

ABDC | Aurora Business Development Center

February seminars at the Aurora Business Development Center

Call on the Aurora Business Development Center for your small business training needs! The following seminars will be offered in February and take place at the Aurora BDC unless otherwise noted:

** FREE ** — Doing Business with the Government

Wed., Feb. 7, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM
A procurement analyst from Buckley Air Force Base will discuss opportunities to do business with federal and state agencies. The procurement process includes finding solicitations, communication protocol and resources to help land the contract.

** FREE ** — Sales Tax Made Simple

Wed., Feb. 14, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM
Representatives from the Dept. of Revenue and city of Aurora will cover sales and use tax, types of licenses, sales tax collection, overview of tax forms, filing a sales tax return, Home Rule issues, and much more!

Writing a Winning Business

Thur., Feb. 15, 1:00 - 4:00 PM | Plan \$25/person
A business plan will help you start, grow and manage your business. Learn how to develop the components of a good business plan including goal setting, market research, management, promotion and financial projections. Includes business plan and financial projection templates. Recommended companion seminar : Smart Marketing

Starting a Restaurant or Food Business

Wed., Feb. 21, 1:00 - 4:00 PM | \$25/person
Opening and operating a restaurant or food business is not as easy as you think! Representatives from Tri-County Health Dept. and the Aurora BDC will inform you of food establishment state laws, the application and inspection process, fees, licensing, equipment requirements and basic start-up considerations. Includes financial projections and sample business plans. Recommended companion seminar: Writing a Winning Business Plan

HOW TO REGISTER:

Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Call (303) 326-8690 or register by e-mail: info@aurorabdc.com. Payable at the door by cash or check to the Aurora BDC; credit cards are not accepted. A complete schedule is available on-line at www.aurorabdc.com or by calling the Aurora BDC at (303) 326-8690. Ask about the Chamber discount.

* Select two \$25 seminars and pay only \$45 (payable at the first registered class; a voucher will be given upon receipt of payment).

The Aurora BDC is located in the Florence Square building: 9801 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. 200, Aurora, CO 80010-2154

Martin Luther King, Jr. Library: 9898 E. Colfax Ave., Aurora, CO 80010 (between Elmira and Emporia Streets in Original Aurora; across the street from the Aurora BDC).

Artist Workshop Set

The Chamber Business for the Arts Committee announced in January that the Aurora Business Development Center will again partner with The Other Side Arts in Aurora to offer two workshops geared for emerging artists throughout the metropolitan area. One will focus on the legal concerns for artists, including copyrighting and trademarks, and the other will concentrate on the marketing of artwork. For additional information call Chuck Hahn at ABDC at 303- 326-8692.

Renewals

Accurate Transmission
All American Windows & Siding
Allstate Insurance
American Family Insurance – Rose
Aurora Gateway Rotary Club
Aurora Rotary Club
Barbara’s Custom Floral & Gifts, Inc.
Biolife Plasma Center
Champion Business Services
Colorado Carpet Cleaning
Colorado Lending Source
Comcast
CCA Bookstore
Component Specialties, Inc.
Cops Fighting Cancer
Eagle Legacy Credit Union
Egan Printing Company
Hilton Garden Inn DIA
Image Brokers
Intermountain REA
King Soopers
Kraus Enterprises
Marquis Marble, Inc.
Denver Marriott Tech Center
MCPN
Metro State College of Denver
Rebuilding Together Metro Denver
Robert Half International
Ryden & Associates
Space Age Federal Credit Union
Rep. Debbie Stafford
T. Charles Wilson Insurance
Technical Glass, Inc.
Two Hot Chili Peppers
Windsor Gardens Assn.
Wings Over the Rockies Museum
Wyndham Hotel Denver Tech Center
Aurora Y.M.C.A.
Y.M.C.A. of the Rockies

NEW MEMBERS

Bellco Credit Union - Aurora City Place
Bellco Credit Union - Havana & Mississippi
Black-Eyed Pea
Byer General Store
Chances Are...We Can Do It, Inc.
Combined Worksite Solutions
Harry and David
May Farms
Residence Inn by Marriott-DTC
WSI

