

### May seminars at the Aurora Business Development Center

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

#### Basics of Starting a Business

Tues., May 15, 6:00 - 8:00 PM — FREE

Want to know how to turn that business idea into a reality? This two-hour overview will cover legal structure, trade name registration, business and sales tax licenses, basic business planning—and includes an entrepreneurial assessment! Recommended companion seminar: Obtaining Business Financing

#### Obtaining Business Financing

Thur.,May 17, 10:00 AM- 12:00 — FREE

This two-hour overview will cover the different sources o capital including SBA and micro-loans, lending criteria, and fundamentals of the loan application, package and process. A must-attend if you are seeking financing for your business!

#### Smart Marketing

Tues., May 1, 9:00 AM - 12:00 — \$25/person

Increase sales by understanding and improving your marketing strategies to ensure you are getting your message an products to your customers. Learn how to differentiate your business from competitors, various strategies to attract new customers and keep existing ones, how to increase customer spending, cost-effective promotional ideas, the essentials of target marketing, and more. Don't miss this one! Recommended companion seminar : Writing a Winning Business Plan

#### Getting Results from Your Web Site

Tues., May 8, 9:00 AM - 12:00 — \$25/person

Learn ways in which you can increase the effectiveness of your Web site. Presenters will discuss fundamental concepts of web marketing and optimization including selection of web developers, site visibility, competitive analysis, site usability, search engine optimization, and paid web marketing strategies. Bonus! Participants receive a FREE one-on-one evaluation of their Web sites using the principles learned from the seminar. Scheduled appointment required.

#### QuickBooks For Beginners

Tues.,Mar.6 & 13,1:00 - 4:00 PM

\$45/person — a two-session seminar (3 hrs. each)

Location: MLK Library, Computer Lab

QuickBooks is an easy-to-use tool that can simplify your business bookkeeping system. Learn how to set up a computerized business accounting system, create invoices, reconcile accounts, generate financial reports and more. Includes a step-by-step manual. Familiarity with Windows operating system required.

#### Starting a Restaurant or Food Business

Tues., May 15, 1:00 - 4:00 PM — \$25/person

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

#### Sales Tax Made Simple

Thur., May 10, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM — FREE

Representatives from the Dept. of Revenue and city of Aurora will cover sales and use tax, types of licenses, sales tax collection, overview of tax forms, filing a sales tax return, Home Rule issues, and much more!

#### Clases de Pequeños Negocios con Cultura Business Communications

17 de mayo

Location: El Centro Municipal de Aurora

15151 E. Alameda Pkwy., en el piso 3, cuarto Lowry  
Estos seminarios serán impartidos por especialistas en diferentes áreas de negocios que le ayudarán a elevar su negocio a un nivel superior. Favor de llamar al (303) 337-6282 para más informes, o llame Santos Blan, (303) 326-8693. 17 de mayo

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

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

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

#### HOW TO REGISTER:

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

## Renewals

Adams State College Foundation

AMLI at Gateway Park

Aurora Association of Realtors

Aurora Corporate Plaza

Aurora Singers

Bradley M. Pierce Legal Services, Inc.

Broadview Animal Clinic

Chateau Shutter Co.

CM IT Solutions

Colorado Community Bank

Corporate Express

Costco for location #439

Crossland Economy Studios Aurora

Cunningham Fire Protection District

Doubletree Hotel Denver SE

E-470 Public Hwy Authority

Embassy Suites Denver Int'l Airport

Empire Tax & Accounting, Inc.

Extended StayAmerica Denver - Aurora

Farmers Insurance Group/Marie Boling

Felsburg Holt & Ullevig

Fitness Concepts Inc.

Fun Productions, Inc

Grease Monkey

Hampton Inn Denver Southeast

Heritage Eagle Bend Golf & Country Club

Konica Minolta Business Systems

M&T Mortgage Corporation

The Medical Center of Aurora - HealthOne

Merry Maids S.E.

Mid America Carpet Brokers, Inc.

Mike & Ton's Stick-e-Star

New Hope Family Chiropractic

Nichols Marketing Group

Raytheon Company

Servicemaster Commercial Cleaning

Signs By Tomorrow

Smith Barney

Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital

Surgical Consultants of Aurora

U-Store-It

United Hebrew Cemetery Association

University of Phoenix

Waste Advantage Inc.

Wells Fargo Banks - Buckingham Square

Wells Fargo Reverse Mortgage

World Financial Group



### Upcoming Events

#### Business Before Hours

May 9 | 7:30 a.m.

Drury Inn

4380 Peoria St

#### Women in Business

May 16 | 8:00 a.m.

Chamber Offices



#### Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon

May 18 | 11:30 a.m.

Radisson Hotel SE

#### Business After Hours

May 24 | 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Black Eyed Pea

14300 E. Exposition

#### Banks in Harmony

June 14, 21, 28 | 6:30 p.m.

Bicentennial Park

(Alameda and Potomac)

#### Leadership Aurora Graduation

June 7 | 11:30 a.m.

Summit Conference and Events Center

#### Events Seminar Lunch & Learn

June 14 | 11:30 a.m.

Aurora Chamber

#### Defense Council

June 28 | 7:15 a.m.

Colorado Army Guard-Buckley AFB

(RSVP required)

#### Business After Hours

June 28 | 5:30 p.m.

