

Entrepreneurs throughout city now eligible for financial assistance

For the first time, the **Aurora Business Development Center** (BDC) will expand its Small Business Revolving Loan program to entrepreneurs citywide, making even more qualified Aurora small business owners eligible for thousands of dollars in financial assistance.

Originally created to help northwest Aurora businesses recover from the decommission of the former Fitzsimons and Lowry military bases, the program is designed to help entrepreneurs retain and expand existing businesses, promote economic development, and create and retain jobs within the city.

Program loans can be used for most business-related expenses,

including renovations, equipment, inventory, leasehold improvements, working capital and more.

For consideration, loan applicants must submit a business plan, share previous tax returns and demonstrate sufficient collateral. Maximum loan amounts cannot exceed \$75,000.

Special consideration will be given to small business owners operating on high-profile commercial corridors, such as East Colfax Avenue, Montview Boulevard, and Havana Street.

The Aurora BDC also offers other loan programs, technical assistance and customized resources for the city's entrepreneurs.

For more information on the

Small Business Revolving Loan Program or to learn more about the Aurora BDC's services for small business owners, call 303-326-8690, or visit www.aurorabdc.com. You can also visit the center's office, located at 9801 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. 200.

The **City of Aurora** is home to more than 12,000 businesses, both big and small. With its proximity to several well-traveled transportation corridors, a highly educated population, reasonably priced retail and commercial space, and a family-friendly climate, the City of Aurora offers an array of economic opportunities for area entrepreneurs. To learn more, visit www.auroragov.org.

ABDC | Aurora Business Development Center

June seminars at the Aurora Business Development Center

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

FREE

Basics of Starting a Business

Thursday, June 14th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, FREE

FOLLOWED BY:

Writing a Winning Business Plan

Thursday, June 14th, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, \$25/person*

*Note: this class is preceded by the FREE Basics Class

* Package three \$25 seminars and pay only \$60 (payable at the first registered class; a voucher will be given upon receipt of payment). 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.

Clases in Español:

Sesión informativa gratis con Cultura Business Communications: 8 de junio, 6:30 PM

Por mas información, llame Santos Blan, (303) 326-8693.

The Aurora BDC is located in the Florence Square building:

9801 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. 200, Aurora, CO 80010-2154

Call for a map or directions: (303) 326-8690, or, go online: www.aurorabdc.com

Edward Jones

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Leisure Tech Industries
Mid America Carpet Brokers, Inc.
Parker Adventist Hospital
Hampton Inn Denver Southeast
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Broadview Animal Clinic
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George Elliott, LLC
Better Quality Packing & Crating
Chateau Shutter Co.
Crystal Rose
Providers Resource Clearinghouse
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Nichols Marketing Group
Dirty Duck Bar
The Bent Noodle
Dozens Restaurant
C.J. Mortgage
Crossland Economy Studios Aurora
Assisted Mobility, Inc.
A & A Glass Co.
Acme Distribution Centers, Inc.
Commerce Bank
Faison Office Products Company, LLC
Firearm Accuracy Safety Training, Inc.
Green Valley Ranch Golf Club
Jefferson at Aspen Ridge
Paragon Dynamics
Pre-Paid Legal Services
Sweet Tomatoes, The Salad Buffet Restaurant
Tony Rosacci's Fine Catering
University of Phoenix
2G Associates, LLC.
Arapahoe Library District, Smoky Hill Branch
Aurora Soccer Club
Boston Market Catering
Budget Car Sales
Comfort Inn & Suites
Community College of Aurora Foundation
GP Xpress
Kaleidoscope Aurora Council
RAM Industrial, Inc.

METRO COMMUNITIES

aurora | centennial | commerce city | denver



Upcoming Events

Thursday June 8

Leadership Aurora Graduation
The Summit Conference and Event Center
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Thursday June 15

Banks in Harmony
Bicentennial Park
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday June 21

Business Before Hours
Smoky Hill Library
Smoky Hill Rd and Biscay

Thursday June 22

Leadership Aurora Golf Tournament
Heritage Eagle Bend Golf & Country Club
7:00 a.m.

