



# Class of 2017-18...The Best Newsletter from the Best Class Ever!

Volume 1, Issue 2

December 12, 2017

## WHAT'S NEXT?

Communication Day  
December 14, 2017  
@7:30am

Aurora Municipal Center  
15151 E Alameda Pkwy  
1st floor, Aurora Room

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### Upcoming Mini-Projects:

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| <i>December:</i> | Toy Drive      |
| <i>January:</i>  | Clothing Drive |

## From the President...

### Getting to Know Each Other and Determining Next Steps

As we wrap up our third month of being the 2017-18 Leadership Aurora class, it's exciting to see the connections being made. Just yesterday, I was sharing with my boss how grateful I am to be on the Leadership Aurora team with so many amazing professionals and to have made connections that have already proven beneficial. I have loved knowing that when I attend an event in Aurora, it is highly likely that I will run into one of you.

Over the past few months, we've learned so much about our community through explorations and through visiting each other's organizations. As we wrap up 2017 and look toward 2018, I challenge us all to think about our project and think about what will help the 2017-

2018 Leadership Aurora class stand out. I challenge us to enhance the reputation of this already stellar program. I know we are capable, and I look forward to us making it happen as a team!

Heading into the holidays, I just want to thank you for the commitment you've made to being part of Leadership Aurora. Needless to say, we have some exciting times ahead of us, along with a good deal of work, and I'm so happy to be on this journey with you.

Happy holidays to you all!

Tricia Johnson  
2017-18 Leadership Aurora Class President



### **Communications Committee:**

The Communications Committee is dedicated to reviewing and improving communication between The Chamber and its members. This Committee is responsible for keeping up with trends in order to determine what methods of communication will best suit the needs of The Chamber, its members and its potential members. The Communications Committee also monitors the Chamber website (which currently gets more than 3 million hits per year), the weekly email blasts (which averages a 30% open rate and a 17% click through rate), the Chamber newsletter and the Facebook Fan Page.

IT students from Regis University are currently working with the Aurora Chamber and the Communications Committee for their capstone project. As part of their project, they are assessing ways to better improve the Chamber website and will also supply options and information about an Aurora Chamber of Commerce application for mobile devices. For more information, contact [Mitzi.Schindler@aurorachamber.org](mailto:Mitzi.Schindler@aurorachamber.org).

### **Government Affairs, Education & Energy:**

The Government Affairs, Education and Energy Committee identifies business, educational, and energy-related legislative issues that influence the creation of public policy affecting local businesses and the community. The Committee provides direction to the Chamber's lobbyist in the State Legislature, and works closely with the city, county, state and federal government officials on issues con-

cerning the business climate and quality of life in the Eastern Metro area.

In addition to Committee efforts, Axiom Strategies compiles a periodic newsletter that provides up-to-date information and insight relevant to Chamber members. Input for this newsletter is provided by the Chamber Public Issues Liaison. The most recent newsletter can be found here: <http://www.aurorachamber.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/LN-10-3-17.pdf>.

The Government Affairs, Education & Energy Committee meets at 7:30 AM the first and third Thursdays of each month during the Legislative session, and the first Thursday of the month when the Legislature is not in session. For more information, contact [tamara.mohamed@aurorachamber.org](mailto:tamara.mohamed@aurorachamber.org).

# City of Aurora Day

## What does it take to create a strong, healthy, and thriving community?

During the second Leadership Aurora session we were about to find out. Aurora Day was all about learning about the city, its government, and its economy. We started the day at the Aurora Municipal Center home to the city of Aurora government. After a delicious breakfast, kindly provided by Colorado Association of Realtors, the group received an overview about the city and its government structure given by Interim City Manager Jason Batchelor. Aurora is not only the third largest city in Colorado, but is also the most diverse city in the state with one in five residents being foreign-born. We learned that there are a diverse set of industries and educational opportunities in Aurora, and the city uses these attributes to actively attract and retain residents and businesses.

The group also learned that the city of Aurora is a full-service municipality with a council-manager form of government. Understanding what the city does for its residents and businesses and how the government works is important for the Leadership Aurora participants. The information will help us to become stronger ambassadors for our community.

Next, Budget Manager Greg Hays provided an overview of the city's budget and finances. Here we learned where the city receives its revenue with almost two-thirds of General Fund revenue coming from sales taxes. The last time the city received a tax increase was 1993! Lastly, an explanation was given regarding how the city spends the revenue in order to provide the best services to its citizens.

