



BREAKFAST

WEGGY'S ON CAMPUS

2ND PLACE: NOLABELLE KITCHEN + BAR

3RD PLACE: HAPPY CHEF RESTAURANT

Weggy's takes the crown for breakfast again

By ANAHI ZUNIGA Staff Writer

Weggy's once again takes the crown as the best breakfast place by the Student Choice Awards.

Due to it being located near the Minnesota State campus, many MSU students opt for Weggy's as the go-to breakfast spot that has become a campus favorite for years.

Shift leader and manager Malorie Wyman has worked at Weggy's for a year and a half and shares how welcoming Weggy's is to the people of Mankato and MSU students.

"The owners are here almost every day, very involved. Very community-based. We have our regulars who come in every single day and every set days throughout the week so it's very community-based," Wyman said.

Weggy's menu is filled with a selection of breakfast classics.

From an endless selection of pancake options to egg favorite dishes to their Stomper Breakfast sandwich, named after MSU's Maverick mascot.

Weggy's is right across MSU's campus in U-Square and brings in a large student population.

Students are able to get breakfast, lunch, and dinner after a long day of classes.

"A lot of students come and we're really known for our breakfast. A lot of students come in Saturday, Sunday mornings, or if they don't have class, but in the evenings, its students as well after classes." Wyman said.

well after classes," Wyman said.
Weggys also offers a student discount for any Mavericks who are looking to save a couple of bucks, but get a deal on good food.

"You just have to have your student ID for it. It's 5% but otherwise, we do change up our deals and do things like buy six wings, get another six wings for a dollar 99 or so on. We change up our deals," Wyman said.

Besides serving as a breakfast

Besides serving as a breakfast place, Weggy's also serves many lunch and dinner menu items which include a variety of burgers, sandwiches and wraps.

Classic sandwiches, chicken



sandwiches and a variety of burger combos are also available.

Wyman agrees that Weggy's offers many breakfast, lunch and dinner options but reveals what her favorite menu items

are.

"My favorite breakfast menu item is our breakfast tacos. They're so amazing. But for dinner, I feel like my favorite is probably the Weggy Burger. We have our special Weggy LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter sauce, which is probably our most popular dinner menu. But our omelets are pretty good. Well known too and as well as our pancakes so honestly, everything's good," Wyman aprid







COFFEE/TEA SHOP COFFEE HAG

2ND PLACE: FILLIN' STATION COFFEEHOUSE

3RD PLACE: STARBUCKS

Coffee Hag pours friendlieness into community

By AMALIA SHARAF Staff Writer

The Coffee Hag, located in downtown Mankato, has won the Student Choice Award this year, affirming its position as a prominent fixture within the community.

The Coffee Hag's triumph in the annual Student Choice Awards is further establishing its reputation as a preferred destination for students. Boasting a welcoming atmosphere and a diverse selection of artisanal brews, The Coffee Hag has emerged as a peaceful place to chat and enjoy drinks.

Graduate PJ Gurung said The Coffee Hag makes them feel welcome.

"Coffee Hag feels like a very inclusive space, so I feel very welcomed and accepted there. It's queer-friendly," said Gurung. "And the coffee is good!"

The Coffee Hag has a tastefully adorned interior and well-crafted menu offerings.

Every aspect of the coffee shop reflects a steadfast

commitment to excellence and authenticity.

"The coffee is really good and the atmosphere gives a very homely vibe so if people would just like to have great coffee with great atmosphere then this is the place to go," said senior Rohit Paruchuri. "My personal favorite is bee's knees coffee."

Beyond merely serving as a purveyor of fine coffee, The Coffee Hag serves as a communal hub where meaningful connections are forged and ideas are exchanged.

The coffee shop resonates with a sense of belonging and an inviting cozy atmosphere.

The Coffee Hag hosts a variety of events to make evenings spent there more entertaining for visitors.

Keynote speakers, live music and open mic nights are some examples of the events visitors may participate in while enjoying drinks with friends.

"They also support local artists by putting the art up in the store which can be bought by the customers," said Paruchuri.

"They have art by different



artists every couple of months."

The receipt of the Student Choice Award serves as a testament to The Coffee Hag's enduring appeal among the students. With its unwavering commitment to delivering good quality coffee, genuine hospitality, and creating a sense of community, The Coffee Hag continues to shine brightly within the bustling downtown landscape.

"It has a sense of community as it has been there for around 30 years and a lot of local LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter people support the place," said Paruchuri.

For those who have yet to experience its allure, a visit to The Coffee Hag offers more than just an opportunity to try exquisite coffee.



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GILIBERTO'S MEXICAN TACO SHOP

2ND PLACE: CULVER'S

3RD PLACE: SLIM CHICKEN'S



BEST

LATE NIGHT FOOD SPOT



GILIBERTO'S MEXICAN TACO SHOP

2ND PLACE: LA BAMBA MEXICAN TACO SHOP

3RD PLACE: TACO BELL

Giliberto's takes the lead in late night meals

By MOHAMED WARSAME Sports Editor

For students looking to indulge in authentic Mexican food at any time of the day, then Giliberto's Mexican Taco Shop is the place for them.

Giliberto's menu offers something for everyone. From delicious tacos and burritos to seafood and vegetarian options, they have a range of cravings covered.

Whether students are dining in or want the comfort of sitting in their car by taking the drivethru option, serving food in a timely manner is what they strive for.

"We try to make the orders not take so long. All the food is fresh," said store manager Maria Coconi.

Along with the excellent food and budget-friendly prices, Giliberto's currently has a 20% off of student's entire meal deal that can be found in the Goldmine coupon books.

Making sure customers leave satisfied is one of the reasons that Coconi believes students should come to Giliberto's.

"Our food is good, we're friendly, we like to satisfy our customers and if you haven't tried Giliberto's, you have to try it," Coconi said.

Some of Coconi's personal favorites include the super fries, super nachos, bacon breakfast burrito, steak burrito and birria

To go along with students' food, Giliberto's also has a number of Mexican juices such as horchata, Jamaica, tamarindo, pina colada and

limonada.

Minnesota State student Brooke Jackson believes it is a good spot for hungry students.

"It's relatively cheap and it's 24 hours. So if you're bumping at the bars, it's a good place to go," Jackson said.

While one of the reasons Giliberto's is beloved by many MSU students is having the option of getting their food via drive-thru, there are some delicious side items that students can only get when they go inside.

