

5280

THE
DENVER
MAGAZINE

FALL/WINTER GUIDE
2012-2013

Best of the 'BURBS

A SUPPLEMENT TO 5280 MAGAZINE



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Welcome to the third edition of 5280's Best of the 'Burbs, where our coverage of the south Denver metro region continues with more retail options, enticing eateries, choice entertainment, and services to make your life easier. Try something different this season; you never know where exploring will take you.

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SERVICE

You have needs. We get it. So we've scoped out salons, gyms, cleaners, and pet care—all south of town.



THE RESTAURANT GUIDE You want amazing eats? We've got 'em! Check out the best spots to dine in the southern 'burbs.

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ON COVER: ARRYN REITER; COURTESY OF JING; COURTESY OF PACE; THIS PAGE: COURTESY OF BLING; COURTESY OF ASHLEY DAVIS; COURTESY OF PACE CENTER; ARRYN REITER



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DAVINA VAN BUREN



Denver-based freelancer Davina van Buren enjoyed getting out of the city to cover dining (page 17) and diversions (page 25). "Denver's food scene is fantastic, but the suburbs are full of great eats, too," van Buren says. "In fact, I loved the southern 'burbs so much, I'm moving there." Check out van Buren's weekly travel blog on 5280.com.

MEGAN FELDMAN

Megan Feldman had one thought when she received the assignment to shop the southern 'burbs (page 7): "Dangerous," says the Denver-based writer. "I'm going to be lured into bouts of retail therapy!" But leaving the urban core was a great way to discover retail gems in new places, she says. Feldman's work appears in *Details*, *Glamour*, the *Daily Beast*, and more; she's currently finishing a feature for Southwest Airlines' *Spirit Magazine*.

KATY NEUSTETER

Finding the best services (page 31) in any region is tricky, so Denver-based freelancer Katy Neusteter began by chatting up the locals. "As soon as I began talking to South Denverites, it was so clear which businesses were exceeding expectations and providing truly excellent service," says Neusteter, who blogs about travel and technology and covers sustainability and the outdoors for *Sunset*, *Natural Foods Merchandiser*, and other publications.

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SHOPPING

As holiday shopping ramps up, finding just the right gift is a big deal. Worry not, we've done the scouting (and perhaps a little spending) for you in some key suburban nooks and crannies. **BY MEGAN FELDMAN**



Delish Demure



WOMEN'S CLOTHING

The eclectic couture at **Wild Blue Boutique**—chic with a touch of country—features everything from denim and cowboy boots to stylish sweaters, bright trenches, and trendy jewelry.

4940 S. Yosemite St., Greenwood Village, wildblueboutique.net

Delish Demure is all about

decadent fabrics and rich colors from designers like Fabrizio Gianni, Komarov, and Hale Bob. This season, that means patterned jeans, mustard hues, and neon cashmere. *8000 E. Belleview Ave., Greenwood Village, delishdemure.com*

HOME

Colorado Style Home Furnishings is packed with unusual pieces from around the world that are made from natural materials and fashioned by artisans dedicated to ornamental details seldom seen in mass-produced furniture: hand-hewn and inlaid wood veneers, hand-tooled leather, and hand-painted porcelain, to name a

few. Look for styles that range from Tuscan to European country to Colorado casual.

2550 E. County Line Road, Highlands Ranch, coloradostyle.com

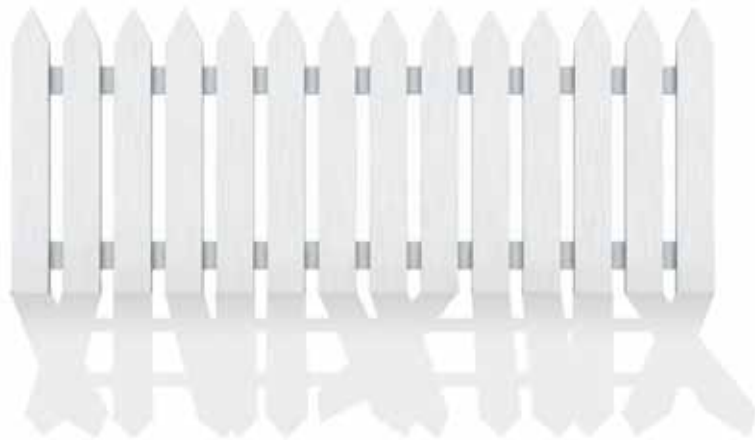
HOLIDAYS

If you're one of those must-outdo-the-neighbors types when it comes to eye-popping Christmas displays, **St. Nick's** is a must-visit one-stop shop. Its 22-plus rooms are a maze of artificial trees and train sets, nutcrackers and nativities, wreaths and lights, and collectibles, like miniature models of Charles Dickens' house.

5221 S. Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, stnicks.com



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KIDS & MATERNITY

Expectant and new mothers have a lot to look forward to...and to purchase...and to learn. Which is why we suggest a trip to **Sweet Beginnings**, a boutique-slash-wellness-center that has everything covered, from breast pumps, books, and baby carriers to classes on breastfeeding, parenting, and prenatal yoga. Purchase a Sweet Beginnings membership (\$75) to receive discounts on merchandise and classes.

5661 S. Curtice St., Littleton, oursweetbeginnings.com

Kim Wood blends boutique charm

with practical consignment at **They Just Keep Growing**, a popular shop filled with used maternity, infant, toddler, and children's clothing, as well as new items such as Melissa & Doug toys, WubbaNub pacifiers, and Webkinz.

423 Perry St., Castle Rock, theyjustkeepgrowing.com



fishing spots, some as close as 30 to 75 minutes from Denver.

2030 E. County Line Road, Unit D, Highlands Ranch, hookflyfishing.com

OUTDOORS

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Happy Sport owner Peter Sekera hails from Prague, so he knows both Old World and New World skis and boards. Partnering with European rental network Swissrent A Sport, both Happy Sport locations offer expert tune-ups and the latest ski and board models for your rental or demo pleasure.

FIRST PERSON



PAPER PERFECT

Fleur de Lis (a paperie) owner Jenna McKinlay on her Euro-inspired, family-run shop, which opened in 2011.

5280: What concept were you aiming for?

JM: I wanted to create a store with a boutique feel that focuses on paper products: custom and print-them-yourself invitations, note cards, notebooks—plus gifts and accessories like candles, jewelry, and fashionable purses.

5280: In the age of digital everything, what keeps people coming back to a paper-focused shop?

JM: We're known for outside-the-box greeting cards that are fun, different, and non-generic. We have lots of funny, inappropriate cards, and people love them because they can't find them anywhere else.

5280: What are your favorite local products?

JM: Kathryn Giarratano Jewelry; Lollia bath and body products.

8000 E. Belleview Ave., Ste. B40, Greenwood Village, fleurdelisdtc.com

Find recipes, decor ideas, party inspiration, and wedding musings—an homage to "all things beautiful"—from McKinlay and her sisters at tuttbellablog.com.





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324 S. Main St., Breckenridge, CO 80424

10443 S. Parker Road, Parker; 10125 W. San Juan Way, #140, Littleton; happysport.us

JEWELRY

Along with premium denim and vintage-style cowboy boots,

Bling!'s eye-catching assortment of reasonably priced baubles is just as covetable: intricate silver stretch bracelets, coin necklaces, and oversize stretch rings with bold turquoise and rhinestone designs. 333 B Perry St., Castle Rock, shop4bling.com



TOYS

Prices at **Razzle Toys** may be slightly higher than at the big-box stores, but they're worth it for the wide selection of unique, well-crafted games, gadgets, books, and dolls your kids will love. Plus, gift wrapping is included with your purchase.

5910 S. University Blvd., Greenwood Village, 303-730-1505

MEN'S CLOTHING

Not many local, family-owned shops have endured since Harry Truman was president. Enter **Homer Reed, LTD**, specializing since 1951 in classic fashion and personalized service. As the sign outside reads, this is a shop of "storekeepers for gentlemen," and its inventory, from formal to business to casual, includes labels

like Ralph Lauren, Bugatchi, and Robert Talbott.

8101 E. Belleview Ave., Greenwood Village, homerreedltd.com

BRIDAL

Most bridal shops require appointments, but Centennial's **Celestial Bride** has a convenient walk-in-only policy. The staff is friendly and helpful, and the inventory includes a wide range of styles and sizes from Allure, Casablanca, Bari Jay, and more.

8262 S. University Blvd., Centennial, celestialbrideandtux.com

SPECIALTY CIGARS

Stanley Pappas Cigars is a luxurious haven for connoisseurs: The

lounge is decorated with warmly painted walls, hardwood floors, and plush leather chairs—and most important, the 500-square-foot humidor offers more than 1,000 cigars from around the world, most made from aromatic tobacco and assembled by a variety of worldly artisans. Private humidors are available for rent.

6880 S. Clinton St., Greenwood Village, stanleypappas.com

FLOWERS

Family-owned **Banister's Flowers** keeps loyal customers coming back with colorful, thoughtfully designed bouquets for any occasion, using Colorado-grown flowers (when possible) arranged with personal touches. Delivery throughout the metro area.

4495 S. Broadway, Englewood, banistersflowers.com



FROM TOP: COURTESY OF BLING; COURTESY OF JARED MOYRNE

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7298 Lagae Rd, Ste C, Castle Pines | 303-225-4715 | ckpd.com

BOOKS

Bored with the same old attempts at personal growth? (How many times have you “taken up” yoga or cooking?) Seek out something different at **Cornerstone Books**, where an assortment of spiritual books and DVDs, as well as crystals, Tarot readings, and classes on topics such as feng shui and meditation will shake up your routine.

3601 S. Sherman St., Englewood, cornerstonebooksco.com

It's a mainstay in two city locations, but we'd be remiss not to mention the suburban branch of the **Tattered Cover Book Store**, which offers more than 20,000 square feet of retail space, trademark books and signings, a newsstand, and a coffee bar in the Highlands Ranch Town Center. 9315 Dorchester St., #H-101, Highlands Ranch, tatteredcover.com



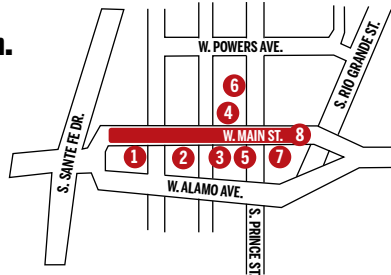
Tattered Cover

ROUNDUP

SEASONAL SPENDING

Big-box holiday shopping? No thanks. Try Downtown Littleton.

Not up for battling Black Friday mall crowds? Neither are we. Instead, get your holiday shopping on with a taste of old-fashioned Christmas in Historic Downtown Littleton.



FOR WHERE TO GO

Festive collectibles and gift-worthy trinkets...

Hit the **7 Festive Plum** (festiveplum.com) for ornaments, jewelry, or collectibles; visit **4 Seasons** (seasonslittleton.com) to find a final decorative touch for your home; and go no farther than **1 Grandpa's Attic** (grandpas-attic.com) for the perfect *Star Trek* action figure for your cousin. For something a little more artistic, choose from locally made pottery, paintings, and accessories at **5 Willow-An Artisan's Market** (willowartisansmarket.com).

A break from the retail frenzy...

Grab a treat from **3 Lola's Sugar Rush** (lolassugarrush.com) and a steaming cup of cocoa from the **2 Chocolate Therapist** (thechocolatetherapist.com) before catching the annual **8 Littleton Tree Lighting Ceremony** (see page 27) on Main Street to cap off your anti-Black Friday shopping day.

A kid-friendly affair...

Bring them along and stop by **Santa's Magical Snow Show** (November 24–December 23) at the **6 Reinke Bros.** costume store (reinkebrothers.com) to snap a picture of your tot with Santa. If holiday shopping was always this pleasant, we wouldn't put it off for so long.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MAP BY SEAN PARSONS; COURTESY OF LOLA'S SUGAR RUSH; AMY RITTER



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Janet Kritzer 303.883.2474



CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

Stately European inspired home in Cherry Creek schools. 5 bedrooms, 8 baths, 5-car garage, mountain views, backs to Highline. Exceptional value! \$2,825,000 19 Covington Drive

Kelly Birner and Bob Brier 303.917.6530



CHERRY HILLS VILLAGE

Gorgeous home tucked behind wrought iron gates w/spacious rms, fin lower level, exquisite finishes, beautiful grounds. 6 bds, 8 baths, 8,964 fin sf on treed site. \$2,368,000 1075 E. Oxford Lane

The Behr Team 303.917.4467



CASTLE PINES VILLAGE

West facing mountain views, quality finishes, and exceptional outdoor living spaces. 5 bedrooms, 9 baths, 7,720 finished square feet.

