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# THE CHAMBER **Impact**

MAY/JUN 2023

## **Rolling Out the Red Carpet for the 67th Annual Awards Banquet**

It was a red-carpet evening for the 67th Annual Chamber Awards Banquet on Friday, April 7, 2023, at the Hyatt Regency Aurora-Denver Conference Center.

More than 550 members and guests of the Aurora Chamber in their best evening attire, walked down the red carpeted entrance for a photo, before wandering through the silent auction - and then into the ballroom for the main event of honoring

10 individuals and businesses for their substantial contribution during 2022 to the Aurora Chamber and/or the community.

Aurora Chamber President Kevin Hougen welcomed the guests and introduced master of ceremonies Rick Crandall, Colorado Freedom Memorial founder and executive director, who masterfully guided attendees through the evening.

*[continued on page 6]*



*Left to right, the distinguished award winners: Colonel Marcus Jackson, representing the Program of the Year - Space Base Delta 2; Kelly Phillips-Henry, PsyD, MBA, Aurora Mental Health & Recovery - Woman of the Year; Congressman Jason Crow - Man of the Year; Henry Rusch, co-owner of Launch Pad Brewery - Small Business of the Year; Alan Antolak, Adolfson & Peterson Construction - Chamber Leadership; Karen Lovett, UCHealth - Businessperson of the Year; Mordecai Brownlee, EdD - Community Leadership; Daniel Mondragon with Hands of the Carpenter - Humanitarian of the Year; Ana Valles with Fitzsimons Credit Union - Arts + Business Connection Award; Kristine Minty, Paul Davis Restoration - Ambassador of the Year; and Chamber Chair of the Board Brian Sowl with Nelnet.*

To see upcoming Chamber meetings  
as well as Chamber member events –  
**go to the calendar!**

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# President's Letter

## Dear Aurora Chamber of Commerce Members...

I don't know how to begin, so let me just say it. I am writing to let you know that I have decided to transition from the Aurora Chamber. It's been an honor to work on your behalf these past 28 years and I'll be forever grateful for the opportunity and your support.

I started at the Chamber March 11, 1995 with the desire to work for an organization that aligned with my personal belief that there is nothing more powerful at advancing opportunities for families than a really good job, and starting a small business. Together with so many of you, we have accomplished so much and positioned the Chamber for the important work ahead for the our communities we serve.



**Kevin Hougen**  
President & CEO

The last 28 years have been the highlight of my career. The region is vibrant and livable, I'm so proud of our business community for its support and leadership in helping make this an area we are all so proud to live in and raise our families.

With the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, I've become an unapologetic champion

for business and for taking on big regional issues. It's impossible to list all that we have accomplished together these past twenty-eight years. I have learned so much from each of you, what makes our companies work, what causes us concern, how much you care about your fellow employees, what you

hope for your kids and how much we all love this region, this state, and our communities.

There is never a good time to leave an organization, particularly like the one we worked so hard to build up into the powerhouse that it is today! Whomever steps in my shoes will inherit a blueprint for success, outstanding staff and public-private sector partners who are influential visionaries, innovators, and change leaders that will continue to champion our communities as a great inclusive place to live, work, play and learn. And of course, no matter where life may lead me, you can always count on me to be a champion for this growing region as a resident and community leader.

Onward – with gratitude,  
Kevin Hougen

## 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 & Recovery*

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

April Abrahamson | *Colorado Access*  
Alan Antolok | *Adolfson & 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*  
John Gustafson | *Kaiser Permanente*  
James Hayes | *Oakwood Homes, LLC*  
Beth Klein | *FirstBank*  
Rich Kolberg | *The Boeing Company*  
Timothy Kunkleman | *Lumen*  
Liz Munn | *Jacobs*  
Karen Lovett | *UCHealth*  
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*  
Lt. Col. Jamie Pieper | *140th Wing (Colorado Air National Guard)*  
Donald Sheehan | *City Councilman, City of Centennial*

### STAFF

Kevin Hougen | *President & CEO*  
Rene J. Simard | *Executive Vice President*  
Naomi Colwell | *Finance Director*  
Di Evans | *Receptionist*  
Lynn Myers | *Director, Community Relations*  
Steve Phillips | *Director of Membership Development*  
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](http://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



# ChamberCommittees

## An Inside Look

### ARTS + BUSINESS CONNECTION

#### Experiencing the Art of Beer

**Tuesday, March 7, 2023**

By Mark Smith, ABC Chair, and owner of PhotoSmith Colorado



Launch Pad's Head of Distribution Casey Bloyer talks about the Art of Beer.

