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Business Notes

Metro Brokers celebrates 30 years

In 1976, six Denver real estate brokers, including Littleton-based broker Larry Carr of Carr & Co. Realty, came up with a revolutionary idea: to share office space under a common business name while working independently.

Modeled after the structure of area law firms, Carr along with Bill Cilenski, Jake Korell, Mart Shannon, Bill Anderson and John Bag-

nell, never expected that their organizations' humble beginnings would grow from six members to nearly 2,000 members strong today.

This year, Metro Brokers, Inc., an association of independent real estate brokers who specialize in Colorado residential, commercial and investment properties, is proud to celebrate 30 years of excellence in Colorado real estate.

"To think that these individuals devoted so much of their time and energy — often at a sacrifice to their own income — to strength-

en our organization with their knowledge and expertise, is the reason Metro Brokers is the success that it is today," said Metro Brokers founder Larry Carr.

"This landmark year is a time to reflect on how far we've come as an organization," said Metro Brokers 2006 Board President Judy Templeman.

Metro Brokers' founders envisioned their organization as a place where Realtors could conduct their business independently, yet still receive benefit and support by sharing a common identity and office expenses.

Monthly flat-fee member dues go directly toward supporting the organization, mostly in the form of advertising — providing member brokers with greater name and signage recognition. Metro Brokers also supports a number of charities including the annual Metro Brokers toy drive, which in 2005 gave more than 900 toys to the local Volunteers of America, benefiting needy children in Colorado. Metro Brokers also serves as a presenting sponsor of the Special Olympics Colorado Law Enforcement Torch Run, an annual event.