Jim & Nicks BBQ

### 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!



## Awards Banquet 2007— *Not shaken but definitely stirred*

The **Four Points Sheraton** was aglitter with beautiful women and handsome gentlemen on April 24 as The Chamber once again honored the best of the best in the Eastern Metro area at the 52nd Annual Chamber Awards Banquet. The James Bond 007 theme seemed to bring out the best in the approximately 500 community leaders who attended the gala event sponsored by one of Aurora's newest organizations, **The Children's Hospital**.

The major fund raiser for the Chamber, the night featured 007 himself, James Bond and a number of the famous Bond girls, two of whom escorted Chamber President Kevin Hougen to the stage where he once again worked his folksy magic as the evening's Master of Ceremonies.

In addition to honoring the community's most outstanding leaders (see photographs), part of the evening was devoted to the transition of the 2006-2007 Board of Directors to the new 2007-



**He's the Man** — Dale Mingilton, Senior Vice President of *FirstBank Holding Company of Colorado* holds forth at the podium during **The Chamber** Annual Awards Banquet on April 13. *Mingilton not only served as the events live auctioneer, he was also recipient of the prestigious "Man of the Year" award for his outstanding service to the community and The Chamber.*

2008 Board. Dr. Linda Bowman reviewed her very successful year and formally handed the leadership of the Board over to Bob Barké. Together they welcomed new board members Joe Barela, Judy Booth, Col. Trulan Eyre, Mark

*[See **Banquet**, page 6]*

## Prairie Waters Project on track for summer groundbreaking

The City of Aurora's Prairie Waters Project is nearing the start of construction, according to a spokesman for Aurora Water. He said ground will be broken for the new water purification plant early this summer, followed a few months later by construction on the pipeline. The \$754 million water supply project will bring an additional 3.3 billion gallons of water to the city annually by late 2010, which is 20 percent more than is currently available.

The project is one of the largest water supply projects in the Rocky Mountain Region and will help chart the future course of water supply planning for the Front Range.

"Aurora needs more water," said Dana Ehlen, Acting Director

of Aurora Water. "After evaluating 54 options for how to get it, the Prairie Waters Project was chosen because it was the fastest and most economical way to increase our water supplies," he said.

Project representatives are available to come to your company or organization to provide a presentation on the project the spokesman said. "This may be a good opportunity for Aurora companies that have brown bag lunch sessions for their employees," he said.

For more information on scheduling a presentation for your organization call 303-739-7477 or e-mail cpd\_info@auroragov.org.

## Showcase Aurora preparations begin

With summer well on its way, **The Chamber** is gearing up for the annual **Showcase Aurora**, an opportunity for members to promote their business not only to other businesses, but to the public as well.

Organized like a classic tradeshow, but with the informal atmosphere The Chamber brings to all its events, **Showcase Aurora** is scheduled to replace the Business after Hours on July 26. The popular event running from 5 - 7:30 p.m., will once again be held at the Radisson SE (I-225 & Parker). Booths are available for \$175. Cost includes food and drink at the event. Chamber organizer Naomi Colwell says sponsorship are still available. She can be reached at 303-344-1500 or via email at naomi.colwell@aurorchamber.org.

Not sure how to do a trade show right? The Chamber is also offering a free training seminar on June 6 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. The seminar is free to Chamber members, but reservations are required for this valuable informational meeting.

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

15091—B East Mississippi Ave  
Aurora, CO 80012

#### EVERTON (EV) SEQUEIRA

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## NEW MEMBERS

Amazing Jakes Food & Fun  
Courtyard by Marriott - Cherry Creek  
Divapreneurs Magazine  
EJBG Fitness, LLC 1-2-3 Fit  
Entree Vous  
Gary Gilliard

Grease Monkey  
The Honeybaked Ham Company  
Kelli's Kitchen  
LandAmerica Title Company  
P.B. Loco  
Vericomm Corporation, Inc.





**Kevin Hougen**  
*President & CEO*

Springtime in the Rockies, two feet of snow in Douglas County, Sixth Avenue in Denver flooded out, record rainfall in Aurora and this weekend we expect to see the thermometer top out at 81 degrees. It was so nice to have two days of spring this year. We really do love Colorado!!

Chamber Defense Council Chair **Ms. Diane Garcia** and I spent this past week at Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs. The Air Force Space Command, led by General Kevin Chilton, hosted us for the Spring Commander's Conference. Col. Dave Ziegler and Chief Master Sgt. Kevin Candler from the **460th Space Wing** at nearby Buckley AFB attended the conference along with Diane and I. We did get snowed in for one day, but that gave us even more time to spend with the senior command leaders of the U.S. space professionals.

It was exciting to learn about developments such as the United Launch, the joint operations program between **Boeing** and **Lockheed Martin** that will bring close to 800 new employees to the metro area. One of the missions at Buckley AFB is the Space Based Infra-red System (SBIRS) that will be expanding along with the new Medical Care Facility at **Aurora North Medical Center**. The new

### The Chamber's Mission

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

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

## President's Letter

privatized military family housing (351 new homes) on the west side of Buckley is close to completion, with more than 200 people on a waiting list ready to move in.

As Buckley AFB and the aerospace industry in Colorado continue to grow, other parts of the Air Force will be bucking that trend. Next year the Air Force will reduce its total manpower from 359,000 down to 311,000. Diane and I left the conference with even a stronger feeling of support for the hard work and dedication that these men and women bring to the war effort and how the protection of this great country that relies on these true war fighting heroes from the United States Air Force Space Command. The next time you see one of these heroes in uniform, please thank them for their sacrifice in serving to protect the freedoms we sometimes take for granted.

