

Government Affairs Breakfast
Community College of Aurora
January 12
7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.

Business After Hours
Summit Conference &
Events Center
411 Sable Blvd.
Jan. 22, 5:30 p.m.

Lunch & Learn Seminar
Aurora Chamber
February 5
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**EMTraC Semi-Annual
Transportation Update**
(Tentative)
February 6, 7:30 a.m.

Symphony Ball
Doubletree Hotel
February 7, 6:30 p.m.

Women Making a Difference
Embassy Suites Denver/Aurora
(Havana & I-70)
March 5, 7:30 a.m.

Aurora Chamber
of Commerce
Since 1901

Serving the
eastern metro
communities

January 2004

impact

N E W S L E T T E R

AURORA NAMED "SPORTSTOWN" FOR *SPORTS ILLUSTRATED* 50th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

Aurora has been selected as the *Sports Illustrated* magazine's 50th Anniversary "Sportstown" for the State of Colorado.

The award, won by the **City of Aurora** Library & Recreation Services Department and Parks & Open Space Department, was presented during a Sports Appreciation Banquet on December 2 in a ceremony by *Sports Illustrated*. Mayor Pro Tem *Nadine Caldwell* and former Mayor Paul Tauer accepted the award on behalf of the city.

"The *Sports Illustrated* Sportstown program brings to life the notion that sports are an enormous force for good in our country," said Bruce Hallett, *Sports Illustrated* president. "Aurora's commitment to finding creative and resourceful ways to enhance sports for the well being of its community fits perfectly with the principles of our Sportstown program, as well as the overall mission of our anniversary celebration."

One city from each state will be honored as a "Sportstown" in *Sports Illustrated* and announced from July 2003 to July 2004 in conjunction with the week a special section featuring that state's sports landscape is highlighted in the magazine. The Colorado section is in the December 15th issue.

The selections are made by *Sports Illustrated* and based on a variety of criteria that demonstrates a community's involvement in facilitating and enhancing quality sports. Communities are judged in the following categories: philosophy, policy and procedures, education and training strategies, youth development strategies, community commitment to parks and recreation resources, innovations for community development, and scope of programming. Each "Sportstown" recipient will be honored with a cash grant, recognition in *Sports Illustrated* magazine and on SI.com, and a special commemorative road sign that recognizes the community as an official Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary "Sportstown."



"The City of Aurora Library & Recreation Services Department and Parks & Open Space Department have an inclusive sports philosophy that uses sport as a youth development tool," said NRPA Executive Director John Thomer. "Their mission statement for youth sports is 'participation for all,' including a fun and safe environment, fundamental skill development, sportsmanship and camaraderie. This sensitivity to designing youth sports for building life skills made this Sportstown shine among a state made up of excellent sport communities."



FROM THE chamber chair

CONGRATULATIONS, AURORA, COLORADO... Selected #1 in Colorado!

Sports Illustrated 50th Anniversary
"Sportstown USA"

Sandy Neves
Chair



As the Chamber enters the new year of 2004 I feel excited about all the wonderful things that have happened this last year, and the new and exciting work we have ahead of us in 2004. Even though we are the "Voice of Business" in our community, we also realize that we need a strong community in order to be successful. We work hard all year on a better system for transportation, defense, education, healthcare, arts and tourism, but we also take great pride in what makes a great community.

Reflecting back on this last month has been fun and so rewarding. One of the premier magazines in the country is *Sports Illustrated*. Last month the City of Aurora was named the Colorado winner of *Sports Illustrated's* "Sportstown USA". The Executive Director of Business Development for *Sports Illustrated* Mr. Dick Raskopf, and Ms. Kathy Spangle, National Partnerships Director for the National Recreation and Park Association were in town to honor and recognize key contributors, both past and present, who have played a

significant role in the development of sports and athletics in Aurora. Our congratulations and admiration goes out to the entire community on this distinguished honor.

I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge the tremendous year Overland High School's Football program had and their state championship bid; they took second in the Colorado Football Championship Game. No doubt we also recognize greatness in Katelyn Kaltenbach, the junior from Smoky Hill High School in Aurora as she won Foot Locker's National Cross Country Championship on December 6th at San Diego's Balboa Park. It didn't end that day, either, for Aurora athletes. Kaltenbach's fellow teammate, Morgan Schulz, finished 11th, and in boys, Smoky Hill's Ryan Deak took sixth.

