

Serving the east-metro
area including:
Aurora
Centennial
Central Park
Denver
DTC

THE CHAMBER Impact

SEP/OCT 2022

Aurora Chamber honors 23 at Annual Women in Business Unsung Hero Luncheon

On Tuesday, August 9, 2022, 23 women were honored at the 22nd Women in Business (WIB) Unsung Hero Luncheon. The annual event recognizes dynamic women in the community – who do their job - and go above and beyond to make a positive difference in the community.

The keynote speaker was Colonel Carrie A. Worrell, the commander of the 140th Mission Support Group, Colorado Air National Guard at Buckley Space Force Base.

Following Col. Worrell's inspirational presentation about her own mother as an unsung hero, Women in Business Chair Kristi Kleinholz with Mesa Moving and Storage announced the nominees, finalists, and the 2022 Unsung Hero Award recipient, Sara Metz, PsyD, program director of the CSU Global Master of Science Degree in Military & Emergency Responder Psychology.

Dr. Metz has dedicated her career and personal time to serving the public safety community. She is a licensed psychologist in the state of Colorado, and for the past 12 years has specialized in public safety psychology, providing psychological support to first responders, military members, veterans, and their family members.

In 2017, she opened her own firm, Code-4 Counseling, providing counseling services, peer support, in-service wellness training, and critical incident response to responder agencies in Colorado. In 2019, she partnered with CSU Global to develop a fully specialized, first-of-its-kind program for those wishing to serve military and responder communities.

Dr. Metz impacts our community in multiple capacities: as a mental health professional, as an educator, as a mentor,



Back row, left to right: Kristi Kleinholz, Sara Metz, PsyD, Col. Carrie Worrell, Kevin Hougen. Front row, left to right: Rep Naquetta Ricks, Cindy Meyer, Juanita Clayton, Michelle Dossey. (Photo by PhotoSmith Colorado, Mark K. Smith, Photographer)

Finalists:

Juanita Clayton, Cherry Creek Retirement Village

Michelle Dossey, Arapahoe County

Sara Metz, PsyD, CSU Global Military & Emergency Responder Psychology Program

Cindy Meyer, HealthONE Behavioral Health Services

Rep Naquetta Ricks, State Representative for House District 40

and as a non-profit leader. Her passion and dedication to serving the needs of the military, veterans, first responders, and their family

members shines through in all her efforts, embodying the qualities of a hero in our community.

[continued on page 3]

To see upcoming Chamber meetings
as well as Chamber member events –
[go to the calendar!](#)

INSIDE

CHAMBER COMMITTEES 4 | MEMBER NEWS 7 | RIBBON CUTTINGS 7

President's Letter

Farewell to a Friend and Champion of Aurora



Kevin Hougen
President & CEO

Aurora's Champion for a stronger community passed away on August 26. Mayor Paul Tauer and I first met at an Aurora Chamber Awards Banquet 38 year ago. Along with his wife Kate and their children, they were the voice of Original Aurora.

Paul championed many of the state's largest projects for Aurora, including the closure of Lowry Air Force Base and its redevelopment, the decommissioning of Fitzsimons Army Post and its redevelopment into the Anschutz Medical Campus, and the move of Stapleton Airport to the outskirts of Aurora as Denver International Airport. In 2000, Paul helped lead Buckley Air National Guard Base into one of the fastest growing new Air Force Bases in the world, now called Buckley Space Force Base. Paul Tauer was an amazing and effective catalyst

for business growth, and no one loved and championed Aurora more than Paul and Kate Tauer. He will be missed by many, rest in peace my friend.

Welcoming New Friends from Senegal

On August 26, we had the honor of hosting new friends from the West African country of Senegal. Establishing

a new "Sister City" in Africa is exciting. If demographics are destiny, then Africa is on the cusp of being the center of global affairs within a generation. The continent is becoming an increasingly important trade and investment partner as its young population is set to nearly double by 2050 to 2.5 billion. Our speaker at the Armed Forces Recognition Luncheon in May 2022, CEO

[continued on page 3]



Welcoming new friends from Senegal.

