

Spiritual Values:



Inspiring Stories That Enrich Our Communities



Good News Celebration Breakfast

Jefferson County Fairgrounds
6:59 a.m., Tuesday, April 16, 2013

Our mission: The Good News Coalition brings Jefferson County citizens together to celebrate the positive happenings and spiritual values that link our diverse communities.

2013 Good News Breakfast Program

Welcome Mark Smiley: Chair, Good News Coalition
 Invocation Lynn Johnson: Executive Director, Jeffco Department
 of Human Services
 Pledge of Allegiance. Lesley Dahlkemper: President, Jeffco School Board
 Raise Spirits Fantasia: Show/Jazz Choir, Pomona High School
 Speaker Introduction Neal Browne: Master of Ceremonies
 Keynote Speaker Vie Thorgren: Director, Center of Spirituality at Work
 2013 Honorees Neal Browne: Master of Ceremonies
 2013 Hall of Fame
 Presentation Paul Rodriguez: Graphic Design Manager, Jeffco Library
 Benediction Thompson Williams: Program Coordinator of
 Indian Education, Jeffco Schools

Thanks to:

- Bob O'Connell and the Kiwanis of Applewood Club for helping with parking.
- Leah Rybak, Seniors' Resource Center for producing the invitations and hosting the online registration.
- Paul Rodriguez and the Jefferson County Public Library for the production of the Good News Celebration Breakfast Supplement/program.
- Jill Kary, Jefferson Center for Mental Health and Joe Haines, The Action Center for assisting with registration.
- Jefferson County Sheriff's office and the City of Golden for traffic control.
- Marilyn Saltzman, PR consultant, for script writing.
- Mark Danner, Rory Peachey and the entire Jefferson County Fairgrounds management and staff.
- Show/Jazz Choir, Pomona High School, for entertainment.
- Julie Sloan, Jefferson Center for Mental Health, for website development

Feel free to take or share the centerpieces.

Special thanks to Jefferson County Commissioners:
 District 1: Faye Griffin; District 2: Casey Tighe;
 District 3: Donald Rosier

Get your tickets while they last! See page 3 for details.

2013 Steering Committee

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Neal Browne
<i>Neal Browne & Assoc./Touchpoint Video</i> | Tori Merritts
<i>The Jefferson Foundation</i> | Leah Rybak
<i>Seniors' Resource Center (SRC)</i> |
| Felix Cook
<i>Exempla Health Care/Community First Foundation</i> | Dexter Meyer
<i>Community Volunteer</i> | Marilyn Saltzman
<i>PR Consultant</i> |
| Beverly Craddock
<i>Jeffco Public Schools</i> | Bob O'Connell
<i>Applewood Kiwanis</i> | Jill Schneider, Secretary
<i>Caring Connection</i> |
| Brandon Edelman
<i>Community Volunteer</i> | Sidnie O'Connell, Treasurer
<i>Wespective, Inc.</i> | Elizabeth Shinn
<i>Volunteer Services at DDRC</i> |
| Roubhie Fairchild
<i>Duncan YMCA</i> | Jeanne Oliver
<i>Jefferson Center for Mental Health</i> | Mark Smiley, Chair
<i>Community Volunteer</i> |
| Susan Franklin
<i>Jefferson County Dept. of Human Services</i> | Barbara Penning
<i>The Action Center</i> | Nancy Tomb
<i>The Family Tree</i> |
| Joe Haines
<i>The Action Center</i> | Kay Pride
<i>Kay Pride Communications</i> | Rev. Jack Van Ens
<i>Creative Growth Ministries</i> |
| Veronica Hoegler
<i>AAUW - Lakewood</i> | Betty Proctor
<i>Senior Lobby</i> | Leah Varnell
<i>CASA of Jefferson & Gilpin Counties</i> |
| Jill Kary
<i>Jefferson Center for Mental Health</i> | Kathy Rendon
<i>Jefferson County Education Association (JCEA)</i> | Mary Wagner
<i>Jefferson County Administrators Association (JCAA)</i> |
| Leslie Levine
<i>Community Volunteer</i> | Terri Rhoades
<i>Sooper Credit Union</i> | Marianne Weigand
<i>Wells Fargo Bank</i> |
| Natalie Martinez
<i>Jefferson County Library Foundation</i> | Susanne Roser
<i>Stride</i> | Rebecca Winning
<i>Jefferson County Public Library</i> |
| Sue Marinelli
<i>Community Volunteer</i> | Pam Russell, Co-Chair
<i>Jefferson County District Attorney's Office</i> | |

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Jefferson County Education Association
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2013 Good News Breakfast Award Winners

Alternative Gift Fair

Faith-based organizations in the Evergreen/ Conifer area sponsor an annual, two-day holiday gift fair that helps nonprofit organizations raise funds for worthwhile local, national and international causes. The project is run by volunteers from local congregations who work together to make the fair a warm and welcoming community initiative. Young people from the congregations operate the gift fair café and earn money for their youth projects. The Alternative Gift Fair attracts shoppers from around the region. It features handmade crafts, jewelry, textiles and a bake sale. The event is created and operated entirely by volunteers. A steering committee works year-round to organize the event. In 2012, the twelfth year of operation, the fair raised over \$104,000, all of which was distributed to participating charities.

