

**Serving the east-metro
area including:**

Aurora
Bennett
Centennial
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Denver

THE CHAMBER Impact NEWSLETTER

MAY/JUN 2013

Upcoming Events

MAY

Transportation Committee
May 1 | 7:30 am

**Leadership Aurora
Board Meeting**
May 1 | 3:30 pm

**Government Affairs,
Education and Energy
Committee**
May 2 | 7:30 am

Young Professionals
May 3 | 12-1 pm
A-Town Pizza
17060 E. Quincy Ave.
Aurora, CO 80015

**Chamber Foundation
Meeting**
May 6 | 11:30 am-1 pm

**Business for the Arts
Committee**
May 7 | 8 am

Tips and Leads 2
May 7 | 11:45 am

Business Before Hours
May 8 | 7:30 am
Seven Hills Veterinary Hospital
18325 E. Girard Ave.
Aurora, CO 80013

Member Orientation
May 8 | 12-1 pm

Ambassador Team Meeting
May 8 | 1 pm

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AFRL is Metro Salute to Military

The Annual Armed Forces Luncheon celebrates its 37th year on June 14 as business and community leaders from all over the Metro area honor the military who serve at Buckley AFB and other Northern Colorado locations.

Coordinated by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce's Defense Council, the luncheon event is sponsored by Colorado Technical University with support from Raytheon and other industry leaders in the Metro area. It is the only such occasion of its kind outside of the Colorado Springs area.

Keynote speaker will be Craig R. McKinley, National President of the Air Force Association. McKinley is a retired four-star general and former fighter pilot who was the first National Guard officer to serve on the Joint Chiefs of Staff as Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

The luncheon includes an award ceremony for Military Persons of the Year—11 individuals who have been selected by their service branches for their outstanding achievements during the past year. "We also recognize a member of the community who has contributed significantly to building greater understanding and support of the military with the Bob Cardenas Award," said Suzanne Pitrusu, with Colorado Business Bank who coordinates the event.

"This luncheon is our way of recognizing members of the armed forces—Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard—throughout Northern Colorado including the Denver-Aurora area," said Defense Council Chair Lisa Buckley with American Automation. "They make a great contribution to our community and to our



nation." Buckley also pointed out that there are more than 7,500 uniformed Department of Defense people who serve in the Metro area.

"If you are a supporter of our men and women in uniform—active duty, Guard or Reserve—this is one event you don't want to miss," said Kevin Hougen, Aurora Chamber President. "We also expect to see most of the military senior leadership from around here making an appearance at the luncheon."

The 2013 Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon will be held at the Renaissance Hotel Stapleton. Doors open at 11 a.m. A formal flag ceremony kicks off the luncheon at 11:45 a.m. Guest MC is popular radio host and Colorado Freedom Memorial Founder, Rick Crandall. ■

Aurora Day at the Capitol



Showing their support—The Old Supreme Court Chambers at the State Capitol was the site of a special ceremony Mar. 9. Key representatives of the Aurora business community formally signed a Community Covenant with the Commander of Ft. Carson, Maj. Gen. Joseph Anderson (center). The document recognized Aurora's support for the Army Community both in the Metro area and at Ft. Carson promising to build partnerships that support the strength, resilience and readiness of soldiers and their families. Pictured from left to right are Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan, Aurora Economic Development President and CEO Wendy Mitchell, General Anderson, Aurora Chamber Chair Jeff Thompson, and Aurora Chamber Senior Vice President George Peck. The Community Covenant program was initiated to build both awareness and support of the U.S. Army, especially those serving in Colorado. (Chamber photo)



Kevin Hougen
President & CEO

President's Letter

April 23: Spring has arrived in Colorado. As we change from one season to another, it's exciting to take a look at the programs, changes, and challenges at the Chamber of Commerce, as well. Six inches of snow today, Seventy degrees by this week-end, change is in the air.

