



Upcoming Events

September

Business Before Hours

Sept 8 | 7:30 a.m.
Life Care Center, 14101 E. Evans Ave

Member Orientation

Sept 15 | 4:00 p.m.
Chamber Office

Lunch and Learn Seminar

Sept 16 | 11:30 a.m.
Arapahoe County Library Presenting

Taste of Aurora

Sept 16 | 5:00 p.m.
The Stampede, 2430 S. Havana St

Business After Hours

Sept 23 | 5:00 p.m.
location TBD

Noon Networking

Sept 29 12:00 p.m.
Life Care Center, 14101 E. Evans Ave

October

Fox Performing Arts Gala

Oct 2, 5:00 p.m.

Business Before Hours

Oct 13, 7:30 a.m.
The Medical Center of Aurora

Chamber Master Seminar

Oct 20, 7:30 a.m.
Chamber Office

Business After Hours

Oct 28, 5:00 p.m.
Hosted by the Aurora Events Connection
at the Hilton Garden Inn

Connect With Us!



www.meetup.com/The-Aurora-Chamber-of-Commerce/



Bridges to disaster: Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101

If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. That was the conclusion of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors who after carefully reviewing the provisions of proposed Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101, voted to oppose them in this fall's elections.

"Lowering property and income taxes, cutting mill levies in half, drastically reducing vehicle registration and telecommunication fees, and limiting state and local debt, all sound very appealing during our continuing recession," said Chamber President Kevin Hougen in co-signing a resolution opposing the measures. "However, these taxes and fees along with the ability to borrow for projects, means jobs, infrastructure, transportation, education and quality of life. Without them, our roads and

bridges will start to fail, our teachers will see an increase in the number of students in their classroom, and nearly 70,000 jobs will be lost including nearly 8,000 teachers."

Hougen pointed out as an example that had the provisions of Amendment 61 been in place earlier, such important projects such as the DIA construction, the **University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Center** in Aurora, I-225 improvements, FasTracks and school improvements in **Aurora Public Schools** and **Cherry Creeks Schools** would not have been possible.

Joining Hougen in signing the formal resolution were Chamber Board Chair Mark Moses and Public Issues Vice Chair Jeff Thompson.

To see the Chamber's resolution regarding these issues go to www.aurorachamber.org.

VOTE 2010

Gubernatorial Debate

Governor candidates square off in Glendale

Gubernatorial candidates John Hickenlooper (D) and Dan Maes (R) will square-off in an "Elevate Colorado Governor's Forum" on Thursday, Sept. 16 at 5 p.m. at the Infinity Park Event Center in Glendale.

Organized by Elevate Colorado and co-hosted by the 11 Chambers in the South Metro area, including the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, as well as two state associations, the debate will be moderated by former Colorado Governor Dick Lamm. Sponsorships for the event are available by contacting Bart Sayyah at 303-795-0142 or Larry Harte at 303-668-4628. Additional details will be available on the The Chamber web site.

A great business tool you can use: ChamberMaster®

ChamberMaster is the web-based member management software business tool used by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce that is accessible to all members. As a member, you can easily update your company and personnel information, provide Hot Deals, and list employment opportunities—and the information is automatically updated in your company's listing on the Chamber website. It's easy to use, and is a great marketing tool, since nearly 2 million people per year access the Aurora Chamber's website.

Each member organization receives a username and password, allowing access to the software. Want to start using ChamberMaster to grow your business? You can access a member user guide by logging in at <https://secure.chambermaster.com/directory/Login.jsp>

with your username and password, and clicking "User Manuals" in the lower left-hand corner of your welcome page.

You can also bring your laptop and attend the ChamberMaster class on October 20 at 7:30 a.m. The class is given by Naomi Colwell, Chamber marketing director, and Paul Rosenberg, Chamber vice president of membership services.



To register, go to [www.aurorachamber.org/Event Calendar/October 20 ChamberMaster Seminar](http://www.aurorachamber.org/Event%20Calendar/October%20ChamberMaster%20Seminar)
You may also email Janice.cooper@aurorachamber.org or call 303-344-1500.

Receive
the **IMPACT**
online

Do you want to receive the Chamber IMPACT Newsletter Online only?

If you would like to get the IMPACT newsletter online only, please email Mitzi.Schindler@aurorachamber.org, and you will no longer receive a printed copy in the mail. Instead, you will get a message via email each month to view the newsletter online.



Kevin Hougen
President & CEO

to this wonderful state in 1979, I've seen many dramatic changes. Most have been very good. But the past 27 months... well, they have been unlike anything else and I am truly worried what the future and our future leaders have in store for us.