Rabbi Benjamin (Jamie) Arnold

Rabbi Arnold, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Evergreen, goes far beyond his professional responsibilities to unite people of different backgrounds in Evergreen, Jeffco and statewide. He serves as president of the Interfaith Alliance of Colorado which promotes justice, religious liberty, and interfaith understanding by educating, organizing and equipping progressive people of faith and goodwill for advocacy, dialogue and celebration. Rabbi Arnold is a volunteer chaplain for the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department and serves as president of an interfaith, nonprofit, affordable housing initiative in Evergreen. He speaks regularly at churches across the metro area and is a key organizer of the annual interfaith Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration that brings together religious communities in Evergreen and Conifer. Under his stewardship, Beth Evergreen holds numerous adult education events featuring speakers of diverse religious and cultural backgrounds. In 2012, Beth Evergreen hosted the Colorado kickoff for First Lady Michelle Obama's "Let's Move" campaign in the faith community.

EChO – Evergreen Christian Outreach

EChO began 25 years ago, when three community members created a small food closet at their church to help people in need. Today EChO serves over 600 families per year with over 9,000 visits to the food bank. Clients are offered food, clothing, financial assistance and most of all, hope. EChO's work is based on the spiritual values of feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, welcoming the stranger and clothing the naked. A single-parent father who is a client said, "The EChO staff are positively energetic, selfless, subservient, self-sacrificing, creative geniuses who are deeply motivated to help and provide for humanity. Without them, my son and I would have become homeless."

Linette Gauer

Linette, a resident of Eaton Senior Communities, works with residents of her community on Project Linus to make blankets for traumatized children from birth to 18 years of age. Her personal project is the older youth group because she believes they are a little left out. For 10 years she has also been involved with the Rocky Mountain Smockers who make Wee Care Gowns for stillborns and premature babies for three area hospitals. A worship leader for West Alameda Community Baptist Church, she volunteers for the Spiritual Life Committee and makes prayer shawls for her church. She also makes lap blankets for veterans and has helped establish a recycling committee at Eaton Senior Communities. Linette volunteers at the Apex Community Center in Arvada by making Christmas stockings for local nursing homes.

Jefferson County Power of Partnership

This partnership between faith-based organizations and Jefferson County Human Services weaves together diverse

groups to join forces and become better and stronger for the communities they serve. Since 2006, the partnership has established trusting working relationships between diverse groups where members feel comfortable in calling upon each other to assist an individual in need or address a larger community concern. All faiths are welcomed and encouraged to be involved. Collaboration takes place through meetings, newsletters, emails and a conference held every other year with about 300 participants. The Power of Partnership's accomplishments include assisting the needy with car repairs, providing bikes for foster children, finding permanent families for adoptive children, providing shelter and affordable housing, offering a caretaker respite program and donating holiday stockings to the elderly.

Bob Keating

When Bob moved to Lakewood four years ago, he immediately started volunteering at the Action Center to continue the help he offered families and children in his previous community. A whirlwind of caring, love and energy, Bob personally buys many toys because he believes every child should have a toy for Christmas. Bob knows how to get the biggest bang for the buck by working with manufacturing distributors. He opened Bob's 50/50 store to maximize supplies available to families and children, complementing the work of the Action Center. Nothing makes Bob happier than seeing others, especially children, happy.

Mikki Levett

Mikki Levett personifies the meaning of spiritual values by enriching the lives of many. She has been the Children's Director at Applewood Community Church for over 20 years. She also is director of the Arvada Royal Family Kids Camp, serving kids in foster care and adoption, and she has spearheaded a mentorship program. She hosts Kidz Night Out, a respite program for foster and adoptive children, and she is active in emancipating youth and kids waiting for adoption. Mikki has a huge heart for kids and is a vital partner with the Jeffco Department of Human Services. She has been a long-standing member of the Power of Partnership Committee. Mikki is the "go to" person on many projects including organizing the Power of Partnership conference, website and a newsletter celebrating the partnerships between the faith community and human services agencies. She is always willing to help and always has a smile on her face and an open, compassionate heart.

