

In Good Company

September 20, 2007

West Austin News Reader's Poll Favorite Local Businesses

We asked, and readers responded with a list of their favorite, locally owned businesses in Austin. Great food, friendly service, and fun places to hang out, this list offers a range of local favorites. All of these businesses add to the charm and local flavor that makes Austin unique, weird, and wonderful.

— Yvonne Lim Wilson



1379

2727 Exposition Blvd., 444-1379,
www.1379kids.com

Inspired by their own children's love for being active and outdoors, 1379 owners combine durable and comfortable clothes with affordable prices.

34th Street Cafe

1005 34th Street Café, 371-3400,
www.34thstreetcafe.com

Casual dining atmosphere combined with sophisticated dishes. Catering is excellent as well.

Alamo Drafthouse Village

2700 W. Anderson Lane, 476-1320,
www.drafthouse.com

By far my kids' favorite treat. Alamo precedes its movies with hilarious vintage film clips and announcements. And let's face it, there's nothing more fun than posting your order on those little clips and getting to munch while you watch the flick. There's a wide variety of food and beverages, so all of us are happy!

Amy's Ice Cream

Locations throughout Austin,
www.amysicecream.com

Who doesn't love the funky, fun atmosphere, yummy flavors and selection of "crush 'ns." My personal favorite is the "frosted," which, according to one employee is "the love child of a float and a shake" — absolutely delightful!

Antique Marketplace

5350 Burnet Road, 452-1000

Antique Marketplace has great bargains and a unique variety of furniture and arts and crafts. Full of hidden treasures, the vendors are always changing so there's constantly something new!

Architects & Heroes Antiques

115 E. St. Elmo Rd., Suite B, 371-3434,
store.archhero.com

They are full of the most original lighting fixtures that look great in every room. I love the unique styles and creative designs.

Asian American Cultural Center

11713 Jollyville Road, 336-5069,
www.asianamericanc.com

An invaluable resource for the Asian community in Austin, and those interested in Asian culture. Amy Wong Mok founded the center more than seven years ago, and it continues to grow. Includes The Magic Dragon day care center that integrates Eastern and Western philosophies, and teaches Chinese language.

Austin Children's Museum

201 Colorado Street, 472-2499,
www.austinkids.org

Great place for kids to run wild, explore and learn.

Austin Flower Company

1612 W. 35th Street, 451-6447

They have the greatest prices and the most fantastic deals. The best quality of flowers.

Baby Coco

1515-B W. 35th Street, 377-2626,
www.babycoco.biz

Create beautiful, custom nurseries with their exclusive collection of bedding, furniture, and accessories.

Baby Greens

2316 S. 1st Street, 462-1697,
www.ilovesalads.com

Healthiest fast food in Austin. Love the salad wraps with choice of dressing.

Ballet Austin

501 W. Third Street, 476-2163,
www.balletaustin.org

Austin's internationally-known dance company, now boasts a stunning, just-opened 34,000-square foot facility in the heart of downtown Austin. Ballet Austin also boasts the nation's fourth largest classical ballet dance academy. Now in its 51st year.

Book People

603 N. Lamar, 472-5050,
www.bookpeople.com

There's always something going on at BookPeople — author visits, kids storytimes, book club meetings and more. Staff recommendations posted throughout the store are always helpful (especially when you are trying to pick out a good sci fi book for your husband).

Breed & Co.

718 W. 29th Street, 474-6679;
3663 Bee Cave Road, 328-3960,
www.breedandco.com

Great taste, wonderful variety, reasonable prices and hours, knowledgeable and helpful in every respect. A great asset to the neighborhood.

Bryker Woods Veterinary Clinic

1501 W. 35th Street, 454-3833

Great care, personable service at reasonable prices. You can tell that the staff really care about your pet.

Capra & Cavelli

35th Street and Jefferson, 450-1919,
www.capracavelli.com

Friendly service and the latest fashions for men.

Cathy's Cleaners

231 W. Third Street, 320-8111,
www.cathyscleaners.net

Shelly has a hearty greeting for everyone coming through the door; the alterations lady is sweet and helpful, and your clothes are perfectly done.

Chez Nous

510 Neches Street, 473-2413

Chez Nous has stood the test of time and can always be counted on for wonderful dining and celebrating.

Chez Zee

5406 Balcones Dr., 454-2666,
www.chez-zee.com

There's something for everyone at Chez Zee: steaks, burgers, salads, pasta and some of the best desserts in Austin. Lively atmosphere complete with red piano, colored lights and velvet curtains makes it fun.

Dan's Hamburgers

5602 N. Lamar, 459-3239,
plus three other locations.

At Dan's you'll find great, hot food, from breakfast tacos to burgers, and where else can you see senior citizens, high school students, construction workers, and housewives all chowing down together?

Eastside Cafe

2113 Manor Road, 476-5858,
www.eastsidecafeaustin.com

Eastside Café is a perfect restaurant any time of the time, any time of the week.

Feather Your Nest

3500 Jefferson St. #120, 206-3555,
www.featheryournestaustin.com

The finest bedding, furniture and unique gifts.

Fonda San Miguel

2330 North Loop, 459-4121,
www.fondasanmiguel.com

When it was started in 1975, Fonda San Miguel was a groundbreaking concept for Austin. It has grown through the years to become the country's preeminent restaurant offering the cuisines of interior Mexico in a setting filled with museum quality artwork. An Austin treasure that has stayed true to its mission.

Gardens

1818 W. 35th Street, 451-5490,
www.gardens-austin.com

Stunning variety, a great haven for any gardener.

