



Littleton Economic Notes February 2012

www.littletongov.org

Littleton Businesses

Schomp Automotive has won the Outstanding Corporate Growth Award from the Association for Corporate Growth and was recognized in the February issue of *coloradobiz* magazine as one of the **Top 50 Family-Owned Companies** in the state. Located at 5700 S. Broadway, it is celebrating 70 years in the automotive industry and its fourth generation of family leadership since Aaron Wallace, eldest child of parents Lisa Schomp and longtime General Manager Mark Wallace, became General Manager of the company in 2011. 303.798.1500; www.schomp.com

Pat Shea celebrated the opening of Vacation Junkies at 5789 S. Curtice St. with a Ribbon Cutting at the company's grand opening party. The business sells vacation club memberships and discount cards for more than 7,000 resort properties all over the world, has thousands of cruise itineraries and has access to discounted activities, tours and excursions. In addition, it features personalized concierge service. 303.927.7642; www.vacationjunkies.org

A ribbon cutting at The Fat Frog Café (2530 W. Main St.) officially marked its transformation from a bar into a welcoming family-friendly spot for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Totally remodeled, Paul and Kathy Laird's place is already gaining a reputation for its variety of crepes—from breakfast fare to dessert—the menu also features a wide selection of homemade soups, salads and sandwiches. 303.794.8507

City Bark, Too has opened at 6235 S. Santa Fe Dr. This is the fourth and smallest of Nicole Delmoro's full-service shops and provides doggie day care, with a mid-day snack and a nap in a private kennel; overnight boarding; and bath and brush services. In addition, the facility has live streaming 24-7 doggie cams that monitor the dogs at all times and allows any owner to see what their dog is up to, a swimming pool, pet supplies and lots of individual attention. 303.783.9401; http://citybark.com/littleton_services.htm

Gail Nadeau recently had a grand opening party with ribbon cutting for her new shop, Not 2 Shabby, in the Columbine Valley Shopping Center at 3625 W. Bowles Ave. Living up to its name, the shabby chic/vintage décor and gift shop was aglitter with a grand assortment of practical, fun, glamorous collectibles, decorative items, furniture and one-of-a-kind finds throughout the store. 720.283.4238

A ribbon cutting and party celebrated the opening of the Western Slope Driving Institute in the Shoppes at Columbine Shopping Center (5950 S. Platte Canyon Rd.). After years of success in Grand Junction and Montrose, Mike and Doreen Rossi decided to expand and bring their theory of not just teaching clients how to drive and pass the test, but how to be a wise driver as well, to the Denver Metro area. Both onsite and online classes are available, and the Institute is authorized by the Colorado DMV to administer the driving road test required to qualify for a Colorado driver's license. 720.283.7483; www.wsdrivinginstitute.com

CarMax plans to open in Littleton at 5850 S. Broadway by the end of 2012 after a few modifications to the property. These include demolition of the existing building, construction of a 27,000 sq. ft. facility and extensive landscaping. The car "retailer" (as it likes to be known for its no-haggle prices) will carry 250 to 500 used cars, most between one and six years old with fewer than 60,000 miles. Fifty to seventy-five jobs are expected to be filled at this location.

Other

The City of Littleton Green Team is sponsoring "Going Green for Fido and Fluffy," an electronics recycling event that will benefit the Humane Society of the South Platte Valley (HSSPV) March 1 through April 20 at recycling collection centers conveniently located around the city. All proceeds from the donated items will go to the HSSPV. This is a great way to rid your space of technological clutter and help a worthy cause at the same time. For a list of items that will be accepted at NO COST and complete information, go to <http://www.littletongov.org/news/releases/2012/goingGreenFluffy.asp>

Calendar

HDLM: Wednesday, March 7, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall Arts Center

Insights

Commentary on business, the economy and innovative practices

As the economy slowly heals, we are seeing the first signs of possible development projects again. Developers are making inquiries, picking up copies of planned developments and zoning codes and asking preliminary questions about water and sewer. It's certainly not boom times but the three year Great Recession appears to be over. The City of Littleton survived relatively unscathed. While other Colorado communities were turning off street lights, laying off policemen and letting their parks go brown, Littleton's big reserves and conservative budgeting got us through tough times without any significant impact on public services.

*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>

Become a fan of B/IA on Facebook www.bit.ly/biafacebook

Follow B/IA on Twitter: www.twitter.com/LittletonBIA