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.

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!
THANK YOU!

Because of your votes, F&M Bank is celebrating:

• Best Financial Institution
• Best Mortgage Lender
• One of the Best Local Employers

And because of YOU, we continue to love what we do.

Come visit us and let us show you why we have been voted “Best Bank in Rowan County” for the past 6 years!

fmbnc.com

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

8 Rowan County locations in Salisbury, Granite Quarry, Rockwell, Faith & China Grove

Member FDIC
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? Our downtown mom and pop shops and that’s a beautiful thing.
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 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

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 Siriwatana
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: 1999 | Owners: Giuseppe Lopriore & Tracy Aitken
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 BAR & ENTERTAINMENT
Mambo Grill & Tapas ★
475 Jake Alexander Blvd W
Salisbury, NC 28147
(704) 636-0200

College Barbecue
Salisbury, North Carolina

1965

would like to
thank our patrons for
voting us No. 1 in
Best Barbecue in Rowan County
& Runner-Up in Best Hot Dog.
**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 Murph’s; Second Runner-Up: Chef Santos

**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
Year Opened: 1994 | Owners: Debbie Suggs
Main product/service: 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 restaurant 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: Breakfast Time
Second Runner-Up: Emma’s of Salisbury

**BEST CATERER**

Debbie Suggs Catering
Salisbury; 704-637-2016
Year Opened: 1994 | Owners: Debbie Suggs
Main product/service: Food Truck
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 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.

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

**BEST DELI**

Sidewalk Deli
120 S. Main St., Salisbury; 704-637-DEL1 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 restaurant 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: 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: The Palms
Second Runner-Up: Hendrix BBQ, W. Innes St

**BEST CATERER**

Debbie Suggs Catering
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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.

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

**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? 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 opening towards the Speedway in Charlotte & Clemmons.

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

**BEST GLUTEN FREE**

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 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
Thank You for Making Us #1
To celebrate, we will take 15% off your order when you say "YOU'RE #1" (Expires Dec. 31, 2016)

- Birthday Parties
- Frozen Yogurt Pies
- Loyalty Awards

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SALISBURY POST SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 5F
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 dining experience unlike any other.
Runner-Up: Go Burrito; 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? What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested?
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
Runner-Up: New Sarum; Second Runner-Up: Mambo Grill

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; Fri. & Sat. 5PM-12AM, Sunday Closed
Year opened: 1994
Year opened: 1994 | Current owner(s): 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 & Skylounge

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 & specialty 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.-Wed. 5-10PM; Frid. & Sat. 5PM-12AM, Sunday Closed
Year opened: 1995 | Owners: Louie Mourouzidis
Manager: Ruslana Savyelyeva
Main product/service: Restaurant bar
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 & Skylounge

Runner-Up: New Sarum; Second Runner-Up: Mambo Grill

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 dining experience unlike any other.
Runner-Up: Chef Santas; 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? 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
Runner-Up: New Sarum; Second Runner-Up: Mambo Grill

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; Fri. & Sat. 5PM-12AM, Sunday Closed
Year opened: 1994
Year opened: 1994 | Current owner(s): 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 & Skylounge

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 & specialty 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
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 & Skylounge

Runner-Up: New Sarum; Second Runner-Up: Mambo Grill
**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 that people would be interested in? New line of frozen-yogurt pies custom-made.

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 S Lee St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 633-1101; www.saltycaper.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: 1980 | Owners: Dino, Jimmy & Tommy Kalogeromitros
Managers: Whitney Stokes, Innes St; Amber Lambert, Statesville Blvd

Main product/service: Frozen yogurt & toppings

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? 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; (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 5-9pm

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 Relaxing 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
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 Teppanyaki (a tradition style that utilizes an iron griddle to prepare food)
What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We believe in 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 tasty food.
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: Restaurant
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 Ms. Nicholas donated land, 1972, Open to public
Owners: Rowan County | Manager: Don Bringle - Park Director
Most distinctive aspect of your business: Activities & 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 Osie
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? It’s a safe family friendly town, we know everybody, we yells 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: SOTL3 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 Norvell each year as well as 5 mainstage productions at the Meroney.
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. Our audiences support us 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? 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

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 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 LAW FIRM
Doran Shelby Petelho & 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 local community.
Runner-Up: Davis and Davis
Second Runner-Up: Wallace & Graham

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

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

Food Lion

www.foodlion.com; 704-633-2850
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.

