

Serving the east-metro  
area including:

Aurora  
Bennett  
Centennial  
Commerce City  
Denver

# THE CHAMBER Impact NEWSLETTER

SEPT|OCT 2013

## Upcoming Events

### SEPTEMBER

#### Labor Day

Sept. 2  
Chamber offices closed

#### Business for the Arts Committee

Sept. 3 | 8 am

#### Tips and Leads 1

Sept. 3 | 8 am

#### Transportation Committee

Sept. 4 | 7:30 am

#### Government Affairs, Education, and Energy Committee

Sept. 5 | 7:30 am

#### Lunch and Learn Homebuyer Checklist

Sept. 5 | 12 pm

#### Young Professionals

Sept. 6 | 12 pm

#### Tips and Leads 3

Sept. 9 | 11:45 am

#### Tips and Leads 2

Sept. 10 | 7:30 am

#### Business Before Hours

Plains Conservation Center  
Sept. 10 | 7:30 am

#### Ambassador Team Meeting

Sept. 11 | 7:30 am

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## Healthcare event scheduled for November

Join us on November 1, 2013 for **Destination Health, Healthcare Crossroads: Navigating through change**. The event is a dynamic half-day of informational presentations about changes and trends in healthcare.

Topics include the past and present of healthcare; the latest on the Affordable Care Act, wellness in the workplace-and for you, and trends in healthcare.

*[continued on page 5]*



## Save the date...

As a Chamber member, you probably recognize the format of the calendar (right) that is mailed, handed out at meetings and events, and available at The Chamber office. The calendar is a useful tool to help you know when Chamber committee meetings and events are, so that you can add them to your calendar.

All of the Chamber Committee meetings, Business After Hours, Business Before Hours, and Noon Networkings are benefits of your Chamber membership - and Ribbon Cuttings are another no-cost opportunity for you to network and learn about other businesses.

The Tips and Leads groups, Ambassador Team, and Young Professionals are member benefits in which you can get involved for a small yearly fee.

Members are strongly encouraged to attend the ChamberMaster training in order to learn how to use the Chamber's database to promote their business - and the Member Orientation to familiarize themselves with all that the Chamber has to offer.

And of course, you can always contact any member of the Chamber staff with any questions! ■

THE CHAMBER Aurora • Colorado September 2013				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 <b>Labor Day</b> Chamber office Closed	3 Business for the Arts Committee 8 am Tips and Leads 1 11:45 am	4 Transportation Committee 7:30 am	5 Government Affairs, Education, and Energy Committee 7:30 am Lunch and Learn 12 pm Homebuyer Checklist—Courtney Morehouse—Your Castle Real Estate	6 Young Professionals 12 pm
9 Tip & Leads 3 11:45 am	10 Tips and Leads 2 7:30 am Business Before Hours 7:30 am Plains Conservation Center 21901 E. Hampden Ave. Aurora, CO 80013	11 Ambassador Team Meeting 7:30 am ChamberMaster Training 12:1 pm Leadership Aurora Board of Directors and Pre-retreat Reception 5:30-5 pm, and 5:30	12 Healthcare Committee 8 am Ribbon Cutting 11 am Prima Medical Institute 11001 E. Mississippi Ave. Aurora, CO 80012	13
16	17 Tips and Leads 1 11:45 am	18 Executive Committee 7:30 am	19 Taste of the Chamber/ Business After Hours 5-7 pm Red Lion Hotel Denver SE 3200 S. Parker Rd. Aurora, CO 80014	20 Defense Council Executive Committee 8 am Leadership Aurora Retreat
23 Tips and Leads 3 11:45 am	24 Tips and Leads 2 7:30 am Women in Business 12 pm	25 Board of Directors 7:30 am Member Orientation 12:1 pm	26 Defense Council 7:15 am 460th Space Wing, Buckley RSVP and EAL required <b>No Business After Hours - but join us for the Taste of the Chamber September 19!</b>	27
30	 signs & banners • copy & paste photo images • digital graphics <b>20% OFF*</b> YOUR NEXT ORDER WHEN YOU BRING THIS IN *See website 11091 E. Mississippi Ave. • Aurora, CO 80012 726-NEP-0829			

meetings held at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, 14005 East Alameda Ave., Suite 300, Aurora CO 80012, unless otherwise stated. For additional information go to [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org) or call 303-344-1500

THE CHAMBER Aurora • Colorado October 2013				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Your business card or advertisement here. <i>Call for details.</i>	1 Business for the Arts Committee 8 am Tips and Leads 1 11:45 am	2 Transportation Committee 7:30 am	3 Government Affairs, Education and Energy 7:30 am	4 Young Professionals 12 pm
7	8 Tips and Leads 2 7:30 am	9 Ambassador Team 7:30 a.m. Chamber Master Training 12:00 p.m.	10 Healthcare Committee 8 am Open House 2-4 pm V Wheeler for Aurora	11
14 Tips & Leads 3 11:45 am	15 Tips and Leads 1 11:45 am	16 Executive Committee 7:30 am Business Before Hours 7:30 am Falmouth Cemetery 430 South Quebec St. Denver, CO 80247	17	18 Defense Council Exec. 8 am
21	22 Tips and Leads 2 7:30 am Women in Business 12 pm	23 How To Do Business with Arapahoe County 11:30 am-1 pm 23 Board of Directors Meeting 7:30 am	24 Leadership Aurora Class 7:45 am-5 pm Community Day Session Business After Hours And Ribbon Cutting (5:30 pm) 5-7 pm Saddle Rock ER—A Campus of The Medical Center, HealthONE 22500 E. Dry Creek Rd. Aurora, CO 80016	25
28 Tips & Leads 3 11:45 am	29	30	Defense Council 7:15 am Hq CO National Guard, RSVP and EAL required 31 <b>Happy Halloween</b>	

meetings held at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, 14005 East Alameda Ave., Suite 300, Aurora CO 80012, unless otherwise stated. For additional information go to [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org) or call 303-344-1500



facebook



**Kevin Hougen**  
President & CEO

# President's Letter

## Aurora is filled with opportunities for business in every industry

### Travel, Tourism, and Spaceport

In the future, Aurora might be best known for its tourist attractions and convention business that will draw millions of visitors annually (Gaylord Hotel and Convention Center). Branding Aurora and Colorado as a travel hub is one of the goals of **The Chamber** and **Visit Aurora**. Travel and tourism is a \$ 2 trillion industry in the United States, supporting 14.6 million U.S. jobs and accounting for nearly 3 percent of the nation's gross domestic product and Aurora is continuing to develop and add to those impressive numbers.

