



**February 2, 2010
E-Chat**

AT A GLANCE – To make reservations to attend, RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch. Visit our website at www.highlandsranchchamber.org for future events or directions to events.

EVENTS

- February 2nd – Women In Networking (WIN)** at Water 2 Wine
- February 3rd – Ambassadors Meeting** at the Chamber office.
- February 4th – Legislative Forum** at Southridge Rec Center
- February 4th – Health Advocacy Team Meeting** at the Chamber office
- February 4th – Chamber Book Club** at the Tattered Cover Bookstore
- February 9th – “Morning at the Capitol”** at the Colorado State Capitol
- February 10th – Monthly Membership Luncheon** sponsored by Whole Health Center- Highlands Ranch
- February 11th – Government Affairs Committee Meeting** at Outback Steakhouse
- February 12th – Green Thumb Friday** at the Chamber office
- February 19th – Member Orientation** at the Chamber office
- February 24th – Business After Hours** at Highlands Ranch Travel
- February 25th – Government Affairs Committee Meeting** at Outback Steakhouse
- March 9th – “Morning at the Capitol”** at the Colorado State Capitol

LEADS Groups meet weekly at the following times:

Business to Business Leads Group – Mondays at 11:45 a.m. at the Chamber office

The Executive Club Leads Group – Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber office

Pro-Nexus Leads Group – Thursdays at 3:00 p.m. at the Chamber office

Note: New Leads Group is forming...See Member Information below for the details!

EVENT DETAILS

February 2nd – Women In Networking (WIN) from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Water 2 Wine. Come and taste award winning wines from a local winery while networking with other Chamber women. Water 2 Wine is a custom winery producing more than 80 different wines that are low sulfite and contain no histamines. Along with their in house wines, there will be food, fun and door prizes. Door prizes will include wine and wine accessories. Water 2 Wine is located at 8130 S. University Blvd., Suite 110, Centennial, CO 80122. The cost of the event is \$5. Annual WIN passes will be sold at the event for \$45. Please RSVP by January 29th at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

February 3rd – Ambassadors Meeting and Training Session at 3:00 p.m. at the Chamber office.
(Please note time change.)

February 4th – Legislative Forum at 7:30 a.m. at Southridge Rec Center, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Highlands Ranch and sponsored by Sam’s Club. *Come and meet face to face with your representatives!* The 2010 legislative session is heating up and your Chamber is making sure business is represented at the Capitol. One great thing about having a business in Highlands Ranch is that you have strong pro-business representatives that are open minded and listen to their constituents. On February 4, at 7:30 a.m. in the Wildcat Auditorium at the Southridge Rec Center, you will have a chance to meet with your representatives, listen to what is happening under the dome and visit with them one on one. Representative Frank McNulty and Senator Ted Harvey will provide an update of current legislation and bills they are carrying and be available for feedback from you. Southridge Rec Center is located at 4800 McArthur Ranch Rd., Highlands Ranch 80130. A continental breakfast will be served. The cost of the event is \$10. Please RSVP online at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

February 4th – Health Advocacy Team Meeting at 8:30 a.m. at the Chamber office. (Note date and time change. The regular monthly meeting has been changed to the 1st Thursday of the month at 8:30 a.m.) The Health Advocacy Team’s action plan is to provide awareness and education about health and wellness resources in the Highlands Ranch community. If you are interested in learning more about this Chamber committee, please come to the meeting or call the Chamber office at 303.791.3500.

February 4th – Chamber Book Club at 12:00 noon at the Tattered Cover Bookstore. February’s book is Angel Tuccy’s new book, *Lists That Saved My Life*. As a perpetual list-maker and working mom, Angel Tuccy shares her secrets for balancing career, family and her personal life with the use of *Lists That Saved My Life*. Discover how Angel takes everyday trials and turns them into manageable lists. Angel, co-owner of Experience Pros, is a Chamber member and a new Chamber Board member. The book can be purchased at www.experiencepros.com, at www.amazon.com and at the Chamber office. The cost of the book is \$12.95. Looking ahead...the March book will be Bryan Dodge’s *Good Life Rules*. No reservations are needed to attend the meeting. Just show up and join the fun! The Chamber Book Club meets on the first Thursday of each month at noon at the Tattered Cover Book Store. Please contact Dorothy Hargrove at dhargrove@dclibraries.org if you would like more information.

