



IMPACT

JAN/FEB
2012

Upcoming Events

JANUARY

Jan. 2 - Happy New Year!
Chamber office closed

Legislators Breakfast 1
Jan. 9 | 7:30 am
Community College of Aurora
CentreTech Campus

Business Before Hours
Jan. 11 | 7:30 am
Roosters Men's Grooming Center

ChamberMaster Training
Jan. 18 | 12noon
Chamber office

**Working with Arapahoe County:
Sheriff's Office**
Jan. 18 | 11:30 am – 1 pm
Chamber office

**Leadership Aurora Pay it
Forward Event**
Jan. 20 | 11 am – 1 pm
Outback Steakhouse
16301 E. 40th Ave.

Business After Hours
Jan. 26 | 5-7 pm
Whisper Sky Apartments
1755 S. Parker Rd.

FEBRUARY

State of the Base Luncheon
Feb. 1 | 11:30 am
Doubletree Hotel Aurora

Member Orientation
Feb. 15 | noon
Chamber office

Business After Hours
Feb. 23 | 5-7 pm
Bright Now Dental
23963 E. Prospect Ave., Unit E

Women in Business Luncheon
Feb. 24 | 11:30 am
Red Lion Hotel Denver-Aurora

Connect With Us!



Chamber honored as being military friendly

Military friendly. That is how the National Veteran Owned Business Association (NaVOBA) characterized the Aurora Chamber of Commerce in the latest issue of *Vetpreneur* magazine – designating it as one of just 20 to be recognized as such nationwide.

"We have always had a strong relationship with the military community through our Defense Council, and are thrilled to be recognized for that commitment," said George Peck, Aurora Chamber vice president and Defense Council Liaison.

The Chamber Defense Council's mission has always been to promote greater integration of military personnel into the local community Peck said.

"In fact, at our retreat earlier this year, the Defense Council Executive Committee under the leadership of Council Chair Lisa Buckley with **American Automation Building Solutions**, refined the goals for the Council."

The Council agreed to:

- Identify common interests of civilian and military populations and support community efforts of mutual concern;
- Get military and community leader participation to solve problems of mutual interest;
- Ensure maximum use by military personnel of community facilities and services;
- Increase civilian understanding of the military mission;

- Set up an effective organization to assist the commander and community leaders to carry out their mutual relations and responsibilities;
- Give continuity to the community relations program; and
- Be proactive in obtaining military contracts for the Eastern metro area

One of the support functions highlighted in the article about the Military Friendly Chambers was involvement with programs for the military veteran community. Kevin Hougen, Chamber President, pointed out that the Chamber is involved with and supports the Colorado Freedom Memorial project in Aurora as well as the Wounded Warrior and Deployed Spouses Program.

"And for the past 36 years, The Chamber has joined with the business community to recognize and honor American service men and women in the region at the Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon," he added. "We also support the military at Buckley's monthly newcomer orientations and continue to advocate for veteran hiring efforts.

Hougen said it was truly a great honor to be named as Military Friendly by NaVOBA. "Being Military Friendly is a proud tradition of The Chamber," he stated. "This tribute just confirms that what we have been doing through these many years is right."

save
the DATES

Women in Business

Feb. 24, 2012

Unsung Hero Luncheon
11:30 am – 1 pm
Red Lion Hotel Denver-Aurora
Parker and I-225
Guest Speaker: Amelia Earhart
Register at www.aurorachamber.org

Annual Awards Banquet

April 20, 2012

Join your fellow Chamber members for an evening of social entertainment as well as recognition for the honor, achievements and efforts of leaders and volunteers in the Eastern Metro area during the past year.

In addition, the Chamber's renowned silent auction will have something for everyone! If you are interested in gaining recognition for your company by donating a item, please see the Silent Auction Donation form insert in this newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support of The Chamber.



The Leadership Aurora Golf

June 21, 2012

Heritage Eagle Bend Golf and Country Club



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the **IMPACT**
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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

President's Letter

Reflections on a year past and a year approaching

Two thousand Twelve. *It looks different when you write it out!* **Happy New Year!** We hope this newsletter finds all of our members in good health and good spirits as you begin the new year. The Board of Directors and the staff want to thank you—our incredible members—for all the help and support we received this past year.

