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Featuring The Kitchen [Denver] in the
"New Now" column of *The Denver Post*
On April 4, 2012.

Total print and web impressions: 616,065

THE DENVER POST

Out

THERE THIS WEEK

New Now The Kitchen Denver

A Boulder favorite opens in the big city

Story and photo by William Porter *The Denver Post*

The Kitchen Denver: 1530 Wazee St., 303-623-3127, thekitchencommunity.com

The vibe: The Kitchen has pleased diners in Boulder since its debut on Pearl Street, and now it has exported itself to LoDo, landing in the old Gumbo's space in the Sugar Building.

The look: Billing itself as a community bistro, the restaurant has done a knockout job of redecorating the sprawling space: Exposed-brick walls, distressed texturing, dark wood floors and a pristine oak-topped bar. And the light pours in, thanks to windows looking out on the corner of Wazee and 16th streets.

The menu: The menu echoes the locally sourced ethos of its parent restaurant, and chef de cuisine Eric Lee will routinely tweak it as the growing season deepens. Right now spring is in the air and on the plates, although there are over-the-shoulder glances at winter with dishes such as the Kitchen Bolognese, a house tagliatelle with Parmesan, and an oven-roasted pork chop. But the chargrilled chicken hints at what's to come, adorned with harissa and cumin yogurt atop quinoa and an escarole-almond salad.

When to go: The restaurant is open daily and serves lunch. Monday nights offer community-table dinners.

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