

BEST PET INDULGENCE | BROOKSIDE BARKERY & BATH

Former corporate architects, Delena and Larry Stout surrendered to a different calling in 2003—one that entails making googly eyes with man’s best friend all day. The two took a leap and opened Brookside Barkery & Bath. “There are just so many stories in this store, so many lives,” Delena Stout says. “It’s incredible!” As the Barkery is in the process of expanding its space, it’s sure to be a regular feature in those lives—both canine and human—for years to come.

BEST CATERER | DELISH! CATERING AND EVENTS

“We really just try to keep things warm and fuzzy.” So says Mary Berg, founder of Delish! Catering and Events. We just hope she’s not disappointed that “warm and fuzzy” has turned more into “sizzling and melt-in-your-mouth.” With partner-in-crime Lisa Tepen joining the scene eight months after Berg’s 2008 launch of Delish!, the two continue to explore their creative limits with surprising (read: delectable) concoctions. *Tried and true:* One of the most popular Delish! dishes is the Thai chicken skewer. Imagine a heaping tower of soba noodles stabbed with Panko-breaded chicken skewers and accompanied by a trio of red chili, spicy peanut and jalapeño scallion ginger sauces. Drooling yet?

BEST TAILOR | RYDELL TAILOR SHOP

A cherished staple of the Brookside community and the greater Kansas City area, Rydell’s has acquired a loyal customer following since opening in 1958. Locally owned and operated by Erik and Yelena Blond, this neighborhood tailor shop is unique for its expertise, craftsmanship and friendly customer service. “Simply care”—a motto that has been passed down from the shop’s beginning, still remains true today at Rydell’s.

editors’ pick

Our vote for best new logo: the Ripple Glass bottle that sports angel wings. The real angel, however, is Boulevard Brewing Company, which launched the Ripple Glass glass recycling project last year after learning that Kansas City consumers throw away 150 million pounds of glass annually—including some 10 million of Boulevard’s own bottles. Now the endeavor is going after the restaurant trade. To locate a recycling location near you, check out rippleglasskc.com.



PET INDULGENCE | THREE DOG BAKERY

Inspired by a deaf and blind Great Dane, the owners of Three Dog Bakery started their business as a way to give canine owners a smarter option in dog food. Baked right inside the store, each treat is made of all-natural and healthy ingredients. And though not formulated to satisfy your palate, every baked good is perfected to the human quality standards. Three Dog Bakery now has more than 70 locations worldwide but claims Kansas City as its home. “It was founded because two people loved their dogs,” says Sarah Deters, the local store’s general manager.