURN'S LES SCHWAB IS BEST OF THE BEST TIRE CENTER



**JOURNAL STAFF**

Les Schwab on Highway 49 is the voter's choice in the Auburn Journal Best of the Best rankings for retail tire centers.

Les Schwab has been keeping motorists safely and securely on the road since opening its first store in 1952. And the ownership team in Auburn dates back 37 years at the same location, when it started business as a Big O store on what manager Tom Lopiccolo remembers as a stretch of road with very little development on it at the time.

Today, Les Schwab has kept pace with North Auburn commercial growth to the point that it's recognized as the Les Schwab location with the largest retail volume in the entire state. The store is also the longest-owned-and-operated tire center in the same location in Placer County.

In Auburn, Les Schwab has given back to the community by sponsoring activities large and small, supporting youth programs, helping families in need and raising funds for good causes. The focus is on programs aiding youth 18 years and under where 100 percent of the funding goes to youth.

2547 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn  
(530) 823-7082 • lesschwab.com

Over the years, Les Schwab has provided \$1.2 million to help fund those programs, Lopiccolo said.

Some of those causes include supporting athletics and activities at Placer, Bear River and Colfax high schools, as well as St. Joseph Catholic, Forest Lake Christian, Skyridge Elementary and Newcastle elementary schools.

Future Farmers of America and 4-H clubs in the area also benefit, as well as the Sierra Gold Pony Club, Northern Mines Pony Club, California High School Rodeo Association, Rocky Mountain elk Foundation and the California Interscholastic Federation.

And freezers of meat from those 4-H livestock auctions go to help needy families. That's right, the freezer and the meat.

"We thank the community for their support, which gives us the ability to do these things," Lopiccolo said.



COURTESY

Les Schwab is Best of the Best retail tire center this year in the annual Auburn Journal survey. Seen here from left are Les Schwab manager Tom Lopiccolo, assistant manager Tom Couvrette, manager Anthony Lopiccolo and assistant manager Casey Tatum.

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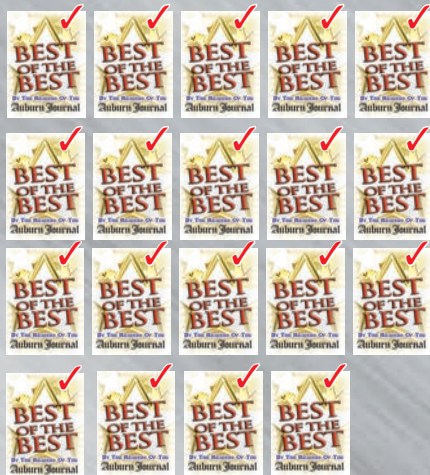
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# LISTEN UP: THE HEARING AID CENTER WINS BEST HEARING SERVICES



## JOURNAL STAFF

The Hearing Aid Center is a family-run business without a corporate parent company.

“Our concerns and efforts go way beyond ‘the bottom line,’” said David Gibson, owner of The Hearing Aid Center.

Gibson has been working in the field since 2007. He moved to Auburn with his wife, Anna, eight years ago and they now have two daughters.

The staff at the center devotes their time and attention to each client, listening to their needs and evaluating every situation personally.

“We feel truly blessed at all the personalities that come through our office,” said Gibson. “Whether it is spending time with a couple who has been married for 60 years and watch them dote on one another or listening to an older gentleman that has seen and done so much over his lifetime, every day gives us so much joy and gratitude for what we do and who we get to spend our time with.”

Within the private office, the staff works with all major makes and models of hearing aids.



11899 Edgewood Road, Auburn  
(530) 878-5158 • [www.auburnhearingcenter.com](http://www.auburnhearingcenter.com)

“We strive to provide exceptional service to everyone that comes through our door,” Gibson said. “Our model is pretty simple and straight forward: How would you want your mother or father treated? With kindness, respect and professionalism.”

Gibson added that he encourages clients to talk about what would make things better in their lives and how the Hearing Aid Center can help.

“Loaner” equipment is offered to clients at no cost so they can try out a selection of hearing aids or accessories before making their final choice. Orders and repairs are completed very promptly, and extended office hours are available when necessary, Gibson said.

“We are totally focused on what is in the best interest of our clients and helping them stay connected to their friends and family,” added Gibson. “Thank you so much, Auburn, for your votes for Best of the Best. We are so grateful.”

**The Hearing Aid Center was voted best hearing services by Auburn Journal readers.**

COURTESY

# Thank You

## VOTED BEST HEARING AID CENTER 2015 & 2016

Thank you for voting us best hearing aid center again for 2016. It's an honor to be serving the amazing people that have contributed so much to our community.

Our office is committed to helping those with hearing loss stay connected to their friends and loved ones. We are blessed to have these amazing folks walk through our doors everyday.

Thanks for making us Best of the Best for the second year in a row.



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530-878-5158 • [AuburnHearingCenter.com](http://AuburnHearingCenter.com)



# AUBURN BUSINESSES HAVE BEEN RELYING ON WALKER'S FOR 50 YEARS



**JOURNAL STAFF**

An office supply store with roots in 1950s Auburn and eyes focused squarely on the future, Walker's Office Supplies is the Auburn Journal Best of the Best winner in the Best Office Supplies category for 2016.

Owner Jarrod Anderson said that the Walker's Office Supplies of today continues as a fixture in both its Auburn location and another in Grass Valley because it pays attention to details when it works to meet the needs of its business customers.

"We offer things businesses need every day," Anderson said. "If you show up, work hard, show appreciation and are competitively priced, Auburn is good to local businesses. If we keep taking care of each other, we can stay and work in our local community."

Walker's hasn't been a "store" per se for several years. Between its website and commercial outside sales and inside sales people, the business is 100 percent delivery. Main offerings are office supplies, janitorial supplies and office furniture.

Anderson said Walker's might better be described as a distribution center and furniture showroom. While it is no longer a storefront, people can come in and order things, he said.

Walker's had its beginnings in 1959, when an office supply business started in Downtown Auburn's Hink Block. Gordon

1127 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn • (530) 823-8737  
791 Maltman Drive, Grass Valley • (530) 273-2283  
WalkersOffice.com

Walker, who owned a bar and restaurant in Clear Lake, made the move to Auburn and purchased the store in 1964 – changing the name and turning it into a family business. Walker's son, Steve Anderson, took over the store from his father. Today, Jarrod Anderson's wife, Laura, and his brother, Matt, are also working at Walker's.

"I grew up behind the counter and was given jobs at first like stomping down cardboard out back," Anderson said. "I can remember shooting pool in The Smoke Shop (another Lincoln Way business that doubled as a pool hall and is now occupied by The Club Car)."

The move from Downtown Auburn to Highway 49 took place in the mid-1990s. The family atmosphere continues, with another cousin working there, as well a pair of brothers and a father-and-son combination.

"Dad said, 'Take care of your customers, take care of your employees,'" Anderson recalled. "It's important to have a relationship with your customers. If you know what they need and make it easy on them, they can do what they do best."



COURTESY

Walker's Office Supplies brothers and partners Matt Anderson, on left, and Jarrod Anderson, are part of a legacy of service to Auburn customers that dates back more than 50 years.

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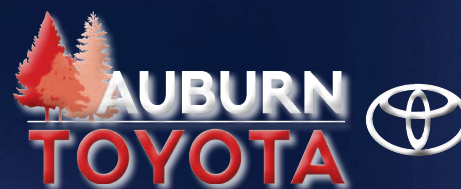
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# FLOUR GARDEN BAKERY: CARE, QUALITY IS FORMULA FOR SUCCESS



**JOURNAL STAFF**

Flour Garden Bakery has been a prominent business on Elm Avenue in Auburn since 1984.

