

The first annual 2016 Rowan County Gold People's Choice Awards results are in! As you browse the following pages you will find some of the area's finest restaurants, retail stores, service providers, entertainment venues, people and all that makes Rowan County great. The awards and recognition are results voted on by the people of Rowan County who use and know them the most. With so many fine choices the competition was tough.

2016 ROWAN

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

Salisbury Post

Browse through the following pages and keep this guide handy as thousands of locals told us why Rowan County is such a great place to live, shop, eat, work and play. We thank everyone who took the time to vote. Now turn the page and read about the winners!

WINNER'S EDITION

FOUR OF OUR **"BEST!"**



Pictured front to back: Tracie Sells, Senior Relationship Manager Walt Wall, Senior Business Banker Pam Abernathy, Mortgage Lending Officer Bob Setzer, Senior Mortgage Lending Officer

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 3F

EATS, DRINKS & ENTERTAINMENT

BEST AMERICAN Sweet Meadow ★

111 N Main St., Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 637-8715; Mon. Closed; Tues., Wed. 11 AM-3 PM; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-3 PM, 5-9 PM; Sun. 10:30 AM-3 PM Year Opened: 1987 | Owners: Heather & Scott Teeter Most distinctive aspect of your business: Locally sourced ingredients Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I have no idea, but we're glad they think that highly of us. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people. Heather and I are not from here but we decided to settle here because we like the area and the people.

Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge; Second Runner-Up: East Coast Wings

BEST CHINESE

Ting Hao

Westland Shopping Center, 519 Jake Alexander Blvd W # G, Salisbury, NC 28147; ((704) 633-3942; Mon.-Sat. 11 AM-9 PM; Sunday Closed

Runner-Up: Wong's Second Runner-Up: Spring Garden

BEST ITALIAN

Pinocchio's Italian Restaurant and Wine Store ★

518 S Salisbury Ave, Spencer, NC 28159; 704-636-8891; Mon.-Thurs. 5-9 PM; Fri. & Sat. 5-10 PM; Sun. Closed Year Opened: 1999 | Owners: Giuseppe Lopriore & Tracy Aitken Main product/service: Italian food, Gluten Free Food Most distinctive aspect of your business: Authentic southern Italian cuisine by a university-trained italian chef

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We bring in fresh, local foods', quality meats & seafood are Chef Giuseppe's specialties. Over 2/3 of our menu can be adopted to gluten-free or dairy-free needs.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people! Our customers are a warm, friendly, and appreciative group.

Runner-Up: Romano's Italian Cuisine Second Runner-Up: Chef Santos

BEST MEXICAN Go Burrito ★

115 W Fisher St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 754-4755; Mon.-Sun. 11 AM-11 PM

Year Opened: 2013 | Owners: Mike and Lilly Wetzel Manager: Lily Griffith | Main product/service: Burritos and Nachos

Most distinctive aspect of your business: The atmosphere, with the rooftop included. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? They enjoy the

food with friendly service and a great atmosphere.

Runner-Up: Pancho Villas Second Runner-Up: El Patron

BEST THAI

Sabaidee Thai & Sushi Restaurant 2204 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28147;704-467-2176; Mon.-Thurs. 11 AM-3 PM, 4:30-9 PM; Fri. 11 AM-3 PM, 4:30-9:30 PM; Sat. 11 AM-9:30 PM; Sun. 12-3 PM, 4:30-8 PM

Year Opened: 2014 | Owners: Peter and Jenny Siriwattana Manager: Jenny

Main product/service: Thai and Sushi and a Cocktail Bar Most distinctive aspect of your business: Actually a different culture and the best one!

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We are different and have good customer service, good food and good place to eat. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people here are very very nice.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? In a couple weeks we hope to open an outside patio & we are hoping to have a second restaurant.

Runner-Up: Bangkok Downtown; Second Runner-Up: Mala's

BEST BBQ College BBQ

117 Statesville Blvd, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 633-9953; Mon. 7 AM-2 PM; Tues.-Fri. 7 AM-8 PM; Sat. 7 AM-3

PM; Sun. 7 AM-8 PM Year Opened: 1965 | Owners: Jay Owen Manager: James Blanton, Jason Stanley

Main product/service: Pork BBQ

Most distinctive aspect of your business: We still do the original style pit bbq where we cook all night long and it's hickory smoked. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Just the people here are really nice. We have a lot of loyal customers that come in and eat 3 times a day.

Runner-Up: Gary's BBQ; Second Runner-Up: Hendrix BBQ

BEST APPETIZERS Mambo Grill & Tapas ★

122 E. Fisher St., Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-637-0192; Tues-Thurs 11am-9pm, Fri. 11am-10pm, Sat. Noon-10pm, Sun. noon-4pm

Year opened: 2008 | Owner: Ariella Sanchez

Managers: Misty Ratcliff, Bar Manager & Austin Woods, Manager Main product/service: Authentic Cuban restaurant (Family recipes) What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Full service bar with over 100 craft beers.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We strive to serve the same products to customers as we would our family. We use family recipes and that makes us different.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I think this community is about supporting local. Our patrons come to visit our downtown mom and pop shops and that's a beautiful thing. Do you have any plans to expand or change? At the moment, we have Mambo Expresss for lunch and late night. We have sandwiches, empanadas, Cuban pastries & coffees and shakes.

Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge Second Runner-Up: Applebee's



117 Statesville Blvd, Salisbury, NC 28144 704-633-9953

BEST BAKERY

Abigail's - A Cake Affair ★

113 N. Main St., Salisbury; (704) 637-8715; Mon. Closed; Tues-Fri 10am-6pm., Sat. 11am-4pm potentially open til 8 on Fridays starting in October.

Year opened: 2015 | Current owner: Abigail Young Main product/service: Cupcakes And Custom Cakes What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The freshness and quality of the products. I take pride in the fact that everything is from scratch.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I do my best to provide the best and freshest product and always served with smile. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I love having regular customers and getting to know them and their families.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? I have a couple of ideas, but nothing in stone at the moment.

Runner-Up: LA Murphs Second Runner-Up: Better Loafing

BEST BREAKFAST

Breakfasttime

1602 Jake Alexander Blvd. S, Salisbury, NC 28146; 704-603-8032; Mon.-Sun. 6 AM-3 PM Year opened: 2016 | Current owner: Alexander Kazakis Manager: Tina Machner Main product/service: Food Truck What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Everything

is cooked fresh and we pride ourselves in the time that the food is served and everything is cooked to order. We try the best of our ability to get the food to you within 7 minutes. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? The friendly and skilled service servers, as well as wait staff.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I know a lot of people here and everyone is really friendly. it's like being with family. The community opened its arms to us when we came in and it's been phenomenal.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? The owner is expanding into other areas around the region; another one is opening towards the Speedway in Charlotte & Clemmons.

Runner-Up: The Palms Second Runner-Up: Hendrix BBQ, W. Innes St

BEST BRUNCH

Sweet Meadow ★

111 N Main St., Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 637-8715; Mon. Closed; Tues., Wed. 11 AM-3 PM; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-3 PM, 5-9 PM; Sun. 10:30 AM-3 PM

Runner-Up: Breakfast Time Second Runner-Up: Emma's of Salisbury

BEST CATERER

Debbie Suggs Catering

Salisbury; 704-637-2016 Year Opened: 1994 | Owners: Debbie Suggs Most distinctive aspect of your business: Everything is cooked fresh & real. I peel my own potatoes! Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because I really, really do try hard to please everyone! My main goal in life is to make everyone happy. I use good, quality food. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people!

Runner-Up: LA Murph's; Second Runner-Up: Chef Santos

BEST DELI

Sidewalk Deli

120 S. Main St., Salisbury; 704-637-DELI or 704-637-3354; Mon-Sat 11am-3:30pm Year Opened: 1996 Owner: Rick Anderson McCombs

Main product/service: Large selection of sandwiches and main course salads that are super fresh and made to order! Most distinctive aspect of your business: A GREAT lunch - Large selection of sandwiches and main course salads that are super fresh and made to order!

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We are the oldest restaraunt under original ownership in the area and we offer consistently great food to our customers. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? My customers - they're the best.

Runner-Up: Harris Teeter Second Runner-Up: Jersey Mike's

BEST FOOD TRUCK

Kabobs Mobile Food Service Salisbury and surrounding areas; 704-213-6053;

Year Opened: 2014 | Owners: Andrew Dionne Main product/service: Food Truck/Catering Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Great Food, Great Service with a smile. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people and feeling apart of a great community Do you have any plans to expand or change? Coming next season we will be starting a brand new food truck with a brand new concept and menu, more will be disclosed as the spring season gets closer.

BEST GLUTEN FREE

Pinocchio's Italian Restaurant and Wine Store \star

518 S Salisbury Ave, Spencer, NC 28159; 704-636-8891; Mon.-Thurs. 5-9 PM; Fri. & Sat. 5-10 PM; Sun. Closed

Runner-Up: Sweet Meadow; Second Runner-Up: Palm's Cafe

BEST LATE NIGHT

Go Burrito ★

115 W Fisher St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 754-4755; Mon.-Sun. 11 AM-11 PM. www.goburrito.com

Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge Second Runner-Up: Waffle House

BEST PATIO

Go Burrito ★

115 W Fisher St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 754-4755; Mon.-Sun. 11 AM-11 PM. www.goburrito.com

Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge Second Runner-Up: Salty Caper



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BEST PLACE FOR A ROMANTIC DINNER

La Cava Restaurant 🖈

329 S. Church St., Salisbury; 704-637-7174; 5:30-9pm Mon-Thurs (winter) 5:30-10pm Mon-Thurs (summer) & 5:30-10pm Fri & Sat (winter & summer) Year opened: 1994 Current owners: Gianni Moscardini and Mona Moscardini Manager: Victoria Sanchez

Main product/service: Fine dining Italian Cuisine What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The atmosphere provided by the 100 + year old church Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? For consistency in both service and food quality and overall dining experience What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We have the opportunity to provide the community with a fine dinina experience unlike any other.

Runner-Up: Chef Santos; Second Runner-Up: Ivan's

BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE Abigail's - A Cake Affair ★

113 N. Main St., Salisbury; (704) 637-8715; Mon. Closed; Tues., Wed. 11 AM-3 PM; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-3 PM, 5-9 PM; Sun. 10:30 AM-3 PM

Runner-Up: Pancho Villas Second Runner-Up: Chick-fil-A

BEST TAKE-OUT FOOD Tokyo Express

404 East Innes St., Salisbury; (704) 633-7333; Monday-Sunday 11am-9pm Year opened: 2000 | Current owner(s) Manager: Main product/service: Chinese food What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in?

Runner-Up: Chick-fil-A Second Runner-Up: DJs

BEST VEGETARIAN

Sweet Meadow 📩

111 N Main St., Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 637-8715; Mon. Closed; Tues., Wed. 11 AM-3 PM; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-3 PM, 5-9 PM: Sun. 10:30 AM-3 PM.