January is a good time of year to reflect on what has gone before and try to peer into the future to set plans for the year ahead. This last year has, in many respects, been a mixed bag; a time of triumph and disappointment. As the Chamber enters the new year of 2012, we continue to feel the energy that was generated during the past year. And we feel a mounting excitement about all the new and stimulating work that lies ahead of us.

I think it is significant to note as we recap the year that your Chamber has been working tirelessly to promote regional economic prosperity. What a year! Reflecting back, *it looks different when you write it out!*

- The Aurora Chamber of Commerce was singled out from some 7,800 other chambers in the entire country as one of the top 20 for being military friendly. The National Veteran Owned Business Association featured us in *Vetrenpreneur Magazine* for the exceptional work we do in the military and veteran communities throughout the region.
- The new Veterans Administration Hospital contract was signed (finally!) and with it we can anticipate more than 2,000 construction jobs over the next three years leading to more than 1,800 employees in the next decade.
- At the Space Roundtable just a few weeks ago, Colo. Governor John Hickenlooper announced he had requested federal licensing to designate **Front Range Airport** as Colorado's official Spaceport.
- General Electric is moving to Aurora. Its new solar power manufacturing company will employ more than 350.
- **Arrow Electronics** will move its world headquarters to the nearby Denver Tech Center, bringing with it some 1,200 employees.
- **Visit Aurora** celebrated its first anniversary, and has persuaded the worldwide power lifting championship to come to Aurora.

- **Colorado PTAC** (Procurement Technical Assistance Centers) with an office located right here in the Chamber, was credited with helping create and retain 11,932 jobs. They also report they were able to help businesses in the area earn some \$600 million in contract awards.
- **Aerospace Data Facility-Colorado** celebrated its 40th Anniversary in town.
- **The Colorado Urban Workforce Alliance** located in our Chamber has grown rapidly in its first year, partnering with the healthcare community to create critical jobs for the future in the healthcare industry.
- Gaylord Entertainment announced a new \$800-million Gaylord Colorado Resort and Convention Center. The hotel is expected to feature 1,500 rooms, and more than 400,000 sq. ft. of conference and exhibition space.
- Our first two STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math) schools opened at Vista Peak in the **Aurora Public School District** and at the Institute of Science and Technology in the **Cherry Creek Public Schools**.
- **Nelnet**, an education services company, is expanding its technology and servicing operations, creating as many as 75 new jobs.
- **Raytheon** was awarded an \$887 million GPS contract from the U.S. Air Force.
- United Launch Alliance expanded its headquarters in Centennial spreading their growing workforce of nearly 2,000 employees in a trio of buildings.
- **Arapahoe County** passed initiative 2A, providing millions of dollars to our communities for open space, parks, and trails.

This is just a sampling of some of the promising economic development opportunities we have been blessed with. And you know, it looks pretty encouraging *when you write it out!*

Let me close by saying on behalf of the Chamber Board of Directors and our staff, we hope this very promising New Year will open your heart to the blessings of each moment. Thanks to your continued support we truly look forward to a more prosperous 2012.

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.

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Bob Barke | *BAR-K Insurance Solutions*
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HONORARY DIRECTORS

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Barry Gore | *Adams County Economic Development*
The Honorable Steve Hogan | *Mayor, City of Aurora*
Wendy Mitchell | *Aurora Economic Development Council*
The Honorable Cathy Noon | *Mayor, City of Centennial*
Frank Weddig | *Arapahoe County Commissioner*

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.....
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Mayor Hogan shares his view of Aurora's future

"Aurora is open for business and we will succeed," was the theme advanced by the newly elected Mayor of Aurora, Steve Hogan, at The Chamber's Dec. 9 General Membership Luncheon.

In his first major policy address, Mayor Hogan shared with the crowd of nearly 200 his priorities and vision for the city of Aurora in the years ahead, and said "if you have a vision, let us help you achieve it. If you have a dream, we are here to help make it come true."