With its recent expansion at the same location, the bakery boasts more seating and natural light.

"It gave us better visibility," said Susan Copeland, who owns the bakery with her husband Bill. "And having the store wide open has been a plus for everybody."

The remodel included a bathroom that is ADA compliant, a feature that was not required, but important to Copeland.

It's that kind of care that makes Flour Garden the best of the best.

Care for customers and care for quality products have been the recipe for success.

The quality begins with the freshest ingredients, and all products are made from scratch.

That includes scones, Danishes, croissants, 14 different kinds of bagels, including three gluten-free options, and more.

Also included in the remodel was a new walk-in refrigerator, which comes in handy when only

Auburn Town Center, 340C Elm Ave., Auburn  
530-888-1011 • FlourGarden.com

fresh, organic produce is used. Some of which is purchased from local farms.

Some of what comes out of that new walk-in is colorfully healthy ingredients for juicing.

"The juice bar is insanely popular," Copeland said. "It's all organic, of course."

And that juice is made fast; the juicer is big and top-of-the-line.

And it's made by staff that is pleasant and conversant.

"The staff is exceptional," Copeland said. "I'm very lucky. They maintain a really high standard for service. They're helpful, knowledgeable and quick."

It's a level of service that is first-rate, a level that Copeland and staff are dedicated to maintain.

And they are pleased to be voted best of the best for their diligence.

"It's really very nice," Copeland said. "I'm happy to be honored by the Auburn community for our efforts."



COURTESY

Cookies, muffins, scones and juices are made fresh with all organic ingredients at Flour Garden Bakery.

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# MAIL-N-MORE: CONTINUING A LEGACY OF SERVICE

JOURNAL STAFF

Notary service means working with customers: Many who need a notary require support. Auburn's Mail-N-More has done that for over 20 years, holding the hands of people often unsure why they're there.

A notary has been on staff since the beginning, by design, said owner Hanson Louie. Three notaries now work at the North Auburn business off Atwood Road.

"Even though we're not able to give legal advice, we are able to read and translate for them," Louie said. "We've always had a notary on staff. No appointment needed."

Louie began the path to Mail-N-More in 1989, when he met owner Jan McPherson. Up until last year, when Louie took over, McPherson shipped Auburn's treasured possessions, eccentric products and other packages, six days a week for 25 years.

Louie was a representative of Mail-

2280 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn  
[www.mailnmoreauburn.com/index.html](http://www.mailnmoreauburn.com/index.html)  
 (530) 888-8612

box, Etc. McPherson took an interest in software Louie created, and they kept in touch to help computerize her Auburn business. Mail-N-More was a franchise of Mailbox, Etc. until the '90s, when McPherson became independent.

Those days, it was all shipping, he said. The business has grown to include other services, from shredding and scanning to color copies and computer use. The service is convenience.

"We're basically the 7-Eleven of business," he said. "If you want to ship cheaper, the post office is there, but there's a line."

Adapting to the times and staying efficient is Louie's passion. His day job is serving as a business analyst. In the '90s, he wrote software to allow Denny's to schedule employees based on regular customer counts.



COURTESY

Original owner Jan McPherson shipped Auburn's Christmas gifts and business materials for a quarter-century. The new owner, Hanson Louie, strives to continue her level of service.

BEST NOTARY

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# ROPER'S JEWELERS: AUBURN'S OWN TREASURE



**JOURNAL STAFF**

Established in 1956, Roper's Jewelers specializes in estate jewelry, custom design and clock and watch restorations which are done on the premises.

Many unique and delicate pieces of jewelry come through the doors of this downtown Auburn store, each with stories of their own. General Manager Peggy Seitzinger, employee of 22 years, confessed that she never tires of seeing the emotional attachment between customers and their jewelry.

"I've seen wedding rings passed down through multiple generations," said Seitzinger. "I've seen watches that have been passed from grandfather, to father, to son; I've seen brooches that have been pinned to women's wedding gowns and flowers year after year. Every one of those pieces is special and priceless to the person who owns it."

Roper's Jewelers is a family-owned business with three separate locations.

At Roper's, employees assist clients by putting

818 Lincoln Way in Downtown Auburn  
2288 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn  
(530) 885-4852  
[www.jewelry-auburn-ca.com](http://www.jewelry-auburn-ca.com)

the customer's best interest first. "It's not about the fast sale, or the easiest way to do a job. It's about creating a relationship with them and serving their needs," said Seitzinger. "If we know that someone is going to wear their new ring all the time, including while they clean their horse's stalls, then we will guide them away from something delicate. Customer service is not about doing what's easy; it's about doing what's right."

Roper's is one of Auburn's many "gems" and considers quality merchandise and friendly, helpful staff to be the secret to the company's longevity.

"It means so much to us to be chosen as the Best of the Best jeweler in Auburn," said Seitzinger. "We respect and appreciate the other jewelers in town, and we know that each of them run great businesses as well. Any of them could have been named 'the Best,' we are so grateful!"



Roper's Jewelers staff.  
COURTESY

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# SUNSHINE FLYERS LAUNCHED TO NEW HEIGHTS

## SUBMITTED

Sunshine Flyers is the longest existing flight school in Auburn. Its run began more than 34 years ago, which is a testament to the experience of the instructors.

Sunshine Flyers owner Michael Duncan has flown for about 40 years.

And the entire staff is dedicated to sharing their knowledge, and teaching students everything they need to know to achieve their license or rating in any field the company offers.

Through ground instruction and dual air time, the instructors ease students into the mechanics and aerodynamics of flight.

New and old technology is used, with teachings in navigation using a chart and compass as well as a global positioning system (GPS).

The staff at Sunshine Flyers is extremely pleased with being named best of the best for flight instructors.

"I think we won because we're very friendly and reliable," said Diane Hammer, office manager. "We always go the extra mile."

2410 Rickenbacker Way, Auburn  
(530) 820-3442 • SunshineFlyers.com

An introductory flight lesson is offered for \$90. No prior experience is necessary and there is no age limit.

Airplane rentals available.  
Open seven days a week.

That's going the extra mile in everything from private, commercial and instrument flight training, as well as mountain flying, tail-wheel instruction, unusual altitude recovery, aerobatics.

"Another thing that makes us unique is that the office staff is either a pilot or pilot in training," Hammer said. "Being a pilot, I can tell them all about it. I have that spark of passion."

Having that firsthand information is extremely helpful when a potential client calls.

And it's helpful to the all-around success of Sunshine Flyers.

"All our hard work has paid off," Hammer said. "Winning the Best of the Best is great. It felt good for Mike (Duncan) to finally get that, because he's great and I believe he's earned it tenfold."



COURTESY

Above, Mike Duncan, owner of Sunshine Flyers, has more than 40 years of flying experience. At left, Sunshine Flyers offers flight instruction for students to attain their pilot's license.

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# VICTORY VELO EMPLOYEES HAVE A PASSION FOR RIDING – AND FIXING – BICYCLES

JOURNAL STAFF

If the team at Victory Vela isn't repairing bikes, they're riding them.

Everyone at Victory Vela rides bikes, and that's what helps set the shop apart as Best of Best.

