

## What's Inside

All meetings, programs, and events listed in this issue are subject to change or cancellation depending on health and safety considerations.



President Biden recognizes Littleton Police Officer (page 4)



Culvert falls on Jackass Hill Road (page 6)



Visit Littleton website launches (page 3)

## Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium Celebrates 10th Year

The City of Littleton and Audi Denver announce the return of the Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium Saturday, August 5 in Downtown Littleton. The event will be an exciting day for racers and spectators alike with a closed six-corner circuit where fields of up to 120 riders will average 28 mph with top speeds more than 40 mph.

"The Criterium will draw people from across the region for a race that has become the premier single-day cycling event in Colorado," said Littleton Mayor Kyle Schlachter. "We look forward to celebrating with the community the 10th anniversary of racing, live music, and family fun."

The start and finish line will be near Town Hall Arts Center at 2450 West Main Street. Racing will commence at 3 p.m. The family Cruiser Ride will start at 5:25 p.m., the kids' Strider Obstacle Course will be open from 4 to 8 p.m., and live music from *That 80s Band* on the main stage will go from 7 to 10 p.m. The highlight of the day will be the professional races, with women's races starting at 7:45 p.m. and the men at 9 p.m. where the nation's best will battle for \$15,000 in prize money.

"Criterium racing is the cycling equivalent of NASCAR," said Race Director Chip Brunk. "Racers are in large groups called a peloton and due to the closed downtown circuit, spectators are able to get in close and enjoy the excitement."



The Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium is sanctioned by USA Cycling and part of the American Criterium Cup, a 10-race series that elevates the stature of criterium racing in the United States.

All cars will need to be off the streets on the race course beginning at 10 a.m. August 5. Residents and visitors can park at the Littleton Center, 2255 West Berry Avenue, or at Arapahoe Community College. Traffic will be significantly impacted by the detours.

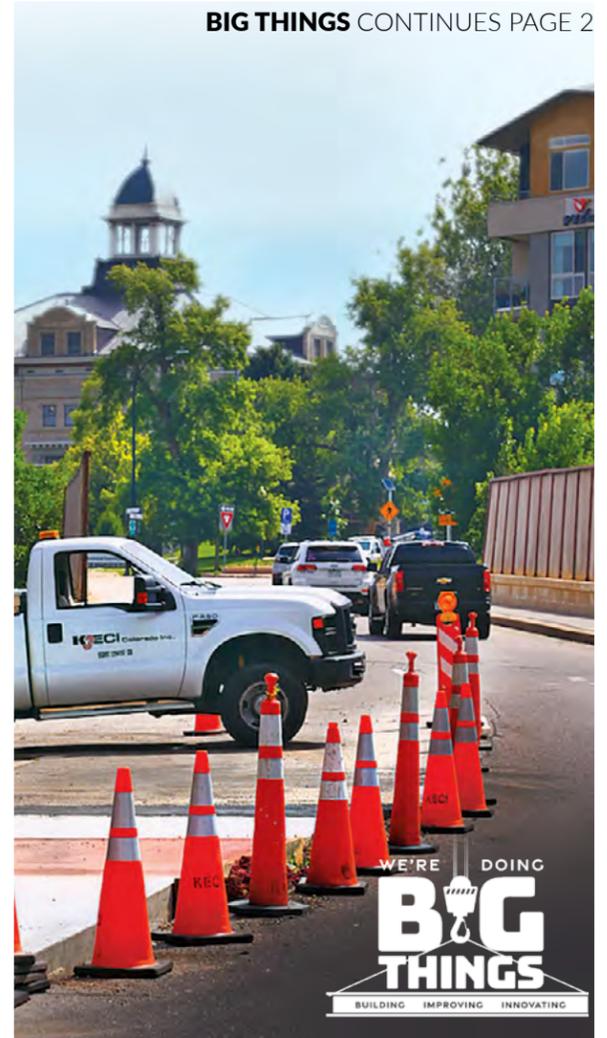


Visit [LittletonCrit.com](http://LittletonCrit.com) for more information.

## Big Things: Public Works Making Progress City-Wide

As summer ramps up, so too has the city's work on construction and infrastructure improvements. As of early July, the public works department is managing dozens of

**BIG THINGS** CONTINUES PAGE 2



WE'RE DOING  
**BIG THINGS**  
BUILDING IMPROVING INNOVATING

## Three City Council Seats Up for Election in November

Three of Littleton's seven seats on city council will be up for election this November – in District II, the city's northeast quadrant; in District IV, the city's southwest quadrant; and one At-Large, covering the entire city.

Residents interested in running must be a citizen of the United States, at least 21 years old, and a registered voter in the city for at least 12 consecutive months prior to the election. Council members may not hold other elected public office or be a paid employee of the city or another municipality.

Nomination petitions to become a city council candidate will be available at the city clerk's office at the Littleton Center beginning at 8 a.m. Tuesday, August 8. Nominations must be signed by a minimum of 50 qualified registered voters, and petitions are due no later than Monday, August 28.

Littleton's mayor is paid \$1,350 per month, the mayor pro tem is paid \$1,225, and city council members are paid \$1,100 per month. Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m., and study sessions are held on second and fourth Tuesdays as needed.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 7. For more information, search "elections" at [LittletonCO.gov](http://LittletonCO.gov), or contact the city clerk's office at 303-795-3780 or [COLCityClerk@littletongov.org](mailto:COLCityClerk@littletongov.org).

City offices will be closed  
**Monday, September 4**  
in recognition of the Labor Day holiday.

## Emerald Ash Borer Arrives in Littleton

Arapahoe County's first case of emerald ash borer (EAB) has been identified in northeast Littleton. The infestations of the invasive wood-boring insect are fatal to ash trees, which make up roughly 15% of Littleton's tree canopy. EAB was first discovered on Colorado's Front Range in 2013.

The larval stage of EAB feeds under the bark of trees, cutting off the flow of water and nutrients. Infested trees become structurally unsound and gradually die within a few years.

Determining the presence of EAB is often difficult. Symptoms include sparse leaves or branches in the upper canopy, vertical splits in bark with S-shaped galleries beneath, smaller leaves at branch tips, D-shaped exit holes on branches, and shoots growing from the main trunk or near the center of the tree. It is important to note that there are a variety of boring insects that produce exit holes in ash trees. These other pests (lilac ash borer, long horned beetle, etc.) leave a circular exit hole and are overall less detrimental.

