

April seminars at the Aurora Business Development Center

Call on the Aurora Business Development Center for your small business training needs! The following seminars will be offered in April and take place at the Aurora BDC unless otherwise noted:

Doing Business with the Government

Wed., Apr. 11, 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM — FREE

A procurement analyst from Buckley Air Force Base will discuss opportunities to do business with federal and state agencies. The procurement process includes finding solicitations, communication protocol and resources to help land the contract.

Marketing Your Food Product

Thur., April 12, 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

\$35/person in advance; \$45/person at the door

Location: Arapahoe/Douglas Works! 14980 E. Alameda Dr.

Trying to get your food product to market? Let the industry experts share their keys of the trade for planning, compliance, labeling, packaging, promotion, advertising and reaching your customers. In cooperation with the Dept. of Agriculture Division of Markets.

Basics of Starting a Business

Tues., Apr. 24, 1:00 - 3:00 PM — FREE

Want to know how to turn that business idea into a reality? This two-hour overview will cover legal structure, trade name registration, business and sales tax licenses, basic business planning—and includes an entrepreneurial assessment! Recommended companion seminar: Obtaining Business Financing

HOW TO REGISTER:

Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Call (303) 326-8690 or register by e-mail: info@aurorabdc.com.

Payable at the door by cash or check to the Aurora BDC; credit cards are not accepted. A complete schedule is available on-line at www.aurorabdc.com or by calling the Aurora BDC at (303) 326-8690. Ask about the Chamber discount.

Obtaining Business Financing

Wed., Apr. 25, 1:00 - 3:00 PM — FREE

This two-hour overview will cover the different sources of capital including SBA and micro-loans, lending criteria, and fundamentals of the loan application, package and process. A must-attend if you are seeking financing for your business!

Writing a Winning Business

Thur., Apr. 26, 1:00 - 4:00 PM — Plan \$25/person

A business plan will help you start, grow and manage your business. Learn how to develop the components of a good business plan including goal setting, market research, management, promotion and financial projections. Includes business plan and financial projection templates. Recommended companion seminar : Smart Marketing

* Select two \$25 seminars and pay only \$45 (payable at the first registered class; a voucher will be given upon receipt of payment).

The Aurora BDC is located in the Florence Square building: 9801 E. Colfax Ave., Ste. 200, Aurora, CO 80010-2154

Martin Luther King, Jr. Library: 9898 E. Colfax Ave., Aurora, CO 80010 (between Elmira and Emporia Streets in Original Aurora; across the street from the Aurora BDC).

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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Renewals

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Aurora Sales Professionals
B-Line Express Courier, Inc.
Beck and Cassinis, P.C.
The Bent Noodle
The Boeing Company
Boy Scouts of America, Centennial District
Carlos Klinger & Sons
City of Centennial
Colorado High School Activities Association
Colorado State Employees' Credit Union
Cooper Development, Inc.
Courtyard DIA
Denver Newspaper Agency
Dozens Restaurant
East End Applied Arts
Ed Bozarth Company, Inc.
Enternet Design
Expressions In Flooring
Farnsworth Group, Inc.
First Command Financial Planning
Gabriel's Light Learning Center
Guaranty Bank & Trust Co. - Gateway Park
Homestead Studio Suites - Aurora
House of Flowers
Hutchison, Horn & Company, P.C.
Image Audiovisuals
It's A Grind Coffee House
Jason's Deli
Kissinger & Fellman, P.C.
La Quinta Inn & Suites
Greenwood Village/Tech
Leisure Tech Industries
Len Lyall Chevrolet, Inc.
M & M Auto Reconditioning, Inc.
Majestic Realty Co.
Merrick & Company
Mile High Harley-Davidson
James Moore & Associates, P.C.
Mountain West Printing
Mutual of Omaha
Now Hear This, Inc.
Oakwood Homes, LLC
Olinger Hampden Mortuary & Cemetery
Parker Adventist Hospital
Petra Janitorial Service, Inc.
Plocher Painting Inc.
Prototypes, Etc.
Providers Resource Clearinghouse
The Real Estate Lady
Regal Facility Management
Remember When
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Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine, P.C.
Stor-All Storage
SuperValu, Inc.
Tackett Consulting, Inc.
Towne Center at Aurora
Wagner Equipment Co.
Xcel Energy