\$2,150,000 778 International Isle Drive

Rosemary Nigh 303.229.9340



CHERRY CREEK

A stunning custom Tudor, rich in architectural detail and exquisite finishes, tucked quietly at the end of a private gated drive. Walk to trails, 5 bds, 8 baths 7,848 sf. \$1,885,000 2901 E. Alameda Ave.

The Behr Team 303.917.4467



GLENMOOR COUNTRY CLUB

Trendy remodel of executive home. 2-story windows allow whole-house views of the golf course. Great flow through stylish new kitchen. Fin bsmt, 6 bds, 5 baths. \$1,595,000 68 Glenmoor Dr.

Elaine Swomley 303.916.8207



COLORADO GOLF CLUB

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Wanda Ford and Kathryn Ford 303.324.3379



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DINING

Discover the best breakfast joints, tastiest pizza, most daring burger creations, and sweetest treats south of the city. **BY DAVINA VAN BUREN**



Jing's ahi Napoleon



BREAKFAST

We can't get enough of the morning indulgences at **Blueberry's**: savory wraps, a full coffee bar, and low-fat (seriously) strawberry-rhubarb muffins. Throw in a versatile lunch menu—crunchy salads, creative sandwiches, fruit smoothies, and made-from-scratch desserts—and we're officially smitten.

1500 W. Littleton Blvd., Ste. 110A, Littleton, blueberryslittleton.com

The black-and-white prints on the walls of **Breakfast on Broadway Cafe** give it a retro feel, but the food is anything but. Cactus scramble and butternut-squash pancakes share the menu with a Hangover Burger and smoked gouda grits. Plus, anywhere that has "First Call" and breakfast cocktails is fine by us.

2901 S. Broadway, Englewood, breakfastonbroadway.com

PIZZA

High ceilings, tabletop flowers, and an impressive wine list—100-

plus varieties, all Italian—make **Pizza Republica** so much more than your typical pie joint. And talk about fresh—we're betting this place doesn't even have a freezer (OK, maybe for the gelato). Tip: In summer, take your friends on a Tuesday, when the perfectly crispy, Neapolitan-style pizzas are buy one, get one.

5375 Landmark Place, #113, Greenwood Village, pizzarepublica.com

You'll find two equally delicious styles of pizza at the southern branch of **Marco's Coal-Fired Pizzeria**: Neapolitan (thin, Italian-style) and New York (thin, American-style) pies. Go for the lunch



Marco's Coal-Fired Pizzeria's pistachio pizza

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deal: You can't beat a margherita pizza, house salad, and (non-alcoholic) drink for less than a 10-spot. *10111 Inverness Main St., Englewood, marcoscoal-firedpizza.com*

BURGERS

The folks at **Crave Real Burgers** will put anything on a burger (we applaud that, but purists, be warned). Try the Nutty Professor

(peanut butter, bacon, jalapeños, and onion)—a crazy combo, but somehow, it works. Wash it down with a grown-up (read: spiked) shake or malt.

3982 Limelight Ave., Castle Rock, craverrealburgers.com

AMERICAN

Las Vegas-sleek and Colorado-casual meet at downtown Parker's

FIRST PERSON

FRESH FACES

Elev. 5900 head honchos **Richard Esper** and **Alec Erickson** on leaving Las Vegas and landing in Parker.

5280: Mainstreet is a 180 from the Vegas Strip. What prompted the move to Parker?

RE: We were looking in the Denver area, and my wife stumbled upon Parker while house hunting. She fell in love with it, and I trust her judgment.

5280: Tell me about your cooking style.

AE: I learned from a lot of Italian chefs, so I try to keep things simple and let the ingredients shine on their own. You can see that in every dish we do here, whether it's an American, Southwest, or Italian dish. We make everything in-house.

5280: How does **Elev. 5900** stand out from other restaurants in Parker?

AE: We're trying to break people away from the chains. We're trying to offer some different food and better ambience, and give great service to everyone here.



Richard Esper

Alec Erickson



Lunch at Elev. 5900

FROM TOP: COURTESY OF CRAVE REAL BURGERS; ILLUSTRATION BY SEAN PRIBOSINS; AARIN REITER; OPPOSITE PAGE: AARIN REITER; COURTESY OF THE BISTRO

Elev. 5900 Kitchen and Bar. The seasonal menu (we're still talking about the grilled Palisade peach with basil whipped cream) reflects a commitment to local sourcing. Service is attentive and informative. Don't miss the house-made limoncello and seasonal sangria.

19751 E. Mainstreet, Ste. R-1, Parker,
elev5900.com

PUB

Part pub, part sports bar, and part restaurant, **Lansdowne Arms Bistro and Pub** boasts 20 taps, an Irish-inspired menu, and several televisions tuned to the game. Try the pan-seared Brie and shepherd's pie—both are big steps up from typical bar fare.

9352 Dorchester St., Highlands Ranch,
lansdownearmsbistroandpub.com

ASIAN

Don't let the strip mall location fool you: The family-run, vegetarian-friendly **Thai Bistro** has been dishing out super fresh, authentic Thai cuisine in Littleton for 13 years. A



Thai Bisto's
baked custard



Lunch Matters' house-roasted
turkey breast sandwich

lunchtime visit will set you back just \$8.95 for an entrée and mini-appetizer. The shrimp toast is a hit.

5924 S. Kipling Pkwy., Ste. G, Littleton,
thaibistro.net

With its sexy white leather booths and chairs, soothing water wall, and dim lighting, **Jing** is perfect for date night. Modern takes on traditional dishes—try the strawberry salmon rolls, the ginger steamed Chilean sea bass, or the hoisin wasabi pork chop—are menu standouts.

5370 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., Greenwood
Village, jingrestaurant.com

SANDWICHES

Three words: quality, not quantity. You'll find just 12 sandwiches on the menu at **Lunch Matters** (inside the Easy Entrées store): six

versions of old favorites (Classic Matters) and their gourmet counterparts (More Matters). All are delectable, flavorful masterpieces. Pair your choice with the couscous salad, a unique blend of orange, curry, almonds, and currants.

9064 Forsstrom Drive, Unit B-15, Lone Tree,
lunchmattersnow.com

ITALIAN

It's the smallest details about a meal that make it special. At **Portofino**, ingredients are chopped and sliced into manageable pieces, sauces are house-made, and the servers are friendly. We especially like that the strombolis and calzones aren't overly doughy.

10920 S. Parker Road, Parker,
portofinopizzaandpasta.com

The traditional Italian fare and a

creative cocktail list at **Colore Italian Restaurant & Pizzeria**

draw in the foodies, but you can still order wings and catch the game at the bar.

2700 S. Broadway, Englewood, colorepm.com

DINER

Unexpected surprises like cranberry mimosas, fresh-cut fries, and the raspberry chipotle burger (Fuji apples, almonds, grilled onions, spring mix, and goat cheese) elevate **Silver Creek Diner** from greasy-spoon status. And we love that it offers small plates for

adults when you're just not up for a ginormous meal.

7824 Park Meadows Drive, Ste. 300, Lone Tree, 303-768-8112

TAKEOUT

They say that holes-in-the-wall often have the best food—and such is the case with **Winston Hill's Ribs & Stuff**. The restaurant isn't much to look at and only has four seats; but what the space lacks in style, it makes up for in taste with its tender barbecue.

5090 E. Arapahoe Road, Centennial, winstonhillsribsandstuff.com



ROUNDUP

SUGAR RUSH

Why you should head south of the city to satisfy that sweet tooth.



← SMART COW YOGURT BAR

With 16 flavors made from hormone-free milk, plus a range of healthy fruit toppings, you can feel good about indulging at Smart Cow. Of course, there are plenty of guilty pleasures, too (everybody needs a few brownie bites, Fruity Pebbles, and caramel cups on their fro-yo now and then). On a sunny day, take in the mountain view from the patio.

36 E. Allen St., Castle Rock, smartcowyogurt.com



← MAROON BELLS

With its house-made gourmet chocolates, tantalizing truffles, and rich ice cream, Maroon Bells is a real-life Willy Wonka factory. Don't leave without trying a red velvet milkshake and snagging a box of chocolates. Cavities be damned.

7555 E. Arapahoe Road, Centennial, maroonbells.com



← POSH PASTRIES

We dare you to leave Posh empty-handed after perusing 14 cupcake flavors, fresh-baked French pastries and cookies, and mouthwatering pot pies. Not everything is available every day, so call ahead to pre-order your favorite goodies.

10471 S. Parker Road, Parker, poshpastriesbakery.com

LONE TREE'S

PREMIER

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ridgegate.com

DIVERSIONS

For the runner or the wine aficionado, the golfer or the chef, the art buff or the beer connoisseur—we've found your happy place in the southern suburbs. **BY DAVINA VAN BUREN**



Parker Christmas
Carriage Parade





HAPPY HOUR

Strolling magicians, two patios, and a hefty selection of tequilas make **Lime** a hopping happy hour spot in the winter. Ask for a lime salad—a tequila shot served in a hollowed lime—and celebrate. It's five o'clock somewhere.

5425 Landmark Place, Greenwood Village, eatatlime.com

You'll find the usual suspects—cheap drafts, discounted wine, specialty drinks—at the **Copper Pot's** happy hour, but the food takes center stage. Try smaller portions of house favorites like mushrooms Romano and shrimp

and beans on the cheap.

508 E. Hampden Ave., Englewood; 2796 S. Broadway, Englewood; copperpotfamily.com

WINE

Not only is **Indulge Bistro & Wine Bar** one of our favorites for high-end, creative tapas (think chorizo andaluz and our weakness, the heavenly croissant pudding) to complement its impressive wine list, but it has also given rise to the **Indulge Wine & Spirits School**. In an attempt to make wine more fun and less stuffy, the Indulge wine director hosts classes (which they've now expanded across the country) that teach consumers how to pair dishes with wine to bring out the full flavor of each recipe. Give it a try; you'll never again be intimidated by a wine list.

1601 Mayberry Drive, Highlands Ranch, indulgewineschool.com

LOUNGE

Elegantly styled with buttery-soft brown leather couches, jazz, blues, or classic rock on the sound system, and a list of specialty cocktails that'll keep you planted all night long, the **Robusto Room** is a welcome change from the rowdy bar scene. Allow the knowledgeable staff to help you pick a cigar and settle in for some upscale relaxation and tunes.

9535 Park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree, therobustoroom.com

BEER

Coffee shop by day, brewpub by night:

Jake's Brew Bar is the perfect spot to widen your beer horizons. Colorado is well represented on the taps, but you'll also see suds from France, Scotland, Germany, and elsewhere. Selections rotate frequently, which ensures a wide variety for local beer geeks.

2540 W. Main St., Littleton, 303-996-1006



COOKING CLASSES

With a focus on low-glycemic cooking techniques, **Nature's Table Cooking School's** natural food chef Penni Royston makes the kitchen fun with classes like "It's a Wrap," "Egg-cellent Dishes," and "Let's Get Saucy." Learn how to make informed restau-



Indulge Bistro & Wine Bar

rant choices, pack healthy (and yummy) lunches for the kids, and choose supplements that are worth the investment.

6657 W. Ottawa Ave., Ste. D-3, Littleton, naturestablecookingschool.com

Many Coloradans are cutting back on meat consumption due to health and environmental concerns. **Almost Vegan Cooking School** instructor Debbie Devore offers cozy classes (in her own kitchen) such as “Vegan Schmeggan,” “Our Daily Greens,” and “Soups for Supper”—and proves that cooking sans animal products doesn’t mean sacrificing taste.

