

## **Love at First Bite: Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory Opens At Naperville Crossings**

(Naperville, IL) They knew on their wedding day that it was a match made in heaven: the bride, the groom—and Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory.

Twelve years ago, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory in downtown Naperville prepared Heather and Scott Mansholt's wedding favors, fulfilling Heather's request for bouquets of pastel-colored chocolate flowers. The couple's relationship with the chocolatier grew from there, and on March 1 their very own Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory shop opens at Naperville Crossings.

"I loved what Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory did for our wedding. I kept going back to buy apples or truffles and they did other party favors for me along the way," says Heather.

The Mansholts see the new Naperville Crossings shop as a sweet opportunity. "Naperville is a great place to raise a family, and my husband and I love the Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory product and store environment. Our new store is the perfect way to bring those things together," Heather explains.

Visitors to the Naperville Crossing store will be greeted with irresistible smells and a shining, inviting décor of charming oak display cases and brass railings. Most important, they will be mesmerized what Heather calls the "wow" factor, the delicious variety.

A tantalizing array of mouth-watering goodies and gift items will offer "just about anything chocolate", says Heather, including the trademark oversized Bears™, truffles, English toffee, nut clusters and caramels as well as traditional boxed chocolates and packaged items and generous portions of candies made from time-honored recipes, including a complete line of sugar-free chocolates. Cases will be filled with fresh strawberries dipped in chocolate will tempt and crisp apples spun in chocolate or caramel and rolled in tasty toppings.

Customers will get to watch as creamy fudge and other delectable confections are made by hand on a massive marble slab using traditional candymaking techniques and time-tested recipes, and then treated to delicious samples. Crisp Granny Smith apples will be dipped in chocolate and caramel bubbling in an old-fashioned copper kettle and then sprinkled with nutty toppings.

After twelve years working in human resources and raising twins Justin and McKenzie for the past seven, Heather is ready for a new adventure. "After I had kids I started re-evaluating my life. Opening a Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory store is an excellent opportunity for the family in the long term. It's a good family business, a nice

environment to work in, and has great products. Also, the company offers great support to franchisees,” says Heather, who will run the store.

The first Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory store opened in 1981 in the picturesque Old West mining town of Durango, Colorado, where the factory continues to manufacture chocolates for more than 300 franchised and Company-owned stores throughout North America.