### Vote For Business, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

For decades, unions have been a declining force in the workplace. Fifty years ago, 35 percent of all workers belonged to unions. Now just seven percent of private sector

employees do. Labor leaders blame their troubles on the process workers use to decide whether or not they want to be represented by unions, saying it's stacked against them. That process usually involves employee secret ballot elections overseen by the National Labor Relations board. Unions win more than half of these elections but they've come up with a process under which they won't lose—**eliminating private ballot elections**. Under their new proposal, unions would be certified as the bargaining agents for workers once they persuade a majority of eligible employees to sign authorization cards. Unions would have as long as they need to collect signatures. This is called the "card check" process and would be open until they win the vote.

The House got it wrong when they passed the card check bill last month. The Aurora Chamber along with the U. S. Chamber is working to ensure that the Senate doesn't repeat their mistake, and we need your help. Contact your Senators and ask them to oppose the "Employee Free Choice Act." Call toll-free 866-346-VOTE (8683).

## Asian Pacific Breakfast



**Scholarship Winners** — Lena and Anna Chen pose with their father, Sheng and Chamber President Kevin Hougen. The Rangeview High School students were among more than 50 youngsters honored at the annual Asian Pacific Breakfast on March 24 for their scholarship in Aurora schools.

**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!

### Board of Directors

*Chair of the Board*  
Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions

*Chair Elect*  
Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority

*Secretary*  
Diane Garcia | 2G Associates

*Treasurer*  
David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance

*Immediate Past Chair*  
Dr. Linda Bowman | Community College of Aurora

*Past Chair Once Removed*  
Dale Mingilton | FirstBank Holding Company

*Vice Chair-Business Development*  
Margo Jamison | Kaiser Permanente

*Vice Chair-Community Services*  
Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

*Vice Chair-Public Affairs*  
Jim Suss | Suss Pontiac - GMC

*Vice Chair-Member Services*  
Dr. Kathy Boyle | University of Colorado Denver Health Sciences Center

### Directors

Tom Allee | *Frontier Airlines*  
Rich Allison | *Adolfson & Peterson Construction Company*  
Bob Barké | *BAR-K Insurance Solutions*  
Joe Barela | *Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center*  
Bill Becker | *Adams County Economic Development*  
Judy Booth | *Fitzsimons Community Federal Credit Union*  
Dr. Linda Bowman | *Community College of Aurora*  
Dr. Kathy Boyle | *University of Colorado Hospital*  
Harrison Cochran | *Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun*  
Peter L. Durante, MD, JD | *The Children's Hospital*  
Brigadier General Trulan Eyre | *140th Wing COANG*  
Diane Garcia | *2G Associates, LLC*  
Elyse Gellerman | *The Medical Center of Aurora*  
Mark Gouin | *Wells Fargo Banks*  
Kim Harrell | *East End Applied Arts*  
Margo Jamieson | *Kaiser Permanente*  
Todd Landgrave | *Northrop Grumman*  
Kelly Leid | *Oakwood Homes*  
Dale Mingilton | *FirstBank Holding Co.*  
Wendy Mitchell | *Aurora Economic Development Council*  
Mark Moses | *Outback Restaurants*  
Alfonso Nunez | *La Cueva Restaurant*  
David Patterson | *Rural/Metro Ambulance*  
Alan Peppers | *Westerra Credit Union*  
The Honorable Randy Pye | *Mayor, City of Centennial*  
Katie Roche | *Raytheon*  
Dan Sandos | *401(K) Advisors*  
Jo Snell | *E-470 Public Hwy. Authority*  
John Stanton | *Prudential Colorado Real Estate*  
Jim Suss | *Suss Pontiac*  
The Honorable Ed Tauer | *Mayor, City of Aurora*  
Craig Ward | *Padgett Business Services*  
Frank Weddig | *Commissioner, Arapahoe County*

### Executive Staff

*President & CEO*  
Kevin Hougen

*Marketing & Visitors' Advisory Board*  
Naomi Colwell

*Leadership Director*  
Kimberly Curtis

*Special Events*  
Debbie Lynch

*Administrative Assistant*  
Eryn Martin

*Membership Director*  
Marcie Maxwell

*Administration Director*  
Stephanie McDonnell

*Vice President, PA&O*  
George Peck

*VP, Membership Development*  
Paul Rosenberg

*Membership Services*  
Mary Beth Sharp

562 Sable Blvd., Suite 200  
Aurora, CO 80011-0809  
303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564  
website: [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org)

## "OFF WE GO INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER . . ."

*By Geoff Smith, Aurora Mental Health*

True to the experiential nature of Leadership Aurora's training model, our itinerary for the Military Day session was precise and detailed, even suggesting a departure time for class members to ensure timely arrival. This realization and awareness continued throughout the day as we developed deeper understanding of the complexity, diversity and importance of the multitude of services that take place every day at **Buckley AFB**.

Leadership Aurora class members listened intently to Brigadier General Mike Edwards, Commander, **Colorado Air National Guard**, describe with passion the various services the COANG has provided over the years. Colonel Steve Muhs facilitated the **460th Space Wing** briefing and now Leadership Aurora class members know for sure that those giant golf balls out in the plains actually hold both the star-gate for inter-dimensional travel and the remains of the alien craft and extraterrestrial carcasses taken from Roswell, NM! This light-hearted approach made for nice contrast when Colonel Muhs stopped joking and explained to the class just how sensitive those satellites watching over us actually are.