Dear Future Governor

Our primary elections have just concluded and it appears we now know who will be on the ballot Nov 2. If I had one wish at this time, it would be a visit with our future Governor. Not that our future legislators, county commissioners and other elected officials are not important, but so much of our immediate future hangs in balance and the Governor, as the State's senior leader, can often sway that balance. Especially critical is the potential nightmare of Amendments 60 & 61 and Proposition 101, which, for the record, the Aurora Chamber Board of Directors has unanimously voted to oppose.

So, if I had the opportunity to sit down with the future governor—whoever that might be—here are some key questions I think need to be answered. And for all our benefit, I'd like to hear answers before the mail ballots are sent out on October 16th and the general election day of November 2nd:

- 1). Governor, what are you going to do to ensure that the hostile environment towards good and caring business members by those serving in the Colorado General Assembly doesn't occur next year when we come down to the Capitol to testify?
- 2). How will you become the true voice and champion of Colorado to retain and grow our aerospace industry in Colorado. And who will ensure that our military installations are protected from encroachment issues?
- 3). How will you help our struggling businesses obtain access to capital for business retention and expansion (BRE).

President's Letter

Critical issues facing Colorado and Chamber

I realized this morning as I was writing this letter for the newsletter that I've been involved in business, politics and public policy for over 31 years in Colorado. Since moving

- 4). DIA continues to grow and expand. What will you do to ensure that we will have money to support one of our largest industries in this state—tourism? As you ponder this question, keep in mind that most of the companies that have relocated to Colorado got their first impressions when they visited here on vacation.
- 5). Colorado has a highly-educated workforce, but the Colorado Paradox is that we (myself included) have all been educated out of state. What will you do to strengthen higher education and protect P-20 (pre-school through masters programs)?

These are just a few of the many questions that need to be answered! The number one thing the Governor needs to do is create a partnership with business. Currently the business community feels we are being treated as the enemy. In reality businesses are the engine of successful governments. Without partnerships we will never have the confidence in our entrepreneurs to risk the capital to create the next employee. It's time for different approaches to unlock our potential and jolt our economy back to life!

NO on 60, 61 and 101

One last comment, as I alluded to earlier, please take the time to read and study the potential damaging effects that Amendments 60 & 61 along with Proposition 101 will have on Colorado! If any of these had been around just a few short years ago we would not have in the eastern metro area: Denver International Airport... E-470... Southlands... Heritage Eagle Bend... Saddle Rock... Prairie Waters Project... Anschutz Medical Campus... successful Bond Elections at Aurora Public Schools and Cherry Creek School... T-REX... the Alameda Interchange... I-225 upgrades... FASTRACKS light rail... just to name a few!

What will we have if these "poison pills" are passed? More than 70,000 more unemployed citizens... more than 8,000 teachers will lose their jobs... the Arapahoe County Libraries will be forced to close or reduce services by 40 percent... RTD will effectively close down... the state budget of \$18.2 billion will be reduced by \$4.2 billion... and I can go on and on!!

PLEASE VOTE NO ON THESE DEVASTATING BALLOT INITIATIVES, either by mail ballot after Oct. 16 or on Nov. 2.

Only \$10 prepaid - \$15 at the door

Taste of Aurora

September 16th 2010 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

The Stampede, 2430 S. Havana (Parker Rd & Havana)

More than 40 participants
from beer to zucchini (OK, maybe not zucchini...)

RSVPs Please: Call Janice at 303-344-1500





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, so you can forward it to every employee in your company!

The IMPACT is published 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.

Chamber Board

Executive Directors

Chair of the Board
Mark Moses | Outback Steakhouses

Chair Elect
David Gruber | Merlin International

Secretary
Judy Booth | Fitzsimons Federal Credit Union

Treasurer
David Maxwell | 1st Bank of Aurora

Immediate Past Chair
Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

Past Chair Once Removed
Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority

Vice Chair-Healthcare
Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions

Vice Chair-Business Development
Harrison Cochran | Aurora Sentinel

Vice Chair-Member Services
Tammy Fernandez | University of Phoenix

Vice Chair-Public Affairs
Jeff Thompson | University of Colorado Hospital

Directors

Rich Allison | *Adolfson & Peterson Construction Company*
Joe Barela | *Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center*
Bill Becker | *Adams County Economic Development*
Brigadier General Trulan Eyre | *140th Wing COANG*
Carol Gregory | *The Medical Center of Aurora*
Ted Hair | *Red Lion Hotel*
Bob Jamieson | *Mutual of Omaha*
Todd Landgrave | *Northrop Grumman*
Michael Martin | *Qwest Communications*
John McCloy | *Westerra Credit Union*
Todd Miller | *City of Centennial*
Wendy Mitchell | *Aurora Economic Development Council*
Alfonso Nuñez | *La Cueva Restaurant*
David Patterson | *Rural/Metro Ambulance*
Suzanne Pitrusu | *Wells Fargo Bank*
Jim Suss | *Suss Buick, GMC*
The Honorable Ed Tauer | *Mayor, City of Aurora*
Dwight Taylor | *Edwards & Taylor LLC*
Frank Weddig | *Commissioner, Arapahoe County*
Michael Wukitsch | *The Children's Hospital*

Executive Staff

President & CEO
Kevin Hougen

Marketing & Visitors' Advisory Board
Naomi Colwell

Leadership Director
Kimberly Curtis

Secretary
Janice Cooper

Finance Director
Linda Lillyblad

Senior Vice President
George Peck

VP, Membership Development
Paul Rosenberg

Communications
Mitzi Schindler

Membership Services
Mary Beth Sharp

.....