All in all, isn't this great and exciting news to be recognized and selected not only as **#1 in the State of Colorado**, but also **#1 in the Country**? We should all be proud and we should all be spreading the news about why this is such a wonderful place to work and raise our families. Congratulations again to everyone.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Chair of the Board</i>	Sandra Neves Fitzsimons Community Federal Credit Union
<i>Chair Elect</i>	Peter Kirchof Qwest Communications
<i>Secretary</i>	Jeannie Davis Now Hear This, Inc.
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gary Gilliard, Colonial Bank
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<i>Vice Chair Community Services</i>	Bob Steine Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine
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DIRECTORS

Tom Ashburn, <i>Xcel Energy</i>
Bob Barké, <i>Bar-K Insurance Solutions</i>
Dr. Linda Bowman, <i>Community College of Aurora</i>
Harrison Cochran, <i>Aurora Sun • Sentinel</i>
Jeannie Davis, <i>Now Hear This, Inc.</i>
Diane Garcia, <i>IIITC</i>
Gary Gilliard, <i>Colonial Bank</i>
Tish Glenn, <i>Aurora Mall</i>
Pam Graham, <i>United Airlines Cargo</i>
Carol Gregory, <i>The Medical Center of Aurora</i>
Pete Kirchof, <i>Qwest Communications</i>
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Wendy Mitchell, <i>Aurora Economic Development Council</i>
Lynn Myers, <i>Commissioner, Arapahoe County</i>
Sandra Neves, <i>Fitzsimons Community Federal Credit Union</i>
Tim Padilla, <i>Wells Fargo Bank</i>
Stephan Peck, <i>Carrabba's Italian Grill</i>
Tony Ruiz, <i>University of Colorado Hospital Administration</i>
Paul Short, <i>Paul Short Development</i>
Jo Ellen Snell, <i>E-470 Public Hwy. Authority</i>
David Snow, <i>U.S. Home</i>
John S. K. Song, <i>Attorney at Law</i>
Bob Steine, <i>Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine</i>
Ted Strickland, <i>Adams County Commissioner</i>
Craig Ward, <i>Padgett Business Services</i>

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<i>Receptionist</i>	Penny Lowman
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<i>VP, Membership Development</i>	Paul Rosenberg
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<i>Membership Services</i>	Mary Beth Sharp
<i>Special Events</i>	Debbie Lynch
<i>Volunteer</i>	Nancy Watson

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



Commercial Insurance Brokers Alexander-Krupka Insurance

6635 S. Dayton St.
Suite 130
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Bill Alexander
Principal

Phone (720) 889-3032
Fax (720) 889-3033
Toll Free (877) 930-2373

ribbon

C U T T I N G S

A Big Improvement – District Manager *Craig Smith* and Store Manager *Jay Janssen* are joined by Aurora City Councilman *Bob Broom* and Deputy City Manager *Nancy Freed* as they cut the ribbon to their new store. Lowe's is located at 4455 S. Buckley Rd.



Pumping It Up – *Jeanine Gordon*, manager of the new **Curves For Women** cuts the ribbon to her new store at 342 S. Chambers Rd. Curves can be reached at 303-306-9663.



Looking Buff – Owner *Gina Caswell* of **Ladies Workout Express** is joined by Chamber representatives as she cuts the ribbon to her new store at 5498 S. Parker Rd. Ladies Workout Express can be reached at 303-766-7430.



■ Pat Landaker named to Women's Chamber Executive Board

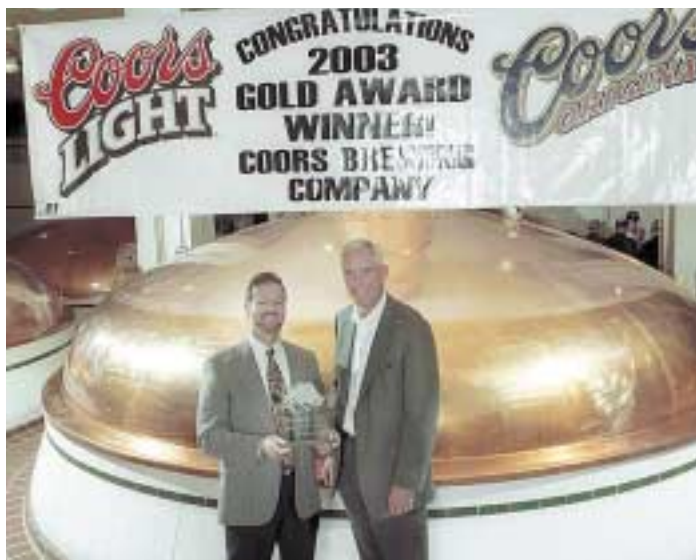
Pat Landaker, vice president of public relations and marketing for **Citywide Banks**, has been named to the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce Executive Board. Landaker's position will include the duties of board treasurer as well as creating and implementing a strategy for building partnerships with both corporate and nonprofit entities in an effort to enhance the chamber's community investment goals.