"Their menu is extensive. Tacos are good. Breakfast burritos are massive. The drivethru is always a good time, but going in is probably better. They have a lot of sides that you can't get through the drive-thru," Jackson said.

The breakfast burrito is an item that Jackson recommends for people to try.

"I'm a small girl, so it's like three meals for me. It's huge, but it's really good. It's bigger than my face," Jackson said.

After students finish their savory meal, there are a number of desserts to choose from if students have a sweet tooth. Churros, flan, fresas con crema, rice pudding, cake and deepfried cheesecake are all options students can enjoy.

Gilibertos is located at 625 Madison Ave. Open 24 hours a day, every day, Gilibertos is a certified stop for students looking to grab a meal early in the morning or into the late hours.





MOHAMED WARSAME • The Reporter



THRIFT/ VINTAGE STORE



GOODWILL

2ND PLACE: AGAIN THRIFT STORE

3RD PLACE: SALVATION ARMY FAMILY STORE

Goodwill's great deals land them first place

By LUKE JACKSON News Editor

When it comes to thrift stores, one store trumps all and Goodwill officially reigns supreme as they were voted the Best Thrift Store in Mankato.

All students' wants and needs can be found at Goodwill at a cheap price.

They carry all things from pots and pans to movies and books to various sporting items.

When students are in a pinch and need a cost-effective item, students can always rely on Goodwill to be the first stop to try and find it.

Patience is key and students can often find second-hand gems when shopping at Goodwill.

They also have clothes and lots of them.

If students are feeling cheap or broke and need an extra clothing item or two to add to their closet, thrifting can always be a good option.

Buying second-hand clothes is good for many reasons.

Thrifting is a very sustainable option for both student's bank accounts and the environment.

At Goodwill, clothes are often sold anywhere from \$2-\$10 bucks and it greatly reduces waste in the environment.

It saves online purchases which are more expensive and eliminates the need to make more clothes and the shipping and driving to get it to our doorsteps.

It is also very trendy. Vintage clothes are in and students can find lots of them at Goodwill.

Just make sure to look through each shelf and students may be able to find the new staple of their closet.

Upon visiting, students should also check their houses for undesired items.

It is always nice to do a little spring cleaning and if students do, this could help someone down the line.

Instead of throwing away old clothes or old furniture, bring them to Goodwill.

As the saying goes, "One



man's trash is another man's treasure."

They accept old electronics, clothes, furniture, movies, books, paintings, posters, cookware and just about anything that belongs in a home. Bringing these items could greatly help

someone in need down the line. Goodwill is a staple in the community.

It helps reduce waste and increase sustainability all while being cost effective and helping those in need.

Students should keep these

LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter things in mind next time they look to throw away something or buy a new item.

Goodwill is open from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.- 7 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. on Sunday.









WINGS

BUFFALO WILD WINGS

2ND PLACE: TAVERN ON THE AVENUE

3RD PLACE: BLUE BRICKS

Buffalo Wild Wings spices up Mankato

By ELLIE MESCHKE Staff Writer

In college, students want to watch their favorite sports and enjoy their favorite game-day snacks without breaking the bank.

Mankato's Buffalo Wild Wings has been a hot spot for college students, not only due to its late hours but due to its capability to hold large groups, sports themes and value deals.

It's no wonder that Buffalo Wild Wings has won the award for the Best Wings in Mankato once again.

Currently, there are three active deals. On Tuesdays, if you buy traditional wings, you can get another for 50% off. On Thursdays, buying boneless wings will earn you a platter of free wings. \$4 craft beers are also served every day.

Students can also join the rewards program where they can earn free food and drinks, personalized offers and the opportunity to win prizes.

Located on 301 St. Andrews Drive, Mankato, Buffalo Wild Wings is a 10-minute drive from campus. Buffalo Wild Wings is also partnered with Minnesota State University's athletics department, and also provides some coupons in the Gold Mine coupon book.

Buffalo Wild Wings is not only known for their fantastic wings and delicious burgers, but their customer service is top notch.

Roughly 90% of their staff are college students, so whether you're looking for a place to work, or if you just want a waiter you can relate to, Buffalo Wild Wings is the place.

Speaking of wings and burgers, Buffalo Wild Wings also serves chicken tenders, tacos, ice cream and cheesecake, bird dawgs (chicken tenders, fries, and sauce all on a hot dog bun), cheese curds, onion rings, pretzel knots and more.

Buffalo Wild Wings stands out with all of the flavors of wings customers can choose from. With 26 sauces and dry rubs, each visit can be a new experience. Ranging from Blazin' Knockout, their spiciest sauce made from nine different



peppers, to Parmesan Garlic, a mild sauce for casual enjoyers, everyone can enjoy some wings.

Buffalo Wild Wings also provides options for those who would rather not eat meat, such as cauliflower wings, tater tots, salads, chips and salsa and more. Students can dine at the restaurant, but they can also pick up their orders, bringing the game day experience back to **LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter** dorms and apartments.

Buffalo Wild Wings is open from 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sundays to Wednesdays and from 11 a.m. to midnight Thursdays to Saturdays.







PIZZA

PAGLIAI'S PIZZA

2ND PLACE: DINO'S PIZZERIA

3RD PLACE: JAKE'S STADIUM PIZZA

Pagliai's pizzas please all Mavericks

By MOHAMED WARSAME Sports Editor

Pizza lovers in Mankato are no strangers to Pagliai's Pizza. Pagliai's is one of the oldest restaurants in Mankato and the oldest pizza place.

The pizzeria located downtown was founded in 1969 and has had three different owners since it opened its doors. Pagliai's was initially started by a man named Sam Pagliai in Ames, Iowa in 1955.

When students walk into the old-fashioned and homelike interior of Pagliai's, culinary artist on the pizza line and Minnesota State University student Elliot Aalberg believes students can't help but notice the "great smell" when they walk through the door.

Some of the things on their menu include pizza with thin crust, deep dish or take-n-bake. They also offer other food items such as hot and cold poor boy sandwiches, spaghetti with a house special sauce and garlic bread.

"While you eat, you'll be listening to what I like to call guitar hero radio or whatever the boss feels that day. You can also use the jukebox to play whatever you want for one dollar. The walls are lined with promotional special deals, posters for upcoming local music and Pagliai's merchandise," Aalberg said.

The lack of televisions in the restaurant allows people to focus on the conversations they are having.