Newsletter Design
Mario Waller / Six & Six, inc.

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

Fox Gala means dinner AND theater plus

One of the metro area's favorite events is just around the corner. The annual Aurora Fox Fundraising Gala, a lively evening that includes dinner, drinks, entertainment and dessert is set for Oct. 2 at the historic **Aurora Fox Arts Center**.

More than just dinner theater, this masquerade-themed evening includes a professionally catered dinner by **Carrabba's Italian Grill** on the Fox Plaza, selected fine wines, carnival activities, and a silent auction full of unique items as well as strategically timed coffee and dessert. The night is topped off with Aurora Fox Theater's regional premier of ***Something Wicked This Way Comes***, a play adapted from Ray Bradbury's fantasy thriller novel.

Sponsorships that bring special privileges and show your support for the arts in the community are available



through The Chamber. Sponsorships offer you the once-a-year opportunity to associate you and your business with other influencers in the Eastern metro area's arts, business and professional communities. With sponsorships come special seating arrangements, appearance of your logo in the program, as well as on The Chamber and Fox websites and recognition during the event. You may reserve your sponsor status at the Angel, Producer, Director or Star level by calling The Chamber at 303-344-1500 or by going to the Chamber website and clicking on the Fox Gala logo.



Aurora Chamber Spotlight on... Ambassador Molly Barrett



Molly Barrett

Chamber Ambassador Molly Barrett and her husband Grant own **Abilene Awards & Logos, Inc.**, which has been a Chamber member since 1997. Molly has been with the company since 2002 and she and Grant bought the business in 2004. As business owners in Aurora, they pride themselves in offering a wide variety of affordable choices and excellent work.

Abilene Awards & Logos make plaques, trophies, badges, signage, awards, and embroidery, but Molly's business responsibilities include embroidery work—along with marketing, website, sales, bookkeeping—and of course clean up crew! Last year the company was recognized by the **City of Aurora's** Business

Advisory Council as an outstanding business in Aurora.

When asked about other hobbies/interests/involvement/responsibilities, Molly refers to their four little ones that tag along pretty much everywhere, and that she and Grant are Arapahoe County foster parents. She also volunteers with CASA, leads their son Liam's Cub Scout Den, teaches religious education, and reluctantly serves as Team Mom for many of the kids' baseball teams!

And, on top of all that, Molly has been an Ambassador for the Aurora Chamber of Commerce for the past 10 years—and loves it.

I-225 and Colfax/17th Place interchange funded

The **City of Aurora** recently received more than \$16 million in funding to complete the final phases of the I-225 and Colfax Avenue/17th Place interchange that will serve the Anschutz Medical Campus and Fitzsimons Life Science District. The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Board of Directors approved the funding from the Additional FY 2010-2011 Formula Funds, allowing completion of Phases 3 and 4. Phase 3 includes the completion of a slip ramp, providing access to southbound I-225 from 17th Place as well as the 17th Place bridge providing access between Fitzsimons and I-225. Phase 4 includes the portion of the 17th Place bridge that allows two-way traffic to travel over I-225

and it will create access points both to and from the bridge for northbound I-225. The new interchange has an overall price tag of approximately \$46 million.

Currently, there are approximately 16,000 workers at the site. With additional development of **University of Colorado Hospital, The Children's Hospital**, Colorado Science + Technology Park at Fitzsimons, and the new Veterans Affairs Hospital, employment on the site is expected to reach more than 44,500. Expansion of the interchange is critical to the effective and efficient operation of all the facilities on the Anschutz Medical Campus and the Fitzsimons Life Science District.

Rebates on energy efficiency upgrades available through April 2011

It's a great time for Aurora Chamber members to make significant energy efficiency improvements to their properties, because The City of Aurora has nearly \$1 million for rebates and incentives to defray the costs associated with making energy efficiency or renewable energy upgrades to a property in Aurora. The rebates are provided through Federal stimulus funds from the U.S. Department of Energy.