February 9th – “Morning at the Capitol” at 7:30 a.m. at the Colorado State Capitol. (See article below for more details.)

February 10th - Monthly Membership Luncheon from 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at Hilton Garden Inn. This month’s luncheon program is sponsored by and presented by Whole Health Center - Highlands Ranch. The speaker is Stephanie Shober, owner of Whole Health Center - Highlands Ranch. As a part of Heart Health Month, come learn about treating high cholesterol, stress/anxiety and hypertension, while helping patients and employers lower health-care costs and improve quality of life. **All attendees will receive a certificate for a free treatment from Whole Health Center.** Informal networking will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by a buffet luncheon, and the program. The Hilton Garden Inn is located at 1050 W. Plaza Drive, Highlands Ranch. **Reservations/payments are needed by February 8th to secure the \$20 per person discounted price.** The cost for RSVP’s made after the 8th will be \$25 per person. RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

February 11th – Government Affairs Committee Meeting at 7:30 a.m. at Outback Steakhouse. All Chamber members are welcome to attend the meeting of this new Chamber committee, which will meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Outback Steakhouse. (Please see article below for more information.) If you are planning to attend, please RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch

February 12th – Green Thumb Friday from 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. at the Chamber office. This month’s seminar, “The Emerging Workforce,” will be presented by Jill Ater, COO and Founder of 10 til 2 and will cover what to consider when adding employees to your business. A free, light lunch will be provided by 10 til 2. (See *Economic Gardening News* below for more details.)

February 19th – Member Orientation from 11:30 – 12:30 p.m. at the Chamber office. Don’t miss this opportunity to find out how to get more out of your Chamber membership, what benefits are available to members, and ways to become more involved in the Chamber. Whether you are a new member or an existing member, please join us for this informative meeting. RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

February 24th – Business After Hours from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Highlands Ranch Travel. Join us for food, drinks, door prizes and informal networking at Highlands Ranch Travel. Don’t miss this opportunity to meet their new staff members, too. Highlands Ranch Travel is located at 541 W. Highlands Ranch Pkwy., Building 2, Suite 110, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129. (They are on the back side of the building, facing north.) **Reservations must be made by February 22nd to receive the \$10 per person discounted cost for the event.** The cost for RSVP’s made after the 22nd will be \$15 per person. Please RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

February 25th – Government Affairs Committee Meeting at 7:30 a.m. at Outback Steakhouse. All Chamber members are welcome to attend the meeting of this new Chamber committee, which will meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7:30 a.m. at Outback Steakhouse. (Please see article below for more information.) If you are planning to attend, please RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

March 9th – “Morning at the Capitol” at 7:30 a.m. at the Colorado State Capitol. (See article below for more details.)

Join us!
“Morning at the Capitol”
February 9th and March 9th

Please join the Chamber of Commerce of Highlands Ranch and the Douglas County Business Alliance for a “Morning at the Capitol” on February 9th and March 9th from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Colorado State Capitol.

Start the day by visiting with the Douglas County Delegation to learn about issues affecting the business community. Coffee and bagels will be served from 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. in House Committee Room 112. This will be followed by a visit to the House floor and will give you the opportunity to witness first hand how our delegation works. The morning will end with presentations and discussion with legislators and other experts on specific issues that are at the forefront of the delegation and the state.

Join us and learn more about what the DCBA and the Chamber of Commerce of Highlands Ranch are doing to promote a unified effort of certain Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Councils to lead and influence state and federal policy, legislation, and regulation to create and/or enhance a positive business climate for the business community of Douglas County. For more information regarding these events, please contact Steve Dyer, the President of the Chamber, at 303.791.3500 or steve@highlandsranchchamber.org.