Mayor Steve Hogan graciously took time from his busy day to speak with the class about what the roles of Mayor and City Council, and how Aurora's elected officials are unique in that we have a full-time mayor and part-time councilmembers. The mayor then segued into the group activity where participants had the opportunity to solve a very real issue in the city of Aurora today, transportation.

The issue of lagging street maintenance, and various solutions to the problem were presented by Street Operations Manager Tom McMinimee. Then the Leadership Aurora members were split into four groups for a mock Council meeting: City Council and Mayor, advocates for the funding solutions, opposition to the funding solutions, and the general public invited to be heard. Through some thoroughly entertaining acting by our classmates, we got to experience firsthand the complexity of solving problems for constituents. It was not as easy as it would seem, because there are always more issues than funds to solve the problems. In the end the Mayor and City Council need to make sure they are doing what is best for Aurora with the resources available.

*"The City of Aurora is home to over 15,000 small businesses."*

After the roll playing exercise, everyone enjoyed a wonderful lunch courtesy of Aurora Water. Everyone had a chance to catch up and go over what they had learned that morning. Prior to Aurora Day, the Leadership Aurora Project Committee also made a call to the group to gather coats and food for Aurora Warms the Nights and Comitis. By opening up our donation of 43 coats/hoodies and over 30 pounds of food to his neighborhood through social media, James Rowley turned the donation into 100+ coats/hoodies and about 200 pounds of non-perishable food.

After lunch we had a presentation about the Aurora-South Metro Small Business Development Center (SBDC) from Senior Community Program Specialist Chuck Hahn. Here we learned about all the resources and services the SBDC has for small business, new and old, at little to no cost. Aurora is home to over 15,000 small business, and the city of Aurora has made a conscience effort to help small businesses thrive by hosting the SBDC within the municipal building. Following the SBDC presentation, the group received an overview of economic growth in Aurora from Aurora Chamber President Kevin Hougen. Here we learned more about all the industries both large and small within the city, and all the opportunities that exist which will enable the city's continued success.

For the last part of the day, we drove to Stanley Marketplace. We received a tour of the building from Allyson Fredeen, Experience Director of the Stanley. She told us the history of Stanley Aviation, which manufactured ejection seats for military aircraft used in the Korean and Vietnam wars. She included the story of how Bob Stanley tested the seats with bears on loan from the Denver Zoo. The tour ended with a talk from Mark Shaker, the mastermind of the Stanley Marketplace. He passionately spoke of the vision of a community-focused marketplace comprised of like-minded small, local businesses and people.

We then split into three groups and interviewed select business owners in the Stanley. Our interviews were meant to gather information regarding running a small business, as well as learning the story of how they became entrepreneurs. We had the opportunity to interview David Lewis of Miette et Chocolat, Stephanie Shearer and Chris Bacorn of Trunk Nouveau, and Mark Shaker of the Stanley Beer Hall. Through these interviews we heard the trials and tribulations or running a small businesses, why they chose to locate at the Stanley, and how the city of Aurora helped their businesses succeed.

The information-packed day ended with the group gathering for a social at the Stanley Beer Hall. Exhausted and in awe of all that we have learned through the day, we took it all in over amazing craft beer, incredible food, and exceptional company.

## Where we have been...

### Exploring the Comitis Crisis Center:

Several Leadership Aurora classmates visited Comitis Crisis Center and the Aurora Day Resource Center as part of either Community Day or as one of their community explorations.



Comitis, which means friendship in Latin, provides emergency shelter and temporary housing services to homeless individuals, families, and Veterans. Along with emergency shelter, they provide outreach, crisis intervention, transitional housing, case management, food and clothing, financial literacy training, and connection to medical, dental, and behavioral healthcare. The newly opened Aurora Day Resource Center is designed to give individuals experiencing homelessness a place to go during the daytime, and provide access to food, water, clothing, and other services.

Located on the Anschutz Medical Campus in a former army barrack unit, Comitis is the only

homeless shelter in Aurora. The first floor has 139 beds for overnight shelter in which homeless individuals enter a lottery each day to see if they receive a bed for the night. Families that are part of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program can live together in a room on the second floor while trying to secure more long-term housing. Up to 23 families can stay between six to eight months. On the top floor of the building, there is a private wing for homeless Veterans and their dependent who can stay up to two years under the Veterans Affairs Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program. Under the program, Comitis helps homeless veterans achieve residential stability and increase their skills and income.

