Littleton Economic Notes
December 2014
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Littleton Businesses

Westword’s Café Society section recently featured the Breckenridge Brewery, which is due to open in Littleton at 6775 South Santa Fe Drive this coming April. In celebration of the impending completion of the facility, the brewery announced the release of its first large-scale barrel-aged beer, 72 Imperial, this month. When completed, not only will visitors find a 100 barrel brewery with a brewhouse, sixteen 400-barrel fermentation tanks and a 76,000 square foot warehouse and cellar, but also an 8,000 square foot Farmhouse restaurant, a stage and two beer gardens. www.brecbrew.com/

Julie Hutchison’s beauty shop, J. Lyn and Friends A Salon (2694 W. Alamo Ave.), was recently featured in the YourHub section of the Denver Post. With the vibe set to happy and friendly within its walls (private parking for clients…), Julie has brought in professionals who love what they do and are great at it (master colorists, certified master pedicurist and CND shellac master, special stylists for curly hair, etc.), and every effort is made to link each client to the stylist who fits them best from the beginning. In addition, the friendly atmosphere of the salon has led to monthly fun events such as “curls night out” and private events such as birthday parties, bridal parties, etc. 303.795-0123; jlynandfriends.com

Brilliant Sky Toys & Books recently moved from the Southglenn Mall to the Aspen Grove Shopping Center (7301 S. Santa Fe Dr.). The store features a large selection of toys, games, puzzles and books for children 12 and under in a great, child-friendly environment. The array of items (educational, interactive, specialty, and building toys; science kits, dolls, kites, games, puzzles and more) promote healthy development in children providing a gateway to physical,
emotional and cognitive development...and are fun to boot! The store also carries teaching supplies. Owner and former lawyer, Gabriela Stear, began a new career after searching for items a few years back that would improve educational and developmental skills based on experiences with her twins who were born prematurely. In addition to many fun, family friendly items in her store, she also offers connection with a toy expert for shoppers who need additional ideas or gifts. 720-583-0081; toystoresdenver.com

Golden Peak Yoga (2120 W Littleton Blvd.) owner Brenda Stokes is inviting the Littleton community to celebrate the New Year at her studio’s Grand Opening Events January 16-18. Her unique studio supports multiple forms of Yoga practice including Kundalini, Hatha, Vinyasa, and Restorative, all of which can help relieve depression, anxiety and sleep disorders. She also integrates other healing practices such as Naad Yoga of music and sound current, Meditation, Reiki, and Gong therapy. The studio is designed for working with a diverse group of students in a safe space in a semi-private location where people can unravel from today’s daily struggles and stresses. 303.385.0614; www.GoldenPeakYoga.com

November 15th marked the opening of Locavore Beer Works in the Shoppes at Columbine Shopping Center (5950 S. Platte Canyon Rd.). Owners Jason Reinhardt (scientist) and Andy Nelson (airline pilot) are both award-winning home brewers with a strong sense of community who work hard to use and support local vendors and businesses whenever possible. With a goal of becoming a neighborhood brewery where people return again and again, they provide a relaxed atmosphere and some 11 to 16 beers on tap such as Sugar Magnolia Belgian-Style Wit Bier, Heisenbeerg Green Chile Pale Ale, Lil’ Dirty Blonde and Block’s Bounty Milk. While Locavore does not serve food, Rocky Mountain Catering next door has designed a menu just for the brewery’s customers and is happy to deliver. 720-476-4419; www.locavorebeerworks.com

The YourHub section of the Denver Post recently featured Kerrean O’Conner, the only store in the Denver Metro area that supplies Irish and Celtic goods. Named for its owner, it opened in downtown Littleton in 2004 at 2595 W. Alamo Ave. after Kerrean ran out of space in her basement. She and co-owner Heather Benedict offer a wide variety of authentic items that range from kilts and shamrocks to fine-made jewelry, collectibles of all types (including licensed Guinness merchandise), sweaters, glasses, Belleek china, Galway crystal, and Barry’s tea The store also rents out kilts and other items for special occasions. 303-794-6388; http://kerrean.com/
It’s been an honor working with so many of you this year on everything from digital marketing to recruiting for key positions to finding the ideal business property. As you contemplate the year’s triumphs and trials and integrate those lessons learned into plans for the New Year, we’d like to leave you with a few inspirational thoughts from Chris Hadfield, the Rock Star Canadian Space Station Astronaut who thrilled the world with his videos from space.

- On the value of understanding ‘why’: "We’re all a cumulative product of the things we’ve been exposed to in life," he says. "Don’t just let yourself float through and not reap anything from what’s going on around you. Try to understand why. If you have a question, then get the answer. And once you have that answer go on to the next thing and slowly try to accumulate a better understanding of everything around you."

- On the importance of passion: "There are no wishy-washy astronauts. You don’t get up there by being uncaring and blasé. And whatever gave you the sense of tenacity and purpose to get that far in life is absolutely reaffirmed and deepened by the experience itself."

- On three competencies for success: “Get competent, take care of your body, be a decision-maker”

As 2014 draws to a close, we hope you have much to celebrate both personally and professionally. We wish you a truly stellar 2015.