Residents can take steps to protect healthy ash trees, but certain options such as insecticide treatments depend on the size and health of each tree. While residents can apply their own insecticides, those available to licensed arborists are far more effective.

Because emerald ash borer kills trees over a period of several years, trees that are not candidates for insecticide treatments will eventually need to be removed. Residents should follow guidelines for properly disposing of any infested wood.



For more information about EAB as well as a list of licensed arborists, search "emerald ash borer" at [LittletonCO.gov](http://LittletonCO.gov).

Complete the City of Littleton's forestry survey to help identify local forestry needs and assist the city in planning and establishing long-term forestry goals. Search "forestry survey" at [LittletonCO.gov](http://LittletonCO.gov).

## Dennis Quinn Begins as New Bemis Public Library Director

Following a nationwide search, Littleton City Manager Jim Becklenberg selected Dennis Quinn to become the new director of the Bemis Public Library. Most recently, Quinn served as the Director of Library Services for the City of Coppell, Texas, where he managed a team of 25 employees with a \$2 million annual budget. In his 10 years of public library leadership, Quinn led his team in raising the bar for library operations and performance by developing high-quality programming and services, including award-winning programs such as "Meet Your Neighbor," a panel discussion series aimed at bridging gaps of understanding in the community.



"Dennis' experience in strategic planning, policy development, budget administration, facility planning, project management, and developing high-functioning teams make him the ideal person to lead one of Littleton's most valued institutions," Becklenberg said. "I also look forward to him being a valued contributor to our Leadership Team."

Quinn earned a master's degree in Library and Information Science, and a bachelor's degree in Music History and Literature from the University of North Texas. "The work of libraries is ultimately about connecting people to ideas, experiences, resources, and each other," Quinn said. "Now more than ever, this work is vital to building strong, vibrant, and inclusive communities. The talented and creative staff at the Bemis Library have demonstrated this by creating welcoming spaces for people of all walks of life to explore and learn together, and by bridging gaps of accessibility for our most vulnerable community members. I look forward to working with the library team and our many partners throughout the community as we write the next chapter of the library's history together and help make the Littleton of tomorrow even brighter than it is today."

## Online Self-Service Available for Omnibus

Riders will soon be able to use an online scheduling service for Littleton's Omnibus, which provides transportation to seniors and people with disabilities. The service has been operated by Via Colorado since 2021.

The appointment-based ride service is available to Littleton residents Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Riders can arrange for transportation anywhere within the City of Littleton, as well as nearby locations outside the city limits including Kaiser Permanente in Centennial or the Arapahoe County Public Health Department in Englewood. The Omnibus can also pick up and deliver pre-paid grocery orders within the city limits.



The new self-service portal will allow scheduling up to seven days in advance and will provide real-time updates, reducing the potential for scheduling errors. Scheduling by phone will remain available.

The self-service portal can be found at [ViaColorado.org](http://ViaColorado.org). Visit the website to register or contact Via's Mobility Specialists at 303-444-3043.

## BIG THINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

projects – ranging from street repaving and sealing to major water and sewer line replacements. Here is a look at some of the recent progress.

### The first of three raised pedestrian crossings in downtown opens to the public



Pedestrian safety is a high priority for the city, which is why it is undertaking improvements at three high-use crossing locations downtown and constructing three raised pedestrian crossings.

"These raised pedestrian crossings will enhance safety by slowing down traffic and improving pedestrian visibility for drivers," said Aaron Heumann, Littleton's transportation engineering manager. "The crossings will also include flashing beacons to make them more visible to drivers."

The first raised crosswalk on Main Street, north of Bega Park, is now complete. The project was finished two times faster than initially anticipated thanks to the full closure of Main Street – and the city is grateful to residents and visitors for their patience during this time.

From now through October, raised pedestrian crossings will be built on Alamo Avenue at Bega Park and Prince Street at Little's Creek Trail (right next to the RTD Littleton/Downtown Station).

### Twenty-five miles of roads getting replaced, repaved, and/or protected



The city will work on 25 lane-miles of concrete replacement this summer and fall, including patching roadways and applying slurry seal. Slurry seal is a technique that protects roads from invasive moisture, mitigates UV damage, breaks down oils in the asphalt, and adds traction to the surface.

"The best part of using slurry seal is that it is a cost-effective method to extend the life of the pavement and reduces the frequency of expensive overlays or reconstruction," said Matthew Matuszewski, Littleton's capital improvement program manager.

This project is anticipated to be completed by early fall, and will mainly impact residential streets. Residents affected by this project will be notified ahead of time and will receive information about street closures, parking, and more.

### Road improvements and maintenance in Aberdeen Village

A lot is happening in the Aberdeen Village neighborhood, with road improvements and maintenance in full swing by late summer.

The city will start by removing old asphalt from the roads and patching severely deteriorated areas. Next, a fresh two-inch layer of asphalt will be applied.

"These improvements will result in better safety, drainage, and preventative maintenance to avoid costly full reconstruction down the road," said City Engineer Kyle Morris.

While road work is underway, intermittent and temporary lane closures will be in effect for roughly three months. Residents impacted by this project will receive advance notice and important details about street closures and parking.

### Making Reynolds Landing Park an Immersive Experience



Reynolds Landing Park is on its way to becoming a more nature-focused enclave in the heart of Littleton. Updates will include restoring the South Platte River, making the park ADA accessible, and creating a tubing area for families. Initial construction will also include improvements to the Mary Carter Greenway Trail. The project is working through final design, permitting, and funding, and construction is expected to start this winter.

"The focus of this project is remaking the park to be a true nature getaway," said Kelsey Stansfield, Littleton's manager of grounds, open space, and natural resources. "People can enter and in just a few steps feel like they have completely left the city environment and are totally immersed in nature."

Access to portions of the river and areas of the park will close off and on during construction.

These projects are possible thanks to Littleton voters approving ballot question 3A in 2021 and with the support of Arapahoe County Open Spaces, the Mile High Flood District, South Suburban Parks and Recreation, the Colorado Water Conservation Board, and Great Outdoors Colorado.



Thank You Voters!