For Aurora business owners, these rebates could provide a savings of up to \$1,500 for material costs, and depending on the project, total savings could be as high as \$3,000, because the rebate is layered on top of existing Xcel Energy rebates. Qualifying materials include lighting, insulation, air and duct sealing, high-efficiency furnaces, boilers, evaporative coolers, rooftop air conditioners, condensing units, data center cooling systems, energy management systems and more.

In addition, in partnership with the Governor's Energy Office, the city is offering a rebate for solar hot water heating systems, which can drop water heating bills from 50 to 80 percent. Commercial property owners can receive up to \$15,000 depending on the size and cost of the system.

Finally, the city of Aurora will rebate energy audit costs and permit fees associated with installing a complete solar installation of any kind. The city is offering these rebates and incentives through April, 2011. For a searchable database of the rebates and incentives available to Aurora business owners, visit www.rechargecolorado.com. Information also is available at www.auroragov.org/rebates.

Save the Date!

Business After Hours / Holiday Event

December 16

Crown Plaza Hotel

Ribbon Cuttings



No need to 'restore' this ribbon! – Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held June 9 for **All Set Restoration** at 943 Telluride St. in Aurora. Cutting the ribbon, front and center is owner Jeff Higgins. To Jeff's left are Nick Koca and Laura Fletcher, and to his right are Joel Sebern, Kevin Ramirez, and Michelle Messina. **All Set Restoration** is a full-service disaster mitigation and restoration contractor, and it's their commitment to customers to respond to any emergency, any time, day or night. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)



Cheese(burger) please! – Mike Schettler, far right, lets his daughter cut the ribbon for the newly-remodeled **Emerald Grill** on June 21 as Nancy Barké (center), general manager of Windsor Gardens, looks on. The **Emerald Grill** offers a new menu and special events, including monthly resident birthday celebrations, holiday brunches, and more. Have a drink at the bar or on the deck overlooking the beautiful Emerald Greens Golf Course!



Nice cut! – **HealthTrans** CEO Jack McClurg cuts the ribbon outside their offices at 8300 Maplewood Ave. in Greenwood Village. Looking on are Chamber Ambassadors and staff—along with enthusiastic **HealthTrans** employees Matt Strahle, Dan Bandy, Steve Groover, Michael Oshins, Kelly Jacobs, Jennifer Howell, Chris Hanks, Kathy Major, Greg Mayers, Sara Brandt, Lauren Johnson, and Bob Shofi. **HealthTrans** and the Aurora Chamber of Commerce have partnered to offer members the free **HealthTrans Access** medication discount card. Learn all about it at <http://acc.lc.healthtrans.com>. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)



Plan your financial future – John Bennett, financial advisor, principal, and district advisor, cuts the ribbon at **FirstCommand Financial Services** at 3033 S. Parker Rd. Ste. 400—signaling that the staff is ready to help. Talk to a financial advisor at **FirstCommand** to learn about financial solutions and financial solutions. **FirstCommand** team members at the event included Cathy Walker, Pamela Barr, Elena Lynch, John Bennett, Glenn Stewart, Jennifer Hilt, Jo Butler, Sean Hogan, Pedro Ayora, Neil Marshall, and John Padzik. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)



Ready, set, Rubio's! – Aurora City Council member Brad Pierce and **Rubio's** manager Mark Uidl cut the ribbon on June 16 for the **Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill** at 16891 E. Quincy Ave. They are ready, willing and able to serve fresh, mouthwatering burritos, tacos, wraps, salads and bowls. Stop by for a bite. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)



Back to school – **Aurora Public Schools** Superintendent John Barry and student Miima Marquez, cut the ribbon for the Vista Peak P-8 Exploratory School on August 2. The Vista PEAK P-8 is located on the APS P-20 Campus and will serve students from preschool through eighth grade. **Aurora Public Schools** is the first school district in Colorado, and possibly in the nation, to develop a campus around the P-20 educational model.



Major operation with scissors – **MedExpress** Director of Business Operations Michael Amstein cuts the ribbon to the new facility at 10345 South Park Glenn Way in Parker on August 11. Left to right are Taryn O'Meara, marketing coordinator, Dessiree Paoli, marketing supervisor; Amstein; Brad Pierce, Aurora City Council Member-at Large; Frank Alderman, president and CEO of **MedExpress**; and Kevin Hougen, president and CEO of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce. **MedExpress** urgent care facilities are open 7 days a week, 12 hours a day, and no appointments are necessary. There is always a physician on-site and full-service capabilities include digital x-rays, labs, EKGs, stitches and IV fluids.