Runner-Up: The Palms Second Runner-Up: Emma's

BEST BAR

Go Burrito 📩

115 W Fisher St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 754-4755; Mon.-Sun. 11 AM-11 PM. www.goburrito.com

BEST BEER SELECTION AT A RESTAURANT

Salty Caper Wood Fired Pizza 🛧 115 S Lee St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 633-1101; Mon.-Wed. 5-10PM; Frid. & Sat. 5PM-12AM; Sunday Closed Year opened: | Current owne: Jian Moscardini Manager: Matt Burnside & John Shatterly Main product/service: Wood fired pizza and craft beer What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Wood burning oven & were the 1st folks to bring craft beer to Salisbury. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because we are a destination, fun atmosphere & good crew. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Salisbury is a community!

Runner-Up: Mambo Grill and Tapas Second Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounae

BEST COFFEE SHOP

Koco-Java Coffee 329 N Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-754-3461; Mon.-Fri. 7AM-6PM: Sat. 8AM-4PM. Sunday Closed Year opened: 2009 | Current owner(s): Arturo & Berta Therecka Manager: Arturo Therecka Main product/service: Coffee beans & specialy coffees Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Good products

& good service What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Great

community support. Runner-Up: Mean Mug Cafe

Second Runner-Up: Starbucks, Salisbury

BEST SPORTS BAR

DJ's Restaurant & SkyLounge 🖈

1502 w Inness St., Salisbury NC 28144; (704) 638-9647; Mon - Thursday 11am till midnight; Fri-sat 11am till 2 am; Sunday 11am 10pm

Year Opened: 1995 | Owners: Louie Mourouzidis

Manager: Ruslana Savyelyeva Main product/service: Restaurant bar

Most distinctive aspect of your business: We cater to a variety of people for 21 years. Our Greek / Italian / American cuisine has been consistent.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? As to why we were rated so high the answer would be consistent food and service, the great entertainment music and sport events and the good time vou feel by being here.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I have watched Salisbury grow over the last 20 years and it has come a long way. Small town provides a different nice feeling than a big city.we got to know many people on a personal level over the years. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are looking to renovate the rest of the building including new restrooms and parking.

Runner-Up: East Coast Wings Second Runner-Up: Applebee's



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BEST WINE SELECTION Salisbury Wine Shop

106 S. Main Street, Salisbury; 704-636-5151; Mon: Closed; Tues - Thurs: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Fri: 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Sat: 11 a.m. - 6 p.m

Year Opened: 2010 | Owners: Stephanie & Bob Potter Main product/service: Boutique Wine, Artisan Beer, Local Food Products

Most distinctive aspect of your business: Our knowledge of the products we sell. We taste everything we sell so we can make knowledgeable recommendations to our customers. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? All of our customers are important to us and we treat them with respect. We discuss with them their needs and try to find products that will work with what they are trying to accomplish.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The relationships we develop with the people in this area. Do you have any plans to expand or change? Constantly changing inventory/bringing representatives of new wineries in to meet our customers and host wine dinners at our shop and area restaurants

Runner-Up: Pinocchio's; Second Runner-Up: La Cava

BEST BURGER

Hap's Grill ★

116 1/2 North Main St., Salisbury; (704) 633-5872; 10am-3pm Monday-Saturday, Closed Sunday

Runner-Up: Sweet Meadow Cafe Second Runner-Up: Cook Out

BEST BURRITO Go Burrito *

115 W Fisher St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 754-4755; Mon.-Sun. 11 AM-11 PM. www.aoburrito.com

Runner-Up: Pancho Villas; Second Runner-Up: El Patron

BEST FROZEN YOGURT

Sweet Frog

912 East Innes St., Salisbury; 704-633-0090; Mon.-Thurs. 11am-9pm, Fri. & Sat. 11am-10pm, Sun. 12-9pm Year Opened: 2012 | Owners: CBQ Enterprises Manager: Renee House

Main product/service: Frozen yogurt & toppings Most distinctive aspect of your business: Christian company Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Cleanliness and friendliness

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Great response from community, people are best supporters. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? New line of frozen-yogurt pies custom-made

Runner-Up: Spanky's; Second Runner-Up: Schwann's

BEST HOT DOG Hap's Grill 🗙

116 1/2 North Main St., Salisbury; (704) 633-5872; 10am-3pm Monday-Saturday, Closed Sunday

Runner-Up: College BBQ Second Runner-Up: Hot Dog Shack

BEST ICE CREAM Abigail's - A Cake Affair *

113 N. Main St., Salisbury; (704) 637-8715; Mon. Closed; Tues., Wed. 11 AM-3 PM; Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-3 PM, Runner-Up: Spanky's; Second Runner-Up: Dairy Queen

BEST PIZZA

Salty Caper Wood Fired Pizza ★

115 S Lee St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 633-1101; www.saltycaper.com

Runner-Up: Village Inn Second Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge

BEST SALAD

Village Inn Pizza Parlor 🗡

2138 Statesville Blvd., Salisbury; 704-633-4561;Mon-Sat 11am-9pm, Sun. Noon-9pm

Year Opened: 1987 | Owners: Lackey family Manager: Jeff Huffman | Main product/service: Pizza Most distinctive aspect of your business: Customer service Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We keep our salad bar perfect day and night, strive on being the best. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Like the community, everyone is like family Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be

interested in? Expanded dining area and remodeled restaurant

Runner-Up: O'Charley's; Second Runner-Up: The Palms

BEST SEAFOOD Blue Bay Seafood

1007 East Innes St., Salisbury & 2050 Statesville Blvd.,

Salisbury; (704) 633-9585; (704) 639-9500; Innes St. 11:30am-9pm daily; Statesville Blvd. Mon.-Thurs. 4-9pm, Fri. 11am-9:30 pm, Sat. 3-9:30 pm & Sun. 11:30am-9:30pm Year Opened: 1980

Owners: Dino, Jimmy & Tommy Kalogeromitros Managers: Whitney Stokes, Innes St; Amber Lambert, Statesville Blvd Main product/service: Seafood, Daily Specials & appetizers Most distinctive aspect of your business: Quality of Food Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Great family atmosphere & service What do you like about doing business in Rowan County?

Customers of Rowan County.

Runner-Up: Chef Santos; Second Runner-Up: Johnny's BBQ

BEST STEAK

Ivan's Restaurant 🛪

2024 Old Mocksville Rd., Salisbury; 704-637-2000; Tues-Sat 5-9om

Year opened: 1989 | Current owners: Joe Sims and Family Manager: Joe Sims | Main product/service: Fine Dining Restaurant What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Fine Dining in a Relaxed and Casual Atmosphere.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because we serve high quality products.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Because Rowan County is a great county with wonderful people.

Runner-Up: Longhorn Steakhouse Second Runner-Up: Outback Steakhouse



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BEST SUSHI

Katana Japanese Fusion Sushi

475 Jake Alexander Blvd. W., Salisbury; (704) 636-0200; 11am-9pm Sun.-Thurs., 11am-9:30pm Fri. & Sat. Year opened: 2011 | Manager: David Ngo Main product/service: Sushi, Japanese Teppenyaki (a tradition style that utilizes an iron griddle to prepare food) What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We in believe using the best and cleanest ingredients. Adding no MSG in our

food and cooking makes it distinctive. We have to be more creative utilizing our seasoning. So everyone can enjoy great everyday healthy tasteful food. Why do you think Pact renders rated you on highly thus be the

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Must be the yummy sauces!

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We are a family owned business and Rowan county feels very much like home. Our customers and friends here are great! Do you have any plans to expand or change? Currently we are making plans to transition one of our Shiki location into the katana

brand and concept.

Runner-Up: Bangkok Downtown

Second Runner-Up: Sabaidee Thai & Sushi

BEST WINGS

East Coast Wings & Grill ★

Innes Street Market, 211 Faith Rd, Salisbury; (704) 633-2464; Mon.-Thurs. 11am-9:30 pm, Fri. & Sat. 11am-10pm & Sun.11:30am-9pm

Year opened: 2009 | Managers: Scott Hudson, Mike Burkhart Main product/service: Restaraunt

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Menu variety, atmosphere.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Service, quality of product, community involvement.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Great community that supports local businesses.

Runner-Up: Christo's Family Restaurant Second Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge

BEST PLACE TO ENTERTAIN KIDS Dan Nicholas Park

6800 Bringle Ferry Rd; 704-216-7803; www.dannicholas.net

Year Opened: Nov. 1967 established park & recreation commission, 1968 Mr. Nicholas donated land. 1972, Open to public Owners: Rowan County | Manager: Don Bringle - Park Director Most distinctive aspect of your business: Activites & low cost Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Experienced park with children & grandchildren, made special memories with family & friends at the park

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people - because of support & best people to work with overall. We thank them for visiting our park & voting for us. Do you have any plans to expand or change? We're always looking for better ways to serve the public.

Runner-Up: Bounce City; Second Runner-Up: Chick-fil-A

BEST PLACE TO HEAR LIVE MUSIC Nashville Nights

1127 E Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 762-9989; Mon-Sat 9:30AM to 2AM, Sun 12PM-2AM Year Opened: 2012 | Owner: Todd Littleton Manager: Chris Ostle

Main product/service: Bar that offers live music, karaoke, pool, everything in the bar business.

Most distinctive aspect of your business: We bring in bigger bands; from single people with acoustic guitars to 5 piece bands.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We're really the only game in town right now; and we have a great reputation with Salisbury community. It's a safe friendly atmosphere to hear music. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Small town and we know everybody; we yell people's names as they walk in the door like Cheers!

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We do have some plans on the horizon that will be announced later- some newer bands to diversify.

Runner-Up: DJ's Restaurant & Skylounge; Second Runner-Up: Lee Street Theatre

BEST THEATER PERFORMANCE Piedmont Players

213 S. Main St., Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-633-5471 www.piedmontplayers.com

Year opened: Founded in 1961 but moved into the Meroney Theater in 1995. The Norvell Theater was opened in 2010 and Eastern Costume Company in 2014 | Owner: 501c3 Nonprofit Main product/service: PPT owns and operates the Meroney Theater and the Norvell Youth Theater in Downtown Salisbury. We produce 5 youth productions at the Neroney.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? One of the oldest arts organizations in Rowan County. The Norvell Theater is one of the only all-youth theaters in the state.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We hope it's because many of them are part of the PPT family and feel a sense of ownership in the organization. All of our auditions are open to anyone and everyone in the community. In addition to the actors on stage it takes approx. 100-150 volunteers behind the scenes for each production to be a success.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The incredible generosity and support of our community. PPT could not exist without the support of the residents of Rowan County and the number of people who volunteer, donate money, attend shows, produce shows, etc, blows us away each and every year. It is a remarkable County when it comes to supporting the arts and we are grateful to be part of it.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are continuing to grow our youth education program. In addition to our Youth Workshops and full schedule of Theatre Summer Camps, we have just begun the 3rd year of the PPT Youth Theatre Academy, where students from all over the county come to study theatre.