## Share Feedback on Future of Ketring and Gallup Parks

A new master plan effort is underway for Ketring Park, Gallup Gardens, and Gallup Park – the parklands surrounding Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Museum. These parks feature Ketring Lake, a mature tree canopy, rich vistas, public artworks, pedestrian trails, and multiple parking areas.

The City of Littleton, in partnership with South Suburban Parks and Recreation, identified the need for an overarching master plan for these parks, which will serve as a guiding document in realizing a more comprehensive vision that celebrates and enhances the cultural amenities of the sites.

Based on the input, the master plan will provide long-term goals for improvement. To find out more and to take the survey, search for "Ketring Gallup Parks" at [LittletonCO.gov](http://LittletonCO.gov).

## Visit Littleton Website Launches

Find adventures close to home at VisitLittleton.org, a new website showcasing the city's unique shopping, dining, recreation, and cultural offerings.

Locals have always known Littleton features plenty to do—from theater, nightlife, and breweries to golf, fishing, and an endless trail system. The new website is a cornerstone of Visit Littleton, a growing effort to boost tourism and support local businesses. Voter approval of a lodging tax in 2022 will further support marketing Littleton as a great place to visit, helping the local economy.



## Council Member Pam Grove to Host Community Meeting September 23

Residents are invited to a community meeting hosted by Council Member Pam Grove. Littleton Police will give a presentation on public safety, and Grove will hold open discussion on city issues. No RSVP necessary. Questions? Contact Grove at PGrove@LittletonGov.org.

When: 10 to 11:15 a.m., Saturday, September 23

Where: Downstairs meeting room, Bemis Public Library, 6014 South Datura Street

## Littleton Police Department Completes ABLE Training

All of the Littleton Police Department's (LPD) sworn officers have now completed Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) training. ABLE training prepares officers to intervene and accept interventions to prevent misconduct, avoid mistakes, and promote officer health and wellness. Developed by the Center for Innovation in Community Safety, ABLE training helps reduce harm to civilians and officers, and improves police/community relations and officer job satisfaction. The LPD joins more than 300 departments nationwide to participate in the training.

"Our department prides itself in utilizing all resources available to law enforcement to better ourselves and our commitment to serve our community," said Littleton Police Chief Doug Stephens. "I take pride in our officers and their commitment to consistently and humbly better themselves through all available means."



## Registration Open for 2023 Littleton Police Citizen Academy

Want to learn more about police work? Registration is open for the 2023 Littleton Police Citizen Academy, giving community members a look at the inner workings of the Littleton Police Department. Officers cover diverse topics, lead practical exercises, and offer ride-alongs on patrol. The fall academy begins Thursday, September 7. Visit [police.littletonco.gov](http://police.littletonco.gov).

## Voters Could Decide on Marijuana Tax Increase

Littleton voters could decide this November whether to increase taxes on retail marijuana to support community mental health and public safety programs.

Retail marijuana in Littleton is currently subject to a 3.75% general sales tax and a 3% special retail marijuana sales tax, for a total of 6.75%, putting it among the lower tier of retail marijuana tax rates on the Front Range.

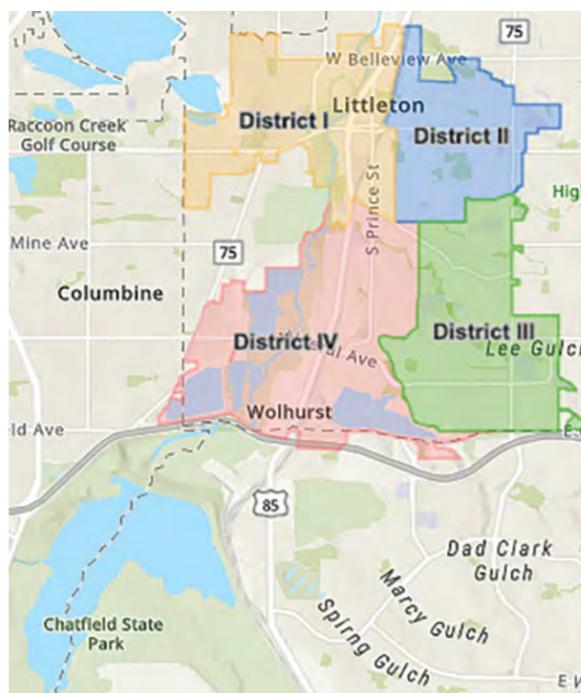
City council is weighing a proposal to ask voters to increase the special retail marijuana sales tax rate by an additional 3% or 4%, which projections estimate could raise upwards of \$360,000 or \$480,000 respectively, per year, earmarked for public safety or mental health programs. If council decides to place the question on the ballot and voters approve, additional mental health co-responders and a case manager could be funded to assist people in crisis. The Littleton Police Department could also expand proactive police programs such as the Special Enforcement Team to provide more foot and bike patrols downtown and in parks and trails.

City council is scheduled to hold a study session August 8, first reading August 15, with a public hearing scheduled for August 22. Election Day is Tuesday, November 7.

## City Council Districts Undergo Minor Realignment

The borders of Littleton's four city council districts underwent minor realignments in 2023 as part of a legally-required redistricting effort following the 2020 United States Census.

Littleton's charter requires the city's four council districts to be, "contiguous, compact, as nearly rectangular as practicable and have approximately the same population," and requires reevaluation following the federal census every 10 years.



The city's election commission met with Littleton's geographic information system specialists to develop three options to ensure all council districts meet the charter requirements, then presented the options for public comment over a month-long community engagement period.

Option B, which was the strongest preference from community outreach sessions, was formally adopted by city council in June. Notices were sent by mail to all 877 households subject to a district change.

Seats in council Districts II and IV, respectively the city's northeast and southwest quadrants, will be on the November election ballot in 2023. Voters looking to determine their council district can search "council district map" at [LittletonCO.gov](http://LittletonCO.gov) and use the address wizard or contact the city clerk's office at [colcityclerk@littletongov.org](mailto:colcityclerk@littletongov.org) or call 303-795-3780.

## Littleton City Council



**Kyle Schlachter**  
Mayor  
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720-773-0401



**Stephen Barr**  
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**Jerry Valdes**  
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303-810-1465

## Around Town With Jim Snags Communications Award

Littleton City Manager Jim Becklenberg and the city's communications team took home an Award of Excellence from the National Association of Government Communicators for the video series *Around Town With Jim*, which showcases the people and places that make Littleton unique.