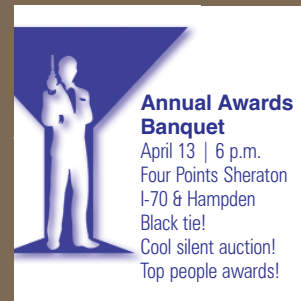
NEW MEMBERS

DPC Development Co.
Galloway Group
See's Candies
US Bank

METRO COMMUNITIES



Upcoming Events



Business Before Hours

April 18 | 7:30 a.m.
Aurora Central Library
Alameda & Alameda Drive

Centennial State of the City

Mayor Randy Pye
April 19 | noon
Embassy Suites
Arapahoe & Havana

Business After Hours

April 28 | 5:30 p.m.
Ed Bozarth Chevrolet
2001 S. Havana
(Between Jewell & Evans)

Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon

May 18 | 11 a.m.
Radisson Hotel SE
I-225 & Parker

Newsletter Online

Don't forget that the monthly *IMPACT* is on our Web site before you get it in the mail! The newsletter is sent via bulk mail at the end of every month, and can take up to 14 days to get into your hands.

The monthly package you receive in the mail is chock full of offers and information from your fellow Chamber members, as well as registration forms and meeting notices from The Chamber. Be sure to open it and look through the flyers as well as the newsletter!

aurora | centennial | commerce city | denver



Chamber, Community to Honor Top Metro Military

More than 500 people from businesses and government are expected to turn out to honor 11 junior enlisted military at the 31st Annual Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon in Aurora.

Organized by the Chamber's Defense Council the event is sponsored by **Medved Military Buyers Program**, and supported by the **City of Aurora**, **Northrop-Grumman**, **Lockheed-Martin** and a number of other companies and organizations that want to show their backing of the military community in the Denver-Aurora metro area. The inspiring event is scheduled to take place on May 18 at the **Radisson Hotel Denver SE** beginning at 11 a.m.

Nominees for the Military Persons of the Year will be selected by their peers for their outstanding achievements during the past year. They are named by their units, and the 11 winners represent Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve components from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard.



Tops in uniform — Top troops from the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, including Guard and Reserve are singled out each year at the Annual Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon. Once again Rick Crandall (bottom row, far right) will act as host for the May 18 event expected to draw a mix of some 500 military and civilians.

Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon is Air Force veteran and popular radio host Rick Crandall from **KEZW Radio** 1430. Taking on a decidedly patriotic theme, the luncheon will include a special joint service flag ceremony and a commemoration of America's prisoners of war and missing in action.

Guest speaker is Major General Mason Whitney who recently retired after serving as the State of



Chamber Foundation elects officers

The Aurora Chamber Foundation Board met March 12 and chose Tom Ashburn of **Xcel Energy** as their Chair for 2007-08. Others elected included: Heidi Tackett of **Tackett Consulting**, Vice Chair; Dale Mingilton with **FirstBank of Colorado**, Treasurer; and Bob Jamieson with **Mutual of Omaha**, Secretary.

The Aurora Chamber Foundation was organized in 1999

to improve the level of citizenship, and to promote business education, community leadership, community and cultural arts, and other qualified

charitable purposes for the community. It is highly involved in the Leadership Aurora program and has supported numerous educational programs such as the "Three Doctors" presentation to Cherry Creek Schools last fall.