Across the street is the Aurora Day Resource Center, which is operated by Comitis. The Center is open during the day and provides a place for people experiencing homelessness to get light medical treatment, rest, take a shower, wash their clothes, and access computers for job searches and registering for benefits. The space also acts as an emergen-

cy cold weather shelter.

There are several ways to help Comitis in their mission to help individual become more stable and self-sufficient. Here are a few ways:

#### Participate in the Annual Grocery Cart Races

This event is held every spring. The money they raise each year is enough to provide dairy and fresh food for an entire year.

**Word-of-mouth** Let employers know of their services and potentially hire someone in need

**Donate** Some item include: new socks all sizes, new underwear all ages, gently used business attires, food, etc.

**Volunteer** Opportunities include: assist in cleaning, organizing, cooking, moving, and handling donations

For donations or volunteer opportunities please contact James Gillespie at [JGillespie@MHBHC.org](mailto:JGillespie@MHBHC.org) or call 303-898-5507.

## Get to know your classmates!

Each month we hope to talk to a couple of your classmates and ask questions so we can get to know each other better.

This month we asked questions to Jim Bickford of Bickford Law, Charmaine Brown of The Denver Foundation, Julian Dewberry of Falck Rocky Mountain and Tricia Johnson of Community College of Aurora.

Here is what they had to say:

**Question:** What do you do in your current position?

**Jim:** I'm a business and real estate attorney, and I run my own firm in addition to my involvement in the Aurora Rotary Club (everyone in LA is welcome to come join me at a meeting (Wednesdays at noon in Aurora)), seat on the Business Advisory Board for the Aurora City Council, and chair of the board of advisors for the Aurora YMCA.

**Charmaine:** I am a Senior Scholarship Officer at The Denver Foundation. I have been working at the Foun-

ation for over a year and a half. I have always worked in financial aid and scholarships, working at institutions of higher education prior to this role. My job at The Denver Foundation allows me to work with individuals who wish to better their communities through philanthropy. I work with individuals interested in starting scholarship funds in hopes of supporting the next generation of academic scholars. It is a humbling opportunity to serve in this capacity!

**Julian:** I'm responsible for our business development (duh), community outreach, social media and a bit of government and customer relations. In a normal week, I'll visit our hospital partners to check on our service, submit multiple posts on our different social media outlets, assist with requests for patient reports/records, attend at least a few meetings with varying organizations, assist with any complex ambulance transports and ensure progress on big picture items.

**Tricia:** I serve as the Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Community College of Aurora. In a nutshell, I have primary leadership responsibility for planning, implementing, and coordinating the educational programs at the college.

**Question:** Who is the most inspirational person to you?

**Jim:** My wife (Kelly) and daughter (Kate) have blown my world wide open and help me see every part of every day in new and exciting ways. I love nature authors (Aldo Leopold, Wendell Berry, William De Buys) and Nicholas Gomez-Davila.

**Charmaine:** My mother is one of many inspirations that I have in my life. It has been her ambition, tenacity, and her kindness that has allowed me to come as far as I have. She has inspired me to always find ways to help someone else. She is my rock, my cheerleader, and my source of strength.

**Julian:** President Dr. Tricia Johnson! Just kidding. Although, she's pretty awesome. I would have to say my wife. She has pushed me to become a better person in so many ways and is one of the main reasons I find myself in the fortunate position I'm in today.

(Continued on Page 6)

# CHERRY CREEK SCHOOLS VETERANS WEEK NOVEMBER 6-10, 2017

All veterans and current military members were cordially invited to attend Veterans Week activities at schools across the Cherry Creek School District during the week of Nov. 6-10, 2017. Every school in the district hosted an event or activity to honor those who have served or are serving our great nation.

*"We are proud to honor our American heroes – these veterans and active duty servicemen and women – by inviting them into our schools and personally thanking them for their service," said Dr. Harry Bull, Superintendent of Cherry Creek Schools. "What a powerful way for our students to learn important lessons about service, sacrifice and world history."*

Veterans Week activities included assemblies, parades, and classroom presentations. Throughout the week our neighborhood streets were lined with American flags and students waving and saluting to show their support for our local heroes, the veterans in our school communities. Our hallways were lined with Student Council representatives, SOAR Leaders, WEB Leaders, and various student activity groups lined the hallways to welcome and celebrate our local veterans. Art classes developed patriotic-themed projects and living displays for school assemblies, guest appearances, and veteran receptions. Our bands, choruses, and orchestras played the Star Spangled Banner, America the Beautiful, the Battle Hymn of the Republic, and other anthems

to salute all branches of the United States Armed Forces. We were very fortunate to salute a number of WWII veterans and many of our own employees who have served (and continue to serve) in the military.