Vicki Rodgers for Building Bridges

Vicki, Vice President of Clinical Systems Administration at Jefferson Center for Mental Health, long had a vision about the rewards of collaboration between the Center and the faith community. Understanding that members of a congregation often first consult a clergy member about a mental health issue, she spearheaded the first metrowide Building Bridges of Understanding Conference for church staffs in 2004. She thus empowered them to be the critical link between their congregations and the community mental health center. Focusing more recently on Jefferson County, Vicki's ongoing support of bridges between the faith community and the Jefferson Center for Mental Health continues to extend into many congregations, equipping them to offer healing, compassion and mental health resources to those in need.

Dr. Shirl Smith

Dr. Smith is the founder and executive director of Feeding Many, a nonprofit organization that develops community gardens and orchards to feed the hungry. Feeding Many started as a partnership with WaterStone Community Church and has branched out to sites across

the community, including Mount View Youth Services Center, Southern Gables Church and on the property of the Lakota Nation in Wounded Knee, South Dakota.

As the food is harvested, the fresh produce is given to local food banks in the area, providing healthy additions to the canned and boxed goods offered through food assistance programs. Feeding Many strives to offer a sense of hope to those often lacking the basic need of food security. Since the program started six years ago, hundreds of families have received fresh produce and new hope.

Carson J. Spencer Foundation, Dr. Sally Spencer Thomas, CEO and Founder

The Carson J. Spencer Foundation, founded by Sally Thomas, a clinical psychologist, has as its mission for high school students and work-aged people to sustain their passion for life through suicide prevention, social enterprise and support of people bereaved by suicide. The foundation's FIRE Within program, now in 20 metro area schools, provides a weekly curriculum, integrated into business and other academic courses, that combines teaching entrepreneurship and leadership with a root cause analysis of the drivers of suicidal distress in the community. Student entrepreneurs are challenged to develop and market their own product related to suicide prevention based on what they've identified as a root cause of suicide, such as bullying, isolation or lack of support. Through a business plan competition, students vie for micro-grants to seed fund their business endeavors and then implement their ideas – creating their products, marketing their business, managing their finances and measuring their impact. The foundation partners with Junior Achievement and the Second Wind Fund, and the curriculum is approved by DECA and FBLA.

Pastor Tom Teske

Pastor Teske exemplifies the role of "servant" and encourages other to follow. In addition to his ministry, he is president of the Board of Directors of the Joshua School for autistic children. His church, Concordia Lutheran, is franchised for Lifetree Café, a weekly community outreach to discuss "thorny" topics. His positive, caring attitude has inspired increased giving and volunteering, creating a budget surplus after funding a number of local, national and worldwide charitable projects. The many volunteer activities that Pastor Teske and his congregants serve include making scarves for the homeless through the Denver Rescue Mission, volunteering for Habitat for Humanity, participating in the Second Wind Fund annual fundraiser, and contributing to Gemini House, Treasure Trunk and the Action Center. In addition, the church provides Thanksgiving baskets to local families.

Together Church of Golden

In 2003, four local pastors started meeting regularly to pray and share their lives. The meeting of four turned to 12 and they now meet weekly. What started as a prayer session has led to new relationships among faith leaders, enabling them to unite their congregations when serving each other and the Golden community. Projects and events include Neighborhood Rehab, Harvest Festival for Golden kids, Buffalo Bill Days Together Church Service, Habitat for Humanity and the community garden. Community Conversations, hosted by the Together Church, have been attended by representatives from different segments of the community, including local service clubs and nonprofits, the faith community, City of Golden, Jefferson County Schools, School of Mines, Golden Chamber of Commerce and Golden Police and Fire departments. The purpose is to develop partnerships and provide resources to the Golden community. As a result of the conversations, there is now a web-based resource offering information about a wide variety of services.

Neal Browne



For more than 21 years, Neal Browne served as a reporter and anchor for 9News, the NBC affiliate in Denver. Besides general assignment, he also covered politics, the State Legislature, and several national political conventions. He was nominated for several Emmys

and awarded two, both for live reporting. He broke the story nationally of the exit of Gary Hart from the 1988 presidential race.

He also anchored a feature called "America Today" for two years. It was a series of short video stories depicting life and times in America. It was broadcast on more than 150 PBS-TV stations across the country and on Armed Forces Radio and Television in Europe.

Now involved in freelance, Neal has done segments for corporate accounts such as NAPA Auto Parts, AT&T, Corporate Express, GE, The Health News Network, US West, ITT, The Food Network, and two productions for the federal government. He has also narrated historical documentaries including the demos of "How The West Was Lost," "Viet Nam, the Tet Offensive," "The Jonestown Massacre," and the European broadcast version of "God Speed, John Glenn."

Neal formed his own company in 1999 called Media 3, Inc. and a subsidiary, TouchPoint Video, that help businesses and non-profit organizations tell their stories more effectively, more memorably, and more compellingly. He also authors the blog: www.expertmediacoach.com.

He lives in south Jefferson County with his wife, and is the stepfather of four adult children and three grandchildren.