Other members of the Board include: **Sandy Neves**, **Fitzsimons Community Federal Credit Union**; **Paul Suss**, **Suss Buick, Pontiac & GMC**; **Peter Kirchhof**, **Credit Union Association of Colorado**; **Michael Peterson**, **Adolfson & Peterson Construction**; and Kevin Hougen, Aurora Chamber of Commerce. Staff support comes from Kimberly Curtis, Debbie Lynch, Stephanie McDonnell and George Peck.



Dr. Linda Bowman
Chair

Outstanding Event, Motivational, Heartwarming, Funny, Deserves Two Standing Ovation!!

As bold as the headline, that was audience reaction to our Women Making a Difference breakfast this past month. The sold-out event at the **Radisson Hotel SE** was one of the most heart-warming events of the year! Our Women in Business Committee honored six outstanding women business owners and women employees who have made a difference in their business environment and in our communities. Our Chair for the program this year, Janine Little with **Body Beautiful**, introduced our speaker, Margaret M. Kelly, Chief Executive Officer of **RE/MAX International, Inc.** who warmed

Chair’s Letter

the whole crowd with her inspiring message. Along with her enthusiasm, geniality and humor, she motivated us all to believe in ourselves and our potential. Margaret shared stories of the life long lessons she learned from her mother and father as well as other mentors in her career. Congratulations to all of our Unsung Heroes. In our business and our community, we simply could not do it without your quiet support and strength. And a special thank you to the WIB committee for the extraordinary job they did in once again making this perhaps the most inspiring of all our events.

Eleven Leaders to be recognized at the 52nd Annual Banquet!

Aurora’s premier event, our Annual Awards Banquet, is scheduled for Friday, April 13th at the **Four Points by Sheraton Southeast**. Our theme this year is **“Shaken Not Stirred,”** and in the best tradition of 007 (Bond, James Bond) we hope you will be stirred by the excellence of our award winners and shaken by the awesome line-up of items we have

for you at our famous silent auction. This annual black tie banquet is intended to honor those who make a significant contribution to the Aurora Chamber of Commerce and the greater community. Please help us honor those who, due to their inestimable effort have substantially aided in the creation of a much more successful, high quality-of-life community. Don’t forget to register or buy a table at the event that consistently draws 600 of Aurora and the Eastern Metro area’s most prominent leaders.

Jim Greenlee passes

I was deeply saddened to learn that *Jim Greenlee* passed away late last month. Jim, a **Wells Fargo** executive in Aurora, was also a Chamber Board member, a fellow Rotarian and last year’s Chamber Man of the Year. He will be deeply missed. In lieu of flowers his family has asked that you donate to either the American Cancer Association, 1234 Sherman Ave., #203, Evanston, IL 60202 OR Agape Hospice Foundation, 6041 S. Syracuse Way, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

Board of Directors

- Chair of the Board
Dr. Linda Bowman | Community College of Aurora
- Chair Elect
Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions
- Secretary
Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority
- Treasurer
Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services
- Immediate Past Chair
Dale Mingilton | FirstBank Holding Company
- Vice Chair-Business Development
Harrison Cochran | Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun
- Vice Chair-Community Services
Diane Garcia | 2G Associates
- Vice Chair-Public Issues
Jim Suss | Suss Pontiac - GMC
- Vice Chair-Member Services
Kathy Boyle | University of Colorado Hospital