The March 2023 ABC meeting was a field trip to Launch Pad Brewery (LPB), where Head of Distribution Casey Bloyer talked about how LPB uses the arts as part of their brewing process, as well as for packaging, marketing, and décor.

Bloyer talked about how the actual brewing process uses the small "a" in art, as the brew master will take a basic recipe for any desired type of beer and then, using creativity, will produce the final product. LPB does this process in-house for their own brews and collaboratively with several local groups for fundraisers. They offer broad suggestions to the group on what might be a good selling beer and then let the group come up with some specific ingredients, such as honey and/or fruit. The brew master then tweaks the final result. LPB often donates a part of the proceeds to local causes, such as Leadership Aurora.

Bloyer also highlighted that local artists are hired to create artwork for the beer cans, sign boards, marketing photography, and he uses art and creativity in his regular social media posts. After his presentation, he led tours through the brewery to further explain the Arts + Business connection at LPB. Bloyer, a native of Aurora, told of the connections he has made over the years with fellow Aurora residents because of the Brewery and The Chamber.

### The Powerful Economic Activity of the Arts

**Tuesday, April 4, 2023**

By Mark Smith, ABC Chair and owner of PhotoSmith Colorado

The Arts + Business Connection committee and the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts (CBCA) share the philosophy that the arts are a vital part of our economy. Given that, it was affirming to have Meredith Badler, deputy director of the CBCA, share their latest Economic Activity Study of Metro Denver

Culture, which quantifies the financial and social importance of arts and culture in the metro area.

There are many reasons to support the arts, according to Badler, including that they provide quality of life, educational opportunities, a sense of place, social cohesion, inclusion and equity, history, and heritage, and can improve health and wellbeing! Additionally, the arts contribute to and improve the economy, not only from the direct spending on the art - be it visual or performing - but the arts also improve the economy from indirect spending.

The arts and creative sector in Colorado provided \$16.9 billion (2020) to the economy and 102,000 jobs, more than transportation, mining, or agriculture. In addition, audiences attending art events spend an average of \$31.47 per person in the local community in the form of lodging, food, gift shops, gas, and transportation. While many categories of the 2020 Economic Activity Study were greatly reduced because of COVID, an encouraging note was that "Giving to the Arts" was up from the prior year. You may find more specific information at <https://cbca.org/2021-economic-activity-study/>

Badler concluded by encouraging attendees to be advocates for the arts, by promoting that "art is smart for business; that the creative industries are essential to Colorado's economic prosperity; and that cultural vibrancy strengthens community vitality." If you would like to be an art advocate, consider signing up for Colorado Arts Action Network: <https://cbca.org/colorado-arts-action-network/>.



Meredith Badler



grants to local communities for the Revitalizing Main Street program and the development of mobility hubs along the I-25 corridor. CDOT anticipates a record high level of construction payments in 2023; is actively pursuing multiple federal grant opportunities (received \$100 million grant for I-70 Floyd Hill project); is developing Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) systems on multiple major roadways including Colfax Avenue; and recently increased funding for improving interstate pavements.

Kelly's Office of Innovative Mobility at CDOT is focused on expanding transportation options to reduce air pollution and congestion. Strategies to meet Colorado's 2050 Climate Goals include increased number of electric vehicles and charging stations plus reducing vehicle miles traveled through behavior change and transit or land use strategies.

Herman also presented a summary of the efforts and challenges of CDOT maintenance forces, who plowed snow on more than 6 million lane miles in 2022!

### Active and Emerging Mobility, Bike to Work Day, and Bus Rapid Transit

**Wednesday, April 5, 2023**

It was a full agenda on April 5 when Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Active and Emerging Mobility Program Manager Emily Lindsey, AICP; Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Deputy Director of Traffic and Safety Angie Drumm; and CDOT Transportation Planner and Program Manager Ryan Noles gave updates about the myriad of mobility and transit plans in the works for the Metro Area.

Lindsey explained that DRCOG is involved in a variety of transportation planning activities, to include long range transportation planning, active and emerging mobility, mobility analytics and transportation operations, and project programming and delivery. The organization also evaluates existing transportation demand management, is expanding their Transportation Demand Management (TDM) strategies and practices, is engaging stakeholders and partner agencies, and is developing a regional TDM toolkit. Lindsey also talked about bus rapid transit in and around Aurora. DRCOG is a planning organization where local governments collaborate to establish guidelines, set policy, and allocate funding in the areas of transportation and personal mobility, growth and development, and aging



### TRANSPORTATION

#### Colorado Department of Transportation's Major Initiatives and Programs

**Wednesday, March 1, 2023**

By Tim Harris, Horrocks Engineers, and Transportation Chair

Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) Deputy Director Herman Stockinger and CDOT Chief of Innovative Mobility Kay Kelly presented on the organization's policies, major initiatives, and programs at the March 1 Transportation meeting.