The Douglas County Business Alliance has been established to promote a unified effort of certain Chambers of Commerce and Economic Development Councils to lead and influence state and federal policy, legislation, and regulation to create and/or enhance a positive business climate for the business community of Douglas County. Members include the Chambers of Commerce of Castle Rock, Highlands Ranch, and Parker; the Economic Development Councils of Castle Rock and Parker; and the Southeast Business Partnership.



**Chamber’s Government Affairs Committee
Invites Members to Participate**

The Chamber of Commerce of Highlands Ranch invites all members to participate in the Chamber’s new Government Affairs Committee.

The group will identify critical business and legislative issues that influence the creation of public policy that will benefit the community and local businesses. The committee will provide guidance and direction to the Chamber’s lobbyists in the State Legislature. It will vet critical public policy that can have an impact on member businesses and will recommend policy positions to the Chamber Board of Directors. It will also work closely with county and state government officials on issues that concern the quality of life in Highlands Ranch and Douglas County.

The committee will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7:30 a.m. at Outback Steakhouse at 15 W. Springer Dr., Highlands Ranch, CO 80129. The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 11th.

All members are invited to attend.

Please RSVP at www.meetup.com/chamber-of-commerce-of-highlands-ranch.

ECONOMIC GARDENING

Economic Gardening News

Having an employee is more than just a payroll check!

February's Green Thumb Friday program: "The Emerging Workforce"

Date: Friday, February 12th from noon to 1:00 p.m.

Place: Chamber offices, 300 W. Plaza Dr., Suite 225, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

As a business owner or supervisor, how often do you consider issues around your employees beyond a payroll check? Although the paycheck is a key point for the employee, there are lots of issues that go along with hiring an employee. Do you hire full-time or part-time? What kind of candidate do you need? What things are you responsible for if you hire someone? This list of questions begins to grow and grow.

Join our guest speaker Jill Ater, COO and Founder of 10 til 2, a national part-time placement services based here in the Front Range. There is a growing need to provide part-time jobs for job seekers and employers who are looking for an alternative business paradigm to that of full time employment. In her talk, Jill will cover employment issues in three segments:

- Employment 101
- What's really going on here?
- The information businesses need

Adding employees to your ranks should not be a difficult task to handle. If you are considering adding employees, this is a program you won't want to miss.

As an extra surprise this month, a free, light lunch will be provided by 10 til 2.

To reserve your seat at these no charge events, check future GTF dates, or to ask questions about Economic Gardening, contact Chris Eppers at 303.791.3500 or email at cchrinfo@highlandsranchchamber.org.

New Members and Renewals

Welcome, New Members!

beadniks – beadniks sells beads and artifacts from around the world. Make custom creations or purchase pieces hand-crafted by our published designers. beadniks is located at 9325 Dorchester St., Suite 123, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129. Visit them at the store, or contact **Stephanie Lanker** at 303.346.9750 or slanker.beadniks@gmail.com for more information. You can also visit their website at www.beadniks/highlandsranch.com.

Matthews Associates' Enterprises - We protect employees and individuals from the family expenses associated with serious illnesses or injuries. The offices are located at 10475 Park Meadows Dr., Suite 600, Lone Tree, CO 80124. Contact **Thomas Matthews** at 720.949.6609 or mtngolfer@comcast.net for more information.

Thank You, Renewing Members!

H & R Block - H & R Block provides a range of tax and accounting services. Their office is located at 2223 W. Wildcat Reserve Pkwy., Suite G-3, Highlands Ranch, CO 80129. For information, contact **Gail Schneider** at 303.471.4174 or gail.schneider@hrblock.com. Also, visit their website at www.hrbtaxandbusiness.com.

