

THE RICHMOND REVIEW

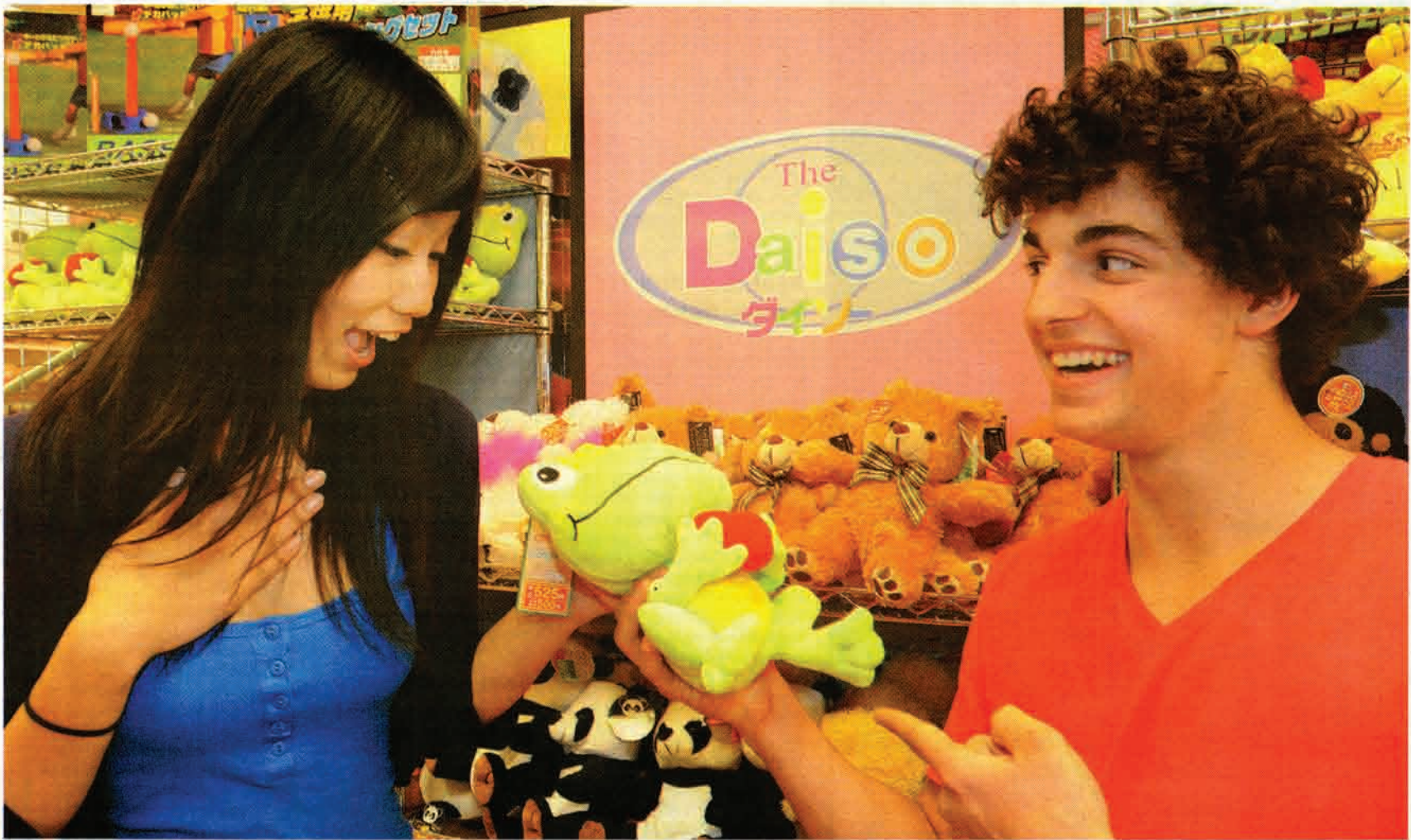
May 23, 2009

Saturday, May 23, 2009

The Richmond Review • Page 15

The Best of...

shopping



Mark Patrick photo

Alice Liu and Erik Ioannidis check out all the \$2 offerings at Daiso in Aberdeen Centre.

Best idea for gifts

Aberdeen Centre has a huge selection of retail outlets that offer out-of-the-ordinary items.