He declared to the group that "Aurora is ready for the business world to challenge us, and we will improve on a proven track record that will help that critical element of our very existence succeed."

Also featured at the luncheon was presentation of the prestigious Alfred P. Sloan Awards for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility. Scott Ferrin, Southwest Central Field Service Director for the Society of Human Resource Management was joined by Chamber President Kevin Hougen and Mayor Hogan in presenting plaques to seven

companies which were cited for being on the leading-edge of bringing significant changes to the workforce in the realm of workplace flexibility.

Honored were **Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center, Aurora Mental Health**, Deloitte-Denver, GoDaddy.com, McGladrey-Denver, PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Ryan, LLC.

For **A/D Works!, Aurora Mental Health** and McGladrey-Denver, it was not the first time they had been recognized. **A/D Works!** has a highly progressive atmosphere with increasingly flexible work rules that have resulted in increased productivity – earning them a fourth consecutive year of winning the award. **Aurora Mental Health**, awarded for a third time, allows most of their employees to set their own schedules and/or compress their work into four nine-hour days. McGladrey-Denver received their second consecutive award.

The luncheon was sponsored by **Westerra Credit Union** and the **Arapahoe County Workforce and Business Center**. Those sponsoring tables at the event were the **Aurora Economic Development Council, Arapahoe/Douglas Works!, Aurora Mental Health, FirstBank, Merrick & Company, and Xcel Energy**.

Other local mayors who turned out to pay tribute to the Sloan Award winners and to hear Mayor Hogan included **Centennial** Mayor Cathy Noon, Greenwood Village Mayor Ron Rakowsky and Mayor Pro-Tem Charles Bailey of Bennett.

The luncheon was held at Chamber member hotel **Sheraton Denver Tech Center** in Greenwood Village.

A copy of the full text of Mayor Hogan's presentation is available on the Aurora Chamber of Commerce web site and recorded excerpts are also available on YouTube.



Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan

(L to R) Randy Stith, PhD, executive director of Aurora Mental Health Center, Scott Ferrin, and Tawney Bass of AMHC.



(L to R) Suzanne Vanderhart and Carla Biggart with PricewaterhouseCoopers, and Scott Ferrin.



(L to R) Lukas Krause and Sharon Byram of Ryan, and Scott Ferrin.



(L to R, bottom row) Bill Skidmore, Chair of the Workforce Investment Board; Don Klemme, director of Arapahoe County's Community Resources Department, and County Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld. (L to R, top row) County Commissioners Nancy Sharpe and Nancy Jackson; Joe Barela, division manager, Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center; Scott Ferrin; and County Commissioner Frank Weddig.



(L to R) J.R. Jaspersen and Joanne Anderson with GoDaddy.com, and Scott Ferrin.



(L to R) Jerry Buck with Deloitte-Denver and Scott Ferrin.

Member News

A&P announces director of business development

Adolfson & Peterson Construction (A&P) recently announced that Mark Ortiz has joined its Colorado office as the director of business development. Ortiz will focus on the healthcare, higher education, commercial office and advanced technology markets, among others, in the Metro area.



Mark Ortiz

Mentor an Aurora youth

Want to give back a small amount of time to your community? Consider becoming a mentor with Aurora **Youth Options (AYO)** in January, which is National Mentoring Month. Mentors spend time with their mentee's twice a month doing activities they are both interested in. The **AYO** Mentor Program supports mentors with interactive training, experienced coaching, support events and a life skills learning lab for youth.

For more information or to become a mentor, contact Ken Broermann of **AYO** at 303-617-2667, kenbroermann@aumch.org, or visit the website at www.aurorayouthoptions.org.

David Evans and Associates adds to transportation group

David Evans and Associates, Inc. (DEA) recently added three members to its transportation group as vice presidents: Jiri Vitek, PE, as Bridges and Structures Segment Leader; Jim Ellerbroek, PE, as Railroad Manager; and Zafar Alikhan as Transit Planning and Environmental Services Manager. DEA is a recognized leader for progressive and sustainable design and management solutions for complex transportation, land development, energy, and water projects nationwide. DEA's staff includes professional engineers, surveyors, hydrographers, planners, landscape architects, and natural resources scientists.

