



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

Volume 1, Issue 7

May 16, 2018

WHAT'S NEXT?

Fire Day
May 17, 2018 @7:30am

City of Aurora
Public Safety Training Center
25950 E. Quincy Ave.
Aurora, CO 80016

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From the President...

Grateful For You All!

How can it be this close to the end of our program already? It's both surprising that it has come this quickly and amazing what all we've achieved! As I type this, we're mere days away from our Class Project - Live On Purpose Launch Party. Everyone has been working SO hard, and I feel so fortunate to collaborate with such strong leaders in Aurora. Knowing how busy we all are in our roles within our companies and organizations, it makes the commitment mean that much more.

Our Class Project will truly leave a legacy in Aurora and will help countless neighbors in receiving the supports they need. Doesn't that make you feel amazing? Our work

will truly help our community in perpetuity. I think that is impressive. Thank you all for your efforts on this!

From here, in only a few weeks, we'll be celebrating our graduation. Can you believe it?!? Let's make sure we take time to appreciate each other, to appreciate the friendships we've made and the collective impact of our partnerships. Well done, Leadership Aurora Class of 2017-18! There's no one I'd rather be working beside!

Tricia Johnson
Class President
2017-18 Leadership Aurora

Leadership Aurora Presents
Live on Purpose!

Leadership Aurora's Class of 2018 invites you to an evening of fun at Dry Dock's North Dock. Help the Pay it Forward Committee raise funds to ensure future classes have the means to make a difference in our wonderful city!

May 18th, 2018
5:30 - 8:30

Dry Dock North Dock
2801 Tower Rd. Aurora

Entry
Adults: \$20
Children 16 & Under: \$10
(1 Beer included with Adult Entry)

Register Here
<https://tinyurl.com/leadershipaurora>

DRY DOCK
BREWING CO.

Police Day

Making Aurora Safer Every Day through Community Outreach

While most think of Aurora as a suburb of Denver, Aurora stands as a large city by itself at over 350,000 residents. You might think that all big cities come with big city problems, but Aurora has been recognized as one of the nation's safest large cities. The Aurora Police Department is proud to be recognized as a leader in emergency response, use of technology to enhance training and officer performance, and officer wellness and safety programs. Officers with APD work hard to build positive relationships across the city. In recent years, APD established a new Citizen Advisory Board in order to review policies, participate in strategic planning, and assist in the ongoing evaluation of personnel practices. Board members are selected by the Chief of Police to influence decisions made by police executives.



David Strohfus (Cherry Creek School District) inspects a Aurora Police Department firearm while LA Classmates look on.

This collaborative board helps to ensure a positive, citizen-focused approach to law enforcement activities. In addition to involving community leaders in the functions of the organization, APD has launched an extensive social media campaign to get out important safety information and to highlight how its officers are connecting with the community. Officers set a priority to engage in positive interactions with community members with both children and adults across the city. These efforts establish trust, rapport, and reinforce the idea that officers are here to protect and serve our citizens.

The Aurora Police Department continually invests time and energy into officer training and evaluation. Officers focus on implementing the four principles of procedural justice training: fairness and consistency of rule application, voice and representation in the process, transparency and openness of process, impartiality and unbiased decision making. This foundation aims to enhance the safety of all police interaction in the community. Officers also collaboratively train with fire departments and other emergency responders to enhance safe and effective responses to emergency situations.

The volunteers in Policing Program has also been nationally recognized. In 2015 alone over 450 volunteers donated over 32,000 hours of personal time to APD safety efforts, saving Aurora nearly \$750,000. Volunteer activities included Victim services to provide emotional support and interventions; Chaplains to provide counseling, support, and spiritual guidance; Interpreters to provide translation services and assist officers in the community; and various youth programs to promote positive youth involvement and mentoring as our young citizens learn about law enforcement and community involvement.

“These are challenging times for law enforcement nationwide. However, we believe that through working together with the members of our community, as well as our local and federal law enforcement partners, we can further connect with our community and ‘make Aurora safer every day.’” Aurora Police Chief Nick Metz.



Rachel Robinson (Parker Adventist Hospital) receives instruction on the firing range from a member of the Aurora Police Department.

Where We Have Been...