Departing Board Members

We wanted to thank seven of our departing board members for their important contributions to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and their many years of service to our businesses and the community at large.

Bob Barke, BAR-K Insurance Solutions.

Bob has served twice on our Chamber Board during the past 13 years! He has served as our Board Chair, Vice-Chair for Membership Services, Chair of Tips and Leads, Chair of the Ambassadors, Chair of our Healthcare Committees (2), and Chair of our Membership Drives.

Rich Allison, Allison Growth Strategies.

Rich has served on our Chamber Board for six years. He currently is Vice President for Membership Services, serves on the Executive Board, and is Past Chair of the Leadership Aurora program.

Dave Maxwell, FirstBank of Aurora.

Dave served on our Chamber Board for the past six years. He served on the Executive Board, and was our Treasure for the past four years. He was active in our Ambassador Program, a graduate of Leadership Aurora, and on the Leadership Board of Directors.

Mark Moses, Outback Steakhouse.

Mark served on the Chamber Board for the past six years, Mark served as our Board Chair, as an Executive Board member, and was also Membership Chair, and involved in Ambassadors.

Joe Barela, Arapahoe/Douglas Works!

Joe served on our Chamber Board for the past six years, serving on the Healthcare Committee, the Workforce Committee, and as a When Work Works Committee member.

Jo Snell, E-470 Public Highway Authority.

Jo served on our Chamber Board for eight years, serving as our Board Chair in 2009, and on the Executive Board, as Communications Chair, and on the Leadership Aurora Board and as Chair of that board.

Brigadier General Trulan Eyre, 140th Wing Colorado Air National Guard.

Tru served the past six years as an Honorary Board member, attended more than 80 meetings of the Defense Council, and helped with the Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon for the past seven years, through his staff.

When you see these retiring Aurora Chamber Board Members, please thank them for their unselfish dedication and their dynamic commitments during these last challenging years! Most of them will still be attending Chamber meetings and events, and will continue to help us grow and prosper.

Please also help me welcome three **new Board Members**, serving from June 1, 2013 until May 31, 2016. We are honored that they have all agreed to serve as leaders of the Board of Directors.

Cindy Kreutz, Spalding Rehabilitation Hospital
Alton Scales, Community College of Aurora
Peter Lee, Asian Pacific Network

ChamberBoard

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Jeff Thompson | University of Colorado Health

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

David Gruber |

PAST CHAIR ONCE REMOVED

Mark Moses | Outback Steakhouse

SECRETARY

David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance

TREASURER

Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

VICE CHAIR-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Dwight Taylor | Rocky Mountain Law Group, LLC

VICE CHAIR-COMMUNITY SERVICES

Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services

VICE CHAIR-MEMBER SERVICES

Bob Jamieson | Mutual of Omaha

VICE CHAIR-PUBLIC ISSUES

Tom Henley | Xcel Energy

DIRECTORS

Jason Altshuler | Westerra Credit Union
Joe Barela | Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Workforce Center
Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions
Randy Berner | Adolfsen & Peterson Construction
Larry Borland | CenturyLink
Lisa Buckley | American Automation
Reneé Gullickson | Wells Fargo Bank
Michael "Mickey" Hunt | Colo. Dept. of Military & Veteran Affairs
Todd Landgrave | Northrop Grumman
Alfonso Nuñez | La Cueva Restaurant
Suzanne Pitrusu | Colorado Business Bank
Cheri Prochazka | Fitzsimons Credit Union
Ryan Simpson | The Medical Center of Aurora, HealthOne
Matt Weber | Kaiser Permanente
Michael Wukitsch | Children's Hospital Colorado

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Brig. Gen. Trulan Eyre | 140th Wing COANG
Barry Gore | Adams County Economic Development
The Honorable Steve Hogan | Mayor, City of Aurora
Bill Holen | Arapahoe County Commissioner
Wendy Mitchell | Aurora Economic Development Council
Ron Weidmann | City of Centennial Mayor Pro-Tem
Gary Wheat | Visit Aurora

STAFF

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

ASSOCIATES

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

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!