SERVING THE EASTERN
METRO COMMUNITIES



Upcoming Events

Business After Hours

February 22 | 5:30 p.m.
Cinema Grill (Alameda & Potomac)

Legislative Breakfast II

February 26 | 7:15 a.m.
The Medical Center of Aurora South
(1501 S. Potomac)

Business Before Hours

March 14 | 7:30 a.m.
Holiday Inn Express (1500 S. Abilene)

Six Degrees of Chamber Success

March 14 | 4 p.m.
Aurora Chamber

Women Making a Difference Breakfast

March 16 | 7:30 a.m.
Radisson Hotel SE (I-225 & Parker)
Women Sculptors of the Community

Women Sculptors of the Community March 17 | 1 p.m.
Aurora Municipal Building

State of the City Luncheon with Mayor Tauer

March 21 | 11:45 a.m.
Radisson Hotel SE (I-225 & Parker)

Business After Hours

March 22 | 5:30 p.m.
Country Inn & Suites

Aurora Day at the Capitol

March 27 | 7:30 a.m.
State Capitol Building (200 E. Colfax)

Newsletter Online

Don't forget that the monthly *IMPACT* is on our Web site before you get it in the mail! The newsletter is sent via bulk mail at the end of every month, and can take up to 14 days to get into your hands.

The monthly package you receive in the mail is chock full of offers and information from your fellow Chamber members, as well as registration forms and meeting notices from The Chamber. Be sure to open it and look through the flyers as well as the newsletter!

aurora | centennial | commerce city | denver

IMPACT

FEB / MAR
2007



Economic engine – Once a small Colorado National Guard Base, Buckley has expanded to become one of the most important economic engines in the State with ever growing missions in support of Air Force Space Command and the Colorado National Guard as well.

Photo courtesy Barbara Peck, In Your Element Photography



Military Update — Colonel Dave Ziegler, Commander of the **460th Space Wing at Buckley AFB** gives his annual State of the Base address to more than 200 Chamber members and **Rotarians**. He told the crowd in January that the Aurora base continues to expand their mission and will contribute more than \$1.1 billion to the economy.

Buckley's economic impact increases \$18 million

Buckley AFB continued to be one of Colorado's major economic engines according to data released by the Aurora base in January. The base's economic impact to the City of Aurora and the surrounding community increased by \$18 million last year and remains above the \$1 billion mark for the third year in a row.

According to the 460th Comptroller Squadron, Buckley's

impact for fiscal year 2006 is at \$1,090,906,789. The fiscal year ran from Oct. 1, 2005 to Sept. 30, 2006.

Buckley's annual payroll paid more \$409.41 million to Department of Defense personnel and \$211.38 million to contractors and non-appropriated fund civilians, who include workers at the Base Exchange, commissary and private businesses operating at or on the base. "We're both proud and

fortunate to be economic partners with a community that gives us such tremendous support," said Col Dave Ziegler, 406th Space Wing and Buckley base commander.

"We are proud that Buckley is a strong member of the Aurora Chamber," said Kevin Hougen, President and CEO. "We have always understood the value—both monetary and in terms of people and mission—the military brings to

*[See **Buckley**, page 3]*

Which James Bond are you?

...Sir Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Sir Roger Moore, Timothy Dalton, Pierce Brosnan or Daniel Craig — very different characters, yet all Bond... James Bond.

Or do you see yourself as a Bond girl? When you hear that familiar theme music do you immediately think of Honey Ryder and Sylvia Trench from the early days. Or maybe you are more the sophisticated Jane Seymour version of Solitaire.

Perhaps you tend to think of yourself as someone more contemporary like Teri Hatcher as Paris in Tomorrow Never Dies or Halle Barry as Jinx in Die Another Day.

Whoever comes to mind—villain or heroine— your chance has arrived to show

off your true alter ego. Or, if you are more of an observer type, spend some time with the "James Bonds and Bond girls" of the area.

