THIRD Place: Madison Bear Garden 316 W. Second St., 891-1639

Place to Drink a Glass of Wine

FIRST Place: Wine Time

26 Lost Dutchman Dr., 899-9250

Wine lovers in search of a relaxing place to sip and find new flavors can get their fix at Wine Time. The north Chico restaurant serves a full menu of dishes designed by chef Lisa Sereda that are intended to be shared as well as paired with your favorite

SECOND Place: Unwined Kitchen & Bar 980 Mangrove Ave., 809-2634

THIRD Place: Grana Wood Fired Foods 198 E. Second St., 809-2304

Sports Bar

FIRST Place: Bella's Sports Pub

231 Main St., 893-5253

Killer wings, a full bar, an exuberant clientele—all of the trappings of a winning game-day experience can be found at this fan-friendly downtown mainstay. It's easy to find when a game is on: Just follow the sounds of cheering (or angry jeering) ringing out over Main Street

SECOND Place (tie): Buffalo Wild Wings 845 East Ave., 592-3251

SECOND Place (tie): Riley's Bar & Grill 702 W. Fifth St., 343-7459

Theater Company

FIRST Place: Chico Theater Company 166 Eaton Road, Ste. F. 894-3282

Chico Theater Company may be way out on edge

of town, but it's in the center of the hearts of local theater lovers. The past year's productions—some of which were presented outdoors due to COVID-included The Foursome and Daddy Long Legs.

SECOND Place: California Regional Theatre 139 W. First St., 722-4522

THIRD Place: Theatre on the Ridge 3735 Neal Road, Paradise, 877-5760

To-Go Cocktail or Bar Service

FIRST Place: Argus Bar + Patio

212 W. Second St., 332-9914. argusmonstercrate.com

As some bars adopted delivery services merely to survive COVID restrictions, Argus Bar + Patio owner Scott Baldwin went the distance and established a cocktail subscription service called Argus Monster Crates. Now that the bar has reopened, the boxes continue to be mailed monthly to a growing list of subscribers.

SECOND Place: Duffy's Tavern 337 Main St., 343-7718

THIRD Place: Tres Hombres 100 Broadway, 342-0425

Venue for Live Music

FIRST Place: Sierra Nevada Big Room

1075 E. 20th St., 893-3250

No bands have graced the stage at the Big Room since the initial COVID-19 shutdown, and the popular concert venue remains "closed until further notice." Regardless, Chicoans relying on fond memories of the before times and dreaming of the day when the doors re-open still named it the best venue in town.

SECOND Place: Secret Trail Brewing Co. 132 Meyers St., Ste. 120, 487-8151

THIRD Place: Argus Bar + Patio 212 W. Second St., 332-9914

Virtual Local Show (during COVID)

FIRST Place: Astronaut Ice Cream

astronauticecreamband.com

No artist in Chico filled the hole created by the loss of live gatherings during COVID more than Astronaut Ice Cream. The disco-pop duo created several online extravaganzas featuring music, crafts, comedy and more wrapped up in the band's

SECOND Place: The Yule Logs (Chico Virtual Voices at Laxson Auditorium & Log-O-Vision at Chico Women's Club)

THIRD Place: Stonewall Chico Pride 2020

Watering Hole for Townies

FIRST Place: Duffy's Tavern

337 Main St., 343-7718

Dark interior; aged, familiar decorations; air conditioning; stiff drinks and smiling local faces. It's a simple combination, beautifully executed in this hallowed downtown dive, that makes Duffy's Tavern a perennial favorite and keeps generations of Chicoans stepping through that swinging door.

SECOND Place: The Handle Bar 2070 E. 20th St., Ste. 160, 894-2337

THIRD Place: Studio Inn Lounge 2582 Esplanade, 343-0662

READERS' PICKS CONTINUED ON PAGE 35



SPECIALIZING IN

Homeowners Insurance

"I also have great Auto Insurance, Landlord & Manufactured Home Rates!"

HOME • AUTO • LIFE COMMERCIAL



530.342.0540 | dave@advantageinsurancechico.com

Opportunity to Participate in Study about Rebuilding and Relocation after the Camp Fire

I am a graduate student looking for participants for an exciting research study on rebuilding and relocation after the 2018 Camp Fire. The study involves one confidential interview which lasts no more than one hour. Participants receive \$25 as a thank you. Topics include the decision to stay or relocate, the rebuilding process, and the future of Paradise and climate change in California.

Participants can be any adult that lived or had a business in the Paradise area at the time of the Camp Fire.

Please contact mtk378@nyu.edu or (310) 433-2061 to receive more information.

The researcher was born and raised in California and studies in the Department of Sociology at New York University













2995 Esplanade #104 | 530.891.9022 www.japaneseblossoms.com Open Lunch 11:30-2 Mon-Fri Dinner 5-8:30 Mon-Thur | 5-9 Fri & Sat Happy Hour 5-6 Tue-Sun | Mon all night!