APS Students Win Big at ACE Challenge

On March 1st, 2013, 17 **Aurora Public Schools** students participated in the ACE Challenge Student Leadership Conference, held in conjunction with **Cherry Creek School District**, **Littleton School District**, **APS**, and **Hope Online Learning Academy**, at the **Community College of Aurora**. These students competed in a series of employment preparation events and listened to guest speakers.

Out of 50 competitive events, the students brought home 22 Gold certificates (44 percent), 11 Silver certificates (22 percent), and 13 Bronze certificates (26 percent). They placed in one of the top three spots in 92 percent of all their events.

Sarah Cox of **Rangeview** won the Logo Contest for next year's ACE Conference logo, and both Sarah and Sierra Campbell of **Gateway** were nominated for "Employee of the Day." These students "did APS proud!"

Catch it in Time Designed to Save Lives

By highlighting personal stories of cancer survivors and providing up-to-date health information and resources, **Catch it in Time (CIIT)** is dedicated to promoting cancer prevention and early detection awareness to the public.

Studies show that a substantial percentage of cancers can be prevented with a healthy lifestyle, and can be cured if detected early. So, with a new website complete with great stories and helpful information - and more to come - the sky is the limit for **CIIT**.

Speaking of "sky," **CIIT** launched their new website with "Aviation April," releasing four stories about pilots and their individual fights with cancer. Two of the four featured pilots had skin cancer, and in the April **CIIT** Newsletter, Keith Singer, co-founder of **CIIT** and a pilot himself, talks about the importance of protecting yourself from the sun.

Singer reminds everyone that a little prevention now will reap great rewards down the



road. "Wear a wide brim hat, sensible clothing and lots of sunblock while outside this summer," says Singer. "It could save your life."

You can see stories and prevention tips on the **CIIT** website at CatchitInTime.org.

Centennial Swears in Mayor Pro Tem

Centennial Council Member Stephanie Piko was sworn in as Mayor Pro Tem during the March 4, 2013 Council Meeting. The position is elected annually and serves mayoral functions during any temporary absences of the mayor.



Stephanie Piko

"Stephanie's appointment as Mayor Pro Tem demonstrates her professionalism and dedication to serving the community," said **Centennial** Mayor Cathy Noon. "It will be a privilege to work with Stephanie this year as she furthers her leadership role on City Council."

Piko replaces Ron Weidmann as Mayor Pro Tem. Weidmann was honored at the Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet with the 2012 Chamber Leadership Award. His term on the Centennial Council ends January 2014.

JA Helps Students Explore Careers

Junior Achievement and Microsoft recently launched a new collaboration as part of the Microsoft YouthSpark initiative to help local students explore careers in the technology hardware and software industries. Students from **Rangeview High School** joined youth in 49 other communities across the United States to participate in the effort.

Rangeview students participated in the *JA Job Shadow* program, including teacher-led classroom instruction around key work-readiness skills such as leadership, teamwork and how to conduct a successful job search.

Ken Melcher Honored by UVC

United Veterans Committee of Colorado

member and champion Ken Melcher was honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the UVC 41st Annual Awards Banquet, held April 7, 2013. Melcher, who served in Vietnam and as the UVC President from 2003-2005, served as this year's event chairperson.



Well Deserved - Ken Melcher (center), past chair of the United Veteran's Committee and chair of the UVC Annual Banquet Committee is honored by the Honorable Jose D. Riojas (left), Chief of Staff for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) with UVC's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. Also shown is UVC President Ralph Bozella.

SSFCU Launches Mobile App

In less than a month after the soft launch of **Security Service Federal Credit Union's (SSFCU)** mobile app, more than 7,000 members signed up and logged in on their iPhones and Androids. With the introduction of myBranch Mobile, members can use their phones to check account balances, get transaction details, pay bills and transfer funds. The app also includes a GPS-based locator that provides details on the nearest branch or ATM.