Directors

- Tom Allee | Frontier Airlines
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- Bob Barké | BAR-K Insurance Solutions
- Bill Becker | Adams County Economic Development
- Dr. Linda Bowman | Community College of Aurora
- Dr. Kathy Boyle | University of Colorado Hospital
- Harrison Cochran | Aurora Sentinel & Daily Sun
- Peter L. Durante, MD, JD | The Children’s Hospital
- Brigadier General Mike Edwards | 140th Wing COANG
- Diane Garcia | 2G Associates, LLC
- Elyse Gellerman | The Medical Center of Aurora
- Mark Gouin | Wells Fargo Banks
- Larry Grandison | Denver Federal Executive Board
- Kim Harrell | East End Applied Arts
- Margo Jamieson | Kaiser Permanente
- Todd Landgrave | Northrop Grumman
- Dale Mingilton | FirstBank Holding Co.
- Wendy Mitchell | Aurora Economic Development Council
- David Patterson | Rural/Metro Ambulance
- The Honorable Randy Pye | Mayor, City of Centennial
- Katie Roche | Raytheon
- Dan Sandos | 401(K) Advisors
- Jo Snell | E-470 Public Hwy. Authority
- John Stanton | Prudential Colorado Real Estate
- Jim Suss | Suss Pontiac
- Bob Steine | Law Offices of Robert Owen Steine
- The Honorable Ed Tauer | Mayor, City of Aurora
- Craig Ward | Padgett Business Services
- Frank Weddig | Commissioner, Arapahoe County

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562 Sable Blvd., Suite 200
Aurora, CO 80011-0809
303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564
website: www.aurorachamber.org

MAKING AN IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Aurora Business Development Center (BDC) experienced another busy year in 2006 and achieved some milestones along the way. Just take a look!

- Over 1,300 individuals participated in training sessions—an increase of over 82% from 2005.
- Provided one-on-one counseling to over 500 entrepreneurs and business owners.
- Successfully launched the first Aurora “Business of Art” workshop in collaboration with The Other Side Arts for emerging artists from around the metropolitan area.
- Independent surveys of the Aurora BDC resulted in 94% of clients and 98% of resource providers indicating they have and/or would refer others to the Center.

Now, the Aurora BDC is focused on the future and has enhanced or added programs to further help entrepreneurs and small business owners succeed, and these include:

- FREE Obtaining Business Financing – Now offered at NO CHARGE
- NEW! Getting Results from Your Web Site – This seminar provides an overview of web marketing concepts, site visibility and usability, competitive analysis, search engine optimization, and paid web marketing strategies.
- The Business of Art – Two workshops will be offered: Art Legal-ese, which covers copyright law, trademarks and more; and Art Marketing, addressing artist portfolios, presentation, pricing, public art opportunities, art marketing and business resources for artists.
- Doing Business with the Government – This workshop will be expanded to include

The Business Resource Center (BRC), located at the Aurora Public Library, 14949 E. Alameda Parkway, provides business resources and reference services at no cost in order to support metro businesses and encourage entrepreneurship.

- Databases provide company statistics, competitor and consumer information.
- Professional business journals available in print and online.
- Access finance, investment and marketing tools.
- Many resources are available online at www.auroralibrary.org.

For more information or to schedule a free consultation, contact Stacy McKenzie, Business Reference Librarian, at 303.739.6643 or e-mail questions to smckenzi@auroragov.org.

representatives not only from Buckley Air Force Base, but also the City of Aurora, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and CH2M Hill. These experts will uncover the what, when, where, how, and why of government procurement.

- NEW! Sales Tax Made Simple – City of Aurora and Dept. of Revenue representatives will cover sales and use tax, types of licenses, sales tax collection, tax forms, Home Rule issues and more!

For more information or a seminar schedule, call (303) 326-8690 or visit www.aurorabdc.com.

KUDOS!



Chamber support — United Way Representative Sherry Lawson presents Chamber President Kevin Hougén with a plaque citing the Chamber staff for their support of the United Ways Campaign in 2006. Hougén serves on the Mile High United Way board of directors.



Across the generations: Josh Molyneux, a junior from Cherry Creek High School, is joined by Brigadier General Mike Edwards at the recent Corporate Breakfast honoring Congressman Ed Perlmutter at the Timbers Hotel. General Edwards was recently named by Governor Bill Ritter as the Colorado Adjutant General, replacing the retiring Maj. Gen. Mason Whitney.