Episodes have highlighted places like Jackass Hill Park, Town Hall Arts Center, the City Ditch, and the Littleton Municipal Courthouse. *Around Town With Jim* airs on Comcast Channel 8, the city's YouTube channel, and social media. Stay tuned for more episodes!



## Western Welcome Week Seeks Donors, Volunteers

Western Welcome Week, Littleton's signature community celebration, returns for its 95th year August 11 to 20 – and it's up to the community to make it great!

Founded in 1928, Western Welcome Week is a nine-day extravaganza celebrating Littleton's community spirit with dozens of family-friendly events and activities. Western Welcome Week (WWW) is a wonderful way to meet neighbors, have fun, and deepen appreciation for Littleton's friendly spirit.

Many events are free to attend. The festivities kick off with the Opening Night Concert and laser show at Sterne Park on Friday, August 11. Events continue throughout the week, including a kids' fishing derby, pancake breakfast, car shows, plays, concerts, dinners, pig roast, and art exhibits. WWW Festival Day, the celebration's main event, is on Saturday, August 19, and includes the WWW Grand Parade, a delightful old-school parade down Main Street featuring floats, marching bands, horses, performers, and much more.

Western Welcome Week is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization relying on the generosity of local donors and volunteers who work hard to keep Littleton's hometown spirit alive. Residents and businesses who want to see this hometown tradition continue to thrive are invited to take part! For more information, visit [WesternWelcomeWeek.org](http://WesternWelcomeWeek.org).



## Littleton Museum Events

**Vintage Baseball Game • Saturday, September 9, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

Enjoy an old-fashioned game of baseball at the Littleton Museum's living history farms, played with 1864 rules and uniforms!

There is no fee for admission but pets and outside food and drink are not allowed on the living history farms.



**Thoughtful Intuition Exhibit • Exhibit Dates: September 22 to January 7**  
**Opening Reception: Thursday, September 21, 5:30 to 7 p.m.**

Thoughtful Intuition is a solo exhibition featuring abstract artwork by Denver-based artist Taiko Chandler. This exhibit features monoprints, paintings, and installations by Chandler, created through her incredibly thoughtful yet intuitive process. Light appetizers and beverages will be served. No RSVP necessary.

**Littleton Craft Fair • Saturday, October 7, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

The popular Littleton Craft Fair takes place at scenic Ketring Park, just north of the Littleton Museum. Join over 18,000 people and start holiday shopping! Proceeds from booth fees are used by the Friends of the Littleton Library & Museum to sponsor programs at the Littleton Museum and Bemis Public Library. Visit [LittletonCraftFair.org](http://LittletonCraftFair.org) for more information – or to sign up to host a booth!

**Harvest Festival • Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

The Harvest Festival will be held on the museum's living history farms. Buy Halloween pumpkins and enjoy wagon rides, the 1890s Carnival, the Oddities Tent, and other fun activities. There is no fee for admission. However, games, refreshments, and wagon rides require tickets, which can be purchased at the event, or purchased online in advance and picked up at will-call on site. Purchase pumpkins at the event with cash or check. ATM available.

## Tri-Cities Homelessness Initiative Making Headway

The Tri-Cities Homelessness Initiative is a collaborative effort to address homelessness in Littleton, Englewood, and Sheridan. Consisting of city and county agencies and local nonprofits, Tri-Cities is guided by an Action Plan to increase services and develop pathways out of homelessness.

Tri-Cities continues to make strides toward reducing homelessness in the region. The group is poised to award a contract for a Navigation Center that will serve as a lead service provider, and working to secure funding from the State of Colorado.

The group is also working with Arapahoe County to strengthen outreach to landlords with capacity to provide affordable housing, both to offer placements for those climbing out of homelessness, and to ensure vulnerable people stay housed to avoid becoming homeless in the first place.

In May, the group launched [TriCitiesHomeless.com](http://TriCitiesHomeless.com), a one-stop website providing access to resources for those experiencing homelessness, opportunities for neighbors to volunteer with local outreach organizations, and downloadable monthly reports tracking progress and impact.

The website also features *In Their Words*, a series of profiles of people climbing out of homelessness with help from Tri-Cities partner agencies.



## President Biden Awards Littleton Police Officer with Medal of Valor

President Joe Biden awarded Littleton Police Corporal Jeff Farmer with the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor May 17. This medal is the highest national award for valor by a public safety officer and Corporal Jeff Farmer is the first Colorado officer to receive this honor. Corporal Farmer received this medal for his extraordinary bravery, selflessness, and quick thinking on the evening of September 20, 2021, when he rescued Officer David Snook after he was shot multiple times by a fleeing suspect. Farmer, who was also injured, returned fire at the suspect and pulled Snook to safety. Farmer then transported Snook to the hospital,



saving his life. "I am extremely proud of the daily dedication and commitment of our officers, who continue to go above and beyond," said Police Chief Doug Stephens. "To stand in the White House as the President of the United States recognized one of Littleton's own was a humbling honor. It is a testament to the commitment, self-sacrifice, and bravery made by each of our officers daily. This great work by the Littleton Police Department is made possible by the continued support of the Littleton community."

## Littleton Public Schools Opening Career Training Campus

Students in Littleton Public Schools (LPS) will be able to make big strides toward desirable careers when the LPS Explorative Pathways for Innovative Careers "EPIC" Campus, opens to students in August.

The EPIC Campus will provide opportunities for students to experience hands-on learning using state-of-the-art technology and innovative processes. Educational pathways aligned to industry standards will focus on the following areas:

- Aerospace
- Business and Entrepreneurship
- Computer Science
- Construction Trades
- Future Educator
- Health Science
- Natural Resources

Students will come to the EPIC Campus for a portion of their school day, then return to their home high school for the remainder of their day. Transportation will be provided to and from a student's home LPS high school.

Housed in a former car dealership beside Littleton High School, the learning experiences at the EPIC Campus will give students the opportunity to earn credit, industry certifications, concurrent enrollment, and work-based learning.

For more information, search "EPIC Campus" at [LittletonPublicSchools.net](http://LittletonPublicSchools.net).



# late summer 2023 Littleton Events



FRIDAYS IN  
august

**FRIDAY SWING NIGHTS**

August 4, 11, 18, 25  
Aspen Grove - 3-8 p.m.