"Everyone here has a passion for bikes," said Mike Barbaro, a mechanic. "We know the local trails and routes, we know the products. That helps us serve the customer. We aren't just reading from a manual or a magazine. We're speaking from our own experience."

Victory Velo is a spacious shop on Lincoln Way packed with all types of bikes, from the slimmest racer to the most rugged mountain bike. Owned by Dan Tebbs, Victory Velo services every kind of bicycle and takes pride in providing personalized service.

By riding constantly and testing new products, the team stays up on the latest trends. One that's emerging now: "bikepacking," in which riders take enough camping gear to spend a night or two - or three - in the backcountry.

"You can head out and get lost in the woods, all on your bike," said Barbaro. Victory Velo employees

835 Lincoln Way, Auburn  
(530) 885-3986 • www.victoryvelo.com

are happy to discuss the racks and bags you might need to enjoy your time biking and camping.

Shop employees are also eager to talk about a particular product or suggest a local route for biking. The inventory is constantly being updated, as style and tastes change. Currently, there seems to be a surging interest in mountain biking. But someone interested in mountain biking may very well switch in a year or two and take up street biking.

"People are constantly flipping back and forth," Barbaro said.

And everyone is welcome to join team Victory Velo on weekly trail and street rides, typically departing from the shop. (Check directly with the shop for times and routes.)

The employees enjoy sharing ideas and tales of bike riding.

"The fact that we all ride and love it makes a difference," said Daniel Rotheram, a shop employee. "It feels great to help people out."



COURTESY

Left, Abe Taylor bleeds the brakes on a bicycle at Victory Velo. Top, the shop on Lincoln Way has a large inventory of bicycles. Lower, Victory Velo stocks a wide range of biking apparel.

BEST BICYCLE SHOP

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At Wells Fargo, we work hard to help our customers and communities succeed. When they succeed, so do we. We have demonstrated that belief throughout our more than 160-year history of providing for our customers, employing a strong and diverse workforce, and helping our communities find solutions to social, economic, and environmental issues.

From day one, Wells Fargo has been committed to helping build strong communities. It's a commitment that's core to our company's vision and values. Our business, our economy, and our country cannot be strong unless our communities are. These are the communities where our customers and our team members live, work, and do business.

"We build homes and playgrounds, remove graffiti and feed the homeless. We teach financial literacy classes and help small businesses grow. Wells Fargo team members roll up their sleeves and do whatever it takes to make the community a better, healthier place for us today, and the generations ahead. Our effort may be small, but when added up, they make a huge difference in our communities," said Natasha Mata, area president for Wells Fargo in Placer County. "When our communities prosper, so do we. We believe that our success as a company goes hand in hand with the strength of the neighborhoods and communities in which we conduct business."

"Together we'll go far" is more than a tagline at Wells Fargo, but a daily reminder that working together is integral to the success of our community, neighbors, and our local businesses. Visit one of our local stores to find out how together, we can discover small actions-like saving a few bucks a month-that can help you reach huge milestones.



COURTESY

There are three branches of Wells Fargo in Auburn: Elm Avenue, Lincoln Way and Highway 49.

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Together we'll go far





# DR. TERESA ISBELL AND HYGIENIST AMANDA EVELER STAY UP-TO-DATE

## JOURNAL STAFF

Auburn's Best of the Best dentist Dr. Teresa Isbell and Best of the Best hygienist Amanda Eveler work together, learn together, and care together.

"There has to be a two-way conversation with patients wishes and our care," Isbell said. Eveler added, "And compassion. Sometimes on the first visit, if we need to, we might hang out if they're nervous."

The two have worked at the office at 291 Highway 49 for about five years together. They see one client at a time, focusing on attention and care with natural products.

"This is a high-touch model, one patient at a time – that's pretty unique," Isbell said, who got into this work starting at 11 years old.

She was on pain medication and the dentists helped her – and she grew deeply interested, unlike most children's reaction to the dentistry profession. Isbell went on to University of Pacific. She bought the Auburn Dentist practice in October of 2006 and has found many clients stayed. Eveler joined in '12 after working as a hygienist elsewhere



COURTESY

The staff at Auburn Dentist.

The two see their challenges as systemic, helping improve the mouth health of Auburn Americans. Their staff often attends confer-

ences and workshops together and usually meet twice daily, to discuss common problems and how best to give care.

291 Grass Valley Hwy. Suite B  
www.auburndentist.com • (530) 888-1167

They strive for the latest technology and methods, including organic ozone treatments, BPA-free fillings and other products with no toxic byproducts.

"You can get an organic, natural cleaning. People settle," Isbell said.

They have many homeopathic clients. The two recognize that the movement in dentistry is toward cheaper care, driven by insurance companies, but have a passion for bringing comprehensive care.

"Medicine is not in standstill," Eveler said. "The mouth is a window to your body. We get diabetics, people with dry-mouth. Keep your immune system up. Take vitamins."

Isbell and Eveler love Auburn.

"I like the people and pace here – people take the time to get to know you," Isbell said. Eveler added, "You have to have the passion for it. To be willing to change with the times."

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# CUSTOMER SERVICE, INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE MAKES VITAS INSURANCE AGENCY BEST OF THE BEST



## JOURNAL STAFF

Vitas Insurance Agency has been a prominent, trusted company for nearly 40 years. The agency was established in November 1976, and is known as a leader in the industry.

Vitas Insurance is independently and locally owned with a reputation for outstanding customer service.

It has cultivated the confidence of its clients, many of whom have been with the agency since its inception, through proven commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction.

"We're very customer service-oriented," said Nick Abrahamsen, co-owner. "A lot of our clients have been with us for a very long time."

Representing the industry's most competitive insurance carriers, Vitas Insurance is a full service agency that includes commercial, agriculture and personal lines insurance, as well as life and health insurance.

"We are very up to date and knowledgeable about current coverages and industry changes that separate us from other agencies," Abrahamsen said.

Even when a catastrophe, such as fire happens, and a company discontinues coverage, Vitas Insurance can find other markets to offer coverage.

"We can provide our clients with the insurance coverage they need as companies change their underwriting guidelines,"



COURTESY

Vitas Insurance Agency was voted Best of the Best Insurance Agents in the Auburn community.

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Abrahamsen said. "We're able to adapt with the industries in order to best serve our clients."

It's important to make sure that essential coverage for your business, farm or home are present in your policy.

"We often walk clients through their policies to make sure they're properly covered," Abrahamsen said. "We take a great deal of pride in our business. It means a lot to have a good name."

## BEST INSURANCE AGENTS

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# DR. DAVID SEMAN, DDS: CHILDREN'S DENTAL CARE WITH A GENTLE TOUCH

## JOURNAL STAFF

Dr. David Seman, DDS, is awarded best of the best children's dentist.

Seman has been in practice for about 30 years in his Auburn office, referred to as a "dental home." The bright, welcoming office was created to help build an ongoing relationship between patients, their parents and his experienced staff.

Seman and staff are a good resource for answering any dental questions, as well as monitoring each patient's oral development and growth.

"Our doctors are 100 percent devoted to the experience of the patients and their families," Seman said. "We are here to make lasting relationships with families and make lifelong commitments to their dental health and general wellbeing. We never sedate or put kids to sleep. And we love to care for many of Auburn's special-needs children."

Seman emphasizes preventative dentistry, makes referrals when appropriate and provides children with a familiar place in case of emergency needs. Having a "dental home" enhances the ability to assist children and their parents in the quest for optimal oral health.