"There are also no TVs which I enjoy because then people spend time conversing and not droning out staring at a TV," Aalberg said.

After attending a Maverick sports game, people usually pack Pagliais, especially if it's after a Mavs victory.

"When the Mavs play, it is always full of students, families and locals all wearing Mav gear. During freshman tours in the fall, we get a lot of freshmen and their families grabbing lunch before or after their campus tours. We also have a handful of regulars that come in one to two times a week," Aalberg said.

MSU senior Alex Knowlen first learned about Pagliai's when he was looking for a nice pizzeria in Mankato after he



moved here for school.

"I like eating at Pagliai's every once in a while because it is the best pizza place I know in Mankato, but a bit on the pricey side," Knowlen said.

Pizza is not the only thing that Knowlen likes to get at

Pagliai's.

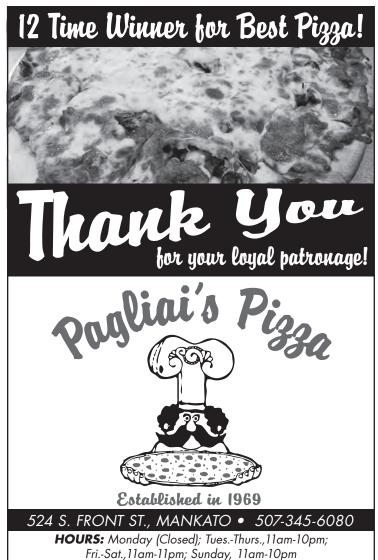
"My favorite pizza on the menu would have to be the Maverick. I also really enjoy their poor boys," Knowlen said.

Students can also get the experience of watching their food being made.

LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter
"I very much enjoy that as

a customer, I am able to watch the cooks make my food. The staff is always very friendly and helpful, both in person and over the phone," Knowlen said.







ASIAN CUISINE TOKYO SUSHI & HIBACHI

2ND PLACE: SHOGUN SUSHI & HIBACHI

3RD PLACE: YU'S CHINESE CUISINE

Tokyo takes top pick for sushi once again

By BIRUK MENGESHA Staff Writer

If you are looking for a quality and affordable place to go out and eat, then Tokyo Sushi and Hibachi is for students; an Asian restaurant, dedicated to satisfying any of their guests.

It is no surprise that Tokyo has won the Student Choice Awards, as it is a staple for students and people from all over the Mankato community.

The restaurant is well known for having a variety of Japanese cuisine which are well beloved by many.

Tokyo, a restaurant operating since 2014, has been serving an array of dishes and combos for its customers.

The manager of Tokyo, Wu Lin added that there is a large population of students that visit the restaurant. Not only from Mankato but from out of town, people of all ages find their way there.

"We tried to provide a cheaper price for students who go to school because they don't have a lot of money," Lin said. "A lot of options are healthy and so they like to come here."

The restaurant offers a variety of options when dining such as appetizers, lunch specials and a variety of drinks.

Appetizers include those served from the kitchen as well as their sushi bar.

The drinks are also varied, from the commonly known offerings of wine, beer and soda to flavored Japanese soft drinks.

In addition to those meals, students can enjoy an assortment of deals.

"We don't have deals for students only, but also for older people," Lin said. "Light food that's easier to eat fast." Students go to the restaurant for many reasons.

One of them is because it is a calm, elegant establishment.

Lin added that the place provides more for the price keeping in mind the quality of the food.

"Commonly ordered food with students is the sushi roll and fried rice," Lin added.

These are known to be a "popular" choice. They are quality offerings from the restaurant.

Other affordable dishes offered are Fried Udon or Soba Noodle and Tempura.

The vegetable Noodle and Tempura dishes cost \$11 per serving, making sure students can find an affordable meal.

All in all, Tokyo Sushi and Hibachi is a well-known restaurant that has a reputation for attracting students for their quality and affordable dishes.





"A lot of options are healthy and so students like to come here" - Wu Lin





JAPANESE CUISINE





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SUB SHOP JERSEY MIKE'S

2ND PLACE: JIMMY JOHN'S

3RD PLACE: ERBERT & GERBERT'S

Jersey Mikes wins for its subs and services

By EMMA JOHNSON Editor in Chief

With two locations in Mankato, it's no wonder Jersey Mikes can provide flavorful subs for Mavericks and local civilians alike.

Located on Riverfront Dr. and Adams St, the popular chain makes sandwiches with a variety of fresh produce and hand-sliced meats and cheese right in front of the customers. Their fast service makes it a go-to lunch or dinner option for the busy college student.

Employee Faith Pio has worked at Jersey Mikes for nearly three years. It was the first job she applied to when she moved to Mankato and said it's the "best job" for anyone starting.

"Jersey Mikes encourages optimal customer service, interactions with customers and motivation to better ourselves," Pio said.

Pio said her Jersey Mikes coworkers have helped her open up and she's incorporated those interactions with the customers.

"I always want to give

people kindness, so I use my job for those to stop in and grab a quick bite to also have a bright side to their day," Pio said. "I never expected to put so much care and attention into this job while also learning how to do manager-level stuff I've never seen myself doing."

Jersey Mikes offers a variety of hot and cold subs to choose from, depending on what the customer is craving. Pio's favorite cold sandwich is the #9, or the Club Supreme.

"It's got Swiss cheese, turkey, roast beef, mayo and bacon. Who doesn't love bacon?" Pio said.

The most popular way to order cold sandwiches is "Mikes Way" which includes adding onions, lettuce, tomatoes, red wine vinegar, olive oil, oregano and salt to the order.

When it comes to hot sandwiches, Pio's go-to is #26 or the Chicken Bacon Ranch.

The sandwich is stacked with chicken, American cheese, bacon, ranch, lettuce and tomatoes.

Jersey Mikes also offers chips, drinks and desserts such



as cookies and brownies to go alongside sandwiches. They are also available for catering, whether it's multiple subs by the bag or a boxed lunch.

When workers aren't busy making sandwiches, they're giving back to the community.

"We're always giving back by being a part of fundraisers, whether it's for a local school or raising money for Make-A-Wish or Special Olympics," Pio said. "100% of our proceeds go back to the organization."

Pio said students should go to Jersey Mikes for the friendly atmosphere they offer to their customers.

"Our goal is to connect

EMMA JOHNSON • The Reporter with the customers and my favorite way to do that is by remembering their orders. I can tell it makes their day," Pio said. "Even though many may view Jersey Mikes as 'just a sub shop,' I can say it isn't."