ChamberBoard

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

CHAIR OF THE BOARD
Brian Sowl | *Nelnet*

CHAIR-ELECT
Kristi Kleinholz | *Mesa Moving and Storage*

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR
Chad Nielsen | *Wagner Equipment*

PAST CHAIR ONCE REMOVED
Rebecca Kelley | *Plante Moran*

TREASURER
Kelly Phillips-Henry | *Aurora Mental Health Center*

SECRETARY
Joel Boyd | *Town Center at Aurora*

VICE CHAIR-BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT
Joel Boyd | *Town Center at Aurora*

VICE CHAIR-COMMUNITY SERVICES
Beth Braaten | *Colorado Technical University*

VICE CHAIR-MEMBER SERVICES
Tyrone Adams | *Colorado Association of Realtors*

DIRECTORS

Alan Antolok | *Adolfson and Peterson Construction*
David Barber | *RE/MAX Leaders*
Dr. Mordecai Brownlee | *Community College of Aurora*
Katie Denman | *Children's Hospital Colorado*
Chris Fasching | *Felsburg Holt & Ullevig*
Liz Gardner | *Xcel Energy*
Stephanie Glover | *Colorado Access*
John Gustafson | *Kaiser Permanente*
James Hayes | *Oakwood Homes, LLC*
Beth Klein | *FirstBank*
Rich Kolberg | *The Boeing Company*
Timothy Kunkleman | *Lumen*
Karen Lovett | *UHealth*
Greg McDonald | *Heritage Christian Center*
Michael Sheldon | *The Aurora Highlands*
Yvonne Valdez | *Citywide Banks*
Hallie Woods | *The Medical Center of Aurora*

HONORARY DIRECTORS

Mike Coffman | *Mayor, City of Aurora*
Lt. Col. Thomas A. Banker | *Colorado National Guard*
Bruce Dalton | *Visit Aurora*
Bill Holen | *Arapahoe County Commissioner*
Steve O'Dorisio | *Adams County Commissioner*
Col. Jamie Pieper | *Inspector General*
Donald Sheehan | *City Councilman, City of Centennial*

STAFF

Kevin Hougen | *President & CEO*
Rene J. Simard | *Executive Vice President*
Katie Anthony | *Workforce Development Professional*
Naomi Colwell | *Finance Director*
Beau Martinez | *Membership Development*
Lynn Myers | *Director, Community Relations*
Alicia Rose | *Director of Business Development*
Mitzi Schindler | *Senior Director of Communications*

ASSOCIATES

Colorado Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTAC)
Six & Six, inc. | *Incredible Newsletter Design*
Great Western Printing, Inc. | *Newsletter Printer*

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 CHAMBER'S MISSION



The mission of the Aurora Chamber of Commerce is to give a voice to the business community and serve as an advocate for its members, creating a positive business environment that encourages their growth and long-term economic vitality

[LETTER continued from page 2]

of DEN Phillip Washington, spoke of "Visions 100" for the Airport – 100 million passengers, with major opportunities for direct flights from DEN into Africa.

Looking into the future, and building on our continued success, The Chamber is focused on driving growth and increasing our impact. In 2021-2022 we have been immersing from the pandemic with more and more activities for our members to network, and to convene leaders and influencers who make things happen! Our organization is in its strongest financial position in more than two decades, and we are making investment for the future that will add new value for you, our members.

Welcoming Rick Crandall to the Chamber Team

The Chamber is excited to have a new program with Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Starting in September, Rick Crandall will be working with our partners at the Community College of Aurora on a workforce innovation grant that is designed to support our Aerospace partners in their talent development. Welcome Rick to the Chamber team – as we grow business and build communities. ■

[WIB continued from page 1]



Back row, left to right: Nycci Jones, Reneé Leon, Kendra Thibault, Teresa Plaughter, Lt Col Nitasha Garcia, Suzy Jaeger, Kendall Koca. Front row, left to right: Magdalena Altman, Heather Dearman, Carolyn Terrell, Becky Hogan, Chartashia Miller, Della Curry, Alyssa Collado, Gloria Higgins. (Not pictured: Susan Duncan, Jenna Nord, and Dianne Myles) (Photo by PhotoSmith Colorado, Mark K. Smith, Photographer)

