

Best Place to Buy Jeans

Gap

If you find buying jeans to be a chore (and lots of us do), head to the Gap. "We have a huge range of styles that play to all the different fits for different body types," says Sara Martin, general manager of Woodbury's Gap. "At Gap, we offer good basics with a little fashion splashed in. We start at newborn sizes and go all the way up with our jeans." 9000 Hudson Rd.; 651.702.1344; gap.com

Runner-up:

The Buckle

Third place:

Hot Mama

Best Private Party Venue

David's Chophouse (formerly Axel's of Prestwick)

Whether you're planning an intimate gathering or a more extravagant affair, the staff at David's Chophouse will give you the personal attention your party deserves. Banquet manager Traci Meyer has been planning weddings, corporate events and golf tournaments for nearly 20 years, so she definitely knows how to make any event extra-special. From the delicious food to the outstanding ambience, David's Chophouse is the place for an absolutely perfect Woodbury party. 9555 Wedgewood Dr.; 651.294.3160; prestwick.com

Runner-up: Carmine's Restaurant and Bar

Third place:

Rav-J's American Grill



Dr. Ron Clappier with his cat, Ariel, at Hudson Road Animal Hospital.

Best Veterinarian

Hudson Road Animal Hospital

In 1960, Hudson Road Animal Hospital was a small country clinic treating large animals. "I joined that year to start the small-animal practice," says Dr. Ron Clappier, president. "Our original building fronting what was then Highway 12 sat where the I-94 freeway turnoff is now, so we purchased an adjacent school and land from School District 622 (North St. Paul/Maplewood/Oakdale), which is the building we're in now."

That building has undergone three major remodels and is now a full-service animal hospital offering diagnostic, surgical and medical care services. "We try to stay on the cutting edge of medical technology, offering digital radiology, acupuncture and laser surgery as well as ultrasound," says Clappier. "And our five veterinarians keep up-to-date through continuing education." The practice also offers pet boarding and grooming. 8154 Hudson Rd.; 651.739.0117; hrah-pa.com

Runner-up: Carver Lake Veterinary; Third place: Woodbury Animal Hospital

Best Builder/Remodeler

Ispiri

President Jason Fabio says Ispiri is "always striving to be the best," and award-winning design and service make them a go-to builder/remodeler in the east metro. Named Regional Contractor of 2012 by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry, Ispiri prides itself on honesty, integrity and service, delivered throughout every project. Visit Ispiri's kitchen and bath showroom/home design center and gaze longingly at all the elements that can help you create the home of your dreams. 710 Commerce Dr. Ste. 150; 651.578.0122; ispiri.com.

Runner-up:

Michael Lee Inc.

Third place: Cardinal Home Builders

Best Pet Grooming

Posh Pooch Pet Salon and Boutique

Posh Pooch offers the ultimate pet spa and boutique experience from nine pro stylists. "We all love what we do and take that extra step because we want everyone to leave happy," says owner Julie Erling. "We draw customers from all over, as far away as Duluth." 783 Radio Dr. Ste. 101; 651.578.7674; poshpoochpetboutique.com

Runner-up: PetSmart

Third place: Hudson Road Animal Hospital