

Big News, Waconia!

We've got some exciting news to share – Waconia has been named Retail Community of the Year! This recognition celebrates everything that makes our business community so special. With the Scarecrow Tour just around the corner followed by D.E.A.R. Day on Nov. 8, it's a fabulous time of year to explore the town. Our retail shops are always changing their merchandise and displays, plus many of the restaurants have new culinary features to share! Whether you're shopping for something special, grabbing lunch between stores, or celebrating with a night out, we know we can find it here in Waconia.

We couldn't be prouder of our amazing shops, craft cocktails, award-winning wines, and fresh-baked treats. With the holiday season fast approaching, we'll be shining a spotlight on our local businesses. At the chamber office, we often get asked about our favorite places to eat, too. Let's keep supporting the chamber members who make our community thrive. Being named Retail Community of the Year is a tremendous honor, and it's all thanks to you. Here's to shopping local, eating local, and celebrating Waconia!

When it comes to local dining, we have so many choices! Here are a few favorites:

Foodies – Restaurants and Bars

[Bakery on Main](#) – Huevos Rancheros

[Bode Gray's](#)

- Meatballs
- Prosciutto Pie

[Imagine Theatre](#) – Best Popcorn!! Pizza is good too.

[Garage Bar & Bowl](#)

- Garage Dry Rub Wings (family favorite)
- Grilled Caesar Salad (my oldest daughter's favorite)
- Dill Pickle Dilemma Pizza

[Golden Dragon](#) – Shrimp Fried Rice

[Hoppers Bar & Grill](#)

- Wildcat Burger

- Pork Chop on a Stick – Nickle Dickle Day (my son’s favorite)

[Iron Tap](#)

- Honey Goat Cheese Bruschetta
- Steak Bites
- Adult Mac and Cheese (my son’s favorite)

[Lola’s Lakehouse](#)

- Louisiana Crab Cakes
- Crab & Shrimp Cobb

[Pangea](#)

- Lolo Eggs Benedict
- Salmon Teriyaki Bowl

[Sizzle Street](#)

- Chicken Tikka Masala
- Garlic Naan

[Sweet Winks](#) – Pulled Pork Sandwich

[The Saloon](#) – Chicken drummies, onion rings, and mozzarella sticks

[Waconia American Legion](#) – Pork burger (Bobbi’s favorite)

On-the-Go

[Culver’s](#) –Crispy chicken sandwich; and their fries are delicious! (middle daughter’s favorite)

[Jersey Mike’s](#) – Turkey and Provolone – Mike’s Way, of course!

[Mackenthun’s Fine Foods](#) – Sushi or Salad Bar

[McDonalds](#) –Sausage McMuffin or Double Cheeseburger meal (my son’s favorite)

[Papa Murphy’s Take ‘N’ Bake Pizza](#) – Herb Chicken Mediterranean or Chicken Bacon Artichoke

[Westrum’s](#) – Corn Dog - a Carver County Fair tradition (Chelsey’s favorite)

Coffee, Smoothies, & Nutrition

[Elite Nutrition](#) – Brownie batter + protein shake (Bobbi's favorite)

[Journey 2 Wellness](#) - Cookie Monster or Blueberry Muffin Protein Shakes

[Mocha Monkey](#) – Hot vanilla latte and a flax bar

[Nautical Bowls](#) - Paddle Bowl

[Scooter's Coffee](#) - Hot coffee, Cold Brew, and the Caramelicious is their signature fav.

[Soulful Smoothies](#) - Mediterranean Salad with Chicken or Be Positive Smoothie

Sweet Treats

[Candie Clouds](#) – Cotton candy cake is fun, and a kid favorite!

[The Main Scoop](#) – Peanut Butter Hearts Chocolate (middle daughter's favorite)

[Frozen Five Ice Creamery](#) – Lavender Honey or Salted Oreo

Libations

[J. Carver Distillery](#) - Old Fashioned (my husband's favorite), and Bee's Knees or anything Gina creates!

[Parley Lake Winery](#) - Frontenac, and Barn Quilt Red

[Schram Vineyards Winery & Brewery](#) - Sparkling Rose and Laketown Red

[The Winery at Sovereign Estate](#) - Regatta Rose and Marquette Reserve

[Waconia Brewing Company](#) Oktoberfest (super popular at the Nickle Dickle Day Street Dance), Chocolate Peanut Butter Porter, and 90K IPA (my husband's favorite)

Bon appétit!

-Christine