Million dollar baby — Amy Schultz Pearn, owner of Instant Imprints of Aurora, an embroidery, screen printing and promotional products marketing presents to Vick Evans, owner of Advantage Security Inc., a plaque in appreciation for his order that helped Instant Imprints top the \$1,000,000 mark in total sales. Pearn earned the distinction in only three years in the business.

Chamber Board Positions 2007-2008			
The Chamber nominating committee has come up with a slate of officers for the 2007-2008 year. We are very proud to announce that the following board members will be leading us into what promises to be and exciting year of challenge, growth and prosperity for the community. The following board members will be formally announced at the April 13th Annual Awards Banquet .			
Chair 2007-2008	Bob Barké Bar-K Insurance Solution	Vice Chair Business Development	David Patterson Rural Metro Ambulance
Chair Elect	Jo Snell E-470 Public Hwy. Authority	Vice Chair Community Services	Craig Ward Padgett Business Services
Secretary	Diane Garcia 2G Associates	Vice Chair Public Affairs	Jim Suss Suss, Buick, Pontiac, GMC
Treasurer	Rich Allison Adolfson & Peterson Construction	Vice Chair Member Services	Kathy Boyle, Ph.D. University Colorado at Denver Health Sciences Center
Immediate Past Chair	Dr. Linda Bowman Community College of Aurora	Please help me welcome our Chamber Board Leadership Team for 2007-2008.	

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 monthly 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.



Polis hold forth —
Jared Polis explains his views on early childhood education to the Government Affairs Committee as Committee Chair Jim Suss (left) and Axiom Strategies’ Micki Hackenberger look on. Polis, a former member of the State Board of Education, also answered questions on his perspective on the impact of Amendment 41, the controversial Ethics in Government law.

(Photo courtesy Harrison Cochran, Aurora Sentinel)

REMINDER

Please remember to add The Chamber (stephanie.mcdonnell@aurorachamber.org and naomi.colwell@aurorachamber.org) to your address book to continue receiving our updates in your e-mailbox!

Legislative Breakfast



Last hoorah—Sylvia Young, president and CEO of The Medical Center of Aurora complex briefs on changes coming soon to the South Campus. Young hosted the Chamber's second Legislative Breakfast of 2007 as one of her last duties before heading to Las Vegas to take over all of HCA's medical facilities in that market. Young is a past chair of the Chamber Board and has been active in the Aurora community for well over a decade. Also attending the breakfast were state legislators (l-r) Rep. Michael Garcia, Rep. Nancy Todd, Sen. Nancy Spence, Sen. Suzanne Williams, Rep. David Balmer and Rep. Debbie Stafford (not shown). Also making a presentation was Micki Hackenberger (center), with the Chamber's lobby group Axiom Strategies. (Photos courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)

Lights! Camera! Action! (or not!)

February found the 2006-07 Leadership Aurora class under the bright lights of the media. Actually, the lights were not all that bright as our day ended with a power outage!! A bit of crisis management was in hand for the KACT-TV Aurora 8 television crew who had to improvise our mock studio session. Rather than studio lights and three cameras bearing down on participants, we had sunlight, a battery operated camera and one hand held microphone. We certainly learned first-hand that keeping your cool when the unexpected happens is a must when working with the media.

Media day offered the Leadership Aurora class a hands-on orientation to the media, particularly television media through our visit to KMGH 7News and the mock studio work class members enjoyed at Aurora 8. Class members also received helpful information on what to do and expect when being



7 News team adds Aurora news leaders – Leadership Aurora class members get the feel of the news desk at 7 News during their LA Media Day session. Giving their best broadcast smiles are: Front Row L-R Betsy Rogers, Sue Bodis, Roy Minter, Melinda Epp; Back Row L-R Angela Hutton-Howard, Melodie Sattler, Melanie Chatham, Rebecca Gervasi, Keith Peterson, Michael Brown, Dan Sandos

questioned at a news conference. Deputy Chief Terry Jones offered wise words about answering the press in an appropriate manner. Answering a reporter with, "I don't answer stupid questions" is not in your best interest, even if the question is out-of-line. Overall, media day made it crystal clear to

class members that the media, both print and video, is a useful tool that organizations should pursue. Don't wait for the media to contact you. Take the initiative, build relationships and "pitch" the stories you and your organization want the public to know about.