16504 E. Dorado Ave., Centennial, almostvegancookingschool.com

HOLIDAY SPIRIT

Celebrate the season at the annual **Littleton Tree Lighting Ceremony** where you can sip hot cider, make friends with reindeer, and catch some tunes from local choirs as Santa makes his way down Main Street. More than a million lights will illuminate as he passes each block, and one lucky child will be chosen to help flip the switch on the giant tree at Bowles Plaza.

Downtown Littleton, November 23, downtownlittleton.com

The festive, all-equestrian **Parker Christmas Carriage Parade** features horse-drawn carriages, stagecoaches, and sleighs from across Colorado. Look for the holiday market and make sure the kids get their photo ops with the Clauses.

Downtown Parker, December 8, parkeronline.org

ROUNDUP

THE RUNAROUND

Don’t be a couch potato just because the temperature’s dropped. Here, a few ways to keep your blood pumping.



Winter Distance Series

WINTER DISTANCE SERIES

Stay motivated during the winter months by training for three races (Santa Stampede 5K/10K, December 15; Frosty’s Frozen 5M/10M, January 19; and Snowman Stampede 5M/10M, February 16) along the banks of the South Platte River. (Parents: Each event is accompanied by a kids’ fun run.) The terrain might change with the seasons—but will your time? *Hudson Gardens, Littleton, winterdistanceseries.com*

HOLIDAY FLAG FOOTBALL SWEETNESS BOWL

Get in the competitive—and giving—spirit by entering this annual weekend flag football tourney. A portion of the entry fees will be donated to Inter-Faith Community Services. \$325/8-v-8; \$225/4-v-4. November 17–18, *David A. Lorenz Regional Park, Centennial*

TURKEY DAY 5K RUN/WALK

The good thing about a Thanksgiving Day race is the guilt-free eating and napping that comes after. Bring the kids—and the stroller—for this casual and family-friendly way to work up an appetite. *Parker Recreation Center, Parker, November 22, 8 a.m., parkerrec.com*

GOLF



If winter sports aren't your thing, head over to **Swingers Sports Lounge & Grill** and brush up on your golf game.

With 48 courses and a driving range on a PGA Tour Simulator, you'll have a jump on the competition come spring.

9535 Park Meadows Drive, Unit B, Lone Tree, swingerssportslounge.com

CULTURE

Now in its second season, the **PACE (Parker Arts Culture & Events) Center** is quickly establishing itself as a mecca for Colorado's performing artists. Don't miss this year's **A Christmas Carol**, **Holiday Brass** with the Denver Municipal Band, and **The Nutcracker of Parker** by the Colorado School of Dance.

20000 Pikes Peak Ave., Parker, pacecenteronline.org

Located in the Palazzo Verdi office building in the Denver Tech Center, the **Madden Museum of Art** is an unlikely—but welcome—space for a museum. Exhibits in a variety of mediums rotate quarterly and are largely from the family collection of real estate developer John Madden.

6363 S. Fiddler's Green Circle, Greenwood Village, themaddenmuseum.com

FIRST PERSON

WHAT TO WATCH

PACE Center marketing and sales guru Leslie Johnson dishes on Parker's performing arts hub.



5280: How did your first season go?

LJ: We had everything from opera to dance to symphonies to stunt dogs onstage. We had just over 35,000 people through our doors, 15 sellouts, and more than half our shows were 75 percent full, so we consider that a success.

5280: What did you learn about your audience?

LJ: Something that surprised us about the audience was the amount of people traveling to Parker for the shows. A lot of our audience lives outside of Parker, which we love.

5280: What do you have in store for your second season?

LJ: Our second season is jam-packed with more variety. We have some international touring musicians: Natalie MacMaster—she's a Celtic fiddler; and Paco Peña, a flamenco guitarist. We're also doing a ton of collaborations this year.



PACE Center's *The Nutcracker of Parker*

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LONE TREE ARTS CENTER HOLIDAY SHOWS



John Denver Holiday Concert

December 11 – December 16, 2012

Former John Denver band member Dan Wheatman and noted director Randal Myler (*Love, Janis, Almost Heaven: Songs and Stories of John Denver, Fire on the Mountain*) team up to bring you this classic holiday concert that will transport you back to a place that is sweet, simple, and full of promise.



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An Original Production by Paul Dwyer and Starkey Productions

From the team that brought you the 2011 holiday hit *White Christmas* we present you with a brand new holiday production wrapped with a bow! A family event for all ages, this holiday celebration will bring joy to your heart and a smile to your face as we welcome you "home for the holidays."



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SERVICE

You have needs. We get it. So we scouted out salons, gyms, cleaners, and pet care—all south of town. BY KATY NEUSTETER





SALONS

Curly-haired folks, we hear you—we dread the winter frizzies, too. Not to worry: **Fresh Nail, Wax, & Dry Bar** can make your mane sleeker when it counts. Brazilian blowouts are the menu item of choice at this hair, nail, and skin salon, which doubles as a wine bar. *7301 S. Santa Fe Drive, Ste. 342, Littleton, myfreshplace.com*

Take your kids to get their locks shorn or buzzed at **Sharkey's Cuts for Kids**, which opened its only Colorado location in June. Big sis and little bro can choose their seats—Pink Barbie Jeep for her, Lightning McQueen race car for him—and walk out with their nails polished or their arms inked with faux tattoos. *9385 S. Colorado Blvd., Ste. 107, Highlands Ranch, sharkeyscutsforkids.com*

BEAUTY EXTRAS

Tucked into an “alley” at the Streets at SouthGlenn, **AllieKatz Nail Bar** taps into our inner girly girl. The sparkly chandeliers and reasonable prices on shellac make it a good spot to host a festive ladies soiree. Bonus: Order an adult beverage to sip for true relaxation while your toes get pampered. *2154 E. Commons Ave., Ste. 331, Centennial, alliekatznailbar.com*

What's the best thing about après-

ski? The hot tubbing, of course. Make sure your gams (and more) are tub-ready with a visit to **Waxing the City**. Dedicated purely to the art of hair removal, this local chain offers services for women and men. We love the tiered price structure, which includes gratuity. *7730 E. Belleview Ave., Ste. AG5 & AG6, Greenwood Village, waxingthecity.com*

FITNESS

Certified personal trainers Eileen and Neil Cestra started **Essential Fitness** for those who want to work out with a trainer—without the megabucks trainer fees. A monthly membership entitles you to an unlimited number of workouts with a max of six participants. Those are pretty good odds for a

ripped physique. *5425 Landmark Place, Ste. 303, Greenwood Village, essentialfitdenver.com*

The year-old **Lone Tree Athletic Club** has everything you could hope for in a fitness center: spinning, TRX equipment, and posh locker rooms. A spacious, tiered cardio studio means you'll never have to wait for a machine. If you live in Lone Tree, flash your ID and get \$10 off your monthly membership. *9995 Park Meadows Drive, Lone Tree, lonetreeathleticclub.com*

DAY SPAS

Leave the real world (and parched winter skin) at the door when you step inside **Spavia's** tranquility room, which eschews pretension



AllieKatz Nail Bar

in favor of privacy and a world-can-wait vibe. The Front Range-based chain uses Boulder's Sanitas skincare line, so you can feel good about supporting two local businesses at once.

8283 S. Akron St., Centennial; 4930 Yosemite St., ste. D2, Greenwood Village; spaviadayspa.com

Want to go posh for a day? Sucker for tranquil luxury? Listen up: High-end, award-winning services—such as the Minkyti facial, which combines massage and SkinCeuticals products to reduce the signs of aging—are **Woodhouse Day Spa's** M.O. The rich and warming ambi-

ence and decadent treatment are just what the season ordered. 880 W. Happy Canyon Road, Ste. 130, Castle Rock, castlepines.woodhousespas.com

PETS

We don't love the idea of leaving

FIRST PERSON



SPLITTING HAIRS

Kevin McCarthy, owner of Quincy Old Fashioned Barbers in Englewood, on being a young guy in an old profession.

5280: So why barbering?

KM: I've done women's hair, but real barbering is a whole different thing. I went to Cuttin' Up Beauty Academy on East Colfax, where it was all about straight razors and taper fading. It's surprisingly hard to find someone with that expertise.

5280: What's your specialty?

KM: Traditional barbering—no frills, no fuss. It's just a good, traditional men's haircut with a straight razor around the ear. You'll always get your hair cut by the same person here, which makes my shop unique.

5280: How did the shop end up in the middle of a residential neighborhood?

KM: Back when the business started in 1948, neighborhoods had corner stores and small businesses. Some of the old timers tell me there was a plumbing shop and grocery down the street. Those are gone now, and the neighborhood has kind of grown up around the barbershop.

5280: How have you changed the space since you took over in 2009?

KM: I filled it with 1950s antiques, old oilcans, surfing stuff from the '60s, and other things that give it that old-school nostalgia. The barber chairs are from the '30s.

460 E. Quincy Ave., Englewood, oldfashionbarbers.com

Kevin McCarthy of Quincy Old Fashioned Barbers



our furry friends behind when we skip town. But **City Bark** gives them a mini-vacation, too, with playtime in the swimming pool and plenty of naps if you ask. Plus, we can check in on them from afar with the online doggie cam.

9835 Mangano Lane, Parker, citybark.com

Rina Meyers loves all things four-legged—which is why she's been grooming pets for more than 30 years. Her shop, **A Paw Spa**, offers dogs and cats the royal treatment, such as aromatherapy spritzes, de-shedding sessions, and even hot oil therapies for dry, flaky winter skin.

5950 S. Platte Canyon Road, #D-1, Littleton, apawsspalittleton.com

CAR CARE

Weekend I-70 trips can dole out a beating on our cars during ski season. Head to **Magic Rabbit Car Wash & Detail**—a massive complex known for its primo detailing—to repair a pitted windshield, touch up dinged paint, or simply remove the most tenacious grime.

5651 E. County Line Place, Highlands Ranch, magicrabbitcarwash.com

CLOTHES CARE

With locations across South Denver, **Heritage Cleaners** has been in business for nearly 40 years. But it's the pickup and delivery service that won our hearts. (Oh, and the same-day shirt laundering, meticulous alterations, and simple Heritage Express service.)

Castle Rock, Centennial, Greenwood Village, Highlands Ranch, Littleton, and Lone Tree; heritagecleaners.com

ROUNDUP

'TIS THE SEASON

Throw a seamless holiday shindig in the southern 'burbs with these must-have party-planning resources.



IS THAT AN INVITATION?

Set an elegant tone. Sending out hand-calligraphed, quasi-formal invites lets guests know to expect a special evening.

Try: Pretty Writing by Evette Goldstein, Castle Rock, prettywriting.com

ADD SOME CHEER

Choose fresh flowers for a nice change from the same-old holiday decor. Surprising splashes of color are uplifting and festive; don't be afraid to go bright.

Try: Mainstreet Flower Market, 19555 E. Main St., Ste. A, Parker, mainstreetflowermarketco.com

SERVE IT HOT

Feed them Colorado-style. Offering a menu that includes locally produced items, such as grass-fed beef, lessens your carbon footprint and supports various local businesses.

Try: Epicurean Catering, 6800 S. Xanthia St., Centennial, epicureancatering.com



SWEET SENDOFF

Remember your sense of humor. Dessert can be an opportunity to infuse some fun. Serve a cake custom-designed with a 3-D pile of edible presents or a giant fondant bow.

Try: Cakeheads, 82 Inverness Drive East, Ste. E, Englewood, cakeheadsbakery.com



CLEAN MACHINE

Don't sweat the after-party cleanup. Spilled red wine and dropped frosting? A good carpet-cleaning service will erase all of the evidence.

Try: Arapahoe Carpet Care, Centennial, arapahoecarpetcare.com

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RESTAURANT

GUIDE

SYMBOL GUIDE

THE DOLLAR SYMBOLS included in each listing indicate how much you can expect to pay for an average dinner entrée:

\$ Average entrée under \$10.

\$\$ Average entrée \$11-15.

\$\$\$ Average entrée \$16-25.

\$\$\$\$ Average entrée \$26 and higher.

THESE LISTINGS ARE IN NO WAY RELATED TO ADVERTISING. They are intended as an informational guide to top dining establishments in the south Denver metro area.

WE WELCOME READERS' COMMENTS. If you find that a restaurant differs significantly from the information in its listing or your favorite restaurant is missing from the Dining Guide, please let us know. Write us at 5280, 1515 Wazee St., Suite 400, Denver, CO 80202 or dining@5280.com.

