



# IMPACT

JUNE  
2009

## Upcoming Events

### Ribbon Cutting – Artistic Apparel

June 9 2009 | 4:00 p.m.  
15081 E. Centertech Unit B

Business Before Hours  
June 17 2009 | 7:30 a.m.  
Boys Hope Girls Hope  
6724 South Buckley Rd

### Leadership Aurora Golf Tournament

June 18 2009 | 7:30 a.m.  
Heritage Eagle Bend, E470- Gartrell

### Women In Business

June 23rd 2009 | 11:30p.m.  
Chamber Office, Speaker Trisha Downing  
Redefining Able

### Business After Hours

June 25 2009 | 4:30 p.m.  
Aurora Events Connection & aloft Hotel  
16740 E. 40th cir

## 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 winners



[more photos on pages 4-5]

**S**now and unsettled spring weather failed to deter business and community leaders from throughout the Eastern Metro area as they came together April 17 to honor the best the community had to offer.

The 54th Annual Aurora Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet featured the community's best in nine categories. Winners for 2008 were selected by The Chamber for the contributions they made, the business they brought to the Eastern Metro

area and the impact they had on the lives of those with whom they have dealt.

More than 400 people packed the ballroom at the Red Lion Hotel to learn the identities of the 2008 winners.

Aurora Chamber Chair Jo Ellen Snell, from E-470 Public Highway Authority also took the opportunity to turn over the reins of the Chamber Board to Craig Ward who named his board for 2009-2010.

### Special thanks to our sponsors:



Special Thanks to the Embassy Suites Denver/Aurora for their donation of wine for the Annual Awards Banquet

### Winners included:

#### Business for the Arts

Shadow Theatre (accepted by founder Jeffrey Nickelson)

#### Humanitarian

Bob Waples (Rural Metro Ambulance Co.)

#### Community Leadership

Tom Tobiasen (RTD Board of Directors)

#### Chamber Leadership

Suzanne Pitrusu (Wells Fargo Bank)

#### Small Business Person

Frank Loner (Chick-fi-A, Aurora)

#### Business Person of the Year

Aagje Barber (Cherry Creek Schools Board) & John Barry (Aurora Public Schools Superintendent)

#### Business of the Year

Southlands (accepted by Karen Gilkey)

#### Man of the Year

Mayor Ed Tauer (City of Aurora)

#### Woman of the Year

Cindy Kreutz (Spalding Rehabilitation Center-Aurora)



**Jo Snell**  
*Chair*

It is amazing to me that I am writing my final letter as Chair of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. The year flew by, and as my term comes to a close, I take great pleasure in looking back on the successes that the Chamber has experienced in the past year.

The Leadership Aurora program has graduated 35 new community experts. These are leaders you want serving on your boards and committees. Our Government Affairs and Education Committee under the leadership of Jim Suss and Bob LeGare had a very full year working hard to make clear to our legislators where our interests were with a series of white papers that had a significant influence on the outcome of some legislation. Our Defense Council, led by Craig Ward and Lisa Buckley, continued to provide our members critical insight into the business opportunities at Buckley

and other military operations. A record crowd attended the 33rd Annual Armed Forces Luncheon showing our military colleagues the level of support that exists in the Chamber. Also growing were the Women in Business and Transportation Committees. Business for the Arts added a new partnership with the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts. Please take advantage of the many committees your Chamber offers you. By doing so, you can positively influence our business community.

The Chamber continues to work with the city of Aurora on a feasibility study for a Convention and Visitors' Bureau. We also welcomed more than 125 new members. And by now, you know that your Chamber has a new highly functional home at the corner of Sable Boulevard and Alameda Avenue. Please take time to visit the new office.

My heartfelt thanks goes out to the Chamber staff who work diligently to promote the eastern metro region, bring their membership together at spectacular events, and work closely with the Board members—all with a smile on their faces.

I also truly appreciate the

superb Board of Directors who have supported me as Chair. These men and women volunteer their valuable time to help grow the Chamber and have done an extraordinary job in setting the direction of your Chamber.

Last, but not least, I want to thank my employer, the **E-470 Public Highway Authority**. E-470's leadership team provided me the time and resources to help represent the Chamber.

My final task is a pleasant one, for it is my great honor to introduce you to next year's Chair of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Board. He is a successful businessman who is dedicated to continuing the accomplishments of our organization. A genuine friend, as the incoming chair, he has provided me support and leadership. Craig Ward, Padgett Business Services, will be a great leader for the Chamber. I commend him to you and ask that you support him as graciously as you did me.