Runner-Up: Rowan Helping Ministries
Second Runner-Up: Ruthy-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: 1978

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.

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

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

Do you have any plans to expand or change? We recently completed a $215 million investment in 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 NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Meals on Wheels

1307 N. 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: Jayna Holmes; Second Runner-Up: Greg Rapp

BEST TEACHER

Mrs. Missey 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 child 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 my #1 and 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 Caimier
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 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? We are currently 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, Thurs. 9am-5pm & Wed. & Fri. 9am-12pm
Year opened: 1978

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 Rowan County.

Runner-Up: Hearing Solutions
Second Runner-Up: Salisbury Audiology
Thank You
for voting
Salisbury High School the
Best High School in Rowan County.
Runner-Up: Iron Dragon
Second Runner-Up: Kim Soo Karate

BEST MEDICAL FACILITY
Novant Health Karate of Rowan Medical Center
612 Mocksville Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144; 704-210-5000; novanthalf.com
Year opened: 1993 | President — Darai 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 strive to deliver exceptional patient care.
What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? The community is welcoming and supportive.
Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Exceptional patient care.

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? The YMCA values 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.
Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Exceptional community involvement.

BEST PET BOARDING SERVICE
Lazy 5 Veterinary Hospital ★
2916 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 636-1100; www.lazy5vets.com
Year opened: 2005 | Current owners: Drs. Rebekah Julian & Corrie Connolly
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.
Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? Exceptional online advances to enhance each clients' pet experience when communicating with their vet.

Runner-Up: The Forum
Second Runner-Up: Salisbury Animal Hospital

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

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Boarding: Pets stay in safe, climate-controlled environment with individual or group play times. Several levels of basic or luxury boarding await your dog or cat. Large play yards for dogs to run or quiet aquarium views for your cat.

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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 Scortino
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? I 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 their 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 as many different types 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: Cut Up & Dye
Second Runner-Up: Roxanne Scissorhands

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
Mon & Tues, 10am-7pm Wed.-Fri., 9am-6pm Sat., 11am-5pm Sun.
Year opened: 2013 | Current owner: Leslie Stupper
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? 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’re always growing & adding new services thanks to our amazing customers!
Runner-Up: Cut Up & Dye
Second Runner-Up: Greystone Salon and Spa

BEST MANICURE/PEDICURE 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 ★
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 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 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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704-857-4200
Rowan Business Center across from Community One Bank

Voted Best Dentist 2016!
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 management 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

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

Salisbury Salon & Spa
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Hair Salon
ManiPedi
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in Rowan County!

Runner-Up: Skincare/Facial
Second Runner-Up: Local Employer

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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!

POWLES STATON
F U N E R A L  H O M E
913 W Main St., Rockwell, NC 28138
704-279-7241
PowlesFuneralHome.com
Congrats to Anthony Nero of Spencer for winning $250!

Thank you to everyone who voted in RoCo Gold!
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: Brian 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.

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 Lake 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.

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

BEST ROWAN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
Salisbury High
500 Lincolnnton Rd., Salisbury; 704-636-1221;
Year opened: 1927 | Principal: 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.

Runner-Up: Rowan Vocational Opportunities
Second Runner-Up: East Rowan

BEST VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
Rowan Cabarrus Community College
1333 Lake 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: West Rowan; Second Runner-Up: East Rowan

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.

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

VOGUE CLEANERS & SHIRT LAUNDRY
Paul & Beth Woodson, Owners & Operators
106 N. Long Street
Salisbury, NC
704-633-5411
salisburydrycleaners.com

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

We speak español

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.
Thank you for voting Meals On Wheels as the Best Non-Profit in Rowan County.

We Need YOU!
Join Our Delivery Team!
Help 1 Hour at Lunchtime
Once a Week or Once a Month
For Details Call 704-633-0352
Visit www.MOWRowanNC.org

Thank you for voting us
BEST CHIROPRACTIC OFFICE

Our clinic offers the most advanced methods of therapy for neck problems, headaches, low back pain, sciatica, shoulder/arm pain, plantar fasciitis, carpal tunnel and TMJ syndrome

JETER Chiropractic Clinic
1001 North Main St., Salisbury
www.jeterchironc.com
704-633-5156

Dr. Jeter has over 20 years of experience in providing effective chiropractic service

Thank you for voting Triple Threat Dance Studio
Best Dance/Gymnastics Company in Rowan County.
All of our students are “Stars”.

