

People you can bank on

New Baseline branch expands Guaranty Bank's presence

*Fast loan approvals,
SBA division part
of business services*

BY KEELY BROWN

BOULDER — Since opening its first location in Denver in 1955, Guaranty Bank and Trust Company has gained a reputation for being a big-city bank with a small-town customer service ethic.

Within the last dozen years, Guaranty has expanded to include eight other locations, but it still retains the feel of a hometown bank that cares about its customers on an individual basis.

Guaranty's newest branch at 2460 Baseline Road in Boulder in the Basemar Shopping Center extends the bank's reach as a resource for local businesses of all sizes. For the small-business owner, Guaranty Bank is a Small Business Administration preferred lender, and it has a special SBA division to handle these types of loans.

Guaranty's ability to process loan applications quickly. Because of the efficiency and expertise of its loan department, Guaranty's Boulder bank, with its downtown location at 1375 Walnut St., has become a \$50 million bank since it opened in 2004, handling 450 checking accounts. Guaranty's other Boulder County location is at 916 S. Main in Longmont.

"We can do loans up to \$250,000 fairly quickly, and if necessary we can even turn them around in a day," said Jake Puzio, president of Guaranty's Boulder branch.

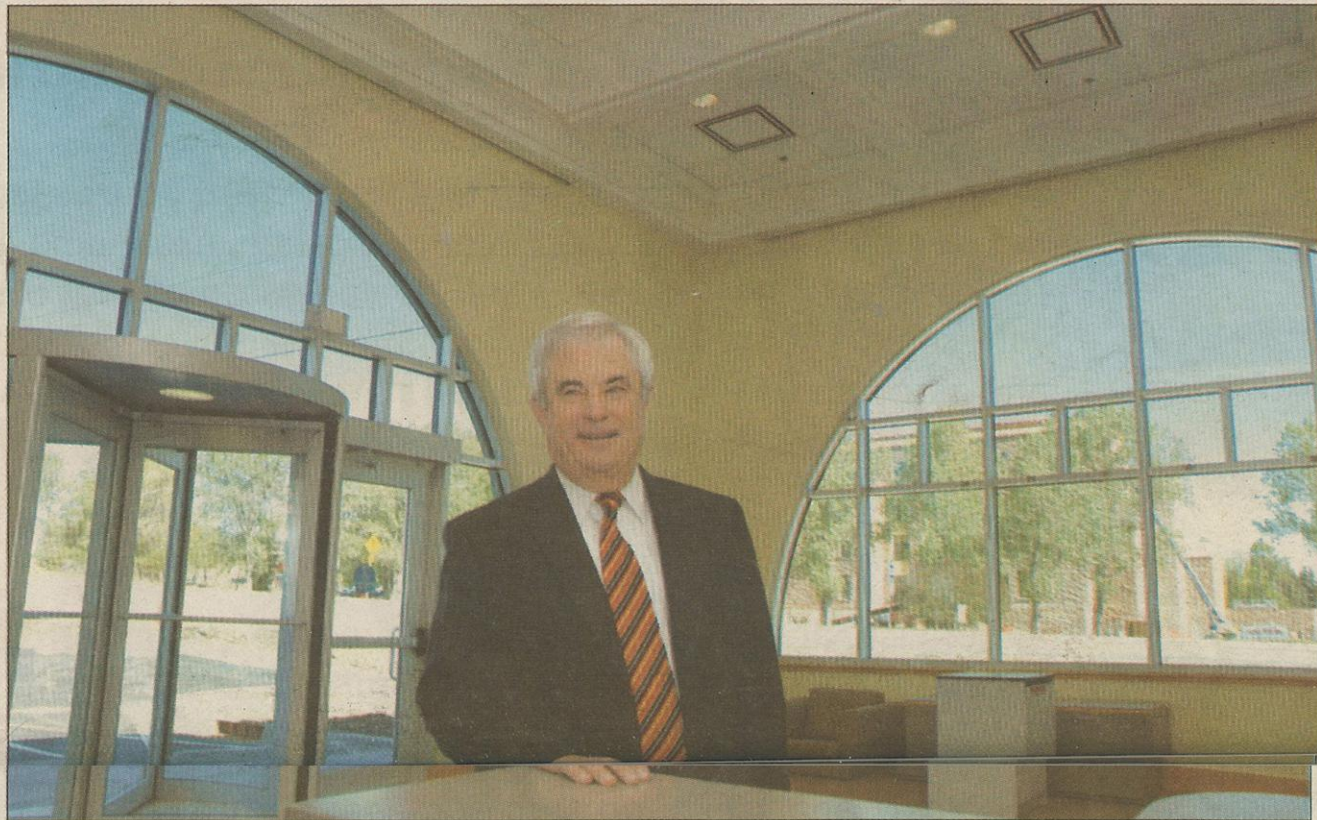
In addition to loan services, Guaranty offers lines of credit, manages acquisition loans, and handles a large volume of real estate acquisitions and development financing.