It's a big, big, world – District Manager Mike Griffin and CFO Bryan Hawthorne (in the red shirts) look on as CEO Sean Kearns cuts the ribbon for **A World of Tile** at 1310 S. Abilene St. **A World of Tile** celebrated the event with balloons—and lots and lots and lots of tile! Their philosophy is whether you're completing your first project or your twenty-first, the goal is to make your experience as pleasant as possible. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)

Open House

Celebrating 70 years of Garvin's good service

For 70 years, **Garvin's Plumbing** has provided the Denver Metro area with quality plumbing and professional drain cleaning services. They offer sewer scope services, (aka sewer video or sewer camera inspections). **Garvin's Sewer Service** was established by Russell Garvin in 1940 as a franchise operated in Denver's historic golden triangle neighborhood. Congrats to a great, long-standing business!



Member News

Senate bill includes \$451M for Colorado VA hospital

A bill that includes more than \$451 million for a new Veterans Affairs hospital in Denver was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee in July. The hospital is being built at the site of the former Fitzsimons Army Medical Center in Aurora and is expected to be fully open by May 2014. It will serve Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Wyoming, and is joining **The University of Colorado Denver, University of Colorado Hospital, The Children's Hospital** and the **Colorado Bioscience Park Aurora** on the site.

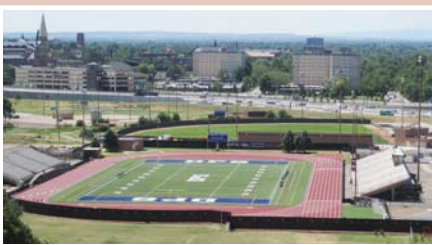
A&P wins numerous safety awards

Adolfson & Peterson Construction recently received several awards for their outstanding safety record from the Associated Builders & Contractors (ABC) Rocky Mountain Chapter. The company received awards for 2010 Outstanding Safety Record, General Contractor 200-1,000 Employees; 2010 Outstanding Safety Program, General Contractors 350,000-750,000 Man-Hours; and the prestigious Safety Training and Evaluation Process (STEP) Platinum Award, which recognizes the company's safety achievements and efforts in the development of a quality safety program for 2010. The company has also recently achieved a major milestone in the construction industry: 3.75 million man hours worked with no lost time accidents.

Arapahoe County open space maps out greener future

In June of this year, the **Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners** distributed \$10.6 million in Open Space sales tax revenues and awarded the **City of Aurora** with the *Our Progress Takes Flight Stewardship* award. The award recognizes an individual, local government or organization that displays outstanding leadership, cooperation and stewardship to ensure the conservation and protection of the great outdoors.

As this year's winner, the **City of Aurora** serves as a role model for putting Arapahoe County Open Space



Construction completed at South High School

Adolfson & Peterson Construction completed track resurfacing at the Denver Public Schools (DPS) All City Stadium, located adjacent to the South High School Campus.

The project is part of the renovations **A&P** is doing at DPS South High School.



Sgt. Graham Dunne, Aurora Police Department and AYO Steering Committee member, presents Kathie Snell, Aurora Mental Health Center's Deputy Director, Family Services with the program of the year award for AYO.

Aurora Mental Health program receives award

Aurora Youth Options (AYO), a program hosted by **Aurora Mental Health Center**, received the "Program of the Year" Award from the Colorado Juvenile Council at their May awards luncheon. The honor came as a result of AYO's support for at-risk adolescents taking first steps toward a new beginning. AYO targets at-risk youth of middle and high school ages that appear to be headed toward trouble, including gang activity, criminal behavior or dropping out of school. AYO supports youth in the **City of Aurora** with opportunities for self-discovery and personal growth.

shareback and grant dollars to work. They've completed numerous projects for their residents to enjoy from preserving the County's only forest of Ponderosa Pine and the creation of a water quality education center to building new parks, renovating others and connecting various trails.

Perlmutter receives honor

Congressman Ed Perlmutter (D-Golden) has recently been named *Legislator of the Year* by the American Planning Association for his achievements and contributions to planning.

A&P adds employees to Colorado team

Adolfson & Peterson Construction is proud to announce two new additions to the Colorado office: Jonathan Rodin and Kirby Lloyd. Rodin, Superintendent, comes to **A&P** with 29 years of experience in construction, 11 as a superintendent. Lloyd, Senior Project Manager, comes to **A&P** with 34 years of construction experience.

QSE Technologies adds to the team

QSE Technologies recently welcomed Debby Hensey to their team as a business development manager. **QSE** specializes in the design, installation and ongoing support of robust, state of the art IT systems, including computer servers, data storage systems, networking (including secure WiFi), internet access, data cabling, network security, workstations and laptops (including tablets), remote access and HIPAA Security.