For example, if you've got lots of money to spend, it boasts a store dedicated to toilets and fancy toilet seats. We kid you not.

For the person who has seemingly everything, Aberdeen Centre offers what many other malls cannot in terms of selection.

And after a long day of shopping, there's delicious food

on the third floor.

Best way to test your DIY skills

Not sure if you can cut tile, jackhammer your driveway or frame a deck? Home Depot's tool rental service lets you rent pricey power tools and see if you've got what it takes to do-it-yourself. And hey, if your project is still standing after your first try, maybe you've just re-invented yourself in this "new economy."

Best place to find clothes if you are expecting

If you're pregnant and don't enjoy a long commute, check out Thyme Maternity at Ironwood Plaza, 165-11720 Steveston Hwy. There's a dearth of shops in Richmond that specialize in maternity wear for soon-to-be moms and their expanding bellies.

A sign that it's good: visit one of Richmond big shopping centres, and they'll direct you here.

Saturday, May 23, 2009

The Best of Food



Strawberry Cones in Aberdeen Centre is a one-of-a-kind place—at least in Canada.

Best name for a pizza joint

Strawberry Cones is a Japanese sensation that recently made its way to Canada, care of Aberdeen Centre. If the name doesn't offer any clues that pizza and pasta are specialties here, the rainbow-coloured logo isn't much more help. On the menu? Salmon and Camembert, Premium Lobster and Teriyaki Mochi Chicken. We're still waiting for the fruit pizza.

Best name for a Chinese restaurant

Shanghai Wonderful Restaurant is plainly-stated, self-serving marketing. Apparently, the

Lansdowne Road spot needed to further distinguish itself from the Bread Garden that once ruled this building. The reviews may be mixed for this busy eatery, but it's hard not to leave thinking you've had some really good xiaolongbao when you look back at the sign.

Best eatery to stir memories of ancient China

Boasting breathtaking views of a parking lot and Chapters store, Dinesty restaurant revisits the kingdom of old in the name alone. There's nothing ancient about it inside, but how can diners not fondly reflect on the last great dynasty of China while

munching on steamed buns, spicy stuff and sour stuff? For the English speakers of the city, Dinesty's sign even provides a translation so we all get the pun.

Best source of natural protein

Galloway's Specialty Foods imports a wide variety of foods from around the world, selling most of its products in bulk. Sure they're known for their dried fruits and nuts, but how about protein-packing beans? Try mixing some azuki, black turtle, black eye, fava, large lima, mung, pinto or lupini beans in your chili and curries. The bulk aisles also stock kidney beans for the less adventurous.

The Best of Shopping & Services

Readers’ Poll

Best Best Antiques / Collectables

- 1 - Grandma’s Antiques (tie)
- 1 - Value Village (tie)
- 2 - Steveston General Store

Best Martial Arts Studio

- 1 - Shinka Martial Arts
- 2 - Tong Moo Do Martial Arts
- 3 - Steveston Martial Arts Centre

Best Bike Shop

- 1 - Krusty’s
- 2 - Steveston Bicycle
- 3 - Village Bikes

Best New Car Dealer

- 1 - Richmond Honda
- 2 - OpenRoad Toyota
- 3 - AutoWest BMW

Best Family Doctor

- 1 - Dr. William Wong
- 2 - Dr. Howie
- 3 - Dr. Vellani

Best Dentist

- 1 - Dr. Greg Nelson
- 2 - Dr. Ryan Kaltio
- 3 - Dr. Doug Nielson

Best Facial

- 1 - Raintree Day Spa
- 2 - Allranell Day Spa
- 3 - Profile (tie)
- 3 - Tao Day Spa (tie)

Best Specialty Furniture store

- 1 - The Spotted Frog Furniture Co.
- 2 - Ikea
- 3 - Sears

Best Gardening Store

- 1 - Prickly Pear
- 2 - Art Knapp’s
- 3 - Home Depot

Best Green Business

- 1 - Gudrun Tasting Room
- 2 - Men In Kilts
- 3 - Auto West BMW

Best Grocery Store

- 1 - Save-on-Foods
- 2 - Safeway
- 3 - Superstore

Best Hair Stylist

- 1 - Stephanie - Design Tech
- 2 - Marietta Bernabe - Creative Hair Design
- 3 - Sara Parker - Gray & Black