Jersey Mikes is open seven days a week from 10 a.m.- 9 p.m.







MEXICAN CUISINE

MAZATLAN

2ND PLACE: GILIBERTO'S MEXICAN TACO SHOP

3RD PLACE: ZANZ

Mazatlan's dishes create comfort for Mankato

By AMALIA SHARAF Staff Writer

El Mazatlan, an inviting Mexican restaurant located in Mankato, has won this year's Student Choice Award, cementing its status as a cherished dining location for students.

The revelation of El Mazatlan's victory in the Student Choice Awards has ignited a wave of excitement among locals and students alike. Renowned for its welcoming atmosphere and mouthwatering Mexican fare, El Mazatlan stands as a beacon for those seeking authentic cultural flavors and good service.

"Mazatlan has an inviting energy and exciting atmosphere. The staff is friendly and quick to tend to your needs, they always greet you with a smile on their face and seem to really love what they do," said sophomore Bobbi Lovstad. "Also the food is amazing, I've never been disappointed after leaving Mazatlan. It's an affordable place for my friends and I to bond."

El Mazatlan offers a warm environment. With decorations in the interior and diverse menu selections, the restaurant embodies a commitment to delivering a memorable dining experience for guests of every age.

Guests at El Mazatlan are treated to a tantalizing array of traditional Mexican dishes, ranging from sizzling fajitas to flavorful enchiladas. Graduate PJ Gurung said their favorite meal is Carne Asada. With an emphasis on quality ingredients and bold flavors, each dish is prepared to satisfy the taste buds.

The reception of the Student Choice Award underscores El Mazatlan's popularity among the student community. Whether gathering with friends for a casual meal or celebrating a special occasion, the restaurant offers a welcoming oasis where guests can relax and savor the essence of Mexico.

"I usually go there when I am really hungry because their portions are huge and it's very good," said senior Sachita Pokhrel. "The complimentary starters are so good and honestly enough to get full. It's the best place to go with a big group."

For those eager to embark



on a culinary journey through Mexico, a visit to El Mazatlan

LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter offers a passport to paradise right in Mankato.





SWEET TREATS

MOM & POP'S



2ND PLACE: INSOMNIA COOKIES

3RD PLACE: CRUMBL COOKIES

Mom & Pop's rein in a sweet victory

By ANAHI ZUNIGA Staff Writer

For the Student's Choice Awards this year, new categories were added for students to vote. This gave small business, Mom and Pop's, the opportunity to be voted one of the Best Sweet Shop places in Mankato for Minnesota State students.

MSU junior Val Weber has visited Mom and Pop's during their season and explained it's a family-owned business where the number one product is ice cream.

"It's a business in Old Town Mankato. They're a family-run business. It's not a big chain or anything to my understanding. They sell ice cream and cones and it's really good," Weber said.

Being a small ice cream shop run by owners Shawn and Casey Neitzel, they offer 32 flavors of super-premium, hard scoop ice cream as well as seasonal flavors, soy, non-fat sherbet, no-sugar-added and Italian ice options. Gelato and sorbets are also available and are dairy-free and all options can be served in a dish or waffle cone. Mom and Pop's has become a quick local favorite in Old Town Mankato and has been in business since 2012.

For it to be located in Mankato, MSU students have the chance to drive by and treat themselves to some ice cream.

"There's an average student population that goes there. I wouldn't say that it's like exclusively students. It's not entirely right next to campus so people that don't have cars have to take the bus to get there. I'd say the student population is pretty average. Once in a while during the summer, you'll find somebody that does attend MNSU," Weber said.

Mom and Pop's strive for high-quality, unique flavors to make sure there's always something for everyone. Flavors tend to change, so all new ice cream flavor updates are posted on their Facebook page, Mom & Pop's.

Malts, shakes, floats and sundaes are also sweet dessert options along with cookies and cookie sandwiches. Drinks are also available such as coffee,



both hot and frozen hot chocolate, frozen lemonade, tea, smoothies, hot apple cider and root beer that is available in pint, quart, half-gallon and even gallon sizes to go.

Overall, Weber shares that Mom and Pop's ice cream is a favorite dessert that many students should try out. She also suggests checking out Old Town Mankato where several small businesses have joined together and created an association.

"I think students could go to that business and they should because the ice cream is really good. And they're supporting a local business, which is also a really good thing and it's a good vibe too," Weber said.

"I'm a huge fan of Old Town

Google Photos Mankato. And when you're done eating your ice cream, you can just walk around downtown and see all the cool little stores."

Mom and Pop's is temporarily closed and will be opening again on March 1st for the 2024 season. They are open seven days a week from 12-9 p.m.









INDIAN/MEDITERRANEAN CUISINE

INDIA PALACE

2ND PLACE: MASSAD'S MEDITERRANEAN GRILL

3RD PLACE: OLIVE'S

Savor the flavorful moments at India Palace

By ELLIE KEATING Staff Writer

In a town where good eats are a must for students, India Palace has hit the culinary jackpot.

Being the reigning champion of the best Indian/Mediterranean restaurants, India Palace proves it's the best out there.

India Palace is known for creating authentic North Indian cuisine that Mavericks love.

Junior Bella VanderVegt said she goes to India Palace frequently.

She said India Palace has "warm and welcoming environment" she enjoys.

"When you walk in, you're greeted with a smile and given exceptional service," VanderVegt said.

VanderVegt said her favorite dish is "the creamy chicken." The dish is boneless chicken smothered with a smooth creamy tomato sauce.

students are given a wide variety of choices that are catered to their likes and needs.

With a wide list of appetizers and entrees, India Palace has everyone's cravings covered.

A unique aspect that India Palace incorporates is that the chefs will create the dish to their desired level of spice with a range of mild to extra-hot.

India Palace is a suitable place for everyone with a wide range of dishes that meet all dietary needs.

India Palace offers protein choices such as lamb, chicken and seafood.

For students who prefer vegetarian options, they have dishes such as Bangan Bartha, a dish that has minced eggplant in a masala sauce with green peas, onions and tomatoes.

India Palace is committed to giving back to the community by handing out free meals to the Salvation Army.

In a Facebook post, India

OPEN 7 DAYS

A WEEK

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On top of excellent service, Palace shared that they had done their "Good deed of the month" and served over 40 homeless people.