1-2-3 PHO \$
HIGHLANDS RANCH / ASIAN / Delicious house-made Vietnamese pho with a wide variety of offerings. Try a noodle bowl with grilled meats like pork, shrimp, steak, and chicken. Don't miss the crispy spring rolls or the vegetarian egg rolls. Gluten-free options. Reservations not accepted. 3624 E. Highlands Ranch Pkwy, 303-471-2228. Daily 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Sunday 12 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

ALL BABA GRILL \$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / MEDITERRANEAN / At this family-run restaurant, all your favorites

(hummus, baba ghanoush, lamb kabobs, falafel) are cooked fresh daily. Reservations accepted. 5380 Greenwood Village Plaza Blvd., 303-779-0026. Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

AMERICAN DINER \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / A meat and potato kind of place. A playroom for kids makes it a great spot for families. Reservations accepted. 5400 W. Alameda Ave., 303-922-1649. Mon-Sun 6 a.m.-10 p.m.

AUGUSTINE GRILL \$\$\$
SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / Relax in the meandering garden and enjoy lamb and fresh seafood selections and an extensive wine list. Reservations accepted. 519 Wilcox St., 303-814-3663. Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tue-Thu 5-8 p.m.; Fri-Sat 5-9 p.m.

BACA \$\$\$
SOUTHWEST METRO / INTERNATIONAL / Contemporary Colorado dishes prepared with a Spanish flair. Reservations accepted. 200 Inverness Dr. West, 303-397-7222. Daily 6-10 p.m.

BAKER'S WAY \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / DELI / This bakery is known for excellent breads, pastries, sandwiches, and espressos. Reservations not accepted. 8181 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-770-1966. Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat 6 a.m.-4 p.m., closed Sun

BANGKOK CAFE \$\$
ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / Family-owned and operated. Bangkok's dishes are prepared fresh, with no MSG or preservatives. Reservations accepted. 1225 E. Hampden Ave., 303-806-9354. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat 4:30-9 p.m.

BANZAI SUSHI \$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ASIAN / Make sure to try the specialty rolls. Reservations accepted for four or more. 6655 Leetsdale Dr., 303-329-3366. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.; Fri 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sat 5-10 p.m.

BAR LOUIE \$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Famed oversized sandwiches: Try the grilled veggie wrap with roasted carrots, zucchini, red pepper, spinach, avocado, hummus, goat cheese, and pesto mayo in a tortilla. Reservations not accepted. 6911 S. Vine St., 303-928-7400. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

BARA SUSHI AND GRILL \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ASIAN / A sushi restaurant featuring rolls you can't find anywhere else. Try the popular Centennial roll. Also serving fresh, grilled meats and seafood. Reservations accepted. 8000 E. Belleview Ave., 720-489-5509. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-10 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-11 p.m.; Sat 5-10 p.m.

BEIRUT GRILL \$\$
SOUTHWEST METRO / MIDDLE EASTERN / Under the soft light of Damascene chandeliers, dine on lamb shank, kebabs, and falafel. Reservations accepted. 203 W. Hampden Ave., 303-781-0808. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

BENIHANA \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ASIAN / This family-friendly, Japanese-style hibachi steak house is a fun place for both lunch and dinner. Reservations strongly recommended. 3295 S. Tamarac Dr., 303-750-0200. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m., 4-10 p.m.; Fri 11:30

a.m.-2 p.m., 4-10:30 p.m.; Sat 12 p.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sun 12-9:30 p.m.

BENT NOODLE \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ITALIAN / Made-from-scratch sauces and great desserts. A casual, friendly, fun environment. Reservations accepted. 3055 S. Parker Rd., 303-337-2733. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat-Sun 4-9 p.m.

BERNIE'S HOT DOG CO. \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / This restaurant celebrates the hot dog (choose from traditional, all natural, turkey, veggie, foot-long, mini corn dogs, and more), along with more than 24 toppings, in a Chipotle-esque space. Reservations not accepted. 1601 Mayberry Dr., 303-683-0500. Daily 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

BIG BILL'S NEW YORK PIZZA \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / ITALIAN / The pizza is great and so are the pastas, calzones, and salads. Reservations not accepted. 8243 S. Holly St., 303-741-9245. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

BIG PAPA'S BBQ \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / BARBECUE / Serving traditionally smoked, dry-rubbed meats. Pick from four regional sauces as well as nine made-from-scratch sides. Reservations not accepted. 6265 E. Evans Ave., 303-300-4499. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

BISSETTI'S ITALIAN RISTORANTE \$\$\$
SOUTHWEST METRO / ITALIAN / An emphasis on formal service and food presentation. Try the basil chicken or the almond-crust-ed halibut. Reservations accepted for parties of five or more. 32 W. Springer Dr., 720-344-9530. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sun-Thu 5 p.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 5 p.m.-10 p.m.

BISTRO AL VINO \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / CONTEMPORARY / Enjoy live entertainment (think comedians and musicians) six nights a week at this neighborhood bistro. Or, if you prefer a more low-key dinner, ask for one of the quiet tables. Start with your choice of more than 175 wines before digging in to the pan-seared scallops with balsamic vinegar, truffle oil, and spinach, the baked calamari, or the fresh mussels. Reservations accepted. 15352 E. Ida Dr., 303-400-3166. Mon-Thu 3-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 3 p.m.-1 a.m.

BLUEBERRY'S BAKERY & CAFE \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / Stop into this quick-service restaurant for breakfast, and get an egg sandwich or baked good for the road. The lunch menu dishes up a variety of salads. Reservations not accepted. 1500 Littleton Blvd., 303-798-7117. Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat 7 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sun 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

BOW MAR PIZZA CO. \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / PIZZA / A tiny, take-out

pizza restaurant that serves up popular pies like the Deluxe, a pizza with all the fixings, at very affordable prices. Reservations not accepted. 5194 S. Lowell Blvd., 720-381-0942. Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

BREAKFAST ON BROADWAY \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / BREAKFAST / For breakfast, lunch, and tasty Bloody Marys, check out this cafe. Indulge in the praline-topped pancakes with caramel sauce and candied pecans sprinkled over cinnamon whipped cream. Live music on Sundays. Reservations accepted for five or more. 2901 S. Broadway, 303-788-9998. Daily 6 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

BREWERY BAR III \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / MEXICAN / This spicy Mexican spot serves up a casual environment, great green chile, choice eats, and margaritas. Reservations accepted. 9228 S. Park Meadows Dr., 303-708-9333. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

BRICKYARD BBQ \$
LITTLETON / BARBECUE / Barbecue plus sweet corn, fries, beans, potato salad, and slaw. Reservations not accepted. 311 E. County Line Rd., 303-797-9255. Mon-Wed 11 a.m.-8:30 p.m.; Thu-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

BRIO TUSCAN GRILLE \$\$\$
LONE TREE / ITALIAN / Italian meets steak house at this restaurant. Begin with shrimp or roasted red pepper bruschetta, and finish with steak, chops, or seafood. Reservations accepted. 8441 Park Meadows Center Dr., 303-662-9727. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

BROOK'S STEAK HOUSE & CELLAR \$\$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / STEAK HOUSE / Brook's prides itself on serving the finest aged USDA prime steak and Colorado lamb available as well as an array of fresh seafood. Extensive wine list. Reservations strongly recommended. 6538 S. Yosemite Cir., 303-770-1177. Mon-Sat 5-10 p.m.; Sun 5-9 p.m.

BROOKLYN M.C.'S PIZZERIA \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / PIZZA / 'Family' is the secret ingredient here. The homemade dough, sauces, and strombolis are killer. Reservations not accepted. 8086 W. Bowles Ave., 303-763-8299. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun noon-7 p.m.

BROTHERS BBQ \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / BARBECUE / Two English brothers serve up tasty barbecue to the masses. Multiple locations. Reservations not accepted. 6449 Leetsdale Dr., 303-322-3289. Daily 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

BRUNO'S ITALIAN BISTRO \$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ITALIAN / Traditional Italian menu with northern and southern cuisine. Reservations recommended,

especially on weekends. 2223 S. Monaco Pkwy., 303-759-7025. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat-Sun 4-10 p.m.

BUD'S BAR \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / A burger shack in the truest sense, this 60-year old eatery serves only juicy grilled hamburgers and cold drinks to wash them down. Reservations not accepted. 5453 Manhart St., Sedalia, 303-688-9967. Mon-Sat 10 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

C.B. & POTTS BREWING CO. \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Microbrew beers, 35 TVs, and a pool hall. A great place for a good, fast burger. Multiple locations. Reservations accepted. 6575 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., 303-770-1982. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-midnight; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-midnight.

CAFE 180 \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / "Eat what you want and pay what you can" is the motto at this nonprofit restaurant. The hearty meatball sandwich made with Italian marinara sauce on a toasted baguette is a favorite. Reservations accepted for large parties. 3315 S. Broadway, 303-761-4510. Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

CAFE AT HYATT REGENCY TECH CENTER \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / CONTEMPORARY / An intimate bistro setting with tender steaks, seafood, and specialty dishes. Enjoy dramatic atrium views and attentive service. Reservations accepted. 7800 E. Tufts Ave., 303-779-1234. Daily 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

CAFE MON AMI \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / FRENCH / A dish to satisfy every palate. Serving up American classics with a French twist. Reservations accepted. 9579 S. University Blvd., Ste. 150, 720-344-2323. Mon 7 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tue-Sat 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun 7 a.m.-3 p.m.

CAFE PAPIKA \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / MIDDLE EASTERN / A casual dining area and varied flavorful menu to satisfy your appetite. Reservations accepted for six or more. 13160 E. Mississippi Ave., 303-755-4150. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.; Fri noon-9:30 p.m.; Sat 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

CAFE TERRA COTTA \$\$\$
SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / Located in downtown Littleton's Louthan House, this comfortable cafe offers upscale cuisine. Reservations strongly recommended. 5649 S. Curtice St., 303-794-6054. Mon-Sun 7:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Mon-Sat 5 p.m.-close

CANTINA LAREDO (CENTENNIAL) \$\$\$
CENTENNIAL / MEXICAN / An upscale Mexican restaurant that utilizes quality ingredients to make tasty plates like brisket tacos and enchiladas made with artichoke hearts and avocado. Reservations accepted. 6851

S. Gaylord St., 303-795-0339. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat-Sun 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

CEDAR CREEK PUB

AURORA / AMERICAN / A strong sense of state pride pervades this restaurant, which serves products from 40 different Colorado-based food companies. Try the specialty items such as fish and chips, bangers and mash, or the tuna and pear salad with gorgonzola cheese, bacon, and a raspberry vinaigrette. Reservations accepted. 2100 N. Ursula St., 303-537-4210. Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

CHAD'S GRILL

SOUTHWEST METRO / AMERICAN / A neighborhood cafe offering a variety of foods, including pizza, seafood, and pasta. Reservations Yes 275 Union Blvd., 303-988-5666. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

CHEESECAKE FACTORY

SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / More than 200 menu items, including steaks, seafood, pasta, pizza, salads, and more. Plus more than 35 varieties of cheesecake. Reservations accepted for seven or more. 8405 Park Meadows Center Dr., Ste. 1001, 303-858-1111. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

CHIANTI RISTORANTE & WINE BAR

SOUTHEAST METRO / ITALIAN / A traditional Italian menu, featuring decadent pasta and meat dishes. Reservations accepted. 5121 S. Yosemite St., 303-796-0611. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-10:00 p.m.; Sat 5-10 p.m.

CHINOOK TAVERN

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / INTERNATIONAL / After 14 years in Cherry Creek, this eatery has found a new home. Indulge in signature European-inspired dishes like Jaeger schnitzel and coquilles St. Jacques. Sit in the Zermatt Room for traditional Swiss fare such as fondue. Reservations accepted. 6380 S. Fiddlers Green Cir., 720-266-6000. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.