First visits by age 1 are recommended as this introduces children to this family of talented and kind specialists and



COURTESY

Dr. David Seman, DDS, and staff.

provides a forum for the parent to learn about all the things they can do for their little ones to experience a lifetime of super healthy teeth.

Early dental visits allow staff to discuss proper infant oral health care, teach lifelong habits and take preventive steps to avoid cavities and serious orthodontic problems.

"We are blessed with a fabulous blend of people that love

children and are dedicated to making every dental experience safe, fun and memorable," Seman said. "Thank you for supporting us for all these years. Your recognition is the biggest compliment we could ever receive. To have such an outstanding community think so highly of us is an honor that we are most appreciative."

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# CAL VADA ADHERES TO CUSTOMER SERVICE VALUES



JOURNAL STAFF

After 35 years of painting the Auburn community, Tom Keim and his partner Bubba have been awarded best painting contractor for the first time since the Best of the Best's birth. This acknowledgment is much deserved, however Cal-Vada was more pleasantly pleased than assumptive.

"It was kind of a surprise," commented owner, Tom Keim.

They are very grateful to the Auburn community and show a deep appreciation for their customers. Many of whom come for repeat services as many as three to four times over of a span of 20 years.

"Over 50 percent or more of our business is based on referral and repeat business," said Keim.

This family business is set apart by their dedication to great customer service. Punctuality is of particular importance to Tom and Bubba. If a client is waiting even 10 minutes, Tom and Bubba find it unaccept-



Tom Keim and Bubba of Cal Vada Painting.

COURTESY

able. Cal-Vada reveres being on time as the epitome of professionalism and they both hold

themselves accountable to the high standards they set.

(530) 823-0861  
www.calvadapainting.com

Most of their services involve painting, however what they offer encompasses much more. With a senior discount and free consultations, it isn't hard to see why Auburn has chosen them as Best of the Best.

Cal-Vada, which is short for California-Nevada, offers bids, referrals, color consulting, direction in the process of painting, and ultimately the work itself. Most of the work they do involves beautifying older buildings in Auburn.

"Our niche is re-paint," commented Keim.

That being said, both Tom and Bubba are often hired out for residential projects as well as commercial.

When asked how they feel about winning they said, "I, Bubba and our families would like to thank the community and our loyal customers for giving us the opportunity to work with them," stated Keim.

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# LONGHORN MEATS

JOURNAL STAFF

Winning Best of the Best for Longhorn Meat Co. came as more of a likelihood than a surprise. Auburn's favorite boutique butcher shop has once again been awarded with an overall superb reputation amongst the locals.

"We are excited and honored," commented store manager, Ashley Countryman.

With an assortment of eclectic meats ranging from typical to exotic, it is no shock that this family-run business has accumulated attention. You can find almost anything within the store walls, including uncommon meat products such as duck or tripe. If their collection of rare meats does not meet your needs from the retail portion of the store, you can always custom order anything you desire.

The owner, Phil Kattenhorn, grew up understanding good quality meats and he integrates his knowledge into his stores produce. You will only be able to find the best cuts at Longhorn Meat Co, including free-range, grass fed, non-antibiotic, organic and more.

"A big part of our business is custom pro-



Longhorn Meat Co. offers a variety of cuts and types of meat.

COURTESY

cessing," said Kattenhorn.

Longhorn is unique in that they have the

equipment and understanding to process meats that other markets cannot. Wild

13131 Lincoln Way, Auburn  
(530) 823-0275 • longhornmeatco.com

game, goat, and other unusual meats are no challenge for Phil and his team at Longhorn Meat Co.

What sets Longhorn apart from other meat providers is not only their variety, but also their impeccable customer service. Phil, along with his staff are more than willing to provide specific cuts that are requested of them in a matter of minutes.

The ultimate goal for Longhorn Meat Co. is to expand their services to other locations in Auburn. With about 25 percent of business from farms and 75 percent from retail, Phil has begun the process of opening another location, soon to come, in order to even those percentages out.

So get ready Auburn, Longhorn Meat Co. will be expanding shortly and fortunately for us that means another outlet to get diverse selections of meat from the Best of the Best.

## BEST BUTCHER SHOP



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**SLEEP SHOP: NOT DOZING OFF,  
BUT 'WORKING HARD TO BE THE BEST'**

JOURNAL STAFF

"We are very grateful for this award, we work hard to be the best," said Sleep Shop Store Manager Devon Rantz.

Their hard work sure shows. Family owned business, The Sleep Shop has provided the locals of Auburn with a good night sleep for over 23 years. Each and every mattress is unique and tailor made for all individuals.

When Coy and Leslie Miller opened the store they knew that they wanted to create an experience for each customer who walks into the doors.

"We are not on commission at the Sleep Shop so we use our years of experience to fit your needs to the right bed for your budget," Rantz said.

Rantz, who is also the son-in-law to the Millers, commented on how customer relationships matter greatly to those at the Sleep Shop.

"We are in the business of helping you get a better night's sleep," Rantz stated.

After all, who can put a price on a personalized restful night?

Many of their customers have come back for all of the mattresses in their house.

"I have customers tell me that they have bought every bed in their house from us over the years and will never go anywhere else," Rantz said.

With how successful the Sleep Shop has become, the Miller's have now opened a second store in North Auburn. The boutique is called The Nest, aptly named for how at home you feel inside.

This store is filled with household goods including décor, sofas, recliners, dinettes, and little knick-knacks that are must-haves for any style of home. Obtain the look you want all in one place.

"Check it out, you will love it!" Rantz assured.

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# FURRY FRIENDS' CHOICE: ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER



JOURNAL STAFF

This year, Animal Medical Center has taken the Best of the Best award for Best Veterinary Clinic.

“We feel very humbled and grateful that our loyal clients took time to go out and vote for us. We are also so very proud of all of our employees who work so very hard to provide quality care and love to all of the animals that come through our doors,” Hospital Administrator Carl Bullock stated.

Since 1982, Animal Medical Center has been providing care for pets ranging from standard pets to exotic animals. Everyone at Animal Medical Center cares for creatures like members of their family.

“We understand the special bond you share with your pet and pledge to provide the best veterinary care for your companion,” states their website.

Animal Medical Center sets the bar high by going above and beyond even the state standards to achieve the standards of the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA).



COURTESY

Animal Medical Center is located at 1525 Grass Valley Highway in Auburn.

“One of the main things that set our animal hospital apart from others is being AAHA accredited. Only about 12 percent of all animal hospitals nationwide meet their standards. Their standards are far more stringent than state standards,” Bullock commented.

In addition to providing excellent care for animals, Animal Medical Center also makes

themselves more accessible by offering extended evening hours Monday through Thursday. They also provide a veterinarian on call for Sunday. This opens up time to be able to assess any emergencies that may occur.

Their excellent customer service has grown their clientele over the years, from human to animal.

1525 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn  
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southauburnvethospital.evetsites.net/animal-medical-center.pml

“Our clients are extremely loyal and a good portion of our household growth comes from our existing clients referring their friends and family,” Bullock said. “Thank you to the Auburn community for putting your trust into our team of veterinarians and staff. We sincerely appreciate your dedication and loyalty to Animal Medical Center.”

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# MEL'S DINER A GOOD PLACE TO HAVE A GOOD TIME



JOURNAL STAFF

Travel back in time with doo-wops and delicious diner dishes at Mel's.

Owners Tony and Shelly Metteer opened their doors in June of 2010 and since then it has been the ultimate hang out for all varying ages. With events like weekly Wednesday cruise night, an annual car show, plus extended evening hours, Mel's is most popular stop for anyone anxious for some clean late night fun.