Thursday June 22

Banks in Harmony
Bicentennial Park
6:30 p.m.

Thursday June 29

Business After Hours
Kennedy Golf Course
5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Thursday June 29

Banks in Harmony
Bicentennial Park
6:30 p.m.

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!

Government Affairs and Education Committee chalks up successful year

By Kevin Hougen

The Chamber's Government Affairs and Education Committee reached a new level of success this year. Under the leadership of Committee Chair *Dr. Linda Bowman* and Vice Chair *Bob LeGare*, GA&E worked closely with The Chamber Board, *Axiom Strategies* (our lobbying group) as well as the state chamber, the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry, to take on a number of tough issues. The result was several of legislative victories including:

- Increased funding for state universities and colleges that allowed them to catch up with previous increases in student enrollment and a long run of declining state funding. This was especially important to our own **Community College of Aurora**.
- Improved funding for state transportation projects that infused extra dollars into maintenance of the state's roads that had been overlooked for several years.

- Restoration of tourism dollars to the tune of nearly \$20 million through gaming revenues.
- Defeat of bills that would impose additional costs on employers. Spoke out against bills that proposed raising fees or imposing mandates on our business members.

We developed close ties with partners like the **Cities of Aurora** and **Centennial**, and the **Adams** and **Aurora Economic Development Councils** to see to it that money freed up by the voter approved Referendum C was directed and distributed fairly. The Chamber also opposed the proposed retail tax increase to fund the **Aurora Mental Health Center** that was scheduled to go in front of voters on a special election date of May 2. The proposed tax increase was pulled at the last minute by AMH Board.

Here are a few of the key victories we helped obtain in the 2006 State Legislature session:

Health Insurance Mandate: Killed. HB 1316 required large

companies to fund employee health care, a move that would unfairly impact companies like **Wal-Mart**.
Health Facility Reporting Requirements: Killed. SB 141 mandated that hospitals would have to put in place many new and onerous reporting requirements.

Clean Air Bill: Vetoed. HB 1309 would have given the state the power to adopt clean-air standards that were more stringent than those required by the Federal Government.

Parental Leave: Killed. SB 66 required employers to give workers time off to attend children's academic events.

PERA Reform: Sent to Governor. SB 235 would stabilize the Public Employees Retirement Association.

Economic Development Support: Sent to Governor. HB 1017 would create a performance-based incentive for employers who create high quality new jobs in the state.

Tourism Support: Sent to Governor. HB 1201 would raise \$20 million from a portion of limited gaming revenues designated for

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Record snowfalls mean less to Aurora water

Aurorans are headed for another summer of water restrictions. But how can that be when Colorado's mountains received record snowfalls this winter?

Quite simply, it comes down to location.

While some of the mountain areas where Aurora gets its water received above average snow this winter, other areas were not as lucky. In total, Aurora's reservoirs were only 60% full by mid-April.

The lack of supply highlights the need for the City's Prairie Waters Project. The project, expected to begin construction later this year, is the fastest, most cost-effective way

to bring more high-quality water to Aurora. Once completed, it will increase the city's water supply by 20 percent.

The Prairie Waters Project will use a 34-mile pipeline to pump \$300 million worth of water Aurora already owns to the city for purification and distribution to customers. Once completed, it will provide a level of

stability and reliability to better protect Aurora's water supply from Mother Nature's unpredictability.

And our weather this year continues to remind us why this is so important. We live in a semi-arid climate. It is not a question of if the next drought will occur, but when. It is critical to our economy and our citizens that Aurora's water system is strong, reliable, and provides high quality water, regardless of weather. The Prairie Waters Project will help give us that assurance.

Aurora's reservoirs were only 60% full by mid-April.