"Our plan is to keep developing relevant mobile functionality as fast as we can to keep [continued on page 5]"

Aurora's 9-1-1 Call Center Nationally Recognized

The Aurora Public Safety Communications Center was nationally recognized with the *Outstanding 9-1-1 Call Center Award* as part of the 10th annual "9-1-1 Honors Gala" in Washington, DC.

On July 20, 2012, the Center's efforts were put to the test. In the first 30 hours following the initial report of an active shooter at the Century 16 theater, the call center was swamped more than 5,000 9-1-1 and non-emergency calls from witnesses, family and friends, and the community at large. During and after the tragedy, staff worked diligently to provide their community with information and support.

"Aurora's 9-1-1 call center proves every day why it's among the best in the nation. We are proud of their many accomplishments and their dedication to those residents they



Left to right: Scott Freitag, executive director of the National Academies of Emergency Dispatch; Aurora Public Safety Communication's staff Nanette Coats, Marena Lertch, and Manager Mike Bedwell; and John Chiamonte of the NG9-1-1 Institute Board of Directors.

serve," said Deputy City Manager, Michelle Wolfe.

This is the second time Aurora has won this award (2011).

Aurora Chamber Names Eastern Metro's Best – and Honors Heroes of 7/20

This year's Aurora Chamber Annual Awards Banquet was held at the Majestic Commercenter in Aurora on April 19, 2013. In addition to the yearly awards, silent auction, live auction, and networking, a Special Chairman's Award was given to honor some of the heroes of the 7/20 Century 16 Theatre tragedy. The one-time award recognized individuals and organizations that stepped forward to help during a time of great grief and suffering caused by the events of that night.

"We all probably remember exactly where we were, and what we were doing when we heard the news about the shooting in the Century 16 Theatre on July 20th. And we all listened with horror as the details unfolded," said Chamber Chair Jeff Thompson.

"Many of those we will honor this evening were immediately called into action by nature of their jobs. And many called **themselves** into action by stepping in and contributing in ways they knew they could help. These heroes — and I do not use that term lightly — along with many we may not even know about, deserve honor and recognition for their unselfish and humanitarian contributions, during a time when there was so much need," said Thompson. ■

The Special Chairman's Award were presented to:

Dr. Randy Stith, Aurora Mental Health Center – *for providing those affected with information and guidance to help them move toward recovery;*
 George "Skip" Noe, City of Aurora – *for his leadership and insight;*
 Anthony Sturgis, Aurora Public Schools – *for providing a gathering place for victims and their families;*
 Ed Bozarth, Ed Bozarth Chevrolet – *for his generous corporate donation;*
 Lee Earnhart, Chambers Wine and Liquor – *for his initiative and implementation of a fundraiser;*
 Mike Kehr, Northrop Grumman – *for their generous corporate donation; and*
 University of Colorado Hospital, Children's Hospital Colorado, The Medical Center of Aurora, Swedish Medical Center, and Parker Adventist Hospital – *for taking care of the wounded and attending to their needs.*

Also recognized:

Fairmont Cemetery – *for generously donating burial; and*
 Cinemark Theaters – *for supporting their employees and the community*

Those singled out for their accomplishments in 2012 include:

Ambassadors of the Year

Howie Metz, Quality 1st Plumbing
 Teri Karjala, Creative Counseling Center

Business for the Arts

Ed Duggan, Music Go Round

Humanitarian

Chief Mike Garcia, Aurora Fire Department
 David Patterson, Rural Metro Ambulance

Chamber Leadership

Councilman Ron Weidmann,
 Centennial City Council

Community Leadership

Chief Dan Oates, Aurora Police Department

Small Business of the Year

Grandma's Handyman Service, Yvonne Costin

Business Person of the Year

Rick Crandall, Colorado Freedom Memorial

Business of the Year

Advanced Circuits, John Yacoub

Woman of the Year

Councilmember Marsha Berzins,
 Aurora City Council

Man of the Year

Mayor Steve Hogan, City of Aurora



President and CEO John Yacoub and Vice President Finance and Administration/CFO Jeff Yacoub of Advanced Circuits, the 2012 Chamber Business of the Year.