Runner-Up: Lee Street Theater

SERVICES, FACES & PLACES

ACTIVIST/COMMUNITY CHAMPION



Sue McHugh

Moved to Granite Quarry in 1998 - moved to downtown Salisbury North Main Historic District in 2006

I'm always trying to think of something to improve our quality of life in Salisbury, whether it is a neighborhood beautification project, a downtown event, volunteerism, or philanthropy. I appreciate what so many do for the betterment of the community, and I enjoy being a part of that wave.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I am a thinker AND a doer, and folks know that if I wrap my brain around something...it will happen!

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? There are

so many opportunities, and the community is so receptive to new ideas and positive changes!

Do you have any plans to expand or change? Yes! Always on the lookout for another project to bring to the community!

Runner-Up: Beautiful Dentistry Second Runner-Up: Tamara Sheffield

BEST DENTIST

Fortner Dental Group

Fortner Dental Group; 1834 Jake Alexander Boulevard West, Suite 504, Salisbury; 704-636-1848; Mon.-Thurs. 8 AM-5

PM; Fri. by appt. only Year opened: 1992 | Current owner: Don Fortner

Manager: Bethany Fortner

Main product/service: General & Cosmetic Dentistry What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The quality of care and customer service we provide.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Along with my entire team, I take pride in providing the highest quality of dental care and customer service to my patients. I think my patients appreciate that I offer the latest in dental treatment technology, a modern and comfortable office and, most importantly, I am accessible 24/7 for their emergency needs.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Working with other local and family owned small businesses. I enjoy the relationships, both working and personal, that are created for a common interest in the community and growth in Rowan County. We are still excited about the addition of Dr Susan Muth to our

SALISBURY POST

practice. Dr. Muth is continuing the traditions of quality dental care and superior customer service that have been trademarks of the practice ever since it was started by Dr. Bobby Lomax in 1962. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We also recently added 3D cone beam technology , which allows us to diagnose and treat patients in ways that were not previously available with traditional x-rays.

Runner-Up: Dr. James K Jolly Second Runner-Up: Anderson Dental

BEST HANDYMAN

Handyman of Rowan, LLC Serving Rowan County and Surrounding areas; 704-210-

2342; Monday-Friday 8-5

Year opened: 2012 | Current owner: Jeff Yost

Main product/service: Home repairs, improvements & construction What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Good customer service, and strive to exceed customers' expectations Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I have always

offered quality work, while being honest and doing the best for my customers.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I like meeting new people and doing different jobs every day. Interacting with the great local people of Rowan County gives me the opportunity to meet the residents as well as other small business owners.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? I am looking to hire another employee so that I can be more productive and help more customers.

Runner-Up: CJ Peters Top Hat Second Runner-Up: Brian Pfaff

BEST LAW FIRM Doran Shelby Pethel & Hudson

122 N. Lee St., Salisbury; (704)633-1947; 8 am-5:30 pm Year opened: 2001

Main product/service: A broad range of legal services including real estate transactions, estate planning, trusts and decedent's estates, federal and state tax matters, Medicaid planning, Elder law, workers' compensation, social security disability, personal injury, criminal law, traffic matters, and civil litigation in state or federal court.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We have seven (7) attorneys actively involved in the practice so we can limit each attorney's focus to a limited number of practice areas so as to better serve our clientele. We are committed to providing high quality legal services to the citizens of Rowan County and throughout the State. All of our attorneys actually live in Rowan County and are active in our community.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? The broad range of legal services available from our firm and the quality of the legal services available over such a wide range of practice areas. Six of the seven lawyers have more than 10 years of experience and the firm has been together for 15 years. In fact, November 1 marks the 15th anniversary of the opening of our firm. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The strong community spirit, the active entrepreneurial environment, the vibrant educational atmosphere, and the strong, united legal community.

Runner-Up: Davis and Davis Second Runner-Up: Wallace & Graham

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 9F

A REPORT STREAM

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BEST LOCAL EMPLOYER

Food Lion ★

www.foodlion.com; 704-633-8250 Year opened: 1957 | Parent Company: Delhaize America Parent Group: Ahold Delhaize | President, Food Lion: Meg Ham Main product/service: Grocery/Retail

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Long-standing heritage of low prices with convenient locations. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We believe customers appreciate our commitment to low prices and fresh products they can count on every day, as well as our commitment to the community through Food Lion Feeds, our hunger-relief platform, in which we've committed to donate 500 million meals

by the end of 2020. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Salisbury, N.C., is our hometown. It all started back in 1957 when we were known for offering the lowest food prices in North Carolina, and we're proud to still operate Store 1, right here in Salisbury today, along with many others.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We recently completed a \$215 million investment of our Salisbury-area stores. Through this investment, our customers will have fresh, new stores designed to be easier to navigate and shop so they can get in, out and on their way.

Runner-Up: F&M Bank Second Runner-Up: Salisbury Salon & Spa

BEST MORTGAGE LENDER F&M Bank *

Salisbury; 704-279-7291; Mon-Thur 9am-5pm, Fri. 9am-6pm

Year opened: 1909 | Current owners: Shareholders Manager: Steve Fisher, CEO/President

Main product/service: Financial solutions to meet life's challenges and opportunities

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Our people Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Our people and commitment to the community

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Our 100 + year roots are here ... and we are vested in improving the guality of life for our friends and neighbors

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? New website and enhanced mobile banking products are coming in 2017 all backed by our legendary commitment to customer service.

Runner-Up: State Employees Credit Union Second Runner-Up: Wells Fargo

BEST NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION Meals on Wheels

1307 S. Salisbury Ave, Spencer; 704-633-0352; M-Th, 8:30-2:30 & Fri. 8:30-1

Year opened: 1976 | Manager: Rita Sims - Executive Director Main product/service: To provide a meal and friendly visit to the homebound of Rowan County.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? To be able to provide home bound senior citizens with a meal and a visit. Something so small can go a long way for the person themselves and the family members.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because of how important it is to have this service to help their family member or loved one just by delivering the most essential need, food. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It's all about taking care of our community and the people of our community. We love all of the support from the community, for what it's about - giving back.

Runner-Up: Rowan Helping Ministries Second Runner-Up: Rufty-Holmes Senior Center

BEST PLUMBER/PLUMBING COMPANY

Spencer Plumbing PO Box 415, Spencer, NC 28159; 704-637-2090;

Mon.-Thurs., 8am-5pm & Fri. 8am-12pm Year opened: <mark>197</mark>8

Runner-Up: CAC Plumbing Second Runner-Up: Master Plumbing

BEST REAL ESTATE COMPANY/OFFICE Wallace Realty

301 North Main St. Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 636-2021; Our office is open 8:30am-5pm Agents available 24/7. Year opened: Wallace & Sons, now Wallace Realty, has been doing business in Salisbury since 1867.

Owners: Victor Wallace, Lee Wallace

Main product/service: Real estate services, residential or commercial, buy/sell/lease

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Since 1867, we are the longest running local and family owned and operated real estate business in Rowan County.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We have a stellar reputation for quality service & hard work over the long haul with over 14 professional agents.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Rowan County's #1 asset is its people, and its #2 asset is its rich history. Wallace Realty is invested in the community we live, work and raise our children in and is committed to its people and preserving that history.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We will continue to provide the services that have earned us the reputation of the 'best real estate agent in Rowan County' - thank you Rowan County!

Runner-Up: Century 21 Towne & Country Second Runner-Up: Mary Arey Realty

BEST REALTOR

Keith Knight

301 N. Main St., Salisbury NC 28144; 704-636-2021/704-363-0096;

Manager: Bonzie Everson

Main product/service: Real Estate Services: buy/sell/lease - commercial or residential

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? My high level of customer service

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? 15+ years of experience. 41 closings in last 12 months

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? There is such a variety of properties here. There is something for every budget and every goal - something for everybody.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? I plan to keep delivering high quality service for my clients and maintain my excellent track record!

Runner-Up: Jayne Helms; Second Runner-Up: Greg Rapp

BEST TEACHER Mrs. Missy Weaver

Teacher at: Koontz Elementary - Kindergarten Years: 10 years, been in education 20

When Mrs. Weaver is not teaching, she loves reading, the beach & spending time with family.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? I try to make learning fun. I try to help every child learn no matter what their circumstances. I want each childe to be as successful as they can be for them. I try to give the kids what they need when they need it sometimes that may be a hug, sometimes it may be a nap. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I do not know. I am humbled and I am honored.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The kids! They are my loves and my passion. They are why I do what I do. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Flexible seating - exercise balls, chairs, stools, bath mats for floor, pillows in reading center. Learning technology. Active boards.

Runner-Up: Kori Cairrikier Second Runner-Up: Pam Rutherford

BEST CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE Dr. Jeter

1001 N. Main St., Salisbury; 704-633-5156; Mon.-Wed. 8 AM-12 PM, 2:00-5:30 PM; Thurs.-Fri. 8 AM-12 PM; Year opened: 1949 | Current owner: Dr. Andrew Jeter Main product/service: Chiropractic, massage therapy, physical therapy, and nutrition

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Our customer service. Modern day technology and friendly and courteous staff. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because of our Our customer service. Modern day technology and friendly and courteous staff.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people.

Runner-Up: Collins Chiropractic Second Runner-Up: The Way to Wellness, Jessica Jennings

BEST DOCTOR Dr. Benjamin Ott

650 Julian Road, Salisbury, NC 28147 ; 704-637-3373; M-Th 7am-6pm, F 7am-5pm, Sat 8am-11am, Sun 1pm-4pm

Year opened: 1980 | Current owner: Novant Health Manager: Laura Harper

Main product/service: Family medicine

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We work hard to give personalized, attentive service when the patient needs by being available extended hours and offering same day appointments for those issues that can't wait

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Hopefully because our patients recognize our commitment to them and remarkable care, and appreciate the care that they have been given.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We have a wonderful, hard working, and diverse population that keeps our job interesting and stimulating on a daily basis. Rowan County is a wonderful place to work and live.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We have two new physicians that are taking new patients. Runner-Up: Dr Ronnie Barrier Second Runner-Up: Dr. Chet Amin

EYE CARE FACILITY

Salisbury Eyecare and Eyewear 🖈

205 E Council Street Suite B., Salisbury; 704-310-5002; 8:30a-5p M, W, and Thursday. 10-7 on Tuesdays, and 8:30-1pm on fridays

Year opened: 2016 | Current owner: Melanie Denton Dombrowski Main product/service: Medical Eyecare, Boutique-style Optical, Glasses and Contact Lenses

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are in a historic building in downtown, which makes for a beautiful space. We're also obsessed with providing an above and beyond experience for our patients, so customer service is a main focus. We want every patient to feel truly cared for, not just like another patient through the door. Finally, we've intentionally chosen frame lines that are unique and high quality. We want to be the place to go for a little something unique and different.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We were blown away that we won. In our 9 months of being open, we've felt blessed with wonderful, caring and supportive patients. We asked them for their vote in this contest, and we're so thankful to them that they responded like they did.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Getting the business started here has been so rewarding. The entire community has been so welcoming and supportive. Being downtown has been great as well, with the support of Downtown Salisbury, Inc and other merchants.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are constantly growing right now, we are welcoming new patients, adding in a dry eye center, and continually bringing in new frame lines to our collection. We welcome visitors and would love to show you our new space and eyewear collection.