I look forward to continuing my relationship with the Chamber members. Have a safe and wonderful summer!

## Chair's Letter

### Board of Directors

#### *Chair of the Board*

Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority

#### *Chair Elect*

Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

#### *Secretary*

Diane Garcia | 2G Associates

#### *Treasurer*

David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance

#### *Immediate Past Chair*

Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions

#### *Past Chair Once Removed*

Dr. Linda Bowman | Community College of Aurora

#### *Vice Chair-Business Development*

Harrison Cochran | Aurora Sentinel

#### *Vice Chair-Community Services*

Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

#### *Vice Chair-Public Affairs*

Jim Suss | Suss Buick, Pontiac, GMC

#### *Vice Chair-Member Services*

Judy Booth | Fitzsimons Community Federal Credit Union

### Directors

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*

Harrison Cochran | *Aurora Sentinel*

Brigadier General Trulan Eyre | *140th Wing COANG*

Tammy Fernandez | *University of Phoenix*

Diane Garcia | *2G Associates, LLC*

Carol Gregory | *The Medical Center of Aurora*

Mark Gouin | *Wells Fargo Banks*

David Gruber | *Nortel Government Solutions*

Todd Landgrave | *Northrop Grumman*

Erin Lilly | *Kaiser Permanente*

Dave Maxwell | *1st Bank of Aurora*

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*

Dan Sandoz | *401(K) Advisors*

Ken Smith | *Qwest*

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

Jim Suss | *Suss Buick, Pontiac, GMC*

The Honorable Ed Tauer | *Mayor, City of Aurora*

Jeff Thompson | *University of Colorado Hospital*

Craig Ward | *Padgett Business Services*

Frank Weddig | *Commissioner, Arapahoe County*

### Executive Staff

#### *President & CEO*

Kevin Houghton

#### *Marketing & Visitors' Advisory Board*

Naomi Colwell

#### *Leadership Director*

Kimberly Curtis

#### *Secretary*

Janice Cooper

#### *Membership Director*

Marci Maxwell

#### *Administration Director*

Stephanie McDonnell

#### *Vice President*

George Peck

#### *VP, Membership Development*

Paul Rosenberg

#### *Membership Services*

Mary Beth Sharp

### 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.

### 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 **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.

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# LET'S CELEBRATE!

*"Leaders paying it forward . . ."*

June 4 will mark the end of the 2009 Leadership Aurora class year. Leadership Aurora will hold a celebration reception and formal program for its 24th graduating class at the **Summit Conference & Event Center**, 411 Sable Boulevard in Aurora beginning at 5:00 p.m. The program will celebrate the accomplishments of the class and serve to continue the legacy of leadership in Aurora. The event is being sponsored by **Aurora Credit Union Alliance, FirstBank of Aurora, Aurora Mental Health Center, Aurora Public Schools, Cherry Creek Schools, Rural/Metro Ambulance** and **Flag World**. Mayor Ed Tauer will present congratulatory remarks to the class.

The 2009 class has certainly done their part to "pay it forward". They have chosen to support projects that require the "human touch" by facilitating the building of a dog run



for Gateway Women's Shelter making it a one of a kind shelter in Colorado. Several class members assumed leadership roles in conducting a blood drive benefiting Children's Hospital and an ongoing class food drive benefiting several Aurora food banks.

With the help of family and friends they painted a residential facility at Aurora Mental Health Center's Fitzsimons Treatment Center, distributed hundreds of hygiene bags to Aurora Warms the Night helping to combat the impact of homelessness in Aurora. They've also served dinner to families residing at Ronald McDonald House, purchased 15 violins for City Strings, a program that provides musical instruction for youth, and organized a Senior Social at the Life Care Center of Aurora.

Please help us celebrate this legacy of leadership, by helping to sponsor the event. Sponsor levels include:

## \$1,000 Legacy Sponsor

- Includes a table of 10 at the evening presentation
- Display your company banner
- Company Logo on the luncheon program and sponsor board
- Recognition from the podium

## \$500 Celebration Sponsor

- Includes a table of 10 at the evening presentation
- Company Logo on the luncheon program and sponsor board
- Recognition from the podium

Please join us at the Summit Conference & Event Center, 411 Sable Boulevard on Thursday, June 4 for the Graduation Reception/Celebration. Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. and the individual cost per person is \$25. Please call Kimberly for reservations or more information at 303-344-1500 or e-mail [Kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org](mailto:Kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org).