Winners of the 2012 Aurora Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards



Left to right: Woman of the Year Aurora City Council member Marsha Berzins; Small Business of the Year award winner Yvonne Costin of Grandma's Handyman Service; Humanitarians of the Year Rural Metro/Ambulance Division General Manager David Patterson and Aurora Fire Chief Mike Garcia; Community Leadership Award winner Aurora Police Chief Dan Oates; Man of the Year Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan; Ambassadors of the Year Teri Karjala of Creative Counseling Center and (not pictured) Howie Metz of Quality 1st Plumbing; Chamber Leadership Award winner Centennial Councilmember Ron Weidmann; and Business for the Arts Award winner Ed Duggan of Music Go Round. (Not pictured, Business of the Year Award winner John Yacoub of Advanced Circuits, and Business Person of the Year Award winner Rick Crandall of Colorado Freedom Memorial.)

Special Chairman's Award Winners



Left to right: Kevin Hougen, Aurora Chamber President and CEO, and Special Chairman's Award Winners Cinemark Manager Nathan Crowdes; Phyllis Bergin Uribe, Swedish Medical Center; Morre Dean, Parker Adventist Hospital; Dr. Tien Vu, Children's Hospital Colorado; Dr. Camilla Sasson, University of Colorado Hospital; Mike Kehn, Northrop Grumman; Ed Bozarth, Ed Bozarth Chevrolet; Lee Earnhart, Chambers Wine and Liquor; Anthony Sturges, Aurora Public Schools; George "Skip" Noe, City of Aurora; and Dr. Randy Stith, Aurora Mental Health; and Jeff Thompson, University of Colorado Health and Chair of the Chamber Board. (Not pictured: Richard Hammett, The Medical Center of Aurora, and Jim Cavato, Fairmount Mortuary and Cemetery)



The 2012 Business Person of the Year, Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation President Rick Crandall with Community College of Aurora Board member Ruth Fountain.

MEMBER NEWS (con't)

pace with our members' on-the-go digital lifestyles," says Mike Chapman, chief operating officer and executive vice president for **SSFCU**.

Merrick Names New CEO and Moves Headquarters

A recent ceremony marked the official transition of **Merrick & Company's** Chief Executive Officer role from Ralph W. Christie, Jr. to Dave G. Huelskamp. Christie served as leadership at **Merrick** for 16 years and will continue as the Chair of the Board, and Huelskamp is the fourth CEO in the firm's 58-year history.

In March of 2013, **Merrick & Company** moved its corporate Headquarters from Aurora, CO to 5970 Greenwood Plaza Blvd., Greenwood Village, CO 80111. Their phone number remains the same: 303-751-0741. ■



As the 2011 Ambassador of the Year, Mark Werner (second from left) of Great Western Printing presents the 2012 Award of Quality 1st Plumbing and Teri Karjala of Creative Counseling Service. Chair of the Chamber Board Jeff Thompson (far right) served as the MC for the Awards Banquet.



► WELLNESS AND THE FUTURE OF YOUR HEALTHCARE PROVIDER



► WHAT'S NEW WITH THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AND CONN FOR HEALTH COLORADO



► TECHNOLOGY IN HEALTHCARE; MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY; AND MUCH MORE!