■ Precision Recruiting Wins 2003 Coors Corporate Gold Award

Coors Brewing Company honored **Precision Recruiting** as a Gold Supplier at a ceremony held at the Coors headquarters in Golden, Colorado. Precision Recruiting was among 12 firms selected from 6,000 brewery vendors, and the only staffing services firm among the winners.

"Precision Recruiting was selected because it exceeded Coors' high standards in the areas of quality service, cost, and innovation," stated Coors Director of Staffing, Tim Keefe.

Tony Bengtson, SPHR owner and president of Precision Recruiting, feels that recruiting is an intricate process that requires constant refinement. Precision Recruiting is a certified Minority Business Enterprise that provides highly qualified and talented people to fill both contract and permanent positions.



■ E-470 Sets Records With Thanksgiving Transactions

The **E-470 Public Highway Authority** set three records for daily transactions over the Thanksgiving holiday, including the second highest number of transactions for any single day and the highest usage ever recorded for a Wednesday.

The total transactions for Wednesday, November 26 totaled 151,787, and the total transactions for the month of November increased by 21 percent from last year. E-470 also broke day-of-the-week transaction records for Tuesdays and Sundays in November.

E-470 officials attribute the recent increase in drivers to the 70-mph speed, safety and reliability of the road. The recent opening of the Northwest Parkway has also boosted the number of drivers using the highway, according to E-470 officials.

■ New E-filing System for Annual Reports

New E-filing systems allow businesses to cut fees and save time in filing their annual reports with the Secretary of State. E-file reports are in "real time" so you can avoid any delays and extra expenses caused by mailing and processing. Visit www.sos.state.co.us to take advantage of this new feature.

■ Time to Renew Colorado Sales Tax Licenses

Businesses need to purchase their Colorado sales tax license for the next two-year period (January 1, 2004-December 31, 2005.) Current licenses expire December 31, 2003. For more information visit revenuestateco.custhelp.com.

■ *Francisco Garcia*, founder, president and CEO of **IITC** announced an endowment of \$100,000 for the Colorado Aerospace Education Foundation. Garcia is a strong advocate for education and the military community. In making the presentation, Garcia said that through IITC, he hopes to provide educational opportunities through scholarships and grants for Colorado educators and youth, according to the Air Force Association.

■ *Marion Jenkins*, of **QSE Technologies, Inc.** is one of 60 Denver-area business leaders who contributed to the new master's level textbook "Business Driven Information Technology: Answers to 100 Critical Questions for Every Manager" published by Stanford University Press this year.

The textbook, which was released in September at Governor Owens' Technology Summit at the Colorado Convention, is an IT reference that helps managers understand the processes that allow business professionals to successfully drive the use of IT in their organizations, according to co-editor David Laube in an article by the *Denver Business Journal*.

"In the 21st century, information technology is at the core of most business transactions," said Laube, who co-edited the book with Raymond Zammuto. "Today's managers must possess a thorough knowledge of all aspects of information technology so that they can ensure that there is an alignment of business and IT strategies, objectives and activity in their fields."

The book's topics include IT strategy, architecture, applications, networks, security, e-business and IT business processes. The book can be purchased at amazon.com for \$34.95.

SAVE THE DATE

Women In Business

Women Making a Difference

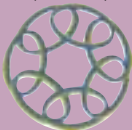
Location:

Embassy Suites
Denver/Aurora
(Havana & I-70)

Date & time:

March 5, 2004 • 7:30 a.m.

sponsored by



AURORA
CREDIT UNION
ALLIANCE

Make plans to attend this year's Women In Business event "Women Making a Difference" sponsored by **Aurora Credit Union Alliance**.

For more information or to RSVP please call 303-344-1500 or see our insert included in this month's newsletter mailing.

MEMBER

profile

Hoffman Heights Hardware, owned by *James Kurtzman*, is a friendly, neighborhood hardware store that has been around since 1963. Ed Kurtzman, James' father, became a partner in the store before Kurtzman bought it in 1985.

Hoffman Heights offers a variety of hardware products such as paint, cleaning supplies, plumbing supply and repair, keys, house-wares, lawn and garden furniture and outdoor decorations. They have been an affiliate of ACE Hardware since 1967.