Nominees:

Alyssa Collado, STRIDE Community Health Center
Becky Hogan, 7/20 Memorial
Carolyn Terrell, Colorado Procurement Technical Assistance Center
Chartashia Miller, TT Coaching With Results, LLC
Della Curry, 7/20 Memorial
Dianne Myles, Dope Mom Life
Gloria Higgins, Springboard Child Care Inc.
Heather Dearman, 7/20 Memorial

Jenna Nord, Colorado Technical University
Kendall Koca, City of Aurora Special Projects
Kendra Thibault, Edward Jones
Magdalena Altman, Professional Employment Group of Colorado
Lieutenant Colonel Natasha Garcia, 460th Medical Group/Buckley Space Force Base
Nycci Jones, Nelnet
Renee Leon, 7/20 Memorial
Susan Duncan, RE/MAX Masters Millennium
Suzy Jaeger, Children's Hospital Colorado
Teresa Plaughter, Luna's Accounting and Tax

Thank you to Corporate Sponsors:

Children's Hospital Colorado, CSU Global, and Visit Aurora; **Award Sponsors:** STRIDE Community Health Center; and **Gift Bag Sponsors:** Community College of Aurora and Southlands.

Thanks also goes to the WIB Executive

Committee: Kristi Kleinholz, Mesa Moving & Storage; Katie Anthony, Aurora Chamber of Commerce; Jan Gordon, Special Olympics Colorado; Beth Klein, FirstBank; and Antoinette Dow, Aurora Mental Health Center.

National Association of Counties Annual Conference

A child's brain develops faster from birth to age three than any period later in life. The foundation provided for them in the early years shapes their future as well as the future of our cities and our counties.

With that in mind, the National Association of Counties (NACo) requested recommendations of knowledgeable business leaders and Council for a Strong America nominated Kevin Hougen to participate on July 20, 2022, in a fireside chat with Adams County Commissioner Emma Pinter.

They talked about how county investments in prenatal-to-three can improve short and long-term outcomes for young children and their families and, in turn, can create stronger, healthier cities and counties. The conversation went on to investigate the connections between economic development and early childhood, and the need to consider young children and families in community planning and development. Both Hougen and Commissioner Pinter emphasized

that for Colorado to recover financially from the pandemic and continue to grow economically, we need to ensure that parents in the workforce have access to high-quality, affordable childcare. They warned that if we don't make this a priority, we will continue to see employers and employees struggle.

They gave examples within the community of how well a city and county can work together which included:

- Community Hospital in Grand Junction, CO started a foundation to support 100 childcare slots for hospital employees. Grand Junction has a need for more than 4,000, but this is a start.
- Springboard Child Care, Inc. is addressing the shortage in quality and accessible childcare for working families and student parents. Springboard grew out of research and collective input from the Children Care Economics Action Team of the Strengthening Working Families Initiative led by the Community College of Aurora,



Adams County Commissioner Emma Pinter and Aurora Chamber President and CEO Kevin Hougen

and it is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and Gary Community Investments and supported by The Aurora Chamber. Springboard Child Care will open their first facility in Aurora fall 2022. ■

ChamberCommittees

An Inside Look

ARTS + BUSINESS CONNECTION



DAM! Art and Creativity are Crucial to Health and Wellness

Tuesday, August 2, 2022

By Renee Leon, ABC Chair and Co-owner of Aurora AutoPros LLC

The August 2 ABC meeting at the Denver Art Museum (DAM) made it clear that arts and creativity are just as important to health and wellness as water and touch. DAM Chief Learning and Engagement Officer Heather Nielsen and Senior Manager of Lifelong Learning and Accessibility Danielle Schulz shared the many ways the museum explores the connections between art/creativity and health, as they develop programs and work with the community.