## Sponsors



Dedicated to Excellence  
Cherry Creek Schools



## LEADERSHIP AURORA APPLICATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

The Aurora Chamber of Commerce is currently accepting applications through July 15, 2009 for the 2009-10 Leadership Aurora class. Since 1984 the Aurora Chamber has promoted and fostered the development of leadership in our community. As a result, Leadership Aurora educates and prepares community leaders who are committed to shaping Aurora's future.

Leadership Aurora provides the opportunity for participants to broaden their knowledge of the community while enhancing their leadership skills. Participants benefit by gaining a strengthened sense of personal vision, awareness of issues and challenges facing the community, the rewards of networking with a diverse group of community leaders and the opportunity to make a difference in the community. The community benefits by having an ever-increasing source of quality leaders, an improved communications network among civil, social, education and business leaders and a leadership base with a broadened perspective.

The purpose of the program is reflected in its goals:

- To develop awareness of the Aurora area—its strengths, challenges and opportunities
- To enhance leadership abilities
- To create a network of informed, concerned leaders
- To encourage greater involvement in the community

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 reception 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.

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).

## Golfers still needed

The 11th Annual Leadership Aurora Golf Tournament scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2009, 8:00 a.m. tee-off, at Heritage Eagle Bend Golf and Country Club still has a few spots available if you hurry! Registrations are going quickly!

We are also in need of donations of ditty bag items. Small items such as golf balls, tees, pens and other advertising specialty-type items are requested. At least 160 of each item are needed for the ditty bags.

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

Call Kimberly at 303-344-1500 or e-mail [kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org](mailto:kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org) for more information.



**June 18, 2009**





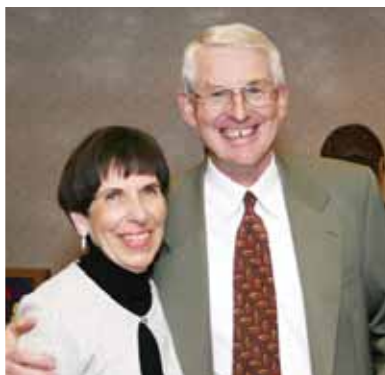
*Ed Perlmutter, Paul Tauer & Tom Tobiasen*



*Mike & Micki Hackenberger, Bob LeGare*



*Dale Mingilton, Jason & Christina Altshuler*



*Ben & Barb Lewis*



*Kevin Hougen*



*Jim Seneca, Bill & Carolyn Rapp*



*Marci Maxwell, Mary Beth Sharp, Stephanie McDonnell & Jo Snell*



*Dan & Nancy Oates Sam & Karen McGhee*



**Mayor Ed Tauer**  
*Man of the Year*



**Bob Waples**  
*Humanitarian of the Year*



**Scott Mueller**  
*Ambassador of the Year*



**Shadow Theatre**  
*Business for the Arts*



**Aajge Barber**  
*Business Person of the Year*



**John Barry**  
*Business Person of the Year*



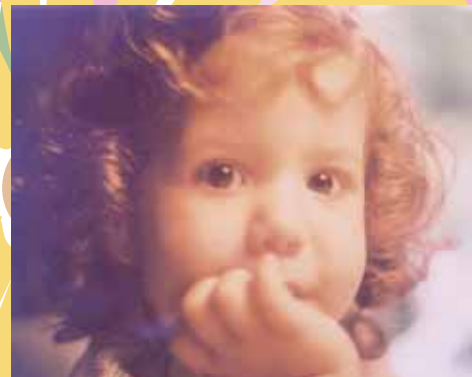
**Tom Tobiasson**  
*Community Leadership*



**Cindy Kreutz**  
*Woman of the Year*



**Frank Loner**  
*Small Business of the Year*



**Suzanne Pitrusu**  
*Chamber Leadership*



**Southlands**  
*Business of the Year*



# Ribbon Cuttings



*Lovett Family Chiropractic and Wellness Center is dedicated to helping you achieve your wellness objectives — combining skill and expertise that spans the entire chiropractic wellness spectrum. Dr. Patrick Lovett is committed to bringing you better health and a better way of life by teaching and practicing the true principles of chiropractic wellness care.*

*A fast casual dining spot, that offers a list of signature salads, but also the opportunity for you to create your own as you go down the line; include shrimp, salmon, turkey or fruit for a fresh healthy option.*



