



Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc.
100 E. Main St, Suite A
Medford, OR 97501
(541) 773-8946

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Colleen Padilla, Executive Director (541) 773-8946

SOREDI's February LAUNCH Ashland PubTalk Features Dagoba Founder, Frederick Schilling

Medford, OR. - January 25, 2017

Tuesday, February 7, beginning at 5:30 pm, LAUNCH Ashland will offer a Pub Talk for area start-ups at the Ashland Springs Hotel Ballroom. The program will feature, Frederick Schilling, founder of Dagoba Organic Chocolate. Appetizers and coffee/tea will be provided at the event. Beer and wine is offered for purchase. PubTalks are free to attend.

A native of Colorado, Schilling migrated to the Rogue Valley and started up Dagoba Organic Chocolate in 2001. In 2006, he achieved an entrepreneur's dream. Hershey bought the company for \$17 million. Schilling now travels internationally as the co-founder of AMMA Chocolate, the first and leading vertically integrated artisan chocolate factory in Brazil and the co-founder of Big Tree Farms. Big Tree Farms is Indonesia's largest organic food company and the biggest producer and manufacturer of coconut sweeteners in the world, while maintaining its U.S. headquarters in Ashland, OR.



LAUNCH Ashland PubTalks are held monthly. To attend February PubTalk, register at no cost at www.soredi.org or simply show up. Park in the lot behind the Ashland Springs Hotel and be prepared for wet weather. Please invite any entrepreneurs, start-up company owners or other interested parties on your list.

About SOREDI: SOREDI is a private, membership-based, non-profit organization, governed by a board of directors. Its seven-person staff is charged with local business expansion and new business recruitment efforts, financial assistance to start-up companies through its business loan fund, and management of Enterprise Zones in

Jackson and Josephine Counties. The agency was formed as a regional economic development agency in 1987. Learn more at <http://www.soredi.org>.

###