FIRST  
saturdays

**PARIS STREET MARKET**

August 5, September 2, October 7  
Aspen Grove - 8 a.m.-2 p.m.



SATURDAY  
august 5

**AUDI DENVER LITTLETON TWILIGHT CRITERIUM**

Downtown Littleton - 3-10 p.m.  
LittletonCrit.com



SATURDAY  
august 5

**SUMMER MARKET**

Breckenridge Brewery - 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

august 11-20

**WESTERN WELCOME WEEK**

visit [WesternWelcomeWeek.org](http://WesternWelcomeWeek.org)  
for a full list of events



FRIDAY  
august 11

**WESTERN WELCOME WEEK KICKOFF**

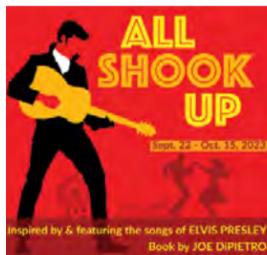
Concert & NEW Laser Show in the Park  
Sterne Park - 5:30-10 p.m.



SATURDAY  
august 12

**LITTLE JAM - The Petty Nicks Experience**

Sterne Park - 6:30-9:30 p.m.



SATURDAY  
august 19

**95TH WESTERN WELCOME WEEK**

Grand Parade and Festival Day  
Downtown Littleton - 10 a.m.-noon



WEDNESDAY  
august 30

**MEET GREET AND EAT**

Promise Park - 4-6 p.m.  
Free Pizza and Frozen Custard



SATURDAY  
september 9

**VINTAGE BASEBALL GAME**

Littleton Museum - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.



FRIDAY  
september 15

**2024 LITTLETON CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST - Entries Due**

Enter at [littletonco.gov/community/calendarphotocontest](http://littletonco.gov/community/calendarphotocontest)



SATURDAY  
september 16

**LITTLE JAM - Deja Blue**

Sterne Park - 6:30-9:30 p.m.



september 23 -  
october 15

**ALL SHOOK UP**

Town Hall Arts Center  
[townhallartscenter.org](http://townhallartscenter.org)

SATURDAY  
september 23

**ON TAP WITH KBCO - Featuring Shakey Graves**

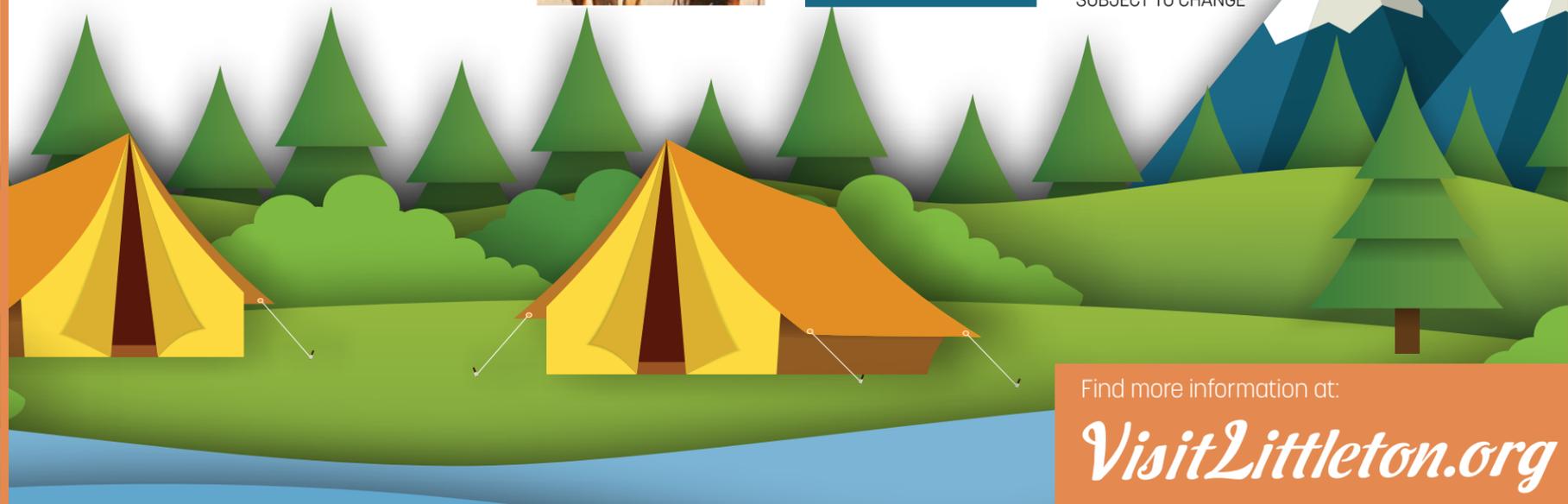
Breckenridge Brewery - noon-7 p.m.

FRIDAY  
september 29

**ONE BOOK ONE LITTLETON**

Author Reception and Keynote  
[BemisLibrary.org/OneBook](http://BemisLibrary.org/OneBook)

ALL EVENTS ARE  
SUBJECT TO CHANGE



Find more information at:

[VisitLittleton.org](http://VisitLittleton.org)



## Best of Colorado Show Returns to Depot Art Gallery

Depot Art Gallery will join Western Welcome Week festivities with the 39th year of the *Best of Colorado* show. Open to all Colorado artists, the show will be juried by internationally-recognized artist Christian Dore.

The *Best of Colorado* show runs August 9 to September 10. An awards reception will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m., Friday, August 18. Depot Art Gallery is located at 2069 West Powers Avenue. For more information, visit [DepotArtGallery.org](http://DepotArtGallery.org).

## Downtown Development Authority Lays Out Future Plans

The Littleton Downtown Development Authority (LDDA) outlined its first Plan of Development this spring, with big plans to help downtown thrive into the future.

Voters approved the formation of the LDDA in 2022, creating an entity providing financing and leadership for improving the downtown business district.

The plan, developed after input from hundreds of downtown stakeholders and residents, focuses on five main goals: creating a downtown that is well-connected, welcoming and beautiful, clean and safe, business-friendly and vibrant, and with an improved parking experience.

The plan includes a variety of project ideas, including proposals to help fill vacant storefronts, enhance alleys with murals and better lighting, add flower planters, and improve pedestrian safety.

The LDDA will work in collaboration with the City of Littleton's Downtown Mobility and Streetscape Improvement Plan, an effort to enhance downtown as a premier destination for shopping, dining, and socializing.