A number of schools in Cherry Creek have also forged ongoing relationships with the VA Hospital. Students in these schools provide care packages, letters, and make visits to the VA Hospitals and local nursing homes to celebrate our winter holidays, Valentine's Day, and Memorial Day. They have truly endeavored to extend their good wishes and appreciation throughout the school year.

## "Put Yourself in Their Shoes": I-Team Student Offers Personalized Message to Veterans

Brianna Forbes had some help in spreading her message of gratitude during the Cherry Creek School District's Veterans Week celebration.

Forbes, a 17-year-old senior in the district's I-Team program, crafted a heartfelt and personalized message bound for the group of veterans living at the Veterans Community Living Center located on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. In a set of "Thank You" cards distributed to the residents, Forbes wrote frankly about her feelings and her own family experiences tied to military service.

"Thank you for all you have done for me and my family for us to be able to call this country our home," Forbes wrote. "(We) have such brave men and women representing us."

Forbes wasn't on hand to deliver the message in person, but she had support from a dedicated group of her fellow CCSD students. On Nov. 8, a group from the district's Transition Program delivered letters and care packages to residents in the building. The district's Transition Program is an optional program for young adults with special needs who are 18 to 21 years old and who have completed their high school core classes – the program offers

a diverse array of professional and educational opportunities.

This Transitions group delivered the cards room-by-room; they stopped veterans in the hallways to hand off the cards and pose for photos. The Transition students, some of whom had difficulty communicating directly, found a way to express themselves through Forbes' words.

The message came from a deeply personal place for Forbes, who's faced her own significant hurdles over the past year. She's been recovering from major injuries sustained in a car accident, working to rebuild her physical health even as she's kept up with her education (she's set to graduate later this year).

When the chance came up to pen the card destined for the residents of the Veterans Community Living Center, Forbes drew on familial connections and deep-set feelings of personal duty.

"I have a grandfather who served in the Vietnam War and I know how it feels to not feel thanked, to feel like people don't care that you risked your life," Forbes said. "A lot of young people don't know what Veterans Day is; they don't really respect the fact that there are

soldiers who fought for us."

Forbes said she's aware of the sacrifices of the untold multitude who've served in the U.S. military, and the card was a way of providing her own personal note of gratitude. That kind of perspective – staying aware of the larger pictures and the contributions of those who too often go uncelebrated – has helped Forbes move forward during a difficult time.

Empathy has been a key motivator for Forbes throughout her own personal struggles, and it was the overarching tone of the card that went to dozens of residents at the Veterans Community Living Center on Nov. 9.

"Even though you may not know why we're fighting, I feel like it's still important to show them that we acknowledge what they've done," Forbes said. "Put yourself in their shoes – how would you feel if you were out there putting your life on the line for people you don't even know and nobody said 'Thank You' for it or showed their appreciation?"

# Service, Sacrifice, Selflessness Celebrated During 2017 Veterans Week

Army Maj. Dave Sonheim was getting adjusted to being a dad again.

Sonheim was back home after a deployment of 10 months, and readjusting to family life offered its own unique hurdles. The shift from soldier to father took some getting used to, as did the transition from a combat zone to safe space.

"It can take a toll on families," said Sonheim, decked in his military fatigues as he walked into the cafeteria at Sky Vista Middle School on Nov. 3. Sonheim's son, Sky Vista student R.J., waited patiently for his father to join him for a special honorary luncheon at the school, part of Sky Vista's larger tribute event to celebrate Veterans Week in the Cherry Creek School District. "It's a lot harder than you think."

That made the ceremony at the school all the more touching for Sonheim and his entire family. Like every other school across the district, Sky Vista staged a heartfelt and elaborate celebration to pay tribute to those who have served. On Nov. 3, students, teachers and staff from Sky Vista, Aspen Crossing and the new Middle School #11 campus slated to open in the fall took part in a neighborhood parade. They marched through the residential streets, bearing banners, placards and handwritten notes expressing gratitude and admiration before ending up at the Sky Vista campus for a formal ceremony.