Dr. Linda Bowman
Chair

The Chamber's fiscal year ended May 31, and I'm pleased to share that we have experienced another year of growth and positive cash flow. As I prepare to take the gavel as your new board chair, I have to admit I'm both excited and challenged as I look ahead. While the economy remains soft, the trends appear to be positive. And again our success will be a direct reflection of the strong business and community involvement and commitment our members continue to exhibit.

I'm confident the trend toward increased regional cooperation will continue to grow, giving us the opportunity to reach out to businesses, cities, counties, educators and community leaders to the Eastern

Continued from page 1

promotion of Colorado tourism.

The 2006 Colorado General Assembly was tense at times especially when it came to deciding where Referendum C dollars would be spent. They also had to cope with a number of ethics investigations and the ever-present threat of Governor vetoes. As of this writing many bills still were in the Governor's office where he had until June 7 to take action.

This summer The Chamber GA&E Committee will be closely monitoring several initiatives that may find their way onto the ballot this fall. Already

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 1600 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.

Chair's Letter

Metro Area as it continues to grow and prosper.

It is humbling to look back at the long line of great leaders that have sat in this chair. Remember, The Chamber was established in 1901 and is the oldest community-based organization in the Eastern Metro Area. It has always been a part of those important moments in our history especially in the areas of commerce, transportation, public policy, election issues, healthcare, government affairs, education, tourism and the support of our defense industry.

Looking ahead, we are committed to maintaining the strong partnerships we have so carefully crafted over the years. Both the government and the private sector must individually and collectively take bold steps for the recovery to reach its full potential. Colorado companies need to spend capital, hire good talent, expand their businesses' horizons and take educated risks.

My years of service with The Chamber board has made it clear to me that this is one of the hardest work group of directors anywhere. Even though they are all volunteers, they are truly engaged, bringing together the leaders of our community to work on initiatives for the benefit of all members

in place are two that will be seen on Nov. 7:

School District Expenditures for Education: Requires school districts to allocate at least 65% of operations budgets to direct classroom instruction. This is another well-meaning issue that may have a number of unintended consequences and will be closely examined.

Petitions: Increases petition rights, making it easier to put measures on local and statewide ballots. In a state that has already been described as "initiative happy" we will be scrutinizing this one for

and the mission and vision of The Chamber. Together with one of the hardest working staffs in the business, I'm confident we can tackle just about anything. While this next Chamber year will be one filled with many challenges, rest assured we will continue to work hard for you, our treasured members. Your success is our success. With over 105 years of building business in this area, we don't plan on slowing down now.

One last thing: I would be terribly remiss if I did not acknowledge the huge shoes I am about to fill. **Dale Mingilton** is a man of boundless energy and incisive intelligence. He was undoubtedly the most visible chair The Chamber has seen in a long time. Dale took it upon himself to visit—and contribute—to every committee and group in The Chamber. He was equally visible in the community, always wearing his Chamber nametag, always recruiting, always making a superb impression. The best part of taking on my new responsibilities is knowing Dale will still be part of our Board as a mentor and immediate past chair. Dale, on behalf of all of us—board, staff and members—our most sincere appreciation for all you have done. This Chamber, this community is a better place because of you.

long-term consequences.

It was a season of hard work as the GA&E committee listened to multiple speakers, worked hard to create a number of White Papers, debated internally a wide array of issues and successfully moved the business community ahead through their dedication and work.

All Chamber members can attend the Government Affairs and Education Committee. If you are interested in being part of this dynamic group, please contact the committee liaison, George Peck at george.peck@aurorachamber.org.

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!

