

==I Best Antique Store== -- Cottage Jewel. This boutique has one-of-a-kind treasures for the home and to wear. Like any treasure hunt, it goes on and on — stop in to this downtown shop often.

==I Best Car Repair== -- Danville Service Center. Readers rave about the work done at this shop on Linda Mesa. Work is good and timely, prices are fair, and customers and their cars are treated well, say reviews.

==I Best Car Wash== -- Tie: Sponges, Chamois Hand Car Wash. Sure, you can wash the car yourself in the driveway but who wants to? And don't you always miss a spot?

==I Best Flooring Store== -- Diablo Flooring. This place has a wide selection of flooring, from pure wool carpets to stylish tiles to hardwood floors to laminates, bamboo, vinyl and everything in between.

==I Best Hardware Store== -- Tassajara Valley Ace Hardware. This store offers the convenience and helpful staff of an old-fashioned downtown hardware store.

==I Best Home Improvement Contractor== -- Gayler Construction. Looking to upgrade your kitchen? Your bathroom? How about the whole house? Our readers like Gayler for beautiful, long-lasting remodels.

==I Best Interior Designer== -- J. Hettinger Interiors. These people have ideas galore and solutions for every design problem. Jerry's mission is to bring joy and fulfillment to every client.

==I Best Nursery/Garden Center== -- Navlet's. Plants from ground covers to trees and everything in between keep our readers returning to this anchor of the Rose Garden. Don't forget to buy bird seed.

==I Best Tire Store/Service Center== -- Big O Tires. The four big O's that hold up your vehicle are just as important as the engine and our readers recommend this shop for its large inventory and dependable service.

==B Out and About==

==I Best Golf Course== -- Blackhawk Country Club. These two 18-hole, par 72 championship courses make dramatic use of natural terrain and water features and keep getting more beautiful as the landscape matures.

==I Best Happy Hour== -- Bridges. Its happy hour menu is renowned throughout the region as the best place for a good light meal in beautiful surroundings with a wide choice of libations.

==I Best Place for a Picnic== -- Mount Diablo. Drive it, bike it, hike it, visit for the day or the night — and remember the picnic! In the springtime you may dine to a backdrop of wildflowers.

==I Best Place for Dancing== -- Meenar's. I guess it ain't called Meenar's Music Club for nothing. Folks come from far and wide to dance here.

==I Best Place to Get Together With Friends== -- That Bar. This lively place on Prospect Avenue with its dueling piano bar quickly caught on as a great venue for spending the evening with friends.

==I Best Place to Have a First Date== -- The Peasant and the Pear. Great food and place for conversation, which are the ticket for a successful date, whether the first or one of many. The eatery is tucked away off Hartz so a walk through downtown Danville can prolong the evening.

==I Best Place to People Watch== -- Starbucks on Hartz Avenue. This corner is arguably the busiest in town and a lot of the traffic is on foot. Patrons can also watch the construction at the Veterans Hall.

==I Best Public Event== -- Fourth of July Parade. This red, white and blue extravaganza is a true community celebration, and the DanvilleExpress.com/SanRamonExpress.com Marching Band always places first.

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