*Since 1933, Navy Federal has grown from seven members to over 3 million members. You can leave the military, change employers, move, retire, get married—and never have to leave Navy Federal. "Once a member, always a member."*



# Member News

## Merrick & Co.s' Fire Crash Rescue Station Recognized by the U.S. Air Force

**Merrick & Company** ([www.merrick.com](http://www.merrick.com)), an \$85 million engineering, architecture, design-build, surveying, and geospatial solutions firm, announced that a recently completed project of the firm's, the Fire Crash Rescue Station 1 located at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico, received a Citation Award from the Air Combat Command, Langley, Virginia. The project was recognized for its excellent overall design that incorporates innovation, anti-terrorism and force-protection, and sustainable design concepts.

Providing comprehensive planning, architecture, and engineering to the Albuquerque District Corps of Engineers who was responsible for the architect engineer services to their client, the 49th Civil Engineering Squadron of Holloman AFB for this project that replaced an existing, aging facility. The new facility will improve emergency response times to the flight line and to structure fires on base, living and working conditions, and vehicle storage as well as increase personnel effectiveness. The new facility features a fully equipped dining area, recreational and physical fitness areas, comfortable sleeping quarters, administrative areas, and the latest electronic equipment in the training and work areas.

**Merrick & Company** serves domestic and international clients in the government, energy, life sciences, infrastructure, and mapping markets. With a focus on military and government facilities, the firm's most recent work includes extensive training ranges to equip soldiers for urban combat scenarios faced by today's military, beddown facilities at Creech Air Force Base for the Air Forces' Predator surveillance and attack unmanned aerial vehicles and various quality of life amenities (physical fitness, child development centers, head quarters and dormitories) for military bases throughout the United States and abroad.

## Clinic offers free screenings

**The Little Clinic** is offering FREE health screenings through the month of May! Screening choices include:

- Total cholesterol (non-fasting)
- Lipid panel (more accurate, fasting cholesterol test)
- Blood sugar level
- Body mass index
- Blood pressure

Only two drops of blood are needed for these screenings, so they only need to perform a finger stick. This is a relatively painless way to know your numbers. Results are available in less than 5 minutes. The Nurse Practitioner will counsel you on your results and overall health.

Call **The Little Clinic** inside **Smoky Hill King Soopers** for details: 303-459-5634.

## Aurora Mental Health Center honored

**The Aurora Mental Health Center** has been awarded a grant by the Statewide Strategic Use Fund (SSUF) to implement the Aurora Youth Options (AYO) program. Statistics demonstrate that a significant number of youth in the **City of Aurora** are at risk for developing serious problem behaviors and lack the protective factors to independently access the many existing services available in the community that can help. The purpose of this program is to link these children, who may lack positive direction and guidance, with appropriate community resources before their behavior leads to devastating results.

**Aurora Mental Health** sought this funding on behalf of a large coalition of individuals and agencies in Aurora, including the school districts, whose mission will be enhanced by the implementation of this program.

It is anticipated that AYO will serve up to 500 youth between September 2009 and June 2010. Youth will be identified through a broad base of "gatekeepers" in the schools and community who are trained to observe problem behavior in youth and offer them information and referral to a youth specialist. The AYO youth specialist will meet with youth and their families in their homes or other community locations, and will assess the youth's needs through the administration of the Communities that Care (CtC)

Youth Survey that rates risk and protective factors. The results of this survey will direct the youth specialist to assist each youth in accessing appropriate community services.

**AuMHC** will document the program's success based on progress and outcome evaluation, enabling other Colorado communities to replicate the program.

## Support for small businesses

Through **Xcel Energy's** new Small Business Lighting program, you can lower your lighting costs by up to 40%, and they'll help you through every step of the process. Customers whose facilities have less than 400kW of electric demand per month can get:

- A free lighting audit
- Assistance filling out the lighting rebate application
- Help with finding and selecting a lighting contractor

For more information, visit [xcelenergy.com/LightingEfficiency](http://xcelenergy.com/LightingEfficiency) or call **Xcel Energy's** Business Solutions Center at 1-800-481-4700.

## New appointee could work to break deadlock on Old Hire board

By ADAM GOLDSTEIN  
*The Aurora Sentinel*

After more than eight months of conflict and delay, the city's Old Hire Police Pension Board has named a seventh member.