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303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564
website: www.aurorachamber.org

Ribbon Cuttings



A Blossoming Rose – The well-known events location, the Crystal Rose celebrated a grand re-opening recently to mark the renovation of their facility to make it even more appealing. The Crystal Rose is conveniently located at 9755 E. Hampden Ave. near Kennedy Golf Course. If you are interested in having your next event there, contact Kristen Collard at 303-751-9443 or check them out on the Web at www.crystal-rose/crystalrosecasino.com



A Family Affair – It took the whole family plus a number of Chamber Ambassadors to get it done, but the new Harrison Hanover office facility located at 2228 S. Fraser St. Unit 2 in the Fraser Business Park near Jiff and Chambers is now open for business. For more information about this property, contact Debbie Lathram at 303- 337-9400 or go to their Web site at www.fraserbusinesspark.com to get the details.

Garden program teaches kids about nutritious choices

Fourth-grade students from Arkansas Elementary worked with volunteers from Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport to plant in-door school gardens as part of National Garden Month in April. The students learned how to transform two unhealthy, but often favorite, food choices—tacos and quesadillas—into healthy ones by adding fresh vegetables grown from their own school garden. The students planted all the ingredients they needed to create nutritious veggie tacos and quesadillas. Hilton Garden Inn's "Grow A School Garden" program is about



teaching children the many facets of gardening, the food cycle and the importance of the global environment. Photo courtesy of Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport.

Alpine CARSTAR Auto Body celebrates 25 years in business

This has been quite a year for Gary Boesel, owner of **Alpine CARSTAR Auto Body**, in Aurora. Last June, Boesel was selected as the 2005 Franchisee of the Year by CARSTAR, Inc. out of Kansas City, MO. Boesel was selected out of over 275 independently owned CARSTAR locations throughout the United States. Now six months later, Boesel is celebrating 25 years in business, having started his own body shop back in 1981.

As a young boy, Boesel would spend hours watching his father, an accomplished racecar driver in Northern California, repair his car and make it like new again. He knew at that early age that cars were in his blood and quickly developed a passion for racing and auto repair. The passion for racing led him into the Colorado Motor Sports Hall of Fame, and the passion for auto repair led him to start his own business, Alpine Auto Body.

He started his own business at 1420 Lansing Street in Aurora. In 1992, Boesel joined CARSTAR, the nation's largest collision repair organization, where he was able to increase his knowledge base and resources, resulting in the need to move his now thriving business to a

larger location. After much deliberation, Boesel found the appropriate size building and grounds to create the state-of-the-art auto body repair shop he long desired. The new location at 16255 E. 4th Avenue, near the 6th Avenue & Chambers Road intersection, is not your typical body shop. The store is 13,500 square feet, with 26 work bays and two paint booths and loaded with outstanding customer service.

It would be difficult to find a business with more dedicated and loyal employees than at Alpine CARSTAR Auto Body. A true benchmark of a successful business owner is noted by the longevity of his staff, as Alpine CARSTAR's Production Manager has been with the company for over 24 years, with several of his 18 employees having been there in excess of 10 years each.

Boesel also credits the support of his wife and business partner, Stacy, with the success of the company. Says Boesel, "Even after 25 years, I'm still fascinated with the process of car repair, especially when I see the excitement on a customer's face when their car looks new again."



Congratulations to Alpine Car Star, with 25 years in business. They celebrated being the #1 franchise out of 350 national Alpine CarStars. Located at 16255 E. 4th Ave, Gary Boesel, owner, is pleased to offer quality auto body repair and painting for Aurora.

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!

Member News

Regis University gains New Orleans administrator

Regis University's School for Professional Studies (SPS) announced the creation of a new position and appointment. Dr. Marcel Dumestre, former administrator from Loyola University in New Orleans, will become



Dr. Marcel Dumestre

SPS academic dean and professor of Ignatian mission and values. Dumestre will oversee the deans of undergraduate, graduate and teacher

education programs.

Dr. Bill Husson, who has served as academic dean of SPS for 14 years, and additionally as vice president for the past five years, now will expand on his vice president role, focusing more specifically on external relations, new ventures and partnerships.

Dumestre will begin his responsibilities in mid-June. For more information about the School for Professional Studies and its programs, please contact Kristen Blessman at 303-458-4273.