We discovered that our own Barbara Atwell would be the expert tour guide for our Windshield Tour and site visits of the Buckley Chapel, Dormitories, and Health Complex. The Chapel works hard to serve service men and women from all faiths. The Dormitories were newly built and featured a very cool perk that class member Daryl Guill was principal in coordinating — a state of the art mini-movie theater with comfy seats and rich surround sound. The Health Complex was truly state of the art, as well, and included updated weights



Leadership Aurora class prepares to board a KC-135 airplane at Buckley AFB.

and cardio equipment as well as a gymnasium, racket-ball courts, and raised running track.

After a light and delicious lunch we felt the need for speed. We would soon be air-borne for the most experiential and exciting component of the day that being a sortie in a KC-135 airplane providing a training mission for our learning that allowed us to be there and watch the elegant midair ballet of an F-16 refueling procedure. We were enthusiastic and maybe a little anxious as we all donned our oxygen bags, strapped into the red canvas harnesses, and roared from the runway. We experienced another memory moment as we watched the precision flying of the pilots and crew from the vantage point of lying on our bellies, in the rear of the plane, next to the boom officer who guided the 40 foot long fuel line to the fighter jet below.



Class members watch a midair refueling of an F-16.

Military Day at Buckley AFB was another singular experience in learning more about the Aurora community, deepening relationships with each other and soaking in more models of leadership, organization, and the complexity of modern municipal systems. The vital connection between the City and the Base was clearly demonstrated and many found themselves humbled and proud reflecting on their unforgettable day.



## DEADLINE FOR LEADERSHIP AURORA APPLICATIONS JULY 13

The Chamber is currently accepting applications through July 13, 2007 for the 2007-08 Leadership Aurora class. Leadership Aurora provides the opportunity for participants to broaden their knowledge of the community while enhancing their leadership skills.

The program begins each year in mid-September with a 2-day class retreat, followed by eight monthly sessions from October to May on the third Thursday of each month. A celebration luncheon is held in early June. Tuition for the program is \$950 and includes all program costs and materials, including room and meals at the retreat. Partial tuition assistance is available, and awarded based on need and class composition. Applicants are required to participate in a personal interview with the selection committee.

For an application or more information, contact Kimberly Curtis at the Aurora Chamber of Commerce at 303-344-1500, or e-mail [kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org](mailto:kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org). You may also visit our website at [www.aurorachamber.org](http://www.aurorachamber.org) to complete or download an application.



BANKS IN HARMONY  
2007 Concert Series – 21st Anniversary  
Summer Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

DATE	BAND	STYLE	LOCATION
June 14	Dean Bushnell Orchestra	Big Band Swing	Bicentennial Park
June 21	Jim Hyatt Band	Classic Rock	Bicentennial Park
June 28	Lisa Bell & Crescendo	Jazz/Pop Crossover	Bicentennial Park
July 5	Queen City Jazz Band	Dixieland Jazz	Bicentennial Park
July 12	Sheryl Renee Band	Jazz/Blues	Del Mar Park
July 19	Metropolitan Jazz Orchestra	Big Band Swing	Del Mar Park
July 26	Prestige	Country Western	Del Mar Park
August 2	Pan Jumbies	Calypso/Caribbean	Meadowood Park
August 9	Moments Notice	Big Band/Motown/ Jazz/Salsa	Meadowood Park
August 16	Hot Tomatoes	Big Band Swing	Meadowood Park

Bicentennial Park - Alameda & Potomac | Del Mar Park - Sixth & Peoria| Meadowood Park - Dartmouth & Laredo

For weather-related decisions on cancellations, please call the Chamber after 4 p.m. at 303-344-1500 on the day of the concert or tune in to KEZW Radio, AM 1430 for the latest updates.	<b>SPONSORS</b> Aurora Chamber of Commerce 1stBank of Aurora Aurora Visitors Promotion Advisory Board City of Aurora Citywide Banks Wells Fargo Banks Denver Musicians Association Music Performance Fund	<b>MEDIA SPONSORS</b> KEZW Radio Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun Aurora Channel 8  <b>FOOD SPONSORS</b> Helga's German Restaurant
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Asian Film Festival back in Aurora  
with film, food and art

The Tenth Aurora Asian Film Festival is slated for May 31 – June 3. Produced by the Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership and the film festival professionals at the Denver Film Society, in collaboration with the City of Aurora, this event is, according to event organizers, sure to engage, enlighten, educate and entertain.

“This award-winning festival has proven to entice the filmgoer to a vivid cultural experience!” organizers said. The Opening Night Gala will include a feature film at the Aurora Fox Arts Center, followed by an outdoor Asian culinary feast, as well as a culinary art extravaganza complete with competition, demos and showpieces, at nearby Fletcher Plaza.

In conjunction with the festival, the East End Arts District will host a Summer Art Walk both Friday evening and Saturday afternoon that will exhibit various Asian-themed art at local galleries—all within walking distance of the theatre. This year’s festival feature

artist, Mami Yamamoto-Finke, will exhibit contemporary Japanese sumi (ink paintings) in the Fox gallery.

The Closing Night film will be followed by the popular “Wrap Party” at two local galleries -- The Other Side Arts (TOSA) and Downtown Aurora Visual Arts (DAVA). TOSA is currently making a call for artists, and DAVA is collaborating with the Asian Art Coordinating Council on a photographic exhibit from Hunan, Colorado’s Chinese sister province, called Magic Mountains, which captures the remote mountainous beauty of the Zhangjiajie region.