QSE welcomes Jim Boyle

Jim Boyle, the newest member of **QSE Technologies** team, joins the company as a business development manager (sales/account management). He has more than a decade of consultative sales experience, as well as experience in telecommunications and in the banking and financial services industry.



Jim Boyle

Landtech celebrates 25 years of excellence with new branding

Landtech Contractors, Inc. recently launched a new brand identity, which coincides with their 25th anniversary in 2012. For the past quarter of a century, **Landtech** has been proud to provide professional, warranty-backed high quality landscape construction and maintenance services.



Since 1987, **Landtech** has been dedicated to offering the best commercial landscape and maintenance services in the industry. For more information, call (303) 344-4465 or visit www.landtechcontractors.com.

Give a gift of education

The Aurora Community Connection needs help providing educational materials for 32 elementary aged children from low-income families. For more information, contact Peter Cukale of **Wizard Universal, Inc.**, at pcukale@msn.com.

Nominees for promotion have Buckley Tie



BG Kevin Pottinger



Col. Clint Crosier



Col. Ron Huntley

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta announced Nov. 28 that three officers with strong Buckley AFB ties had been nominated by the President for promotion. Nominated for his second star was former Air Reserve Personnel Center commander, Brigadier General Kevin Pottinger. In addition, Col. Clint Crosier, former 460th Space Wing Commander and Col. Ronald Huntley, current commander of the Aerospace Data Facility-Colorado at Buckley, were nominated for their first star to become brigadier generals.

Also announced was the selection of Lt. Col. Patricia York, Director of Public Affairs for ARPC at Buckley for promotion to colonel. She serves on the Chamber Defense Council Executive Committee.

CU Fit program at SSFCU completes 100 million steps

Security Service Federal Credit Union employees have completed 100 million steps, as measured by their pedometers, since starting the organization's corporate wellness program *CU Fit* – four years ago. That's enough steps to walk around the world 1.78 times!



A healthy 94 percent of employees participate in the *CU Fit* program, and the program has recently won awards in three states; Colorado, Utah and Texas.

Colorado Biz names American Automation CEO a Small Business Finalist

CEO of one of the Aurora Chamber's fastest growing small businesses has been selected as a finalist in Colorado Biz Magazine's Small Company CEOs of the Year.



Ishmail Nassardeen-Buckley

Ishmail Nassardeen-Buckley, was selected by the magazine for 2011 honors for the work he has done with his wife in growing the company, **American Automation Building Solutions, Inc.**, to more than 50 employees. The company specializes in physical security systems, automation and energy

management and cyber/IT security.

The company's president and partner in the firm is Lisa Nasserdeen-Buckley, chair of the Chamber Defense Council. **American Automation** was founded in 2001 and has contracts with clients both at the federal and local level including the Department of Homeland Security, the U.S. Air Force and the City and County of Denver.

Weddig retires after 30 years of public service



Frank Weddig

Citing a desire to spend more time with family and to pursue other interests, Arapahoe County Commissioner Frank Weddig formally submitted his resignation from the commission, effective Jan. 3.

Weddig, a long-time community and political activist also serves as the Commission representative on the Aurora Chamber Board of Directors. He has represented Aurora on the City Council and in the State House and Senate as well as the County Commission, accruing a total of 30 years of public service. He told his colleagues that while he may no longer be serving in public office he had no intention of dropping out. "I plan on staying involved in a number of issues that still are important to me," he said.

Since Weddig's term doesn't expire until January 2013, the Arapahoe County Democrats from District 5 met and elected Bill Holen, currently serving on Congressman Ed Perlmutter's staff, to fulfill the remainder of the term.



New Ambassador Program co-chair appointed

With a new year comes changes, and the Ambassador Program is no exception.

2012 brings new leadership to the program with Teri Karjala joining Howie Metz owner of **Quality 1st Plumbing** as co-chair. Teri is the owner of **Creative Counseling Center**, which specializes in helping children and families to live a life of hope, harmony, and happiness.