OccMed Colorado relocates Aurora clinic

OccMed Colorado, a medical practice specializing in occupational medicine and musculoskeletal care, will relocate its Aurora clinic to 3449 Chambers Road, Suite B, effective May 30, 2006.

"Our new location, which is closer to I-70, places us in the hub of Aurora business activity," said Monika Valentine, executive director of OccMed Colorado. "It is also convenient for businesses located at, or near, the airport as well as up and down the I-70 corridor. Our primary goal is to provide exemplary care to our clients' employees, returning them to work as safely and quickly as possible. We think a more convenient location will help us do our job better."

OccMed Colorado offers extended hours for primary injury treatment, on-site physical and occupational therapy, on-site radiology services and post-accident substance abuse screening.

With offices in Aurora, Denver and Thornton, OccMed Colorado's occupational health primary care physicians include Jade E. Dillon, M.D., Jeff Raschbacher, M.D., Gregory D. Smith, D.O. and Gary Zuehlsdorff, D.O.

The Aurora and Denver offices are open Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.; the Thornton office is open Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 8 a.m.-noon. For more information, call Jo Mauro at 303-757-2141 or Shirley Francisco at 303-341-1799. Visit online at www.occmedcolorado.com.

Aurora emerges as art center Sneak a peak

Sneak a peak at Aurora's emerging art scene from 5 to 8:30 p.m. June 23 and from noon to 5 p.m. June 24 at the 2006 Summer Art Walk in Original Aurora. More than 20 participating galleries, working studios and arts related venues will be open to the public for live performances, public receptions and open houses during these special hours to showcase a variety of art and artists in the East End Arts District, dubbed as such because of its location on East Colfax. The galleries and studios feature pottery and painting, jewelry and sculpture, performing and culinary arts, print and furniture making, and more.

Participants include East End Applied Arts, The Other Side Arts (TOSA), Red Delicious Press, Downtown Aurora Visual Artists (DAVA), Emmett Fine Furniture, Florence Griffith Pottery Studio, The Fox Arts Center, and newcomers The Mud Hut, Ad Lopez Originals, Elias Elias Gallery, Dangerous Pottery and The Dancer's Advantage. View public art is on view throughout the district in five locations including Uptown: A Place for Art and Community, a five-panel mural created by Denver artist Jason Needham and 40 DAVA youths that depicts a colorful community street scene. This public art project is one of five significant public arts projects totaling \$200,000 to be installed by summer 2006 in the East End Arts District. You can see this and the other artworks at www.auroragov.org/artinpublicplaces.

A map of the art walk route may be downloaded at www.auroragov.org/artwalk.

Volunteers will be posted along the route to direct visitors to the various locations, and free pedi-cabs will be available for those who cannot or do not wish to walk among the sites.

The event is sponsored in part by the Community College of Aurora's Arts and Humanities Department. To find out more, call 720.203.3575 or visit www.auroragov.org/artwalk.

Mull Retires from Chamber Staff



After more than eight years, The Chamber's Administration Director Lisa Mull has retired. The often flamboyant, always memorable staffer came to The Chamber following a number of special events planning positions. And while she was hired initially to be the primary special events

coordinator, she was soon taking on new duties to fill gaps in the staff including billing and bookkeeping, board secretary, and even newsletter editor. Her tenure at The Chamber was marked by a number of events but none as important as a Ribbon Cutting at Columbia College in 2000. There she met David Mull, then a professor at the school, now the Director of the Aurora Campus and Lisa's husband.

Mull plans to spend her retirement time largely working on her book, *Tales from Hillandale*, then do some traveling with Dave when he retires from Columbia College in a few years.

American Automation hosts open house



Proud owner Lisa Buckley celebrated a joint ribbon cutting with the South Metro Chamber and opening an additional location in Centennial.

Lisa R. Buckley, president of American Automation, Inc. announced that the company celebrated its 5th Anniversary and open house on April 20, 2006.