CDOT's 10-Year Plan funded by the legislature is entering its fifth year with more than 50 percent of the identified projects completed or in progress. CDOT is supporting multimodal transportation options along with economic vitality, with over \$35 million in

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and disability resources.

Drumm and Noles also talked about BRT, and the 10-year plan project for regional arterial BRT and transit improvements. Identified State Highway corridors include Federal Blvd., Colorado Blvd., East Colfax Ave., and CO 119 Diagonal Highway. They noted that BRT's economic benefits include supporting development and redevelopment.

And for those who like to bike, the annual DRCOG WayToGo Bike to Work Day – Joyride! – is Wednesday, June 28, 2023. Register at BikeToWorkDay.co.



## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS, EDUCATION, AND ENERGY (PUBLIC ISSUES)

### Legislative Review

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Angie Binder with Colorado Advocates led the March 2023 Public Issues meeting, which was a review of the Legislative Bills that The Chamber and its members had been following.



Angie Binder

Committee members voted to support, monitor, or oppose the following bills: HB 1215 – Prohibition on Facility Fees for Hospitals (oppose); HB 1190 – Affordable Housing Right of First Refusal (monitor); HB 1189 – Employer Assistance for Home Purchase Tax Credit (support); HB 1090 – Limit Metro District Director Conflicts (support); HB 1115 – Repeal Prohibition on Rent Control (opposed); HB 1118 – Fair Work Week (opposed); HB 1130 – Drug Coverage for Serious Mental Illness (monitor); SB 016 – GHG Emissions (monitor); and SB 105 – Ensure Equal Pay for Equal Work (monitor).

### Colorado Chamber's Ed Sealover

Thursday April 6, 2023



Ed Sealover

Ed Sealover, vice president of Strategic Initiatives with the Colorado Chamber of Commerce, presented to Public Issues on April 6. Sealover joined the State Chamber in February, after a distinguished 28-year career in journalism including

the past 14 years with The Denver Business Journal.

Sealover will lead the content development and dissemination of the Colorado Chamber's new digital publication, The Sum & Substance. The website will focus on legislative, political, and regulatory issues impacting the Colorado business community, to offer readers an inside look at what matters to business.

Discussion of legislative topics consumed much of the meeting. Sealover said the legislature is focusing on "five buckets" which include: housing; workforce-development; regulatory; healthcare; and environmental & utility.

Sealover shared that his goal in his new role with the Colorado Chamber is "to educate businesses more directly about policy and regulations, and to have an impact that can lead to the creation of more jobs and a better economic ecosystem.

### Mid-Term Legislators' Breakfast



CEO Scott Rausch welcomes attendees to the mid-term Legislators' Breakfast on Monday, April 10, 2023, at The Medical Center of Aurora.

## DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION COUNCIL

### On Havana Street Gathering

Friday, April 14, 2023

On April 14, 2023, On Havana Street hosted a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) meeting



DEI council members in front of the public art mural by Kirleigh Jones on the outside of the TOUS les JOURS Colorado.



DEI members at TOUS les JOURS bakery, left to right: Aurora City Council Member Alison Coombs; Nushat Jahan, Impact Commercial Real Estate; Chamber Ambassador Oma Mohamed; Havana BID Executive Director Chance Horiuchi; Tumura Elamo, Aurora Civic Conversations Project; Ida Dickson-Kingston, AfriCoast Patterns; Carolyn Terrell, Colorado PTAC; and Mary Hoa Nguyen, Milkroll Creamery Aurora.

at TOUS les JOURS, an Asian-inspired French bakery located at 2892 S Havana St, Aurora, CO 80014.

During the gathering, members were given the opportunity to speak about their business. DEI Chair Brian Arnold, spoke about his focus on wealth-building in our community through home ownership and achieving this goal through loan assistance with the Metro Funding Group. Daniel Mondragon with Hands of the Carpenter spoke about their services of providing auto assistance to single mothers who need a car for employment. Johnny Humphrey with The Center on Colfax spoke about an upcoming Pride Job Fair on May 9 at the McNichols Civic Center Building. Carolyn Terrell with Colorado PTAC spoke about providing consultation services to companies that are interested in expanding business into government contracts. Sam Taylor with the Colorado Department of the Treasury spoke about the CLIMBER loan fund, a tool for access to capital.