Debby Hensey

Community College of Aurora and CU College of Nursing announce partnership

Officials at the **Community College of Aurora (CCA)** and the **University of Colorado College of Nursing** at the Anschutz Medical Campus announced in June the creation of the Integrated Pathway to Baccalaureate Nursing Education Program (Integrated Nursing Pathway). The program is designed to increase access for community college students to baccalaureate nursing education, and is one of first such partnerships

in the country and the first in Colorado. **The Community College of Aurora** is noted for its innovative programs in science and support services for its exceptionally diverse community; the University of Colorado College of Nursing is known nationally for excellence in nursing education, clinical practice, and research. Students accepted into the program will earn an Associate of General Studies degree from **CCA** before moving seamlessly to the **CU College of Nursing** to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. A unique aspect of the Integrated Nursing Pathway is that students will be simultaneously admitted to both institutions. For more information about the program, visit www.ccaurora.edu/programs-classes/departments/nursing.



Team trophy awarded for performance

Col. Clint Crosier, **460th Space Wing** commander, unveils the Aldridge Trophy for Best Space Wing to Team Buckley at his commander's call July 7. The **460th Space Wing** won the trophy for superior performance during Guardian Challenge 2010. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Airman 1st Class Manisha Vasquez)

Pinnacol's 2009 Annual Report Available

Pinnacol Assurance's 2009 Annual Report highlights stories from injured workers and their families. The result is a series of brief but moving stories about life after workplace injury from a young firefighter who was rendered quadriplegic, a widow struggling to raise three teenagers following their father's untimely death, and a construction supervisor whose working years were cut short. In addition to featuring these stories, the annual report provides important details about **Pinnacol's** 2009 financial

[continued on page 7]

performance. To view the annual report, go to www.pinnacol.com.

The Children's Hospital is given top marks

The August edition of *U.S. News and World Report* once again ranked **The Children's Hospital** in Aurora as one of the best pediatric facilities in the country. In this year's Best Children's Hospitals, hospitals are ranked in cancer, diabetes and endocrine disorders, gastroenterology, heart and heart surgery, kidney disorders, neonatology, neurology and neurosurgery, orthopedics, pulmonology and urology. The hospital ranked in nine specialty areas surveyed; among those, five specialties ranked in the top ten and three ranked in the top five. **TCH** was the only hospital in Colorado to obtain ranking in more than one pediatric specialty, and has been ranked nationally by *U.S. News & World Report* every year since the inception of its rankings edition in 1993.



Cochran honored with lifetime achievement award

In fall 2010, Harrison Cochran, president and publisher of the **Aurora Sentinel** will be presented with the Suburban Newspapers of America's (SNA) Dean Leshner Lifetime Achievement Award. The award honors Cochran's career of moving the suburban newspaper industry forward. Cochran has served twice as the chairman of the SNA Board of Directors and has continuously served on the SNA or SNA Foundation Board since 1995. Congratulations Harrison!

Two named to ColoradoBiz List

Two Aurora Chamber of Commerce businesses were recently named as top minority businesses of 2010 by **ColoradoBiz** magazine. Ranked 10th (up from 23rd last year) was **RTL Networks** whose CEO Richard Lewis is a member of the Chamber Defense Council. Also on the list was **American Automation Building Solutions**

which moved up to 32nd in the rankings. CEO Lisa Buckley serves as the Vice Chair of the Chamber Defense Council.

Middleton to head Emerge America

Chamber member Karen Middleton has been named the new president of Emerge America located in San Francisco. Middleton, who represents District 42 in the State Legislature, has been active on the Chamber Government Affairs Committee and has served on the board of the **Aurora Education Foundation**.



Karen Middleton

Chamber member companies are named among best to work for

Colo BIZ magazine recently published their annual list of the "Best Large Companies to Work For," and three Aurora Chamber member companies made the top ten: Congratulations to Kurt Kazmierczak, Jason Merillat, David Cooper, Patrick Pogue and Everton Sequeira with

Edward Jones; to **Pinnacol Assurance**, and to **Merrick and Company**. Great work – and obviously great to work for!



\$400-million UCH expansion

The **University of Colorado Hospital** is constructing a new \$400-million, 12-story patient tower. The project will create 1,400 new jobs for the state of Colorado, including approximately 650 construction jobs. The hospital will also be expanding the University of Colorado Cancer Center to meet a substantial increase in demand for hospital services.

Wukitsch and Hougen named Workforce Champions



Kevin Hougen (far left) and Michael Wukitsch (3rd from left)

This year's **Arapahoe/Douglas Works!** Workforce Champions Awards, presented by the Rocky Mountain Workforce Development Association, went to **Michael Wukitsch and Kevin Hougen**. Wukitsch, vice president of Human Resources with **The Children's Hospital**, serves as the Adams County Board Chair, and Hougen, president of the **Aurora Chamber of Commerce**, serves as the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Chair. The awards were given to honor their leadership in fostering a collaborative approach to addressing workforce needs in their respective counties in Program Year 2009.

Results of May survey

Things have been busy at the Chamber, but we have taken heed to those of you who completed our first survey—and the results are in. The survey was sent to 1,200 members, with 53 responses.