TRIPLE THREAT
DANCE STUDIO

110 Mount Moriah Church Road
Corner of South Main Street & Mount Moriah
China Grove | (704)-707-9341
triplethreat.dance

Thank you for voting Meals On Wheels as the Best Non-Profit in Rowan County.

We Need YOU!
Join Our Delivery Team!
Help 1 Hour at Lunchtime
Once a Week or Once a Month
For Details Call 704-633-0352
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DANCE STUDIO

110 Mount Moriah Church Road
Corner of South Main Street & Mount Moriah
China Grove | (704)-707-9341
triplethreat.dance

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Salisbury’s Best Choice for Highest Quality
FLOOR AND UPHOLSTERY CARE
Commercial and Residential
Professional Steam Cleaning | Carpet-Tile-Upholstery-Wood
Oriental Rugs (Pick-Up/Delivery available)
FREE ESTIMATES | SENIOR DISCOUNT
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in Rowan County
Improving the health of our community, one person at a time

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Phone: (704) 210-5000

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“Sheila and I, in behalf of the staff, thank you for this honor. We are grateful for the continued loyalty and all the new opportunity for new clients in this region.”

- Julie Jospeh (formerly Weiss)

93% Client Retention
19 years plus local loyal clientele
Top Retail Sales Advisor 59 months of 63
25 plus years as a beauty advisor
- A.S.A Science of Dietetics Nutrition,
Nationally Certified Pharmacy Technology
Nationally Certified Bio Lab Processing
Licensed Master Aesthetician
Licensed Nail Technology
Certified IMAGE MD Specialist
Certified IMAGE MD Couture Chemical Peels

Thank you GOLD Special
4 LAYER FACE LIFT FACIAL
WITH A CHEMICAL PEEL FINISH
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Mention this ad and call to book your appointment today! Expires 11-7-16.

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We Install, Sand/Finish & Repair
New & Old Wood Floors
(704) 791-0283
WINNER

Best Jewelry Store and Best Place for a Deal, also, Runner-Up Locally Owned Store

Thank you to our customers.

Barnhardt JEWELERS
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
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 serve more customers, open on Mondays and open on Fridays until 8, catalog is new.

Runner-Up: Lowe's; Second Runner-Up: Desco

BEST PLACE TO BUY 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: Lowe's
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: 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 stop shop. We’re a family owned business. Local.

What do you like about doing business in Rowan County? Because we have the best product, but we value ourselves in providing excellent service.

Do you have any plans to expand or change that people would be interested in? We are entering a new era of lighting! The new Energy Saving bulbs and fixtures can serve more customers, open on Mondays and open on Fridays until 8, catalog is new.

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

BEST PLACE TO BUY FABRIC/SEWING
Skinny Wheels Bike Shop
111 W Innes St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 762-9537; Mon.-Sat. 9 AM-9:30 PM; Sun. 10 AM-7 PM

Manager: Karen Quan | Year opened: Founded in 1948, Opened 2015 in Salisbury
Main product/service: Bicycles
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

Simply Good
NATURAL FOODS
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Voted Best Health/Organic Food.

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 the people who 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://dicksportinggoods.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: Jerry 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? The feel 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? I’d like to think we are going to be.
Runner-Up: Collectivity
Second Runner-Up: Walmart

BEST PLACE TO BUY HUNTING 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
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Runner-Up: Collectivity
Second Runner-Up: Walmart

BEST PLACE TO BUY COMIC BOOKS

The Comic Monstore
813 Jake Alexander Blvd S, Salisbury, NC 28147; (704) 636-0049; Mon-Sat 10AM-6PM, Sun 1PM-5PM
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 the people who 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: Dick’s Sporting Goods
Second Runner-Up: Fleming Candy Company

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

Runner-Up: Walmart
Second Runner-Up: Outdoor World Concord Mills

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

Runner-Up: Dick’s Sporting Goods
Second Runner-Up: Lead Chunks

Runner-Up: Academy
Second Runner-Up: Hibbetts

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

BEST PLACE TO BUY CARDS/STATIONERY

Critter’s
125 S Main St, Salisbury, NC 28144; (704) 635-5669;
Mon-Sat 10AM-6PM, Sun 1PM-5PM
Year opened: 1979
Current owners: Jon Planskiy, 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 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 service.
Why do you think Post readers rated you so highly? We treat customers like family and offer great products at affordable prices. 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/ SPECIALTY 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.