With this change, thanks goes to Sandie Preuss owner of **E Travel Unlimited** for serving as co-chair for the past

two years. Her loyalty and involvement in the program and in the Chamber are greatly appreciated.

For those of you who may be unfamiliar with the Ambassador Program, it is made up of a group of dedicated Chamber members giving generously of their time, delivering new and renewal member packets; as well as attending ribbon cuttings, open house celebrations and regularly attending networking events. The Chamber relies on them to be their hands and feet - and eyes and ears - in the community.



Teri Karjala

The Chamber is grateful for all of the time and effort the Ambassadors give. If you see one of them, be sure to thank them for helping to make this organization great:

- Christine Aguilar, *World Financial Group*
- Greg and Jeanne Barber, *Artistic Apparel, LLC*
- Bob Barké, *BAR-K Insurance Solutions, Inc.*
- Molly Barrett, *Abilene Awards & Logos, Inc.*
- David Bernard, *Bernard Financial Services*
- Daryl Borsheim, *Retirement Partners of Colorado*
- Cheryl Braunschweiger, *ALMC Mortgage*
- Lynn Burgess, *Cherry Creek School District #5*
- Rita Colon, *Costco Wholesale*
- David Cooper, *Edward Jones Investments*
- Brad Davis, *Roper Insurance & Financial Services*
- Chelsea DeChaine, *Colorado Insurance Professionals*
- Tom Dixon, *BroncoInsurance.com*
- Gayle Eskanos, *Outside Purple*
- Bruce Fuller, *Heartland Institute for Financial Education*
- Debora Gilliard, *Metropolitan State College of Denver*
- Jerry Gray, *American National Insurance*
- Jacquie Healy, *Trilogy Benefits, Inc.*
- Bob Jamieson, *Mutual of Omaha*
- Karen Johnson, *KBJ Space Solutions*
- Kris Jordan, *Garvin's Sewer Service*
- Teri Karjala, *Creative Counseling Center, LLC*
- Rachel Macias, *Famous Dave's Bar-B-Que*
- Fran Manibusan, *Sam's Club #6631*

- Erin McCarty, *Peak Health Chiropractic*
- Braden McMillan, *FirstBank - Smoky Hill Branch*
- Ken Melcher, *United Veterans Committee of Colorado*
- Howie Metz, *Quality 1st Plumbing*
- Derek Miller, *The Growth Coach*
- Brian Molitoris, *Brian Molitoris Photographer*
- Steve and Justine Morin, *Morin Wood Finesse*
- Scott and Debbie Mueller, *MuellerTime Designs*
- Kristy Mundy, *Sweet Tomatoes, The Salad Buffet Restaurant*
- Concetta Palmieri, *ManpowerGroup*
- Ken and Sandie Preuss, *E Travel Unlimited*
- Tiffany Ramsdell, *Jim 'N Nick's BBQ*
- John Reeves, *AFLAC*
- Cheryl Rotkovich, *Balancing Books, Inc.*
- Barbara Rowe, *Civic member*
- Debra Scarpella, *Goodwill Industries of Denver*
- Everton Sequeira, *Edward Jones Investments*
- Felicia Stanton, *JCPenney*
- Vince Tinnirello, *Anchor Network Solutions, Inc.*
- Rich Wentworth, *Achievement Dynamics*
- Mark Werner, *Great Western Printing, Inc.*
- Nabiha Wright, *Crowne Plaza Hotel DIA*
- Debbie Zaharko, *Joe's Crab Shack*



Howie Metz



Sandie Preuss

Leadership Aurora class ponders Aurora economy, infrastructure and governance



Tom Henley, area manager of Community & Local Government Affairs for **Xcel Energy (L)**, makes a presentation during the mock city council meeting at November's Economic and Infrastructure Session, while Brent Hubbell, banking officer with **FirstBank**, listens intently.

By Greg Baker | City of Aurora - Water

On Thursday, November 17, the Leadership Aurora Class of 2012 listened to presentations from Aurora Chamber President Kevin Hougen, on an overview of Aurora's economy; City of Aurora Director for Public Works Dave Chambers, on the city's infrastructure; and Aurora City Manager Skip Noe, on governance.