Best Car Salesperson

- 1 - Ian Nethercott - Richmond Honda
- 2 - Kevin O’Neill - Best Express
- 3 - Darren Budd - Cowi

Best Home Decor Store

- 1 - Home Depot
- 2 - Spotted Frog Furniture Company
- 3 - Home Sense

Best Dance Instuctor

- 1 - Wendy Lee Riley
- 2 - Rishell O’Brien
- 3 - Andy Wong

Best Karaoke

- 1 - Millennium Karaoke
- 2 - JP Malones
- 3 - The Buck and Ear

Best Kitchen/Cooking Store

- 1 - Ming Wo
- 2 - Trail Appliances
- 3 - Home Outfitters

Best Place to buy Knick-knacks

- 1 - Daiso
- 2 - Pieces
- 3 - Nikaido

Best Laser Skin Care

- 1 - Dermal Laser Centre
- 2 - Cool Secret Spa
- 3 - Profile Esthetics

Best Lawyer

- 1 - Jason Tarnow - Tarnow and Co.

The Best of Food

Readers’ Poll

Best Beer Selection

- 1 - Fogg N Suds
- 2 - Gudrun Tasting Room
- 3 - O’Hare’s

Best Bread

- 1 - Cobbs
- 2 - Romania Bakery, Steveston
- 3 - Steveston Bakery

Best Brunch

- 1 - Tapenade Bistro
- 2 - River Rock
- 3 - Globe @ YVR (tie)
- 3 - Milestones (tie)

Best Burger

- 1 - White Spot
- 2 - McDonald’s
- 3 - Pajo’s

Best Place to go on a Cheap Date

- 1 - McDonald’s
- 2 - Garry Point Park
- 3 - Steveston Village

Best Chef

- 1 - Alex Tung - Tapenade
- 2 - Jon Lim Hing - Correllis
- 3 - Ken Iaci - Papi’s

Best Chinese Food

- 1 - #9 Resturant
- 2 - Danny’s Wun tun House
- 3 - Hon’s

Best Dim Sum

- 1 - Sun Sui Wah Seafood Restaurant
- 2 - Kirin Restaurant
- 3 - Continental Seafood Restaurant

Best Fine Dining

- 1 - Tapenade Bistro
- 2 - Chop
- 3 - Steveston Seafood House

Best New Restaurant

- 1 - Chop
- 2 - Blue Canoe Waterfront Restaurant
- 3 - Gudrun Tasting Room

Best Place to go for Drinks

- 1 - Flying Beaver
- 2 - Gudrun Tasting Room
- 3 - The Buck and Ear

Best Dessert

- 1 - Diplomat Bakery
- 2 - Tapenade Bistro
- 3 - Blue Canoe Waterfront Restaurant

Best Late Night Munchies

- 1 - No. 9 Restaurant
- 2 - Gudrun Tasting Room
- 3 - Boston Pizza

Best Italian

- 1 - Papi’s Ristorante
- 2 - Paesano’s
- 3 - Italian Tomato

Best Food Court

- 1 - Richmond Centre
- 2 - Lansdowne Centre
- 3 - Aberdeen centre

Best Place to go on a First Date

- 1 - Steveston Village
- 2 - Tapenade Bistro
- 3 - Blue Canoe Waterfront Restaurant

Best Pho

- 1 - Pho Hoa
- 2 - Pho Lan
- 3 - Hue Cafe

Best Pub Grub

- 1 - O’Hares
- 2 - The Flying Beaver
- 3 - The Buck and Ear

Best Southeast Asian

- 1 - Kari House
- 2 - Thai House
- 3 - Tropika

Best Sushi

- 1 - Richmond Sushi
- 2 - Ichiro Japanese Restaurant
- 3 - Seto Sushi

Best Wine Selection

- 1 - Gudrun Tasting Room
- 2 - SIP Wines
- 3 - Tapenade Bistro

Best Fish & Chips

- 1 - Pajo’s Fish and Chips
- 2 - Dave’s Fish and Chips
- 3 - Pisces Fish and Chips

Best Kid Friendly Restaurant

- 1 - White Spot
- 2 - McDonald’s
- 3 - Boston Pizza

Best Place to Take Out of Town Guests

- 1 - Steveston Village
- 2 - Tapenade Bistro
- 3 - Blue Canoe Waterfront Restaurant