Founded in Castle Rock, CO by Ishmail N. Buckley, who serves as CEO, the company has had much success, including being recognized as the Fastest Growing Minority Company in Colorado in 2004, as well as being among the top 250 privately held companies in the State for the last 3 years running.

"We are excited and thrilled to reach this milestone," stated Ms. Buckley. "And, with our new location, updated Web site, www.americasautomation.com and continued technology advances for

our clients; we are looking to providing even greater levels of service.

The company lists as its primary clients, the Department of Homeland Security, Fort Carson, the City & County of Denver, Kiewit Construction, and Shaw Construction.

American Automation, Inc. is a Colorado-based company specializing in cyber security, physical security, building automation and project management. The company supports clients in the government, commercial, and residential sectors. They can be reached at 720-529-0764 or www.americasautomation.com.

"My freedom, your freedom, our freedom"

Joan Peterson, cultural arts supervisor, City of Aurora, writes about what she learned during the Leadership Aurora Military Day Session in April.

"Our class arrived at Buckley AFB, Building 700 promptly at 0730. Shortly thereafter we were informed that the Air-to-Air Refueling Mission had been cancelled. Although we were disappointed, we had an eventful day with informative briefings and tours. Buckley AFB currently supports more than 92,500 people throughout the Front Range community. This includes 2,700 active duty members from every service, 4,200 National Guard personnel and Reservists, 3,000 civilians, contractors, retirees and dependents. The Air Force Space Command-operated Defense Support Program (DSP) satellites (the giant "golf balls") are a key part of North America's early warning systems. Very important to Aurora, the Base contributes an

estimated \$1.22 billion annually to the local economy. Our 'windshield' tour of the base included the new chapel, fitness center and a surprisingly good meal in the cafeteria. Classmate Steven Muhs has been a very busy 'mayor' of the base.

After lunch, a pilot told us about the impacts of G-Force in which we found out that women handled G-Forces so well they are called "G-Monsters." Jake Harkins was our honorary class pilot after he put on all of the pilot's gear. We viewed the world through infrared glasses. Of special interest was hearing and seeing the F-16 Fighting Falcon, a compact, multi-role fighter aircraft. In an air combat role, the F-16's maneuverability and combat radius exceed that of all potential threat fighter aircraft. A very thought provoking discussion of survival and POW camp training increased my admiration for those who were in the camps. The discussion of



2006 Leadership Aurora class tours the maintenance hangar while visiting Buckley AFB

Door prize and ditty bag item donations still needed

The 8th annual Leadership Aurora Golf Tournament scheduled for Thursday, June 22nd at Heritage Eagle Bend Golf and Country Club is still in need of donations for ditty bag items. Small items such as golf balls, tees, pens and other advertising specialty-type items are requested. At least 160 of each item are needed for the ditty bags.



In addition, larger items such as gift certificates, gift baskets, restaurant dinners, golf shirts, golf bags or any non-related golf items are needed as door prizes. It's a great way to market your business at one of the premiere tournaments of the summer.

Call Kimberly at 303-344-1500 or e-mail kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org if you'd like to donate or for more information.



chemical warfare equipment and 'fashion show' with models, Kathi Ward and Tony Antista, demonstrated the rigors and endurance needed to perform tasks, especially in hot climates. Watching the take-off of an F16 provided an exhilarating end to the session. The importance of the military was stated perfectly by one of our speakers when he told us the reason he served was 'my freedom, your freedom, our freedom.'

Fiesta Aurora returns to Fletcher Plaza with authentic food, live music

Celebrate the art and culture of Aurora's Latino community at the second annual Fiesta Aurora from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. June 11 in Original Downtown Aurora.

Discover authentic food, Mariachi music, folklorico troupes, a mercado, Aztec dancing and popular local bands at this festive event. Live performances will take place on two stages, and a children's area will offer a variety of inflatable rides and activities. Admission to the event is free.