On Havana Street announced it will be presenting The Havana Street Global Market on June 3, July 1, and August 26 from 10am-2pm and June 17, July 15, and August 12 from 5pm-9pm. The Global Market event showcases and celebrates the rich cultural diversity of businesses within the City of Aurora and has vendors from different parts of the world. Attendees can explore diverse food, cultural performances, and a variety of products including crafts, art, and jewelry.

The gathering created a safe and inclusive space where people could share their experiences, ideas, and perspectives, and learn from one another. The gathering also provided opportunities for networking, community-building, and advocacy for social justice and equality.

## WOMEN IN BUSINESS

### Adapting the Stress Continuum

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

In February of 2023, the Women in Business Committee met at the CSU Global offices to hear from Sara Metz, PsyD. Metz, the Military and Emergency Responder Psychology program director at CSU Global, presented on how to adapt the stress continuum to create a shared language around stress and wellness, particularly in the context of workplace interactions.

One approach she offered was to encourage the use of the stress continuum model as a framework for understanding and discussing stress and wellness. This model identifies several stages of stress ranging from



Sara Metz, PsyD

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green (healthy and ready to perform) to red (overwhelmed and unable to perform) and can be a helpful way to assess one's own stress levels and communicate them to others.

Encouraging team members to use this shared language can help create a culture of openness and support around stress and wellness and can also provide a common understanding for discussing and addressing stress-related issues in the workplace.

It may also be helpful to provide resources and training around stress management and wellness, to empower individuals to take control of their own stress levels and build resilience over time. This could include things like mindfulness practices, time management strategies, and self-care techniques.

## Happy Hour at Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar

**Tuesday, March 28, 2023**



*Carmen Hanagriff*

On March 28, the Aurora Chamber's Women in Business (WIB) committee met at Lazy Dog Restaurant & Bar in Southlands. Elevations Credit Union graciously sponsored appetizers and cocktails.

The networking event included a diverse group of women from a variety of industries, backgrounds, and experience levels - and provided a fun and productive way to connect with other women in the business world, share experiences, and build professional relationships.

During the event, WIB Chair Kristi Kleinholz, announced that she would be stepping down as chair of WIB, and introduced Carmen Hanagriff, mortgage loan officer with Elevations Credit Union, as the incoming committee chair. Kleinholz also shared that she will be the Chair of the Chamber's Board of Directors, effective June 1, 2023.



*Networking at the March 28 WIB event at Lazy Dog Restaurant and Bar.*

## YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

### Everyone's in Sales!

**March 8, 2023**

On March 8, 2023, Kathleen Winsor-Games of Sandler Training presented "How to Sell Your Best Ideas Every Day: Even if You Aren't in Sales" to the Chamber's Young Professionals. Winsor-Games helps individuals and leaders maximize talent and improve performance as a sales and leadership trainer and coach.

The event was hosted by Dana O'Boye, director of sales for the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Denver-Aurora, and co-chair of Young Professionals. The YPs gathered in the DoubleTree amphitheater and networked for 30 minutes while enjoying coffee and fresh-baked cookies provided by the hotel.



*Left to right: Kathleen Winsor-Games, VP sales, Sandler Training, and Stacy Riley, head of Marketing & Business Development, Fusion Legal & Tax.*

Winsor-Games' presentation shared secrets the best salespeople practice to build trust and discover win-win solutions. The interactive session taught the YPs how to reframe their thinking from "convince mode" to "discovery mode," how to build trust and uncover the other person's priorities, and how to set a winning agenda for meetings that helps both parties uncover mutually beneficial solutions.

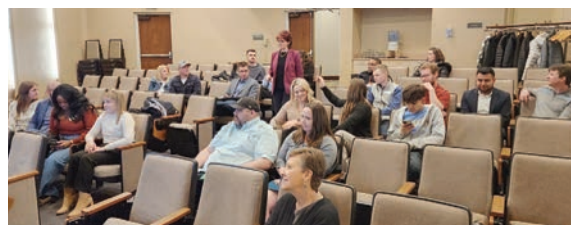
They practiced Up-Front Contracts by following the TTAPO method: Thank for inviting, discuss prospect's Time, prospect's Agenda, Salesperson's Purpose, and Outcome expectations.

## Amazon Facility Tour

**Wednesday, April 12, 2023**

On April 12, 2023, 50 Young Professionals toured the 1.3 million square foot Amazon Den8 Fulfillment Center located off Colfax Avenue.