Save the Date:
Nov. 1, 2013
7:30 am-1:30 pm
Red Lion Hotel Denver Southeast

Healthcare

Summit

A HALF-DAY OF INFORMATION AND
AND DISCUSSION ABOUT HEALTHCARE



A-Town Pizza open in Aurora, Colorado! - **A-Town** owner William Harris cuts the ribbon, the incredible Stefani Ferrara oven is cured, and the fire has been lit - so, delicious Neapolitan style pizza is served. **A-Town's** dough and cheese are made fresh daily, and the pizza cooks in less than two minutes at 700 degrees. If you've never had Neapolitan style pizza, take a trip to 17060 E. Quincy Ave. and have a slice - or a whole pizza!

Colorado Breast Care services conveniently located together - Richard Hammett, CEO of the Medical Center of Aurora, cuts the ribbon for Colorado Breast Care at The Medical Center of Aurora, located at 1444 S. Potomac, Suite 160 - where all of the most commonly required tests to keep women at their peak of health are conveniently located in one area - and there's free, convenient parking, and a singular phone number for scheduling and registration: 303-338-7773. (Photo courtesy Brain Molitoris Photographer)



A cool cup of Joe, made to order - **Cool Beans, LLC** held their recent ribbon cutting at the Chamber office and owner Jesse Grabowski cut the ribbon - he also served coffee to the group. **Cool Beans** provides businesses with gourmet coffee solutions for their offices, including cappuccino, flavored lattes and regular coffee - and - they provide the machine and maintenance at no additional cost. You might have tasted his **Cool Beans** coffee at the Chamber's Annual Awards Banquet.

Colorado Freedom Memorial Dedication Weekend Set

Construction is complete, landscaping is underway and on Sunday, May 26, the long-awaited Colorado Freedom Memorial will be formally dedicated according to CFM Foundation President Rick Crandall. The ceremony will begin at 2 p.m. at the Memorial site, 756 Telluride Street near the Beck Center and just north of Buckley Air Force Base.

To help mark the occasion, the CFMF is also planning a special concert for Colorado's Gold Star Families on the Great Lawn of the Aurora Municipal Center on Saturday, May 25 from



5-7 p.m. Featuring the 101st Army Band of the Colorado National Guard, FACE Vocal Band and Molly Weaver with Pete Huttlinger, the concert, says Crandall, will include stories "dedicated to Colorado's fallen military heroes and the families they loved." Crandall encouraged all to bring their own chairs and blanket to the free concert. "We do need an RSVP, though," Crandall said. You can be part of the unique event by going to www.militaryevents.us/RSVP and entering code CFM.

To help cover the expenses of the concert and dedication, the CFMF needs some additional help, Crandall said. "It is our hope that the Memorial dedication ceremonies will receive the same breath of support we have enjoyed through the construction phase. With your help," he appealed, "we can honor our fallen heroes in the way they so rightly deserve, and in a way to make every Coloradan proud. Contributions can be made by going to the CFMF web site at www.CFMF.net or by calling 303-248-3990.

The Colorado Freedom Memorial honors all of Colorado's veterans killed in action since 1876 when Colorado became a state. ■

Leadership Aurora Class of 2013: *Right People, Right Place, Right Time*

On Thursday, June 6, 2013, Leadership Aurora will celebrate its 28th graduating class with a reception and formal program, *Celebrate Aurora*. The event for the 2013 class will be held in the lobby of the Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E.

Alameda Parkway, Aurora, CO 80012.

The evening's festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m., with hors d'oeuvres and

hosted beer, wine, and soft drinks. Entertainment will be provided by a string quartet.

The 2013 Leadership Aurora class has decidedly been the *Right People, Right Place, Right Time*, in uniting to build a stronger Aurora. In adhering to this as their theme for the year, they participated in a monthly community outreach that gathered diapers, collected toiletries, adopted families for the holidays, donated blood, provided food for the homeless, and read to elementary school children.

They also completed a Leadership Aurora alumni directory, served as ambassadors at the Colorado Freedom Memorial Dedication event, and worked countless hours contributing their

time, talent, and sweat equity to complete a project at the Aurora Fox Theatre.