The festival will take place at Fletcher Plaza, 9898 E. Colfax Ave., the outdoor urban square adjacent to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library/Municipal Services Center. For more information, call 303-326-8FUN or visit www.auroragov.org/fiesta.

Fiesta Aurora is sponsored by Coors Brewing Co., the U.S. Army and the Army National Guard, with support from media partners La Grande Radio, CBS4 News and KDEN Telemundo.

Summer family film series to return for third season in Original Aurora

Enjoy eight Saturday nights of free outdoor fun in Original Downtown Aurora's Fletcher Plaza with popular, family friendly films on the big screen.

The 2006 Flicks on the 'FAX film series will run June 17 through Aug. 12, and movies will begin at sunset on a customized outdoor movie screen.

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs and get there early to secure the best seat on the plaza and enjoy pre-show activities ranging from craft projects to trivia games. Refreshments will be sold on site. Visitors will not be permitted to bring alcohol or dogs to the event.

The 2006 Flicks on the 'FAX film series schedule is as follows:

- June 17: Tim Burton's Corpse Bride (PG)
- June 24: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (PG)
- July 8: Legend of Zorro (PG)
- July 15: Madagascar (PG)
- July 22: Yours, Mine and Ours (PG)
- July 29: Zathura (PG)
- Aug. 5: Coach Carter (PG-13)
- Aug. 12: King Kong (PG-13)

Fletcher Plaza is located adjacent to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library/Municipal Services Center, 9898 E. Colfax Ave. at Elmira Street. Flicks on the 'FAX is sponsored by the Aurora Credit Union Alliance.

For more information, call the Flicks on the 'FAX hot line at 303-326-8804 or visit www.auroragov.org/flicks.

Annual awards banquet goes Hollywood

The Aurora Chamber's 51st Annual Awards Banquet

The Chamber honored ten significant community and business leaders in the Eastern Metro Area on Friday the 21st of April. With guest emcee, Gregg Moss from 9News a celebration of business and community proved to be the best social event in Aurora. Going with a themed event "Hollywood", Elvis, Marilyn Monroe, Joan Rivers and even the paparazzi were there to catch the stars at the event.

"Sponsored by **FirstBank of Colorado**, the dinner honored people and businesses that have made extraordinary contributions to both The Chamber and their community," said Kevin Hougen, president and CEO of The Chamber.

Awards include recognition of the Business of the Year, Man and Woman of the Year, The Chamber Humanitarian and Community Leadership Awards, Business for the Arts, and Small Business of the Year.

The black-tie event attracts nearly 500 guests, toasting champagne, enjoying filet mignon and enjoying the gala event of the year.

The evening closed with a "Changing of the Guard," transfer of leadership from the 2005 - 06 board chair Dale Mingilton to the 2006 - 07 chair Linda Bowman, who also introduced new board members.

Those honored were:

Man of the Year

Jim Greenlee, Wells Fargo Banks

Woman of the Year

Diane Garcia, 2G Associates

Business Person of the Year

Mark Moses, Outback Steakhouse

Chamber Leadership

Celeste Delahanty Sherbert, Doubletree Hotel SE

Community Leadership

Rob Rudloff, Atlanta Bread Company

Small Business Person of the Year

Bob Jamieson, Mutual of Omaha

Business for the Arts

Arts in Public Places, City of Aurora

Humanitarian

Danny Willcox and Nancy McCallin

Business of the Year

Adolfson and Peterson Construction

The Chamber is pleased to present the 2005 Award Winners.



Award Winners of 2005 - from top left, Chamber Leadership, Celeste Sherbert, Woman of the Year - Diane Garcia, 2G Associates, Business for the Arts - Arts in Public Places, City of Aurora Kim Harrell, Humanitarians of the Year Nancy McCallin and Danny Willcox, Ambassador of the Year, Steve Morin. Bottom from left: Small Business Person of the Year - Bob Jamieson, Mutual of Omaha, Business Person of the Year - Mark Moses, Outback Steakhouse, Man of the Year - Jim Greenlee, Wells Fargo Banks, Business of the Year - Adolfson and Peterson Construction - Rich Allison, and Community Leadership - Rob Rudloff, Atlanta Bread Company.