Topics ranged from the development at the Anschutz/Fitzsimons campus to industrial and residential growth around DIA, and from Aurora's sustainable water system, road system

design and maintenance to the history of municipal government structure over the last century. As always, class members were quick to ask questions and brought their many levels of expertise into the discussions. This insight was put to use in a mock city council session held after the presentations. The impact of the simulated meeting left Assistant City Attorney Mike Hyman, saying it was easily the funniest - yet oddly the most realistic - council meeting he'd seen.

Leave it to us to be comically accurate!



Ribbon Cuttings



Could you go for some French Fries or a Whopper? – A new **Burger King** recently opened in Aurora at 2560 S. Havana St. At the Nov. 8 ribbon cutting ceremony, owner Elena Donahue deftly cuts the ribbon with the famous Chamber scissors, as guests and Chamber Ambassadors look on. Founded in 1954, **Burger King** is the second largest fast food hamburger chain in the world - and original home of the Whopper. Approximately 90 percent of Burger King restaurants are owned and operated by independent franchisees, many of them family-owned operations that have been in business for decades. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris Photographer)



Have you taken your vitamins today? – Carletta Stewart is the proud owner of Aurora's newest **General Nutrition Center (GNC)** at 3445 North Salida St., Suite #10. She and her knowledgeable staff pride themselves in helping customers find the right nutritional product for themselves and their families. With more than 4,800 retail locations throughout the United States, **GNC** standards demand truth in labeling, ingredient safety and product potency, all while remaining on the cutting-edge of nutritional science. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris Photographer)



Promoting education and career success – **Concorde Career College's** president Allan Short leads the festivities as the College celebrates their newly remodeled building at 111 N. Havana St. Concorde offers programs in the healthcare field that are in demand, including vocational/practical nursing, medical assisting, respiratory therapy and more. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris Photographer)



Get well and stay well – It was a big crowd as Dr. Patrick Lovett sliced the ribbon for **Lovett Family Chiropractic & Wellness** at 12201 E. Arapahoe Rd., Suite B-10, in Centennial. Dr. Lovett is joined by his wife Bridget at the practice; she is an occupational therapist specializing in a sensory integration approach with children. The Lovetts look forward to helping you get well and stay well!



It's all about health – Drs. Joseph and Laina Brilliant, with their son and additional supporters, celebrate the ribbon cutting for **Brilliant Chiropractic & Wellness** at 1241 S. Parker Rd. Suite 200. In addition to being chiropractors, they love to educate people on the importance of Chiropractic care to ensure optimum health and fitness and are both personal trainers in their spare time.

Arapahoe County honors citizens for serving

The **Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners** recently recognized 151 citizens who serve on the County's various boards and committees. Hosted by the **Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners** and the Board of County Commissioners' Administration Department, the annual event thanks citizens who dedicate their time and energy to serve on advisory boards and committees and participate in their county government.

"The citizens who serve on these boards and committees are essential for making Arapahoe County a great place to live and work," said Commissioner Rod Bockenfeld, who serves as chair of the **Board of County Commissioners**. "The amount of time they dedicate to making Arapahoe County an efficient government is very much appreciated."

Anyone interested in serving on an advisory board or committee can complete an application form located on the County's web site at www.arapahoe.co.us or by calling the **Board of County Commissioners Office** at 303-795-4630.



L to R: Paul Rosenberg, Centennial Airport/Community Noise Roundtable; Brett Larson, Planning Commission; Commissioner Frank Weddig; and Vince Chowdhury, Citizen Budget Committee.



L to R: Commissioner Susan Beckman; Open Space and Trails Advisory Board members Barbara Sheffield and Ellen Belef; Shannon Carter, Open Spaces and Intergovernmental Relations Director; and Wayne Sheffield.

Is one of your New Year's resolutions to be more effective at your job?