Once inside, the YPs were welcomed into the front meeting room, which was loaded with snacks, drinks, and Amazon swag! After brief introductions by the tour team, the company gave an overview



*YPs at the Everyone's in Sales presentation March 8, 2023.*

of the Company's mission, vision, and culture. Amazon provides more than 19,000 jobs in Colorado. The company offers fulfillment, operation center, and transportation careers - as well as engineering, IT, and tech jobs for its e-commerce, Amazon Prime Video, Amazon web services, and technology products like Alexa, Echo, Fire TV, Fire Tablet, Kindle, and Ring Doorbell. The company provides good benefits for employees, including 100 percent college tuition after only 3 months of employment.

The YPs were provided with yellow safety vests for the tour and were gathered into groups of 5-6 people. The tour guides walked the guests down the incoming side, which has 110 docks for receiving the inventory. They watched how the products are received, placed on a conveyor belt, and scanned by a 360-degree automated scanner. Products are then stored in 40-foot-tall aisles until they are retrieved for purchase. All purchases are manually boxed and taped for shipping. The warehouse employees drive one-man vehicles to load and unload inventory. The vehicles drive down lanes, stop at stop signs, and honk horns to warn bystanders. Amazon takes safety very seriously! The tour concluded with a Q & A session in the front meeting room.



*A few Young Professionals outside the Amazon Den8 Facility, left to right: Karl Streufert, Thrivent; Kristen and Rick Elsinger, Aurora Collision Center; Briony Wilson, Cuban Bakery & Café; Kisha Bayly, Verizon Wireless; Kari Engen, Front Range Indoor Billboard Network; Kristine Minty, Paul Davis Restoration; and Luke Porter, Intron Systems.*

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## DEFENSE COUNCIL

### Defense Council at Space Delta 4

March 23, 2023

March's Defense Council was hosted by Space Delta 4 (DEL 4). The DoubleTree by Hilton, Denver Complex, sponsored and provided breakfast.

Colonel Miguel Cruz, DEL-4 Commander, welcomed the council and provided a captivating overview of the DEL 4 mission which is to provide strategic and theater missile warning to the United States and our International Partners. DEL 4 operates three constellations of satellites and two types of ground-based radar systems. They are one of eight mission-oriented Deltas within the United States Space Force. DEL 4 is headquartered at



DEL-4 Commander Colonel Miguel Cruz DEL-4 addresses Defense Council Members.

Buckley Space Force Base and has additional personnel and functions at ten locations worldwide.

The meeting also consisted of updates from major organizations on Buckley: the Colorado National Guard; the Aurora Armed Forces Treatment Court; and the Colorado Freedom Memorial Foundation. An optional tour inside one of the Radomes (golf balls) took place following the meeting.

### Special Event: Understanding and Overcoming Disinformation

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

The Chamber's Defense Council and the Colorado National Guard partnered with the Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense and Security, to provide an informative presentation on "Understanding and Overcoming Disinformation." The event was hosted at Colorado Technical University.

Shannon Brown, PhD, with the Center for Homeland Defense and Security, explored how

well-established media study concepts can be applied to the current social media environment - and the larger global media ecosystem. He explained the difference between misinformation - incorrect and misleading information; disinformation - the creation and distribution of intentionally false information for political ends; and fake news - hoax-based stories that perpetuate hearsay, rumors, or misinformation. He also discussed some core social media issues such as messaging and reputation management, manipulation and provocation, and crowdsourcing. Dr. Brown also examined various types of audiences that are targeted and how personal awareness can help us understand and overcome disinformation. ■



Left to Right: Hana Miller, CTU evening manager Denver South; Tom Grayson, Aurora Chamber Defense Council chair; Dr. Shannon Brown, Center for Homeland Defense and Security; Nathan Larson CTU campus operations manager; Rene Simard, Aurora Chamber EVP/Chief of Military Affairs; Dr. Trish Elley, CTU lead faculty-business; and Lt. Col Thomas Banker, deputy director of Military Support, Colorado National Guard.