**BEST PLACE TO BUY PET ITEMS**

Stitchin’ Post Gifts ★
104 S. Main St., Salisbury; www.spgifts.com
Runner-Up: Barnhardt Jewelers
Second Runner-Up: Critters

**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 Bosigner and Josh Barnhardt
Repair Dept Mang.: Andrea C.
Office Manager: Angelo 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.
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: 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.

**BEST PLACE TO BUY GIFTS/SPECIALTY ITEMS**

Queen’s Gifts
104 S. Main St., Salisbury; www.pgifts.com
Runner-Up: Queen’s Gifts
Second Runner-Up: Critter’s Cards and Gifts

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

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For 54 Years, We ❤ Serving Rowan County
Thanks for Voting Us
BEST CAR WASH

SAM’S SOFT CLOTH
2 Salisbury Locations!
800 East Innes Street • 1022 West Innes Street

$1.00 OFF
Express Exterior Wash & Go (Ride Thru)
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With this coupon. Both locations. Expires 12/23/16.

$1.00 OFF
Interior Wash
In a Hurry? 10 Minute Service While You Wait!
Price includes: Exterior Wash & Hand Dry. Tires Cleaned.

$2.00 OFF
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$3.00 OFF
Ultimate Shine Super Wash

48-HOUR CLEAN CAR GUARANTEE
Special Pricing
EARLY BIRD Mon-Sat 7:45am-9:30am
SUPER THURSDAY All Day Thursday 7:45am-6:00pm
The most distinctive aspect of our business is that the thrift store sales go for our mission for providing free job services. 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: Sandra 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

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; Mon-Fri 10AM-5PM, Sat 10AM-4PM, Sun Closed
Runner-Up: Marshall’s; Second Runner-Up: Sweet Peas

THANK YOU to all our customers for voting the
MOTT'S POWERSPORTS
Best ATV/Recreational
in ROWAN COUNTY.

It’s More Fun When You Get A Little Mud On The Tires!
Salisbury, NC | 1325 N Main St | 704.636.9900
Tuesday-Wednesday 10am - 8pm | Thursday-Friday 10am - 6pm
Saturday 8am - 12pm | Sunday-Monday Closed
www.mottpowersports.com

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A Perfect Dress
aperfectdresscg.com
590 Corriher Gravel Road | China Grove
704-855-2427 | 3-7pm Mon.-Fri. | 10am-4pm Sat.
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 Leffer
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 well-established 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 salon is also a key differentiator.

What is the most distinctive aspect of your business? Ulta Beauty is all things beauty, all in one place.

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 is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are a small local family owned business. We pride ourselves in friendly personal service.

Runner-Up: Winsome Hanger
Second Runner-Up: Encore on Main

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 WOMEN’S CLOTHING
Belk ★
1455 Klumac Rd, Salisbury, NC; www.belk.com

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

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

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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 is the most distinctive aspect of your business? We are a small local family owned business. We pride ourselves in friendly personal service.

Runner-Up: Winsome Hanger
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.

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

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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 OIL CHANGE/AUTO REPAIR**

**BEST CAR WASH**

**BEST PLACE TO BUY SPORTS APPAREL**

Dick’s Sporting Goods ★

Runner-Up: Ultimate Sports Apparel
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Runner-Up: Salisbury Cycle Center

**BEST OIL CHANGE/AUTO REPAIR**

**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: Travett 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
Thank You
Rowan County for making our first
People’s Choice Awards such a great
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We look forward to next year’s Rowan
County Gold!

- Salisbury Post

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Runners-Up

Runners-Up: Gerry Wood Auto Group
Second Runner-Up: Team Chevrolet

∴ = Company placed in more than one category

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