Runner-Up: Eye Care Center Second Runner-Up: Dr. Mark Brittain

BEST HEARING AID CENTER Beltone Hearing Aid Centers

1921 W. Innes St., Salisbury & 213 N. Main St., China Grove; 704-636-6037 & 704-857-4200; Mon, Tues, Thur. 9am-5pm & Wed. & Fri. 9am-12pm Year opened: 1973 Current owners: Lee & Marie Wade, Matt Thomas, Angela Melton Manager: Matthew Thomas Main product/service: Hearing Instruments, hearing services What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Family Owned - strive to make people happy. People oriented. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Excellent patient service. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Community, City of Salisbury (rich history) Friendly people of

Community, City of Salisbury (rich history) Friendly people Rowan County.

Runner-Up: Hearing Solutions Second Runner-Up: Salisbury Audiology







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BEST KARATE/MARTIAL ARTS STUDIO

Sidekick Karate of Salisbury

119 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 202-6454; Mon.-Thurs. 5-8; Fri. 5-6; Sat. 3-5 Year opened: 2012 | Current owners: Ricky Smith and Edie Smith Manager: Ricky Smith, Head Instructor Main product/service: Teaching martial arts. I have been teaching martial arts over 40 years.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We teach American Open Karate, which includes most major styles, in a Christian Family Environment. Karate is an activity where the whole family can get involved. Karate is also an activity that kids who are not interested in team sports can get involved.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? The Salisbury Post has covered the martial arts career of my husband, Ricky, and his twin, Randy since the early 1970's, including their fighting career, movie career, and many events, tournaments, and fund raisers we have promoted through the years. This has given us great positive recognition with your readers.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I have lived in Rowan County my whole life. My brother and I graduated from Catawba College. My mother, Aldena, taught English at South Rowan High School for 34 years. My dad, Gene, a business man, owned Happy Lake, where we grew up and learned work ethic from a small age. My family has deep roots in Rowan County and I like doing business where I am known.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Yes, we are expanding our schedule to six days a week. We have had a lot of interest and growth in our Screaming Eagle Program, which is 5-8 years old and our regular kids program which is 9-12 years old.

Runner-Up: Iron Dragon Second Runner-Up: Kim Soo Karate

BEST MEDICAL FACILITY Novant Health Rowan Medical

Center

612 Mocksville Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-210-5000; novanthealth.org

Year opened: 1935 | President — Dari Caldwell Main product/service: Acute care services What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The opportunity to improve the health of our community. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We try to make a personal connection with our patients — they are much more than a disease or injury.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The warmth of the people here, their welcoming nature, and the excitement of being part of the growth of the community. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Yes! We have growth plans in each of our service lines and expect to add new services as well as more jobs over the next year.

Runner-Up: Rowan Diagnostic Second Runner-Up: Rowan Family Physicians

BEST PILATES/YOGA STUDIO

YMCA of Rowan County *

704-216-9622; www.rowanymca.com Year opened: 1952 | CEO: Jamie Morgan Main product/service: Youth development, healthy living, social responsibility.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? That we deliver the services of Youth Development, Healthy Living and Social Responsibility with a Christian emphasis. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? The community is such an integral part of the YMCA. The community has helped build each facility from capital fundraising to facility design.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people! We are fortunate to serve all people in the county. We see each person as a blessing and a Y family member. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We consistently review our services and programs. If the needs of the community change and we can serve that need, we will adjust accordingly. A few upcoming changes or additions are: the J. F. Hurley YMCA has added a functional training room. This room will be programmed to serve Y member's fitness needs. This summer each branch will host a variety of Specialty Camps/Clinics.

Runner-Up: The Forum Second Runner-Up: Accelerate Health and Fitness

BEST PLACE TO WORK OUT Hurley YMCA

828 Jake Alexander Blvd W, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 636-0111; www.rowanymca.com

Runner-Up: The Forum; Second Runner-Up: Planet Fitness

BEST PET BOARDING SERVICE

Lazy 5 Veterinary Hospital ★ 2916 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 636-1100; Mon-Fri 7:30AM-6:30PM, Sat 7:30AM-12:30 PM, Closed Sun. lazy5vets.com Year opened: 2005 | Current owners: Drs. Rebekah Julian & Corrie Connolly Manager: Scott Julian, CVPM

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Main product/service: Veterinary Hospital, Grooming, Boarding What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Our veterinary team builds personal, long-standing relationships with clients and their pets.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Exceptional Veterinary Care with wide range of boarding, grooming and online services.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Being able to give back and strengthen the community where most of our team grew up is rewarding.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We have no plans for any more building expansion currently, but will continue to grow with changing technological and online advances to enhance each clients' and pet experience when communicating with their vet.

Runner-Up: Doggie Holiday Second Runner-Up: Salisbury Animal Hospital







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BEST PET GROOMING SERVICE Uptown Dogs and Cats

2125 Statesville Blvd., Salisbury, NC; 704-636-7260; Tuesday 7-5, Wednesday 7-4, Thursday & Friday 7-5, Saturday, 7-3

Year opened: Took ownership in Dec. 2013 Current owners: Piero & Jenn Sciortino

Main product/service: Grooming pets

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are a small family run business, we truly care about the pets in our care, we strive to get to know them and provide that personal touch that the mass chain grooming stores miss. We have over 30 years combined experience in the animal industry. We strive to not only provide a good haircut at a fair price but to help and advise on all aspects of caring for your pet. We also offer do-it-yourself bathing for dogs that don't require grooming or in between grooming. We also work closely with the Rowan County Animal Shelter, providing free grooms for shelter pets, as well as other promotions through the year for adopted pets.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We care deeply about you and your pets, our customers are family and we get to know you and your pets.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people of Rowan County have welcomed us and made us feel so much a part of the community. We love being able to be involved and give back to the people and animals of the community. The opportunity to become involved in fundraising and outreach to better the lives of the homeless animals here has been a great honor.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We hope to add group training classes in the next 2-3 years for people who would like to expand their bond with their pets. Jenn has been involved in the dog show world for over 20 years, we would love to be able to work with others and show them how fun and rewarding working with their pets can be, even if they never step foot in a show ring.

Runner-Up: Lazy 5 Ranch Veterinary Services Second Runner-Up: Roxanne Scissorhands

BEST PET SITTING SERVICE Roxanne Scissorhands Pet Groomer & Pet Sitter *

Landis, NC; 704-925-2577; Tues-Fri 9am-5pm, Every other Saturday 9am-12pm

Year opened: 2013

Main product/service: Caring for their pets, in their homes, when they cannot be there.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? My passion for animals, my love for what I do, and allowing pets to be cared for in their home and not be boarded..

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? First and foremost, I have earned my clients trust. They know I am dependable, allowing them the peace of mind to go on vacation, regardless if it's a day trip to the mountains or a 2 week vacation out of state, they know I will care for their pets, like they were my own. Also, my rates are reasonable and competitive. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people and of course thier pets. Being able to offer my service to so many different areas in Rowan County such as Landis, China Grove, Enochville, and Salisbury, gives me an opportunity to meet and form relationships with os many different ytpes of people. Do you have any plans to expand or change? I have goals that I am working towards, that will hopefully benefit my business. One of my personal goals is to become a licensed NC Veterinary Technician.

Runner-Up: Travis Powell the Pet Sitter Second Runner-Up: Animal House

BEST VETERINARY CLINIC Lazy 5 Veterinary Hospital *

2916 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 636-1100; www.lazy5vets.com

Runner-Up: Salisbury Animal Hospital Second Runner-Up: Rowan Animal Clinic

BEST BARBER SHOP

Made Man Barber and Shave

108 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-754-9961; Tues - Friday 9-6; Sat 9-2 Year opened: 3 years | Current owner: Brian Hunt Main product/service: Men's haircut and shave What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We offer classic barbering to a extremely diverse clientele. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We have four barbers that genuinely love our craft. It is hard to beat the atmosphere here. Everyone is welcomed and made to feel at home. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I grew up here ,I love how far it's came and look forward to the future. Do you have any plans to expand or change? We want to get out in the community more and do some special events.

Runner-Up: College Barber Shop Second Runner-Up: South End Barber Shop

BEST HAIR SALON

Salisbury Salon & Spa 🕇

210 East Innes St., Salisbury; 704-310-5941; CLOSED Monday & Tuesday, 10am-7pm Wed.-Fri., 9am-6pm Sat., 11am-5pm Sun. Year opened: 2013 | Current owner: Leslie Stopper Main product/service: All salon & spa treatments What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Quality &

customer service. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Quality & customer service at a fair price. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Coming from a big city, we love the small, family-type atmosphere.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We're always growing & adding new services thanks to our amazing customers!

Runner-Up: Cut Up & Dye Second Runner-Up: Greystone Salon and Spa

BEST MANI/PEDI SALON

Salisbury Salon & Spa ★

210 East Innes St., Salisbury; 704-310-5941

Runner-Up: Greystone Salon and Spa Second Runner-Up: Oasis Salon and Spa



BEST SKINCARE FACILITY

Greystone Salon \star

1321 Klumac Road Salisbury NC; 704-637-2007; Mon 10am-6 pm; Tues & Wed 10am-7pm; Thursday 10am-8pm; Friday 9am-5pm; Saturday 9am-5pm Year opened: August 2010 | Current owner: Sheila Igo Main product/service: Salon/Spa

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? What sets apart us apart is that we offer pharmaceutical grade skincare and chemical peels and we work under the license of a physician. So we are able to do TCA and Jessners Peels.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We were rated number one because of our impeccable service and products . We provide excellent customer service in an upscale spa with a friendly atmosphere.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The thing we love the most about Rowan county are the people . Greystone Salon and Spa has been received by the community with open arms. And other businesses have welcomed and been very supportive.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? Greystone Salon and Spa are looking forward to the future and going to the next level.

Runner-Up: Salisbury Salon & Spa Second Runner-Up: Merle Norman

BEST SPA

Salisbury Salon & Spa * 210 East Innes St., Salisbury; 704-310-5941;

Runner-Up: Greystone Salon and Spa Second Runner-Up: Oasis Salon & Spa

BEST TANNING SALON Savage Tans

722 Jake Alexander Blvd W, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 645-8800; Closed Sun; Mon-Fri. 10 AM-8 PM; Sat. 10 AM-4 PM Year opened: | Current owner: Lisa Trexler Manager: Melody Johnson

Runner-Up: Oasis Salon & Spa Second Runner-Up: Reflections

BEST TATTOO PARLOR Inksane Skinnovations Inc

1329 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704-633-7546; Sun. & Mon. 12-8 PM; Tues.-Sat. 11 AM-8 PM Year opened: 1999 | Current owners: Mike and Johanna Jones Main product/service: Tattoos, body piercing, permanent make-up & a huge selection of body jewelry.

Runner-Up: Tattoo inferno Second Runner-Up: Inkee, Granite Quarry



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Angela Wade Melton, H.I.S., A.C.A.

Matthew Thomas, H.I.S.

