


## Gourmand: Local Restaurants



### A KISS FROM B.J.

The first time I walked into Alcenia's — a down-home restaurant in downtown's Pinch District — I received a hug and a kiss from owner B.J. Tamayo. I was a little surprised but soon found out that was the standard greeting for everyone who walked in the door. The last time I went, Alcenia's was so busy I didn't get a kiss until Tamayo herself brought out some hot-water cornbread to accompany the meal. With a décor and menu just as inviting as the owner herself, Alcenia's is sure to make you feel at home. The meat-and-threes are made to order and hearty and delicious, and the sweet-potato fries sprinkled with cinnamon and other spices taste as though they escaped from the dessert menu. — **STACEY GREENBERG**

ALCENIA'S, 317 N. MAIN (523-0200)



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#### Pearl's Oyster House

299 S. MAIN, 522-9070 \$\$\$

#### The Pier

100 WAGNER, 526-7381  
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#### STEAK/PASTA

##### Buckley's

5355 POPLAR, 683-4538  
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##### The Butcher Shop

107 S. GERMANTOWN  
PKWY. (CORDOVA),  
757-4244  
101 S. FRONT, 521-0856  
\$\$-\$\$\$

##### Cal's Steakhouse

5069 SANDERLIN,  
767-6666 \$\$-\$\$\$

##### Folk's Folly

551 S. MENDENHALL,  
762-8200 \$\$\$-\$\$\$\$

##### Houston's

5000 POPLAR, 683-0915 \$\$

##### Mesquite Chop House

88 UNION, 527-5337  
5960 GETWELL  
(OLIVE BRANCH, MS),  
662-890-2467 \$\$

##### Texas Roadhouse

2810 NEW BRUNSWICK,  
382-5992 \$\$\$

##### Yia Yia's

7615 W. FARMINGTON,  
756-4004 \$\$

#### THAI

##### Bangkok Alley

2150 W. POPLAR  
(COLLIERVILLE), 854-8748  
830 N. GERMANTOWN  
PKWY., 753-7250 \$\$\$

##### Bhan Thai

1324 PEABODY, 272-1538  
\$-\$\$

##### Chao Praya

3588 RIDGEWAY,  
366-7827 \$\$\$

##### Ja Ja's Thai Restaurant

192 WASHINGTON  
(COLLIERVILLE),  
850-5222 \$

##### Jasmine

916 S. COOPER, 725-0223 \$

##### Sawaddii

121 UNION, 529-1818 \$-\$\$

##### Thai Bistro

1250 N. GERMANTOWN  
PKWY. (CORDOVA),  
755-6955 \$-\$\$

#### VIETNAMESE

##### Lobster King

32 N. CLEVELAND,  
725-5990 \$-\$\$

##### My Thanh

306 N. CLEVELAND,  
725-5079 \$

##### Pho Hoa Binh

1615 MADISON,  
276-0006 \$

##### Pho Saigon

2946 POPLAR, 458-1644 \$

##### Saigon Le

51 N. CLEVELAND,  
276-5326 \$