Questions about the LDDA? visit [LittletonDDA.org](http://LittletonDDA.org).

## Summer Storms Cause Culvert Failure

On June 12, 2023, following record-breaking rainfalls, the stormwater culvert carrying Jackass Gulch across Jackass Hill Road, just north of Mineral Avenue, collapsed. The two existing 48-inch diameter corrugated steel pipes were installed in 1985 and this material is now known to be prone to corrosion and failure. Crews are replacing the metal pipes with two 66-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipes, which are far more durable. The increased size will also help handle much greater flows going forward.

On average, Littleton receives 14 inches of rain a year, but the city received more than that by the start of July. Rainfall in June alone was four times the average. This has left the ground saturated and caused further debris collapse into the damaged area, though crews have been working quickly to overcome it.

Crews hope to complete the project and reopen the road by mid-August. Thankfully, contractors were able to quickly obtain the larger concrete pipe – normally pipes of this size require months to fabricate, which would have pushed the reopening into the fall.

Replacement of these culverts and the need for a larger size was being studied as part of an update to the Jackass Gulch Master Plan, and designed as part of the Mineral Mobility Improvements Project, planned for 2024. Design was far enough along to replace the culverts now, rather than undertake a temporary solution only to dig up the area again in a year. This accelerated the design of the emergency project by many weeks.

## Littleton to Welcome Australian Sister City Delegates

Littleton will welcome a delegation from its sister city of Bega, Australia just in time for Western Welcome Week in August, continuing a tradition of international friendship dating back more than 60 years.

Representatives from the Land Down Under will be welcomed with a reception at Bega Park Thursday, August 10, at 12:30 p.m. including the exchange of gifts, and performances of the *Star Spangled Banner* and *Advance Australia Fair*, the Australian national anthem.

The Littleton-Bega relationship dates back to the 1950s, when *Bega District News* editor Curly Annabel saw *Small Town Editor*, a short film about Houstoun Waring, then the editor and publisher of the *Littleton Independent*. Seeing similarities between the can-do spirit and civic pride of Bega and Littleton, the two editors initiated the cultural exchange that endures today.



Though Bega remains a small farm town, much like Littleton was in the mid-20th century, the two towns retain a strong sense of camaraderie. Delegates visit each other every other year, often bearing unique gifts from each respective homeland.

Bega's delegates will enjoy a fun-filled week with host families in Littleton and will march in the Western Welcome Week Grand Parade Saturday, August 19.

Littleton residents are invited to help give Bega's delegates a warm welcome at the opening reception, at Bega Park, at the east end of Main Street in Downtown Littleton.

## Littleton Named Among Colorado's Best Small Cities

Littleton was named one of Colorado's best mid-range and small cities by [MovingFromTo.com](http://MovingFromTo.com), which noted Littleton's highly-rated school district.

"If you are searching for a place to raise your little ones safely, Littleton is our warm recommendation," the listing reads.

The award comes on the heels of a long list of accolades for Littleton, including being named among the "2022 Top 100 Best Places to Live" by [Livability.com](http://Livability.com), the "Best Places to Live in Colorado for Families" by [Citytistics](http://Citytistics.com), and a recipient of the "Tree City USA Growth Award" from the Arbor Day Foundation. The Audi Denver Littleton Twilight Criterium took home the Best Event award in the 2023 Governor's Awards for Downtown Excellence, presented in April by Downtown Colorado, Inc.



### Keith Gardner Appointed to South Suburban Board of Directors

The South Suburban Board of Directors appointed Centennial resident Keith Gardner to fill a vacant board seat June 14. Gardner will serve the remainder of the vacant term through 2025 following the passing of board member David Lawful. Gardner joins current board members Pete Barrett, Pam Eller, Ken Lucas, and Susan Pye.

Gardner has been a district resident for 24 years, serving on the Centennial City Council from 2008 to 2016. His other board experience includes the Littleton Fire Protection District, Arapahoe County Water and Wastewater Authority, and the Arapahoe County Open Space Advisory Board.

### Fall Sale: Save on Fitness Favorites

South Suburban's Fall Sale runs from September 18 to October 1. Try something new or save money on favorite programs. Buy a 20-pack of Admission Punches and get five free, or buy a 10-pack of personal training sessions and get one free. Purchase Fall Sale deals at [register.ssprd.org](http://register.ssprd.org), or at any South Suburban recreation center.

### Annual Maintenance Closures at Buck

Buck Recreation Center will be closed August 14 to 19 for scheduled maintenance. Admission punches can be used at any other South Suburban recreation center during the closure. Improvements include:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Replacing cabinets and counters in Depot Room        | Installing new pool chemical feeding systems |
| New lobby flooring                                   | Retiling hot tub                             |
| Refinishing wood floors                              | Installing new handrails in therapy pool     |
| Replacement of moveable walls in multi-purpose rooms | New lighting in gym                          |
| Painting pool walls                                  | New cardio equipment                         |

### Registration Open Now for Fall 2023 Classes, Events and Leagues

Sign up today for fall favorites! Learn something new in classes for youth and adults, have a blast at festive events, and more. There are also spots available in a variety of Fall Break and Thanksgiving Break camps, ranging from full-day camps to specialty arts, science, and sports camps. Visit [register.ssprd.org](http://register.ssprd.org) to learn more or call the Registration Office at 303-347-5999.

### Public Hearings for 2024 Budget

Get involved and learn more about South Suburban's major goals for 2024! District residents are invited to provide input on projects and priorities at public hearings for next year's budget. The public meetings will be held in the board room at the Sports Complex at 4810 East County Line Road on August 9, September 13, and October 4. For additional information, call the South Suburban Administration Office at 303-798-5131.

### South Suburban Race Series

Learn more and register for summer races at [ssprd.org/raceseries](http://ssprd.org/raceseries).