Nielsen said that many of the programs are designed with well-being outcomes in mind, to include: Positive Emotions – feeling joyful, relaxed, and able to be one's authentic self; Personal Growth – learning or trying something new, and exploring creativity; Connectedness – connecting to personal experiences, feeling close to others; and Pride & Self-Worth – feeling something is worthwhile, having confidence connecting with art.

New programs related to wellbeing at the DAM include the Art at Hand boxes (developed to engage the community during the pandemic shutdown), a Sensory Garden, the Create Café, and the Community Showcase. Details for each of these programs can be found at <https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/programs>.



Heather Nielsen talks about the impact of the arts on health and wellness.

TRANSPORTATION

Getting Ready for One Million Electric Vehicles

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

By Tim Harris, Transportation Committee Chair

Looking to the future, the August 2022 Transportation meeting focused on electric vehicles and their impacts on transportation infrastructure. Colorado Energy Office (CEO) Senior Program Manager Matt Mines presented about his agency's efforts to provide funding for new charging station, to keep up with the increasing number of electric vehicles (EVs) in Colorado.



Matt Mines

Transportation is now the highest source of greenhouse gas emissions, which has spurred an increase in EVs in Colorado - currently 50,000, with a projection of one million in 2030. Mines clarified that the CEO doesn't own or maintain the charging stations but facilitates construction of stations with grants and incentives. The grants are available for community-based stations, stations at commercial developments, and stations along major corridors. Grantees typically provide a portion of the funds required for construction. The CEO also provides coordination services with utility companies to achieve goals developed in recent studies and plans.

Andrew Vidor of Walker Consultants presented about the changes the increased number of EVs is having on municipal building codes and the design of parking lots or structures. He clarified that infrastructure installations range from capable, to ready, to installed - signifying the differences between merely wiring and providing outlets to including the charging stations. Each stage of development impacts power and space requirements in a parking lot. Vidor stressed the need for thoughtful planning, as retrofitting can be four times the cost of initial installation.



Andrew Vidor

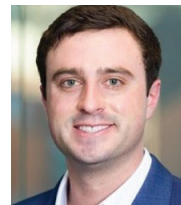
Most cities are in the process of establishing building code requirements for residential and commercial developments with the number of charging stations being tied to the total number of parking spaces. Vidor cautioned that it's a rapidly evolving issue, so designers need to check requirements on a specific project.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, EDUCATION, AND ENERGY (PUBLIC ISSUES)

Updates from Denver Metro Chamber, Colorado Competitive Council, and Aurora City Council

Thursday, August 8, 2022

For the August 2022 Government Affairs meeting on August 8, The Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce's Vice President of Government Affairs Adam Burg, and Executive Director of Colorado Competitive Council (C3) Rachel Beck, gave an overview of the upcoming election and ballot questions. They summarized the Dedicated State Income Tax Revenue for Affordable Housing Programs, talked about Waste No More Denver, and additional bills slated for the 2023 Legislative session.



Adam Burg



Rachel Beck

Aurora City Council Member At-Large Dustin Zvonek then gave an update about transportation and infrastructure for local government, and maintenance and paving which will need to be done for neighborhoods' sustainability. He also talked about economic development and job creation in the city, emphasizing the struggle for new small businesses to get through the red tape. He also spoke about public health and making Aurora a safe place, and how we need to work on making those services and response teams data driven and effective.



Dustin Zvonek

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COUNCIL

FirstBank Includes All: DE&I For Employees, Customers, and Community

Friday, July 8, 2022

When Sean Choi started with FirstBank in 2011, only 8.5 percent of its officers were diverse individuals. As a Senior Vice President with FirstBank, Choi recognized the need and opportunity to expand the diversity of

[continued on page 5]

the bank's employees & customers, and became director of its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee, "Stride."

Choi's presentation focused on the three key internal strategic initiatives of the company to recruit diverse employees and to develop a more diverse customer base. Through its Multicultural Banking Efforts, FirstBank offers Providing Access to Homeownership (PATH), a down payment assistance program for Black/African American families buying a home in Colorado.

