 Owners Michael and Mick Major held a ribbon cutting for EVOO Marketplace (2660 W. Main St.) amid steel containers of “the finest and freshest ultra-premium extra-virgin oil” and myriad bottles of Balsamic vinegar (including flavors such as Blueberry, Fig, Peach, Cinnamon-Pear, Black Cherry just to name a few). The family-owned store is a “tasting bar” where customers can taste before they buy and learn which items go with what food. Gourmet pastas, sauces, fine olives and other items are being added as well. Mick is also the owner of the EVOO Marketplace in Denver. 720.328.4783; www.evoomarketplace.com

Seasons celebrated its long awaited return to the downtown with a ribbon cutting in its new home in the renovated space at 2749 W. Main St. right next door to its previous location. Owner Danica Goldie bought the store from her mom a few years ago and has continued to follow in her footsteps of filling it to the rafters with seasonal décor, gifts and home accessories throughout the year. 303.730.7339; www.seasonslittleton.com

David Day celebrated the grand opening of the new Alamo Antiques and Gallery at 2606 S. Alamo Ave, with an open house and ribbon cutting. Myriad spaces throughout the shop showcase a wide variety of vintage items, including furniture and jewelry, along with original art and photography. More than thirteen vendors and artists guarantee something for just about anyone. 303.210.3665

The new bicycle store, Pedal, has officially opened in the Riverside Downs Shopping Center at 2640 W. Belleview Ave. in the space formerly used by Littleton Cyclery. Owners Bill Nagel and Andy Christenson offer just about anything a cyclist could want or need including tune-ups and a variety of accessories. The store is open seven days a week and has announced that Denver 38 Racing will be hosting group rides out of its space. 303.7968.5033; http://pedalonline.com
Designer and artist Gina Heumann recently turned her love of helping friends and family decorate their children’s rooms with creative flair into a business she has named Madland’s Playhouse. She is known for her design and execution of whimsical wall murals and artwork (examples are on her website), which she is now offering to businesses and clients throughout the metro area. In addition, Gina teaches Interior Design at the Arapahoe Community College School of Art and Design and Lighting Design at Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design. 303.877.9237; www.madlandsplayhouse.com

Julie Gibson and Janine Christensen finally found the time to hold a ribbon cutting and celebration for Room Design on a Dime Consignment Home Furnishings (209 W. Littleton Blvd.), although a new truckload of gently used furniture and decorative items was being unloaded as the camera flashed. The interior designers, who have also created an area in the store for customers in need of ideas, wallpaper, blinds, material, etc., also provide estate sale services. 720.283.4482; www.roomdesignonadime.com

Novus Biologics has announced that it has been chosen as a preferred vendor for the University of Washington. Novus’ extensive product line of mono-clonal anti-bodies will soon be added to the UW online ordering system, and all UW researchers will now receive 5% off any order. 303.730.1950; www.novusbio.com

Are you curious about how your business can use Google+ to get customers talking to you, to help your customers feel they’re being treated in a special way or to get specialized offers to selected customers? Register for the Business/Industry Affairs Brown Bag Seminar (drinks will be provided) on February 21 from 11:30 to 12:30 at the City Center to learn answers to these questions. To RSVP, please contact Jo Anne Ricca at 303.795.3749 or at jricca@littletongov.org.

The Aspen Grove Shopping Center is raising money for the Humane Society of the South Platte Valley through the following Facebook promotion: “Kitties and canines need Valentines too……Show your LOVE by helping Aspen Grove to increase our 'LIKES' now through Valentines Day and for each additional 'LIKE' over and above 1,015, we will donate a dollar to the Humane Society of the South Platte Valley up to $1,000 or 1,000 additional 'likes.' Please spread the word!”

The Colorado Center for the Blind has bought the Bow Mar Apartments at 5871-5873 S. Lowell Blvd. for student use. The two-story, 19,200 sq. ft. multifamily building will be used as subsidized housing for the blind and is on a major bus route.

Arapahoe Community College has promoted Michael McManus from Interim Director of Academic Advising to Director of Advising and Retention.

Unicircuit (8192 SouthPark Lane) has submitted an application to construct an 8,600 sq. ft. addition to the north side of the existing building to expand the manufacturing enterprise.
HealthSouth Corporation has announced plans to begin construction on a new 49,500 sq. ft. inpatient rehabilitation hospital on 11 acres of land it purchased at 1001 W. Mineral Ave. Construction is scheduled to begin the second quarter of this year with plans for the hospital to be operational by the third quarter of 2013.

Calendar

HDLM: Wednesday, Feb. 1, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall Arts Center
B/IA Brown Bag Seminar: Tuesday, Feb. 21, 11:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m., City Center

Insights

Commentary on business, the economy and innovative practices

The BIA has assembled some of the best marketing tools in the nation to help both local retailers and B2B companies in town. If you can give us the profile of who you are looking for, we can find them. If the profile is demographic (age, sex, income), we know where they live. If the profile is lifestyle (boom burbs, cozy and comfortable, trendsetters), we know where they live. If the customer is industrial (all ball bearing manufacturers in 7 western states with sales of $10 million or more and a growth rate of 7%), we know where they are. If you need help moving your website up in the Google listings or would like to advertise on Google Adwords, we can help with that. If you would like to know the number of people who have searched for “gifts” or “ball bearings” or “Littleton restaurants” in the past month on Google, we can tell you. All the services are free to registered businesses within the City of Littleton—you have already paid for them with your taxes. Consider our assistance prepaid and give Jo Anne a call to set up an appointment at 303.795.3749.

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

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