The Festival offers a cinematic journey to Asia and the Pacific Islands, allowing for the filmmakers' perspectives on the rich and diverse cultures of Asian/Pacific Islander and Asian Pacific American peoples. Screenings will include feature films and documentaries.

Updates will go up as the film schedule takes shape - - so visit often at [www.auroraasian.org](http://www.auroraasian.org) or call (303) 326-8695.



**Gov. Ritter completes 27-member panel on transportation**

Governor Bill Ritter last month named 27 members to a transportation panel that will study how to fix and build Colorado’s roads in the face of swindling gas tax revenues.

The governor also presided over a statewide transportation summit last month that brought over 500 businessmen and women to the convention center for a daylong summit on our transportation challenges.

**Mayor Ed Tauer, State Senator Stephanie Takis** and Chamber board member *Dale Mingilton* with **FirstBank Holding Co.** are the three members representing the eastern metro area.

**The Medical Center of Aurora and Centennial Medical Plaza**

*John G. Hill* will take over this month as the new president and CEO of **TMCA**. Mr. Hill takes over the position that Sylvia Young held in her 22 years of distinguished service to the community and the hospital. Mr. Hill moved to Colorado from Dallas, Texas where he was chief operating officer of the 704-bed Medical City Dallas Hospital. Prior to that position, he served as executive administrator for a physician surgical group in northern Arizona for eight years.

The 346-bed **Medical Center of Aurora** is one of seven HCA HealthONE hospitals in the metro area. The hospital was named the Best Hospital to Work for in Colorado and an HCA Cardiovascular Center of Excellence.

**FirstBank finds a new market in Phoenix**

In mid-July, the second-largest bank in Colorado will open a branch in the Phoenix metro area. The bank hopes to open three or four Phoenix-area branches in 2007 and another four in 2008. In addition to its 115 locations in Colorado, FirstBank has three locations in California. **FirstBank’s**

Member News

president and CEO John Ikard said, “We looked at Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, Albuquerque, but we decided Phoenix was probably the best market for us.”

**Raytheon bids on space ops contract**

**Raytheon Co.** in Aurora will pursue a satellite control network operations and maintenance contract administered by Air Force Space command at Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, the company announced last month.

The Network and Space Operations and Maintenance contract, currently held by Harris Corporation, is up for bid and could be worth close to \$500 million. More than 20 people at Raytheon’s Aurora facility have worked to prepare the proposal to be submitted. The seven-year contract, which is expected to be awarded in November or December, is for a program that operates and maintains the Air Force Satellite Control Network.

**Colorado Colfax Marathon date set**

Put down your Blackberry, lock up the boardroom and grab your running shoes!

The **Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon** is back for the second-consecutive year! The marathon is far more than just a sporting event that brings business to our communities. It symbolizes a new spirit of regional cooperation as we seek to enhance a critical residential, transportation and commercial corridor.

This year, the Colorado Colfax Marathon is launching its first-ever corporate Relay Challenge, taking place May 20, 2007. If you believe you and your co-workers have the fastest feet on the street, then warm your competition and sign up today—be the first company in the metro area to show off the inaugural Colorado Colfax Marathon Corporate Relay cup!

Visit the web site at [www.ColoradoColfaxMarathon.org](http://www.ColoradoColfaxMarathon.org), or call Caitlin Ring Communications Director, Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon, 1490 Lafayette

St. Suite 206, Denver, CO 80218 or phone (303)-770-9600.

**UCDHSC economic contributions touted**

**University of Colorado at Denver Health Sciences Center** has already begun to have a significant impact on the Eastern Metro area. According to the University, faculty and staff including the affiliated University Physicians, Inc. have grown to nearly 9,100 employees over the past year.

Institutional purchases of goods and services, research subcontracts to Colorado firms, and consumer spending by faculty, staff and students indirectly supported as many as 10,624 jobs elsewhere in Colorado.

Operations and associated student spending supported total personal income of nearly \$973 million in Colorado in fiscal year 2005. More than \$580 million of the total represented the direct payroll of faculty and staff employed by UCDHSC. As a result of the concentration of direct jobs in health care and higher education, the average income for all jobs supported by UCDHSC exceeded \$45,000 in fiscal year 2005.

UCDHSC supports new venture startups, small business expansion and Colorado based biotechnology and biomedical research and commercialization. It also offers programs and service to promote global competitiveness of Colorado firms.

**Arc of Colorado names new executive director**

*Randy Patrick*, president of **The Arc of Colorado** Board of Directors announced recently that they had selected Marijo Rymer to serve as the organization’s new Executive Director. Rymer is expected to take the reins of the organization on May 14. Rymer will officially join The Arc of Colorado on May 14, 2007.

“The Board is excited to welcome Ms. Rymer as our new

executive director,” said Patrick. “She brings great experience, knowledge, and accomplishment in the nonprofit and corporate sectors, as well as a strong commitment to advocating for people with developmental disabilities and their families.

**Aurora-based bank merges, still Commerce Bank**

Aurora-based Commerce Bank announced April 3 that it had signed a definitive agreement to merge with a Missouri-based bank holding company. When the merger is completed later this year, Commerce Bank will gain new services, increased lending capacity, and, according to the bank president Jim Lewien, a decidedly robust new future. Jim Lewien will continue as the president and CEO of the Colorado bank, the position he has held since 1979. The other members of the bank’s senior management team will remain, as well. He said, “We will have some changes, but what won’t change are our people, our focus on service, and our strong ties to the community.” He said, “Teaming up with an organization like Commerce that understands the importance of community and relationships, and a bank that has some of the best products and services in the industry, represents a good opportunity for us to offer even more to our customers.”

