

of way. The biggest difference is the massive bar. Who said you couldn't get a drink in hell? 310 S. Lake Ave., Duluth, 218-727-1620

Foreign Food Court

Save yourself a plane ticket and get a taste of Southeast Asia at the **International Market Place** in St. Paul. Inside the shabby, unassuming sheds, the bustling market is filled with vendors selling plastic dishes, cooking tools, fresh produce, and Hmong costumes. Asian men watch music videos, and Caucasians are as scarce as English signage. The food court is a collection of small stalls where fried fish, sausage, pork, curries, ribs, and bubble teas are sold. Bring a wad of small bills and, if you don't speak Hmong or Thai, be prepared to do some gesturing. 217 Como Ave., St. Paul

Reason to Eat Your Veggies

Pity the cauliflower. It's homely. It tastes bland. It gets no love from most foodies or chefs—the vegetable equivalent of Indianapolis. All of which is why the cauliflower fritters at **112 Eatery** are so extraordinary. Served with lemon wedges and a dusting of Parmigiano-Reggiano, the fritters boast a thin, crispy coating that manages to compliment the cauliflower's texture rather than smother it. Still, the ultimate compliment is that this dish may actually cause you to crave cauliflower, a feat most scientists once considered

impossible. 112 N. Third St., Mpls., 612-343-7696

Home & Help



Framing

MITREBOX

Sara Nachreiner, co-owner

Got an original from a master? Looking for a way to showcase Junior's prize-winning oeuvre—the talk of the second-grade art show? Either way, Mitrebox can help. This Warehouse District favorite offers frames with 22-carat finishes to simple hand-carved wood. Designers can recommend frames that complement the art as well as your style (not to mention your budget). And excellent craftsmanship and attention to archival framing, mounting, and matting will ensure that the work lasts a lifetime and beyond.

213 Washington Ave. N., Mpls., 612-676-0696

Pest Control

WILDLIFE REMOVAL SERVICES

Michael Tucker, owner

Mice. Snakes. Raccoons. These aren't exactly the kinds of creatures most people want as pets or, worse, roommates. So call Michael Tucker and tell him everything. He'll listen empathetically as you fret about the bat that circled your bed or the squirrels in your attic. Then he'll get to work removing the unwanted visitors, using live traps whenever possible (Guilt be gone!). It's a dirty job, but Tucker does it with professionalism, a sense of humor, and respect for both the pests and your property.

Bloomington, 952-884-3707

Upholstery

REMNANTS

David Osterberg, owner

Let's be frank: That cool Victorian couch you bought for a steal at an estate sale may be authentic, but it's seen better days. For the last decade, David Osterberg has been re-upholstering furniture at his Tangletown shop, Remnants. His smart, creative vision can refresh the look of any piece while maintaining the original integrity of the design, whether it's an Eames chair or a favorite piece of family furniture. He's passionate and meticulous—the perfect choice for anyone who appreciates good design.

4754 Grand Ave. S., Mpls., 612-823-5591

Art Conservation

MIDWEST ART CONSERVATION CENTER

Elizabeth Buschor, conservator

If a decade in the attic has turned your priceless tapestry to tatters, head to the Midwest Art Conservation Center. The nonprofit has been in the business of conserving art and artifacts for public institutions and private individuals for more than three decades. It offers services for everything from paper works to sculptures, and has been praised for its affordability and professionalism. The organization even offers 24-hour emergency services for flood, fire, and other disaster recovery efforts.

2400 Third Ave. S., Mpls., 612-870-3120

Personal Training

THE FIRM

Kristin Braniff, trainer

If you're serious about changing the shape of your body before the wedding or that high-school reunion, head to the Firm, where trainers in the company's F.I.T. program, including Kristin Braniff, will help whip you into the best shape of your life. After a pre-program assessment, you'll spend eight weeks doing 50 intense, customized sessions, including weight-training, cardio, and Pilates. You'll learn how to eat well and make good choices for your long-term health. And you'll look smashing for the big event.

245 Aldrich Ave. N., Mpls., 612-377-3003

Tree Service

MAJESTIC TREE CARE

Rebecca Seibel-Hunt, owner

If that ol' oak looks sick, the arms of the elm are snaking through the power lines, or the hedges need a haircut, look no further than Majestic Tree Care. Arborist Rebecca Seibel-Hunt and her staff offer preventive care, fertilization, and disease and insect diagnosis, in addition to pruning and removal services. Best of all, workers will clean up all the leaves and branches afterward—often leaving the area in better condition than when they arrived. If only it were so easy to get the kids to do the same.

4247 Queen Ave. N., Mpls., 612-522-3210

Catering

CLASS ACT CATERING

Linda Savage, owner

Whether you've got an upcoming wedding with 300 guests or a small group of investors you're hoping will help finance your million-dollar idea, Class Act Catering provides custom menus that are light years beyond box lunches and iceberg-lettuce salads. From roasted-turkey-and-orange-curry wraps to lemon-curd dacquoise, Class Act will give events an elegant touch without demolishing your budget. They're efficient, prepared, and timely, and they'll even package up the leftovers for you.

3605 Ashbury Rd., Eagan, 651-456-9246

Landscaping

BEDS & BORDERS LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Andy Freeland, owner

Green lawns are perfectly pleasant, but if you're looking for a yard with personality, try Beds and Borders Landscape Design. Its staff provides custom designs with trees, shrubs, patios, flower beds, retaining walls, and other features, while paying close attention to technical issues like drainage. Can't tell a dandelion from a daffodil? You'll get to see photos of all the plants before they're in your yard. Do-it-yourselfers can hire the company for a consultation.

6521 Minnetonka Blvd., St. Louis Park, 612-396-2014

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