**Front Range Airport** was designated as one of the first Space Ports in the country and the only one in Colorado. The research and development at Front Range will elevate and transport Colorado into new opportunities and



Front Range Airport

advancements in the fields of science and technology. Can you imagine a 23 hour flight to Sidney, Australia today, may only take 1.5 hours in the future? Twenty years ago, who ever heard of the I-Phone? The opportunities and unbelievable scientific advancements continue to amaze.

### Energy

Aurora is also one of the fastest growing oil and gas producing locations in the country. The oil and gas industry brings many benefits to our state, including providing essential resources, a boom in local jobs, and significant tax revenues that have helped Colorado ride out the recent economic downturn and avoid greater cuts to essential services. Aurora is also a regional leader for business-friendly attitude and a broad



FasTracks I-225 Rail Line

spectrum of factors making it an attractive location for businesses to operate and expand.

### Transportation and Education

Multiple modes of transportation, including highways and railways allow for efficient movement of goods and people, as well as a growing and convenient access for Colorado's labor pool, and its future labor pool — as Aurora is home to 14 universities and colleges. We are on our way to becoming a knowledge based economy.

A prime example of this knowledge based economy is the **Anschutz Medical Campus** and **Fitzsimons Life Science District**, one of the

[continued on page 10]

## ChamberBoard

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

#### CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Jeff Thompson | University of Colorado Health

#### CHAIR ELECT

David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance

#### IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

David Gruber |

#### PAST CHAIR ONCE REMOVED

Mark Moses | Outback Steakhouse

#### SECRETARY

David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance

#### TREASURER

Jason Altschuler | Westerra Credit Union

#### VICE CHAIR-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Dwight Taylor | Rocky Mountain Law Group, LLC

#### VICE CHAIR-COMMUNITY SERVICES

Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

#### VICE CHAIR-MEMBER SERVICES

Bob Jamieson | Mutual of Omaha

#### VICE CHAIR-PUBLIC ISSUES

Tom Henley | Xcel Energy

### DIRECTORS

Joe Barela | Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center  
Randy Berner | Adolfsen & Peterson Construction  
Larry Borland | CenturyLink  
Lisa Buckley | American Automation  
Renee Gullickson | Wells Fargo Bank  
Michael "Mickey" Hunt | Colo. Dept. of Military & Veteran Affairs  
Cindy Kreutz | Spalding Rehabilitation Center  
Todd Landgrave | Northrop Grumman  
Peter Lee | Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership  
Alfonso Nuñez | La Cueva Restaurant  
Suzanne Pitrusu | Community Banks of Colorado  
Cheri Prochazka | Fitzsimons Credit Union  
Ryan Simpson | The Medical Center of Aurora, HealthOne  
Matt Weber | Kaiser Permanente  
Michael Wukitsch | Children's Hospital Colorado

### HONORARY DIRECTORS

Tom Ashburn | Chamber Foundation  
Col. Floyd Dunstan | 140th Wing COANG  
Barry Gore | Adams County Economic Development  
The Honorable Steve Hogan | Mayor, City of Aurora  
Bill Holen | Arapahoe County Commissioner  
Wendy Mitchell | Aurora Economic Development Council  
Ron Weidmann | City of Centennial Mayor Pro-Tem  
Gary Wheat | Visit Aurora

### STAFF

Kevin Hougen | President and CEO  
Naomi Colwell | Marketing Director  
Kimberly Curtis | Leadership Director  
Chance Horiuchi | Business Development Director  
Linda Lillyblad | Finance Director  
George Peck | Senior Vice President  
Paul Rosenberg | VP, Membership Development  
Mitzi Schindler | Communications Director  
Mary Beth Sharp | Member Services Director  
Judy Booth | Volunteer  
Ben Knell and Khrist Thomas | ITT Technical Institute Interns

### ASSOCIATES

Kathryn Lobdell | Procurement Technical Assistance Centers  
Judy Emery | Healthcare Partnership Project Manager  
.....  
Mario Waller | Six & Six, inc. | Newsletter Design

### 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](http://www.aurorachamber.org), so you can forward it to every employee in your company!

### 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.



## APS Education Foundation Dinner is Sept. 26

The **Aurora Public Schools Education Foundation** is hosting the 2013 "Pathways to Success" Gala on September 26. The foundation leads the charge in funding educational initiatives and innovative opportunities for **APS** students, and this social occasion is the single biggest event in support of that mission. The proceeds will help **APSEF** obtain funds for scholarships for Aurora students at all levels and provide money to teachers for critical materials, projects, and other expenses.

The gala will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 26 at Infinity Park Event Center, 4400 E. Kentucky Ave., Glendale, CO 80246. The evening will feature a gourmet dinner, student performances and remarks by community leaders. The foundation will also present the Outstanding Alumnus award to **FirstBank's** Dave Baker.

For more information about the gala and to purchase tickets, call 303-326-2000, ext. 28943, or visit [regonline.com/apsefgala](http://regonline.com/apsefgala).