It was a scene echoed at elementary, middle and high schools all over Cherry Creek for more than a week. For the seventh year in a row, a district of more than 54,000 students united in a common purpose: to honor service members of all ages and backgrounds. What started as a novel way to expand the impact of the Veterans Day holiday for CCSD students has become a hallowed tradition, one that's impacted thousands of individuals across the community.

Sonheim had attended previous Veterans Weeks celebrations in the district. The consistency of the district's message and the breadth of its efforts impressed Sonheim, who recognized a valuable message for students of all ages.

"It's nice to see that across the district, they take time to pause and recognize all of the service members who have spent immeasurable time away from families," Sonheim said. "Becoming a part of something bigger like the military ... The appreciation you have for the smaller things in life becomes very clear," he added, pointing to the experience, insights, leadership skills and rewards he's gleaned from his service. "You just can't find that anywhere else."

A similar message came up again and again during ceremonies held in CCSD cafeterias, classrooms and auditoriums over the span of a week. "It's an honor to be in the same room as these veterans," CCSD Deputy Superintendent Scott Siegfried said to a packed auditorium at Overland High School during the school's event held on Nov. 6. "These men and women were ordinary people until they heard a call of duty and answered it."

Throughout the week at dozens of ceremonies, current service members joined veterans who'd served in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm and countless other conflicts. They assumed places of honor during assemblies, speaking out about the value of their service or silently taking in the tribute.

Olin Kier, a U.S. Navy veteran who served in the South Pacific during World War II, was hard pressed to accept credit for his own service as he joined the diverse crowd gathered at Overland High School. Instead, he praised those who were currently engaged, those who were facing the tough decisions and selflessly accepting the challenges and sacrifices.

"I think I'm very fortunate to be invited to their party," Kier said. "They're active now, and they're the ones who need recognition. They're still getting used to being away from home and doing the things that they do."

Joseph Pacheco knows just how valuable that kind of recognition can be. Pacheco reported to Summit Elementary School on Nov. 7 to watch his granddaughter, third-grader Elsie Ruiz, join her peers in celebrating the community's veterans through song, poetry and artwork. A veteran of the U.S. Air Force,

Pacheco recalled his fellow service members who were met with hostility when they returned from the Vietnam War in the 1970s.

It was a response that left deep scars on many of Pacheco's friends and comrades, a reaction that gave even more weight to Cherry Creek Schools' district-wide show of support.

"It's a good thing that the children are learning about what veterans have done for our country and to know that we also live a full life, have families," Pacheco said. "It's an honor, it's an honor to be part of this. I do it for vets my age, and it's such a good feeling to know that people accept you."

The value of the weeklong event was just as overwhelming for CCSD students. "We want our students to understand that the freedoms they enjoy every day were made possible by the men and women who have served, and continue to serve," said CCSD Superintendent Dr. Harry Bull, pointing to the immersive, immediate brand of education afforded by Veterans Week.

Students found different ways to take part. Some handed visiting veterans flowers and care packages, others invited their relatives who'd served to take part in their school's celebrations. Brianna Forbes, a senior in the district's I-Team program, spread her message of gratitude with the help of other students in the district.

On Nov. 8, a group of students from CCSD's Transition Program delivered letters and care packages to veterans at the Fitzsimmons Community Center located on the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora. Forbes had penned the message printed on the "Thank You" card delivered to dozens of veterans that day, a missive that summed up the spirit and intent of the district's Veterans Week celebration.

"Thanks you for all you have done for me and my family for us to be able to call this country our home," Forbes wrote. "(We) have such brave men and women representing us."

# Get to know your classmates! (Cont. from Page 3)

**Tricia:** I don't really have a single person who inspires me. To be honest, the students that I've had the honor to serve provide me with all the inspiration I need. I am regularly in awe by the contributions they bring, and I have learned something every semester from students that were in my classes when I taught to students that I have the opportunity to engage with in my current role.

**Question: Are you spring, summer, fall, or winter? Please share why**

**Jim:** I'm a fall guy. I like any excuse to stick my nose in a good book, drink a warming beverage, and eat ham. I also like the fall colors for photography, the cooler weather, and the chance to think about the past.