Good business partnerships foster good community partnerships as well, and the Boulder branch of Guaranty Bank and Trust already has forged strong commitments to local charities and civic organizations, including the Boulder Valley Hospital Foundation, the Imagine Foundation and Impact on Education.

This emphasis on community is just another part of Guaranty's customer service ethic, which strives to maintain a relationship of trust between the bank and its customers.

"Our customers are our friends," Puzio said. "They're always greeted by name when they come in the door, and we try to make them feel comfortable."

Banking customers aren't the only ones who enjoy a trip to Guaranty. The Boulder banks go beyond just being dog-friendly — they actually have their own line of gourmet dog biscuits made especially for their canine visitors. And, of course, bank employees know all the dog's names, too.



MICHAEL MYERS

Jake Puzio, president of Guaranty Bank's branch in Boulder, stands in the bank's new branch during construction. The branch is located in the Basemar Shopping Center at 2460 Baseline Road in Boulder.

Guaranty Bank and Trust Company

2460 Baseline Road
Boulder CO 80305
303-296-9600
www.guarantybankonline.com
Jake Puzio, president of the Boulder branch
Employees: 4
Primary Service: Commercial banking and lending
Year founded: 2004

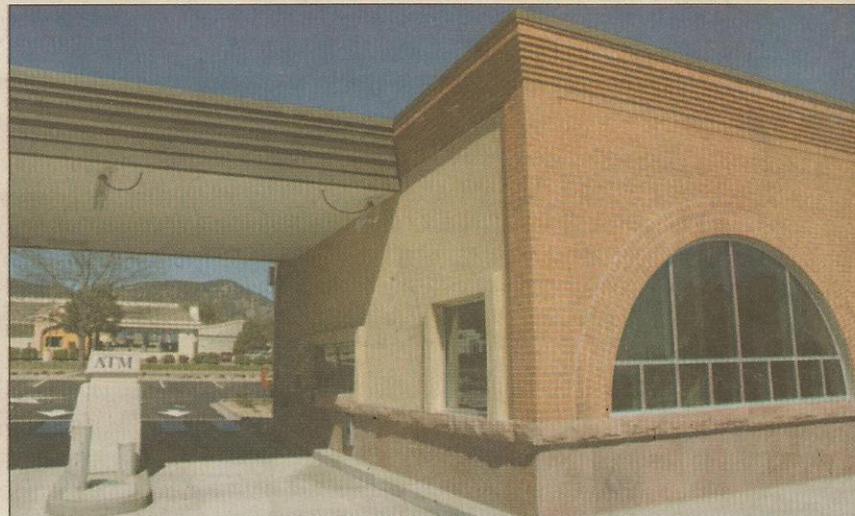
"When the bigger dogs come in they get on their hind legs and wait for the teller to give them a biscuit," Puzio said.

Guaranty prides itself on attention to details as well as service.

The new Baseline branch includes a drive-up lane as well as a "bike-up" lane and water fountain.

As part of its commitment to quality and excellence, the new building was constructed with the finest of materials and outstanding craftsmanship, and already is drawing attention for its architecture.

"I've gotten more comments about the Guaranty Bank building than any other building we've constructed in the last few years," said Will Bohner, general manager of Boulder-based Deneuve Construction.



MICHAEL MYERS

Guaranty's new branch bank in the Basemar Shopping Center in Boulder will have a drive-up lane as well as a "bike-up" lane.

The bank's design was created by architect Phil Lawrence of the Boulder firm Lawrence and Gomez. Lawrence paid close attention to the character that Guaranty wished to project — a warm, friendly, comfortable atmosphere — and combined that with an urban elegance harkening back to the grand Midwestern banks built at the turn of the century by famed architect Louis Sullivan.

"The design that we really looked at was

the National Farmers Bank in Owatonna, Minn., built in 1907, and we used that as a launching pad," Lawrence said.

The building's red brick is enhanced by raised masonry and arched windows and doorways, allowing natural light inside the spacious lobby, which is graced with high ceilings.

"We really focused on making the lobby look elegant, with that grand old bank feel to it," Lawrence said.