## BKD Announces Senior Manager & Manager Promotions

**Travis Webb, BKD, LLP** managing partner, recently announced the promotion of Bud



Bud Hollenkamp

Hollenkamp to senior manager and Brian Beiser and Heidi Haugen to manager. Webb says that Bud, Brian and Heidi deliver unmatched client service, embrace change, and show dedication to the firm's values and the accounting industry.



Brian Beiser

Career paths at **BKD** are divided into levels, and each position is defined by its own set of duties, responsibilities and competencies requiring cumulative and advanced degrees of education, training and experience. Personnel also must demonstrate their leadership abilities as coaches and mentors, as well as active community members.



Heidi Haugen

**BKD, LLP** is a national CPA and advisory firm that delivers experience and service with a deep understanding of business needs and what it takes to improve business performance.

**BKD's** 2,000 personnel, including approximately 250 partners, serve clients in all 50 states and internationally. To learn more, visit [bkd.com](http://bkd.com).

## CenturyLink Donates Food and Funds to Feeding Colorado

Leveraging its 6,800 employees in Colorado, **CenturyLink** collected 12,214 pounds of food and \$41,150 in cash donations for Colorado food banks during the 2013 **CenturyLink** Backpack Buddies Food Drive, June 3-7. With \$10,825 in employee cash donations, the **CenturyLink** Clarke M. Williams Foundation provided an



**CenturyLink** VPIGM Scott Russell (right) stands with **Food Bank of the Rockies** CEO Kevin Seggelke (center) and VP of Development Kim Ruotsala (left). **CenturyLink** made a \$27,500 donation to Food Bank of the Rockies as part of the 2013 **CenturyLink** Backpack Buddies Food Drive.

additional \$30,325 toward the effort as part of its annual corporate match.

To help feed the nearly 16.7 million U.S. children that do not have access to enough nutritious food, **CenturyLink** held its annual summer food drive statewide, asking employees to donate non-perishable food items and cash toward addressing childhood hunger through backpack programs.

The **CenturyLink** Backpack Buddies Food Drive supports Feeding Colorado through the **Food Bank of the Rockies**, Community Food Share, Food Bank for Larimer County, Weld Food Bank, Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado, Durango Food Bank and Sharing Ministries Food Bank.

"Feeding Colorado does excellent work in addressing the very real issue of hunger in our community and **CenturyLink** is grateful to help them in this task. We hope that our annual drive not only provides needed food and donations, but also raises awareness of this issue here in Colorado," said Kevin McCarter, President of **CenturyLink's** Central Region.

## Centennial Receives Budget Award

The **City of Centennial** recently received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its annual budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2013 from the Government Finance Officers Association. The award represents outstanding achievement in budgeting practices and effective budget presentation from a governmental entity. There are four guidelines that assess an effective and high quality budget which include: a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device.

"We are very proud to be recognized by the GFOA. Each year we strive to make the City's budget a high quality, transparent, and easy to read document that our citizens can understand," says **Centennial** Finance Director Dawn Priday.

## Concorde Provides Free Dental Care for Veterans

**Concorde Career College, Inc.** recently announced their *Share a Smile with a Vet*

program at its Aurora campus. While dental benefits are provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, in many instances veterans are not eligible for dental care through the VA. *Share a Smile with a Vet* addresses the overwhelming need for uninsured veterans to receive access to affordable dental care.

The program provides dental care for Veterans and their immediate family members until they can obtain employment and receive dental care through their employer. All work is performed by Dental Hygiene students under the close supervision of a dentist and the faculty at the Aurora campus located at 111 N. Havana Street, Aurora, CO 80010.

**Concorde Career College, Inc.**, is a private, post-secondary educational institution offering training in Dental Hygiene (AAS), Medical Assistant, Dental Assistant, Medical Office Administration, Surgical Technology, Respiratory Therapy (AAS), Practical Nursing, Nursing (AAS), Radiologic Technology (AAS) and Physical Therapist Assistant (AAS).

For more information, call 303-861-1151.

## How to Manage Generations at Work

On Wednesday, September 18, the **Adams County Workforce & Business Center** is holding a Lunch & Learn about Managing Generations at Work. Learn what drives the different generations and how to motivate them and bring out their strengths. Now more than ever it's imperative that managers understand how to effectively manage workers from varying generations.



Bring your lunch and spend some time learning how to manage the broad span of generations currently in the workforce. The **Adams County Workforce & Business Center** is at 4430 South Adams County Parkway, Suite W5000, Brighton, CO 80601. RSVP to Rebecca Post at 720-523-6923.

## OAR's Peg Alt Honored

**Original Aurora Renewal's** Community Outreach Specialist Peg Alt will be honored September 5 with the **City of Aurora's** 2013 Circle of Life Award. Since 1991, the Award has



Peg Alt

recognized individuals who demonstrate outstanding community leadership and have made extraordinary contributions to the **City of Aurora**.

Alt demonstrates her passion for Original Aurora, by organizing community clean-ups in north Aurora, leading community art projects that have generated awareness for the **Aurora Cultural Arts District**, and overseeing the annual Fall Fest held in City Park. It's for these contributions, as well as for her compassion and energy that the Northwest Aurora Neighborhood Association (NANO) selected Alt as the 2013

*[continued on page 4]*

Circle of Life Honoree. NANO representative Nadine Caldwell cites that Alt is an unstoppable leader of positive change.

Alt will be honored at the Circle of Life Ceremony on Thursday, September 5 at 5 p.m. in Aurora's Moorhead Park, 2390 Havana Street. To attend, RSVP to [jkatsaro@auroragov.org](mailto:jkatsaro@auroragov.org) or 303-739-7165.