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RUNNER-UP

Skincare/Facial

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BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE Powles Staton Funeral Home *

913 W. Main St., Rockwell; 704-279-7241; On Call 24 Hrs Year opened: 1933 | Current owner: Steve and Vicki Staton Manager: Matt P. Staton

Main product/service: Funeral and Cremation Services What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? It is now in its third generation of mangement within the Staton family and we are continuing to change and improve how we take care of the families that call on us. Most of our staff has been with us since my brother and I were in grade school and they are part of our family. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We try to treat every family as if their loved one were a member of our family. Everyone here takes great pride in the trust that families place in us. We work hard on the little details because that is what is often overlooked in business.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It still has the small town feel that is becoming hard to find across the country. We consider it an honor to be able to help our friends and neighbors get through a very difficult time.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We are always looking at ways we can change and improve the services we offer to our families. From the recent major renovation we completed this past year to the different service offerings we can provide to families. Funeral service has evolved over the last 100 years and it is continuing to evolve all the time and my brother and I are young and not afraid to change to meet the needs of our customers.

Runner-Up: James K. Jolly Second Runner-Up: Vogue Cleaners & Laundry Service

SALISBURY POST BEST DANCE/GYMNASTICS STUDIO

Triple Threat Dance Studio

110 Mt Moriah Church Rd. China Grove; 704-707-9341; Monday-Thursday 4:00pm-8:00pm Year opened: 2015 | Current owner: Alexis Dill Main product/service: Dance classes in Ballet, Lyrical, Jazz, Tap, Hip Hop, Friday Fun Nights What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Family

Oriented studio that is an anti-bullying zone that promotes kindness and equality.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We are an affordable, yet comfortable and friendly environment and strive to make all feel welcome. Here you are not just joining a class, you are joining a family.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I (Alexis), grew up here and love the small, close knit community. I want to keep an family environment that adds value to that. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Adding Gymnastics & Musical Theatre in the future. I also want to connect more in the community, promote kindness, work against bullying, and give those that have been bullied a safe, fun, place to belong.

Runner-Up: Center Stage Second Runner-Up: Advantage Gymnastics

BEST DAY/SUMMER CAMP

Dan Nicholas Park ★ 6800 Bringle Ferry Rd; www.dannicholas.net

Runner-Up: Partners in Learning Second Runner-Up: YMCA



...to all our customers for voting us the Best Pet Sitting Service in Rowan County and Second Runner-Up for Pet Grooming



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151486

BEST DRY CLEANER

Vogue Cleaners 🗙

106 N. Long St., Salisbury; 704-633-5411; 7am-5:30 Mon-Fri 8am-noon Sat.

Year opened: 1953 | Current owners: Paul & Beth Woodson Manager: Suzi Hunter

Main product/service: Dry cleaning, laundry, wedding gowns, table cloths, comforters, shirts, with full alteration shop with private dressing room with 2 alteration ladies

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Have seperate machine for whites, & they come bright white. We do tons of white clothing such as suits & blousing. Have two full-time checkers before they go back to the customer. We can press or clean anything as well as water, smoke & fire damage.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We try to do a good job. We check everything before it goes out, sew buttons back on, put hems back in, fix all tears, we make the garments look a lot better than when it came in.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We know everyone, it's nice to see familiar faces and call everyone by name and know about their family. It's more personal interaction. Small town atmosphere.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We change our equipment continuously to provide top-of-the-line service.

Runner-Up: M&S Cleaners Second Runner-Up: Bell Dry Cleaners

BEST FINANCIAL INSTITUTION F&M Bank *

Salisbury; 704-279-7291; www.fmbnc.com;

Runner-Up: State Employees Credit Union Second Runner-Up: Wells Fargo

Veterans

BEST FUNERAL SERVICE PROVIDER Powles Staton Funeral Home *

913 W. Main St., Rockwell; 704-279-7241;

Runner-Up: Summersett Funeral Home Second Runner-Up: Lyerly Funeral Home

BEST NEW BUSINESS

Arts Cube LLC (704) 754-5621;

Year opened: 2013 | Current owners: Brannon Williams Managing Partner, Wes Sackenheim Partner

Digital Marketing Manager: Carson Schenk

Main product/service: Full service Digital Marketing Agency focusing on website development, digital advertising, and other online marketing services.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Due to our community involvement and work with local organizations. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The ability to work with small businesses and develop personal relationships.

Runner-Up: Salisbury Eyecare and Eyewear Second Runner-Up: Better Loafing Artisan Bread Company

BEST PARK

Dan Nicholas Park ★ 6800 Bringle Ferry Rd; www.dannicholas.net

Runner-Up: Hurley Park Second Runner-Up: Salisbury Community Park

BEST TOURIST ATTRACTION NC Transportation Museum

1 Samuel Spencer Dr., Spencer, NC 28159; 704-636-2889; Tues-Sat 9am-5pm, Sun noon-5pm Year opened: 1983 Current owners: State of North Carolina, Dept. of Natural and Cultural Resources

Kelly Alexander, Executive Director

Main product/service: Family Education/Entertainment What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are a state historic site featuring transportation artifacts and train rides. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We are extremely experienced at putting on major events and do it well. The site lends itself to "larger than life" experiences, which is what we provide. Beyond that, we have a major focus on customer service and receive spectacular reviews from visitors.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It is a county with one foot in the past, one foot in the present, and an eye toward the future.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We are currently undergoing major renovations to the museum's Back Shop, which will open our largest, most distinctive building for visitors. This will increase our exhibit and event space exponentially and even includes rail track for locomotives to move through the building.

Runner-Up: Dan Nicholas Park; Second Runner-Up: Lazy 5 Ranch

BEST PLACE FOR WORSHIP St. John's Lutheran Church

200 W. Innes St., Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 636-3431; 8:30 am Chapel Worship, 9:27 am Contemporary Worship, 11 am Sanctuary Worship

Year opened: 1747 | Rhodes Woolly, Senior Pastor

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Main product/service: Church Service Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Good people, good worship.

Runner-Up: St. Luke's Episcopal Church Second Runner-Up: First Baptist Salisbury

BEST RETIREMENT/ASSISTED LIVING

Trinity Oaks Retirement Community 728 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC 28144;(704) 633-1002; Assisted Living is 24/7, Office hours Mon-Fri 9am-5pm Year opened: Retirement Center: 1993, Health & Rehab: 1976 Current owner: Lutheran Services | CEO: Ted Goins Administrator: Bill Johnson

Main product/service: A continuing care community, we have everything from cottages, to apartments, to assisted living. We have everything under one umbrella.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We're non-profit, Christian based community that treats our residents like family because it is a home-like facility.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We have a loving and carring staff, plus the longevity in the community. The care & committment the staff gives to the residents here. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Because of the wonderful people.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We're planning to expand our assisted living by the year 2018.

Runner-Up: Carillon Assisted Living Second Runner-Up: Oak Park

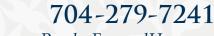
POWLES STATON FUNERAL HOME IS VERY HONORED TO HAVE WON FIRST PLACE IN TWO DIFFERENT CATEGORIES IN THE BEST OF ROWAN AWARDS.

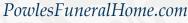
*Best funeral home and best customer service of any business in Rowan County!

THANK YOU!



913 W MAIN STREET • PO BOX 248 • ROCKWELL NC 28138







Congrats to Anthony Nero of Spencer for winning \$250! Thank you to everyone who voted in RoCo Gold!





BEST COLLEGE

Catawba College

2300 West Innes St., Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-637-4111; 8am-5pm office hours

Year opened: Est. 1851 in Newton, moved & reopened in Salisbury in 1925

Current owners: 501-3c nonprofit governed by Board of Trustees President Brien Lewis

Main product/service: Higher Education

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Personal attention, small class sizes, & a high quality education at an affordable price.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Due to our strong town/gown relationships.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The strong support our programs, athletic events, theatre & music offerings receive from the Salisbury-Rowan community. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We plan to grow our enrollment to 2400 undergraduates by 2026 - almost doubling the size of our student body. We are anticipating expansion in several areas including health sciences, that play to our mission of combining liberal studies with career preparation.

Runner-Up: RCCC Second Runner-Up: Livingstone College

BEST PRIVATE SCHOOL Salisbury Academy

2210 Jake Alexander Blvd., North, Salisbury, NC 28147; 704-636-3002; 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., Monday - Friday Year opened: 1993 | Head of School: Beverly Fowler Main product/service: Independent, co-educational school serving students in junior kindergarten through eighth grade. What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The culture, teaching approach, and mission of Salisbury Academy all center around empowering students to love learning and developing children of character. We deliver on this philosophy by providing an experiential learning environment and nurturing school community, and by developing stewards of the community and earth. Salisbury Academy students are challenged to discover and are exposed to a wide range of field study, community service, and multi-grade mentoring opportunities.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We are grateful for our network of dedicated community supporters and view service to the community as a key component to a Salisbury Academy education.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It is a diverse & dynamic community, providing students with an infinite set of opportunities to develop as citizens, individuals, and as future leaders.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are on a strong path to environmental sustainability. We look with great anticipation to the groundbreaking and building of our Outdoor Learning Space of the Future, and to further advancing our Project Green Space initiatives.

Runner-Up: North Hills Christian School Second Runner-Up: Sacred Heart Catholic School

BEST ROWAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Salisbury High

500 Lincolnton Rd., Salisbury; 704-636-1221; Year opened: 1927 | Pricinipal: Luke Brown What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We're a STEM Academy, we have a record of high athletic and academic achievement.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because we have proven success in academics and athletics. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We like to support the community because they support us. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are always working on enhancements for our school, we have a gym enhancement going on, as well as improvements throughout the building.

Runner-Up: West Rowan; Second Runner-Up: East Rowan

BEST VOCATIONAL SCHOOL Rowan Cabarrus Community College

1333 Jake Alexander Blvd S, Salisbury, NC 28146; (704) 216-7222;

Year opened: 1963 | Dr. Carol S. Spalding, President Main product/service: Higher education What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We provide affordable, accessible education to citizens of Rowan and Cabarrus counties.

Runner-Up: Rowan Vocational Opportunities Second Runner-Up: The Academy of Reflective Wellness

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BEST AC/HEATING SERVICE Stout Heating & Air

4243 South Main St., Salisbury; 704-633-8095; Mon.-Fri. 8-5

Year opened: 1984 | Current owner: Mark Stout Main product/service: Trane equipment dealer, but service any brand. What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Our

employees! We have great employees and customer service. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Try to do what is right & take care of our customers. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Grew up here & it's the only place I've ever lived.

Runner-Up: Beaver Brothers Second Runner-Up: Medley Electric

BEST CARPET CLEANING SERVICE **Tom's Carpet Care**

1419 S. Main Street; 704-633-7030; Year opened: 1981 | Current owner: Jeff Millspaugh Main product/service: Carpet, Tile, Rug, Wood, & Cleaning Upholsterv What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Actual steam cleanina. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Providing a high quality service at a reasonable price. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I love interacting with families and watching them grow. I have 3rd

generation families as customers. Runner-Up: Salisbury Rug and Carpet Cleaning Second Runner-Up: Ritchie's

We keep your whites very WHITE!

