



## Littleton Economic Notes August 2011

[www.littletongov.org](http://www.littletongov.org)

### Littleton Businesses

**Littleton's Woodlawn Floral** was awarded the **Champion of Free Enterprise Award** from Arapahoe Sales Professionals International. Marsha Jones was recognized for her shop's support of local organizations (Options High School, Alternative Pregnancy Centers, Denver Street School) in her quest to support and encourage youth as they face today's challenges. The shop is located at 1799 W. Littleton Blvd. 303.794.0267; [www.littletonwoodlawnfloral.com](http://www.littletonwoodlawnfloral.com)

*The Denver Post* featured **Heather Schott's Precision Dance studio** in its "YourHub" section in July. Heather teaches afternoon and evening classes for children and adults that range from ballet to hip-hop and include tap, jazz, lyrical, and Mexican. The studio is located at 8151 SouthPark Lane in the SouthPark Physical Therapy building. 720.496.9920; [www.precisiondance.webs.com](http://www.precisiondance.webs.com)

**The Alta Aspen Grove apartments** have become the **first market-rate apartment community in Colorado** of stick-frame construction to be certified under LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) for Homes. A ceremony to present the LEED silver certification to Wood Partners by the U.S. Green Building Council will take place Aug. 18 at the community's clubhouse, 7317 S. Platte River Pkwy. 877.262.2598; <http://altaaspengrove.reachlocal.net/alta-aspen-grove>

**Town Hall Arts Center (2450 W. Main St)** earned a **grant of \$10,000 from Colorado Creative Industries and the National Endowment for the Arts**. The grant is for general operating support for THAC's 2011-12 30th Anniversary Season, including special programming for children, summer performance camps, fall and spring sessions of Actors' Playground classes and "Arts on the Move," a selection of participation plays and workshops designed for outreach to schools and other venues. Nancy Stalf is Executive Director of the center. 303.794-2787; [www.townhallartscenter.com](http://www.townhallartscenter.com)

**JazzCar Wash & Detail Center** was spotlighted by the “YourHub” section of the *Denver Post* in August. Keith Taylor opened the business at 6095 S. Santa Fe Dr. three and a half years ago and has won Best of the Best awards in both the car wash and detailing categories for each of those years from local newspapers. His four waiting areas offer current newspapers and magazines along with complimentary coffee, water and Wi-Fi. And, complimentary shuttle service and loaner car are available for detail customers. In addition, there is a gift store with a huge range of items. 303.738.8885; [www.jazzcarwash.com](http://www.jazzcarwash.com)

**Shannon Dunagan is the new owner of Inspirations Dance Studio at 250 E Dry Creek Rd #105.** Serving adults as well as children, Shannon provides lessons in ballet, tap, jazz, lyrical, hip hop, tumbling, poms, and musical theater from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday. She also offers dance birthday parties and will customize them to individual needs. 720.283.8000; [www.inspirationsdanceco.com](http://www.inspirationsdanceco.com)

**The Littleton Café opened last month in the iconic “IHOP” building at 1409 W. Littleton Blvd.** Open seven days a week, Dave and Becky Allen, Robert Ziegler and Eileen Fisk start serving breakfast from their extensive menu at 6:00 a.m. and continue till 3:00 p.m. when they close. Mexican and American food (including sandwiches) compete for lunch selection. The group is planning to add evening hours Thursday-Saturday in the near future. 720.283.2233; [littletoncafe@hotmail.com](mailto:littletoncafe@hotmail.com)

**A ribbon cutting celebration was recently held for the new Colorado Home Realty office at 2509 W. Main St.** With the goal of being inspirational and rewarding for both agents and clients, the company strives to improve and implement state of the art tools and support services for its agents so they can provide their customers an advantage when searching for the right property. Daniel Pearson is the Managing Broker for the Littleton office. (720) 981-4109; [www.coloradohomerealty.com](http://www.coloradohomerealty.com)

#### **OPENING SOON**

**Relish It. Labor Day Week.** Serving hot dogs, burgers, malts, fries. Bar. Shops at Riverbend, 5350 S. Santa Fe Dr.

**Baty Music. Labor Day Week.** Guitar/music educator; private lessons. 5564 S. Prince St. #8

**India’s Best. Middle of September.** Serving authentic food from India. Woodlawn Shopping Center, 1500 W. Littleton Blvd.

#### **Other**

**Back by popular demand, a second *Mobile Marketing Seminar* is being offered by the B/IA department** on Wednesday, September 14 from 8:30 to 9:30 in the morning. This is a multi-media, interactive presentation. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Jo Anne Ricca at [jricca@littletongov.org](mailto:jricca@littletongov.org) or call 303.773.3079.

**Free grant funds are available from the State of Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade** for the purpose of training employees. An Open House at Arapahoe Community College Parker Campus on August 31 will explain how to apply for these funds. To learn more or to RSVP, call 303.734.3701 or email [workforce@arapahoe.edu](mailto:workforce@arapahoe.edu). To view the grant application, go to <http://arapahoe.edu/workforce-training-2> and select Colorado Training Grants.

**Bloomberg BusinessWeek chose the City of Littleton as its 2011 Best Place to raise children in Colorado.** Factors in the choice included the quality of the Littleton school system, access to Denver via light rail, the downtown historic district and the museum. In addition, the publication noted that the 659 acre South Platte Park, one of the largest parks in the United States, is nestled within the city. <http://images.businessweek.com/slideshows/20101214/the-best-places-to-raise-your-kids-2011/slides/7>

## Calendar

*HDLM: Sept. 7, 8:00 a.m., Town Hall Arts Center*

*BIA Mobile Marketing Seminar: Sept. 14, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., City Center, RSVP to [jricca@littletongov.org](mailto:jricca@littletongov.org) or call 303.795.3749*

## Insights

### Commentary on business, the economy and innovative practices

Although the Great Recession drags drearily on, Littleton continues to do well relative to the rest of the nation. Our unemployment rate consistently runs 2% lower than the national level bouncing around in the 7% range. Home foreclosure rates are lower than Arapahoe County and the State of Colorado. Sales tax receipts to the city have stabilized and expense control measures instituted. We attend several business ribbon cuttings a month and perhaps most amazing is the fact that there are businesses in town like ADA-ES, Novus Biologicals, Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Vivax Pro-Painting and Long Building Technologies that have continued to hire and expand right through the heart of the recession. City policies like Economic Gardening, infrastructure investments and sound community development have paid off in spades for our community.

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*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](mailto: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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