What are we talking about you ask yourself? The Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet of course! Set for April 13, the fun starts at 6:00 p.m. and throughout the whole evening you will be swept up in the exciting 007 theme. It will be a night of glamour, intrigue, and mystery as together we explore who will be the 2007 Man of the Year, the 2007 Woman of the Year and much, much more. Who knows, you may find yourself both shaken AND stirred.





Kevin Hougen
President & CEO

Each spring, a nominating committee made up of Aurora Chamber members, along with the president, suggests future Board members to fill the slots of the retiring members. As you'll note, several of our Board members' three-year terms expire on May 31, 2007. A member can serve a second three-year term under the Chamber's bylaws. The following board members have been asked to serve additional three-year terms.

- ~ Kathy Boyle, **University Colorado Hospital**
- ~ Bill Becker, **Adams County Economic Development**
- ~ Peter Durante, **The Children's Hospital**
- ~ Brigadier General Mike Edwards, **140th Wing COANG**
- ~ Margo Jamieson, **Kaiser Permanente**
- ~ Wendy Mitchell, **Aurora Economic Development Council**
- ~ David Paterson, **Rural/Metro Ambulance**
- ~ Honorable Ed Tauer, **Mayor City of Aurora**

We want to thank *Dave Gruber*, **Raytheon**, *David Snow*, **Lennar Homes**, *Larry Grandison*, **Denver Federal Executive Board**, for their outstanding service to our business community. These three gentlemen have all transferred to other offices.

The Chamber's Mission

The mission of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce is to serve as a voice for the business community, acting as an advocate for its members on issues that affect their growth and long-term economic vitality.

The **IMPACT** is published monthly for the members of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. Subscription rate to nonmembers: \$50/year. Advertisers: The Chamber members—use the **IMPACT** to advertise your products and services to over 1700 Aurora Chamber members. Advertising space only available to members. The IMPACT also accepts preprinted inserts. Contact The Chamber for details. Deadlines: the 10th of the month prior to publication.

President's Letter

Chair Linda Bowman has named the following replacements to fill the vacant board positions: *Kelly Leid*, **Foundation for Educational Excellence**; *Alan Peppers*, **Westerra Credit Union**; *Judy Booth*, **Fitzsimons Community Federal Credit Union**; and Joe Barela with Arapahoe Douglas Works.

We'd also like to thank three retiring board members for their dedicated six years of service on the Chamber Board:

- ~ Harrison Cochran, **Aurora Sentinel and Daily Sun**
- ~ Jo Snell, **E-470 Public Hwy. Authority**
- ~ Bob Steine, **Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine**

Arapahoe County Commissioner Lynn Myers has also resigned from the board and we want to thank her for her five years of service. **Arapahoe County Commissioner Frank Weddig** has been appointed to fill Lynn's position on the Board.

A nominating committee consisting of Chair-Elect Bob Barke, Chair Dr. Linda Bowman, Past Chair Dale Mingilton, President Kevin Hougen will be meeting to review potential new board members who will serve in new three-year terms beginning June 2007.

You as an Aurora Chamber of Commerce member have the opportunity to also suggest nominees for the Board under our bylaws. Candidates should be chamber members who have been involved with Chamber programs in some way. Please send your nomination in writing to the Chamber office by March 1, 2007. Once selected, new Board members will be formally inducted at the April Annual Awards Banquet.

Board takes stand on key issues

The system works! The Government Affairs/Education Committee under the leadership of *Jim Suss* (**Suss Pontiac/GMC**) and Bob LeGare has been doing a great deal of work during the early part of the year. In the last three months they developed and approved five Legislative Policy White Papers including ones on Integrated P-16 Education, Higher Education, Economic Development, Healthcare Costs/Insurance and Water. In addition, the Transportation Committee led by *Dave Frazier* (**Merrick & Company**) put together a comprehensive Transportation Policy White Paper. The GA/E Committee also continued to review pending legislation and recommended to the Board that The Chamber oppose House Bill 07-1072, the proposed change to the Colorado Labor Peace Act (which the Governor vetoed on Feb. 9) and oppose Senate Bill 07-10, Nurse Staffing Ratios; and support Senate Bill 07-97 which would use a portion tobacco settlement money to help fund University of Colorado Health Science Center projects. The Board accepted the recommendations voting to instruct the Chamber lobby group, **Axiom Strategies**, to take our concerns to our legislators. As a Chamber member, you can get copies of our White Papers and our Support/Oppose summaries by e-mailing Chamber Vice President George Peck at george.peck@aurorachamber.org. And rest assured, your Chamber will continue to work for you at all levels of government.