CHOPPERS CUSTOM SALADS

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / AMERICAN / Spice up your custom-made salad with your choice of 17 dressings such as carrot-ginger and creamy cucumber. Add a cup of soup or a sandwich wrap on the side to complete the perfect lunch. Reservations not accepted. 5302 DTC Blvd., Suite 10, 303-771-2466. Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

CINEMA GRILL

AURORA / AMERICAN / The ultimate dinner and a movie experience. Good food and entertainment in a fun and friendly environment. Reservations not accepted. 13682 E. Alameda Ave., 303-344-3456. Mon-Sun 11:30 a.m.-midnight.

CITRON BISTRO

SOUTHEAST METRO / INTERNATIONAL / Two Greek brothers own this romantic American-Mediterranean restaurant. Entree

options include lemon pepper chicken, adobo grilled chicken salad, and shrimp linguine. Reservations accepted. 3535 S. Yosemite St., 303-771-5800. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

COLORE ITALIAN RESTAURANT & PIZZERIA

ENGLEWOOD / ITALIAN / This modern pizza shop serves more than just pies. Traditional Italian dishes such as chicken Marsala and ravioli are also on the menu, as are panini and salads. Reservations Accepted. 2700 S. Broadway, 303-761-4332. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

COOL RIVER CAFE

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / AMERICAN / A steak-and-seafood restaurant with a sophisticated pub look, complete with a billiards room and a cigar room. Reservations accepted. 8000 E. Belleview Ave., 303-771-4117. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.; Sun 5-8 p.m.

CRU A WINE BAR

LONE TREE / CONTEMPORARY / With 50 wines by the glass and 250 more by the bottle, the greatest challenge at this chic locale is narrowing your choices. Try the pan-seared scallops or Australian lamb. Reservations accepted. 8433 Park Meadows Center Dr., Ste. D-155, 303-708-8053. Mon-Thu noon-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat noon-11 p.m.; Sun noon-9 p.m.

DAMASCUS

SOUTHEAST METRO / MIDDLE EASTERN / A Syrian gem hidden in a shopping plaza, serving up falafel, hummus, kabobs, baba ghanoush, and more. Reservations accepted for six or more. 2276 S. Colorado Blvd., 303-757-3515. Daily 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

DARCY'S BISTRO & PUB

SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Serving Irish specialties in a comfortable atmosphere. Reservations accepted. 4955 S. Ulster St. #103, 303-770-0477. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

DAVE & BUSTERS

SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Good food in large portions, paired with the great electronic amusements. Reservations accepted for large parties. I-25 and Colorado Blvd., 303-759-1515. Mon 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Tue-Thu 11:30 a.m.-midnight; Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-1 a.m.; Sun 11:30 a.m.-11 p.m.

DEL FRISCO'S DOUBLE EAGLE STEAK HOUSE

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / STEAK HOUSE / A perennial favorite offering USDA prime aged beef and fresh seafood, including lobster tails, in an elegant atmosphere. Reservations accepted. 8100 E. Orchard Rd., 303-796-0100. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-10 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-11 p.m.; Sat 5-11 p.m.; Sun 5-9 p.m.

DELIZIOS

SOUTHEAST METRO / CONTEMPORARY / At

this coffee and wine bar, sample elegantly arranged tapas and take your pick from more than 40 wines. Enjoy grilled flatbread, gourmet soups, and salads. Try the Sicily panini with thinly sliced salami, ham, and provolone layered with tomato and olive tapenade. Reservations accepted. 2299 W. Main St., 720-897-6550. Mon 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tue-Thu 9 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 9 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

DIEGO ZHANG'S BURGER CAFE

SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Global flavors and burgers are this restaurant's inspirations. Try chicken patties with chimichurri and roasted red peppers; mesquite-rubbed pork with caramelized barbecue sauce; or beef with bacon and onions. Reservations not accepted. 6851 S. Gaylord St., 303-484-9802. Mon-Thu 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri-Sat 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

DUFFEYROLL CAFE

ENGLEWOOD / AMERICAN / Try the legendary Duffeyrolls; hand-rolled gourmet cinnamon rolls, included in breakfast or lunch orders. Reservations not accepted. 5198 S. Broadway Ave., 303-996-5900. Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-3 p.m.; Sat 6 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun 7 a.m.-2 p.m.

EARLS RESTAURANT & BAR

LONE TREE / AMERICAN / This boisterous restaurant serves up international eats like pad thai and chicken tacos. Consider eating at the hopping bar. Reservations accepted. 8335 Park Meadows Center Dr., 303-792-3275. Mon 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

EGG & I

ENGLEWOOD / BREAKFAST / Any of the skillet breakfasts make for a tasty and hearty morning meal. Multiple locations. Reservations accepted Mon-Fri. 6818 S. Yosemite St., 303-804-0902. Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sat-Sun 7 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

ELEPHANT BAR

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / FUSION / Seek out the culinary pleasures of Asia and the tropics in this modern restaurant with a jungle theme. Reservations accepted. 8121 E. Arapahoe Rd., 720-529-9920. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

EMERALD ISLE

SOUTHEAST METRO / MEXICAN / Fajitas are the specialty at this spot overlooking the Cherry Creek Reservoir. Reservations accepted 4385 S. Parker Rd., 303-690-3722. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

EMPRESS

SOUTHWEST METRO / ASIAN / Cantonese food, specializing in dim sum. Reservations accepted. 2825 W. Alameda Ave., 303-922-2822. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat-Sun 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

FARRO ITALIAN RESTAURANT

CENTENNIAL / ITALIAN / A casual, neighborhood-oriented Northern Italian restaurant serving dishes like sausage and peppers, and grilled salmon filet with spinach risotto. Reservations accepted. 8230 S. Holly St., 303-694-5432. Tue-Thu 5-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 4:30-9:30 p.m.; Sun 4:30-8 p.m.

FATBURGER \$
AURORA / AMERICAN / A gourmet, cooked-to-order hamburger joint where your burgers are charred on an open grill. Multiple locations. Reservations not accepted. 14221 E. Cedar Ave. Unit A, 303-363-6996. Mon-Thu 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

FIVE GUYS BURGERS AND FRIES \$
AURORA / AMERICAN / Speedy eats in the vein of In-N-Out Burger. Fresh, never-frozen patties, plus hot dogs and grilled cheese. Multiple locations. Reservations not accepted. 2300 S. Parker Rd, 303-751-7449. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

FIVE STAR BURGERS \$
CENTENNIAL / AMERICAN / Dig into burgers made from all-natural, hormone- and antibiotic-free meat. Order the five-star burger or the green chile cheeseburger. Reservations accepted. 2330 E. Arapahoe Rd., Ste. 909, 303-795-8181. Daily 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

FLEMING'S PRIME STEAKHOUSE & WINE BAR \$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / STEAK HOUSE / Indulge in aged prime beef and discover new tastes with the award-winning wine list, featuring 100 wines by the glass. Reservations strongly recommended. 191 Inverness Dr. West, 303-768-0827. Mon-Thu 5-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 5-11 p.m.; Sun 5-9 p.m.

FOURLEAF CHOPPED SALADS \$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / HEALTH / Pick from more than 40 different fresh ingredients, 18 dressings, and several grilled meats to make your own salad. The atmosphere is casual and the service is fast and friendly. Reservations not accepted. 6840 S. Dallas Way, 303-662-1200. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

FREDDY'S FROZEN CUSTARD & STEAKBURGERS \$
AURORA / AMERICAN / Return to a simpler time at this '50s style fast-casual diner touting steakburgers and creamy custards. Multiple locations. Reservations not accepted. 1103 Iola St., 303-368-8331. Mon-Thu 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 10:30 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

FRESH FISH CO. \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / SEAFOOD / Impressive seafood selection with more than 30 varieties of fresh fish flown in daily. Reservations recommended. 7800 E. Hampden Ave., 303-740-9556. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 4:30-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m.

G.I. JODI'S BAR & GRILL \$\$
LITTLETON / AMERICAN / Denver's first military-themed restaurant. Rations include burgers, wraps, and plenty of beer. Live music on select nights. Reservations not accepted. 11550 W. Meadows Dr., 303-972-8658. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

GARDEN TERRACE \$\$
ENGLEWOOD / AMERICAN / Located in the Inverness Hotel, this breakfast and lunch spot has a popular buffet weekdays and Saturdays. Enjoy the champagne brunch on Sundays. Reservations recommended. 200 Inverness Dr. West, 303-799-5800. Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.; Sat 7 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Sun brunch 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

GRAND LUX CAFE \$\$\$
LONE TREE / INTERNATIONAL / This eatery's diverse menu offers something for everyone—try shrimp and chicken jambalaya and wiener schnitzel with potatoes and red cabbage, but save room for the baked-to-order desserts. Reservations accepted. 8525 Park Meadows Center Dr., 303-738-9911. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m. Sun 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

GREAT NORTHERN \$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / AMERICAN / A warm, comfortable gathering place with a wood-fired grill and rotisserie. Reservations accepted. 8101 E. Belleview Ave., 303-770-4741. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

GRIDIRON GRILLE \$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / AMERICAN / Don't miss the green chile at this neighborhood sports bar, or the wings tossed in one of the six house-made sauces. Reservations accepted. 5650 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., 303-688-0844. Daily 10:30 a.m.-2 a.m.

HAN KANG KOREAN RESTAURANT \$\$
AURORA / ASIAN / This family-owned and operated restaurant serves authentic Korean cuisine. The menu features photos of every dish to help you choose the perfect one. Try the barbecue ribs. Reservations accepted. 1901 S. Havana St., Ste. 15, 303-873-6800. Mon-Sat 8 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

HANA SUSHI \$\$\$
AURORA / ASIAN / Modern Japanese restaurant serving fresh sushi. Reservations not accepted. 16911 E. Quincy Ave., 303-680-6099. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m.

HODSONS BAR & GRILL \$\$\$
CENTENNIAL / AMERICAN / Toast to the good life at this sleek brunch-through-dinner spot that serves classic American fare, like a prime dip sandwich and a rotisserie chicken salad. Reservations strongly recommended. 6851 S. Gaylord St., 720-457-3852. Mon 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

HONEY BEE ASIAN BISTRO \$\$
AURORA / ASIAN / Satisfy your hankering for

Asian food with dishes from China, Thailand, Vietnam, and Japan. Try the Mongolian beef with stir-fry veggies and special sauce. Reservations accepted. 18541 E. Hampden Ave., 303-400-6117. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

HOUSE OF KABOB \$\$
ENGLEWOOD / MIDDLE EASTERN / Lebanese and Persian cuisine. Try the Kobeideh, a kabob of beef, lamb, onion, and tomato. Reservations accepted. 2246 S. Colorado Blvd., 303-756-0744. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

IGGY'S CANTINA AND KITCHEN \$
LITTLETON / MEXICAN / Check out the Tex-Mex menu—don't miss the sweet potato and pork tamales or the chiles rellenos. Reservations accepted. 669 W. Littleton Blvd, 303-927-7461. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

IL FORNAIO \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ITALIAN / Specialties include house-made pasta, wood-fired pizza, grilled fish, authentic risotto, rotisserie meats, and artisanal breads. Reservations accepted. 8000 E. Belleview Ave., 303-221-8400. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sat noon-11 p.m.; Sun 4-9 p.m.

INDIA'S \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / INDIAN / Traditional fare, like tandoori chicken, that embraces the delicate spices of India. Take advantage of the variety in their lunch buffet, and be sure to try the delectable cinnamon bread pudding. Reservations accepted. 7400 E. Hampden Ave., 303-755-4284. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., 5:30-9:15 p.m.; Fri 11:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., 5:30-9:45 p.m.; Sat noon-2:15 p.m., 5:30-9:45 p.m.; Sun 5:30-8:45 p.m.

INDIA'S CASTLE \$\$
ENGLEWOOD / INDIAN / At this authentic eatery, enjoy the tantalizing flavors of unique herbs and exotic Indian cuisine. Try the chicken ticca kabob. Reservations accepted. 9555 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-782-9700. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-10 p.m.; Sat 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-10 p.m.; Sun 5-9:30 p.m.

INDULGE WINE BAR \$\$
HIGHLANDS RANCH / CONTEMPORARY / Sip both Old and New World wines while snacking on dishes like green-lipped mussels and braised pork shank. Reservations accepted. 1601 Mayberry Dr., 303-991-1994. Mon-Thu 4-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 4 p.m.-midnight; Sun 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 4-10 p.m.