Hayden Avery

1515 W. 35th Street, Ste A, 454-9400,
www.haydenavery.com

Home accents plus trendy stationary.

Hilbert's Hamburgers

3303 N. Lamar, 452-2317 and Cameron Road

Hilbert's has the best, freshest burgers in town, with hot salty fries to match, a family-run, vintage fifties atmosphere, and the occasional political endorsement on the marquee.

Holiday House

Tarrytown Shopping Center

Full of memories for many West Austinites. Gone but not forgotten.

Hotel San Jose

1316 S. Congress, 444-7322,
www.sanjosehotel.com

Austin's trendiest place to stay for out of town moviemakers and entertainers, plus people who just want a low-key, hip change from larger hotels. The owners actually made a movie about all the trials and tribulations they went through to convert what was a seedy, beaten-down establishment populated by fringe elements of society into this beautiful lodging place.

Hyde Park Bar & Grill

4206 Duval Street, 458-3168,
and Westgate location,
www.hydeparkbarandgrill.com

Famous fries, classic American comfort food.

Kerbey Lane Cafe

Several locations throughout Austin,
www.kerbeylanecafe.com

Pancakes, pancakes, pancakes. And you can't beat the 24 hour service.

Kitchen Door

2504 Lake Austin Blvd, 236-9200; 3742 Far West Blvd, 794-0032

Best chicken salad in Austin. Also, a great place to pick up a variety of things, anything from food to a serving tray. And there are always samples out.

KMFA, 90.5 FM

KMFA is certainly without equal across the nation and an Austin treasure. Could I have made it this far, without KMFA and without John Aielli on KUT? That's a question to give one pause.

Mandola's

4700 W. Guadalupe, St, 419-9700,
www.mandolasmarket.com

The food, while absolutely delicious, is but only one element that makes Mandola's outstanding. We love browsing the Italian mini-mart and deli and oogling the many pastries and desserts.

Maudie's

Locations throughout Austin,
www.maudies.com

I love the atmosphere and the food there is awesome, especially Pete's Tantalizing tacos. It is also a great place to take visitors to get that Austin feel.

The Menagerie

1601 W. 38th Street, 453-4644,
www.themenagerie.com

The Menagerie combines the characteristics of a fine jewelry store with the welcoming feel of a sumptuous West Austin home's living room. Vickie Roan did a branding job on her own with this store that puts the Madison Avenue biggies to shame.

Mirabelle

8127 Mesa Drive, 346-7900,
www.mirabellerestaurant.com

My favorite place to meet friends for lunch. I've never been disappointed, but my dish of choice is their spinach salad with walnuts and little dumplings with cheese.

Northwest Hills Pharmacy

3910 Far West Blvd, 345-3712,
www.shopnorthwesthills.com

Want to buy a nice, elegant, and unique gift for someone special? This is the place. NWH Pharmacy has it all, from jewelry, perfume, and accessories, to cookbooks and linens, all beautifully wrapped upon request. It's fun just to browse here!

Perfectly Polished Salon

2727 Exposition Blvd., 454-2939,
aperfectlypolishedsalon.com

With over 10 years of experience, Perfectly Polished Salon provides exceptional service for any pedicure or manicure delight. Truly my best salon experience in Austin.

Premiere Tents & Events

2501 N. Lamar, 476-1390,
www.premierpartyrental.com

Quality rental equipment and great service.

Quality Seafood

5621 Airport Blvd, 454-5827,
www.qualityseafoodmarket.com

Quality Seafood is a favorite of restaurants throughout town—and takes equally good care of their retail customers. With the newly expanded restaurant section of the shop, dining is even more of a delight.

Sue Patrick

5222 Burnet Road, 452-7701,
www.suepatrick.com

The friendly proprietor Sue and her equally helpful staff, all making sure their high-quality clothes, jewelry, and UT items make the little old ladies and other loyal customers happy.

Sledd Nursery

1211 W. Lynn St, 478-9977,
www.sleddnursery.com

Serving West Austin since 1978, Sledd Nursery offers the finest in quality plants and organic alternatives to common gardening problems.

Sweetish Hill Bakery

1120 W. Sixth Street, 472-1347,
www.sweetishill.com

My favorite place to go for birthday cakes. Great neighborhood bakery.

Tarrytown Pharmacy

2425 Exposition Blvd, 478-9120

A throwback to personal service and neighborhood convenience, Tarrytown Pharmacy is a West Austin landmark where the customer base goes several generations deep.

Tarrytown Texaco

3118 Windsor Road, 478-9391

Neal Newberry has been providing Tarrytown with quality service for over 30 years. Still equipped with a full service lane for gas and superior mechanics, this still proves to be an Austin treasure.

Texas Clothier

2905 San Gabriel St, 478-4956,
www.texasclothier.com

Dain Higdon at Texas Clothier has the knack of finding the finest products that are both current and classic.

Vinosity

3500 Jefferson St, 420-9111

With a vast variety of wines and small food plates, this comfortably chic wine bar is conveniently located in West Austin.

Viva Day Spa

1811 W. 35th Street, 300-2256,
www.vivadayspa.com

Tranquil and unpretentious atmosphere. Excellent facials and massage at reasonable prices.

Westbank Cleaners

Locations throughout Austin,
www.westbankdrycleaning.com

Providing high quality dry cleaning or over 10 years, Westbank Dry Cleaning has expanded throughout Austin, but has still kept its clean and local charm.

Word of Mouth Catering

2501 N. Lamar, 472-9500,
www.wordofmouthcatering.com

Voted "Best Caterer" by the Austin Chronicle, Word of Mouth Catering offers nothing less than superior service. From weddings to business events, Word of Mouth caters to your every need.

