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Article and image of Duane Pearsall standing with H. Benjamin Duke

Colorado Association of Commerce & Industry

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Bob Timothy "Business Leader of the Year"

Robert K. Timothy was born in 1918 in Gilcrest, Colorado. After flirting with a career as a science teacher, and serving with the U.S. Army Signal Corps during World War II, Timothy joined Mountain Bell as a Commercial Representative in Greeley in 1946.

He went on to hold a variety of positions in Colorado and Wyoming and, in 1961, became Vice President and General Manager of Operations in Idaho.

In 1965 he returned to Denver as Vice President of Public Relations. In 1968 he was promoted to Executive Vice President.

In 1970 Timothy succeeded Lowell Wingert as President of Mountain Bell, and guided the company through the traumatic period leading to the breakup of the old Bell System.

Among other things, Timothy was instrumental in increasing job opportunities for women and minorities throughout Mountain Bell and in introducing innovations which greatly improved customer service efficiencies.

In 1977, Timothy was named President of the Telephone Pioneers of America, the largest social-industrial organization in the world. In recognition of his outstanding leadership to the Pioneer organization, the Mountain Bell chapters award deserving members the Robert K. Timothy Medal of Distinction.

Although Timothy has retired from Mountain Bell, he continues his affiliation with the Pioneers, as well as being active in a number of civic and professional organizations. He is a director on the Lutheran Medical Center Board, the Business Industry Political Action Committee, and the United Bank of Colorado Board. Currently, Mr. Timothy is the President of the Denver Rotary Club.

Business of the Year
Denver Metro Region
GATES CORPORATION

Presenter: Duane D. Pearsall, General Partner, Columbine Ventures, Denver; Vice Chairman Denver Metro Region, Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry
Accepted by: H. Benjamin Duke, Vice Chairman and President, Gates Corporation

The Gates Corporation, a private company headquartered in Denver, reaches worldwide with its products and employees. This year the company is celebrating its 75th anniversary; in fact the theme for the event, "A Tradition of Excellence," came from Gates' employees. The company has been a leader in civic and community activities, pioneering the Junior Achievement movement, and participating in such worthwhile groups as the Denver Chamber, Colorado Alliance for Business, and Colorado Council on Economic Education. Gates Corporation has historically supported Community Chest and United Way, and today counts youth groups, senior citizens, and cultural projects among its projects.

Gates has been the vanguard of its industry as well, continually developing new manufactured rubber products. In addition to technological advances, Gates has been a leader in exporting and the development of world markets. Gates' reputation as a financially sound, people-motivated company is a hallmark in Colorado's business community.