## Quit Smoking: New Text Messaging Program Helps

Many smokers want to quit, but don't always have the right information or desire to call quit lines. The CO Quit Mobile system is an innovative and free text message-based quit smoking program, designed to give smokers instant support and coaching when it is needed, through their cell phones. The system is especially aimed at 18-24 year-olds.

To register, go to [www.COQuitMobile.org](http://www.COQuitMobile.org) and enter information about yourself and your smoking. This helps the system provide the best coaching along the way. The user is then able to prepare, make a plan, and start quitting with the assistance of the automated system. The short messages are adjusted as smokers progress through the quitting process. Those with smartphones can take advantage of a companion app that provides them with additional tools to help during the quitting process.

The system is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and it provides up to 30 days of counseling to help smokers quit.

To learn more or to register visit [www.COQuitMobile.org](http://www.COQuitMobile.org)



**A heartfelt donation to Comitis Crisis Center** — Students at the Florida Pitt Waller Elementary School wrote encouraging cards for homeless youth and also donated a large bag of change being counted by Comitis staff.

## DenverSCORE Business Counseling and Training Services

Whether you are just thinking about starting a business, starting a business, in business, or want to grow your business SCORE Counselors to America's Small Business, can and will help. Combined with always- free counseling, SCORE offers a series of small business start-up workshops and a variety of specialty courses. The workshops are taught by SCORE mentors and practicing professionals who are expert and current in their fields.

The low-cost basic start-up series will take you through testing your idea and understanding what it will take to put your business plan together and get into business. You can also learn how to select the right business structure, how to get the money you need, how to manage your business and tax strategies, and how to cover your risk and liability. In addition, you will learn how to market and advertise your business and how to use the

latest internet tools. The specialty courses help take the fear out of selling, teach the current trends in marketing your product or service, teach you to manage your business better by understanding what the financial numbers are telling you, teach you how to use QuickBooks, and much more.

For more information contact Bob Douthitt for face-to-face workshop information at [Bdouthitt@aol.com](mailto:Bdouthitt@aol.com), and Barbara Lewis for webinar/online workshop information at [balewis1@msn.com](mailto:balewis1@msn.com).

## Security Service Offers Scholarships for Graduating High School Seniors

**Security Service Federal Credit Union** (SSFCU) is currently accepting scholarship applications from area college-



bound high school seniors graduating in the spring of 2014. Winners will each be awarded with a one-time, \$2,500 scholarship to assist with college expenses.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a member, dependent of a member or grandchild of a member of **Security Service Federal Credit Union**. The applicant must rank in the top 15 percent of their graduating class, with plans to pursue a degree at an accredited two-year or four-year college or university. Students will be selected based on their academic achievements, community involvement, extracurricular activities and character.

Students can download the application online at <http://bit.ly/ssfcuscholars> or call 1-888-415-7878, extension 4613, to request an application. The deadline for submitting applications is November 1, 2013. ■

# Introducing the 2013-2014 Leadership Aurora Class

The Chamber Board of Directors and Leadership Aurora Board members are proud to introduce the 2013-14 Leadership Aurora class. Class members were selected through a competitive application and interview process. The purpose of the ten-month program is to develop awareness of the Aurora area - its strengths, challenges and opportunities; to

enhance leadership abilities; to create a network of informed, concerned leaders; and to encourage greater involvement in the community. Class members will kick off their year in September with a two-night opening retreat in Winter Park and will continue with eight monthly sessions from October through May.



*New class members include:*

**Chinaka Agwu**, Aurora Mental Health Center  
**Kirsten Anderson**, Aurora Mental Health Center  
**Toby Arritola**, Cherry Creek School District  
**Donna Baiocco**, Community Housing Partners  
**Sunny Banka**, Sunny Homes & Associates Inc.  
**Sean Choi**, FirstBank of Aurora  
**Otis Clayton**, Aurora Veteran's Affairs Commission  
**Martin Clough**, Aurora Police Department  
**Cameron Donegan**, Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
**Vicki Ekberg**, Restoration Outreach Programs  
**Nathan Harvey**, Rural|Metro Ambulance  
**Joshua Howerton**, Rural|Metro Ambulance  
**John Keene**, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #1  
**Mike Kuhn**, CA Technologies  
**Michael Lawson**, City of Aurora  
**Stephanie Marshall**, Goodwill Industries of Denver  
**Charlyn McCallum**, Concorde Career College  
**Robert McGranaghan**, University of Colorado/Anschutz Medical Campus

**Helen Miller**, Citywide Banks  
**John Mullin**, Colorado Air National Guard  
**Scott Newhouse**, Aurora Police Department  
**Sarah Pretzer**, Community College of Aurora Foundation  
**Doug Robinson**, American Family Insurance  
**Mark Ryan**, Keller Williams Real Estate  
**Isaac Saka**, First Presbyterian Church of Aurora  
**Vicki Scott**, Aurora Youth Options  
**Scott Sechrest**, Colorado Air National Guard  
**Sheryl Skelton**, The Salvation Army  
**Jeanne Spinelli**, ASR Business Consulting, Inc.  
**Mike Stanley**, Aurora Fire Department  
**Christina Stump**, Buckley Air Force Base  
**Wayne Thompson**, Advantage Security, Inc.  
**Melissa Toering**, City of Aurora|Water  
**Amy Wiles**, Kaiser Permanente  
**Michael Yaggi**, Iron Mike Construction



## Chamber President and CEO honored



Kevin Hougen (third from left), **Aurora Chamber of Commerce** President and CEO holds the **Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry (CACI)** award that was presented to him at the recent Chamber Board of Directors Retreat. Hougen was named the CACI Chamber of Commerce Chief Executive of the Year for 2013. Also pictured (l-r) are Jeff Thompson with **University of Colorado Health** and Chair of the The Chamber Board; Dave Tabor, **CACI** Senior Vice President for Business Partnership who presented the award; Hougen; and **City of Aurora** Mayor Steve Hogan. Hougen has been with **The Chamber** for 17 years, first serving as the Vice President of Sales and then becoming CEO in 1999. He is a fearless advocate for business. As Mark Moses with **Outback Steakhouse** and former chair of **The Chamber** Board stated in his letter of recommendation, "Kevin is a tireless campaigner when it comes to protecting and supporting the business community, and is responsible for opening up multiple opportunities worth millions of dollars in revenue to the small business community." (Photo Courtesy of CACI)

## Auto Pros offer automobile health tips

A new member of The Chamber, **AutoPros**, located just west of Buckley AFB at 231 Airport Blvd., in Unit B, recently did a ribbon cutting and reception to show off their new business. The owners, Renee' and Edgar Leon were full of advice for car owners that they shared with us.