IVY AT THE GLENN \$\$\$
CENTENNIAL / CONTEMPORARY / Settle in with a glass of wine by the fireplace for a romantic evening meal. Try the cherry

glazed crisp duck served with a seasonal vegetable and risotto or the garlic-rubbed lamb chops with mint and cured lemon. Reservations accepted. 6955 S. York St., 303-730-7200. Daily 10 a.m.-11 p.m.

IWAYAMA SUSHI

& DA BIG KAHUNA BISTRO \$\$\$

LITTLETON / ASIAN / From Vietnamese egg rolls to kalbi (Korean short ribs) and spicy tuna rolls, Iwayama offers an array of Asian fare, as well as a few Hawaiian options. Fresh fish is flown in from Hawaii and Tokyo, so order any of the weekly specials. Try the spicy grilled chicken with hoisin-barbeque sauce. Reservations accepted weekdays. 5500 S. Simms St., Unit C, 303-948-1199. Mon 4:30-9 p.m.; Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; 4:30-9 p.m.

J. ALEXANDER'S

ENGLEWOOD / AMERICAN / Specialties include award-winning prime rib, hardwood-grilled aged steaks, and fresh seafood served by friendly professionals. Reservations accepted for six or more. 9709 E. County Line Rd., 303-708-8432. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

JACK-N-GRILL \$\$\$

LITTLETON / MEXICAN / An appealing hole-in-the-wall with New Mexican recipes and home-style food. Reservations accepted. 2630 W. Bellview Ave., 303-474-4242. Mon-Thu 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

JAJA BISTRO \$\$\$

LITTLETON / FRENCH / Located in a charming bungalow, this restaurant serves a rotating menu of classic French fare. Order the crepes for lunch, or the boeuf bourguignon at dinner. Reservations accepted for six or more. 5641 S. Nevada St., 303-798-5389. Tue-Thu 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-close; Sun 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

JASMINE ASIAN CUISINE \$

ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / This cozy spot brings loyal customers back often. The owners offer a plethora of choices, ranging from old favorites like sesame chicken to spicy dishes from India. Reservations accepted. 3999 S. Broadway, 303-781-8899. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sat noon-9:30 p.m.; Sun 4-9 p.m.

JIM 'N NICK'S

AURORA / BARBECUE / Authentic down-home cooking served with legendary Southern hospitality. Don't miss the Angus beef brisket. Reservations not accepted. 24153 E. Prospect Ave., 720-274-5300. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

JING

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ASIAN / Beautifully presented modern Asian dishes. Try the miso sea bass served with teriyaki glaze. Reservations accepted. 5370 Greenwood

Plaza Blvd., 303-779-6888. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-midnight; Fri 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sat noon-2 a.m.; Sun noon-midnight.

JOHN HOLLY'S ASIAN BISTRO \$\$\$

LONE TREE / ASIAN / An upscale Asian restaurant serving classics such as kung pao chicken as well as specialty dishes like ginger scallion shrimp. Also, serving sushi. Reservations accepted. 9232 Park Meadows Dr., 303-768-9088. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

JOY SUSHI ASIAN BISTRO \$\$\$

LONE TREE / ASIAN / The extensive menu includes sushi, tempura, and sashimi, all made to order. Reservations accepted. 7600 E. Park Meadows Dr., 303-792-3772. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 4:30-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 4:30-11 p.m.; Sun 4-10 p.m.

JUICY BURGERS & DOGS \$

CENTENNIAL / AMERICAN / You don't have to go back in time to enjoy all-American meals. At this minimalist diner, try the cheddar char burger with sharp, spreadable cheddar on a white or pumpernickel bun. Pair it with home-cut, Idaho potato fries and a Haagen-Dazs milk shake. Reservations not accepted. 6830 S. Yosemite St., 303-741-3647. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

JUNZ

PARKER / FUSION / A Japanese-French fusion restaurant making a splash in the southeast metro area. Reservations accepted. 11211 S. Dransfeldt Rd., 720-851-1005. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.; Sun 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9 p.m.

LA CUEVA

AURORA / MEXICAN / Great chiles rellenos and refried beans, plus wine and more than 120 types of tequila. Reservations accepted for eight or more. 9742 E. Colfax Ave., 303-367-1422. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

LA FOGATA \$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / MEXICAN / At this restaurant, Grandma's house-made recipes make great comfort food. Reservations accepted. 5670 E. Evans Ave., 303-753-9458. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

LA POLLERIA \$

CENTENNIAL / LATIN AMERICAN / This fast-casual eatery whips up Peruvian style chicken in a brick-lined, charcoal-burning oven imported from Peru. If you want something traditional, try the Inca wrap with pulled chicken, lettuce, and cheese, the empanadas, or barbecue sandwiches. Reservations not accepted. 7422 S. University Blvd., 720-583-1051. Mon-Fri 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Sat 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

LA SANDIA

LONE TREE / MEXICAN / Traditional Mexican

cuisine with a distinct modern flair served in a casual atmosphere. Reservations accepted. 8419 Park Meadows Center Dr., 303-586-5511. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

LAND OF SUSHI \$\$\$

LITTLETON / ASIAN / Happy hour sushi is just \$1 per piece everyday 5-10 p.m. A full choice of fresh ingredients including octopus, salmon, tuna, and eel. Reservations accepted. 2412 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-779-0608. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; 4:30-9:30 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m.; 4:30-10 p.m.; Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 4-9 p.m.

LANSLOWNE ARMS BISTRO AND PUB \$\$\$

HIGHLANDS RANCH / PUB / Sample traditional Irish pub fare including fish and chips and shepherd's pie. Reservations recommended for large parties. 9352 Dorchester St., 303-346-9136. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-close; Sun 10 a.m.-close.

LAS BRISAS \$\$\$

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / MEXICAN / The menu, which combines Spanish, Mexican, and Caribbean food (paella, cilantro chicken, and Caribbean fish dishes), is second only to the restaurant's infamous LB margarita. Reservations recommended on weekends. 6787 S. Clinton St., 303-792-3212. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m.

LATTA'S BAGELS AND COFFEE \$

AURORA / BREAKFAST / This breakfast spot serves house-made sandwiches and offers a wide variety of large choices, from tomato pesto to cinnamon apple strudel. Reservations not accepted. 15290 E. Iliff Ave., 303-368-1821. Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sat 7 a.m.-2 p.m.; Sun 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

LODO'S BAR & GRILL \$\$\$

HIGHLANDS RANCH / AMERICAN / Food, sports, and fun. DJ and dancing Friday and Saturday nights. Reservations accepted. 303-293-8555. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

LOS CARBONITOS \$\$\$

AURORA / MEXICAN / Enjoy fresh, authentic Mexican food cooked in an open kitchen. Order the alambre: Mexican stir-fry with your choice of tortilla, meat, cheese, and vegetables. Reservations not accepted. 15210 E. Sixth Ave., 303-364-2606. Mon-Wed 9 a.m.-11 p.m.; Thu-Sat 9 a.m.-1:30 a.m.; Sun 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

LUCY \$\$\$

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / AMERICAN / Located above the Comedy Works Greenwood Village, this revamped eatery serves classic American dishes. Sample their signature mac and cheese. Reservations accepted. 5345 Landmark Pl., 720-274-6868. Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-2 p.m.; Wed-Sat 5 p.m. to close; Sat-Sun 7 a.m.-2 p.m.

LUIGI'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT \$\$\$

CENTENNIAL / ITALIAN / A festive and comfortable atmosphere offers traditional Ital-

ian favorites like chicken parmesan and baked ziti, with the occasional Tuscan pot roast. Reservations recommended. 8130 S. University Blvd., 303-694-9357. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun noon-9 p.m.

LUNCH MATTERS \$

LONE TREE / DELI / Whether you're craving a traditional sandwich with classic flavors or an amped-up gourmet version, this deli has it all. Try the roast beef sandwich with balsamic-onion marmalade, oven-roasted tomatoes, arugula, and tarragon mustard. Follow the "Easy Entrée" sign; it's right inside. Reservations not accepted. 9064 Forsstrom Dr. #B15, 720-328-8691. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

MAGGIANO'S LITTLE ITALY \$\$\$

ENGLEWOOD / ITALIAN / Reminiscent of a New York-style supper club serving Southern Italian cuisine in grand proportions. Reservations accepted. 7401 S. Clinton St., 303-858-1405. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

MANGIA BEVI CAFE \$

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ITALIAN / Snack on sweet potato fries or a Rusty's Sicilian burger, grilled salmon with onions and mushrooms, at this Italian cafe. There is an atmosphere to please everyone, grab a seat at the bar and see the kitchen or watch TV while you dine, or sit in a comfy chair by the fireplace. Reservations accepted for large groups. 6363 S. Fiddler's Green Cir., 303-763-1980. Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

MARCO'S COAL-FIRED PIZZERIA \$\$

ENGLEWOOD / PIZZA / Mark and Kristy Dym (and their staff of pizza makers trained by the Associazione Pizzaluoli Napolitana) dish up Napolentana- and New York-style pies with imported artisanal cheeses and local produce. The Brooklyn or Abruzzo, plus an order of coal-fired lemoncello chicken wings, make for a satisfying meal. Reservations accepted. 10111 Inverness Main St., 303-790-9000. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

MASALAA \$\$

AURORA / INDIAN / A vegetarian's heaven, with delicious Southern Indian cuisine. Reservations accepted. 3140 S. Parker Rd., 303-755-6272. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5:30-10 p.m.; Sat-Sun noon-3 p.m., 5:30-10 p.m.

MAXWELL'S \$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / A contemporary Western restaurant serving gourmet sandwiches, tasty salads, seafood, and certified Angus beef. Reservations accepted. 7340 S. Clinton St., 303-858-0111. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.; Sun 4-9 p.m.

MCCABE'S IRISH BISTRO AND PUB \$\$\$

AURORA / PUB / Settle in to the mahogany

bar with a cold pint and order a plate of roasted corn beef and cabbage. Just like old country Ireland. Multiple locations. Reservations accepted. 6100 S. Main St., 303-627-6234. Daily 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S SEAFOOD & STEAKS \$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / SEAFOOD / Providing guests with more than 20 varieties of the freshest seafood available. Reservations strongly recommended. 8100 E. Union Ave., 720-200-9339. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.; Sun 4-9 p.m.

MELLOW MUSHROOM

PIZZA BAKERS \$\$

CENTENNIAL / PIZZA / This funky pizza joint cooks up a variety of tasty treats. Take in the psychedelic murals while eating a Kosmic Karma pizza with sun-dried tomatoes, spinach, feta, and pesto. Or try any of the eatery's stacked calzones and hoagies. Reservations accepted for parties 20 or more. 2154 E. Commons Ave., Ste. 300, 720-353-4300. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

MELTING POT \$\$\$\$

LITTLETON / AMERICAN / Dip into something different and check out the \$100 four-course wine dinner for two. Reservations strongly recommended. 2707 W. Main St., 303-794-5666. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

MERLE'S \$\$

LITTLETON / AMERICAN / This burger bar also serves casual comfort eats such as ribs, pulled pork, and fresh-cut fries. Reservations accepted for parties 10 or more. 2609 W. Main St., 303-797-6008. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-close; Sat-Sun 9 a.m.-close.

MI COCINA EXPRESS \$

HIGHLANDS RANCH / MEXICAN / This fast-casual restaurant serves traditional Mexican food. Early birds should take one of the breakfast burritos to go—a steal at \$2. Reservations not accepted. 137 W. County Line Rd., 303-795-3552. Mon-Sat 7 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m.; Sun 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

MIDOPA \$

AURORA / ASIAN / Fresh, home-style Korean dishes. Dolpa (or hot pots) is the specialty, served large enough for two. Reservations not accepted. 2000 S. Havana St., 303-745-1373. Daily 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

MIMI'S CAFE \$\$

LONE TREE / AMERICAN / Serving a variety of homemade American classics. Other locations in Aurora, Broomfield, and Golden. Reservations accepted. 9155 Park Meadows Dr., 303-799-1211. Sun-Thu 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

MIRAGE STEAK AND SEAFOOD \$\$\$

AURORA / INTERNATIONAL / Russian, Armenian, and European dishes with live music

every Friday and Saturday night. Reservations accepted. 2648 S. Parker Rd., 303-750-4920. Tue-Thu 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Fri-Sun 11 a.m.-2 a.m.