**Buckley Clinic moves to new location**

The Buckley Clinic moves to fourth floor of the Aurora North medical building at 830 Potomac Circle March 19. With the lease at the current clinic terminating at the end of March, 460th Medical Group officials said the move from the Anshutz Outpatient Pavilion has been “in the works” for months to ensure Team Buckley a seamless transition.

“Active duty personnel and their family members will still receive the same quality care as before,” said Senior Master Sgt.



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Loretta Bush, the 460th MDG Superintendent, Administrative Services. “The only major change customers will see is the new location and consolidation of services.”

One change people will see is the ability to fill new prescriptions in the Pharmacy located within the new clinic. Refills will still be filled at the satellite pharmacy located at 541 Norfolk St., Aurora. Norfolk Street is located off 6th Avenue between Laredo and Airport Road. Along with the Pharmacy, the new clinic will include Family Practice, Life Skills, Immunizations, Flight Medicine, Laboratory Services, Optometry, Administrative Services and command functions, and a Public Health representative. The TRICARE Service Center is also located on the first floor of the building.

**More caffeine, entertainment at Java Fest**

Kick back with a cup o’ joe, groove to some live music by local bands and root for the runners in the Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon at Java Fest, an official marathon “Motivation Station” and the metro area’s only festival dedicated to the pursuit of java nirvana.

The festival at Fletcher Plaza on East Colfax Avenue in the East End Arts District will kick off at 6 a.m. May 20 in tandem with the Post-News Colorado Colfax Marathon. Get to Java Fest before 6:30 a.m., grab a free coffee sample, wake up to the funky sounds of Bop Skizzum, and help cheer on the participants in the second-annual marathon as they pass through Aurora.

Following the end of Bop Skizzum’s set at 8 a.m., the fourth-annual Java Fest will continue until 1 p.m. with more live music from Denver bands déjà vu (8 to 9:15 a.m.), Wendy Woo (10:45 to 11:45 a.m.) and Xiren (9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m.).

Throughout the day, sample a world of coffee flavors from local

vendors; discover the rich tradition of an Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony; shop in the market; relax with a chair massage; get a psychic reading; have your handwriting analyzed; or test your mental and physical stamina with life-size chess, a giant crossword puzzle, Bocce Ball and croquet.

Admission, activities and coffee samples are all 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, between Havana and Yosemite streets. For more information, call 303-326-8FUN or visit [www.auroragov.org/java](http://www.auroragov.org/java).

**Aurora’s mayor to share insights at Aurora History Museum**

**Mayor Ed Tauer** will discuss what he does in his important role as the City of Aurora’s top elected official in the Brown Bag & White Linen Lecture “The Making of a City: A Mayor’s Perspective” from noon to 1 p.m. May 16 at the **Aurora History Museum**.

The cost is \$5 (\$4 Aurora residents). Bring a sack lunch.

**East End Arts District summer art walk to coincide with Aurora Asian Film Festival**

A thread of Asian art will weave its way through the galleries, working studios and arts-related venues of the East End Arts District during the 2007 Summer Art Walk happening in conjunction with the 10th annual Aurora Asian Film Festival.

The art walk, scheduled from 6 to 10 p.m. June 1 and noon to 6 p.m. June 2, will feature gallery open houses exhibiting pottery, painting, jewelry, sculpture, performing and culinary arts, with some artists available on site.

In addition, Fletcher Plaza at 9898 E. Colfax Ave., the outdoor urban plaza adjacent to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library/Municipal Services Center, will feature live acoustic music by Robert Michael from 5 to 6 p.m. June 1.

The Aurora Asian Film Festival



runs from May 31 to June 3 at The Aurora Fox, featuring nine feature films and documentaries. Two films will be screened during the Art Walk on June 1, and one outdoor film will show on the evening of June 2 at Fletcher Plaza, along with three indoor films at The Aurora Fox on June 2.

The East End Arts District, a 16-block area, is located along the historic commercial corridor from Clinton to Geneva streets on East Colfax Avenue. Free pedi-cabs will be available on June 1 only for those who cannot or do not wish to walk among the sites.

An information booth will be available on both June 1 and 2 at Fletcher Plaza. To find out more or obtain a map of the art walk route, call 720-203-3575 or visit [www.auroragov.org/artwalk](http://www.auroragov.org/artwalk).

The Aurora Asian Film Festival is produced by the Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership and the Denver Film Society, in conjunction with the City of Aurora. For more information, call 303-326-8695 or visit [www.auroraasian.org](http://www.auroraasian.org).

The East End Arts District 2007 Summer Art Walk is sponsored by the Community College of Aurora and the City of Aurora’s Art in Public Places program.

**Hearts Across the Miles troop support efforts grow**

Help from **Mesa Systems, Inc.** has allowed a local non-profit that support military members in Iraq and Afghanistan to grow. According to Theresa Webster, president of **Hearts Across the Miles**, the local moving and storage company made both storage and packing space available giving the organization which collects and ships personal hygiene items, books, games, DVDs, snacks, AT&T calling cards and other useful items to troops serving in remote areas overseas.

