

ESECURE IPHONE APP TAKES HOME SECURITY TO A NEW LEVEL

You may have seen eSecure featured as one of the top "New apps for the New Year" in Apple's most recent full-page iPhone ads in the New York Times, USA Today and TIME magazine.

The eSecure app lets you manage your Protection One alarm system wirelessly while you're away from the house. With eSecure, users can:

- close your garage door while you are on vacation,
- turn your security system on or off while you're out shopping,
- monitor whether the liquor or medicine cabinet has been opened.

Learn more at www.appstorehq.com.

OAKLEY TUMBLERS STYLE WITH TOUGH & MORE

By Jonathan Kersting,
TEQ Associate Publisher

You don't wear Oakley's Tumbler eyeglasses. You strap them on and feel the Gs.

In the market for a new pair of specs earlier this year, I was looking for something that looked modern, not trendy, and could stand up to miles of hiking, running and goofing off. I don't wear contacts and opt for glasses 24/7. So finding a blend of these attributes can be tricky.

With a little on-line research, I came across the Oakley Tumblers. They combine a classic green tortoise frame, edged out with a bit of rugged, sporty flare.

For active people who are tough on their eyewear, these



Oakley's Tumblers can take a lickin' and keep on tickin' and look cool while doing it.

frames really stand out. They are anything but delicate. The overbuilt temples are triple-hinged and stay firmly in place. After all, Oakley made a name for itself making indestructible technical eyewear for cyclists and other athletes.

Over the past three months, they have survived cross country skiing, mountain biking, running, hiking and

BLEND DESIGN

home repair projects with aplomb. Teamed up with some high-quality, anti-glare lenses I've been feeling like a million bucks.

The Tumblers still look like new, and I still dig the way they look when I strap them on and feel the Gs. ■

Get more info at www.oakley.com.

"Buy This" reviews are written by Pittsburgh Technology Council staff, friends and family about products they have personally purchased. Opinions are those of the author.

ASYLUM COFFEE BAR

By Jonathan Kersting, Associate Publisher

Pittsburgh's Uptown is coming back to life. Tech and design companies like Sun King and Soho Invention have anchored the area between downtown and Oakland while seeds of new businesses have been sown, including Asylum Coffee Bar at 1919 Forbes Ave.

Like an oasis in the desert, Asylum has sprung up with its edgy industrial-chic digs to sling top-notch coffee and a bit of hope to a neighborhood that is reinventing itself.

Co-Founder Matt Hoover says business has been steadily building since the shiny new garage door rolled up in the fall of 2009 with new customers joining the ranks of regulars everyday. An eclectic mix of hipsters, students, locals and business types filter in and out all seeking the something - coffee.

With Coffee Tree Roaster beans as the foundation, Asylum whips up some serious lattes with character and flavor. My personal favorite is the Reaper - a peanut butter/mocha latte with low-end grum. The Devil Dust latte runs a close second and has a nice balance of cinnamon and vanilla notes. Asylum's aren't too sweet and the flavors are not overpowering. The



Matt Hoover behind the counter at Asylum Coffee Bar.

high-quality espresso takes center stage and never presents any burnt aftertaste. Hoover says his most popular drinks are the Marshmallow Man and the Devil Dust. Asylum also has an extensive selection of teas and juices if coffee isn't your forte. Light lunch with fare from Dosen Cupcakes is also available.

Asylum is good people selling an awesome product in a struggling neighborhood that is really starting to show signs of life. Stop by and see what all the fuss is about - it's minutes from downtown, Oakland and the Hill. Hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. Asylum is closed on Sundays.

Learn more at www.asylumcoffeebar.com. ■

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