

Littleton Economic Notes October 2010

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Littleton Businesses

The following Littleton Businesses were Denver's 7 A-List award winners:

1st Place: **The Melting Pot**, Best Romantic Restaurant; **Lola's Sugar Rush**, Best Gift Shop; **Tranquil Touch Massage**, Best Massage; **Ja Ja Bistro**, Best French; **Merle's**, Best Wings; **Allana's Academy of Dance**, Best Dance Studio; **Sweet Beginnings**, Best Women's Accessories

2d Place: **Details Boutique**, Best Women's Boutique; **Willow-An Artisan's Market**, Best Gift Shop

3rd Place: **Ciao Bella Day Spa of Littleton**, **Skin Essentials MediSpa & Boutique**, Best Medical Spa; **Mi Cocina**, Best Mexican; **Sandy Puc' Portrait Design**, Best Portrait Photography; **Gigi's Cupcakes**, Best Cupcakes; **Futo-Kan Mixed Martial Arts**, Best Martial Arts; **The Chocolate Therapist, Inc.**, Best Chocolate; **Kate's Wine Bar**, Best Wine Bar; **A Knitted Peace**, Best Arts and Crafts; **Angelo's CD's**, Best Records and CDs

4th Place: **Frame It**, Best Custom Framing; **Big Papa's BBQ**, Best Barbeque; **Romancing the Bean**, Best Coffee Shop

5th Place: **Savory Spice**, Best Gourmet Grocery; **A Paw Spa**, Best Grooming

A ribbon cutting was held to celebrate **Upper Crust Pizza Company's** opening in the SouthBridge Shopping Center (151 W. Mineral Ave.). Brad Viar offers an array of pizzas (gluten-free dough is available!) along with buffalo wings, appetizers, fresh salads, home style pasta, desserts, and a full service bar. 720.287.3688; www.ucpizzacompany.com

Owner **Ken Bloese** recently expanded the space for **Play It Again Sports** (151 W. Mineral Ave.) by an additional 1,000 sq.ft. to provide more room for the quality name-brand used sports equipment and fitness gear and factory refurbished equipment he carries. The store also stocks new name-brand gear, overstocks and closeouts. 303.798.8824; www.playitagainsports.com

The 2010 Colorado Awards for Remodeling Excellence (CARE) sponsored by the Home Builders Association of Metro Denver honored Superior Products Home Improvements (6221 S. Santa Fe Blvd.) with two awards this year. Tom Higgins' company won first place for a "green remodel" and second place for a home exterior facelift. 303.347.2555; www.asksuperior.com

Englewood Camera (5855 S. Broadway) was recently featured in the “YourHub” Business Focus section of the *Denver Post*. Father and son team Les and Bryce Cole have run the company for the last 13 of its 60-plus years after Les went to buy a camera and decided to take the shop as well. Living up to its “Everything Photographic” slogan, the store offers 100-year-old collectibles and a wide range of used equipment, accessories, the latest in new cameras and full service for all kinds of cameras, restoration of prints and all things digital. 303.797.0700; www.Englewoodcamera.com

A recent article in *5280 Magazine* featured the Donut Hut Café at 5816 S. Lowell Blvd. The 35-year-old shop serves old-fashioned sugary treats such as apple fritters, muffins and just about any kind of donut. In addition, it offers breakfast burritos with green chili, breakfast sandwiches, bagels, English muffins, a variety of drinks, and much more. Owners Brad Harding and Cheryl and Lindsey Carney open at 4:30 a.m. every morning. 303.798.6296; www.donuthutcafe.com

Beef O’Brady’s is opening Monday, Oct. 25 in the Shoppes at Columbine Valley center at 5950 S. Platte Canyon Rd. Will and Tim Stevens are joining some 240 other franchise store owners in 23 states that focus on families and supporting sports teams, large and small, in their communities. The extensive menu includes family favorite foods such as buffalo-style wings, signature sandwiches, steak burgers, ribs, tacos, fresh salads, and Little Leaguer favorites. The restaurant has a meeting/function/party room for group use and 21 televisions with access to all NFL games. A patio space will open in the spring. 720.287.5920; www.beefobradys.com

Lisa Pevateaux held a ribbon cutting for her newly opened Elite Dance Academy at 8200 SouthPark Circle. An experienced dancer and businesswoman, Lisa has two other schools, one each in Boulder and Broomfield. Her instructors offer a variety of classes for students from age three to adult, including hippity hop as well as hip-hop, jazz, ballet, Zumba, strength and flexibility, poms, and boys only. 720.877.1111; www.elitedanceacademy.net

Other

The Tavern Littleton project is in full swing at 2589 W. Main St., once home to the Main Street Tavern. The new space will be double the size of the former and will have a large rooftop patio. Frank Schultz and Terry and Al Papay, owners of the Tavern Hospitality Group, are projecting an April 2011 opening date for this, their sixth restaurant.

Calendar

HDLM: 8:00, November 3, 2010, Town Hall Arts Center

Insights

Commentary on business, the economy and innovative practices

The B/IA department tracks a number of new tools developing on the web in order to help Littleton businesses. Here are two new ones that might be of interest. **Groupon** sends out a daily e-mail to more than 17 million subscribers in over 230 cities to offer group discounts on everything from pastries and spa treatments to pilot lessons and restaurant meals. If enough people take the offer and pay in advance, the deal is activated and Groupon splits the resulting revenue 50-50 with the merchants. **OpenTable** has a reservation-management system in more than 14,000 restaurants which lease computers for \$600 plus \$199 monthly subscription. It seats about 4 million diners each month. Restaurants pay OpenTable up to \$1 per head; diners make reservations for free. The company has the email addresses of tens of millions of restaurant customers.

*The mission of the Business/Industry Affairs department is to grow our economy by helping Littleton entrepreneurs be competitive. Call B/IA at 303.795.3749 if we can help.
--- Christian Gibbons, Director (cgibbons@littletongov.org).*

Past issues of the Littleton Economic Notes are on the City of Littleton website at
<http://www.littletongov.org/bia/econnotes/default.asp>