Please help us celebrate the accomplishments of this outstanding class at *Celebrate Aurora* on Thursday, June 6. Individual tickets are \$35 and

reservations are required. There is a flyer enclosed in this newsletter, or you may email kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org, or call 303-344-1500 for more information. You may also go to www.aurorachamber.org to register. ■



Leadership Aurora Applications Being Accepted: Deadline July 15

The Chamber is currently accepting applications for the 2013-14 Leadership Aurora class. Deadline for submission of applications is July 15, 2013.

Since 1985, The Chamber's Leadership Aurora Program has promoted and fostered development of leadership in the community, educating and preparing community leaders who are committed to shaping Aurora's future.

Leadership Aurora provides participants opportunities to broaden their knowledge of the community while enhancing their leadership skills. Class members 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 leader, and read to elementary school children opportunity

to make a difference in the community.

The program begins each year in mid-September with a two-day retreat, followed by eight monthly sessions from October to May on the third Thursday of each month. A graduation reception and celebration is held in early June. Tuition for the program is \$950 and includes all program costs and materials, including accommodations and meals at the retreat. Up to one-half tuition assistance is available, and awarded based on need and class composition.

For an application or more information, contact Kimberly Curtis 303-344-1500, or e-mail kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org. You may also complete an application online at www.aurorachamber.org (click on the Leadership Aurora tab). ■

Upcoming Events (con't.)

Leadership Aurora

May 9 / 7:30 am-5 pm
Fire Session

Healthcare Committee

May 9 / 8-9 am
Nighthorse Campbell Native Health Building
Anschutz Medical Campus
13055 E. 17th Avenue
Aurora, CO 80045

Defense Council Executive Committee/AFRL Planning

May 10 / 8 am

Tips and Leads 3

May 13 / 11:45 am

Tips and Leads 2

May 14 / 7:30 am

Chamber Board Executive Committee

May 15 / 7:30 am

Government Affairs, Education, and Energy Committee

May 16 / 7:30 am

Defense Council Special Joint Meeting

May 16 / 9 am-1:30 pm
Fort Carson, CO 80913

Tips and Leads 1

May 21 / 11:45 am

Memorial Day Holiday

Chamber office closed
May 27

Tips and Leads 2

May 28 / 7:30 am

Women in Business Committee

May 28 / 12-1 pm

Chamber Board of Directors Meeting

May 29 / 7:30 am

Business After Hours

May 30 / 5-7 pm
School of Rock
13750 E. Rice Place, #100
Aurora, CO 80015

JUNE

Business for the Arts Committee

June 4 / 8 am

Tips and Leads 1

June 4 / 11:45 am

Transportation Committee

June 5 / 7:30 am

Government Affairs, Education, and Energy Committee

June 6 / 7:30 am

Leadership Aurora Graduation

June 6 / 5:30 pm
Aurora Municipal Center Lobby
15151 E. Alameda Pkwy.
Aurora, CO 80012

Young Professionals

June 7 / 12-1 pm

Tips and Leads 3

June 10 / 11:45 am

Tips and Leads 2

June 11 / 7:30 am

Business Before Hours

June 12 / 7:30-8:30 am
City of Aurora
14949 E. Alameda Pkwy.
Aurora, CO 80012

Ambassador Team Meeting

June 12 / 7:30-8:30 am

ChamberMaster Training

June 12 / 12-1 pm

Leadership Aurora Board Meeting

June 12 / 3:30-5 pm

Healthcare Committee

June 13 / 8 am

Annual Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon

June 14 / 11 am-1:30 pm
Renaissance Hotel Denver Stapleton
3801 Quebec St.
Denver, CO 80207