Vogue is the only dry cleaners in Rowan County that has a separate cleaning machine which will keep your whites and lights brighter, especially this spring & summer with all your light colored clothing needs.



MaryJean and Paul



Open Monday-Friday 7:00 a.m. til 5:30 p.m. Saturday 8:00 a.m. til Noon



Thank you for voting us the Best Dry Cleaner & Second Runner-Up **Customer Service**

Alterations Department



Paul Woodson and Staff invites you to come see Vogue's full service alteration department. Out shop is located on the premises and offers a private dressing room for your convenience.

Open Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. til 4:30 p.m.

CLEANERS & SHIRT

Paul & Beth Woodson, Owners & Operators

106 N. Long Street

Salisbury, NC

704-633-5411

salisburydrycleaners.com

Thankyou for voting Meals On Wheels As the Best Non-Profit in Rowan County.





Help 1 Hour at Lunchtime Once a Week or Once a Month

For Details Call **704-633-0352** Visit www.MOWRowanNC.org

United Way

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AWOR

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JETER Chiropractic Clinic

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1981



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Professional Steam Cleaning | Carpet-Tile-Upholstery-Wood Oriental Rugs (Pick-Up/Delivery available) FREE ESTIMATES | SENIOR DISCOUNT

704-633-7030 office | 704-575-9598 cell

BEST HARDWOOD FLOORING

Grimes Flooring Services

PO Box 2006, Salisbury, NC 28145; 704-791-0283; 7:30-5, Mon.-Fri. & 8-12 Saturday Year opened: 1986 | Current owner: Sid Grimes Main product/service: Hardwood floor sales, installation & Sand/ finishing

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Dealing one on one with customers.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We strive to please our customer & care about quality & integrity. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Dealing with the people here.

Runner-Up: Grove Supply Second Runner-Up: Lumber Liquidators

BEST PAINTING SERVICE

Richard's Painting Co., LLC

112 E. Council Street, Salisbury; 704-856-8101; Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

Year opened: 2007

Main product/service: Interior & Exterior Painting What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Our

commitment to quality and customer service. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because from the first call to the completion of the job, customer satisfaction is our first priority.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The diverse relationships within the county from the city to the rural areas. Without great employees our success is not possible. Thank you to the best team a company could ask for!

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are always looking for ways to grow our business. We are currently working on a franchise model.

Runner-Up: Woodie's Painting Second Runner-Up: Colors Unlimited

SHOPPER'S PARADISE

BEST PLACE TO BUY ANTIQUES The Salisbury Emporium

230 E. Kerr St., Salisbury; 704-642-0039; Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 1-5pm

Year opened: 1993 | Current owner: Mickey Black Main product/service: Antiques, gifts, art, furniture, railroad,

military artifacts. Home decor.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The selection and service.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We've been here a long time, we set the bar for this type of operation. It's the premier shopping location in the Salisbury area, we have items that you won't see anywhere else.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I moved to Rowan County in 1974, I found a home. We bought the Emporium and it's been home for us.

Runner-Up: Anthony's Antiques; Second Runner-Up: 1839

BEST PLACE TO BUY APPLIANCES Lowe's Home Improvement *

207 Faith Rd., Salisbury; 704-638-0808; Mon-Sat 6am-10pm, Sun 8am-8pm

Year opened: Original Salisbury location on Jake Alexander opened in 1980. Relocated to current location in 1997. Manager: Andy Miller

Main product/service: Home Improvement Products and Services What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Our purpose is to help people love where they live!

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We enjoy fulfilling our purpose of helping people love where they live. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Rowan County is a community that is built around supporting those that live within in it. We are fortunate to have been part of that for over 36 years.

Runner-Up: Queen City Second Runner-Up: Kitchen Store



BEST ART GALLERY Waterworks Visual Art Center

123 E. Liberty St., Salisbury NC 28144; 704-636-1882; Monday-Friday, 10am-5pm; Saturday 10am-2pm Year opened: 1959 - 57 years Manager: Anne Scott Clement - Executive Director Main product/service: To provide diverse opportunities in the arts for all people through exhibitions, education and outreach programs.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Nationally accredited art museum, one of twelve in the state. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We offer an innovative program of visual arts experiences. It is Salisbury-Rowan County's only visual arts education center for students of all ages. It is a dynamic cultural venue dedicated to the presentation of significant art of our time. Presenting local, regional, national and international aesthetic and cultural diversity through the works of emerging-to-established artists and offering an innovative program of exhibitions, education, and outreach that inspires and educates its audiences to explore the evolution and forefront of contemporary art.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Rowan County is a culturally rich community that is very supportive of all the arts. We are privileged to be able to offer exhibitions and classes to a community that appreciates the value of artistic expression.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Waterworks will continue to offer varied and innovative opportunities for creating and sharing art with our community and region.

Runner-Up: Railwalk Gallery Second Runner-Up: Fine Frame Gallery

Thank you for voting us Best Medical Facility in Rowan County

Improving the health of our community, one person at a time

612 Mocksville Ave, Salisbury, NC 28144 Phone: (704) 210-5000



NovantHealth.org



BEST PLACE TO BUY BEDDING/ MATTRESSES

R & J Furniture Xpress ★

1015 North Salisbury Ave Spencer NC 28159; 704-633-4677; 8:00-6:00 Mon —Fri, 8:00-4:00 Sat; Closed Sun. Year opened: 1999

Current owners/mangers: John Barnhardt/Randy Martin Main product/service: Discount Furniture and Bedding Store with delivery and set up available.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We try to give the best prices and best service at all times

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We do give the best prices and service.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Rowan is located close to several large and small communities to draw traffic from, our customers are close by, but sometimes 30 to 40 miles away.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are continuously adding new lines from various manufacturers including collections from famous designers, innovative mattress designs and recognizable names in the industry.

Runner-Up: Mattress Firm; Second Runner-Up: Belk

BEST PLACE TO BUY FLOOR COVERING Grove Supply

1600 N. Main St., China Grove, NC 2802; 704-857-2415; 8:30-5 weekdays & 8:30-1 Saturday Year opened: 1947 | Current owners: Jerry, Tony & Mark Huffman Manager: Karen Huffman Main product/service: Flooring What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Service.

What is the most aistinctive aspect of your business? Service. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Customer service.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We love our local customers.

Runner-Up: Home Depot; Second Runner-Up: Lowes

BEST PLACE TO BUY FURNITURE R & J Furniture Xpress *

1015 North Salisbury Ave Spencer NC 28159; 704-633-4677; 8:00-6:00 Mon — Fri, 8:00-4:00 Sat; Closed Sun.

Runner-Up: Bare Furniture; Second Runner-Up: Badcock

BEST PLACE TO BUY GROCERIES Food Lion ★

Surrounding Areas. www.foodlion.com

Runner-Up: Harris Teeter; Second Runner-Up: Aldi

BEST GARDEN CENTER

Godley's Garden Center & Nursery

2281 Statesville Blvd., Salisbury; 704-638-0082; Mon-Sat 8am-5:30pm Year opened: 1989 | Current owners: Bill & Peggy Godley

Manager: John Hutton Main product/service: Full service lawn, garden, landscape What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Largest selection of trees, shrubs, perennial & annual flowers in the county. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Selection, Customer service, Continual Facebook updates & ads in Salisbury Post every Thursday.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Long lasting relationships that we have with our customers & we are strongly committed to our community.

Runner-Up: Rufty's Garden Center Second Runner-Up: The Garden Greenhouse

BEST PLACE TO BUY HARDWARE

Lowe's Home Improvement *

207 Faith Rd., Salisbury; 704-638-0808;

Runner-Up: True Value

BEST PLACE TO BUY HEALTH/ ORGANIC FOOD

Simply Good Natural Foods

128 East Innes Street, Salisbury, NC; (704) 636-0889; Mon-Sat 9AM-6PM, Sun Closed Year opened: 1979 | Current owne: Steve Moreno Main product/service: Healthy foods, supplements, essential oils What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Health focus. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We only carry quality products by #1 companies in the country. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The internet is a great place for information, but getting the truth is another matter. Being the county for as long as we have our customers have become part of our family.

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Do you have any plans to expand or change? We make every effort to provide our customers with any new product offerings or trends that may help with their healthy lifestyle choices.

Runner-Up: GNC

BEST PLACE TO BUY HOME DECOR Kirklands

125 Tingle Drive, Salisbury, NC 28146; (704) 630-4909; Mon-Sat 9AM-9PM, Sun 12PM-6PM Year opened: 1966 | Manager: Michelle Kruezinger Main product/service: Home Decor What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We make every experience special, we offer amazing items for a reasonable price. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? They feel at home in our store, they love what we offer and how helpful we are.

home in our store, they love what we other and how helpful we are. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Everyone feels like a family in Rowan County. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Opening a new store in Mooresville.

Runner-Up: Hobby Lobby Second Runner-Up: Marshalls

BEST PLACE TO BUY HOME IMPROVEMENT SUPPLIES Lowe's Home Improvement * 207 Faith Rd., Salisbury; 704-638-0808;

Runner-Up: Desco Second Runner-Up: Home Depot

151420

WINNER
Best Jewelry Store and Best Place for a Deal, also,
Runner-Up Locally Owned Store
Image: State State

314 SOUTH SALISBURY AVENUE | HISTORIC SPENCER | ACROSS FROM THE N.C. TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM | 704.633.0618

BEST PLACE TO BUY LIGHTING

Home Lighting & Supply Inc

3212 South Main Street Salisbury NC 28147; 704-636-3883; Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Year opened: 1984 | Current owners: Marsha and Mickey Evans Manager: Vicki Myers

Main product/service: Light Fixtures, Ceiling Fans, Lamps, Light Bulbs, Home Accessories.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Unique Lighting.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We hope they know that we Care About our Customers and want them to have lovely and functional lighting in their homes.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We meet the nicest people and we enjoy lighting up their lives! From our historic homes to new homes, and remodels, each is unique and needs the individual care we can give.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We are entering a new era of lighting! The new Energy Saving bulbs and fixtures can be very confusing and we try to help educate our customers so they receive the type of lighting that they want and need.

Runner-Up: Lowes; Second Runner-Up: Desco

BEST PLACE TO BUY PAINT/ WALLCOVERING

Sherwin Williams

800 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 636-3231; Sun 10am-6pm, Mon-Fri 7am-7pm, Sat. 8am-6pm

Runner-Up: Lowes Second Runner-Up: Glidden Professional

BEST PLACE TO BUY ART SUPPLIES/ HOBBIES

Hobby Lobby 🛧

125 Tingle Dr. #400, Salisbury, NC 28146; 704-638-4112; Monday-Saturday, 9am-8pm CLOSED Sunday Year opened: 2015 in Salisbury | Owner: David Greene Manager: Shannon Rizzo

Main product/service: Home decor, art department, craft department, floral department, party department, seasonal something for everyone and for every occassion.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Customer Service.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Our friendly staff and we give you a different shopping experience than in most retail locations.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Because of the people in the community.