## AWARDS BANQUET (CONT'D)

A heartfelt thank you to this year's sponsors: For the second year in a row, The Aurora Highlands was the title sponsor for the banquet. Civitas sponsored the silent auction, Community College of Aurora sponsored the photography, Donor Alliance was the A/V sponsor, Adams County, Amazon, and Arapahoe County were corporate sponsors, Nelnet sponsored the table centerpieces, and the hors d'oeuvres were sponsored by Cherry Creek Schools and JHL Constructors. Thanks also to the many table sponsors and to all who attended the star-studded evening. ■



### The 2022 Award Honorees are:

Ken Melcher Ambassador of the Year | Kristine Minty, Paul Davis Restoration

Arts + Business Connection Award | Fitzsimons Credit Union

Humanitarian of the Year | Hands of the Carpenter

Chamber Leadership | Alan Antolak, Adolfson & Peterson Construction

Community Leadership | Dr. Mordecai Brownlee, Community College of Aurora

Small Business of the Year | Launch Pad Brewery

Businessperson of the Year | Karen Lovett, UCHHealth

Program of the Year | Space Base Delta 2

Woman of the Year | Dr. Kelly Phillips-Henry, Aurora Mental Health & Recovery

Man of the Year | Congressman Jason Crow





## FYZICAL Therapy & Balance Centers – Greenwood Center

7340 E Caley Ave, Suite 180W,  
Centennial, CO, 80111

Owner Kerre Henning cuts the ribbon to mark the grand opening of FYZICAL® Therapy & Balance Centers – Greenwood Center, located in Centennial, CO. Guests were treated to snacks, drinks, a tour, and also got to try out the balance equipment. FYZICAL® is an evidence based physical therapy practice providing private practices with business systems, operational support, clinical education, and proprietary technology and protocols. FYZICAL® is actively changing the healthcare landscape by providing patients with

wellness programs and clinical care in vestibular rehabilitation, fall prevention, sports medicine, and a variety of orthopedic programs. Their treatments are always 1:1 and patients receive customized treatments based on their needs. Their licensed PTs incorporate advanced interventions including manual therapy, dry needling, and holistic wellness. Special guests at the ribbon cutting included City of Centennial Council Members Don Sheehan, Robyn Carnes, Christine Sweetland, and Mayor Pro Tem Richard Holt. (3/22/2023) <https://www.fyzical.com/greenwood-center-co> (720) 850-5111



## JARS Cannabis

6260 S Gun Club Rd, Aurora, CO 80016

Scott Rybicki, managing partner, and Lisa Lane, CFO, cut the ribbon to mark the grand re-opening and re-branding of JARS Cannabis (formerly Euflo), located in Southlands. Guests were treated to live music, free giveaways, and a taco truck! JARS has been serving the Aurora, CO area with a variety of cannabis options since 2014, including oil, tinctures, flower, pre-rolls, dabbables, and edibles. Staff are focused on answering questions, understanding needs, and educating customers on which options and strains (indica, sativa, or hybrid options) will work best for their budget and to achieve optimal results. New look, same great staff and family. (3/21/2023) <http://www.euflocolorado.com> (303) 766-8677



## Pure Infusion Suites of Aurora

1411 S. Potomac St., Suite 310  
Aurora, CO 80012

Director of Sales Dana Faykosh and Stacy Muszynski, RN, ONC, cut the ribbon to mark the Grand Opening of Pure Infusion Suites of Aurora. Alongside them are Paige Parr, patient access coordinator manager, and CEO Joshua Smith. Pure Infusion Suites of Aurora is an Ambulatory Infusion Center (AIC) providing infusion therapy to patients across multiple disease states.

Each suite is designed to improve the infusion experience that comes at one of the most difficult times in a patient's life.

(3/2/2023) <https://pureinfusionsuites.com/> (303) 268-8220





## SMOOTHIE KING Smoothies With A Purpose:



### Smoothie King - Southlands

22651 E Aurora Parkway, Unit A7, Aurora, CO 80016

Owners Rudy and LeAnn Robinson cut the ribbon to mark the grand opening of Smoothie King, located in Southlands. Guests were welcomed with a free smoothie from the "Enjoy A Treat" Menu when they downloaded the Smoothie King Healthy Reward App. Since 1973, Smoothie King has inspired people to live a healthy and active lifestyle. Each smoothie on the menu has a specific purpose, crafted to help reach nutritional goals. Next time you are at Smoothie King, watch them make the smoothie. You'll see simple things you recognize - whole fruits, organic veggies, and our purposeful powders. You won't see added sugar in many blends, or artificial colors, flavors, or preservatives. (3/16/2023) <https://www.smoothieking.com/> (303) 736-8780



### Family Care Center – Central Park Clinic

4660 Yosemite St, Ste 201, Denver, CO 80238

Left to right, bottom center photo: VP Strategy & Growth Benjamin Arkin (VP Strategy & Growth); CEO Wayne Cavanaugh; Clinic Director Erica Stephens, PhD; and North Denver Regional Director Michael Ruttenberg, cut the ribbon to mark the grand opening of the Family Care Center (FCC), LLC – Central Park Clinic. At FCC, there's no one-size-fits-all approach to mental health. FCC tailors care plans to fit each person's unique needs.

