

Littleton Economic Notes

January 2013

www.littletongov.org

Littleton Businesses

The YourHub section of the *Denver Post* recently spotlighted The Chocolate Therapist at 2560 W. Main St., which Julie Pech opened in 2008. As her vision and popularity expanded to classes, television, books, conferences and any and all other things chocolate, Julie decided to franchise her operation and welcomed new owners Jeff and Libby Nordeen to Littleton as her first franchisees. Their handcrafted chocolates are made of all-natural, preservative- and gluten-free ingredients right in the store, which also features a range of coffee drinks and a plethora of other chocolate-related items. 303.795.7913; <http://www.thechocolatetherapist.com>

March 25th is the date set for the Grand Opening of the Alamo Drafthouse, located in the Aspen Grove Shopping Center at 7301 S. Santa Fe. The 7-screen theatre has combined seating for more than 900 moviegoers. Along with state-of-the-art digital projection and sound, each auditorium offers full bar and restaurant service before and during the film. Chairs have attached tables, and large aisles allow for the service without disruption of the movie viewing experience. The theater/restaurant will show first-run and independent films along with specialty repertory film programming and events. All seating is assigned and can be reserved at the time of purchase online or at the box office.

<http://drafthouse.com/denver/littleton>

Office Depot has opened a store in the Riverside Downs Shopping Center (2850 W. Belleview Ave.) next to 24-Hour Fitness. The small format store stocks the majority of what the larger format stores do but in smaller quantities. If there are items that a business needs on an ongoing basis, Manager Scottie Collins is happy to increase the quantity he stocks for their convenience. In addition, he can have any Office Depot item that is not available in his store delivered to customers in as little as a day's time at no charge for delivery. 303.730.1178

A Bimbo Bakeries Outlet is scheduled to open February 10 in the Woodlawn Shopping Center (1500 W. Littleton Blvd.). Bimbo is the largest bakery company in the USA having

acquired a range of well-known companies over the years such as OroWheat bread and buns, Entenmann's sweet baked goods, Thomas' English muffins and bagels -and most recently- Sara Lee. The company operates more than 70 bakeries in the United States, employs 27,000 plus associates and has more than 13,000 sales routes. Store Manager Dawn Calbert will carry a variety of their items at this location. <http://bimbobakeriesusa.com>

After months of planning and construction, CarMax has opened in its beautiful new facility at 5850 S. Broadway. One of only three stores in the state, it has a no-haggle pricing policy that makes buying and selling a pleasant experience for most everyone. Each store has between 250 and 500 previously owned cars on site. Computer screens showcase available cars both on the lot, in other locations in Colorado and across the United States. In addition, detailed reports are provided for each car. Edward Dunn is the General Manager at this location. 303.390.3161

Other

\$50,000 has been budgeted for a 2013 Revitalization Incentive Grant Program intended to revitalize the appearance of businesses located in buildings constructed prior to 2000 with matching funds available for up to \$10,000 per project. The goal of the program is to leverage private money to make affordable and creative improvements to older business properties. An application is required and additional information is available at <http://www.littletongov.org/index.aspx?page=242>

The Economic Development Division will be hosting a complimentary Lunch & Learn seminar for City of Littleton businesses entitled "What You Need to Know About Accessing Capital" on April 18 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Tim Thomas, an expert on small business financing and currently senior business development officer and commercial lender for Centennial Lending, a Credit Union Service Organization serving Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska. Registration is required. [Register here](#)

Calendar

HDLM: Wednesday, Feb. 6, 8:00a.m. Town Hall Arts Center

Lunch & Learn Seminar on Accessing Capital: April 18, 11:30-12:30

Insights



Infographic source: <http://www.pleasfund.us>

Most of you have probably heard about the “Jumpstart Our Business Startups,” or JOBS Act, that was passed by Congress last spring. What you may not know is that this month the SEC will be setting the rules for allowing businesses to raise funds online from non-accredited investors. Non-accredited investors are individual investors with a net worth of less than \$1 million (including spouse) who have earned less than \$200,000 annually (\$300,000 w/spouse) in the last two years.

Soliciting funds online is commonly known as “crowdfunding,” and as you can see from the map above, it is becoming a sensation worldwide. Driven in part by the explosion of vibrant social-networking media, crowdfunding is expected to fundamentally alter the allocation of capital. We are following this phenomenon closely and are making arrangements to host an expert in the field this year...stay tuned for details.

Recca Larson, Economic Intelligence Analyst, Economic Development Division

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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Littleton, CO 80120
US

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