Runner-Up: Michael's

BEST PLACE TO BUY BOOKS Lora Belle Baby *

115 N Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 209-4206; Mon-Fri 10AM-5PM, Sat 10AM-4PM, Sun Closed Year opened: 2012 | Current owner: Michelle Frick Manager: Aubrey Foster | Main product/service: Carry baby gifts, toys, clothes newborn up to kids' size 8.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Boutique, specialty type items that you can't find anywhere else, have a little bit of everything from carseats to strollers, lots of gifts for babys, toys for all ages.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because we are

a specialty boutique and we do offer a variety of items. We're a one shop stop. We're a family owned business. Local. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Mother

has been in Rowan County for 50 years, and myself for 30 years. It's nice to have shops as our that's local without having to go to out of town cities.

Do you have any plans to expand or change? No plans of changing anything, but we are always open for suggestions.

Runner-Up: South Main Books Second Runner-Up: Rowan Public Library

BEST PLACE TO BUY FABRIC/SEWING Hobby Lobby ★

125 Tingle Dr. #400, Salisbury, NC; 704-638-4112

Runner-Up: Michael's Second Runner-Up: Walmart

BEST PLACE TO BUY BICYCLES Skinny Wheels Bike Shop

111 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 762-9537; Tues-Sat 10AM-6PM, Closed Sun and Mon Year opened: 2013 | Current owner: Eric Phillips Main product/service: Bicycles

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We try to serve our community, a lot of bike shops focus on the elite, while we focus on beginners and experienced as well as repairs. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We have loyal customers, we like to keep in touch with them with surveys and emails.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It's a

SALISBURY POST

small enough population where you can be visible, but it's large enough to provide the business support that we need. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Looking at extending hours during the week so we can serve more customers, open on Mondays and open on Fridays until 8, catalog is new.

Runner-Up: Kmart Second Runner-Up: Walmart

BEST PLACE TO BUY CAMPING SUPPLIES

Dick's Sporting Goods ★

125 Tingle Drive, Suite 300, Salisbury; (704) 212-2482; Mon.-Sat. 9 AM-9:30 PM; Sun. 10 AM-7 PM Year opened: Founded in 1948, Opened 2015 in Salisbury Manager: Karen Quan Main product/service: Extensive assortment of authentic, highquality sports equipment, apparel, footwear and accessories. What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We aim to serve and inspire athletes and outdoor enthusiasts to achieve their personal best through a blend of dedicated associates, in-store services and unique specialty shop-in-shops.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? A wide array of products for any sports or outdoor enthusiast. We not only strive to have the best product, but we value ourselves in providing excellent customer service as well. We are lucky to be a part of such a great community and are looking forward to help serve our athletes and customers in the future seasons!

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Rowan County is a passionate community for youth sports, full of dedicated volunteers and coaches serving kids across multiple

50790



Salisbury's Most Complete Health Food Store Since 1979

sports and seasons with quality programming and instruction across the community. DICK'S Sporting Goods is proud to be the go to provider for all sporting goods and outdoors needs throughout the community while making a substantial impact in local youth organizations throughout Rowan County. We also have built wonderful partnerships through our Community Marketing Program.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? One of the biggest initiatives we are offering to our community is a program called Team Sports HQ, a one-stop-shop for all your league's needs, including Team Uniforms, Spirit Wear and a web platform, Blue Sombrero. Not only that, our DICK'S Sporting Goods Community Program is designed to work with our local youth sports leagues and organizations. For information about sponsorship/partnership for your league please visit http:// dickssportinggoods.sponsorport.com/

Runner-Up: Walmart

Second Runner-Up: Outdoor World Concord Mills

BEST PLACE TO BUY FISHING SUPPLIES

Hill's Minnow Farm ★

7940 Bringle Ferry Rd, Salisbury, NC 28146; (704) 633-

7413; Sun-Sat 5:30AM-9PM

Year opened: 1965 was started in; 1990 at current location

Current owners: Terry and Susan Hill

Manager: Anita Waller and Lisa Hill

Main product/service: Hunting and fishing supplies What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The fact that we've always wanted to feel like we were an integral part of the community. We have not just hunting and fishing supplies, but convenience items as well.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? It was started by my daddy, but we've always tried to be here and the community knows they can count on us - whether we've had electricity or not! Our hours are consistent and we make sure we're here when we say we are going to be.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Just the people. The people we deal with.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We're always evolving; as some things would slow down, other things would pick up. We put in a grill a couple years ago; we've added some hardware stuff for folks at the lake; we listen to the peple and are always open to changing to the needs of the public. I evolved from the first week I opened, and been evolvoing ever since!

Runner-Up: Dick's Sporting Goods Second Runner-Up: Fleming Candy Company

BEST PLACE TO BUY HUNTING SUPPLIES

Hill's Minnow Farm ★

7940 Bringle Ferry Rd, Salisbury, NC; (704) 633-7413

Runner-Up: Dick's Sporting Goods Second Runner-Up: Lead Chunkers

BEST PLACE TO BUY SPORTING GOODS Dick's Sporting Goods *

125 Tingle Drive, Suite 300, Salisbury; (704) 212-2482

Runner-Up: Academy Second Runner-Up: Hibbetts

BEST PLACE TO BUY CARDS/ STATIONERY Critter's

125 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 636-5669; Mon-Sat 10AM-6PM, Sun 1PM-5PM Year opened: 1979

Current owners: Jon Planskivy, Scott Lambrecht Main product/service: Cards and gifts What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We make

people laugh. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We're great at what we do, we're flattered that people rated us so highly. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The feel

of the community .

Runner-Up: The Lettered Lilly; Second Runner-Up: Walmart

BEST CONSIGNMENT STORE

Growing Pains Family Consignment Shop

122 S Main St Salisbury NC; 794-638-0870; Tues. 10 AM-4 PM; Wed-Fri. 10 AM-5:30 PM; Sat. 10 AM-4 PM; Closed Sun. & Mon.

Year opened: 26 years | Current owner: Dale Newman Main product/service: We carry consignment items for the entire family and household.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are the largest consignment shop in Rowan County! We carry items for the entire family! We are your one stop consignment shop! Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I am not sure but we greatly and humbly appreciate every person that voted for us!

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The Rowan County and downtown area is such a wonderful place to live and have a business. Our customers are more than that. They are friends and extended family!

Runner-Up: Encore Second Runner-Up: Sweet Peas

BEST PLACE TO BUY COMIC BOOKS The Comic Monstore

813 Jake Alexander Blvd S, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 636-0049; Mon.-Thurs. 11 AM-9 PM; Fri. & Sat. 11 AM-10 PM; Sun. 1-7 PM

Year opened: 2003 | Current owners: Ray Frank and Karen Frank Manager: Shane Peoples

Main product/service: Comic Books, Games & Toys

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? In addition to new products every week, we do have a large selection of rare and collectible comic books and older toys. And we're a social meeting place for card games and board games.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I'd like to think we're an honest business who treats customers with respect. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We've lived here our whole life.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Instead of branching out in another brick and mortar store, I'm working on more online presence. That allows us to keep our product constantly flowing and updating.

Runner-Up: Collectivity

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 25F

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Winner: Floor Covering Store Runner Up: Hardwood Flooring Services



BEST CUSTOMER SERVICE Stitchin' Post Gifts 🔸

104 S. Main St., Salisbury: 704-637-0708: Mon-Sat. 10am-5.30pm Year opened: 1975 | Current owner: Pam Coffield

Main product/service: Gifts and apparel What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Epic customer

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We treat customers like family and offer great products at affordable prices. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I wouldn't want to be anywhere else other than downtown salisbury. We have small town charm and all the amenities of a large city. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We change constantly keeping up to date by listening to what our customers want and paying attention to what they are looking for.

Runner-Up: Winsome Hanger Second Runner-Up: Chick-fil-A

BEST PLACE TO BUY ELECTRONICS Wal-Mart 🗙

323 South Arlington St., Salisbury; (704) 639-9718; Open 24 hours

Runner-Up: Kmart Second Runner-Up: N Tune

BEST PLACE TO BUY GIFTS/ SPECIALITY ITEMS Stitchin' Post Gifts ★

104 S. Main St., Salisbury: 704-637-0708:

Runner-Up: Queen's Gifts Second Runner-Up: Critter's Cards and Gifts

BEST LOCALLY OWNED STORE Stitchin' Post Gifts ★

104 S. Main St., Salisbury; www.spgifts.com

Runner-Up: Barnhardt Jewelers Second Runner-Up: Critters

BEST PLACE TO BUY MUSICAL **INSTRUMENTS Griffin Guitars**

121 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 798-5205; Mon-Fri 10AM-7PM, Sat 11AM-5PM, Sun Closed Year opened: 2013 | Current owner: Trent Griffin Main product/service: Musical instruments, repairs, and lessons What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Vintage guitars, most stores have new but we have old and interesting instruments.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Great customer service, make everyone feel welcome. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Familiar

faces, small local community that keeps coming back, familiarity of our areat customers.

Runner-Up: The Band Attic Second Runner-Up: Coleman Music

BEST PLACE TO BUY PET ITEMS PetSmart

345 Faith Rd., Salisbury 28146; Mon-Sat 9am-9pm, Sun. 10am-7pm

Year opened: 2009 | Manager: Ashley Daniels

Main product/service: Pet Items

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We try our best to find the pets' parents needs and to relate to them the best way possible.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We have great service and we take good care of our customers' needs. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The customer base and supporting local business.

Runner-Up: Main Stream Pets Second Runner-Up: Hot Diggity Dog

BEST PLACE FOR A DEAL Barnhardt Jewelers 📩

314 S. Salisbury Avenue, Historic Spencer; 704.633.0618;

M-F 9:30-5:30 Sat 9-1 Year opened: 1990 Current owners: Debbie Basigner and Josh Barnhardt Repair Dept Mang.- Andrea C.

Office Manger: Angela W; Sales & Marketing Mang: Elysia D. Main product/service: Fine jewelry and in-house jewelry repair What is the most distinctive aspect of your business?: We have Rowan County's largest selection of Bridal with over 400

engagement and weddings rings on display as well as loose diamonds and precious stones. We were also the first store in the Carolina's to offer the World's only solid diamond wedding band boasting over 16 carats of diamond in each ring Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We strive to deliver everyone the best high quality jewelry and service at a reasonable price.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It is always changing and diverse. We get to cater to our friends and church members as well as politicians and Fortune 500 employees. The diversity allows us to carry a great selection ranging from everyday gifts to large carat engagement rings at the best possible prices.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We have expanded our retail showroom three times since opening with our most recent remodel taking place last year in preparation for our milestone 25th Anniversary. We are focused on continuing to expand our Bridal lines with exciting new designs and featured lines including exclusive designer John Bagley.

Runner-Up: Curiosities Gifts Second Runner-Up: Dollar Tree

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BEST RECYCLED GOODS STORE Goodwill

836 West Jake Alexander Blvd; 704-637-6673; Mon-Sat 8am-8pm, Sun 1-6pm

Main Product/Service: Non-Profit Organization What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The thrift store sales go for our mission for providing free job services. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Because you can find really wonderful gently used clothing & household items for really good prices.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Because the Rowan County Community is so supportive. We work with other places such as Rowan-Cabarrus and the VA Hospital to provide career services. We love being part of the community. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We did just expand our Career Connection center that is on Main Street.