Happy Days Reunion??? – Chamber staffers join with **Aurora Symphony** Hop hosts as they re-live the golden days of the '50s. From left are: Stephanie McDonnell, Kelly Ford from KYGO Radio, Naomi Colwell, and Ed Green from KCNC-TV News 4, and George Peck. Colwell and McDonnell picked up on the "Grease" theme, dressing as Pink Ladies. Peck took more of the "Geek" approach. The annual Symphony fundraiser featured popular 50's & 60's rock revival band Flash Cadillac with the Aurora Symphony providing a lush backdrop. Nearly 500 people attended the delightful evening sponsored by the **Aurora Credit Union Alliance**.

Congressional caucus — Seventh Congressional District Representative Ed Perlmutter (center) spends time with Chamber and business leaders at a Corporate Breakfast hosted by the **Timbers Hotel**. Joining the Congressman are Chamber VP George Peck, Chamber Board Chair and **Community College of Aurora** President Dr. Linda and **Lockheed Martin** executive Pat McKenzie.



Gian Gandolfo General Manager of the Year Hilton Garden Inns

Senior executives from the **Hilton Garden Inn** brand of the Hilton Corporation honored **Gian Gandolfo** as General Manager of the Year for his work at the 157-room **Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport**.

Mark Nogal, Hilton Garden Inn's Vice President of Hotel Performance and Sales Support, and Adrian Kurre, its Senior Vice President for Brand Management, made a special trip to Denver and arrived in a snowstorm to present the award. Also attending was Stanley Gallery, a member of the hotel ownership team, plus members of the hotel executive committee.

The general managers of over 300 Hilton Garden Inn locations in the Americas are eligible for the honor. The selection process is very detailed and is based on a number of factors, including financial performance, property cleanliness and maintenance, and guest service. Most of these factors are ranked throughout the year by the brand's rigorous inspection process.

John Fitts CEO of Outrigger Lodging Services says, "That's the kind of guy he is. He goes above and beyond the call of duty, always tries to make everything fun, and never, ever differentiates himself from his employees or other members of the management team."



This is the big one — Gian Gandolfo (center), general manager of the Hilton Garden Inn Denver Airport in Aurora accepts his GM of the Year plaque from Hilton executives.

Pinnacol Policyholder Seminars

Pinnacol Assurance's policyholder seminars offer valuable workers' compensation information and an easy way for association dividend program participants to satisfy their annual safety-training requirement.

The seminars provide practical information that attendees can take back to the workplace and begin implementing immediately. Courses are offered at convenient locations around the state and most are free to Pinnacol policyholders.

Two new classes being offered in 2007 include "Modified Duty: The Formal Job- Offer Process" and "Modified Duty: Identifying Tasks and Creating Programs." Modified duty helps employers by speeding their injured workers' medical recovery, reducing claims costs, and holding down premiums.

Both of these courses provide information that is useful to policyholders from all industries and organization types. They are interactive and taught by Pinnacol's experienced return-to-work specialists. All attendees will receive a list of modified duty tasks specific to their industry.

The upcoming seminar schedule includes:

April
Safety Program Development
Grand Junction
OSHA 10-Hour Construction – Pueblo

May
Effective Training for All Employees
Denver
Modified Duty: The Formal Job- Offer Process – Sterling
Modified Duty: Identifying Tasks and Creating Programs – Fort Collins

June
Cost Containment Certification
Denver
Modified Duty: The Formal Job- Offer Process – Durango
Office Ergonomics/Train the Trainer – Colorado Springs

July
Understanding the Workers' Compensation Process
Denver

For more information or to register for a Pinnacol seminar, call 303.361.4776.