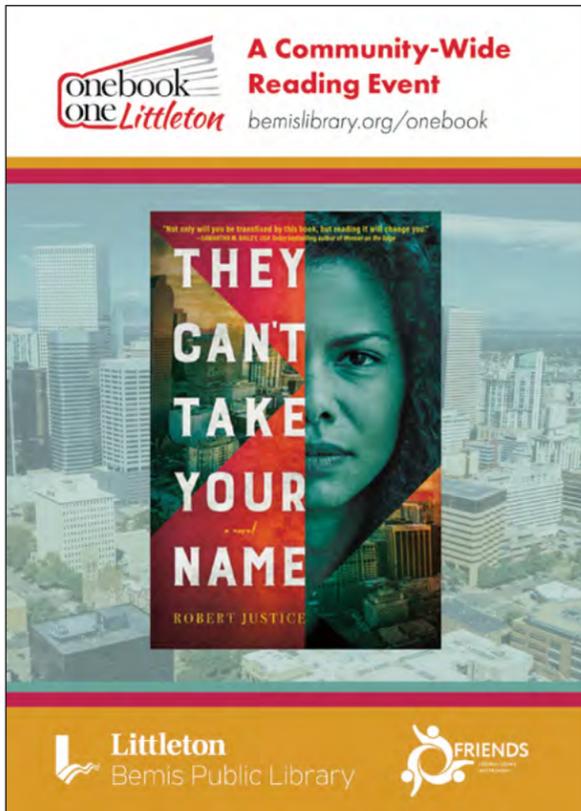
### Pancake Stampede 5K – Sunday, August 13

Work up an appetite for a deluxe breakfast at the Pancake Stampede 5K! The race takes place on the Mary Carter Greenway along the South Platte River, and is part of Littleton's Western Welcome Week celebration.

# BEYOND BOOKS

## EVENTS AT BEMIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Bemis Public Library | 6014 S. Datura Street | Littleton, CO 80120 | 303-795-3961 | [BemisLibrary.org](http://BemisLibrary.org)



### One Book One Littleton

September 29 | Adults of All Ages

One Book One Littleton is an annual event for all members of the Littleton community to read and discuss the same book and then engage with the author. This year's selection is *They Can't Take Your Name* by Denver native Robert Justice.

This debut novel is a story of wrongful conviction, racial injustice, and a daughter's fight to clear her father's name. With undertones of jazz and the poetry of Langston Hughes and set against a Denver that many of us think we know, *They Can't Take Your Name* is a powerful elegy to the dream deferred that imprisons us all.

Borrow a copy from the library, invite friends and neighbors to join in, and attend a special reception and lecture with the author on September 29. For more information, visit [BemisLibrary.org](http://BemisLibrary.org).

### 3rd Annual Community Art Project:

Cabinet of Curiosities | All Ages

Create a piece of art for the Cabinet of Curiosities, the 3rd Annual Community Art Project, a partnership between Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Museum, sponsored by the Littleton Fine Arts Board. All members of the community are invited to participate. Pick up information at the reference desk and watch for workshops and pop-up art hours throughout August.



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### Volunteer for Homebound Delivery

Bemis Public Library is seeking volunteers to deliver books and materials to homebound residents. If you have your own vehicle, the ability to commit for at least six months, and a desire to share your love of Bemis Library, apply today!

## GENERAL PROGRAMS

### Outdoor Concert: Marc Berger Trio

August 17, 6:30-8:30 p.m. | All Ages

Join the Marc Berger Trio for a Western Welcome Week mix of deep country folk songs with touches of bluegrass, roots, Americana, and a little spicy Cajun.

### Art Workshop with the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art\*

August 24, 2-3:30 p.m. | Ages 18 and Up

Join BMOCA Educator Reid Portscheller for a hands-on workshop about BMOCA's current exhibition and create a piece of art inspired by the show.

### The Legendary Ladies Present Curious Characters of the West

September 2, 2-3 p.m. All Ages



### The Legendary Ladies

return to Bemis to portray six women who questioned assumptions, pushed boundaries, and lived extraordinary lives.

### Genealogical Research: Expanding Your Search

September 13, 1-2:30 p.m. | Adults of All Ages\*

Take your research to the next level with Columbine Genealogical and Historical Society (CGHS). \$35 (individual) /\$45 (family) workshop fee includes all materials and one-year membership in the CGHS.

### Board Games @ Bemis

August 2 and September 6, 5-7 p.m. | All Ages

Now in the Meeting Room on the first Wednesday of the month. Pizza and snacks will be served.

### Senior Social Club

Thursdays 9:30-10:30 a.m. | Ages 50 and Up

Join in the weekly chat in Sophie's Place at the front of the library.

## TEEN PROGRAMS

### Teen Advisory Group

August 9 and September 13, 5-6:30 p.m. | Grades 6-12

Help plan programs, choose new books and games, make friends, and have fun while earning community service credit. Participants are invited to exclusive programs like Laser Tag and holiday events.

### Vision Board\*

August 16, 5-6:30 p.m. | Grades 6-12

Create a vision board using old magazines and craft supplies to set your intentions for the best school year yet.

### Super Smash Bros Tournament\*

September 20, 5-6:30 p.m. | Grades 6-12

Come prepared to battle in this awesome video game tournament.

## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS



### Touch-A-Truck

August 8, 10 a.m.-noon Families with Children of All Ages

Stop by the library parking lot to explore

City of Littleton vehicles. Get up close and personal with a variety of trucks and heavy equipment as Public Works staff answer questions. The bookmobile will also be there!

### Family Fun Foam Fest

August 14, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Families with Children of All Ages

Enjoy an end-of-summer foam party outside on the lawn with Ann Lincoln! Wear swim clothes or shorts, bring some towels to dry off, and get silly in the suds!



### Introduction to Taekwondo\*

September 23, 3-4 p.m. | Grades K-5

Attend a fun taekwondo presentation and learn basic self-defense techniques in a class led by Family Tae Kwon Do Center. No prior martial arts experience needed. Wear comfortable clothing.

### Summer Reading Thanks

The All Together Now Summer Reading Program was a huge success. Bemis Public Library would like to thank all those who donated and contributed to the success of the youth services program including: Andy's Frozen Custard, Capitol Pizza, Colorado Rapids Soccer Club, Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakhburgers, Nevaria Juarez Snacks & Ice Cream, Pirates Cove, Skate City of Littleton, South Suburban Parks and Recreation, Texas Roadhouse, and Wingstop.

A special thank you to the City of Littleton and The Friends of the Littleton Library and Museum. We couldn't have done it without your support.