Highlands Ranch Park & Recreation Foundation - We foster and encourage the acquisition, development, improvement and beautification of parks, trails, open space and recreation facilities for our community. Visit their website at www.highlandsranch.org for more information, or contact **Randy Weil** at 720.348.0688 or raweil@att.net. Their offices are located at 62 W. Plaza Dr., Highlands Ranch, CO 80129.

Outback Steakhouse - No Rules...Just Right. Fresh Fish, Center Cut Filet, Best Kids' Menu!!! Visit the restaurant at 15 W. Springer Dr., Highlands Ranch, CO 80129. For more information, contact **Joshua Carroll** at 303.791.1500 or obs0614@outback.com. Their website is www.outback.com.

Member Information

If you have an article to submit for the E-Chat, email it to the Chamber office by Friday afternoon for the next Tuesday's E-Chat. All articles should be in paragraph form and less than 100 words. Email to cchrinfo@highlandsranchchamber.org.

Chamber Announces New Leads Group

This new leads group will have an emphasis on the Construction Industry and networking among the many different aspects of construction. The group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber office. The next meeting is the 28th of January. If you have an interest in this group, please call the Chamber office at 303.791.3500.

Falcon Park Dental Group to Participate in National Children's Dental Access Day on Feb. 5th

Falcon Park Dental Group will be participating with National Children's Dental Access Day on February 5, 2010. This is a great event to help those families that do not have dental insurance, but their child(ren) are in need of some dental treatment. Please contact Kasey Stutler at Falcon Park Dental Group at 303.683.5091 or stutlerk@pacden.com with any questions.

Angel Tuccy Publishes New Book – *Lists That Saved My Life*

Angel Tuccy, co-owner of Experience Pros, Chamber member, and new Chamber Board member has just published a new book, *Lists That Saved My Life*. In the book, Angel shares her secrets for balancing career, family and her personal life with the use of lists. Gain valuable insight and helpful tips on saving money, saving time, running a household, setting priorities, and getting help from your family...and getting all those daily details under control! The book is available from www.experiencepros.com, from www.amazon.com, and at the Chamber office. The cost of the book is \$12.95.

Affordable Advertising Opportunity: Reach Homes Throughout Highlands Ranch

Looking for an inexpensive way to advertise your products or services in Highlands Ranch? Consider the *Metro District Messenger* magazine. This four-color magazine is mailed to homes throughout Highlands Ranch four times annually. The next issue will be published March 9th. Following issues will be published in May and August. To view an online version of the current issue, please visit www.highlandsranch.org and click on the Winter *Messenger* Issue link. Ad rates, sizes and deadlines are posted just below this link. For more information, please contact Sherry Eppers at 720.240.4908 or at seppers@highlandsranch.org.

Follow the Highlands Ranch Metro District on Twitter

Making resolutions this year? Vow to get more plugged in to local news and updates in Highlands Ranch. Follow the Metro District on Twitter by checking the link at www.highlandsranch.org or finding us on Twitter at [highlands_ranch](https://twitter.com/highlands_ranch). You can also sign up for the e-Messenger electronic newsletter by sending a message with Sign Me Up in the subject line, to info@highlandsranch.org.

Help Relief Efforts in Haiti by Donating Common Household Medical Supplies

Kim Calder with Aspen Grove has formed a partnership with Denver based Project C.U.R.E. to help with the relief efforts in Haiti. Project C.U.R.E is collecting medical supplies to be shipped to Haiti. Donations of simple things like band aids, Advil, diapers, baby formula and bottles, splints, crutches, and hand sanitizer are greatly needed. Items can be dropped off at the management offices of either Aspen Grove or Tamarac Square, or Kim will come by and pick them up. Kim can be reached at 303.794.0640 or kcalder@ddr.com.

