



Littleton Economic Notes July 2012

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Littleton Businesses

After months of renovation that included construction of a pool inside an existing building, A-1 Scuba & Travel Aquatics Center has moved into its new home at 1603 W. Belleview Ave. Scott and Lynn Taylor and their staff offer just about anything to do with scuba, including training for all ages, equipment, service & repairs, rentals, programs for the disabled, children's parties, travel planning and online shopping. And, the facility is open seven days a week. 303.789.2450; 800.783.7282; <http://a1scuba.com>

JaJa Bistro (5641 S. Nevada St.) was featured in a recent *Denver Post* "YourHub" section. Co-owner and executive chef Stephan Poullier provides a range of authentic French country dishes, with many of the recipes coming from the family restaurant in France where he grew up. All items are made fresh in house, and the evening menu is flexible to accommodate additional seasonal offerings. The award-winning restaurant is open for lunch and dinner Tuesday through Saturday and for brunch on Sundays. 303.798.5389; <http://jajabistro.com>

Hussain Sola recently finished the remodel of his Baskin Robbins store at 91 W. Mineral Ave. in the Southbridge Plaza Shopping Center and held a grand reopening party and ribbon cutting for his customers. As part of the celebration, Sola also presented a donation check to the Littleton Adventist Hospital. 303.797.1121

A ribbon cutting was recently held for Jake's Brew Bar, which features craft beers, great coffee and free WiFi. Located at 2540 W. Main St., the bar harbors a split personality serving as a great coffee shop with a variety of pastries, burritos, quiches, etc. until mid-afternoon when it becomes a beer-sausage-pretzel-cheese-and-other-appetizers local bar. Twenty tap lines with rotating offerings and more than fifteen bottled beers include both local and "beers that span the liquid globe." Owners Jayne Barth and Vanessa Menke also own nearby Kate's Wine Bar on S. Nevada St. 303.996.1002

Marcel Venter recently moved his business, Spur, into the newly renovated space at 5624 S. Prince St. The Spur team provides a collaborative approach to branding and focuses on providing "support for brands that value strong messaging and striking aesthetics." 303.736.2512; studio@hellospur.com

Next Ascent Outdoor and Sport, a go-to place for many outdoor sport online shoppers, now has a shop in Littleton at 1449 W. Littleton Blvd. where shoppers can now see items and learn how they work or how they are assembled before making a purchase. Owner Eric Graham stocks new, gently used and consignment items in the space and is always looking for popular items in good condition to resell. The shop is currently open from 11:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. 877.411.6883; nextascentoutdoorandsport.com

Michelle Parks recently consolidated Sweet Beginnings and Sweet Beginnings Family Wellness Center into one building with a move to 5661 S. Curtice St. The maternity boutique and lactation center is a pregnancy, breastfeeding support, and parenting resource center as well as a retail boutique that caters to natural family living. Michelle carries a wide range of hard to find items as well as the latest new items to come to market. 303.317.5795; www.oursweetbeginnings.com

Insights

Commentary on business, the economy and innovative practices

Since the *Colorado Companies to Watch* program (CCTW) began four years ago, three Littleton businesses – Novus Biologicals, Transform Software & Services and Vivax Pro Painting have been recognized as winners and one company – Redland Engineering - was selected as a finalist.

Only privately-owned businesses headquartered in Colorado with 6-99 employees and \$750,000-\$50,000,000 in revenue are considered for the award and only fifty businesses within the state are selected each year. Considering that over 32,000 Colorado companies meet the criteria required for award eligibility, it's pretty remarkable that three CCTW winners and a finalist come from within Littleton's city limits.

Littleton's economic development team was instrumental in bringing the CCTW program to Colorado and continues to nominate Littleton businesses for the award because of the important role these "second-stage" companies play in the city's economy and in the words of Ken Lund, executive director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, are "a significant driver of job growth". Specifically, second-stage businesses account for nearly 39 percent of the state's economy in terms of sales and are responsible for 34 percent of all the jobs created.

Check out this short [video](#) shown at the *Colorado Companies to Watch* awards dinner last month for additional impressive facts about CCTW award winners.

You can find nominating and other program information on the [Colorado Companies to Watch website](#) or contact Recca Larson (303-795-3758; rlarson@littletongov.org) to speak to someone directly about the program.

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.

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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