DON'T FORGET: "Every employee of a Chamber member is a member of The Chamber"

Please route this issue to your sales reps, account managers, marketing directors, HR and PR departments. You can also access each month's newsletter online at our website, www.aurorachamber.org, so you can forward it to every employee in your company!

Board of Directors

Chair of the Board
Dr. Linda Bowman | Community College of Aurora

Chair Elect
Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions

Secretary
Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority

Treasurer
Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

Immediate Past Chair
Dale Mingilton | FirstBank Holding Company

Vice Chair-Business Development
Harrison Cochran | Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun

Vice Chair-Community Services
Diane Garcia | 2G Associates

Vice Chair-Public Issues
Jim Suss | Suss Pontiac - GMC

Vice Chair-Member Services
Kathy Boyle | University of Colorado Hospital

Directors

Tom Allee | Frontier Airlines
Rich Allison | Adolfson & Peterson Construction Company
Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions
Bill Becker | Adams County Economic Development
Dr. Linda Bowman | Community College of Aurora
Kathy Boyle | University of Colorado Hospital
Harrison Cochran | Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun
Peter L. Durante, MD, JD | The Children's Hospital
Brigadier General Mike Edwards | 140th Wing COANG
Diane Garcia | 2G Associates, LLC
Elyse Gellerman | The Medical Center of Aurora
Larry Grandison | Denver Federal Executive Board
Jim Greenlee | Wells Fargo Banks
Dave Gruber | Raytheon
Kim Harrell | East End Applied Arts
Margo Jamieson | Kaiser Permanente
Todd Landgrave | Northrop Grumman
Dale Mingilton | FirstBank Holding Co.
Wendy Mitchell | Aurora Economic Development Council
Lynn Myers | Commissioner, Arapahoe County
David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance
Stephan Peck | Carrabba's Italian Grill
The Honorable Randy Pye | Mayor, City of Centennial
Dan Sandoz | 401(K) Advisors
Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority
John Stanton | Prudential Colorado Real Estate
Jim Suss | Suss Pontiac
Bob Steine | Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine
The Honorable Ed Tauer | Mayor, City of Aurora
Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

Executive Staff

President & CEO
Kevin Hougen

Marketing & Visitors' Advisory Board
Naomi Colwell

Leadership Director
Kimberly Curtis

Receptionist
Penny Lowman

Special Events
Debbie Lynch

Administrative Assistant
Eryn Martin

Membership Director
Marci Maxwell

Administration Director
Stephanie McDonnell

Vice President, PA&O
George Peck

VP, Membership Development
Paul Rosenberg

Membership Services
Mary Beth Sharp

562 Sable Blvd., Suite 200
Aurora, CO 80011-0809
303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564
website: www.aurorachamber.org

Keep Employees Safe this Winter

Preventing Winter Slips, Trips, and Falls

You might have noticed after several straight weekends of snow that here in the Eastern Metro area, winter is upon us! And with it comes the hazards of snow and ice around the workplace. The most common winter injuries are slips, trips, and falls caused by wet and slick conditions. Here are a few prevention tips:

- Wear slip-resistant, insulated footwear.
- Take small steps on slippery surfaces.
- Avoid walking too fast, running, quickly changing directions, or coming to a sudden stop.
- While walking, keep hands out of pockets to catch yourself if you fall.
- Use handrails.
- Avoid carrying materials that obstruct vision.
- Use three points of contact when entering and exiting vehicles.