Colfax Community Network:

The Colfax Community Network serves transient motel residents, to include children, down Colfax Avenue. Colfax Community Network provides services to these families through providing a safe place children can go to after school, toys during the holiday season, food and hygiene, and community service resources and helpful programs to those in need. These services provide stability and a sense of community.

The Colfax Community Network seems to always be in need of non-perishable food items and also hygiene items for their pantry. They also are in need of new socks and underwear. Teens are especially in need of the clothing items. The Colfax Community Network prefers that the canned food items be pop top, because many of the motel residents do not have can openers.



S.W.A.T.

Meeting with Aurora's SWAT team was quite the experience. After an introduction to the department from Chief Metz, a discussion on APD's outreach and a K-9 demonstration it was hard to imagine that the day would get any better. Little did we know, the SWAT introduction and activities would be the perfect way to end an incredible day. Our class made the drive over to the training grounds where we were given a brief but eye-opening overview of the team's responsibilities. The wide range of calls and situations the group responded to surprised many of us. As we sat down, fixated on the stories, we were given a glimpse of the detail, planning and training that go into the operations these brave men and women carry out daily.

Once the classroom portion of the visit was completed, we were taken out for a demonstration by their snipers. As we stood at the foot of the range, we could barely see a few pieces of fruit dangling on string in the distance. The first shot turned an apple into mist and the second shot ended with a similar result. With the wind picking up, a lone orange was left and was swinging back and forth. A moment later, there was another



Aurora Police Department Emergency Rescue Vehicle

crack in the air and the orange was gone. It was a brief but impressive display of the team's capabilities. We were then taken to another range where we were allowed to fire weapons under their guidance. Naturally, this was one of the most exciting portions of the day and many felt a surge of adrenaline as they pulled the trigger and felt the subtle yet powerful force they held in their hands. The day progressed with tours of their SWAT vehicle, explanations of their equipment and literally and figuratively ended with a bang.... a flash bang. While the SWAT portion of the day was filled with fun, it was the stories that stuck with many of us. It was just another example of Leadership Aurora's ability to pull the curtain back and leave you with a heightened awareness of what goes on in our amazing city and the great people that keep it moving in the right direction.

Get to know your classmates!

Each month we talk to a group of your classmates and ask questions so we can get to know each other better. This month we are featuring Raechel Anderson from Pickens Technical College.

Here is what she had to say:

What do you do in your current position?

Raechel: I am a Career Advisor. I do high school and adult college and career advising, support students and instructors with their Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) and run speech competitions and the CTSO meetings, I assist the entire student body with resume lessons and reviews, manage our Career Services Facebook page, post all jobs, build relationships with employers and high schools, take employers, potential students and high school counselors on tours, as well as go out to schools and do presentations and attend career fairs for recruiting, planned most of this year's employer fair, attend advisory committees and write up the minutes for the meetings, I'm on the Social Committee where I help plan events for staff to participate in such as a chili cook off, I drive a bus to take students on field trips and to competitions, I go around campus when I know instructors are doing special things with their students, such as Basic Life Support training and take photos for our Pickens Times newsletter, so staff can see the great

things instructors and support staff do, and I support instructors where needed.

If you were famous, what would you be famous for?

Raechel: If I were famous, I would be famous for baking cookies and cakes. Staff at Pickens go crazy for them.

You can only own either a smartphone or a computer, which do you choose?

Raechel: Smartphone, because you can do everything on a smart phone that you can do on a computer and it's easier to take with you.

If you could live any historical figure's life, which one would you choose?

Raechel: If I could live any historical figure's life, it would be Joan of Arc, because she was a strong, fearless woman, who fought for what she believed in and led French forces into battle against the English.

What advice would you give to your younger self?

Raechel: The advice I would give to my younger self is to not get taken to the cleaners with student loans by being convinced to attend a for profit college.

What's the most out-of-character thing you've ever done?

Raechel: The most out of character thing I have ever done is go to a part of a foreign country

where very few people spoke English, and I went on all of these really cool excursions with a personal guide, so I got to see things that people on scheduled tours didn't get to see. We had to put bits and pieces of our languages together to be able to communicate.

Finally, what would you like people to know about you?

Raechel: What I would like people to know about me is that I highly value my family and my friends, and I just enjoy having a good time and keeping things light.