By actively giving back, they not only showcase their love for Mankato, but also contribute to the well-being and unity of the community.

With affordable prices India Palace makes a great spot for students to catch up with friends or take out their families.

Individual dishes don't exceed \$20 making a tasteful night out accessible for college students.

"Students should come to India Palace because of its diverse menu and hospitality," VanderVegt said.

It is clear that outstanding service and delicious entrees are what make India Palace the best in Mankato.

India Palace is open 11 a.m. 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12 - 8 p.m. on Sundays.



ELLIE KEATING • The Reporter

"I love the creamy chicken"

- Bella VanderVegt on her favorite dish



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GROCERY STORE 5



HYVEE

2ND PLACE: ALDI

3RD PLACE: CUB FOODS

Mankato Hy-vee takes top shelf honors

By ANNISA ECHOLS Staff Writer

In Mankato Minnesota, Hy-Vee is an essential part of our community.

The retail giant has been providing essential food and employment opportunities from Iowa to the Twin Cities for many

The grocer is the preferred vendor for MSU students. The number of reasons to Hy-Vee was selected as, "Best in Grocery" are endless.

The company contains vast amounts of resources and options, making Hy-Vee a loved destination in Mankato.

If students are looking for a parttime job, advice from a nutritionist, cooking classes or ideas for new meals to make, Hy-Vee Hilltop can effortlessly meet these needs.

According to Hyvee's website, "The supermarket demonstrates its commitment to healthy lifestyles through various initiatives: HealthMarket Departments feature natural and organic products. They

have dietitians, chefs and offer and discounts as well. consulting services."

Additionally, they have Hy-Vee KidsFit. According to the company's website, "The program is a free online personal trainer and nutrition program for children."

Another service offered by Hy-Vee includes retail pharmacies.

The hilltop location is convenient and easily accessible for students. If students do not drive, a city bus can take them from MSU to Hy-Vee.

The bus is available from 7 a.m.-11 p.m. Monday through Friday varying on holidays.

Aside from the fast, friendly customer service, pharmacy and delicious varieties of food options for students to choose from, Hy-Vee can offer greater value to MSU students.

According to Brooks Graham, Hy-Vee Hilltop's manager, "We offer a student discount for all purchases in the store. It's 5% off the basket spend. All you have to do is let us know if you want to use the student discount."

Hy-Vee hosts many more sales

"Right now we have a bakery fuel saver sale. Our three-day, bi-weekly and weekly sales campaigns are offered as well," said Graham.

The student discount and other sales incentives and rewards given to customers by Hy-Vee are just a small part of what Hy-Vee has to

Graham said, "Hy-Vee is a great place for people to learn valuable job skills."

For many years, Hy-Vee Hilltop has been in operation inside of the community here. Hy-Vee cares about the customers and the state of the community

According to Graham, "Hy-Vee is family-oriented. I wanted to work here since I was small. My parents were employees and introduced me at a young age."

'Supermarket News' states," One store opened in the early 1930s, selling groceries, dry goods and work clothes. The store operated on credit, with customers able to bring in eggs, cream or chickens to trade for merchandise."



Hy-Vee Hilltop has been a part of the MSU tradition here in Mankato since 1997. Hy-Vee's mission is to make lives easier, healthier and happier. They strive to provide exceptional service and a diverse range of products to their customers.

In addition, Hy-Vee is an employee-owned company,

ANNISA ECHOLS • The Reporter meaning each of its more than 93,000 employees plays a role in guiding the company's direction. "Students shop and work at Hy-Vee," said Graham.

According to the company's website, their slogan is, "A Helpful Smile in Every Aisle," which reflects its commitment to superior customer service.

"It's a great place for people to learn valuable job skills" - Brooks Graham



ANNISA ECHOLS • The Reporter

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BEST

NAIL SALON

NAILS BY JORDAN

2ND PLACE: LIV AVEDA SALON & SPA

3RD PLACE: INFINITY NAILS SPA & SALON

Nails by Jordan named best manicure in town

By MERCEDES KAUPHUSMAN Variety Editor

Nails by Jordan has continued to pamper the Mankato community for more than a decade.

Between its two different locations on 1780 E Madison Ave and 1511 Madison Ave, the salon offers manicures and pedicures with a reasonable price tag.

Nails by Jordan's website reads, "Here is where you can indulge yourself with serenity and luxury. Our commitment is to provide the highest quality of service, cleanliness and a relaxing environment. We do our best to give you the best experience at our salon."

Minnesota State graduate student Alexis Ewanga has regularly visited Nails by Jordan for over a year.

"I was always satisfied with my nails," Ewanga said.

"I felt like they looked nice. I felt like they took care of it, cutting my cuticles and getting everything out from under them; they would always make sure to ask me what shape I wanted and show me the different shapes that they do."

The salon specializes in nail

design and treatment and provides services such as acrylic nails, gel nails and solar nails. Sets range from \$28 to \$58.

"It's also the most affordable for college students," Ewanga said.

"It's the only place I'll go now in Mankato because I can't afford to go to a hair salon, which would probably be the first choice to actually go to a spa, but I just can't afford that."

Nails by Jordan uses the latest products on the market including a wide variety of colors to choose from.

On top of an inexpensive price, all of the customer-favorite manicurists of the original Nails by Jordan continue to work at the salon today.

"They're really nice," Ewanga said. "The more that I went back, they would talk to me about my life, ask me about college, what I'm doing, where I'm working; they would joke around once in a

Nails by Jordan has also received positive reviews for its cleanliness.

"I was unsatisfied with other nail places around here (Mankato) because I felt like they weren't always very clean," Ewanga said.



"It's (Nails by Jordan) super clean every time I go in there."

The nail salon also offers gift cards for purchase in the store, as well as private parties for events like

bridal showers, birthday parties or any special occasion with friends and family.

Not only will the person with a birthday and the bride receive a

when paying in cash!

(Minimum \$30 purchase)

MERCEDES KAUPHUSMAN • The Reporter

discount, but groups with five or more people will receive 15% off. Students can book an

Students can book an appointment to Nails by Jordan by calling 507-386-0505.



Courtesy Yelp





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HAIR SALON

RAYDIANCE SALON

2ND PLACE: LIV AVEDA SALON & SPA

3RD PLACE: VIDA SALON SUITES

Raydiance's salon delivers a style like no other

By LAUREN VISKA Staff Writer

Raydiance Salon, best known for its hair care services, is a salon that provides excellent customer service while impressing its clients with its abilities.