Hoffman Heights has changed locations to expand from a 5,000 square-foot location to a 10,000 square-foot one at its current location at 644 Peoria St. in Aurora. The store was remodeled in 1985 and again in 1992, and two years ago an additional 4,000 square feet was added to bring the store to a total of 14,000 square feet.

While the neighborhood has continued to change around the store, Kurtzman said his business sees a lot of repeat customers. "Most of our business comes from within a mile of our store," he said. To keep up with the growth of the Hispanic community in the area, Kurtzman has hired many Spanish-speaking employees to better serve his customers. "We want to make it the best hardware store in Aurora," he said.

Hoffman Heights Hardware can be reached at 303-366-3524.



A fund-raiser for **Developmental Pathways** was held at the new Fatburger restaurant at Aurora City Place. TV Celebrity and owner of Fatburger Montell Williams stands with Dan Cohrs, CFO of Developmental Pathways and Kevin Hougén at the ceremony.



Representatives of Waste Management, a title sponsor of the Mile High Regional Partnership Luncheon, stand with the mayors of Centennial, Greenwood Village, Aurora and Denver on December 11.

Mayor Pye (2nd from left), Mayor Sharpe, Mayor Tauer, and Mayor Hickenlooper stand with representatives of Comcast, a title sponsor of the Mile High Regional Partnership Luncheon, on December 11.



The Aurora BDC offers the following seminars in January. All seminars take place at the Aurora BDC located at 9905 E. Colfax Ave. Package three \$25 seminars and pay only \$60 (in advance by cash or check only). Ask about the Aurora Chamber of Commerce member discount. Call the Aurora BDC to pre-register and for the location of individual seminars, (303) 361-0847.

"So, You Want to Own a Business" - a FREE one-hour orientation
Tuesday, January 13, 12:00-1:00 PM.

"Basics of Starting a Business"
Wednesday, January 21, 6:00 to 9:00 PM, \$25/person
Thursday, January 29, 1:00 to 4:00 PM, \$25/person

"Writing a Winning Business Plan"
Thursday, January 22, 1:00 to 4:00 PM, \$25/person
Wednesday January 28, 6:00 to 9:00 PM, \$25/person

"Marketing Your Business" - a two-session seminar, \$45/person
Friday January 23 and 30, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM

"QuickBooks for Beginners" - a two-session seminar, \$45/person
Tuesdays, January 27 and February 3, 9:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

"Starting Your Food Business"
Thursday, January 29, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, \$25/person

NEW: Lunch and Learn Series

at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce

Every first Thursday of the month

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

beginning with

"Networking to the Top"

February 5th, \$15/person

Developing strong business relationships can not only result in sales, but is also inexpensive and one of the most credible ways to market. Discussion will focus on developing relationships, cultivating referrals and gaining new business.

Pre-register with the Aurora BDC, (303) 361-0847. Prepay for 10 Lunch & Learn seminars @ \$100/person or for five seminars @ \$50/person (cash or check only). Includes a light lunch.

MEMBERSHIP

renewals

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce would like to thank the following companies for their recent renewals. We appreciate your commitment to continue your support of the Aurora and East metro business economy.

A&M Financial Services
Acme Carpet Cleaning
Alpine Auto Body
Arapahoe/Douglas Works!
Aurora Catholic FCU
Aurora Police Association
Aurora Public Schools-Admin Office
Aurora Sentinel
Bank One, Denver N.A.
Colorado Asset Management, LLC
Component Specialties, Inc.
Concentra Medical Centers
Drury Inn Denver East
Excalibur Title Company
FirstBank of Aurora
Flying J Travel Plaza
Graebel/Denver Movers
HeatherRidge Country Club
Iliff Square

Invisible Structures, Inc.
Leman Advertising
Lennar Family of Builders
Life Care Center of Aurora
Manpower
Olinger Hampden Mortuary & Cemetery
Optima Batteries, Inc.
Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc.
ProDivers
Red Lobster
Ryden and Associates
Safeway, Inc.
Sam's Club #6631
Semple Brown Design, PC
Strait Lumber Company, Inc.
Stan's Alignment and Brake Service
T. Charles Wilson Insurance
Van Schaack Holdings, Ltd.
Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc.
Westaff

NEW MEMBERS

Bear Creek Freelance
Café Opa
Clarion Mortgage Capital
CM Commercial Real Estate
Fitness Together
Golf USA of Centennial
Handyman Matters
LXC Strategies, Inc.
Prep Athletes Marketing & Videography
Private Counseling Services
RBC Mortgage
Sheraton Hotel- DTC
Smoke House Grill
Ted's Montana Grill
US American Heritage Real Estate LLC
Van Mar Inc.