“**Mesa** has been wonderful to us,” said Webster, “They not only have provided us essential space but many of their employees have also joined as volunteers.” Webster said Mesa employees have assisted with weekly deliveries, inventories and packing. Lissa Hynes Baird and Carol Parks (pictured above) said they were very proud to be able to do their part to support Hearts. “This is an extremely worthwhile cause and Hearts gives us an opportunity to giver back to those who sacrifice so much for all of us,” they proclaimed.

Those interested in contributing time, funds or materials to **Hearts Across the Miles** can contact Theresa or Brian Webster, co-founders of the organization, at 720-222-0448.

# Women in Business honors Unsung Heroes award nominees and winners

**Nominees shine...** – Women who were nominated as Unsung Heroes for the quiet, behind-the-scenes work they do in their community and in their workplaces show off their awards. Pictured in the back row (l-r) are Celeste Delahanty, Sheila Anthony, Anna Jansen, Barbara Peck, and Rania Tolman. In the front row (l-r) are Shirley Hammes, Mary Beth Sharp and Liz Vogel.



**...and Winners glow** – Chosen by their peers in the workplace and in community settings were Unsung Heroes (l-r) Deanne Criswell, Patti Forthofer, Kelly O’Conner, Connie Vandenberg, Linda Witulski and Andrea Graham.



## Freedom Memorial Ride brings bikers to Aurora site

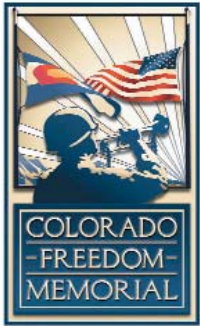
More than 3,000 motorcyclists are expected to descend on the future site of the Colorado Freedom Memorial at Airport Boulevard ad Alameda Avenue May 19. The bikers will be riding from throughout the Denver-Aurora metro area to show support and raise money for the memorial in a rally called the Freedom Memorial Ride 2007. The ride will also honor the more than 6,000 veterans from the State of Colorado who have been killed in action fighting for their country according to ride organizer Rick Crandall.

The Armed Forces Day event will kick off at 10 a.m. from sites throughout the metro area including Southlands. Riders will then head for the Aurora site near Buckley AFB where festivities to honor veterans will begin with a presentation of the colors

by the Fort Carson Mounted Color Guard. The all day event will feature several bands including the Railbenders, Kory Brunson Band, Sharla Jackson Band and Angie Stevens. The public is invited to join the riders at the site where refreshments will be available throughout the day.

The Freedom Memorial Ride is a benefit for the construction of the Colorado Freedom Memorial with 100 percent of the registration fees going towards the CFM Construction Fund.

To learn more about the Memorial and the Ride, visit [www.cfmf.net](http://www.cfmf.net) or call 303-248-3990.





Myers, Bowman among those selected as Women Sculptors of the Community.



Dr. Linda Bowman (right), President of the **Community College of Aurora** and Chair of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Board, and Lynn Myers (top center), former **Arapahoe County** Commissioner, were honored by the Aurora community as the 2006 Women Sculptors of the Community for the long-term influence they had on the lives of those who live

## Handshake Day

Annually the Chamber visits 150 randomly selected Chamber members to shake their hand and say thank you for their support. At the same time we deliver a package filled with gifts that help you advertise your business to fellow Chamber members. If you would like some free advertising, please donate 150 small gifts by June 11 to be included in these packages. For more information, please call Marci or Mary Beth at 303-344-1500.

# McGuire wins Frist Award

Kerry McGuire, Human Resources Coordinator for **The Medical Center of Aurora**, was selected by HCA for the prestigious Frist Humanitarian Award. Named after Dr. Tom Frist, founder of HCA, the national award was earned by McGuire for her contributions to employee morale through here employee orientation program, the staff newsletter and the work she did on the Hope Fund Community team chairing a craft sale fund raiser for employees to raise money for the Hope Fund. She has also been very active in community work, serving as President of the Colorado Jaycees where she received the Buffalo Bolero Award for the work she did rebuilding the group.



**A many honored lady** – Kerry McGuire (left) is the 2006 Frist Humanitarian Award winner named by **The Medical Center of Aurora's** corporate headquarters, HCA in Nashville, TN. McGuire, also an award winning Jaycee, is pictured here with U.S. Jaycee President Lisa Parrish. Frist Employee Winner Kerry McGuire with US Jaycee President Lisa Parrish.

## Arapahoe County Fair Seeks Volunteers

Arapahoe County is celebrating its second year in their new fairgrounds on July 18-22 with an even bigger lineup of events. But they need help. According to Val Purser, Volunteer Coordinator for the county, they fully expect to have a much larger event this year. “We’ll have a carnival double the size of last year, tons of education opportunities, quality exhibits, products, competitions and spectacular entertainment,” she said, “but to make all this work, we need volunteers.” Purser said volunteers would be working in Admissions, entertainment and educational booths, and serving as Ambassadors and event coordinators. Volunteers will work three hour shift and can get involved in: Farmer for a Day; Milk Maker; Grocery Game; Sheep Coloring Station; Spudtacular; Toddler Driving School; Stick Horse Races; Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest; Watermelon eating contest; Dress your Potato; Information Booth; and County Store. Purser also said she had posters she would be happy to share. “As a volunteer, you get free admission to the Fair and snacks on the days you work the Fair,” Purser said. If you would like more information about volunteer opportunities call Purser at 303-738-7938 or send her an email at [vpurser@co.arapahoe.co.us](mailto:vpurser@co.arapahoe.co.us). For additional information about the 2007 Arapahoe County Fair to the their web site at [www.arapahoecountyfair.com](http://www.arapahoecountyfair.com).