Dress for Cold-Weather

For outdoor workers, proper clothing is essential to protect against hypothermia, frostbite, and other winter hazards.

A few recommendations are:

- Dress in layers that can be added or removed as needed. OSHA recommends a minimum of three layers:
 - ~ The outer layer should deflect wind and allow ventilation
 - ~ The middle layer should absorb sweat and retain insulating properties in a damp environment.
 - ~ The inner layer should allow ventilation and provide warmth.
- Keep a change of clothing available, including socks, in case work clothes become wet.
- Wear insulated, waterproof, slip-resistant footwear.
- Keep hands covered; if practical, wear mittens instead of gloves.
- Keep head covered; up to 40 percent of body heat can be lost when the head is exposed.

To learn more about winter safety, order Pinnacol's Slips, Trips and Falls Kit or request a copy of the Winter Safety Tips poster by calling 1-800-873-7242.

6° of Separation

Six degrees of separation is the theory that anyone on the planet can be connected to any other person on the planet through a chain of relationships with, at most, six other people: which means that no one is a stranger of the Chamber... for long.

Think back to when you were first introduced to the Chamber, who got you involved?

Starting in February the Chamber will host "Six degrees of Chamber Success" that we encourage business members that are NOT a members of the Chamber to attend and find out what they are missing. February 7th and March 14th at the Chamber offices at 4:00 p.m. are two dates you can pass on to those who are not members. If you would like special invitations to pass out, let us know we would be happy to make them available to you. Make sure to look in your New 2007 Directory to identify those business contacts that you have that are NOT listed, and pass the word.

Legislative Breakfast



REMINDER

Please remember to add The Chamber (stephanie.mcdonnell@aurorachamber.org and naomi.colwell@aurorachamber.org) to your address book to continue receiving our updates in your e-mailbox!

Leadership Aurora Class Explores Healthcare In Aurora

By Brian Egging, L'Oreal USA

On Thursday, December 14 the Leadership Aurora Class 2007 was given a unique opportunity to experience first hand some of the aspects that goes into today's healthcare system. The day started at the Medical Center of Aurora (North Campus) with a wonderful breakfast and a twist. Each student was "given" a disability for the meal. For many this meant the use of a walker or oxygen. Others could not speak or were easily fatigued. For all it meant a new approach to everyday tasks and the loss of some independence and a newfound appreciation for those living with disabilities and those that help them.

From there the class experienced a simulated cardiac arrest situation and the rapid response of the Emergency Medical Team. The class was then transported via ambulance to see where future paramedics receive some of their training and advanced simulations they go through before hitting the streets. The ambulance ride gave the students an opportunity to ask questions and learn about the coordination involved when transporting a patient.

After lunch the class was treated to an insightful



Pretty healthy crew – Members of the Leadership Aurora Class of 2006-07 pose in front of Rural-Metro Ambulance vehicles parked near their home base on Peoria in Aurora.

discussion by Dr. Joel Levine from the University Of Colorado School Of Medicine. In his discussion Dr. Levine presented numerous facts about today's healthcare system and why we are in our current predicament as a country when it comes to healthcare. His presentation created some lively discussions between classmates during break.

The day was capped off with an entertaining presentation of the "Visible Human" by Dr. Vic Spitzer from the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center. Dr. Spitzer

demonstrated how modern technology was being used to help students with anatomy without actually using a cadaver. The final presentation was an overview of the new Children's Hospital with its impressive architecture and state of the art medical facilities. What a coup for the City of Aurora to get such an impressive hospital after being in its current location for nearly 100 years!

The day turned out to be very educational and each classmate, regardless of their background, was able to take something away from the day.

Leadership Aurora grads sought to support class project at Excelsior

The Leadership Aurora Class of 2007 has chosen to partner with Excelsior Youth Center for their class project – but they are reaching out for some financial and material help.

They said their plan is to refurbish the auditorium and multi-purpose room on the campus of the residential treatment program for young women. To accomplish their project the class estimates it will need to raise a combined total of \$35,000 in cash and contributed materials.