Internally, FirstBank focuses its hiring efforts on diverse individuals and promotes those individuals from within the company. Today, this strategy has benefited the company and they are proud to report 26.3 percent of officers are diverse individuals.



Sean Choi



Pinnacol Assurance: Multipronged DEI Approach

Friday, August 12, 2022



Lisa Mason

PINNACOL
WORKERS' COMP INSURANCE

Associate Vice President of Human Services with Pinnacol Assurance Lisa Mason presented about the DEI journey at Pinnacol. The vision that has been created is "We love who

you are. You make us who we are."

Pinnacol is committed to improving racial diversity in leadership and across the organization, and to creating an inclusive culture and systems of equity.

Pinnacol engaged outside expertise to listen, learn, and gather data on what they are doing well and what they can improve on. Creating accountability, engaging stakeholders, and operational DEI were realized as strengths. The complexity of bringing people along the journey and realizing everyone isn't starting from the same place is an area they will continue working to improve. Mason concluded with a heartfelt "I am" video of employees stating who they are.

Director of DEI Jamie Villareal-Bassett shared the third phase of Pinnacol's DEI journey – mobilizing. DEI is a verb not a noun, and the five key actions being taken are to: understand, improve/create organizational systems; identify clear outcomes; develop a structure and embed to deliver results; cultivate executive leadership commitment; and engage in feedback loops.



Jamie Villareal-Bassett

What they have done well according to the experts include connecting executive leaders with the DEI Advisory Council, guiding the work through data and employee feedback, and using an applied iterative learning approach. What they continue to work on is to maintain focus on outcomes, bring everyone along the journey, and to combat zero-sum game.

WOMEN IN BUSINESS

Reaching for the Peak with Strategic Planning

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Strategic planning was the subject of the June 2022 Women in Business meeting. Chair and Professor of the Department of Management at Metropolitan State University of Denver Debbie Gilliard, PhD, talked about how clear mission and vision statements help organizations grasp a clear understanding of what drives them, which can then inform a strong strategic plan.

Gilliard also dove into how to maximize your potential and bring these practices to your business. These included scanning and analyzing the environment to help determine how things can affect your business, like social trend changes, demographic changes, etc. What your business strives for, and how to make Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-based (SMART) goals for your business.



Debbie Gilliard, PhD

WORK WELL 2.0 HEALTH SERIES

The Work Well 2.0 Health Series did not meet in June or July of 2022.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

Touring the Airfield at Denver International Airport

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

The Chamber's Young Professionals and Chamber members had the unique experience

of a VIP tour of the DEN airfield by Manager of Regional Affairs Rachel Gruber.

After going through security, attendees gathered in the pressroom, where Gruber gave a briefing about Vision 100, DEN's strategic expansion plan to reach 100 million annual passengers within the next 8-10 years.

Major construction projects at DEN include the Great Hall Project, which adds 31,000 square feet to the Jeppesen Terminal and a new security checkpoint on the NW side of Level 6, and the Gate Expansion Program will build 39 new gates. Four new gates opened on the west side of Concourse B in November 2020, and Sixteen new gates opened on the East side of Concourse C in May 2022.

Attendees then gathered for a photo opportunity on an active runway – and were able to sit in the cockpit of a brand-new Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

DEFENSE COUNCIL

Defense Council Travels to Northrop Grumman

Thursday, June 23, 2022



Pablo Pezzimenti

Northrop Grumman VP and Aurora Site Manager Pablo Pezzimenti welcomed the nearly 100 attendees to the June 2022 Defense Council meeting held at Northrop Grumman.

Northrop Grumman is one of the leading aerospace and defense companies in Colorado with more than 2,200 employees across the state, supporting customers in the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Space Force, Missile Defense Agency, and the Intelligence

[continued on page 6]



Community. The Aurora site is extremely supportive of the local community through food drives at Aurora high schools and luncheons for military members.