Here are some simple, do-it-yourself tips to protect your car (and your wallet!) from unexpected repairs:

- Check the oil level every couple weeks or every couple times you fill up with gas
- Look under and around your car. Check for puddles and be sure to check to see how much air is in the tires
- Look at your owner's manual and know when maintenance services are due and follow the guidelines.
- Involve your friends & family! Help each other to see that the vehicle lights are all working.
- If you hear strange noises, do not turn up your radio! Get your car looked at by a professional.

Don't wait for warning lights. Be on top of your car's needs and it will take good care of you. If your car DOES have a light come on or another symptom discussed



above, stop by any shop and have it checked over. Much like taking care of your health, it really is better to address maintenance and small concerns before they become BIG problems!

For more car-related tips, Like us on Facebook/AuroraAutoPros.

Renee' & Edgar Leon  
AuroraAutoPros.com

## Get Your Tastebuds Ready for a Treat!

The Taste of the Chamber on **Thursday, September 19 at the Red Lion Hotel Denver Southeast** will tempt your tastebuds and satisfy your palate with a delicious assortment of culinary samples and wine and beer.

Tickets are \$25, but discounts are available for early registration. To purchase tickets, go to [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org) and click on the Taste of the Chamber logo on the left side of the page under the scrollable Upcoming Events. ■



### Restaurant participants include:

Carrabba's	L&L Hawaiian BBQ
Outback Steakhouse	Marsala Xpress
Rubios Mexican Grill	Red Lion Hotel
Daniel of Paris	Hilton Garden Inn
Macaroni Grill	Prince Thomas BBQ
Atlanta Bread	Dry Dock Brewery
McAllister Deli	Coyote Gold Margaritas
Legends of Aurora	Java Cup

## DESTINATION HEALTH (continued)

Breakout sessions include heart health through the ages; how technology is bringing specialty care to the bedside; Medicare and Social Security; healthcare and your Worker's Comp; preventive exercise and nutrition for aches and pains; breast health; healthcare reform impact on business owners and individuals; children in the healthcare system; hospitals of the future; and your primary care provider may not be a doctor! how your healthcare experience may change. Attendees will need to choose first, second, and third choice for the breakout session they would like to attend when registering, as space is limited for each session.

Sponsors to-date include **Children's Hospital Colorado, Kaiser Permanente, Parker Adventist Hospital, The Medical Center of Aurora and Rocky Mountain Hospital for Children - HealthONE, University of Colorado Health, Concorde Career College, CollegeAmerica, Colorado Workforce Development Council, Pinnacol Assurance, Regis University** and the **Red Lion Hotel Denver Southeast**. For sponsorship and resource table information, contact Mitzi Schindler or Naomi Colwell at 303-344-1500.

Register today at [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org) and click on the Destination Health logo on the left side of the page, under the scrollable Upcoming Events. ■



# RibbonCuttings



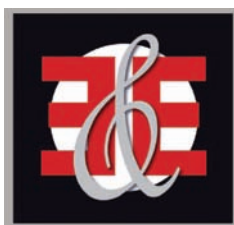
**Playing at Southlands** — Jeff Nemec, General Manager of **Southlands** prepares to cut the ribbon for the new **Playground Pals** at Town Square. The event, held on July 26, generated a large crowd of 'next generation' **Chamber** members – as well as (left to right, adults) Chamber Ambassador Team member Ken Melcher, **Chamber** President Kevin Houghton, Nemec, Ward 6 **Aurora City Council** member Bob Broom, **Chamber** Vice President George Peck, and **Chamber** Director of Business Development Chance Horiuchi. The celebration included the announcement of names for the **Playground Pals'** Buffalo and Mountain Lion, as well as goodie bags for the first 100 children and Zumba for kids provided by the **Southlands** Kid's Club and the **Aurora Family YMCA**. (Chamber photo)



**Committed to providing what you need** — New Chamber member **Walker-Dilworth Insurance** partners Glen Dilworth (with scissors) and Michael Mares, along with Arapahoe County Commissioner Bill Holen, **Walker-Dilworth Insurance** agent Earnest Reese, and **Chamber** President Kevin Houghton, prepare to cut the ribbon. **Walker-Dilworth** has been providing insurance in the Metro area for more than 20 years, and offers auto, home, business, life, health, and personal insurance with the motto that "the customer is always first." They are located at 1500 Leyden St. in Denver, and can be reached by visiting their Website at [www.walker-dilworth.com](http://www.walker-dilworth.com) or calling 303-370-0923. (Photo courtesy Rosalyn Reese)



**A great cup of Java and more!** — Chafig Belcaid, owner of **Java Cup** at 15099 E. Hampden Ave., cuts the ribbon for his coffee shop that has a drive thru and a patio – serving breakfast and lunch, and offering catering. A great cup of coffee and free Wifi are also part of the package! **Java Cup** is open 6 am-7 pm weekdays, 7 am-7 pm Saturdays, and 7 am-4 pm Sundays. (Chamber photo)



## Empowering women to overcome life's challenges

— On Thursday, August 16, **Essence & Empowerment** celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony, to usher in their program designed to overcome life's challenges.