Editor's Note: Association Newsletter Article – March 2007, Contact: Suzi Stolte (303-361-4779, suzi.stolte@pinnacol.com)

Member News

reaching into the ranks to create a more diverse teaching staff in its schools. It is the first metro-Denver school district to partner with Troops to Teachers, a Department of Defense hire-in-advance program.

Troops to Teachers, helps school districts recruit quality teachers for schools that serve students from low-income families, while relieving teacher shortages and assisting military personnel in making successful transitions to second careers in teaching.

Retirees can move from the front lines to the front of the classroom, and help APS fill much needed teaching positions in math, science and special education classes.

Depending on their educational background, military retirees can be teaching students in as little as nine months. Troops to Teachers helps retirees find military friendly schools, online courses and can even help them find scholarships to earn their teaching.

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Depending on their educational background, military retirees can be teaching students in as little as nine months. Troops to Teachers helps retirees find military friendly schools, online courses and can even help them find scholarships to earn their teaching license. For more information go to

www.aps.k12.co.us.



ATTENTION!! All retired military personnel, please report to Aurora Public Schools...we want YOU!!

The Aurora Singers Turn 30

Roots" was on TV, "Star Wars" was in the theaters and the music from "Saturday Night Fever" was playing on all the radio stations. But if you had a taste for live music, and you lived in Aurora, you could come hear the Aurora Community Chorus.

The year was 1977 and in March Aurora Parks and Recreation formed what was later to become the Aurora Singers. Currently, Stephanie Fisher directs the choir in four shows during a given season. Performances generally focus on music from Broadway shows and popular music from the early 20th

century all the way up to the present day, and each has a theme that runs throughout the show.

Involvement in the Aurora Singers allows each performer, choreographer, director, musician, and technician to remain active in the arts and culture of Aurora, as well as the Denver metro area and state of Colorado. The members take pride in belonging to an organization that is doing its part to keep the arts alive and well! Keep your eye out for information about upcoming concerts.

E-470 board announces new directors

Three new members were appointed to the E-470 board of directors at its meeting on Thursday (January 25). *Frank Weddig*, Arapahoe County commissioner; *Melanie Worley*, Douglas County commissioner; and Erik Hansen, City of Thornton council member, joined the board.

The board also elected David Casiano, mayor of the Town of Parker, as its new chairperson during its annual election of officers. Casiano has served on the board for three years and as its vice-chairperson in 2006. Ed Tauer, mayor of Aurora, was elected as vice-chairperson and the mayor of Brighton, Jan Pawlowski, was elected as secretary-treasurer. Tauer has been a member of the board for four years and Pawlowski has been a member for five years.

Seneca is "Hero Among Us" says People Mag

Aurora Police Officer James Seneca was named one of *People Magazine's* "Heroes Among Us" in their March 5 issue. Seneca, who founded **Cops Fighting Cancer**, a non-profit organization that raises money to support families who have kids fighting the disease, is himself a cancer survivor. The Buffalo, N.Y., native was lauded for his compassion and superb ability to work with kids and their families dealing with the life-changing disease. Those wishing to learn more about the organization or willing to contribute can go to www.copsfightingcancer.org.

Aurora Central Principal named Principal of Year

Once again an Aurora Public Schools' principal has been named



Principal Stecklein

Colorado Principal of the Year by the Colorado Association of School Executives. Dalton Elementary Principal Dianne Dugan earned the honor in 2006.

Stecklein has been with APS since 1983. He served as a teacher, coach and assistant principal at Rangeview High School. In 2003, he became Aurora Central's new leader when he accepted the principal position.

Crediting his entire staff, from custodians to secretaries to teachers for his success, Stecklein always brings the conversation back to students.