Clinicians include psychiatrists, psychologists, and licensed therapists offering individual therapy, medication management, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS) - a cutting edge FDA-approved treatment for depression and anxiety, child play therapy, and family & marriage counseling. FCC offers both in-person and telehealth appointments to get the care needed in the format that serves clients best. Most insurance plans are accepted, allowing the most out of a personalized care plan. (3/28/2023) <https://www.fccwellbeing.com/> 303-872-1740



### Rumble Boxing - Southlands

6290 S Main St, Suite M103, Aurora, CO 80016



Owner Erica Hulings cuts the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of Rumble Boxing, located in Southlands. With a mega-watt sound system and custom playlists available only at Rumble, the room collectively thumps to old school and new school beats. And while the music will help you smash, the vibes in the room are decidedly inclusive and positive. When they say, "10 rounds, 2 fists, ZERO experience necessary," they truly mean it. The 10-round, 45-minute fight is evenly divided between two styles of training. Half of the class is spent exploring the skills and drills of boxing, and the other half is spent on the transformative power of resistance training. Boxing is designed to fire up your arms, upper body, and core. High Intensity Interval Training (HIIT) is programmed intervals of work and recovery to kick the whole body into high gear. Metabolic conditioning is the no-frill combo of resistance and cardio moves packed into quick bursts of work. (3/31/2023) <https://www.rumbleboxinggym.com/location/southlands> (303) 653-1601





### Family Care Center – Sloan's Lake

1525 Raleigh Street, Suite 500, Denver, CO 80204.

VP of Strategy & Growth Benjamin Arkin, CEO Wayne Cavanaugh, Clinic Director Dr. Joshua Sanders, LPC, LMFT, COO Dr. Chris Ivany, and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Charles Weber, cut the ribbon to mark the grand opening of the Family Care Center (FCC), LLC - Sloan's Lake location. FCC was founded in 2016 with the mission of improving access to mental health care in the local community and has since become Colorado's largest and fastest growing outpatient provider of services for behavior health. Services include counseling, medication management, and Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS).

Guests were given walking tours of the new space, a demonstration of the TMS machine – and treated to hors d'oeuvres and beverages. (2/28/2023) <https://www.fccwellbeing.com/>

303-872-1735



### Batteries Plus

3751 N Tower Rd, Suite D-1  
Aurora, CO 80011

On April 20, Co-owners Tom Wolf and Billy Watts cut the ribbon to mark the grand opening of Batteries Plus located at 3751 N Tower Rd, Suite D-1, Aurora, CO 80011. Batteries Plus offers fast, friendly service for batteries, lighting, phone repair, and key fob needs. Guests at the ribbon cutting were treated to Jimmy John's, a free 4pack of batteries, a chance to win a generator, and the opportunity to hang out with the Energizer Bunny! The grand opening was celebrated throughout the weekend with free pizza from Mondo's. Batteries Plus also offers Military discounts. (4/20/2023) <https://www.batteriesplus.com/store-locator/co/aurora/batteries-plus-1029> (720) 679-6494



### Einstein Bros. Bagels

14535 E. Alameda Ave., Unit B  
Aurora, CO 80012

General Manager Laryssa Gomez cuts the ribbon to mark the grand opening of Einstein Bros. Bagels. Einstein Bros. Bagels offers guests freshly baked bagels, breakfast and lunch sandwiches, coffee, catering, and so much more. Stop in for a fresh bagel and a hot cup of coffee. Free coffee, bagels, and muffins were served to guests during the ribbon cutting, and there was a fishbowl drawing for catering for 10! (4/24/2023) <http://www.EBCatering.com> (720) 464-4385





# MemberNews

## Anne Overstreet of Minuteman Press Aurora 21 Honored by Alignable



Anne Overstreet

Anne Overstreet of Minuteman Press Aurora 21 has been named by Alignable.com, an online referral network for small businesses, as Aurora's 2023 Local Business Person of the Year. The award goes to leaders who've gone above and beyond guiding peers and supporting entire communities.

"Our vision for Minuteman Press Aurora 21 was to create a culture where we supported other businesses in the community and created a network of hard-working small business owners," said Overstreet. It's significant, notes Anne that she and her husband, Darin Overstreet, had never owned a business before. "I was a Speech Therapist and worked closely with toddlers and their families, and Darin served as a Public Affairs Officer for the Colorado National Guard." Minuteman Press Aurora 21 is the only veteran owned print shop in Aurora.