Fridays and Saturdays are open until 1 a.m., leaving plenty of time for any night owl to grab a malt milkshake or an old-fashioned hot fudge sundae. Tony himself updated the dessert menu for all Mel's and his diner in particular has some mouthwatering specials.

"We want to give people more than they expect," commented Tony.

There is great value in a restaurant that serves good food, but one that does that as well as provide entertainment and community socials goes far above ordinary. It's no wonder Mel's has been named Best Diner.

There are two philosophies Tony and his wife Shelly share. First, that kids should have a safe place to go and have fun,



A sampling of Mel's Diner's menu items.

COURTESY

Auburn Plaza LLC, 1730 Grass Valley Hwy, Auburn  
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especially after school functions. Second, youth should have the opportunity to enter the work force with a fun and instructive job.

"If you have a passion for what you do, you will love what you do," Tony said.

Mel's Diner has been a large contributor to the community, especially with its annual car show. The proceeds of this blast-from-the-past event go to several organizations such as, Auburn Senior Center, The American Cancer Society, and Special Townsman and Roamin' Angels Club charity funds.

Mel's would also like to extend a special thank you to the sponsors of this event that occurred on June 25th including Auburn Body Shop, Les Schwab Tires, Best Buy, Lyon Real Estate, Riebes Auto Parts, Auburn Dodge & Toyota, Cruiser's Car Wash, Community 1st Bank, and Cruisin' Garage Radio Show. All of whom made the event a smashing success.

With their excellent food and hospitable owners, every moment at Mel's is delightful.

As Tony says, "Let it be a fun place."

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# BRIX THE SALON MAKES 'PEOPLE FEEL SPECIAL'

SUBMITTED BY BECKI JACOBS OF BRIX THE SALON

Thank you, to our community for voting us Best of the Best in six categories: Best Beauty

Salon, Day Spa, Nail Salon, Customer Service, Best Esthetician And Makeup Artist: Jessica Alexander. We are grateful to have been voted Best of the Best since 2012. BRIX was also honored as a Top 200 Salon across America by Salon Today and featured in the magazine.

We are truly blessed to have the opportunity to make a positive difference one appointment at a time.

A guest, Mike Fitch, summed it up when he said, "You know why BRIX won again? It's because you make people feel special here, it feels like I'm home."

"This is why we do what we do," said Becki Jacobs.

It's comments like this that keep us inspired to be better today than we were yesterday.

BRIX offers memorable customer service while providing hair and nail services, facials, waxing and make-up application. BRIX also offers massage services on their spa level.

Our guests' favorite part of their visit is our spa lather lounge. They can just relax and enjoy a few minutes of "me time," it's quiet, spa music is playing, an aroma therapy candle is burning and they get to relax while receiving a therapeutic scalp massage.



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Jessica Alexander applying Jane Iredale makeup

COURTESY

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BRIX truly cares about the health of your hair and skin. Eufora is used and retailed for their haircare products and their Esthetician uses Yon-Ka Paris exclusively. They are proud to now offer

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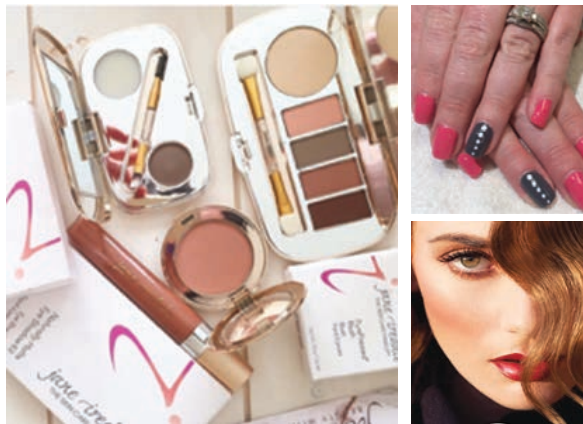
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# ECHO VALLEY RANCH: RICH IN COMMUNITY SPIRIT

## JOURNAL STAFF

Echo Valley Ranch has been voted Best of the Best for tack and feed.

It's not the first win, and likely not the last. "It's always a surprise," said Connie Watson, Echo Valley manager. "It's something we appreciate every time."

The award can be attributed to the impressive stock of feed and products for livestock and pets, among many other things – and for excellent customer service.

The staff is good at listening to its customers, and is dedicated to providing them with whatever they need. And if what they need is not on hand, the staff will surely find a way to get it.

"We genuinely care about what we do," said Watson. "We're really positive people and we impart positivity on our crew."

And that positivity lopes briskly throughout Auburn and beyond.

Echo Valley is quick to donate and volunteer whenever possible.

Some of the staff participates at the Tevis Cup by



The staff at Echo Valley.

COURTESY

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evrinfo@echoranch.com • EchoRanch.com

riding or working as crew. They also work on trails.

"Kudos to our crew; they love to volunteer," Watson said. "We do everything that has to do with the Tevis or ag."

The company is always there when animals are in need, as well. "We just load up feed and take it," Watson said. "Anything we can do."

It is also present at the Gold Country Fairgrounds. "We participate in the fair," Watson said. "And we support the junior livestock auction by buying animals."

This company has its hard-working hands in every aspect of agriculture in the community, and its customers also have a hand in that by their loyal patronage.

"I've been here going on a quarter century," Watson said. "We have customers who are here longer than me."

The staff of Echo Valley Ranch is truly humble, yet full of spirit in what they do for their customers and the community.

"We do everything with a positive spin," Watson said. "We genuinely love what we do."

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**#61**



# AUBURN HOME SHOW FLOURISHES IN 20TH YEAR, CONTINUES TO BE BEST OF THE BEST



**JOURNAL STAFF**

The Auburn Home Show is ever-changing. Yet it continues to provide all the favorite types of displays and vendors we have come to expect from this outstanding show.

Twice each year the fairgrounds is transformed with everything from the landscapers' challenge in the spring, where competitors present their one-of-a-kind landscape vignettes for voting by attendees, to an all-encompassing home renovation and remodeling show in fall, and more.

Besides everything home-related, the latest spring show boasted a recreation area with RV displays and fly fishing demonstrations.

And the next show is proving that the staff is once again raising the bar.

"We're going to go real big this fall," said Lani Johnston, producer of the Auburn Home Show. "We're going to enhance and enlarge our tiny house village with 15 to 20 houses, and we're giving one away."

The house will be onsite at the fall show and one attendee can win.

Johnston and staff, which includes her son – a fifth-generation Auburnite – and her daughter-in-law, are already working fervently on the fall show, the 42nd as the show is in its 20th year.

"This is a family business," Johnston said. "We're very commit-

Falls show dates: Sept 30-Oct2, 2016  
 Spring show dates: May 19-21, 2017  
 AuburnHomeShows.com

ted to, and proud of, the show."

Johnston said they are already working on signing vendors who participated in the spring, and last fall shows.

"The show is generally different, but you'll see many of the favorites come back," she said.

The Auburn Home Show attracts thousands of people, but with the layout and flow of the show, it doesn't feel overly-crowded.

"People can spend the day here; sit under a tree with a beer, wine or smoothie," Johnston said. "So many meet their friends here too."

Johnston said Auburn is known to be friendly and the home show staff hears this from attendees and vendors.

"They love coming to Auburn because everyone is so friendly," Johnston said. "Auburn brings out the best in them."