**Charmaine:** I absolutely love fall! It is such a calming season of the year. I find that during fall things are beginning to slow down and people are start reflecting on what they've accomplished in the first part of the year and what still needs to be done in the latter. I love fall colors, especially living here in Colorado. There's nothing better than to see the sun on the beautiful red, orange, yellow, and bronze colored leaves. The smell of hot apple cider, vanilla lattes, and apple pie remind me of when I was younger. And I'd be remised if I did not mention fall fashion... There's nothing like a good pair of knee-high boots!

**Julian:** I'm winter. I love the cold, enjoy the holidays and marvel at the beauty that Colorado puts on display after a snowfall.

**Tricia:** Oooh, this is a hard one. I would have to say that I am fall. Fall reminds me of football, walks in the neighborhood with my family, and sitting outside reading. With the weather here in Colorado, it's just the best!

**Question: Where would you most like to live?**

**Jim:** Bozeman, Montana is my holy grail of sorts, but I would never trade where I live now.

**Charmaine:** Anywhere that keeps me close to my parents! Being an only child, my parents are my everything.

**Julian:** With no strings attached and money not being a concern, Breckenridge would be pretty amazing.

**Tricia:** I would most like to live in New York City. I love the hustle and bustle. I am energized by all of the activity and love the diversity in the city.

**Question: What advice would you give to your younger self?**

**Jim:** Don't be afraid to keep adding energy to the equation! It's easy to be paralyzed by overthinking things, but run headlong into problems and you'll find your way through.

**Charmaine:** I would tell my younger self to run your own race. It's easy to look at others and see how far they have moved ahead of you, but take time to recognize your own accomplishments and celebrate your victories. Your journey will not look like those you think you're "running" against, so remain focused on how you need to run. Be unafraid to explore a path that's different from the expectation of others. Lastly, have fun! You will often hear you have all the time in the world, but there's never enough time...so be sure to make time to have fun!

**Julian:** While there are a number of times I complicated my life, who knows where I would be if I walked a different path. I find myself married to my best friend with a baby on the way, a great job with awesome co-workers, a hunger to further my education and a growing network of friends and colleagues. I suppose one piece of wisdom I'd pass along is to live by the same rule I do now; Only worry about what you can control.

**Tricia:** Don't be in such a rush to get your career started. Take time to travel during college and right after college. Life will become so much more complex, making travel and experiencing life outside the United States that much more difficult. Plus, when you're younger you don't mind staying in some questionable hotels!

**Question: What sport would you compete in if you were in the Olympics?**

**Jim:** If only they gave medals for mediocre golfing!

**Charmaine:** If I could compete in the winter games I would like to be on a bobsleigh team and for summer I think I'd try my hands at fencing.

**Julian:** Probably weightlifting. I coach CrossFit at 20 Mile CrossFit in Parker and have always enjoyed the sport. I also feel like it would provide the least amount of opportunity to embarrass myself on national TV.

**Tricia:** Okay, so this is totally about what I would love to do and has nothing to do with any ability I have or have ever had. However, I think it would be so cool to compete in trampoline. I didn't even know this was a sport until like last year, and I am absolutely in awe of what they can do. I could literally watch the competitions for hours.

**Question: Finally, what would you like people to know about you?**

**Jim:** If there are baked goods of any sort within arm's reach – and I have long arms! – then they will quickly be devoured. I love to write songs and poems. My high school mascot was a red-and-white zebra (Claremore High School, Claremore, OK). I love to hike and fish. I like yoga. I keep a stack of half-read books on my nightstand. I grew up in NE Oklahoma, went to the University of Oklahoma for undergrad (BA Econ, BA Poli Sci, minor in Religious Studies), and Georgetown for law school.]

**Charmaine:** Faith. Family. Friends. These three pillars are the core of what helps me stay grounded in everything I do!

**Julian:** I'm kind of an open book. As our personality profile from our class retreat can attest, I only have one version of me that's on display. I suppose the fact I love coaching may not be known to many. As I stated earlier, I coach CrossFit and the feeling of watching those athletes grow and surprise themselves is beyond fulfilling. Outside of the gym, I also enjoy working with our employees on their skill sets. I have benefitted from the sage wisdom of leaders both in the past and currently. In my mind, it's my duty to pay it forward to anyone willing to put in the time. I'm no master on this subject, nor do I claim to be, but I know what has worked for me and I enjoy watching others find success.

**Tricia:** As most folks in the class probably know, I'm pretty much an open book. I don't hold a heck of a lot back. One thing that I haven't shared is that I am actually really sensitive. I absolutely hate letting others down, and I will likely beat myself up about it for quite a while if I do.