Here's an overview of the questions and top-rated answers for each—for members to ponder. If you would like to see complete results, contact mitzi.schindler@aurorachamber.org:

What can the Chamber do for you?

- Encourage/incorporate more networking
- Already doing a lot/no suggestions
- Help promote company capabilities to customers in the area
- Fight for business in political arena

What services, information, events would you like from the Chamber?

- Doing a great job
- Networking events
- Community service opportunities
- More computer classes

What is your preferred method of communication from the Chamber?

- E-mail
- Chamber Impact Newsletter
- Facebook
- Twitter

What is your age?

- 20-30 (2)
- 31-40 (17)
- 41-50 (15)
- 51-60 (12)
- 61+ (7)

It is certainly encouraging that some members are pleased with the services they receive from the Chamber. It was also helpful to see the suggestions.

As based on questions 1 and 2, many of the members who responded would like to see more networking events, and the Chamber now has incorporated monthly noon networking events, in addition to the Business After Hours and Business Before Hours.

In the arena of promoting company capabilities, members can access their ChamberMaster account and promote their business with Hot Deals and links to their Web site. (See ChamberMaster article, on page 1). There are also classes for members to learn how to better use their ChamberMaster account (the next class is Oct 20 at 7:30 a.m.)

Another survey will be sent in September.

25th Graduating Class - 2010



Seated, from L-R: Debbie Petersen, Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital; Frances Grant, Aurora Mental Health Center; Debra Scarpella, Goodwill Industries of Denver; Antoinette Dow, Aurora Mental Health Center; Ana-Christina Wadle, AncoraWorks, LLC; Amy Prince, Aurora Public Schools; and Amy McLaughry, FirstBank of Aurora.

Standing, from L-R: Jennifer Evans, Advantage Security, Inc.; Rosemary Singer, Rural/Metro Ambulance; Chad Argentar, City of Aurora; Eric Thorn, Woohoo Promotions Company; Eric Levesque, HQ Air Reserve Personnel Center; Chelsea DeChaine, Colorado Insurance Professionals; Mary Fran Tharp, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Colorado; Eileen Prosser, Aurora Center for Active Adults; Maria Elena Thomas, Elkhart Elementary School; Tawney Bass, Aurora Mental Health Center; Larry Mathis, City of Aurora; Luc Cisna, University of Phoenix; Patti Cummings, Metro Community Provider Network; Rob McGregor, Aurora Police Department; Richard Duston, Aurora Symphony Orchestra; Barbara Peck, In Your Element Photography; Kevin Waters, Aurora Fire Department; Patrick Pogue, Edward Jones; Kristin Haley, 140th Wing, Colorado Air National Guard; Scott Davis, University of Phoenix; and Richard Charles, Cherry Creek Schools - STEM Center. (Not pictured: Sue McBroom, Rural/Metro Ambulance.) (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)

Renewals

18th Judicial District Attorney
Abby Home Care, Inc.
Academy Roofing, Inc.
Adams County Workforce & Business Center
Adolfson & Peterson Construction
Advantage Security, Inc.
Allegra Print & Imaging
AlphaGraphics
Alpine Custom Shutters
AMFirst Bank
Anthem College High Tech Institute
Apex Communications Services, Inc.
Arapahoe County Sheriff's Office
Arapahoe County Treasurer
Aurora Denver Cardiology Associates, PC
Aurora Gateway Rotary Club
Aurora Singers
B & E Screen Printing and Sports Apparel, Inc.
B & R Plastics
Bank of the West
BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse
Blue Spruce Energy Center, LLC
Boy Scouts of America - Denver Area Council
Brock Publishing
Carpet Mill Outlet
CBS Outdoor
Chase Bank Denver
Cherry Creek Dodge
Cherry Creek Nursing Center
Chick-fil-A @ Pioneer Hills
Colorado Insurance Professionals
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Colorado Continental Roofing
Comfort Inn Aurora
Comitis Crisis Center, Inc.
Concorde Career College
Consolidated Construction Management, LLC
Courtyard by Marriott - Denver South/Park
Creative Counseling Center, LLC
Cunningham Fire Protection District
Denver Airport Marriott at Gateway Park

Drury Inn - Denver East
Dumitri's Family Restaurant & Sports Lounge
E-470 Public Highway Authority
Edward Jones Investments - David Cooper
Edward Jones Investments - Patrick Pogue
Embassy Suites Denver Int'l Airport
Embassy Suites Hotel Denver - Aurora
Epic Construction, Inc.
Faison Office Products Company, LLC
Fire Safety Services
Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority
Fogg System Company, Inc.
G & L Garage Doors
Gabriel's Light Learning Center
Garden Plaza at Aurora
Garden Terrace Alzheimer's Center of Excellence
Garvin's Sewer Service
GBSM
GP Xpress
Grand Design, Inc.
Grandma's Handyman Service, Inc.
Graziano Budny Wealth Management Group
Hampton Inn - DIA
Havana Business Improvement District
Helga's German Restaurant & Deli
Hilton Garden Inn Denver South/Meridian
House of Flowers, Florist, Boutique and Art Gallery
In Your Element Photography, Inc.
Interstate Turbo Supply & Accessory Co.
Itec
Jane McGrath
JHB International, Inc.
Jordan Road CARSTAR Collision
Kaiser Permanente
La Quinta Inn and Suites DIA
Lend Lease Communities
Life Care Center of Aurora
LOGO ON
Lovett Family Chiropractic & Wellness
Lynnea Louison
Majestic Realty