Class member Kirk Downing said they were looking for everything from paint and stain to lighting fixtures and carpet. "We would like to upgrade lighting, the sound



system, the stage, and the seating," Downing said. "You can get a full list of what we need by giving me a call at 303-902-0718." He said tax deductible contributions can be made to the Aurora Chamber Foundation and designating them for the Leadership Aurora Project. Contributors will be recognized in the Leadership Aurora column of the **Impact** newsletter.

Lynn Myers named Chamber's Woman Sculptor of the Community

Lynn Myers will be named as The Chamber's Women In Business Committee's recipient of "Aurora Women: Sculptors of the Community" annual award. The awards program, sponsored by the **Aurora History Museum**, honors women whose accomplishments have an Aurora focus and have benefited the Aurora community.

As a community activist Lynn was named Aurora Business and Professional Women, Woman of the Year in 1989, then moved on to serve as a coordinator for a number of political heavyweights including Senator Bill Armstrong, Rep. Dan Schaefer and Rep. Tom Tancredo. She also gave her time and energy to the Aurora Economic Development Board, the Southeast Business Partnership and the Denver Regional Council of Governments as well as Preserve Sight Colorado, the Aurora Republican Forum where

she was a charter member and, of course, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. Her success culminated when she was elected Arapahoe County Commissioner in 2000. Even as a freshman she was not afraid to take on the tough jobs with the county always working to advance her community's civic, cultural and governmental interests. Visible, courageous, bright, always upbeat, our Woman Sculptor is, of course, Lynn Myers!

The awards ceremony will be on Saturday, March 17, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the Aurora Municipal Building, 15151 E. Alameda Pkwy. Each recipient of the award will receive a medallion with the award title and the City of Aurora's logo. The medallions were purchased through the generosity of Rich Allison, vice president of **Adolfson & Peterson Construction**.

Chamber Award nominations now being accepted

Recognize any of these people? They are past award winners from the banquet that honors and recognizes our community and business leaders from the Eastern Metro Area. And, once again it is time to collect nominations for those who have made substantial contributions to the Area. The list of awards are:

- **Business Of The Year**
- **Business Person Of The Year**
- **Chamber Leadership Awards**
- **Woman Of The Year / Man Of The Year**
- **Humanitarian Award**
- **Community Leadership**
- **Business For The Arts Award**
- **Small Business Person Of The Year**

Nominations can be made from the insert in the newsletter, home page of the Chamber website at www.aurorachamber.org or via letter or sent to email the Chamber. Take a

moment to consider a business or individual who you know has made a difference in any of those areas and send in your nomination soon.



Chamber Award winners from years gone by

[From **Buckley**, page 1]

our community. We've been partners with them for more than 80 years."

The base spent \$79.48 million in construction contracts and activities during the past year. The addition of the second child development center, Army aviation support facility and other projects all contributed to Buckley's economic impact.

With more than three dozen tenant organizations on the installation, Buckley continues to be the fastest growing Air Force base in the nation. It provides everything from family services for military members and their families to superior global surveillance, worldwide missile warning and expeditionary forces for combatant commanders, and support to Homeland Defense missions.

Data shows that Buckley contributed to the creation of 6,137 jobs in the community, which added approximately \$290.10 million to the local economy.

In addition to construction, indirect jobs and payroll dollars, the base contributed to the local area by purchasing goods and services from businesses throughout the Front Range community. The commissary spent \$12.19 million, the Base Exchange \$170, 958 and locally-provided health care added up to \$12.42 million. Service contracts were at \$43.96 million. Education costs for local training was at \$1.06 million, travel costs were at \$647,000 and more than \$30.04 million was spent on actual materials, supplies and equipment.

The Great High Line Canal Clean Up

Volunteers 8 years of age and older are needed for this year's Great High Line Canal Clean Up on Sat., March 17, 2006 (rain/snow date Sat., March 24) from 8 a.m. to noon. Registration will take place at the Community College of Aurora, 16000 E. Centre Tech Parkway, on event day.