Most of us struggle on occasion; feeling like we're not as effective at work as we would like to be. Here are ten simple tips to help you with that resolution of being more effective at your job:

- **Get organized**
First, conquer your email inbox with a system of prioritizing urgent items, putting less pressing tasks on a to-do list, and responding to and deleting any messages you can dispose of quickly.
- **Stop trying to multitask**
A 2009 Stanford study showed that heavy multitaskers had much weaker concentration than those who focused on one or two projects at a time.
- **Put yourself in the mindset of your boss**
Empathize, pay attention to his/her style, and try to stay one step ahead.
- **Forge strong relationships with colleagues**
That includes the staff in the human resources department, the information technology pros, and the cleaning and security workers.
- **Focus on listening**
Listen closely to your boss's requests but also listen to your colleagues and subordinates.
- **Try getting in early**
Even 15 minutes can give you a jump start on the day. Reward yourself by leaving early if you've finished your work ahead of time.
- **Make sure you give yourself genuine downtime**
This means time away from the office when you don't check work email or think about work. Everyone needs to refuel.
- **Aim for clarity and precision**
If an email doesn't convey the subtlety of what you're trying to communicate, pick up the phone or schedule an in-person meeting.
- **Do plenty of research and preparation**
Do due diligence research in advance of any meeting or negotiation.
- **Try some humility**
Most career advice encourages relentless self-promotion. But it can be more effective to lay out your accomplishments in an un-hyped, straightforward manner.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/susanadams/2011/11/11/ten-ways-to-become-better-at-your-job-today/>

Healthcare Committee explores health and wellness

On Dec. 8, The Chamber Healthcare Committee was given a "hard hat" tour of the Colorado Health and Wellness Center at the **Anschutz Medical Campus**. The Center is scheduled to open in April.



James O. Hill (above, left), PhD, is the executive director of the Colorado Center for Health and Wellness, as well as a professor of pediatrics and medicine at the School of Medicine and current director of the Center for Human Nutrition at the University of Colorado. Bob Barké (above, right) is the chair of the Chamber Healthcare Committee and owner of **BAR-K Insurance Solutions, Inc.**

The mission of The Colorado Center for Health and Wellness is to empower individuals, communities and organizations to make sustainable changes to achieve healthier lifestyles, so that high obesity rates and chronic disease no longer

reflect the way we live as a society. The Center is led by Dr. James O. Hill, a renowned leader in the fight against the global obesity epidemic.

At the Center, patients, employees, students and the general public will be able to participate in research studies, utilize the exercise and educational facility, and receive medical care. Key components of the Center include:

- State-of-the-art exercise and fitness facility
- Integrated research labs and clinical programs
- Program centers, such as America on the Move
- Green garden rooftop available for public events
- Cooking/demonstration kitchen
- Healthy options bistro, available for catering
- Classrooms and meeting spaces to facilitate educational opportunities

The Healthcare Committee reviews the many challenges businesses face in meeting today's healthcare affordability crisis and educate the professional community and the public on what those issues are.

RTD Exec updates Transportation Committee

The man who runs the Regional Transportation District (RTD) for the metro area was the guest speaker at the December Chamber Transportation Committee. Phil Washington brought the group up to speed on the latest initiatives being taken by RTD, including his take on the proposals for the Denver Union Station complex and I-225 corridor light rail initiatives. Washington, who lives in Aurora, told the group "No one wants to see the I-225 corridor completed more than I do." He said they have applied for a Tiger III grant to extend rails to the Florida station.



Phil Washington

Washington also sought comments and support for a ballot initiative proposal in 2012 to raise additional revenues so the light rail program in the metro can stay on track for completion in 2017. He said the only delay would most likely occur on the northwest corridor to Longmont which could take an additional 2-5 years.

The Transportation Committee under the leadership of Chris Fasching with **Felsburg Holt & Ullevig** covers the full spectrum of transportation topics from street and highway issues to air transport. It annually produces a White Paper for the Chamber Board that defines the Chamber's policy regarding transportation.

Back by popular demand...