The atmosphere, quality exhibits and commitment of the producers, charm of Auburn and its fairgrounds and the many attendees is what makes the Auburn Home Show the Best of the Best events.

"There are so many good events in Auburn," Johnston said. "I'm extremely proud and humbled."



COURTESY

The popular Auburn Home Show event draws crowds to the fairgrounds for home improvement ideas.

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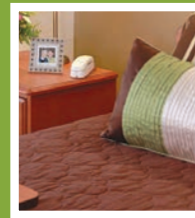
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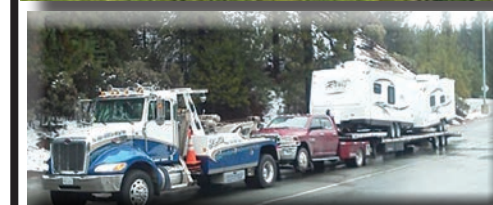


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**BEST PHOTOGRAPHER**

*IMAGES*  
By Shirley Borba



Thank you to all of our amazing clients, friends and family for voting Images by Shirley Borba "Best of the Best" for the 14th year. Your continued support is greatly appreciated! I would also like to give a special thanks to Susie, Kayla and Sheri for their dedication and loyalty. These woman make up my "Team" and they truly are the "Best" !!

Mention this Ad and receive \$50.00 off Family or High School Senior Portrait Session fee if booked by August 31.

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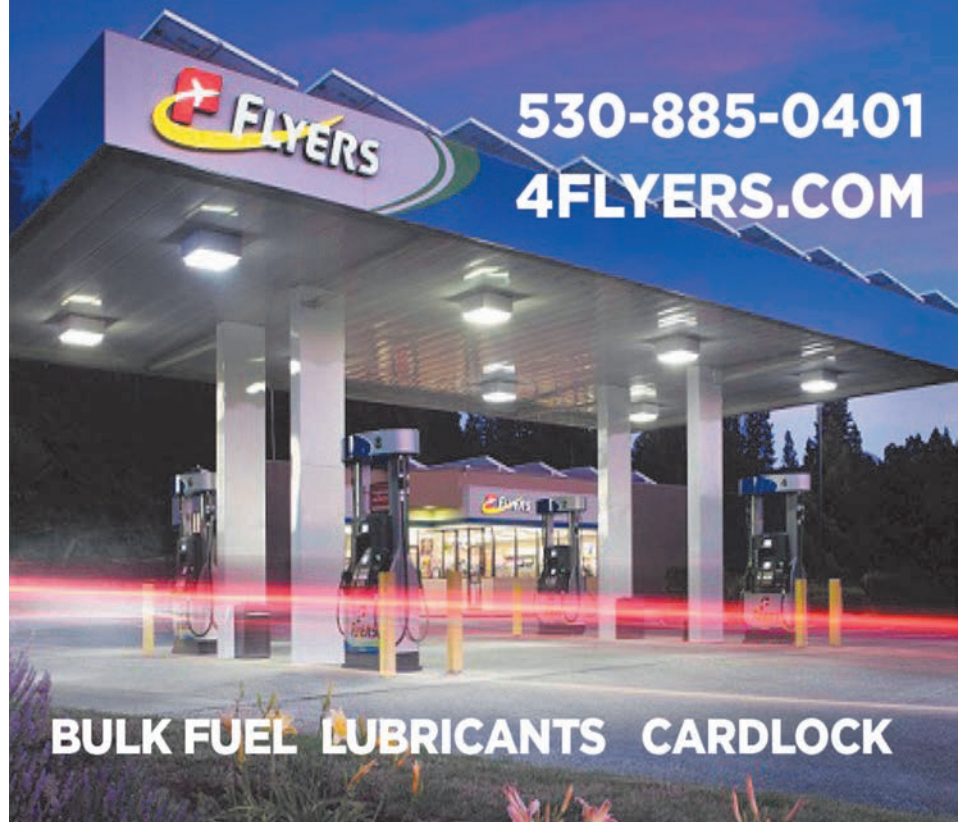
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Thanks Auburn Readers for Voting Us #1  
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Our community will continue to provide the BEST CARE for individuals with memory loss and promote the health and well-being of our residents.

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# BEST VETERINARIAN UNDERSTANDS VALUE OF PET CARE



**SUBMITTED**

*What is your reaction to winning?*

We're always grateful. We have great clients, and we appreciate their support that we've gotten for close to 30 years.

*What distinguishes you from the competition?*

I think it's our staff. Every one of our staff members is compassionate and cares about what they do, and the quality of medicine that we have here.

*Do you have any kind of statement or promise to the people who voted for you?*

Thank you for their continued support.

*What is your favorite part of the vet business?*

I think it's the animals – getting to come into work every day and interact with every

North Fork Vet Clinic  
12080 Locksley Ln, Auburn  
(530) 888-8788 • northforkvetclinic.com

type of animal. It's new and exciting pretty much every day.

The doctors and staff at North Fork Vet Clinic are dedicated to providing kind and compassionate care for pets. As pet owners themselves, they see how important animals are to Auburn families. Patient health is the clinic's No. 1 priority, with preventive medicine the first standard of care.

When a pet is at the clinic, the staff strives to keep customers well informed of the pet's medical condition, diagnosis and treatment.

There is also a satellite out-patient clinic located in downtown Foresthill at 24386 Main Street. For appointments call (530) 367-3777.



COURTESY

Veterinarian Thomas Sheriff was voted Best of the Best by the Auburn Journal readers.

## BEST VETERINARIAN — DR. THOMAS SHERIFF

*Thank you for recognizing Dr. Thomas Sheriff as the Best Veterinarian in Auburn.*

Everyone here at North Fork Vet Clinic would like to thank the community for your support and confidence in us over the past 32 years. Our doctors and staff are dedicated to providing high quality and compassionate care for your pets.

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## North Fork Veterinary Clinic

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northforkvetclinic.com



Thomas Sheriff, D.V.M. | Laura Reich, D.V.M. | Cicely Marrs, D.V.M. | Jennifer Curtis, D.V.M. | Lisa Rincon, D.V.M.



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Thank you Auburn for voting Bear River Web Design the Best of the Best for 2016!

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Jeanie Zatkulak, Bear River Web Design



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# CLUB CAR SERVES UP LONGTIME FAMILY RECIPES



For the past 13 years, the Club Car in Downtown Auburn has offered a unique dining and entertainment experience all wrapped up into one.

Club Car owner, Sarah Nolivo ventured out west to California from New York to pursue her dream of owning her own business.

Nolivo spent 15 years learning the ins and outs of restaurant ownership, both in the front as a server, and in the back office picking up as much managerial experience as she could.

The perfect opportunity presented itself to Sarah that ultimately led her into owning Club Car, formerly the Smoke Shop.

"It was one of those chances that I couldn't pass up," Nolivo said.

The Smoke Shop occupied that space for decades until it closed its doors in 2000. Sarah's vision was different than what was originally there; white walls and lighted beer signs were replaced with Nolivo's decorating tastes that mimicked her New York background with a lounge atmosphere setting.

Three years after the Club Car opened, it won a liquor license from the lottery that changed everything. It was now considered a restaurant, so adding a food menu empowered Sarah's ownership vision. After working out an agreement with the barbershop next door, The Club Car was able to acquire and expand the bar with a 300-square-foot kitchen.

Sarah met the man of her dreams, Marcello Nolivo who became her husband and the driving force in the kitchen with his back-



PHOTO BY JEREMY BURKE

**Classic Cioppino: A scratch-made Italian fish stew with clams, shrimp, calamari in a tomato wine sauce at Club Car.**

ground in Italian cuisine.

