Leaders honored for Lights contributions
August 26, 2010

The Rotary Club of Aurora honored Mayor Tom Weisner along with Aldermen Stephanie Kifowit, Robert O'Connor and Richard Irvin, and prominent business leaders throughout the community on Monday in recognition for their support and contributions to the annual Aurora Holiday Festival of Lights.

Since 2007, the Rotary Club of Aurora has hosted the Festival of Lights at Phillips Park. The festival is a massive, month-long holiday light display. The primary goal of the event is to raise money for youth-based charities by engaging in unique public and private partnerships with civic and business leaders throughout Aurora and the Fox Valley area.

Partners and sponsors recognized for their Festival of Lights support also include Provena Mercy Medical Center; Rush Copley Medical Center; FHP/O'Cedar; Alphagraphics; Alschuler, Simantz & Hem; Aurora University; Deiterle Memorial Home; Heitkotter; Moose International; Nicor; Sikich; Alarm Detection Systems; First Centennial Mortgage; Fox Valley Park District; Hollywood Casino; Illinois Licensed Beverage Association; Konen Insurance; Law Elder Law; Layne Western; Orchard Valley Dental; Quad County Urban League and Gary Tollaksen.

Geneva

Wm. Horn Steel up for family business award

The Wm. Horn Structural Steel Co. has been nominated for an Illinois Family Business of the Year Award from the Family Business Center of Loyola University Chicago. A company from the greater Chicago metropolitan area will be selected by a panel of judges, and the winner will be announced in September.

The award will be presented in recognition of the company that demonstrates positive family-business linkage, multigenerational family business involvement and contributions to industry and community.

A Nominees' Reception will be held Tuesday at Loyola University Chicago. The reception will include a panel discussion on "Succeeding Across Generations."

Wm. Horn Structural Steel is 114 years old. In 1896, the William Horn Structural Iron Works opened at 908 West Lake St., Chicago. In 1937, the company had a name change to Wm. Horn Structural Steel Co., and he moved from Chicago to 111 N. River St., Geneva, now the site of The River Park in Geneva.

His sons, William J. and Edwin, were involved in the family business for many years. William J. Horn's son, William C., the third generation, later became company president. In 1981, he moved the steel company into a new building at 1101 Commerce Drive, Geneva.
William C. died in 2005, his widow, Betty, now goes to the office each morning and their son, Robert, the fourth generation is in charge of the company.

John Bolla, Betty's grandson, is the fifth generation to be working at the company.