Tips and Leads 1

June 18 / 11:45 am

Government Affairs, Education, and Energy Committee

June 20 / 7:30 am

Leadership Aurora Golf Tournament

June 20 / 7 am-3 pm
Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club
23155 E. Heritage Pkwy.
Aurora, CO 80016

Defense Council Executive Committee

June 21 / 8 am

Tips and Leads 3

June 24 / 11:45 am

Tips and Leads 2

June 25 / 7:30 am

Women in Business Committee

June 25 / 12-1 pm

Chamber Board of Directors Meeting

June 26 / 7:30 am

Defense Council

June 27 / 7:15 am

Business After Hours

June 27 / 5-7 pm
Ed Bozarth Chevrolet
2001 S. Havana St.
Aurora, CO 80014

Last flight signals changes at 140th Wing



Colorado Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Trulan Eyre (right), former 140th Wing Commander, is the recipient of a long-standing Air Force tradition as his wife, Deb, sprays him down following his final flight in and F-16 Fighting Falcon (inset) on Apr. 5 at Buckley AFB. General Eyre, a longtime member of the Aurora Chamber Board of Directors and the Aurora Defense Council has been flying the F-16 for more than 25 years. After six years as 140th Wing commander, General Eyre has been promoted to Major General and has assumed the role of Air National Guard Advisor to 1st Air Force at Tyndall AFB. He has been succeeded as wing commander by Col. Floyd Dunstan shown on the left taking a salute from his new wing following the Change of Command on Apr. 7. (Air National Guard Photo by TSgt. Wolfram Stumpf)

Committee suggests communication improvement with legislators

A Chamber Executive Board study group headed by Vice Chair for Public Issues Tom Henley (Xcel Energy) has proposed an upgraded approach to communicating with State Legislators—especially those in the Eastern Metro area.

“We think all our members could benefit from being more pro-active with our Aurora and Eastern Metro Delegation to provide them with clear and timely positions on legislation that our Public Issues committees (Government Affairs, Education, Energy, Transportation and Healthcare), and Defense Council deem critical to the business and professional community,” Henley told the Board at their meeting on April 24.

Chamber President Kevin Hougen echoed Henley telling the Board he felt the Chamber, through its Boards, Committees and membership

needed to more forcefully communicate its position to State Legislators. “We need to make it clear that we are watching not only individual votes, but the collective votes of all the delegation,” Hougen said. “And we also, when appropriate, need to let them know we strongly we feel about what they are voting on.”

As a result, the Board agreed to support a procedure that would direct a call and e-mail to the Aurora/Eastern Metro Delegation whenever the committees that are tracking key issues have reached a position on a given piece of legislation.

“What has been proposed is a classic grass root lobbying approach that can be quite effective in clearly defining our position and communicating it to the delegation,” said Board Chair Jeff Thompson (University of Colorado Health) in approving the committee’s work. ■

A Full House at the Mid-term Legislators' Breakfast



The Chamber’s mid-term Legislators’ Breakfast was held April 1, 2013, at the Medical Center of Aurora. The informative Breakfasts are held two times each year; once before the session begins and once mid-session. The bi-annual event consistently draws a large crowd of both legislators and Chamber members. All Chamber members are welcome to attend.

MemberRenewals

Adigo
Affordable Websites Denver, LLC
American National Insurance
Asian Partnership
Avitus Group
Chocolate Change, LLC
Colin Spencer Productions, LLC
Colorado Bankruptcy Law Group, LLC
Compassionate Life Solutions, LLC
Denver International Airport
DK Promotions Colorado
Elevation Education
Fairmount Mortuary and Cemetery
G&L Garage Doors
Grillo Commercial Real Estate
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Kishinevsky & Raykin, Attorneys at Law
La Creperie Café
Michael Rosser

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Parker Adventist Hospital
Partner Colorado Credit Union
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Prairie Meadows Condominium Assn.
Pro Martial Arts
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Summit Park Townhomes Assn., Inc.
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Deadlines: the 10th of the month prior to publication.

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