They are a full-service salon that offers hair, eyelash and makeup care, as well as various waxing services.

They just won Best Hair Salon in Mankato, voted for by the students of MSU.

Some of their hair services include four different types of haircuts for both women and men, seven hair color options and two hair styling options for a formal look for a night on the town or for that perfect wedding updo.

They have perm options if students are looking for that perfect low-maintenance curl. The prices range from \$15 to \$100, depending on what service students request.

Their waxing services include facial waxing of the brows, lips,

or chin and a bikini or body wax. They range from \$14 - \$30 depending on what students want done.

They offer eyelash services as well, so if students are looking for lush lashes, they're covered. They offer four different types of lash services ranging from a single lash to a full set of lashes. Prices range from \$5 to \$250, depending on the service.

If students are looking for a place to get reduced prices due to a tight budget, Raydiance is the place to be.

They offer a "Beauty on Budget" program where students will get a reduced rate with one of their new stylists or apprentices.

All of their stylists receive intensive training from master stylists, and their apprentice program is rigorous, lasting up to a year. To receive this, just ask the front desk about it.

Owner Danielle Germscheid said on the website that she "listens to my client's wants and needs and create a personalized look that is



appropriate for their style.

"I enjoy doing a variety of things with hair, whether it is coloring, cutting and styling, for women and men. I look at each client as an individual artistic situation where I add my own unique style to create a lasting impression that keeps my clients coming back. It is my goal

that everyone feels fabulous after they are in my chair."

They are located in the Mankato Place Mall, which is at 12 Civic Center Plaza # 2110.

It is right across the street from where the Mayo Clinic Health System Event Center.

They are open from 9 a.m.- 8

LAUREN VISKA • The Reporter p.m. on Mondays, 9 a.m.- 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

For students looking to get more information on how to get their hair looking radiant, call them at 507-388-8811 or head to their website https://raydiancesalon.

"It's my goal that everyone feels fabulous " - Owner Danielle Germschied







WORKOUT FACILITY

FITNESS FOR \$10

2ND PLACE: MSU CAMPUS RECREATION

3RD PLACE: YMCA

Fitness for \$10 helps students get their gains

By AHMED HASSAN Staff Writer

The debate for Mankato's best gym will be one to go on for ages, but the gym that was voted the #1 gym in Mankato once again was Fitness for 10.

If students are looking for a place outside of the Otto Rec Center to get a pump in with topclass equipment and an amazing environment, then look no further than Fitness for 10.

Fitness for 10 is the place to go for students as it offers every necessity for students to thrive working out while getting gains with a variety of equipment and a very huge and spatial place.

Fitness for 10 is the best option for students on a budget as it is only \$10 a month for access to cardio equipment, strength equipment, free weights, clean locker rooms, free fit start evaluation, an inbody scan and an 18-month minimum term.

More amenities are included with their VIP and Studio memberships, but what they offer for their basic plan is more than enough for students and anyone to be able to get what they need out of their gym.

Fitness for 10 prides itself on its atmosphere with it being positive giving everybody access to a great environment to thrive in.

According to the website, Fitness for 10 loves "giving everyday people access to state-of-the-art exercise equipment and resources. We are a gym for everyone, we keep our arms open to all fitness levels, from the couch potato to the tri-athlete we have

you covered. Plus, we are staffed all day for your convenience!"

When students walk into Fitness for 10, they are instantly greeted by wonderful front desk workers, and then privileged to see a kingdom of different machines along with two full levels of machines.

Students have the ultimate privilege of being able to get a variety of workouts at Fitness for 10 due to its various options. They're able to hit an arm day, a leg day, a cardio day and a resistance training day.

The machines included at Fitness for 10 range from bench presses, dumbbells, treadmills, resistance bands, barbells and many more machines and equipment to fulfill any type of workout that students need.

Fitness for 10 is located at 1351 Madison Ave next to VIDA Salon



Suites & Crisp & Green.

Fitness for 10 is open every single day of the week. It is open

LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter Monday-Friday from 5 a.m. -10 p.m. while being open on Saturday and Sunday 6 a.m.-8 p.m.





RESTAURANT

NOLABELLE KITCHEN + BAR

2ND PLACE: PAPPAGEORGE RESTAURANT & BAR

3RD PLACE: BOULDER TAP HOUSE

Nolabelle dishes out a successful win

By EMMA JOHNSON Editor in Chief

In college, it can be difficult for students to find a meal that is of great quality and yet still affordable. Nolabelle is able to do both.

Located on S. Front Street downtown, it's the perfect place for students to grab dinner before heading out for a night on the town or for those who are looking to have a more intimate dining experience.

While students can walk in, it's highly recommended to place a reservation due to its popularity.

Owner Alexa Swindell started working as a dishwasher at a restaurant and worked her way up to become a manager at an Olive Garden in Michigan.

Swindell left the restaurant industry and worked at an engine manufacturer, but missed the hospitality of being in a restaurant.

"I started writing a business plan after being inspired by great restaurants and the next thing I knew, I had a 58-page business plan," Swindell said. "I decided to take it to a bank and the first one I went to gave me a loan."

The name of the restaurant comes from Swindell's great-grandmother.

She wanted to pay homage to another restauranteur in her family who owned three places in downtown Detroit.

"She was an immigrant from Canada and opened her own restaurant after working in one for seven years. It was almost unheard of in the 50s for a woman to start her own business," Swindell said.

Swindell said the broad spectrum of food served at Nolabelle is what sets them apart from other downtown restaurants.

"The restaurant scene caters to a younger crowd and a more sports-centric crowd. A lot of bars and pubs do drink specials while you're watching the game and serve a lot of traditional American food," Swindell said. "Our food goes beyond the traditional burger and wing type menu."

Another aspect that sets Nolabelle apart from other restaurants is over 75% of its ingredients are from Minnesota and the four states that surround it. "We get tomatoes and arugula from Owatonna. We get a lot of our bacon from North Dakota. Our maple syrup is tapped from maple trees on the south side of town in Mankato," Swindell said. "We try to source as much as we can from our neighbors."

Swindell's favorite dish changes all the time, but her current favorite one is the butter-baked walleye which is served with lemon risotto and sauteed spinach.

"A lot of people don't realize what a delicate, flaky, light fish walleye is because we always deep fry it and eat it on a sandwich. It's it's really fun to watch people order that and then fall in love with it," Swindell said.

