



NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

City of Wheat Ridge and Wheat Ridge Business Association Honor 2017 Business Award Winners

WHEAT RIDGE, Colo. Sept. 27, 2017 – The City of Wheat Ridge, the Wheat Ridge Business Association (WRBA), and the Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce recognized outstanding businesses in the community at the 14th Annual Business Appreciation Awards Breakfast. Local leaders and members of the business community joined Mayor Pro-Tempore George Pond to honor the achievements of Wheat Ridge businesses.

The 2017 award recipients are:

- **Businesses of the Year – Seyfer Automotive and Wheat Ridge Poultry & Meats**
- **Reinvestment Award – Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital**
- **Cultural Commission Award – Four Seasons Farmers & Artisans Market**
- **City Council Partnership Award – Mike Stites**
- **Mayor’s Partnership Award – Tim Rogers**
- **WRBA Rising Star – Emily Green**
- **WRBA Member of the Year – TM Seyfer**
- **Wheat Ridge Chamber Member of the Year – DLA & Company**

Citizen’s and local businesses nominated their choice for the *Business of the Year* and the *Reinvestment Award*. Nominations were reviewed and winners selected by a team of Jefferson County business professionals. The individual or organization sponsoring the other awards selected their winners.

Business of the Year: Seyfer Automotive and Wheat Ridge Poultry & Meats

This award recognizes a business that exemplifies the *Best in Business* and represents the values of the community.

Other nominees included: AAA Propane, Applejack Wine and Spirits, McDonald’s of Wheat Ridge, Mighty Joe’s Kitchen, Morningstar Senior Living, Personal Achievement Martial Arts, Salsa’s Mexican Restaurant, and Wheat Ridge Liquors

Reinvestment Award Winners: Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital

This award recognizes a business that has demonstrated one or more of the following: made a significant investment in its property, improved the overall appearance of the site, maintained property at the highest standards, or updated their building in a manner to make it more marketable.

Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital, with more than 13 years in Wheat Ridge, was selected for the redevelopment of an old office building and demolition of a blighted older business to house the new facility and accommodate for parking. The owners fully rehabilitated the building to accommodate the re-use.

(more)

Wheat Ridge Business Awards Page 2

Other nominees included: McDonald's Restaurant and the 7-Eleven Store both located on Wadsworth near 38th Avenue.

Cultural Commission Award Winner: Four Seasons Farmers & Artisans Market

This award recognizes a business that has made an impact on the community through one or more of the following: promoting/encouraging culture and the arts, promoting awareness of our cultural activities, diversity, or heritage, supporting opportunities in art education for all ages or incorporating art into the architecture and design of their building.

Other nominees included: Clancy's Irish Pub, evb Studios, and Sweet Ridge Studios.

City Council Partnership Award Winner: Mike Stites

The City Council recognizes a company or individual for their overall contributions to the City. It incorporates criteria from all award categories as well as contributions in volunteerism, leadership, and community investment/involvement.

The Council unanimously selected Stites for his lifelong commitment to Wheat Ridge. Stites served as a City Council member from 2003-2013. Stites recently closed his successful B&F Tire Store on 38th Avenue where he and his father ran the shop until Stites retired in early 2017

Mayor's Partnership Award Winner: Tim Rogers

The Mayor recognizes a company or program for their overall contributions. The award incorporates criteria from all categories as well as contributions in volunteerism, leadership, and community investment.

The Mayor selected Tim Rogers for his continued support of Wheat Ridge. Besides his day job as a commercial real estate broker for Genesee Commercial Group, Rogers is the Chair of Renewal Wheat Ridge, the City's Urban Renewal Authority. Under his guidance, the City has seen growth and development of new housing and retail opportunities. Rogers also guided the successful 2E Ballot initiative, a sales tax increase that provided an opportunity for the City to bond for more than \$33 million that will be used on four separate projects in Wheat Ridge. Rogers is a board member of the Wheat Ridge Business Association and Wheat Ridge Localworks. Rogers is a member of the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Commission and on the Board of the Jefferson County Library Foundation. Rogers has been a Wheat Ridge resident for five years.

WRBA Rising Star Award – Emily Green

This award is given to the WRBA member who has dedicated the past year to improving the organization and the community.

WRBA Member of the Year – TM Seyfer

This award is given to the WRBA member of the year for their contribution to the organization and the community.

The Wheat Ridge Chamber Business of the Year Award: DLA & Company.

DLA & Company has been in business for more than 25 years and is an independent full-service financial planning firm committed to helping individuals and business owners pursue their financial goals. Dale Anderson founded DLA & Company in 1985 with the core beliefs of hard work, dedication, integrity and honesty. DLA & Company was one of the founding businesses of the Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce. Jumping in with both feet, Anderson volunteered to Chair the Leads Group for the Wheat Ridge Chamber. His dedication to community does not stop there. DLA & Company is also a member of the Wheat Ridge Business Association, the West Chamber, and Anderson is a member of the High Plains Drifters Charter Club of the International Federation of Fly Fishers.

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Detailed information about the award recipients and their companies as well as photographs are available on request. Contact Steve Art, Economic Development Manager, at 303.235.2806 or via email at sart@ci.wheatridge.co.us.