Runner-Up: Habitat ReStore Second Runner-Up: Nazareth Home Thrift Store

BEST PLACE TO BUY SCHOOL/ OFFICE SUPPLIES

Staples

Innes Street Market, 355 Faith Rd, Salisbury, NC 28146; (704) 797-0134; Mon-Fri 9AM-9PM, Sat 10AM-7PM, Sun 11AM-6PM Year opened: 1986 Manager: Sondra Henderson Main product/service: School and office supplies What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Great customer service. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We make customers number one when they come in. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The people of Rowan County.

Runner-Up: Office Depot Second Runner-Up: Creative Teaching Aids

STORE THAT GIVES BACK Stitchin' Post Gifts *

104 S. Main St., Salisbury; www.spgifts.com

Runner-Up: Food Lion Second Runner-Up: Habitat for Humanity

BEST PLACE TO BUY TOYS/VIDEO GAMES

Lora Belle Baby ★ 115 N Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 209-4206; Mon-Fri 10AM-5PM, Sat 10AM-4PM, Sun Closed

Runner-Up: Game Stop; Second Runner-Up: Critters

BEST PLACE TO BUY CHILDREN'S CLOTHING

Lora Belle Baby *

115 N Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 209-4206;

Runner-Up: Marshall's; Second Runner-Up: Sweet Peas



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28F • SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016

BEST PLACE TO BUY HANDBAGS/ LUGGAGE Belk ★

1455 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC; (704) 636-5241; Mon-Sat 10AM-9PM, Sun 12-7PM

Year opened: 1902 original location in Downtown Salisbury Manager: Lynda Lefler

Main product/service: Belk and www.belk.com offer a wide assortment of national brands and private label fashion apparel, shoes and accessories for the entire family along with top name cosmetics, a wedding registry and a large selection of quality merchandise for the home.

Runner-Up: Marshall's Second Runner-Up: Queens

BEST PLACE TO BUY JEWELRY Barnhardt Jewelers 📩

314 S. Salisbury Avenue, Historic Spencer; 704.633.0618;

Runner-Up: Windsor Gallery Second Runner-Up: Stitchin Post Gifts



BEST PLACE TO BUY MAKEUP/BEAUTY Ulta Beauty

1445 Klumac Rd, Salisbury; (704) 638-6068; 10 AM-9 PM Year opened: 2013 in Salisbury | Manager: Shonnie Potts Main product/service: Ulta Beauty is all things beauty, all in one place. We offer more than 20,000 products across 500 wellestablished brands in our more than 900 retail stores across 48 states and the District of Columbia, as well as online. Our product range spans price points in makeup, nail, skin care, hair care, tools and brushes, fragrance, bath and body, men and our own Ulta Beauty Collection. We also operate a full-service salon in every retail location, which features hair, skin and brow services. What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Ulta Beauty is truly a beauty destination. We offer all things beauty in one place for our guests across categories and price points. Our full-service salon is also a key differentiator.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We are a unique beauty destination. Our guests love the variety of products available across price points, as well as our in-store full service salon.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? We are excited to be a part of the local business community and a beauty destination for the people of Rowan County. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We do have plans to open a new location in Charlotte, NC this December. We're always adding products and services that we feel would best fit the needs of our guests.

Runner-Up: Merle Norman; Second Runner-Up: Belk

BEST PLACE TO BUY MEN'S CLOTHING Belk *

1455 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC; www.belk.com

Runner-Up: Kohl's Second Runner-Up: Winsome Hanger

BEST PLACE TO BUY PROM/BRIDAL A Perfect Dress

590 Corriher Gravel Road, China Grove, NC 28023; 704-855-2427; Mon-Fri 3-7pm, Sat 10am-4pm Year opened: 1992 | Current owners: Brenda & Aaron Neely Manager: Brenda Neely

Main product/service: Formals - Bridal, Prom, Tuxedos/Accessories What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are a small local family owned business. We pride ourselves in friendly personal service.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We have been in this community almost 25 years. Our goal has always been to provide exceptional service for customers of all ages. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? As retired teachers in Rowan County, we have combined 60 + years of relationships with students, parents, and even grandparents who are our most valued customers. Recognizing former students as

they shop is delightful.

Runner-Up: Maia's Fashions Second Runner-Up: Encore on Main

BEST PLACE TO BUY SHOES

Ralph Baker's Shoes

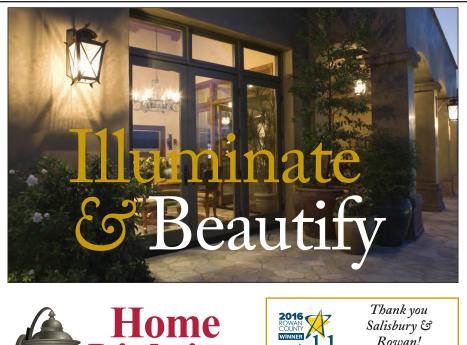
428 N. Main St., Salisbury; 704-636-1850; Mon-Sat 9.30-5.30 Year opened: 1976 | Current owner: Ralph Baker, Sr Manager: Ralph Baker, Jr. Main product/service: Quality, comfortable footwear What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Every shoe we

carry has some redeeming comfort feature but the most distinctive aspect is our staff that spends time helping to match the right product with the customer's needs.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? I think they appreciate the personal service and attention to detail our staff takes. Every brand we sell could be bought online but in our store you can be assured of being fit with the right size and right product. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Rowan County is the only home we've ever known.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are constantly evolving and adding brands and styles people are asking for and more often styles people don't even know yet that will soon be their favorites.

Runner-Up: Shoe Dept Second Runner-Up: Rack Room Shoes







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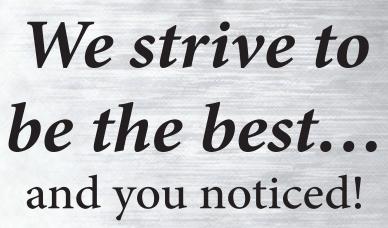
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BEST PLACE TO BUY SPORTS APPAREL Dick's Sporting Goods *

Runner-Up: Ultimate Sports Apparel Second Runner-Up: Kohls

BEST PLACE TO BUY WOMEN'S CLOTHING

Belk *

1455 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC; (704) 636-5241; www.belk.com

Runner-Up: Stitchin Post Gifts Second Runner-Up: Winsome Hanger

BEST PLACE TO BUY ATV/ RECREATIONAL

Motts Powersports

1325 North Main St. Salisbury; 704-636-9900; Tuesday-Wednesday 10-8, Thursday-Friday 10-6, Saturday 8-12 Year opened: 11 years | Current owner: Darian Wagoner Manager: Mark Wright

Main product/service: ATV, UTV, Scooter, Motorcycle, Go Kart Sales, Service, Parts and Accessories

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are very good at getting hard to get parts.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Customer Service. We work hard to help as many people as possible. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? I live here and enjoy working with the people of our community. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We have expanded our UTV stock to give customers a better selection to choose from.

Runner-Up: Salisbury Cycle Center

BEST CAR WASH Sam's Car Wash

1022 West Innes St. and 800 East Innes St. Salisbury; 704-633-4256/704-633-8101; Mon-Sat 7:45 to 6:00 Year opened: 1962 | Current owners: Glenn Allen and Dwight Allen Managers: Truett Farmer (West Innes), Ken Miller (East Innes) Main product/service: Carwash and Detailing

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Being a family owned and operated business for 54 years and having a great Loyal customer base.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We try to provide the best customer service possible by using state of the art equipment, Chemicals and Training of employees. Our main goal is to provide a good quality wash in a timely manner while being in a friendly environment.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Small town city with great customers.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We opened a new location in Concord, NC off George Liles Blvd. We are also planning on some new equipment at our 1022 West Innes St. location.

Runner-Up: Jimmy Clean's

SALISBURY POST

BEST OIL CHANGE/AUTO REPAIR Auto Works of Salisbury

429 South Main St., Salisbury; 704-310-5718; Monday-Friday 8am-5pm, Drop-Off at 7:30am Year opened: 2015 | Current owner: Kyle Rabon Main product/service: Automotive repairs, tires, inspections What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Quaility work at fair prices & great employees. Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Our great customer service, quality work and fair pricing. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? This is my hometown and I enjoy helping the people of this county. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? Not at this time, maybe in the future.

Runner-Up: Cloninger Ford and Toyota Second Runner-Up: Gerry Wood Honda/Kia

BEST NEW CAR DEALER Gerry Wood Auto Group *

525 Jake Alexander Blvd. South, Salisbury, NC 28147; 704-637-9090; 9am-8pm Mon-Fri. 9am-6pm Sat. Service: 7:30am-5:30pm Mon-Fri. 8am-4pm Sat. Year opened: 1997 | Current owner: Gerry Wood Manager: Brad Wood Main product/service: Honda, Kia, Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? The current environment of large corporate owned dealerships has created a very impersonal environment for buying cars. While price and value are of paramount concern, people still want to deal with people. An owner who is active in the dealership ensures that people are treated like people. Customers are not numbers or a tab on a spreadsheet at Gerry Wood.

Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Wherever you go in Rowan County there seems to be Gerry Wood name. Our involvement with the Rowan County Teacher of The Year, East Rowan Diamond Sports, the Rowan County United Way, the Christmas Bicycle Event, The Fair, the 4th of July, Autumn Jubilee as well as many other community efforts. We love being involved in the community in which we all work and live as the community that has been so good to us and our employees over the last 22 years.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? There is a culture here of caring, hope and resliancy. The people of Rowan County are what make it so great to be a business owner. Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are firm in the belief that if you're not growing you're dying. We have a steady approach to growth that has allowed us to grow consistantly since moving to Salisbury in 1994, however doing so without taking too much risk or reducing customer service.

Runner-Up: Team Chevrolet Second Runner-Up: Cloninger Ford and Toyota



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 31F

BEST PRE-OWNED CAR DEALER

Salisbury Motor Compnay, Inc 700 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 636-1341; (Service 7:30-5:30 M-F) (Sales 8:00 - 6:00P M-F And 9-3 On Saturdays) Year opened: 1919 Current owners: Donald Clement III & Donald Clement IV Manager: Donald Clement IV Main product/service: Independent Automobile Dealership What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? 4th Generation Family Owned And Operated Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Quality Of Customer Service From Sales To Service, We Strive To Take Care Of Our Customers Needs. What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? It Is Where Our Homes Are And Extended Families Through Our Employees And Customers. Rowan County And The City Of Salisbury Is Our Home And We Love Taking Care Of It's People!

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We Are Always Looking At Ways To Grow And Improve As To Provide Even Better Service And Product To Our Customers. So We Do Have A Couple Things In The Making But Nothing To Post At This Time.

Runner-Up: Gerry Wood Auto Group Second Runner-Up: Team Chevrolet Thank You Rowan County for making our first People's Choice Awards such a great success!

We look forward to next year's Rowan County Gold!

- Salisbury Post



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