Unit reports were also provided by Space Base Delta 2, Aerospace Data Facility Colorado, Space Delta 4, 140th Wing, Navy Reserve Center Denver, Combat Logistics Battalion 453, and the Colorado National Guard. Representatives from the offices of Senator Bennet, Senator Hickenlooper, Congressman Buck, and Congressman Crow were in attendance and provided congressional updates.

The Marriott Hotels, Gateway Park, provided breakfast for attendees. ■



Commander of Space Based Delta 2 and Installation Commander Colonel Marcus Jackson, addresses the Council at Northrop Grumman.

Member Contributions

Is your business ready for FAMLI?

Colorado's new voter-approved paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance (FAMLI) program will ensure workers have access to paid family and medical leave benefits to take care of themselves or their loved ones when life pulls them away from their work.

The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment (CDLE)'s new FAMLI Division has several resources available to help employers prepare.

FAMLI's monthly employer webinar series is a great way to get the information and answers you need.

Recordings of the webinars are published on [FAMLI.colorado.gov](https://www.famli.colorado.gov). FAMLI will also be hosting in-person regional town halls over the next several months all over the

State, covering topics to include how self-employed workers can participate in FAMLI and how FAMLI interacts with other types of leave. Check the website for the schedule.

Employers can also access a sample paystub, an HR fact sheet, a break room poster and several FAQs within the FAMLI Employer Toolkit.

To receive the latest updates about Colorado's FAMLI program, follow @ColoradoFAMLI on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn, and sign up for the FAMLI newsletter. ■

Colorado's new paid family leave program is coming!

[Learn More](#)



Employee Retention through Education

By Kelly Hughes, Colorado Technical University



Kelly Hughes



As an Aurora native, graduating from Gateway High School in the late 90s, I found myself with no college

degree, providing for two small children in my mid-20s. Finding an employer who was willing to invest in my future, my education, and for that matter – my family – was the catalyst to a successful and financially sustaining career. I am forever grateful for companies that place value on providing access to educational benefits and other benefits that can help families thrive.

Higher education has been my passion for the last 20 years and I now can give back. Colorado Technical University (CTU) is committed to working with national and local companies to provide a pathway to education through employer sponsored benefits. With campuses in Aurora and Colorado Springs, as well as online access, CTU strives to meet learners where they are.

CTU can positively impact employee retention and employees' educational goals through sponsored education benefits. Whether you have 1 or 100 employees you'd like to help develop, we can find the pathway.

Contact me at khughes2@coloradotech.edu or call 720-951-1794 if you'd like to connect. Wishing you great success! ■

CTU cannot guarantee employment, salary, or career advancement. Not all programs are available to residents of all states.

Understanding Energy Bill Increases

As prices for many everyday goods and services rise, natural gas commodity prices are also increasing, leading to higher electric and natural gas bills across the nation. Xcel Energy is committed to providing ways to help manage bills and save money.

With higher natural gas costs, here are several ways to save energy and money:

- Upgrade your thermostat: A programmable thermostat lets you set the temperature in your home to use less energy when you're away. A smart thermostat allows you to control the temperature from a

mobile device while you're out.

- Use your blinds or curtains to regulate the temperature in your home: Close them on hot days to keep the heat out, or if your home is cold, open blinds to take advantage of the sun's warmth.
- Use ceiling fans to your advantage: Ceiling fans use less energy than air conditioning and can help cool a room during warmer days. And during colder months, running ceiling fans clockwise forces the warm air near the ceiling down. ■



COMMITTED TO OUR CUSTOMERS

MemberNews

Fitzsimons Credit Union Awards Scholarships to Local Students

Fitzsimons Credit Union believes that education has the power to transform communities and is pleased to announce the

2022 recipients of the Sandra B. Neves Scholarship. Established by the board of directors and supported by the credit union, the scholarship is named in honor of former CEO, Sandra Neves, and represents her commitment to life-long learning and her belief that education is essential toward self-fulfillment.

"We are honored to announce the recipients of this scholarship and will continue with our commitment of supporting education of our future leaders," said Fitzsimons' current President & CEO Robert M. Fryberger Jr.