MODMARKET \$

GREENWOOD VILLAGE / CONTEMPORARY / This farm fresh eatery is now serving all three daily meals. Stop by for breakfast and chow down on a rocket egg sandwich made with cage-free eggs, basil aioli, arugula, tomatoes, and provolone cheese on ciabatta bread. All meals are made from simple, whole ingredients, and humanely-raised meats, eggs, and dairy products. Nutrition facts for each item is located on the menu, so calorie-counting and healthy eating is a breeze. Reservations not accepted. 8575 E. Arapahoe Rd., Ste. F, 303-220-9961. Mon-Thu 7 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8 a.m.-9 p.m.

MOE'S ORIGINAL BARBEQUE & BOWLING \$

ENGLEWOOD / BARBECUE / Beer, barbecue, and bowling. Also visit the location at sixth and Broadway. Reservations accepted for parties and bowling. 3295 S. Broadway, 303-781-0414. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-midnight; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-midnight.

MONACO INN \$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / INTERNATIONAL / Offering Greek, Mexican, and American cooking on one menu. Reservations accepted for five or more. 962 S. Monaco St. Pkwy., 303-320-1104. Mon-Fri 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

MOSAIC \$\$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Every Sunday owner Eric To and chef Mabry Kennedy visit local farmers' markets for the freshest ingredients—produce they use for their eclectic fare in dishes like chipotle lobster macaroni and cheese and roasted fennel and lentil soup. Reservations accepted. 11957 Lioness Way, 720-305-0994. Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m.

MOUNT FUJI HIBACHI \$\$\$

AND SUSHI JAPANESE CUISINE \$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / ASIAN / Combining a great sushi bar and friendly service. Try the green devil roll with seared tuna, crunchy asparagus, and spicy jalapeños, or dig into a crispy shrimp tempura roll. Reservations accepted. 4714 Milestone Lane, Unit H, 303-660-2618. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

NEW YORK DELI NEWS \$

SOUTHEAST METRO / DELI / Fresh bagels and bread complemented by meats direct from New York. Reservations accepted. 7105 E. Hampden Ave., 303-759-4741. Mon-Thu 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

NONNA'S CHICAGO BISTRO \$\$\$

SOUTHEAST METRO / ITALIAN / This quaint bistro offers a dose of Chicago and Italy in

a cozy, Tuscan-style dining room. Favorites include the delicate marinara, homemade meatballs, and rustic ciabatta. Don't miss the live musical entertainment. Reservations strongly recommended. 6603 Leetsdale Dr., 303-399-2000. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-10:30 p.m.; Sat 5-10:30 p.m.; Sun 5-9 p.m.

OLD BLINKING LIGHT \$\$\$
HIGHLANDS RANCH / AMERICAN / Seasonally fresh American fare with Southwestern soul in a contemporary, comfortable atmosphere. Reservations accepted. 9344 Dorchester St., 303-346-9797. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m., Fri-Sat 11:30-10 p.m.

OLD MILL BREWERY \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Housed in an old mill, this brew pub serves up chilled IPAs, lagers, and stouts to wash down its tasty burgers and sandwiches. Reservations accepted. 5798 S. Rapp St., 303-797-2433. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

ORIGINAL PANCAKE HOUSE \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / BREAKFAST / Pancakes and more for every occasion. Reservations accepted Mon-Fri. 5900 S. University Blvd., Cherry Hills, 303-795-0573; 8000 E. Belleview Ave., Greenwood Village, 303-224-0093. Daily 6 a.m.-2 p.m.

OSHIMA RAMEN \$
ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / Choose your broth, meat, and veggies at this cozy ramen cafe. Reservations accepted. 7800 E. Hampden Ave., 720-482-0264. Tue-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

P.F. CHANG'S CHINA BISTRO \$\$\$
LONE TREE / ASIAN / Featuring Asian cuisine cooked to order. Multiple locations. Reservations accepted. 8315 S. Park Meadows Center Dr., 303-790-7744. Sun-Thu 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight

PANTALEONE'S \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ITALIAN / Since 1985, this casual, family-friendly restaurant has served up Italian classics like pizza, lasagna, and spaghetti. The owner/chef is Greek, so also try the Greek salad. Reservations accepted for large parties. 2120 S. Holly St., 303-757-3456. Tue-Thu 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4:30-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4:30-10 p.m.; Sun 5-9 p.m.

PAPPADEAUX SEAFOOD KITCHEN \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / CAJUN/SOUTHERN / This lively place serves huge portions of good Cajun and Creole eats. Reservations accepted. 7520 E. Progress Pl., 303-740-9449. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

PARKWAY BAR AND GRILL \$\$\$
AURORA / AMERICAN / American cuisine, food and games for the whole family. On weekends if you can't find a place to park close, they will come escort you to the

restaurant in a golf cart. Reservations accepted for parties more than 10. 22775 E. Aurora Pkwy# C7, 303-693-6200. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-midnight; Fri 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sat 10 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-11 p.m.

PASTA JAY'S \$\$\$
LONE TREE / ITALIAN / Homestyle Italian restaurant serving classics like jumbo shells, chicken Parmesan, and manicotti. Reservations accepted. 9226 Park Meadows Dr., 303-799-1800. Daily 11 a.m.-close.

PERFECT LANDING RESTAURANT \$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / AMERICAN / A clean and friendly atmosphere with a great view. The menu boasts a variety of foods for a good price. Reservations accepted. 7625 S. Peoria St., 303-649-4478. Mon-Sat 7 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

PESCE FRESCO \$\$\$
CENTENNIAL / ITALIAN / Small elegant bistro which features three fresh fish specials nightly. Reservations accepted. 6600 S. Quebec St., 303-290-9705. Tues-Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9:30 p.m.; Sat 5-9:30 p.m.

PHO 79 \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / ASIAN / Some of the best Vietnamese pho noodle soup you'll find in Denver. Reservations accepted. 781 S. Federal Blvd., 303-922-2930. Daily 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

PHO SAIGON 66 \$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ASIAN / Get your pho fix by ordering large noodle bowls filled with meat and veggies. Try the rare steak version, which comes with thinly sliced meat that continues to cook slowly in the broth, jalapeños, and Thai basil. Reservations not accepted. 7585 E. Iliff Ave., 303-745-1123. Daily 10:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

PHO-YO \$
AURORA / ASIAN / What sets this pho restaurant apart from its competition is its frozen yogurt. The menu also includes traditional pho noodle bowls and boba tea. Reservations not accepted. 2719 S. Parker Rd., 303-750-3007. Sun-Thu 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

PIERRE MICHEL \$
HIGHLANDS RANCH / FRENCH / The seasonal menu at this French bakery changes almost daily. Every day there is a lunch special, such as pizza. For dinner, the chef makes a new three-course meal. Try a chocolate croissant in the morning. Reservations accepted. 3624 E. Highlands Ranch Pkwy., Ste. 205. 303-471-4828. Mon-Wed 6 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thu-Fri 6 a.m.-5 p.m., 6:30-8 p.m.; Sat 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

PIGGIN-OUT BAR-B-QUE \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / BARBECUE / Order carry-out and eat the hot links sandwich or smoky brisket-sandwich platter with sides of maple baked beans and vinegar-tart coleslaw on the restaurant's outdoor patio or take it home. Reservations

not accepted. 9987 Morrison Rd., 303-988-2749. Tue-Sun 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

PINO'S PIZZERIA & WINE BAR \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / ITALIAN / Fresh and original Italian staples. Try the nine-topping King pizza or the Diavola. Enjoy more than 50 wine options, hand-picked from small wineries in Italy. Reservations not accepted. 1400 E. Hampden Ave., 303-761-9917. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

PLATTE RIVER BAR & GRILL \$
LITTLETON / PUB / Overlooks the Platte River bike path, so the view's as good as the food. Reservations accepted. 5995 S. Santa Fe Dr., 303-798-9356. Daily 11 a.m.-close.

POPPIES \$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / CONTEMPORARY / Ribs, fresh seafood, and traditional Mexican dishes. Reservations not accepted. 2334 S. Colorado Blvd., 303-756-1268. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8-30 a.m.-10 p.m.

PORTOFINO PIZZA & PASTA \$\$\$
PARKER / ITALIAN / With classic items like garlic knots, calzones, and caesar salad, you'll think you're in a pizza shop in Manhattan. Try the house-made meat lasagna and fresh mozzarella at this family-friendly restaurant. Reservations not accepted. 10920 S. Parker Rd., 303-841-9900. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sun noon-9 p.m.

RED CLAW SEAFOOD AND WINGS \$
SOUTHWEST METRO / CAJUN/SOUTHERN / Savor the Asian-influenced Cajun crawfish, crab legs, oysters, and seven chicken-wing varieties, and toss the remains right on the table at this Louisiana backyard-style eatery. Reservations not accepted. 472 S. Federal Blvd., 720-328-3620. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

RELISH IT \$
LITTLETON / AMERICAN / Try the guac-rock-et, a burger piled high with guacamole, pepper jack cheese, and bacon, with a side of sweet potato fries. Reservations accepted. 5350 S. Santa Fe Dr., Unit G, 303-798-3344. Daily 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

RICE BISTRO & SUSHI \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ASIAN / Try the Big E ranch roll with seared N.Y. strip steak over shrimp tempura and avocado at this innovative and modern Asian fusion restaurant. Now with a large gluten-free menu and a focus on non-traditional Asian dishes like crunchy cashew shrimp and scallops. Reservations accepted. 5922 S. Holly St., 303-221-1430. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 11:30-10 p.m.; Sun 4-10 p.m.

RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT \$\$\$
LONE TREE / MEXICAN / Tex-Mex char-broiled specialties. The margaritas are famous. They are so good, they are dan-

gerous. Reservations Reservations accepted. 9535 Park Meadows Drive, 303-799-4999. Mon-Wed 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Thu 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

ROCK WOOD FIRED PIZZA & SPIRITS

\$\$\$
HIGHLANDS RANCH / PIZZA / This classic rock music-playing joint offers up pasta, burgers, and salads, but it's the pizza that really draws the crowds. Order up the "Can't Stop Rockin'" made with tomato sauce, pepperoni, pineapple, and extra mozzarella or the "Slow Ride" with shrimp, chicken, and roasted peppers in a Cajun cream sauce. 53 W. Centennial Blvd., 303-346-8096. Daily 11 a.m.-midnight.

ROYAL GORGE TAVERN

\$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / PIZZA / Tuck into a cheese steak or pizza at this casual joint. Gluten-free and vegetarian options are also available. Reservations accepted. 5650 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., 303-688-0844. Mon-Thu 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

SAHARA

\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / MIDDLE EASTERN / Moroccan and Middle Eastern. Reservations accepted. 9636 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-790-4707. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 5-9 p.m.

SALTGRASS STEAK HOUSE

\$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / STEAK HOUSE / This Texas steak house chain specializes in certified Angus steaks, but also try the BBQ baby back ribs. Soups, salads, and desserts are made from scratch. Reservations accepted except for weekends. 19310 E. Cottonwood Dr., 303-840-2370. Mon-Thu 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Sun 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

SAM'S NO. 3

\$\$\$
AURORA / AMERICAN / Try this friendly diner's best-selling supreme breakfast burrito with ham, bacon, sausage, gyro, eggs, potatoes, and green chili. Reservations not accepted. 2580 S. Havana St., 303-751-0347. Mon-Fri 6 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat-Sun 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

SAMURAI

\$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / Serene Japanese restaurant serving sushi, warm miso soup, and flavorful chicken teriyaki. Reservations accepted. 9625 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-799-9991. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-10 p.m.; Sat-Sun 5-10 p.m.