Sponsored by Aurora Water, volunteers remove trash from the 11 miles of the canal that runs through Aurora before Denver Water's spring release of water, which turns the channel into a free-flowing stream leading into Sand and Tollgate Creeks.

The clean up protects a vital resource from pollution while improving the landscape for this high-use recreational area. This is also an opportunity to learn about the problems caused by littering and the importance of protecting and caring for our waterways by preventing pollution.

For more information or to register, contact the Clean Water Program at (303) 739-7372, or e-mail jscarbea@auroragov.org. Volunteers can also register online by going to www.aurorawater.org under the Events page.



Volunteers clean the Highline last spring

Member News

University of Colorado Cancer Center Names New Administrator

Donna Berrier has been named the administrator and associate director for administration and finance at the University of Colorado Cancer Center (UCCC).

Berrier has worked at the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center in a wide variety of administrative positions for more than eight years. Prior to moving into the university setting, Berrier served in a variety of administrative roles at such entertainment industry organizations as Radio City Music Hall, the Ascot Theatre and Walt Disney World.

RTD Board Elects Martinez

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) Board of Directors Officers for 2007 were selected during this month's Board meeting. Chris Martinez, who represents District B, including Northeast Denver and North Aurora was re-elected as chair. He was first elected to the RTD Board of Directors in 2002 and was re-elected in 2006. This is his second consecutive term as Chairman. Director Martinez received his B.S. from **Regis University**. He is a Senior Account Manager at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City-Denver Branch. He has over 30 years experience as a community and political activist, and has a long history of involvement in neighborhood schools. He is currently a member of several community and civic organizations.

UCDHSC Research Dollars Hit a Record \$374 million for FY 2006

The **University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center** received a record \$374 million in sponsored research grants during fiscal year 2006 –

roughly a three percent increase over 2005 – indicating that the university's researchers are thriving in a highly competitive national quest for public and private research dollars.

"In a time when most universities are facing reductions in funding, expanded compliance requirements and an increased competition for the research dollar, these numbers demonstrate the outstanding success realized by the faculty at the **University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center**," said UCDHSC Chancellor M. Roy Wilson, MD, MS.

Combined research for the entire University of Colorado system for fiscal year 2006 was \$640 million.

East End Arts District offers incentives

If you are thinking of relocating your business, opening a second branch, or starting up a new venture, the **City of Aurora** would like you to give some serious thought to the **Original Downtown Aurora Arts District**, says Kay Miller, Project manager for Aurora's Arts District. Recently branded the "East End" by the artists who have located down there, the District runs from Clinton to Geneva on the east and 14th to 16th streets north and south. "As a designated Urban Renewal area the Arts District offers a variety of funding mechanisms and incentives to assist with the renovation of properties as well as incentives for art and art related activities," Miller said.

Miller said the City has been successful in attracting a number of art uses such as studios and cooperatives. "Now we'd like to see related and complementary uses—especially restaurants, a sandwich and coffee shop, art suppliers," she explained. "The

idea for the area is to have a critical mass of attractions and uses to draw the new influx of consumers from Stapleton, Lowry and Fitzsimons. In fact the City has dubbed this area "Opportunity Triangle" because of its' strategic position in the center of all these emerging markets."

If you're interested in learning more about the opportunities in this area, contact Miller, at 303-739-7130 or at kcmiller@auroragov.org.

CBCA recognizes top Arts programs Statewide

The **Colorado Business Committee for the Arts** is seeking anyone interested in the arts and over 750 business, arts, and community leaders for an arts-infused celebration on Thursday, March 8, 2007. This Luncheon will recognize thirteen Colorado companies for their exemplary engagement with the arts, including philanthropic support, innovative use of the arts to propel business strategies, workforce involvement with arts and creativity, and the best work environments featuring arts and architecture. For more information on the awards, luncheon event, or to purchase tickets – visit www.cbca.org or www.blacktielcolorado.com and enter event code "artwork07". **The Chamber Business for the Arts Committee** is putting together their group to attend and help purchase a table. If you are interested, contact George at 303-344-1500.

