

# THE DENVER POST

## 1,300 gather for launch of Spire high-rise

“Welcome to the first night of the economic recovery,” developer **Randy Nichols**, head honcho of the Nichols Partnership, told the crowd of roughly 1,300 who gathered at the Colorado Convention Center to celebrate the launch of Spire, a 500-unit high-rise condominium at 14th and Champa streets. “They say housing always leads to economic turnaround.”

City officials, business leaders and lookie-loos toured the two model units across the street from the building, which is still under construction.

Twenty-one-year-old first-time home-buyer **Meagan Pieper** is a walking advertisement for Spire, which aims to attract young buyers with prices that start at \$210,000 for a one-bedroom unit and \$290,000 for two bedrooms. She bought the second unit sold; Nichols bought the

**Kevin Taylor** is opening a new restaurant, his seventh, in Broomfield. ▶



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first. Friends and family get first dibs, and sales to the general public start April 4.

“We were over at (Nichols’) house for dinner, and he showed me the plans on his computer,” said Pieper, who works for MegaStar Financial, the mortgage company that’s working with Nichols. “He took me on a tour of the units on the 10th floor that are done. I said, ‘Where do I sign?’”

**Steaking out a new eatery.**  
Longtime Denver chef



**Kevin Taylor** will open Kevin Taylor Steak, his seventh eatery, in the Aloft hotel in the Arista development in Broomfield.

The 5,342-square-foot, dinner-only restaurant will open in September on the corner of Colony Row and Arista Place.

Taylor owns and operates Restaurant Kevin Taylor and Prima Ristorante in the Hotel Teatro, Kevin Taylor’s at the Opera House in the **Ellie Caulkins** Opera House, Palettes at the Denver Art Museum, Limelight Supper Club & Lounge in the Denver Performing Arts Complex and Rouge at Teller House in Central City.

**Forest City chops down jobs.**  
Forest City Stapleton, the master developer of the Stapleton residential and retail area, has laid off seven employees, according to sources.  
**Landri Taylor**, vice pres-

ident of community affairs, who ran unsuccessfully for Denver auditor, was among those let go. Taylor is someone near and dear to my heart because he has been a supporter of my charity golf tournament, the Penny Parker Open, since its inception. Happy hunting, friend.

**Eavesdropping.** A woman talking about the door-busting Spire party: “It’s like Denver 1987. Things were so bad then, you would go to the opening of an envelope.”

*Penny Parker’s column appears Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday. Listen to her on the Caplis and Silverman radio show between 4 and 5 p.m. Fridays on KHOW-630 AM. Call her at 303-954-5224 or e-mail pparker@denverpost.com.*



▲ Denver  
developer  
**Randy  
Nichols**