## LIRC PROGRAMS

### Calling For Volunteers!

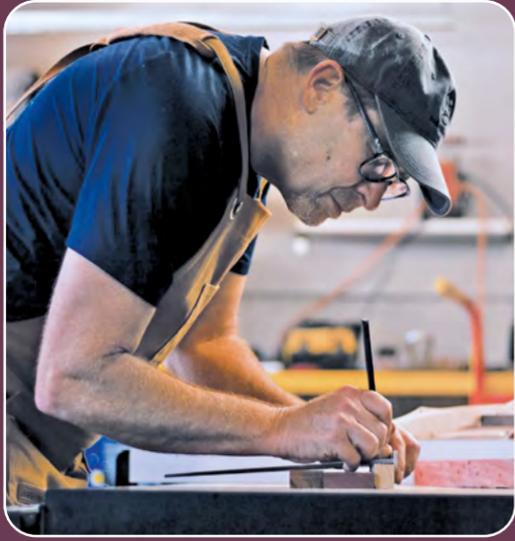
The Littleton Immigrant Resources Center is looking for volunteers who can devote at least one hour per week to working one-on-one with immigrants in the community to help them on their path to citizenship. Call 303-795-3968 or email [librzi@littletongov.org](mailto:librzi@littletongov.org) for more information.



Visit [BemisLibrary.org](http://BemisLibrary.org) for more information about everything happening at the library including book clubs, storytimes, technology classes, and more.

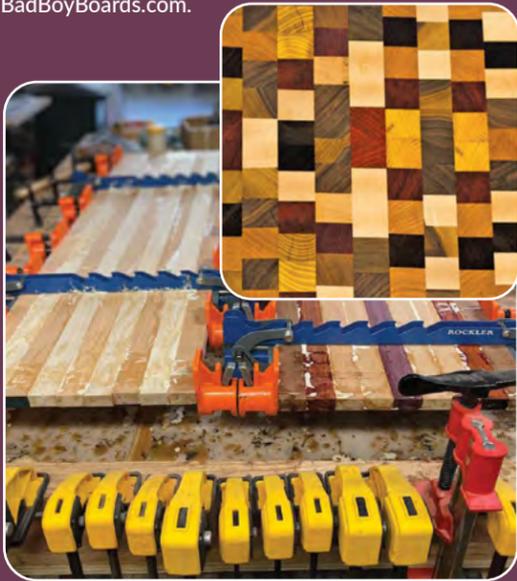
\* Registration required. Call 303-795-3961 or sign up through the Events Calendar at [BemisLibrary.org/calendar](http://BemisLibrary.org/calendar)





### Badboyboards

It's a beautiful thing when form and function align. Badboyboards offers handcrafted, high-quality cutting boards that could double as art pieces in their own right. Built with sustainably-sourced hardwoods, Badboyboards add a touch of class to food prep and presentation. The company also offers elegant handmade chessboards. Badboyboards will open its shop at 8200 Southpark Circle #400 in August. For more information, call 720-244-6504 or visit [BadBoyBoards.com](http://BadBoyBoards.com).



### Zymos Brewing Company

Littleton's robust craft brew culture will get a new addition this fall when Zymos Brewing opens a brewery and taproom near Belleview Avenue and Lowell Boulevard. Owners Alex and Tyler Tift plan to bring more than two dozen taps to the space (including a couple dedicated to hard seltzer and housemade sodas). While Zymos will keep the focus on brewskis, the brewery is looking forward to partnering with nearby eateries so guests can bring their own grub. The brewery will be located at 5180 South Lowell Boulevard. For more information, visit [ZymosBrewing.com](http://ZymosBrewing.com).



### Sipp Soda Bar

Littleton's Sipp Soda Bar was featured on Good Morning America's "Up In Your Business" segment this summer, where owners Tim Kellogg and Wendy McFarland got a shoutout – and a \$10,000 check – to support their gourmet soda business. The soda bar opened in the middle of the pandemic, and Kellogg faced serious health issues from a bad case of COVID. But the shop's TikTok account went viral, drawing hundreds of thousands of followers. On the heels of their growing success and fame, the couple closed their little shop on Broadway in June, but plan to hit the road this summer in a new food truck in partnership with Great Harvest Bread Co. The truck will offer sandwiches, sweets, and of course Sipp's signature drinks like the Flamethrower, which features lemon-lime soda, strawberry syrup and coconut cream. Follow their new adventures at [SippSodaBar.com](http://SippSodaBar.com), or on TikTok at [@sipp\\_soda\\_bar](https://www.tiktok.com/@sipp_soda_bar).



### Bridget's Botanicals

Part apothecary and part herbal education center, Bridget's Botanicals seeks to connect people with their health and the planet. Owner Bridget Molloy offers herbal tea, tinctures, women's health kits and more, as well as herbal education through "apothecary adventures" catering to parties, school groups, tourists, and company team building. Molloy has practiced herbalism for 14 years, and studied ethnobotany around the world, with degrees in biology, teaching, and ecology. Bridget's Botanicals is at 5733 South Prince Street. For more information, call 303-506-6790 or visit [BridgetsBotanicalWorld.com](http://BridgetsBotanicalWorld.com).



**Black+Haus Tavern** – Littleton Mayor Kyle Schlachter and Council Members Pam Grove, Kelly Milliman, and Pat Driscoll were on hand to cut the ribbon June 13 at Black+Haus Tavern, Downtown Littleton's newest destination. Serving craft cocktails and made-from-scratch dishes, Black+Haus also offers more than 170 bourbons and whiskeys. Black+Haus Tavern is at 2439 Main Street. Visit [blackhaustavern.com](http://blackhaustavern.com) for more information.

### Apply Now for Local Partnership Grants and Stadium District Grants

Each year the Littleton City Council considers requests for discretionary grants, historically from nonprofit organizations that serve Littleton residents, and awards the grants to the organizations during the budget process. For the 2024 award cycle, in addition to Local Partnership Funding grants, the city is including distribution of Stadium District Funds as part of the same application process. Stadium District Funds are a one-time payment to the city related to the purchase of the Denver Broncos Football Club to be spent specifically on youth events and activities. To qualify for these funds, applicants must demonstrate how their use of the funds will promote and engage youth in the community. The applications opened July 21, and will close at 5 p.m. August 21, 2023. Applicants will be notified of funding decisions upon city council's review scheduled for October 2023. Awards will be distributed in January 2024. For more information or to complete an application, search "Local Grants and Incentives" at [LittletonCO.gov](http://LittletonCO.gov).