Scholarships are awarded based upon academic achievement, career aspirations, community service, extracurricular participation, and financial need. The recipients received varying amounts, totaling

\$5,100 in awarded scholarships. The awardees are: Ciara Andrew, University of Alabama – business administration; Francesco Contreras, Arizona State University – political science and studio art;

Jenise Ramos, Colorado State University - animal science and military science; Maame Fordwuo, Grand Canyon University - forensic science; and Matthew Griewahn, University of North Dakota – commercial aviation.



Dick Hinson Receives Bob Cardenas Award

Aurora Chamber President and CEO Kevin Hougen, and Defense Council Chair Tom Grayson, presented Dick Hinson with the Bob Cardenas Award at the Defense Council meeting in June. The award is presented each year to a civilian who has worked to make the lives of military personnel and their families better while they serve. Hinson has served on the Defense Council's Executive Committee for the last decade, providing expert advice on business and industry relations that are critical to the many missions on and around Buckley Space Force Base. He has also served on the Armed



L to R: Kevin Hougen, Dick Hinson, and Tom Grayson

Forces Recognition Luncheon committee for many years and can be seen at virtually every event that honors and supports our military members, veterans, and their families. ■

RibbonCuttings & OpenHouses

Ribbon cuttings mean business: 980 Jobs

Alliance Mortgage Group

6860 S. Yosemite Ct. Suite 2000,
Centennial, CO 80112

President and CEO Jeffrey Beattie, cuts the ribbon marking the opening of a new office location for Jeffrey Beattie-Alliance Mortgage Group Inc.

Alliance offers a wide range of mortgages to suit every financial situation. They strive to make buying or refinancing a home a smooth and efficient process by offering competitive interest rates and flexible products. They work with Veterans and Active-Duty Military and first-time home buyers, and provide services in refinancing, FHA loans, and self-employed homebuyer mortgages.

(7/6/2022)

<https://www.amglending.com/>

(720) 408-0104



[continued on page 8]

Luna's Accounting and Tax / ClearPath Advisors

5350 S. Roslyn St., Suite 160,
Greenwood Village, CO 80111

Teresa and Bill Plaughter, partners of Luna's Accounting & Tax, and Colin Grubb, CPA with ClearPath Advisors, cut the ribbon to celebrate their new office location. Luna's is a CPA and advisory firm, providing innovative and solution-based services to clients - with a commitment to create a clear path ensuring successful growth and peace of mind for clients. The event was Casino-Night themed, and each guest was given \$500 play money for gambling at Craps, Blackjack, and Roulette tables, hosted by professional dealers. The event concluded with raffle drawings and giveaway prizes (6/30/2022) <http://www.lunastax.com> (720) 531-2141



Pomodoro Pizza Pasta LLC

576 Dayton St. Aurora, CO 80010

Owners Gloria Enriquez, Jose Enriquez, and Jesus Alberto Blanco, cut the ribbon to mark the grand opening of Pomodoro Pizza Pasta LLC, which offers pizza, pasta, calzones, garlic knots, mussels, shrimp, calamari, heros, salads, antipasto salad, chicken parmigiana, and more! They are known for their homemade Italian cheesecake. (7/19/2022) <https://pomodoropizzapastallc.com> (303) 360-5200



US Army Recruiting Station

14157 E Exposition Ave,
Aurora, CO 80012

Sergeant First Class Mario Vazquez and Staff Sergeant Jose De Santiago cut the ribbon to mark the remodel

of the U.S. Army Recruiting Station, which recruits for U.S. Army active duty and reserves. U.S. Army Veterans Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman and Arapahoe County Commissioner Bill Holen attended the event. The U.S. Army Recruiting Command's objective is to bring quality young men and women into the Army, as it goes about the mission of providing the strength for America's Army. The Navy, Air Force, and Marines also have offices on the site, and joined the celebration. (8/24/2022) www.goarmy.com (303) 999-4563





U.S. Renal Care Altitude Dialysis

12100 E. Iliff Ave., Suite 102, Aurora, CO 80014

Leo Fritz, U.S. Renal Care's first patient, cuts the ribbon to mark the grand opening of U.S. Renal Care Altitude Dialysis in Aurora, CO.