SAZZA

\$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / PIZZA / All-natural organic pizzas and salads that boast the freshest in-season Colorado produce. With a green dining room (recycled products, sustainable practices, and local ingredients). Delivery available. Reservations not accepted. 2500 E. Orchard Rd., 303-797-2992. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.;

Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

SEOUL BBQ

\$\$\$
AURORA / ASIAN / Cook your own meat on tabletop grills at this authentic Korean restaurant. Short ribs are the house fave. Reservations recommended. 2080 S. Havana St., 303-632-7576. Daily 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

SHANAHAN'S STEAKHOUSE

\$\$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / STEAK HOUSE / Former Broncos coach Mike Shanahan's modern interpretation of a classic steak house serves prime-aged beef and fresh seafood in a museum-esque space. Reservations accepted. 5085 S. Syracuse St., 303-770-3600. Mon-Thu 5-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 5-11 p.m.; Sun 5-9 p.m.

SHANGHAI KITCHEN

\$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / The large menu features Chinese, Vietnamese, and Thai dishes. Try one of the chef's specialty dishes, such as the volcano shrimp or super nova. Reservations accepted. 4940 S. Yosemite St., 303-290-6666. Mon-Fri 10:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Sat-Sun 11:30 a.m.-9:15 p.m.

SILLA

\$\$\$
AURORA / ASIAN / You can't go wrong ordering from the menu at this Korean eatery. Try the seafood dish, haemul pajeon. Reservations accepted. 3005 S. Peoria St., 303-338-5070. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

SONOMA'Z WINE BAR & GRILL

\$\$\$
LITTLETON / AMERICAN / New American dishes, an impressive wine bar with 28 wines by the glass, and a selection of tempting house-made desserts in a comfortable, naturally decorated space. Reservations accepted. 10345 Park Meadows Dr., 303-728-6000. Mon-Fri 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m., Sat-Sun 7 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-9 p.m.

STEAK 'N SHAKE

\$
CENTENNIAL / AMERICAN / Enjoy steak burgers and hand-dipped milk shakes. Try the grilled portobello mushroom steak burger—served with Swiss cheese, caramelized onions, and garlic mayo—with a cookies 'n cream milk shake. Reservations not accepted. 8271 S. Quebec St., 303-221-4550. Daily 24 hours.

STEAK HOUSE 10

\$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / STEAK HOUSE / This family-owned and operated steak house dishes up excellent service and a retro atmosphere. Reservations strongly recommended. 3517 S. Elati St., 303-789-0911. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.

STREET KITCHEN ASIAN BISTRO

\$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / This Asian street-food-inspired bistro offers an impressive menu of food from Malaysia, China, Vietnam, Thailand, and Japan. Enjoy Chef Mary Nguyen's take on traditional dim sum, curries, noodles, and short ribs, but don't miss the stuffed pork belly. Reser-

vations accepted. 10111 Inverness St., 303-799-9800. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 3-10 p.m.

SUMMIT STEAKHOUSE

\$\$\$\$
AURORA / STEAK HOUSE / Great steaks that won't break the bank. Reservations accepted. 2700 S. Havana St., 303-751-2112. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4:30-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4:30-11 p.m.; Sat 4:30-11 p.m.; Sun 4:30-9 p.m.

SUNRISE SUNSET

\$
SOUTHWEST METRO / BREAKFAST / This casual and sunny breakfast spot is famous for its fluffy pancakes, but the enchilada sunshine skillet and black-bean burrito with vegetarian green chile are tasty, too. Reservations not accepted. 7400 W. 38th Ave., Wheat Ridge, 303-423-8380. Daily 6:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

SUSHI WAVE

\$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ASIAN / Full sushi bar with fresh fish, as well as a variety of beef and chicken dishes. Reservations accepted for six or more. 9555 E. Arapahoe Rd. #5, 303-790-8822. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5-10 p.m.; Sun 5-9:30 p.m.

T-WA INN

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SOUTHWEST METRO / ASIAN / This restaurant's menu captures a variety of Asian flavors from spicy Thai to savory Vietnamese. Try an accompanying Asian beer. Reservations accepted. 555 S. Federal Blvd., 303-922-2378. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m.

TAQUERIA LOS TRES REYES

\$
LITTLETON / MEXICAN / Yucatan cuisine—try the tacos de lecho al horno. Reservations accepted. 1500 W. Littleton Blvd., 303-794-9106. Mon-Sat 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

TASTE OF THAILAND

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ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / Flavorful Asian dishes with fresh herbs and vegetables grown in the private garden. Reservations strongly recommended. 504 E. Hampden Ave., 303-762-9112. Mon 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; Tue-Fri 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m., 5-9 p.m.; Sat 5-9 p.m.

TAVERN LITTLETON

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LITTLETON / AMERICAN / Enjoy American food with Asian, Mediterranean, and Italian influences at this laid-back restaurant. Grab a seat on the rooftop patio and enjoy the food and drink specials, or watch the game on one of the many high-definition TVs. Reservations accepted. 2589 W. Main St., 303-730-7772. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sat-Sun 10 a.m.-2 a.m.

TAVERN LOWRY

\$\$\$
SOUTHEAST METRO / AMERICAN / Enjoy American food with Asian, Mediterranean, and Italian influences at this laid-back restaurant. Catch a game on one of the many high-definition TVs surround-

ing the bar. Reservations accepted. 7401 E. First Ave., 303-366-0007. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sat-Sun 10 a.m.-2 a.m.

TAVERN TECH CENTER \$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / AMERICAN / Enjoy American food with Asian, Mediterranean, and Italian influences at this laid-back restaurant. Sit out on the patio or catch the game on one of the many high-definition TVs surrounding the bar. Reservations accepted. 5336 Denver Tech Center Blvd., 303-221-4660. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 a.m.; Sat-Sun 10 a.m.-2 a.m.

THAI BISTRO \$\$\$
LITTLETON / ASIAN / Made-to-order dishes specializing in Southern Thai cuisine. Reservations accepted. 5924 S. Kipling Pkwy, 720-981-7600. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 4 p.m.-9 p.m.

THAI FLAVOR \$
AURORA / ASIAN / Exemplary Thai food and gracious service. Try the pla goong and the creamy Thai tea. Reservations not accepted. 1014 S. Peoria St., 720-859-7648. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

TOAST FINE FOOD & COFFEE \$\$
LITTLETON / AMERICAN / Don't miss the pancake flights: stacks of warm flapjacks prepared in four signature flavors, including strawberry-banana cheesecake and Oreo cookie. Also serves lunch. Reservations not accepted. 2700 W. Bowles Ave., Unit B, 303-797-9543. Daily 6:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

TRAPPER'S CHOP HOUSE \$\$\$\$
PARKER / STEAK HOUSE / Located atop the Select Hotel, this classic Western steak house has all the comfort and class you'd expect. Reservations accepted. 19308 Cottonwood Dr., 303-248-2132. Mon-Thu 5-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 5 p.m.-1:30 a.m.; Sun 5-10 p.m.

TWIN DRAGON \$\$
ENGLEWOOD / ASIAN / Authentic Asian dishes served with flair. Reservations accepted. 3021 S. Broadway, 303-781-8068. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

UNDICI RISTORANTE \$\$\$
ENGLEWOOD / ITALIAN / With its high ceilings, wooden floors, and rich gnocchi and ravioli, this restaurant is elegant Italian. Reservations recommended. 1200 E. Hampden Ave., 303-761-2828. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4:30 p.m.-10 p.m.

VENICE RISTORANTE & WINE BAR \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ITALIAN / This doesn't get more authentic than this (both the chef and the manager are natives). Try the regional tasting menus. Reservations accepted. 5946 S. Holly St., 720-482-9191. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 5 p.m.-close; Sat-Sun 5 p.m.-close.

VIA BACI \$\$
LONE TREE / ITALIAN / Fast-casual restaurant offering wood-fired Neapolitan pizzas, entree salads, and undiscovered Italian wines. Reservations accepted. 10005 Commons St., #200, 303-790-0828. Sun-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

VILLAGE GREEK \$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / MEDITERRANEAN / Authentic Greek and Mediterranean food with a hint of American offerings. Try the restaurant's signature dish: a Mediterranean-braised lamb shank served over pasta. Reservations recommended for parties of six or more. 6886 S. Clinton St., 303-792-3382. Mon-Thu 6 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 6 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 6 a.m.-9 p.m.

VINES WINE BAR \$\$
PARKER / MEDITERRANEAN / This premier wine bar boasts more than 100 wines by the glass. Come for the wine, but stay for the tapas. Certified sommeliers offer wine pairings with a variety of high-end tapas, including Colorado elk. Reservations accepted. 19501 E. Mainstreet, 303-736-8463. Mon-Thu 4-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Sun 11:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

VIRGILIO'S PIZZERIA & WINE BAR \$\$
LITTLETON / PIZZA / Small, family-owned restaurant whipping up traditional Italian food made with fresh ingredients. Enjoy the fresh mozzarella balls, spinach pinwheels, or brick oven-baked pizzas. Reservations not accepted. 10025 W. San Juan Way, 303-972-1011. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-11 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

WARHORSE INN \$\$\$
PARKER / AMERICAN / Old school bar dishes up Mexican food, sandwiches, steak, ribs, and super nachos. Order a cold beer to wash your meal down. Reservations accepted. 19420 E. Main St., 303-841-4018. Tue-Thu 7 a.m.-9:30 p.m.; Fri 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

WASABI SUSHI BAR \$\$
CENTENNIAL / ASIAN / Enjoy sushi and Japanese cuisine with all fish flown in daily from the West Coast and Japan. Try the shrimp tempura and spicy tuna roll topped with salmon, avocado, special mayo and teriyaki sauce with a side of miso soup. Reservations accepted. 12073 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-708-0888. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

WHITE CHOCOLATE GRILL \$\$\$
LONE TREE / CONTEMPORARY / In addition to the house-made selection of white chocolates, enjoy classic American fare, such as grilled salmon or balsamic rib-eye. Reservations accepted. 8421 Park Meadows Center Dr., 303-799-4841. Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

WILD GINGER THAI RESTAURANT \$
LITTLETON / ASIAN / Homemade, authentic Thai food. Reservations accepted. 399 W. Littleton Blvd., 303-794-1115. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 5 p.m.-9 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 5 p.m.-10 p.m.; Sat noon-3 p.m.

WINE EXPERIENCE CAFE & WORLD CELLAR \$\$\$
AURORA / CONTEMPORARY / A must-try for anyone who sees dinner as a pleasant accessory to a fine wine. Menus change seasonally. Now serving brunch on Sundays. Reservations accepted. 6240 S. Main St., 303-690-1025. Mon 4 p.m.-9 p.m.; Tue-Sat noon-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

WINGIN' IT \$\$
CENTENNIAL / AMERICAN / Choose from more than 22 flavors of wings (try the mango-barbecue) with dressings and sauces made from scratch. Reservations not accepted. 8200 S. Quebec St., 720-207-2435. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

WOODEN TABLE \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / ITALIAN / Hand-crafted wooden tables, hence the name, set a welcoming tone at this elegant restaurant. Dig into the seared scallops with roasted fennel and salsa verde. Reservations accepted. 2500 E. Orchard Rd., Unit C, 303-730-2152. Mon-Thu 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Fri 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sat 4-10 p.m.

YA YA'S EURO BISTRO \$\$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / INTERNATIONAL / French, Italian, and American cuisine served in a spectacular dining room. Reservations accepted. 8310 E. Bellevue Ave., 303-741-1110. Mon-Sat 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 4-9 p.m.

YANNI'S GREEK RESTAURANT \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / INTERNATIONAL / Some say this is the best Greek food in town. Enjoy this elegant yet casual taverna, and try the Colorado grilled lamb chops served with roasted potatoes and veggies. Plus, everyone loves a good gyro. Pair your meal with one of their many wine options. Reservations accepted. 5425 Landmark Pl., 303-692-0404. Daily 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

YAZOO BARBEQUE COMPANY \$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / BARBECUE / Unpretentious BBQ joint with a Deep South menu, serves slow-smoked pork ribs and brisket. Reservations accepted. 9555 E. Arapahoe Rd., 303-792-9500. Mon-Fri 11 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat 11:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sun 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m.

ZINK KITCHEN + BAR \$\$\$
GREENWOOD VILLAGE / INTERNATIONAL / Global cuisine with Colorado flair. Try the breakfast buffet with the omelet station, a lunch of chicken pot pie, or the ahi tuna dinner. Reservations accepted. 7801 E. Orchard Rd., 303-779-1559. Daily 6 a.m.-10 p.m.



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