Edward Jones Ranked No. 2 on Best Companies to Work For List

The financial-services firm Edward Jones ranked No. 2 on FORTUNE magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For 2010" list in its 11th year on the prestigious list, according to Carleton Bandy, a Financial Advisor in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Edward Jones also ranked No. 1 for large-sized companies. The full list and related stories appear in the February 8 issue of FORTUNE, available on newsstands Jan. 25 and currently at www.fortune.com/bestcompanies. Edward Jones' 11 FORTUNE rankings include top 10 finishes for eight years and consecutive No. 1 rankings in 2002 and 2003. This is the firm's second consecutive year in the No. 2 spot.

Businesses to Receive 2010 Personal Property Declarations

Teri Cox, Douglas County Assessor, announces that Personal Property Declaration forms have been issued to every person known to have taxable business personal property in the County as of January 1, 2010. Businesses operating in Douglas County in which business personal property with a total market value greater than \$4,000 that is owned, leased, or borrowed must report the property to the County Assessor by April 15, 2010. If a business was operating in Douglas County on January 1, 2010 and did not receive a declaration, a blank form is available on the Assessor's Web site at:

<http://www.douglas.co.us/assessor>, under "Forms" in the "Quicklinks" section. Declarations can also be filed electronically. Failure to receive a declaration schedule DOES NOT excuse the requirement to declare taxable personal property to the Assessor. First time filers may phone the Assessor's office at (303) 660-7448 for assistance.

Staples Launches "Staples StickK to It! Business Challenge"

Setting New Year's resolutions for the office is easier said than done. Staples is now making it easy for small businesses to set, track and achieve professional goals. Teaming with the goal-setting experts at www.stickK.com, Staples is launching the "Staples stickK to It! Business Challenge," a unique program to help small businesses prioritize and achieve their objectives for the New Year. Whether it's one simple goal like organizing a desk or tackling larger challenges such as overhauling a business plan, Staples encourages professionals to sign up for the "Staples stickK to It! Business Challenge" to commit to improving their businesses today. Go to www.staples.stickk.com for more information.

Member to Member Acknowledgement

Have you had a positive experience while doing business with a fellow Chamber Member? Submit a short email to cchrinfo@highlandsranchchamber.org (100 words or less) about the experience and gain exposure for both of your businesses.

INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

LEADS Groups

Business to Business Leads Group meets on Mondays at 11:45 a.m. at the Chamber office.
The Executive Club meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber office.
Pro-Nexus Leads Group meets on Thursdays at 3:00 p.m. at the Chamber office.
Leads Group #4 meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 8:00 a.m. at the Chamber office.
(Leads Group #4 is a new group with an emphasis on the construction industry.)

Limited space is available in all LEADS groups. The LEADS groups have limited, diversified memberships. If you are interested in one of the groups, you are welcome to visit, if there is an opening in the group for your business category. The cost is \$60 annually. Contact the Chamber office at 303.791.3500 if you are interested in visiting or joining one of the groups.

Women In Networking (WIN)

WIN is a great opportunity to network with other professional women in a relaxed atmosphere. WIN meets on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at different member locations.

Ambassadors

If you are looking for a way to meet new people, consider joining the Ambassadors. This group serves as greeters at Chamber events and makes visits to the membership. Space is limited, so inquire today. The Ambassadors meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. For more information, contact the Chamber office.

Health Advocacy Team

This committee of the Chamber encourages active, healthy lifestyles for today and tomorrow and is working to be recognized as a community resource in Highlands Ranch for enhancing overall wellness. The focus of the committee is to provide awareness and education about the health and wellness resources in the Highlands Ranch community. The Health Advocacy Team message is "What's good for health is good for business." The group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 8:30 a.m.

CEO Roundtable

The CEO Roundtable normally meets on the first Friday of each month at 8:45 a.m. for approximately 2 hours. The CEO Roundtable is open to businesses of all sizes and serves as your own confidential Board of Advisors. This group of 10 to 12 non-competing business owners meets monthly to help you solve problems and grow your business. Please contact the Chamber at 303.791.3500 for a confidential application to participate.

For more information about these groups, please call the Chamber office at 303.791.3500 or email: cchrinfo@highlandsranchchamber.org.

