

Business Focus

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The Garlic Knot, Jefferson County

BRINGING NYC TASTE TO KEN-CARYL

Interview with Keith Arnold,
owner

Q: How did you get involved in this business?

A: Having grown up in NYC, I was fortunate to have worked in many top-notch restaurants. About seven years ago, I was approached by two childhood friends. They were working on a concept that would be new to the Denver metro area. They wanted to reproduce the New York City neighborhood pizzeria experience we grew up with — a place where customers would be known by their names, a place where families could come to enjoy authentic New York style pizza and pasta. I was automatically interested and after visiting Colorado with my family decided to make the move almost immediately.

Q: What distinguishes you from other businesses in your category?

A: We believe our product really distinguishes us from the rest. We are real New Yorkers and all of our recipes come from our vast restaurant experience in New York City. We offer a very unique dine-in experience as well as delivery and take-out.

Q: What do you like best about your line of work?

A: People. I love working with people. Most of my staff has been with me for years. We have a lot of fun at work and I believe it really helps the business. The customers enjoy coming in to see us and we enjoy seeing them. Every day, my chefs see customers — out the front window, walking through the parking lot — and immediately start making their food. Our regulars are very loyal to us. We have great relations with the community and we're giving them something they really want, great New York Pizza.



Profile

Business: The Garlic Knot
Address: 10143 West Chatfield Ave. Littleton, in the Ken-Caryl Market Place
Hours: 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday
Founded: 2003
Contact: Call 720-922-2060 www.garlicknotpizza.com
Employees: 22

Above, Jorge Gonzalez tosses the pizza dough. Above, from left, Fernando Rojas, owner Keith Arnold and Bryce Wood set out items for the lunch crowd at the Garlic Knot, 10143 W. Chatfield Ave., Littleton. *Daniel Smith, YourHub.com*

Q: What is your business' biggest challenge?

The biggest challenge for us is going to be finding the right people to help in our expansion. Right now we have two locations, one in the Ken-Caryl Community and one in the Roxborough community. Our third location will be our first franchise,

which is set to open in December in the Green Mountain community (West Alameda Avenue and Ohio Street). We're looking for personable people who understand that the most important thing about the restaurant business is its relationships with the community.

Q: Something people might be surprised to learn about you or your business:

My staff and I still eat pizza and garlic knots every day, even after all these years.