Junior Jenna Moseng said her favorite thing to order at Nolabelle is the lemongrass ginger pork loin.

"It's so juicy and rich and the rice is well done. I also like the veggies they put on top. It's just super flavorful," Moseng said.

She also said she likes the "modern and industrial" atmosphere Nolabelle has.

"It feels like I can be at a fancy restaurant that's also relaxed and chill," Moseng said.



Swindell said students should go to Nolabelle if they are big foodies.

"I think people of all ages like good, new flavors, innovative dishes and good food made from scratch. Students will definitely find that here," Swindell said.

Moseng said students should go to Nolabelle as the quality of the food accurately reflects the price.

"I have very rarely gone to a restaurant that has appropriate pricing for the quality. Nolabelle's EMMA JOHNSON • The Reporter food is filling, rich and they give you plenty of it. Their customer service is also top-notch," Moseng said.

Nolabelle is open Monday through Thursday from 11 a.m.-9 p.m., while on Fridays they're open until 10 p.m.

On the weekends, brunch is only served from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Nolabelle is open until 10 p.m. Saturday and 8 p.m. on Sundays with main entrees only starting at 4 p.m.



EMMA JOHNSON • The Reporter



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BAR

ROUNDERS

2ND PLACE: BLUE BRICKS

3RD PLACE: NAKATO BAR & GRILL

Rounders is the place to round up the night

By MERCEDES KAUPHUSMAN Variety Editor

When Minnesota State students trek to downtown Mankato on weekends, they may be headed inside Rounders Sports Bar.

Since 2009, Rounders on 414 S. Front St. has been named a favorite by the Mankato community and MSU students alike.

"It's a very welcoming bar and grill with lots of great food options and a very large area, as well as awesome employees," MSU junior Jaegar Cossette said.

Rounders houses two rooms with a bartop stretching to its tail end, a patio for warmer days and an event room.

Cossette works at Rounders as a cook and occasionally security.

He considers the best part of Rounders to be, "the welcoming crew and the lifelong friends that I have made."

"It never really feels like a day's work when you're working with some of the nicest and best people in Mankato," Cossette said.

For Mavericks hoping to catch a professional game or a team of their own, Rounders contains several HD 50" TVs with sports packages like NFL, MLB, NHL, NBA and MSU athletics.

Several deals occur inside the sports bar such as daily 2-for-1 drinks from 6-11 p.m., Tuesday wing specials and \$2.50 bloody marys, mimosas, screwdrivers and screwups Saturdays and Sundays. Happy hour runs from 3-6 p.m. every day of the week.

On top of its regular deals for the public, Rounders welcomes students to indulge in a red-eye breakfast for a discounted price Saturdays and Sundays.

"Because of the college atmosphere, we love getting to interact with all of the students that come in and love to help in any way possible," Cossette said.

For those hoping to find a game for themselves and company, there are pool tables, claw machines and darts to indulge in a late night competition.

Outside of the bar scene, Rounders is also known for its full menu including a variety of burgers, wings, sandwiches, soups and salad, appetizers and more.

The menu is available from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. daily, with appetizers around until 10 p.m.

Rounders has a plethora of rail and top-shelf liquor options to choose from, twelve taps and many other bottled beers and seltzers.

For students wanting to plan a birthday party, Rounder's 418 room is an event space with a capacity of 49 to host parties for birthdays, retirements, groom dinners and other events.

During the week, Rounders hosts a variety of events including music bingo on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m., featuring DJ Doug.

Players are given a bingo sheet to cross out once a song on their paper is played throughout the bar.

Rounders offers different prize packages with items like t-shirts, shot glasses, gift cards and more.

"Don't miss out on the laughter, music, and the chance to win fantastic prizes," Rounder's Facebook reads. "Rounders is the place to be every Wednesday night. Gather your friends, family, or even your solo dance moves and join the fun."

"We love getting to interact with all of the students that come in and love to help in any way possible" -Jaegar Cossette



MERECEDES KAUPHUSMAN • The Reporter

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AUTO CARE

EXPRESS AUTO SERVICE & REPAIR

2ND PLACE: DISCOUNT TIRE

3RD PLACE: TGK AUTO OF MANKATO

Express Auto shows convenience and care

By ELLIE KEATING Staff Writer

Car problems sneak up during inconvenient times but with auto shops like Express Auto Service and Repair, students don't need to worry. Express Auto is fast, reliable, and designed with your convenience in mind. These are just a few of the things that led students to vote for Express as the best Auto Care.

It can be hard for students to find a trustworthy auto shop, especially when they're new to town. Express frequently engages with students and makes their experience a seamless process. Tony Jones, owner of Express Auto said, "Students coming to Express can expect to be met with a smiling face, ready to help get their vehicle

road ready."

Express offers a long list of services including engine services, oil change, battery replacement and car diagnostics. Additionally, to offering numerous services, Express works with all makes and models, both foreign and domestic, making it a one-stop shop for all car care needs.

Express Auto's care towards customers makes them stand out. Jones said, Express Auto is "founded on the idea of honest and hard work."

Students chose Express as the best auto shop because of their topnotch service and these core values reflect the high standard Express holds itself to.

Express offers the highest quality work and is an ASE-certified auto shop. This certification

is voluntary and shows that the technicians working on cars strive for excellence and continuous improvement.

One aspect that makes Express stand out is its live chat feature. This feature not only creates an effortless communication chain but also allows customers to schedule appointments, request a quote and ask questions with the click of a button. This live chat enhances the customers' overall experience by providing immediate assistance.

Express doesn't have to prove it's the best auto shop in Mankato. According to the Express Auto website, "96% of customers would recommend the services offered."

Express Auto has affordable solutions for budget-conscious students. Express offers various specials for its customers through



their rewards program. This program allows you to earn points each visit. Once students reach seven stars, they can receive a free

ELLIE KEATING • The Reporter Express is conveniently located downtown Mankato on Poplar St and is open Monday-Friday 7:30 am- 5:30 pm.



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SMOKES 4 LESS



2ND PLACE: SMOKER'S CHOICE

3RD PLACE: KATO'S TOBACCO

Smokes 4 Less smokes out the competition

By HAYDEN LEE Staff Writer

Smokes 4 Less has become the one-stop smoke shop superstore. Being the best smoke shop in Mankato is no easy feat, but Smokes 4 Less has the reviews to back it up.