The **Essence & Empowerment** staff come from diverse backgrounds and share personal experiences of significant life-changing events, and each has evolved from "victims to victorious." The team was formed to inspire, educate, and uplift women of all ages, cultures, and lifestyles to successfully overcome life's challenges. **E&E** programs rejuvenate individual empowerment and enlightenment through education in an environment filled with encouragement, respect, dignity and FUN! Classes/Seminars provide life-tools on topics including relationships, finance, career, health, self defense, and inner/outer beauty. **E&E's** goals are to provide a support system to help create effective habits through personal clarity, goals, strategy, and action. The process starts with learning to love yourself. As a former police officer, **E&E** CEO Sherrel Roland (center with scissors) is very aware of the importance of self defense. Two years ago, her daughter was sexually assaulted at the age of 16. She felt helpless and at the same time very determined to get her life back on track. She now sees herself as an advocate to help women restore and re-empower themselves. Victim or not, all girls and women will benefit from this program. (Chamber photo)





**Breaking ground for maintenance-free living** — **The True Life Companies** (TTLIC) invited home shoppers to attend a pre-opening “dusty boot” and groundbreaking event at Fairfield Village at Quincy Reservoir on Saturday, August 10. The preview offered a first-hand look at Fairfield Village’s maintenance-free homes, tranquil setting and construction-in-progress. The new collection of 2-4 bedroom duplex homes are priced from the mid \$200,000’s. Partnering with **TTLIC** are E4G Contracting to build-out the project and PorchLight Real Estate Group as the broker for the Fairfield Village community. Home shoppers can call to schedule a private tour by calling Erin Jeppson, PorchLight Real Estate Group at (303) 947-5891.

**The True Life Companies** is a strategic real estate investment, development and management firm with headquarters in San Ramon, California; and offices in Phoenix, Arizona; and Denver, Colorado. For more information on the company, visit their website at [www.TheTrueLifeCompanies.com](http://www.TheTrueLifeCompanies.com) or at [www.facebook.com/TheTrueLifeCompanies](https://www.facebook.com/TheTrueLifeCompanies).

Pictured, front row, left to right are new homeowners, the Whipple family; E4G Superintendent Ernie Ackerly; R/E Agent Erin Jeppson; **The True Life Companies** Partner Donald Kirby; R/E Agent Simon James, and Ambassador Team member Ken Melcher. Back row: E4G Owner Chris Eberly; **The True Life Companies** Brock Champman; John Sharp, **Chamber** Vice President George Peck; E4G Superintendent Rob Fry; and new homeowners, the Hendrix family. Not pictured, E4G Construction Logistics Senior Business Advisor Gordon Eberly. (Chamber photo)



**Just for old times’ sake** — Jeff Holler, President of the **Aurora Federal Credit Union** is joined by other Credit Union staff, customers, and Chamber Ambassadors as he prepares to cut the ceremonial ribbon to mark the financial institution’s 45th Anniversary. The celebration included give-aways and a picnic lunch for all the guests that included **Aurora** Mayor Steve Hogan and **Aurora Chamber** President Kevin Hougen. (Chamber photo by Chance Horiuchi)



**Top 10 appliance brands, mattresses and great customer service** — **The Sears Home Appliance and Mattress Showroom** at 6290 S. Main St., #108 in Aurora (Southlands Shopping Center) recently held a ribbon cutting to celebrate the new store in Southlands. In addition to Chamber president Kevin Hougen, customers and Chamber members, **Sears Home Appliance and Mattress Showroom** Marketing Director Mike Johnson (third from the left), Owner Dan Johnson (fourth from the left), and Sales Associate Michael Barrick (with the scissors), Alvin McPherson (behind Barrick), and Store Manager Peter Gross (far right), were happy to officially celebrate the opening of the store.



**A Tune-up with Your Ribbon Cutting?** — Renee’ and Edgar Leon, with the assistance of their daughters, Josie and Maci, and the company of **Aurora** Mayor Pro Tem Marsha Berzins, Ambassador Team members, and happy customers, joyfully cut the ribbon for their new business, **Auto Pros, LLC.**, a full-service preventive maintenance and automotive repair center, providing high quality, guaranteed service at a fair price. They repair domestic and foreign vehicles and are an excellent choice for scheduled maintenance.

**Auto Pros, LLC.**, is a family owned and operated business employing the latest diagnostic equipment to guarantee that vehicles are serviced correctly while maintaining any manufacturer’s warranty. They are located at 231 Airport Blvd., in Unit B. Call (720) 216-1522 to schedule an appointment, or visit the Website at [www.auroraautopros.com](http://www.auroraautopros.com).

## New Aurora Public Schools and Cherry Creek Schools Superintendents greet the community

Dear APS Community Members:

I'd like to introduce myself and emphasize how honored I am by the APS Board of Education's decision to hire me as



Rico Munn

Superintendent of Schools. This is truly a privilege, and I look forward to serving the Aurora community as your new superintendent. I have no doubt that, together, we can accelerate achievement for all Aurora Public Schools students.

I want to thank Superintendent John Barry for his vision and leadership. John leaves behind a solid foundation and innovative initiatives that we'll continue to build upon.

Being superintendent provides me with the opportunity to impact students in Aurora because I am embedded in this community. My children go to school here. I go to church here. Fundamentally, the work that APS does and the students that APS serves are directly related to the work I have done throughout my life.

In my first month, I will meet with staff, parents, students and community members to prepare for the first day of school, which is August 6 for most students. My priority during the first quarter will be to assess what is really working in APS and to deepen my understanding of our opportunities and challenges. I will visit as many schools and support sites as possible to continue to foster relationships with our students and staff. My goal is to build on our strengths and overcome any challenges that interfere with student achievement.