Marcello brings several family recipes to the Club Car that he learned as a child in Italy. Patrons come to the restaurant for the mouth-watering secret menu item, classic Cioppino, a savory Italian fish stew with shellfish and tomatoes. Early on at the Club Car, Marcello would make the hush-hush dish on occasion for those who knew of it and asked for it, however because of the popularity of the fish stew, the kitchen now stocks all the ingredients for orders and is being added to the menu permanently for everyone to order.

836 Lincoln Way, Auburn  
(530) 887-9732

Other menu favorites include the satisfying fresh pear and walnut salad topped with blue cheese, palate-pleasing, handcrafted burgers, aromatic linguine and clams, and a toasty grilled Havana sandwich.

Marcello created the menu with passion, because he "likes to eat." The Club Car's lasagna is made from Marcello's devotion to Florence roots; each layer of fresh pasta is complimented with sugo (meat sauce) and béchamel sauce, topped with Parmesan cheese. It's a family recipe that Marcello will one day pass on to the Nolivo children.

Beyond the kitchen and bar, lies the stage where music comes alive four nights a week. Many musicians, like local artist, Justin Ancheta or Hannah Jane Kile have graced the stage with their incredible talents. Both performers have become icons in the local music scene and also internationally. Both Ancheta and Kile have performed at California World Festival in Grass Valley, a weekend that features eight stages with music from around the world.

Sarah said that this experience has brought on a wealth of new friendships with customers, staff and musicians.

"I enjoy the people that I get to see daily, my customers and my staff, and I've been lucky enough to call them my friends over the years," Sarah said.

## BEST VETERINARIAN — DR. THOMAS SHERIFF



# Thank You Auburn!





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**TO ALL THE WINNERS OF  
BEST OF THE BEST 2016**

*and thank you*

**TO EVERYONE WHO VOTED**



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*Thank You from Ruben Ramirez & His Staff*



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— and a special thanks to all our voters!

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All About Payroll

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Amanda Eveler with Dr. Isbell,  
DDS

### DENTIST

Teresa Isbell, DDS

### DERMATOLOGIST

Dr. Allison McCormick at  
Auburn Dermatology Center.

### DOCTOR

Daniel Sewell, M.D

### ELECTROLOGIST

Linda Carmichael

### ESTHETICIAN

Jessica Alexander  
at Brix the Salon

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— and a special thanks to all our voters!

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Monkey Cat

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Dingus McGee's

## SALAD

The Healthy Habit

## SANDWICH

Beach Hut Deli

## SEAFOOD

Pelican's Roost Fish & Chips

## STEAK

Dingus McGee's

## SUSHI

Ninja Sushi

## VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT

Nectar Cafe

## AUTOMOTIVE / MOTORCYCLE

### AUTO BODY SHOP

Auburn Body Shop

### AUTO DETAILING

Elite Auto Spa

## AUTO MECHANIC

### TIE:

John Farber of Autovantage

Meritage Automotive Center

Matt Toro of TNT Automotive

Master Technicians

### AUTO PARTS STORE

Riebes Auto Parts

### AUTO REPAIR DEALERSHIP

Auburn Toyota

### AUTO REPAIR INDEPENDENT

Autovantage

### CAR STEREO STORE

Auburn Car Tunes

### CAR WASH

Cruiser's Car wash

### DIESEL REPAIR

NORCAL Motor Company

### GAS STATION

Flyers Energy

### MOTORCYCLES SALES OR SERVICE

C&E Vtwin

### NEW CAR DEALER

Auburn Toyota

### OIL OR LUBE

SpeeDee Oil Change & Auto Service

### SMOG SERVICE

California Smog

### TIRE STORE

Les Schwab Auburn

### TOWING SERVICES

Hall's Towing

### TRANSMISSION REPAIR

JR's Transmissions

### UPHOLSTERY

Scott Auto Trim

### USED CAR DEALER

Pacific Auto

## WINDSHIELD REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT

Reliable Auto Glass

## BEAUTY / PERSONAL CARE

### BARBER SHOP

Rico's Barber Shop

### BEAUTY SALON

Brix the Salon

### BEAUTY SUPPLY

Sally Beauty Supply

### DAY SPA

Brix the Salon

### HAIR STYLIST

Marie Bacigalupi from The Vineyard Salon

### MAKEUP ARTIST

Jessica Alexander at Brix Salon

### NAIL SALON

Brix the Salon

### TANNING SALON

California Tan

### TATTOO SHOP

Syndicate Tattoo

## ENTERTAINMENT / LEISURE

### BEST ENTERTAINER OR BAND

#### TIE:

The DoubleShots

Dream and The Dreamer

Trikome

### BEST EVENT

Auburn Home Show

### DATE NIGHT

Fast Friday's Motorcycle

Speedway

### FLIGHT INSTRUCTION/TOURS

Sunshine Flyers

### GOLF COURSE

The Ridge

### GOLF LESSONS

The Ridge





# CONGRATULATIONS to all the winners

— and a special thanks to all our voters!