## Ribbon Cuttings



**The Biggest Cut of All** — Julia Anderson, flanked by her colleagues Joseph Bessenbacher (left) and Jeff Kowal, takes a serious cut at the ribbon to mark the opening of US Bank's newest branch. Located in the Safeway store on Aurora Parkway near Heritage Eagle Bend, the bank offers a full range services at a convenient southeast Aurora location. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris)

**An Amazing Good Time** – A large crowd including store manager Larry Barnaby, Mayor Ed Tauer, Councilmembers Molly Markert and Brad Pierce, Chamber President Kevin Hougen and a coterie of store employees and Chamber Ambassadors mark the opening of Amazing Jake's at 1400 Abilene just off I-225. Amazing Jake's employees pictured in the front row include (L-r) Lindsay Goldsworthy, Uzo Akataobi, Jeremy Fletcher, Jim Duginski, Kristin Cohn, Edward Hardy, Glen Lawton, and Sandra Peelman. The family entertainment center offers a wide range of activities for kids and their parent as well as food and fun. A great place for family parties, or just an exciting family day out you can learn more by calling 303-337-5253. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris)



**For Aurora's Good Sports** — Mark Johnson is joined by his wife A.J. in cutting the ribbon to open Aurora's place for good sports, TB Johnson's Grill, a sports bar best known for billiards, cold beer and great chow. TB Johnson's is located 3055 S. Parker Road near Dartmouth. (Chamber photo by Kevin Hougen)



**Finding the Handle** – Employees and friends of the newest **FirstBank** in southeast Aurora joined Tony Antista, **FirstBank of Aurora** President, Marci Sis, branch manager, and City Councilman Bob Broom to open southeast Aurora's newest full service bank at 7460 S. Gartrell Road just off E-470. **FirstBank**, along-time community stalwart, has an excellent reputation for customer service and can be reached by calling 303-690-6000.





# Awards Banquet 2007

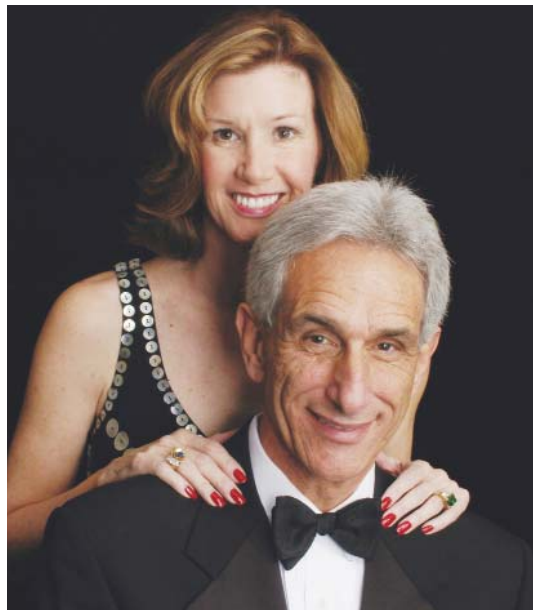
Photography by Brian Molitoris

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Gouin, Kelly Leid, Mark Moses, Alfonso Nunez, Alan Peppers, Katie Roche and Frank Weddig; and bid farewell to outgoing board members Harrison Cochran, Larry Grandison, Maj. Gen. Mike Edwards, Lynn Myers, Stephen Peck and Bob Steine. They also took time to remember the passing of Board member and last year's Man of the Year Jim Greenlee.

Outgoing Chair Bowman also thanked the Awards Banquet Committee who had worked tirelessly to make the evening a grand success. Members included co-chairs Teri Mingilton and Tami Morrissey, as well as Kacee Austin, Naomi Colwell, Cheryle Derman, Alice Lee Main, Marci Maxwell, Stephanie McDonnell, Deana Miller, Julie Patterson, Sandy Sweeney, Cheryl Twesme and Kate Tauer.

Others who helped make the evening so special included Corporate Sponsors **1st Bank of Colorado, Wells Fargo Bank, Pinnacol Assurance, Merrick & Company, University of Phoenix, Stapleton and Xcel Energy.**



**Community Leadership** – Dr. Jay Gershen with the University of Colorado Hospital and his friend Susan Bell.



**Woman of the Year** – State Senator Suzanne Williams and her husband Ed.



**Business for the Arts** – Suss Buick, Pontiac GMC represented by Paul and Debbie Suss.



**Business Person of the Year** – Kelly Leid, Orchard Homes and the Foundation for Educational Excellence, here with his wife Kelly.



**Title Sponsor** – The Children's Hospital represented by President and CEO Jim Schmerling.



**Business of the Year** – Advantage Security, Inc, represented by Mr. & Mrs. Vic Evans.



**Chamber Leadership** – Ken and Sandy Preuss with E-Travel Unlimited.



**Small Business Person of the Year**– Frances Scott, owner of Sign-a-rama of Aurora.



**Outgoing Chair** – Dr. Linda Bowman displays her plaque marking her year as Chamber Board Chair that was presented by Chamber President & CEO Kevin Hougen.



**Outgoing Board Members** – Pictured from left to right, Harrison Cochran, Lynn Myers, Larry Grandison and Bob Steine.