The Power of Email Marketing and Getting Started with Social Media

If you missed the sessions for The Power of Email Marketing and Getting Started with Social Media last year (November and December) – we are offering both sessions again:

The Power of Email Marketing

Tuesday, January 10 • 2-4 pm

Chamber office

This seminar shows how email marketing – the hands-on, low-cost marketing tool – can really help drive your business success. This practical seminar gives a concise, but comprehensive overview of how to create and send professional-looking email newsletters and promotions.

Getting Started with Social Media

Tuesday, February 7 • 2-4 pm

Chamber office

This seminar will review the essential strategies and best practices a business or organization should understand in order to successfully get started with social media marketing.

The workshops are conducted by Zakary Barron, regional development director for Constant Contact. Zak specializes in helping people to develop understanding of best practices and techniques that bring success to small businesses. Register at www.aurorachamber.org

AEDC's Mitchell briefs Gov Affairs on Gaylord

At the December Government Affairs and Education Committee meeting, **Aurora Economic Development Council** President Wendy Mitchell brought the group up-to-date on the efforts to bring a Gaylord Colorado Resort and Conference Center to Aurora. She told the committee that despite some of the press coverage, the program is far from dead. She said that she and her staff continue to work with Mayor Hogan to craft a proposal that will ensure the Gaylord becomes part of the Aurora business base.

"The Gaylord Colorado Resort and Conference Center will create 1,900 construction jobs during its three-year build-out and 1,500 new permanent jobs upon completion," she told the group. "The project is expected to annually generate upwards of \$280 million in revenue and 200,000-plus annual visitors, helping make Aurora a national destination." She noted that a recent study on the hotel's impact stated that nearly 70 percent of the revenue it was expected to generate would be new revenue to the state.

Update:

Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Partnership

By Judy Emery

Project Manager, Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Industry Partnership

The Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Partnership is a collaborative effort with industry partners working together to identify needed

healthcare job opportunities in our local communities.

Currently, the Partnership is focusing its' work on four targeted occupations: Medical Lab Technicians and Technologists (Clinical

Laboratory Scientists), Nursing

(ADN, RN and BSN), and Surgical Techs.

Recently, the Partnership sponsored six incumbent workers to attend a Sterile Processing/Central Processing course to prepare them to sit for the CBSPD National Certification examination. The course was offered through Children's Hospital Colorado, and five of the six completed the course.



Judy Emery

In addition, the Subject Matter Expert (SME) Work Groups are continuing to meet to address a number of training strategies for the targeted occupations. SMEs are content experts in their field, including managers and supervisors of units or departments within the medical facilities.

The Nurse SME Work Group is exploring ways to address incumbent worker specialty area training, primarily in the operating room. They are also looking at ways to expand the number of Clinical Scholars and Preceptors in the medical facilities in order to take on more new BSN grad nurses. The MLT/Med Tech Work Group is exploring ways to expand the existing training programs by increasing the number of clinical rotation sites available to students. They are also exploring the development of a four-year Med Tech/Medical Laboratory Science Program in partnership with two of the existing programs with Arapahoe Community College and the Colorado Center for Medical Laboratory Science.

Renewals

AAA Colorado
Aurora Public Schools Education Foundation
Bent Fork American Grill
Blackjack Pizza
Chambers Wine & Liquor
Chinese Divine Culture Association
ClearPath Accountants, LLC
Graebel/Denver Movers, Inc.
Habitat for Humanity of Metro Denver
Heather Gardens Association
High Country Coatings
Hillcrest Village
HomeSmith Real Estate, Inc./Metro Brokers
House of Flowers
Humana Marketpoint
Jim 'N Nick's BBQ
Landtech Contractors Inc.
Life Care Center of Aurora
May Farms
Music Go Round
NextCare Urgent Care
NextGen Software, Inc.
Omnitech Industries, Inc.
Protection One
Regional Transportation District (RTD)
Residence Inn - Denver Airport
Rocky Mountain USO at DIA
Rural/Metro Ambulance
Sailmates Enterprises
Seko Worldwide
Southlands
Strategic Science, LLC
T. Charles Wilson Insurance Service
Wells Fargo Bank

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Fitzsimons Landing Apartments
Fort Lewis College
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KBJ Space Solutions
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