**GOLF PRO**  
Shawn Kelly - The Ridge

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
Auburn Fire Open

**HOTEL OR LODGING**  
Auburn Holiday Inn

**NIGHTCLUB OR BAR**  
The Club Car

**PLACE FOR LADIES NIGHT OUT**  
The Club Car

**PLACE TO TASTE WINE**  
Sip

**WHITewater RAFTING**  
Tributary Whitewater Tours

**WINE MAKER**  
Ryan Taylor

**WINERY**  
Mt. Vernon Winery

## HOME SERVICES

**CARPET CLEANING**  
Leslie's Cleaning Services

**CARPET OR FLOORING STORE**  
Abbey Floors and More

**DRY CLEANER**  
Elm Dry Cleaners

**ELECTRICIAN**  
Jack Knight

**GUTTER OR LEAF PROTECTION**  
All About Gutters

**HANDYMAN**  
Tom Hennessey, Handydad

**HEATING OR AIR**  
Maki Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.

**HOME BUILDER**  
Haldeman Homes

**HOUSE CLEANING SERVICE**  
Leslie's Cleaning Services

**INTERIOR DESIGNER**  
**TIE:**  
Delight Home Designs  
Upholstery & Interiors  
Molly Korb (MK Designs)

**LANDSCAPING BUSINESS**  
The Yard Guy, Inc. Tim Perron

**LAWN OR GARDEN SERVICE**  
Clean Cut Landscape

**MORTGAGE COMPANY**  
Alpine Mortgage

**PAINTING CONTRACTOR**  
**TIE:**  
Chris Whitehead, Whitehead Painting  
Cal-Vada Painting & Decorating

**PAVING CONTRACTOR**  
Robinson Sand & Gravel

**PEST CONTROL**  
Clark Pest Control

**PLUMBER**  
JeffCo Plumbing, Inc.

**POOL & SPA SERVICE**  
All Seasons Pools & Spas

**POOL BUILDER**  
Dal Pino Quality Pools

**PROPANE SUPPLIER**  
American River Gas Company, Inc.

**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMPANY**  
Huber Property Management, Inc.

**REAL ESTATE AGENT**  
Jo Barragan, Lyon Real Estate  
Ann Bryant, Lyon Real Estate

**REAL ESTATE COMPANY**  
Lyon Real Estate

**RECYCLING CENTER**  
Recology Auburn Placer

**ROOFING COMPANY**  
Auburn Roofing Inc

**SATELLITE PROVIDER**  
Dish

**SOLAR COMPANY**  
Hooked on Solar

**TAILORING OR ALTERATIONS**  
Alterations By Melodey

**TITLE COMPANY**  
Placer Title Company

**WINDOW COVERINGS**  
Quality Window Coverings

**WINDOW OR GLASS STORE**  
Moule's Foothill Glass

**FAMILY AFFAIRS / EDUCATION**  
**CHURCH**  
St. Theresa of Avila

**DAY CARE**  
The Kids' Place

**FUNERAL HOME**  
Lassila Funeral Chapel

**PRESCHOOL**  
The Kids' Place

**SCHOOL TEACHER**  
Jessica Garofalo at  
The Kids' Place

**GOVERNMENT**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEMBER**  
Daniel Berlant Auburn City Councilman

**COUNTY SUPERVISOR**  
Jennifer Montgomery, District 5

**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL**  
Sheriff Ed Bonner

**BUSINESS**  
**COMPANY TO WORK FOR**  
Edward Jones

**CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
Brix the Salon

**NOTARY**  
Mail N More

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Images by Shirley Borba

**PRINTER**  
APi-marketing

**SIGN SHOP**  
Uptown Signs & Graphics, Inc.

**STORAGE FACILITY**  
Quartz Drive Self Storage

**WEB DESIGN**  
Bear River Web Design

**WEDDING PLANNER**  
Events by Elizabeth

**WEDDING VENUE**  
Forest House Lodge

## PETS

**PET GROOMING**  
Petco Animal Supplies

**TACK & FEED**  
Echo Valley Ranch, Inc

**VETERINARIAN**  
Thomas Sheriff, DVM of North Fork Veterinary Clinic

**VETERINARY CLINIC**  
Animal Medical Center

# SUTTER URGENT CARE READY FOR YOUR EMERGENCY



JOURNAL STAFF

It's 7 p.m. on a Tuesday, and your baby's fever spiked, or you cut your finger while slicing cucumbers for dinner.

Where do you go when your doctor's office is closed?

Sutter Urgent Care understands that emergencies happen outside of office hours, and that's why its Auburn office is open from 1 to 8:30 p.m., weekdays and 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekends.

Urgent Care is often more affordable than the emergency room and usually offers a shorter wait time. Urgent Care doctors treat everyone, even those from other medical practices or those who have no primary doctor. They accept most types of insurance plans and will also accept checks and major credit cards.

Just a few of the long list of non-life-threatening emergencies Sutter Urgent Care doctors commonly treat include: colds and flu, upset stomach, sinus infections and strep throat. If the condition requires more advanced care, Sutter Urgent Care doctors are in close contact with emergency room doctors as well as specialists to provide you with exactly the care needed.

Sutter Urgent Care  
11795 Education Street, Suite 110, Auburn  
(530) 889-7470  
[www.suttermedicalfoundation.org/urgentcare](http://www.suttermedicalfoundation.org/urgentcare)  
Hours: 1 to 8:30 p.m., weekdays and  
10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on weekends

They also offer vaccinations and student activity physicals for busy parents.

So the next time you or someone you love is not feeling well, know that it's possible to find the care you need right away. There's no more need to wait until your doctor's door opens on Monday morning.

There's no appointment necessary at Sutter Urgent Care, and there's a handy online tool to show you how long the wait time will be.

Best of all, doctors will always welcome you with a warm smile, whether you're the first patient of the afternoon or the last patient at the end of the day.

Sutter Urgent Care thanks Auburn for naming it Best of the Best in 2016.



COURTESY

Sutter Urgent Care is located at the Auburn Sierra Building, close to Sutter Auburn Faith Hospital.

WINNER BEST: SELF STORAGE

# SAFELY STORE YOUR GOODS AT QUARTZ DRIVE SELF STORAGE



JOURNAL STAFF

Quartz Drive Self Storage boasts 865 units on seven acres in North Auburn. It's the only storage facility in Auburn that also offers climate control. Its environmentally friendly design earned it second place in a national green storage competition, as just about the entire business is run on solar power.

The units range in sizes from 5-by-5 feet to 12-by-35 feet, and customers are welcome to store anything from wine to personal documents, business documents or RVs. The facility is open daily 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.

It also offers a variety of packing and storage materials and an annual yard sale for renters.

Quartz Drive Self Storage has been named Best of the Best in Auburn time and time again for its excellent customer service.

Manager Wanda Carter treats every customer as though he or she is family.

"Most managers will look at a customer and see dollar signs," Carter said. "I see a long lost friend."

Carter understands that many times people

12200 Rock Creek Road, Auburn  
(530) 885-5010 • Hours: 6 a.m to 9 p.m.

require a storage unit because they're in stressful situations – downsizing or divorcing – so she and her Chihuahua, Biscuit, are always there to lend an ear.

"If you give somebody just a little bit of your time, they can relieve some of that stress, even just for a few minutes," Carter said.

Carter tries to make the process of renting a storage unit as simple and comfortable as possible.

In fact, through July and August a 5-by-10 feet unit is only \$49.45 per month.

Carter has been in the self-storage business for 15 years, moving to Quartz Drive Self-Storage in 2009, and she loves her long-term customers whom she thinks of as family.

Many customers stop in just to say hello to Carter; others stop in to say hello to Biscuit.

You are always welcome to stop by, too. Quartz Drive Self-Storage is located near the corner of Quartz Drive and Rock Creek Road, behind the Safeway shopping center.



COURTESY

Wanda Carter with Biscuit at Quartz Drive Self Storage.



**Readers Choice Awards  
2016 Best of the Best!**

## **Best Urgent Care** **Sutter Urgent Care, Auburn**

Get in sooner. Feel better faster. Thank you for voting us Best Urgent Care in Placer County! If you are suffering from a non-life-threatening illness or injury, come to Sutter Urgent Care in Auburn for a faster, convenient and economical alternative to the emergency room.

No appointment is necessary! We accept most major insurance plans, cash and credit cards.

**Located in the Auburn Sierra  
Building near the hospital!**  
11795 Education St #110, Auburn  
530-889-7470

[sutterauburn.org](http://sutterauburn.org)





Manager Wanda Carter & Biscuit

*Our sincere thanks to the community of Auburn for all your support and for voting us The Best of The Best for the 7th year. We are truly honored.*

*As Auburn's only climate controlled storage facility, we will continue to provide a safe & secure environment for all of your belongings and meet all of your storage needs. We appreciate your business!*

*"There's a reason why we were voted The Best of The Best for 7 years. Come in today and see!"*



FORKLIFT AVAILABLE

**Best of the Best Winner for 7 Years!**

**UNITS INDIVIDUALLY ALARMED • KEY PAD ENTRY • ACCESS 7 DAYS A WEEK 6AM - 9PM  
BOAT AND RV STORAGE • SAFE DOCUMENT STORAGE • PERFECT TEMPERATURE  
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE • RESIDENT MANAGERS • WINE STORAGE  
BOXES AND MOVING SUPPLIES • 18 WHEELER ACCESS CAPABILITY TO UNITS**



**12200 Rock Creek Rd. • AUBURN**

**CORNER OF ROCK CREEK RD. & QUARTZ DR. (BEHIND ROSS & SAFEWAY SHOPPING CENTER)**

[WWW.QUARTZDRIVESELFSTORAGE.COM](http://WWW.QUARTZDRIVESELFSTORAGE.COM)

**VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**



**530-885-5010**