The board has named Aurora resident Ev Sequeira as the seventh member of the board, which comprises three uniform members, two administrative members and one member appointed by the mayor. As the seventh member, Sequeira, an engineer and former mine superintendent, would break a pattern of deadlock on the six-member board.

The city council is set to review the appointment during its session on May 4, as well as potentially vote on a city ordinance related to the board's makeup and member composition.

In his capacity as a mine superintendent, Sequeira worked with both the labor and management sides of the company, and he also dealt with pension plans as part of his role in the financial service industry. Sequeira was chosen from five applicants.

The appointment comes after a conflict between the board and the city stretching back to September 2008, when the board voted to increase the amount of their pension. City officials responded by saying that the move was illegal. In March, the city council unanimously deferred an ordinance that would have added an overseer appointed by the city as the new board member.

An ordinance formally adding a seventh member to the board, which requires the new member to be an Aurora citizen and a business owner, is also slated for initial approval.



## BPW Winners

2009 Young Careerist award winner and judges pose. Aurora Business and Professional Women held their 2009 Young Careerist competition on April 2, 2009 at St. Andrews Village. Pictured from left to right are MaryEllen Lewis, Young Careerist chairperson, 2009 Young Careerist winner Margo Solis, and judges Kathleen Minister, Diana Phillips and Teresa McElowney. Margo will continue on to the State competition to be held in June in Sterling, Colorado.



# BANKS IN HARMONY 2009

DATE	BAND	STYLE	LOCATION
June 18	Deja Blu	Variety/Classic Rock	Bicentennial Park Alameda & Potomac
June 25	Dean Bushnell Orchestra	Big Band Swing	Bicentennial Park Alameda & Potomac
July 2	Queen City Jazz Band	Dixieland Jazz	Del Mar Park Sixth & Peoria
July 9	Chase N The Dream	Old School R & B and Dance	Del Mar Park Sixth & Peoria
July 16	The Wendy Woo! Band	Pop Rock	Del Mar Park Sixth & Peoria
July 23	Hot Tomatoes	Big Band Swing	Meadowood Park Dartmouth & Laredo
July 30	Western Flyer	Country Western	Meadowood Park Dartmouth & Laredo
August 6	Patrick Emerine	Contemporary and Classic Rock	Meadowood Park Dartmouth & Laredo

For weather-related decisions on cancellations, please call the Chamber after 3 p.m. at 303-344-1500 on the day of the concert or tune in to KEZW Radio, AM 1430 for the latest updates.

## SPONSORS

Aurora Chamber of Commerce  
City of Aurora, Cultural Services Division  
Aurora Visitors Promotion Advisory Board  
BBB Denver/Boulder

Wells Fargo Banks  
1st Bank of Aurora  
Citywide Banks  
US Bank

## MEDIA SPONSORS

KEZW Radio AM 1430  
Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun  
Aurora Channel 8

## FOOD SPONSORS

Helga's German Restaurant  
Coldstone Creamery, Aurora

## Renewals

Acme Tent & Canvas Company  
Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
American Advantage Financing Solutions, LLC  
Apex Communications Services, Inc.  
Approval Reverse Mortgage  
Butler Rents, Inc.  
Cambridge College  
Cherry Creek Nursing Center  
Colorado Health Connections, Inc.  
Commerce Bank  
Community College of Aurora Foundation  
Concorde Career College  
Concrete Services Company  
Credit Union of Colorado  
Eastco Interiors  
Farmers Insurance Group/Marie Boling  
Farmers Insurance Group/Matthew Huntington  
Forest City Stapleton, Inc.

Garden Terrace Alzheimer's Center  
Heritage Eagle Bend Golf & Country Club  
Hi-Tec Moving and Storage  
The Honeybaked Ham Company  
In Your Element Photography, Inc.  
Lockheed Martin  
Mt. Fuji Sushi and Hibachi  
Bill Murray  
Nelowet Business Machines, Ltd.  
Olsson Associates  
Paragon Dynamics  
See Me Now Communications, LLC  
Strategic Science, LLC  
The Summit Conference & Event Center  
Value Place  
Wal-Mart Stores #3566  
WooHoo Promotions Company  
Xcel Energy

## NEW MEMBERS

Artistic Apparel, LLC  
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Colorado Farm Bureau Insurance  
The Foundation for Character Development  
Jos. A. Bank, Inc.  
Native Hawaiian Veterans, LLC  
Navy Federal Credit Union  
Staybridge Suites Denver - Cherry Creek  
The Salad Bowl  
iSignDesign.com