Merrick & Co.
Merry Maids - Boulder
Merry Maids Linrus
Merry Maids of Lakewood
Mesa Systems, Inc.
Midwest Sales
Mr. Greenjeans' Landscaping
Mr. Handyman of East Metro Denver
MuellerTime Designs
Office Depot - Salida Court
Outback Steakhouse - Abilene St.
Outback Steakhouse - Smoky Hill
Paragon Dynamics
Pinnacol Assurance
Plastics Design & Manufacturing
Ponderosa Vision Clinic
Quality 1st Plumbing
Red Lion Hotel Denver Southeast
Regional Transportation District (RTD)
Residence Inn Denver South/Park Meadows Mall
Roper Insurance & Financial Services
Rural/Metro Ambulance
Salvation Army
Sewall Child Development Center
Short Elliott Hendrickson
Six & Six, Inc.
Smoky Hill Rotary Club
Springhill Suites by Marriott - Denver Airport
Staybridge Suites DIA
Strategic Science
Strong Promotions, LLC
The Arc of Aurora
The Children's Hospital
The Maids Home Services
The Medical Center of Aurora
Trilogy Benefits, Inc.
Wal-Mart Stores #3566
Watson & Co., Inc.
WeeklyPlus.com
WEM Services
WooHoo Promotions Company

Announcing The Leadership Aurora Class of 2010-2011:

Cindy Andersen, Aurora Fire Department
Eric Artis, The Medical Center of Aurora
David Barber, RE/MAX Unlimited, Inc.
Maureen Barker, UMB
Terry Brown, Aurora Police Department
Melissa Clifford, Heather Gardens
David Cooper, Edward Jones
John Criswell, Colorado Air National Guard
Mike DiDonna, University of Phoenix
Derrick Fuller, Wells Fargo Banks
Mike Garcia, Outback Steakhouse
Michael Giles, Laredo Middle School/Cherry Creek Schools
Rachael Gregoire, Aurora Schools Federal Credit Union
Christy Jones, DPRA, Inc.
Robert Joseph, City of Aurora/Animal Care Division
Diane Kirkpatrick, Lockheed Martin
Amy Kusek, Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver
Mary Lewis, Aurora Public Schools/Board of Education
Richard Lewis, RTL Networks, Inc.
Erika Matich, University of Colorado Hospital
Noel Mink, City of Aurora/Public Safety
Barbara Morrow/Colorado Air National Guard
Pam Ninke, Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital
Sharon Perry, Citywide Banks
Jeff Rauske, Advantage Security, Inc.
Humphrey Shin, FirstBank of Aurora
Kim Sopoci, Kim Sopoci Private Fitness Studio
Steve Sundberg, Legends of Aurora
Michael Tapp, Aurora Mental Health Center
Casey Wardynski, Aurora Public Schools
Adam Wehrle, Rural/Metro Ambulance
Sue Wehrspann, University of Colorado Hospital
Andrea Williams, Mesa Systems

Congratulations!

NEW MEMBERS

Beautiful Art Picture Framing, Inc.
Chancey & Sons Inc.
Cherry Creek Wesleyan Church
City Publications of Denver
Collins Engineers, Inc.
Costco Wholesale
Daydream Travel
Diamond Quality Dry Cleaners
Dry Dock Brewing
Ellen P. Belef
Emerald Grill & Catering, Inc.
Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que
Farmers Insurance Group Meyer Insurance Agency
First National Merchant Services
Focus Insurance Agency
Friends to Elect Bob Fitzgerald
Golden Impressions Marketing, Inc.
Greatwide Dedicated Transport
Green Acres Adult Community
Heather Park Dental
Holiday Inn Express DIA
Humana Marketpoint
Jamba Juice
Keller Williams DTC
Lawncore Inc.
M C Commercial Real Estate
Medexpress Urgent Care
MGM Strategies
Outback Steakhouse - Centennial
Pioneer Packaging
Publication Printers Corp.
Rowe, Barbara
Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill
Signal 88 Security
SmartCo Foods
Smiling Moose Deli
Specialty Incentive
Springfield Construction, LLC
Time Solvers LLC