Traditionally an attendee gift is provided for those who come to the dinner. In lieu of that this year, Firstbank awarded \$1000 scholarships to the Aurora Education Foundation, Cherry Creek Schools Foundation and Community College of Aurora. Pictured here from left, Dale Mingilton from FirstBank, Diana Wye CCA, Angela Hutton - Howard from AEF, Gaye Leonard from CCSF and Kevin Hougen, president of The Chamber.



Mark Moses from Outback, Stephen Peck from Carrabba's and Amy Moses, Mark's beautiful wife say it's just like old times and take the opportunity to have a reunion of their own.



Annie Ayres from Comitis Crisis Center, Mitzi Schindler from the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center and Sarah Ellis enjoy catching up at the silent auction.



Chris Mills from Sam's, Cheryl Twesme from ALMC Mortgage and Mary Molicone from Kaiser, all classmates in this year's Leadership Aurora class, took a break from hectic schedules and enjoy this year's silent auction.



Joan Rivers was on the red carpet getting commentary from visitors. Here she tries to get Former Mayor Paul Tauer to dish some gossip, but he is close lipped and has "no comment".



"Hollywood" being this year's theme would not be complete without the paparazzi... as they waited outside the ball room to get autographs of all the stars of the evening.



Centennial Mayor Randy Pye sits back and enjoys the live auction of the evening.



Dr. Peter Durante, no longer a man to mess with, is the final bidder for that "Day with Aurora SWAT."



Micki Hackenberger from Axiom Strategies joins the crowd and starts bidding on some of the great live auction items.



Wells Fargo Table host Jim Greenlee listens to the announcements of the night, only to be surprised to hear he was awarded the "Man of the Year".



Teri Mingilton from Elimital Photography with Kevin Hougen, president of The Chamber, gets adorned in true "Hollywood style" with gifts and flowers for all her hard work as chairperson for the banquet committee.



9News Business Reporter Gregg Moss handles auctioneer duties with Chairman of the Board and title sponsor Dale Mingilton from FirstBank.



Board member Larry Grandison gets a moment of rest to enjoy the dinner and auction with his lovely date Vera Parker.



Live auction would not be complete without Stephan Peck from Carrabba's, who was the organizer of one of the evening's most popular auction items. With Dale and Gregg's help, Stephan managed to auction off a "Golf Fantasy for Four" which included chauffeur duties from Chamber staff, catered lunch, golf for four at Bear Dance, steak diner, scotch tasting and a ride home.

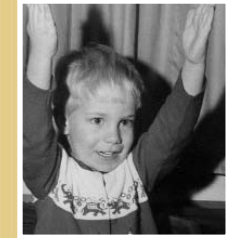


No Hollywood themed event would be right without a visit from Marilyn Monroe and Elvis.



A full house at the 51st annual awards banquet included business and community leaders from the entire metro area.

At every banquet, a progression of baby photos to current day photos are displayed before the winner is announced. Here are some of this year's winner's photos before we knew them today.



Bob Jamieson



Celeste Sherbert



Jim Greenlee



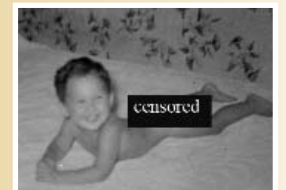
Danny Willcox



Diane Garcia



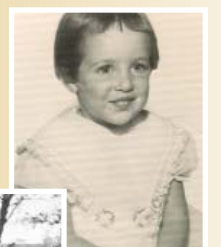
Rob Rudloff



Mark Moses



Art in Public Places



Nancy McCallin



Adolfson and Peterson Construction