I will also visit with community members to learn what you think are the strengths and challenges in Aurora Public Schools. I look forward to the opportunity of meeting all of you.

Sincerely,

Rico Munn

Superintendent, Aurora Public Schools



Hello:

As the new Superintendent of Cherry Creek Schools, I look forward to continuing the



Harry C. Bull, Jr.,  
Ed.D.

strong partnership our district has with the Aurora Chamber, the City of Aurora and many other organizations in Aurora. Together, we are supporting the development and academic achievement of our students, preparing them for success in higher education, the military and the workforce, and to be active participants in our democratic society. That, in turn, contributes to stable property values and enhances the quality of life in our community.

The Cherry Creek School District serves 52,000 students in Arapahoe County. More than 29,000 of our students live in Aurora. Twenty-five of our 42 elementary schools are in Aurora, along with seven of our ten middle schools and four of our six high schools. We are the second largest employer in Arapahoe County and many of our employees live in Aurora.

We are proud of what we've accomplished in Cherry Creek Schools; our students consistently score above the state or national averages on TCAP, ACT and SAT tests and our graduates earn more than \$40 million in scholarships annually. At the same time, we recognize that more work needs to be done. We begin the 2013-14 school year with a renewed and unwavering commitment to our goal of Excellence and Equity – which means raising the achievement of ALL students and closing the achievement gap. Our students and our community deserve nothing less.

I want to thank you for your partnership and support of our students and schools. I look forward to continuing to work with you.

Sincerely,

Harry C. Bull, Jr., Ed.D.

Superintendent, Cherry Creek Schools



## Partnership moving forward with perioperative course

The **Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Partnership** has recently developed an industry recognized Perioperative 101 course through **Metropolitan State University of Denver**. The course was created in partnership with the nurse subject matter experts from all of the partner hospitals, the National Association of Operating Room Nurses, the public workforce system and **Metro State University**. The course

is a blended program including didactic classroom instruction on theoretical concepts, knowledge, and skills, online modules, clinical skills laboratories, and a clinical preceptorship of 132 hours in the operating room.

The course assists the hospitals in recruiting and hiring nurses trained within an in-demand occupation. Perioperative 101 is full for the fall semester, but will be offered again in the spring

because of the large number of students requesting it. The course will be used as a model for developing future industry recognized training curriculum within the healthcare industry.

For more information about the **Partnership** and its programs, contact [Jemery@arapahoe.gov](mailto:Jemery@arapahoe.gov) or 720-785-3672. ■





**A proclamation and celebration of Aurora's diversity** — In a special ceremony held at the Aurora Municipal Building, Mayor Steve Hogan proclaimed August 5 as International Day in Aurora. The Mayor read the proclamation that "encourages citywide celebrations, in unity to promote cultural awareness and understanding." Mayor Hogan also thanked Ms. Sungup Cha (left) and Ms. Young Ju Cho for their culinary contributions to Korea Days held in August. They received plaques from **The Chamber** to commemorate the special recognition. (Photo courtesy of the City of Aurora, Kathy Cable, Sr. Public Information Officer)

## Banks in Harmony: Farewell to the 27th Season



Hazel Miller "wows" the crowd at the final Banks in Harmony concert of the season on August 8 at Meadowood Park, with her signature Blues, Jazz, and Rhythm and Blues.

Thanks to all of the sponsors of this year's concerts: **Aurora Cultural Services, KEZW Radio, Citywide Banks, FirstBank, Wells Fargo, and The Chamber.**

And to the Chamber member food vendors: **Cold Stone Creamery, L&L Hawaiian BBQ, Woody Creek Bakery and Café, Legends of Aurora Sports Grill, Maid-Rite Diner, McAlister's Deli, and A-Town Pizza.** (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris Photographer)

### Upcoming Events (con't.)

#### ChamberMaster Training

Sept. 11 | 12 pm

#### Leadership Aurora

Board of Directors meeting and Pre-retreat Reception  
Sept. 11 | 3:30-5:30 and 5:30 pm

#### Healthcare Committee

Sept. 12 | 8 am

#### Ribbon Cutting

Pima Medical Institute  
September 12 | 11 am

#### Tips and Leads 1

Sept. 17 | 11:45 am

#### Chamber Board Executive Committee

Sept. 18 | 7:30 am

#### Taste of the Chamber | Business After Hours

Red Lion Hotel Denver SE  
Sept. 19 | 5-7 pm

#### Defense Council Executive Committee

Sept. 20 | 8 am

#### Leadership Aurora Retreat

Sept. 20-21

#### Tips and Leads 3

Sept. 23 | 11:45 am

#### Tips and Leads 2

Sept. 24 | 7:30 am

#### Women in Business

Sept. 24 | 12 pm

#### Board of Directors Meeting

Sept. 25 | 7:30 am

#### Member Orientation

Sept. 25 | 12 pm

#### Defense Council

460th Space Wing, Buckley AFB  
Sept. 26 | 7:15 am

## OCTOBER

#### Business for the Arts Committee

Oct. 1 | 8 am

#### Tips and Leads 1

Oct. 1 | 11:45 am

#### Transportation Committee

Oct. 2 | 7:30 am

#### Government Affairs, Education and Energy Committee

Oct. 3 | 7:30 am

#### Young Professionals

Oct. 4 | 12 pm

#### Tips and Leads 2

Oct. 8 | 7:30 am

#### ChamberMaster Training

Oct. 9 | 12 pm

#### Healthcare Committee

Oct. 10 | 8 am

#### Open House

Wheeler for Aurora  
Oct. 10 | 2-4 pm

#### Tips and Leads 3

Oct. 14 | 11:45 am

#### Tips and Leads 1

Oct. 15 | 11:45 am

#### Chamber Board Executive Committee

Oct. 16 | 7:30 am

#### Business Before Hours Fairmount Cemetery

Oct. 16 | 7:30 am

#### How to Do Business With Arapahoe County

Oct. 16 | 11:30 am-1 pm

#### Defense Council Executive Committee

Oct. 18 | 8 am

#### Tips and Leads 2

Oct. 22 | 7:30 am

#### Women in Business Committee

Oct. 22 | 12 pm

#### Chamber Board of Directors

Oct. 23 | 7:30 am

#### Leadership Aurora Class Community Day Session

Oct. 24 | 7:45 am-5 pm

#### Business After Hours and Ribbon Cutting

Saddle Rock ER-Campus of The Medical Center of Aurora, HealthONE  
Oct. 24 | 5-7 pm