U.S. Renal Care provides dialysis for people living with chronic and acute renal disease. The facility provides private education rooms to train patients how to administer treatment from home. Also, a communal treatment room accommodates patients with their own chair, high-tech equipment, and a personal TV. (5/19/2022) <http://www.usrenalcare.com> (720) 262-7281

U.S. RENAL CARE®
Powered by Physicians. Inspired by our Patients™



A1 Boxing Fitness

14200 E. Alameda Ave.
Aurora, CO 80012

A1 Boxing Fitness Owner Glenn Goodson cuts the ribbon, marking the grand opening of a new home for A1, located inside Fieldhouse USA at The Town Center at Aurora. A1 Boxing Fitness offers classes in boxing and fitness, as well as kick boxing, Kings Muay Thai, and kids' classes. Their physical development program assists youth in learning discipline, respect, confidence, self-esteem, goal setting, patience, restraint, persistence, humility, honor, and dedication to fitness.

(6/22/2022) www.a1boxingfitness.com (720) 600-4984.



LANDMARK RECOVERY
Live Beyond

Landmark Recovery of Denver 2000 S. Blackhawk St. Aurora, CO 80012

Executive Director Marc Holcomb cuts the ribbon, marking the grand opening of Landmark Recovery of Denver – where those suffering from drug or alcohol addiction can find the strength and skills to reclaim their lives. The facility offers a variety of evidence-based substance abuse, drug, and alcohol treatment programs. Levels of care include medical detox, residential, partial hospitalization, and intensive outpatient. As a recovered patient, Holcomb remarked that hope does exist, recovery is possible, and that Landmark's goal is to save one million lives through their programs. (7/18/2022) <http://www.landmarkrecovery.com> (303) 268-3118

office[®]evolution

Office Evolution - Southlands

6105 S. Main Street, 2nd Floor
Aurora, CO 80016

Office Evolutions - Southlands Owner Ryan Coburn, and Manager Amy Geels, cut the ribbon to mark the grand opening after an interior remodel. The ribbon cutting was followed by a celebratory Chamber Business After Hours at which nearly 100 Chamber members enjoyed the outdoor patio and live music provided by the Sounds of Southlands. Office Evolution offers upscale remote work accommodations in the SE Aurora market. (6/23/2022)
<https://www.officeevolution.com/locations/aurora> (303) 376-6323



MemberRenewals

Aurora Rotary Club
Bates & Associates, Inc.
Boeing Company, The
Colorado State University Global (CSU Global)
DK Promotions Colorado
Fairfield Inn & Suites - Aurora/Parker
Hyatt House Denver Airport
Johnson's Automotive Repair
L&L Hawaiian Barbecue
Magic Realty Inc.
Padgett Business Services
Westerra Credit Union - 3700 E. Alameda

NewMembers

Colorado Veterans Aid
Complete Canine Training
Dominos
Edward Jones - Jake Sinderman
Encore Electric
Family Care Center-Quebec
Fine Tuned Auto Aurora
Fitzmartin Consulting
Force 5 Roofing, Inc.
Fuji Japanese Steakhouse and Sushi
Integrated Pest Management
JP Morgan/Chase Market Leadership Team
Judi's House/JAG Institute

Landmark Recovery
Mile High Mortgage Tailor
Mud and Lotus Consulting
My Electric Home LLC
NextCare Urgent Care
Night Lights Respite Care
Novella Real Estate - Janet Marlow
Paul Davis Restoration of NE Denver and Aurora
Peak at Painted Ridge
The Learning Experience
Valley Hope Addiction Treatment and Recovery
Wake and Take Coffee

Advertisers: Chamber members can use the IMPACT to advertise products and services to other members. Advertising space only available to members. The IMPACT also accepts preprinted inserts. Contact The Chamber for details.

14305 E. Alameda Ave Ste. #300
Aurora, CO 80012
303-344-1500 • Fax 303-344-1564
website: www.aurorachamber.org