"I'm all about children and I'm passionate about their success," said Stecklein. "We've improved academically each year I've been here. I encourage students to get involved to take pride in their school and their efforts."

This fall, Stecklein will be honored along with other winners from around the nation in Washington, D.C. He is now also in the running for the National High School Principal of the Year.

AEF Savor the Flavor on tap

The **Aurora Education Foundation** is once again giving you the opportunity to taste fine wines from Australia, Italy and the Napa Valley; sample unique microbrews; indulge in delectable cuisine and desserts from Presenting Sponsor **Carrabba's**, as well as **Atlanta Bread** and **Outback**; and enjoy live entertainment from the popular local band, "Latitude Experience" says *Angela Hutton-Howard*, Executive Director of the organization. "This is one of our major fund raisers," said Hutton-Howard, "so you know we will put on a great event."

Savor the Flavor will be April 28 beginning at 6 p.m. at the **Embassy Suites Hotel** at I-70 and Havana. Tickets that offer unlimited access to the food and drink are \$50 per person and are available from **AEF** Board members including George Peck at the Aurora Chamber or by calling the foundation at 303-326-1090. Embassy Suites is also offering a special to stay the night and have breakfast the next morning only to Savor the Flavor participants. Call 1-800-559-5301 for

Ribbon Cuttings



Sign of the times — Lee and Rhonda Cooperman (center) prepare to formally open their new and larger **Fast Signs of Aurora** facility at 1690 S. Abilene St. Ste. 103, in Aurora. Cooperman and his experienced staff provide a full range of signs, displays and banners for every business and personal need. They can be reached at 303- 750-8890. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)

Cure for golf fever right around the corner

It's time to register for the 9th Annual Leadership Aurora Golf Tournament coming up on Thursday, June 21, 2007 at Heritage Eagle Bend Golf & Country Club says Kimberly Curtis who organizes the highly popular competition for the Chamber's Leadership Aurora program. "Early payment and registration is a must as the tourney is selling out quickly," she emphasized. Individual golfer fees are \$125 and include cart, green fees, lunch, and a player ditty bag.

The tournament event sponsor is **Rural/Metro Ambulance**. Other major sponsors include **Adolfson & Peterson Construction**, **FirstBanks of Aurora**, **Metro Community Provider Network**, **Pinnacol Assurance** and **Sam's Club**. Hole sponsorship opportunities are still available at a cost of \$700.

"This tournament is one of the

premier tournaments of the summer and we are asking your help in donating items for ditty bags and door prizes," said Curtis. "For the ditty bags, we'd like to see small items such as golf balls, tees, pens, and other advertising specialty-type items." She emphasized that at least 160 of each item are needed for the ditty bags.

Larger items such as gift certificates, gift baskets, restaurant dinners, golf shirts, golf bags or clubs, or any non-related golf items will be used as door prizes. "It's a great way to market your business!" Curtis exclaimed.

Call Curtis at 303-344-1500 or visit the Chamber website at www.aurorachamber.org and click on the Leadership Aurora logo for more information. You may also email kimberly.curtis@aurorachamber.org.



Just in time for Easter! — Jeff Fehrenbach is joined by family, friends and Chamber Ambassadors as he prepares to open his **Honeybaked Ham** store at 3571 S. Tower Rd. (Hampden & Tower). The popular purvey of prepared pork (and many other great products) is up and ready for the Easter rush. Fehrenbach can be reached at 303- 400-5990. (Photo courtesy Brian Molitoris, Photographer)



Event Sponsor



Major Sponsors



Golf mag offer

Colorado AvidGolfer is offering Aurora Chamber members a special Golf Passport allowing you to play 50 different Colorado courses at greatly reduced rates. Cost of the passport is \$79.95 with \$10 of the purchase price going to Leadership Aurora. Details on this special offer are at www.coloradoavidgolfer.com/promocode.asp. Be sure to enter the code ALGP010. The offer expires May 1, 2007.