#### Defense Council

Oct. 26 | 7:15 am

#### Tips and Leads 3

Oct. 28 | 11:45 am

#### Happy Halloween

October 31



Aurora, Colorado

largest bioscience redevelopment projects in the United States. The 578-acre site is undergoing a \$5.2 billion transformation that will result in more than 18.5 million square-feet of space dedicated to excellence in health care, education and research. The Fitzsimons Life Science District is "where business and science come together to develop innovative technologies that will change the future of healthcare."

## Healthcare

The Chamber is excited to bring Destination Health to our communities on November 1 at

the Red Lion Hotel at 3200 S. Parker Road. This dynamic half-day of seminars brings more than twenty healthcare experts together to help educate the business community about the healthcare crossroads we all face and how to navigate through all of this change!

## Collaboration

Collaboration within our economic region and the free enterprise system has been the platform for prosperity, opportunity and advancement for years in the Metro area. Today, we're still struggling with economic uncertainty that results in a lackluster recovery, a tepid labor market and stagnant incomes. Unleashing free enterprise, rather than restraining it with regional tug-of-wars over what side of the street a business is located on, is the best way to turn things around. Collaboration spreads prosperity, and economic freedom fosters healthy

competition, and both spur innovation and gives customers access to the best services and products. Opportunities in Aurora should be encouraged and not stifled because of jealousy. Jealousy takes away the fundamental American ideals of equality of opportunity and rewards based on merit and hard work!

Aurora and its partners in the region have something for everyone, with opportunities for business in every industry. ■



Artist concept of the Gaylord Hotel in Aurora

## MemberRenewals

Academy Roofing, Inc.  
ALMC Mortgage @ Nova Home Loans  
aloft Denver International Airport  
American Automation Building Solutions  
AMFirst Bank  
Anchor Network Solutions, Inc.  
Aurora Schools Federal Credit Union  
Bent Fork American Grill  
Bernard Financial Services  
Beverage Distributors  
Big O Tires Havana  
BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse  
Boy Scouts of America - Denver Area Council  
Buckley Bargain Storage  
Carrabba's Italian Grill  
CBS Outdoor  
Cherry Creek Retirement Village  
Cherry Creek School District # 5  
Colorado Insurance Professionals  
Colorado State University-Global Campus  
Comitis Crisis Center, Inc.  
Cookie Company, The  
Courtyard by Marriott - Denver South/Park  
Debbie Lynch  
Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park  
Denver Community Credit Union  
Developmental Pathways  
Doug Milliken, CPA  
Education Foundation for the Colorado Nat  
Edward Jones Investments - Patrick Pogue  
Ent Federal Credit Union  
Fairfield Inn - DIA  
Fairfield Inn & Suites - Southlands  
Faison Office Products Company, LLC  
Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que  
Fire Safety Services

Flag World CO  
GBSM  
Goodwill Industries of Denver  
Graebel/Denver Movers, Inc.  
Grandma's Handyman Service, Inc.  
HomeSmith Real Estate, Inc./Metro Brokers  
Itec  
Job Corps  
Job Store, The  
Joe's Crab Shack  
Les Schwab Tire Center #151  
Merrick & Company  
Morin Wood Finesse  
NextCare Urgent Care  
Northfield Stapleton, The Shops at  
Office Depot - Ironton St #03272  
Outback Steakhouse - Abilene St.  
Outback Steakhouse - Centennial  
Quality 1st Plumbing  
Regional Transportation District (RTD)  
Sam's Club Abilene  
Sam's Club Aurora Pkwy  
Short Elliott Hendrickson  
Smoky Hill Rotary Club  
Spirit of Aurora  
StorQuest Self Storage  
Summit Services, Inc.  
Suss Buick GMC  
Trilogy Benefits, Inc.  
Tutoring Club of Smoky Hill  
Tyco Integrated Security  
United Veterans Committee of Colorado  
University Physicians, Inc.  
Wear Parts & Equipment  
Weaver & Company  
Xcel Energy

## NewMembers

Angela Lawson  
5280 Financial Services, LLC  
American Express OPEN Small Business  
Credit Cards  
Assurance Fire Systems  
Auto Pros, LLC  
Balboa Park Homes Association, Inc.  
Bryan Construction, Inc  
Caribbean Breeze  
CDIS Sign Design & Print  
Community Computer Connection  
ConocoPhillips  
Courtney Morehouse - Independent Realtor  
Denver SCORE  
Discount Benefit Plans  
Epic Construction, Inc.  
Essence & Empowerment  
Gardens On Havana, The  
Grease Monkey - Oil Shack, LLC  
Hand & Stone Massage and Facial Spa  
Insperity  
Intelsat General Corporation  
Mile High Spine and Sport  
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Old Chicago - Aurora  
Rocky Mountain Credit Card Processing LLC  
Ruffhouse Athletics  
The Growth Coach-Comandari  
Webster University

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Deadlines: the 10th of the month prior to publication.

14305 E. Alameda Ave Ste. #300  
Aurora, CO 80012  
303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564  
website: [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org)