Around The Ranch

Highlands Ranch Library will host Great Decisions 2010

This is the longest running free civic education program in the U.S. devoted to foreign affairs. There will be an evening session which starts Tuesday, Jan. 26th at 6:45 p.m. and ends late May; and there will be a daytime session that starts Thursday, Jan. 28th at 2:00 p.m. and ends in late May. Participants will read selected articles and meet to discuss those topics. Registration is required and it is inclusive for all 8 sessions - no drop-ins and no single sessions. At the first meeting, you will receive a book of articles to read and the 2010 discussion agenda for the additional 8 meetings. This group will meet in the quiet reading room on the second floor. See the library website for more details and to register at www.dclibraries.org or call 303.791.7323.

Register Now for Metro District Recreation Programs

Registration is underway for several spring outdoor recreation programs, including youth lacrosse, adult softball, flag football and co-ed kickball leagues. Learn more about these and many other programs at www.highlandsranch.org and click on the Recreation link.

Showtime at Southridge – Chinese New Year! – February 13th

Celebrate the year of the Tiger with the Highlands Ranch Community Association and the Great Wall Chinese Academy! Join us on Saturday, February 13 at the Recreation Center at Southridge. There will be a Cultural Fair and Taste of China from 3:30-5:30 p.m. The on-stage performance will be from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Tickets are \$7/\$10 for Members/Programs Guests. Everyone pays \$10 the day of the event, if not sold out. Call 303.791.8859 for tickets or visit any HRCA recreation center.

Wine, Chocolate, and an Evening with New York Times Bestselling Author Christopher Bohjalian - a Perfect Valentine's Gift - on Saturday, February 13th at 6:00 p.m.

This is an Adults only event. Registration is required and \$10 (cash or check) will be collected at the door. All proceeds will benefit the Douglas County Libraries Foundation. Chris Bohjalian is the author of eleven novels, including the New York Times bestsellers, *Skeletons at the Feast*, *The Double Bind*, *Before You Know Kindness*, *The Law of Similars*, and *Midwives*. His newest, *Secrets of Eden*, will be on sale at this event. Random House has made this event possible. Seats are limited. Register online or at 303.791.7323. Money will be collected at the door. Books courtesy of the Tattered Cover Book Store will be on sale at the event.

Sweetheart Teddy Bear Tea - Sunday, February 14th

This special Valentine's Tea Party has all the trimmings that are sure to delight your little one with a special event just for them! Tea Time: 2:00 – 2:45 p.m.; Show Time: 2:45 – 3:30 p.m. at Southridge, Wildcat Mountain Auditorium, 4800 McArthur Ranch Rd., Highlands Ranch. Tickets: \$11/Members, \$15/Guests in advance. All tickets \$15 day of the event, if not sold out. Info: www.HRCAonline.org or 303.791.2500.

**Tony Hillerman's Landscapes Presented by Anne Hillerman and Don Strel
On Sunday February 14th at 4:00 p.m. at Highlands Ranch Library.**

Join us for author (and Tony's daughter) Anne Hillerman and her husband, photographer, Don Strel and enjoy the landscapes of Cree and Leaphorn from their new book: *Tony Hillerman's Landscapes*. This beautiful photo and readings presentation will be perfect for all Tony Hillerman fans. Registration is required for this free event. Copies of this book will be on sale at the event courtesy of the Tattered Cover Book Store.

Volunteer Fair to be Held on April 21st at Southridge Rec Center

The Highlands Ranch Community Association's second annual Volunteer Fair will be held on Wednesday, April 21, from 4:00 – 7:30 p.m. at the Recreation Center at Southridge. It's an opportunity for nonprofit organizations to showcase their volunteer needs and a convenient way for our area residents to learn about volunteer opportunities – all under one roof at no charge to attendees or the organizations. Nonprofit organizations that would like to be part of this event may email vmiller@hrcaonline.org for more information.