When starting the business, Anne read, listened, and learned all she could about starting a business and the important elements to make it succeed. One of one of the most natural fits for her was networking. She established relationships in BNI, Polka Dot Powerhouse, the Aurora Chamber of Commerce, and Tribe Networking.

The Overstreets agree that the most important thing that they can do as a business

is to provide value, and that "Networking is the special magic potion that allowed us to survive and thrive during the pandemic."

## Fitzsimons Credit Union Honored by CBCA and The Chamber

March and April were good months for the Fitzsimons Credit Union (FCU)! The long-time Chamber member and supporter of the arts received awards for their commitment to the arts in both months!

At the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts' Awards Luncheon on March 7, FCU was honored as one of eight 2023 Arts & Business Partnership Awards.



Left to right: Dustin Whistler, founder and principal of Forte Commercial Real Estate, and CBCA board chair; Robert Fryberger, president, FCU; Ana Valles, marketing manager, FCU; and Christin Crampton Day, executive director of CBCA.

## Members of Leadership Aurora Class of 2019 Gather



Members of the self-acclaimed "Best Class Ever" 2019 Leadership Aurora Class gathered for food, fun, and catching up! Left to right back row: Nazan Wolfe, Heidi Fritz, Jamie Pieper, Marty Garland, and Deb Kirschbaum. Front row: Krista Robinson, Allen Golden, and Ben Focht.

The award is given to exemplary organizations that have gone above and beyond to support the arts and creative industries. Left to right: Dustin Whistler, founder and principal of Forte Commercial Real Estate, and CBCA board chair; Robert Fryberger, president, FCU; Ana Valles, marketing manager, FCU; and Christin Crampton Day, executive director of CBCA.

FCU was also honored with the 2022 Arts + Business Connection (ABC) Award at the 67th Annual Chamber Awards Banquet on April 7, 2023. The ABC Award recognizes an individual or organization whose involvement in the Arts consistently communicates the significant value of the arts to the community, and the recipient demonstrates that business and art are not mutually exclusive, but part of the creative processes that strengthen and advance both. ■

# MemberRenewals

Acme Distribution Centers, Inc.  
Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
Advantage Aurora Chase Mortuary  
Air and Space Force Association  
Arapahoe County Early Childhood Council  
Arapahoe Libraries  
Associates Insurance Group  
Aurora Asian/Pacific Community Partnership  
Aurora Interfaith Community Services  
Aurora Singers  
Barker, Mo  
Barrett Financial Group  
Boxer Property: Clock Tower Square  
Bradley M. Pierce Legal Services, Inc.  
Catalyst Public Affairs  
CHFA - Colorado Housing and Finance Authority  
Civitas  
Comcast  
Concorde Career College  
Denver International Airport- DEN  
DoubleTree by Hilton Denver Central Park  
DoubleTree by Hilton Denver-Aurora  
Drury Inn & Suites Hotel - Central Park  
E-470 Public Highway Authority  
Encore Electric  
Ent Credit Union

Enternet Design  
Falck Rocky Mountain  
Guardian Storage  
Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club  
HomeSmith Real Estate  
Iron Mike Construction LLC  
KeyBank - S. Buckley Rd.  
M & M Auto Reconditioning, Inc.  
Michael Baker Corporation  
Minuteman Press - Aurora  
National Technology Transfer Inc. - NTT Training  
NJT Security, LLC  
Pickens Technical College  
Regis University  
Rex Environmental Testing and Consulting  
Rodeo Dental and Orthodontics  
SECORCares  
Shalom Park  
Sheraton Denver Tech Center #3895  
Slim Chickens  
Springhill Suites Denver at Anschutz Medical Campus  
The Green Solution  
The Medical Center of Aurora  
The Salvation Army Aurora Corps  
Town Center at Aurora

# NewMembers

8888 Coaching INC  
Accentz, Inc.  
Batteries Plus  
Beauty Journey LLC  
Centennial Arts and Cultural Foundation  
Cloud Investments LLC dba Perfect Cloud Solutions  
Einstein Bagels  
Global Construction  
Green Worldwide Shipping, LLC  
Hoffman Weber Construction  
Home Care for the 21st Century  
Inverness Health Management  
Living Water Christian Center Church  
Modern Woodmen of America  
PURE Infusion Suites of Aurora  
Red Bird Counseling  
Signature Heating & Air Conditioning  
Sitinjak Travel & Cruise  
Syncis Affiliated Office in Aurora  
The Benson Hotel & Faculty Club  
The Weather Changers, LLC  
WaveMAX Laundry Aurora

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