Perez named to Governor's Staff

Carla Perez, vice chair of **The Chamber Transportation Committee**, has been named senior policy analyst for transportation in the Governor's Office of Policy and Initiatives. Perez has more than 18 years of experience in the field of

transportation policy and finance. She was a policy director for the Colorado Department of Transportation from 1991 to 1999, ran her own consulting business from 1999 to 2004 and was a project manager for **Carter & Burgess** from 2004 until her appointment.

Client Showcase

In conjunction with the Aurora Chamber of Commerce's Small Business-to-Business Expo on July 26th, the **Aurora BDC** will host a client showcase, enabling our clients to have a booth at this popular Chamber trade show and networking event. Call Naomi Colwell at **The Chamber** or **Chuck Hahn** at ABDC for further information.

AEF sets date for popular "Savor the Flavor"

The **Aurora Education Foundation** announced the date for the annual "Savor the Flavor" food and wine tasting fundraising event. The event will be held Saturday, April 28, at the Embassy Suites Hotel (I-70 & Havana) from 6 - 9:00 p.m. The popular event benefits the AEF Educators Scholarship Fund said AEF Executive Director Angela Hutton-Howard. "You will not want to miss this premier Aurora event that boasts of great food and drink for the adult crowd," she said.

The cost of the event is \$50 per person, which includes a souvenir wine glass and "all the food and libations that you can handle." Hutton-Howard said tickets are available from AEF Board members including Kevin Hougen and George Peck at The Chamber.

Ribbon Cuttings

All hands for Allstate – Kevin Johnson is joined by his staff and Chamber Ambassadors to cut the ribbon to his new Allstate office at 6155 S. Main Street in the Southlands Center. Johnson, a long time member of the Chamber moved to suite 290 right before the holidays. Offering a full range of the well known Allstate Insurance products he can be reached at 303-400-1356.



Opening the new shop — QSE Technologies, Inc. principals Marion Jenkins (center left) and Randy Scott (center right) are joined by Chamber President Kevin Hougen (far left), QSE staffer and Chamber Ambassadors as they mark the official opening of their new location at 359 Inverness Drive South in the Tech Center. The sparkling new facility provides additional office, work and storage space for the fast growing IT support company. You can check out QSE services at www.qsetech.com.

Buckley Air Force Base Co-Commanders Group inducts new members

Several Chamber members and other community leaders were inducted into the **Buckley Air Force Base** Co-Commanders Group during a ceremony on Jan. 17.

The Co-Commanders Group was established three years ago as a partnership between the **460th Space Wing** at Buckley and **The Chamber**, and has expanded to include military members from various tenants on base, including the **140th Wing of the Colorado Air National Guard**, the **Aerospace Data Facility** and the **Navy Operational Support Center**.



New Navy Brass – Jo Snell, with the E-470 Public Highway Authority hears the good news that she has been named a co-commander to Navy Commander Chris Hansen who heads the Navy Operational Support Center at Buckley AFB. Joining them during the ceremonial moment is 460th Space Wing Commander, Colonel Dave Ziegler.

Community and business leaders from the Aurora/eastern metro community are paired with military commanders and senior leaders to help expand the partnership and lines of communication between the Aurora community, the military and industry.

Col. David Ziegler, Buckley Base Commander and Commander of the 460th, hosted the induction ceremony at the Dining Facility of the 140th on base. **Diane Garcia (2 G Associates)**, Chair of the Chamber

Defense Council and Co-Commander to Col. Ziegler, congratulated and thanked attendees for their support of both Buckley and the military community in general.

"Buckley is a key part of not only our local economy, but our nation's security," she said. "The Co-Commanders Group is just one of many ways we can help say thank you to our troops for their service and dedication."



Another Big Moment — Rick Crandall, president of the Colorado Freedom Memorial and popular morning show host with KEZW-AM holds his medallion officially designating him as a co-commander to the 460th Space Wing Command Chief, CMSgt. Kevin Candler (right). Putting his seal of approval on the selection was Colonel Dave Ziegler.