According to Jaime V. on Yelp: "This is the shop to go to for whatever you're looking for! They got glass, papers, cleaning solutions and everything you need to light up. It's always well staffed and they are quick to provide help if you need it. But the best thing is the constant deals they have, and they're nice enough to cater food for whenever they do have a sale going on. Highly recommend it, it is my favorite shop in Mankato."

Additionally, their specialties are listed as: tobacco, cigars, pipe tobacco, pipes, pipe accessories, glass, rolling tobacco, E-cigarettes, E-cigs, cigarettes, vaporizers, hookah, hookah tobacco, zippo lighters, shisha, premium cigars, rolling machines, lighter fluid, rolling papers, cigarette cases, chewing tobacco, snuff, snus,

liquid, scales, grinders, dugouts, metal pipes and acrylic pipes. There is no shortage of products to choose from.

One of the best features of Smokes 4 Less is their staff.

While some places can't wait to get you out the door, the staff is always happy to answer your questions and help you find the perfect product for you. Just ask Dave J. from Yelp:

"I have not made two trips to Smokes 4 Less. Both times upon arrival, I was greeted by polite and courteous employees and immediately asked if I needed help finding anything. Only being there for cigarettes, of course, I didn't need any help but asked me anyhow if I needed anything else while I was there. The prices were great, the service was great and they had an awesome selection of tobacco products. I would definitely recommend this store to all my friends and family who live in the area for a great selection and wide variety of tobacco products," Dave said.

Smokes 4 Less is open Monday - Saturday from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.,

located at 1130 Riverfront Dr, Mankato, Minnesota 56001.

Right now, they are offering a great deal on Loon MAXX vapes, at \$8.99 a piece.

This earth-shattering deal is the best in the area and is offered for over 30 flavors of your favorite tobacco products.

Smokes 4 Less Mankato was the first Smokes 4 Less that opened in Minnesota!

Established in 2002, Smokes 4 Less claims to have become the leader of all things tobacco in Minnesota.

While that remains to be seen, we can safely say that it has at least become the leader in Mankato.

To learn more about this year's best smoke shop, be sure to follow them on Instagram @Smokes4Less and Facebook @Smokes 4 Less Mankato.

"The prices and services are great" - Dave J, Yelp review



HAYDEN LEE • The Reporter







LIQUOR STORE

MGM WINE & SPIRITS

2ND PLACE: JOSEPH'S LIQUOR

3RD PLACE: HIGH SPIRITS

MGM cheers to being the Best Liquor Store

By LAUREN VISKA Staff Writer

For many students, booze is an essential part of college. What better way for them to get booze than at the place that's won the best liquor store in Mankato for the last 12 years?

MGM Wine & Spirits has been chosen again by MSU students for their place to get their alcohol needs. They have a wide variety of wines, beers and other drinks one might need for their needs. If it's a football tailgate, pregame for a hockey game or partying it up at College Town, MGM is the go-to place for alcohol.

MSU student Aurora Severson has been working at MGM for almost a year and said it is one of the best jobs she has had while going to school.

"It's very laid back which is good for my school workload. Not too stressful. The scheduling is very flexible," said Severson. "I worked at McDonald's and Slim Chickens. They were food service jobs, not great at working during the school year."

Severson said she sees a wide variety of college students over the age of 21 shopping at MGM. She said it depends on the day of the week of how many are college students, but she said that 25% of the customers she sees there during a shift are college students.

If you're looking for a good wine, there are many selections to choose from. They've got everything from red to white to bubbly champagne that will make any dinner fancy.

If wine isn't you're thing, they've

got beer stacked all the way to the ceiling. They've got everything from Budlight to Schells to Blue Moons to get those sporting events buzzing.

If you're into mixed drinks, MGM has you covered. They have various selections of vodka, whiskey and many others to add a little bit of spice to your drink.

Outside of the store, there is a bag drop-off for Crown Royal. This is a fundraiser done to help give back to the troops. A certain amount per bag goes to the troops.

MGM Wine & Spirits is a locally owned and operated company with more than 32 franchise locations across Central Minnesota. They have been in business for more than 35 years and are dedicated to providing their customers with a wide selection at a reasonable price. Visit one of their 40 locations today



and discover why MGM Wine & Spirits is Minnesota's largest wine, liquor and beer retailer.

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LAUREN VISKA • The Reporter
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can be found on Commerce Drive,
and the location in St. Peter can be
found right off 169.

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BEST

APARTMENT COMPLEX

COLLEGE TOWN

2ND PLACE: UNIVERSITY SQUARE

3RD PLACE: HIGHLAND HILLS

College Town is the place to live in Kato

By LUKE JACKSON News Editor

Finding a future home is a challenge in college. Whether students are leaving the dorms for the first time or just needing a change in their living situation, College Town (CT) could be just the place they're looking for.

Located just two miles from MSU's campus, College Town offers comfortable living and plenty of amenities. They bring the feeling of living back at home to school with their cottages. CT has 10 different cottage-style houses that can house three to five people.

Each cottage has a private bathroom in each resident's room, a full kitchen, a large living room and a porch both in the front and back. They also provide in-unit washers and dryers, cable TV and

WiFi

There are also plenty of added bonuses outside of the homes. Residents get the benefits of a swimming pool, sand volleyball courts, basketball courts and an indoor hot tub in the clubhouse. The clubhouse also has pool tables, a gym, studying spots and an espresso bar.

Outside of the homes are large courtyards made for having fun with friends. Often residents gather on nice days to bathe in the sun, throw a football around or play games in the volleyball or basketball courts.

In addition, College Town residents are all students so it is the perfect opportunity to make new friends during a student's time at MSU

"College Town was such a great experience. The community of just college kids with all the amenities made it so you were never bored," Josh Matara said in a review.

CT is pet friendly, and if approved, students can bring their cat or dog to live with them. Each cottage is allowed up to two pets but will come with an additional cost if students choose to have one.

If students follow their Instagram they frequently do giveaways for their residents. These have included free Starbucks, Minnesota Viking Jerseys, winter essentials, Beats headphones and more

They also have their own trendy College Town merchandise.

If students are interested in becoming a College Town resident, students can contact them through their website, collegetownmankato. com to apply now. Their terms for starting a lease start August 1 and end July 16 with payments every month for utilities and rent. Their



LUKE JACKSON • The Reporter and will never have to worry about roommates missing rent.

leasing agreement is "by the bed." This means students will only be required to pay their own lease



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