GNC Hall of Fame Recipients

- 1995: The Rev. Alan Landes
- 1996: Betty Proctor, Terry Nelson
- 1997: Kathy Hartman
- 1998: Kay Pride
- 1999: The Rev. Jack Van Ens
- 2000: The Rev. Don Bleyle
- 2001: Joy Jeannelle, Marianne Weigand, Norma Whitney
- 2002: Leslie Levine, Norton Frickey and Crosspoint Productions
- 2003: Palmer Pekarek
- 2004: Dexter Meyer
- 2005: Tami Shrader, Roberta Bhasin
- 2006: Elizabeth Shinn
- 2007: Barb Ohms, Casey Mahon
- 2008: Kim Christiansen
- 2009: Marilyn Saltzman, Jeanne Oliver, Peggy Hallahan
- 2010: Tori Merritts, Sharon Morneau, Nancy Morgan
- 2011: Brenda Geist
- 2012: Neal Browne
- 2013: Paul Rodriguez

2013 Honorary Board

- Mayor Marc Williams, Arvada
- Mayor Bonnie McNulty, Edgewater
- Mayor Marjorie Sloan, Golden
- Mayor Robert Gordanier, Lakeside
- Mayor Bob Murphy, Lakewood
- Mayor Earl Aukland, Morrison
- Mayor Jeff Kiddie, Mountain View
- Mayor Nancy McNally, Westminster
- Mayor Gerald DiTullio, Wheat Ridge
- Ted Mink, Jefferson County Sheriff
- Peter Weir, Jefferson County District Attorney
- Dr. Cynthia Stevenson, Jeffco School Superintendent
- Lesley Dahlkemper, Jeffco School Board President
- Ami Pritchard, President, Jeffco Education Assn.
- Michele Patterson, President, Jeffco PTA
- Dr. Michele Haney, President, Red Rocks Community College
- Priscilla Straughn, President, Jefferson County Administrator's Assn.
- Dr. Harriet Hall, President/CEO, Jefferson Center for Mental Health
- Dr. Mark Johnson, Executive Director, Jeffco Public Health
- Marla Williams, President/CEO, Community First Foundation
- Dr. Art Hoagling, Executive Director, Developmental Disabilities Resource Center
- John Zabawa, President/CEO, Seniors' Resource Center
- Pam Nissler, Executive Director, Jeffco Public Library
- Linda Rockwell, Chair, Jefferson County Library Board of Trustees
- Bill Scoggins, President, Colorado School of Mines
- Lynn Johnson, Executive Director, Jefferson County Dept. of Human Services
- Sonja Christiansen, Chair, Duncan YMCA
- Ann Roux, President, Jefferson County League of Women Voters
- Jeff Whipple, Community Banking District Manager, Wells Fargo Bank
- Scott Shields, CEO, Family Tree
- Mag Strittmatter, Executive Director, The Action Center
- Jerry Marks, Chair, Arvada Chamber Board
- John Ellis, Evergreen Chamber Board
- Lisa Knipp, Chair, Golden Chamber Board
- Tom Ripp, Chair, West Chamber Board
- Brian Willms, President, CEO, West Chamber
- Kevin McCasky, President, CEO, Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation
- Fred Baker, Board Chair, Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation
- Ken Zeman, Publisher, Evergreen Newspapers
- Doug Bell, Editor, Evergreen Newspapers
- Gerald Healey, Publisher, Colorado Community Media
- Faye Griffin, Jefferson County Commissioner
- Donald Rosier, Jefferson County Commissioner
- Casey Tighe, Jefferson County Commissioner
- Randy and Sheila Rooney, Jefferson County's longest continuous family residents

Vie Thorgren



Vie Thorgren, D.Min. is the founder and director of the Center for Spirituality at Work in Denver, Colorado. Vie has 40 years of leadership experience as an educator, trainer and program developer. She travels internationally giving retreats and

workshops. Thorgren's bachelors in education and advanced degrees in counseling psychology and theology have developed her integrated thinking. Her international experiences living in South Korea and Kenya and her involvement with interfaith dialogue have enabled her to find linkages where others see barriers. Vie has a deep commitment to healing divisions, which is demonstrated in her ability to call forth and train others for service in multicultural settings.

Good News Themes: Since 2002

- 2002: Inspiring Creativity Through the Arts in Jefferson County
- 2003: Celebrating Our Environment: Promoting, Preserving, Protecting Our Natural Heritage
- 2004: Healthy Minds, Healthy Bodies, Healthy Communities
- 2005: Building Bridges
- 2006: Turning Vision into Action
- 2007: Business Building Better Communities
- 2008: Great Kids Building Great Communities
- 2009: Seniors on the Move
- 2010: Literacy: Creating Lifelong Learning
- 2011: Growing Legacy of Good Works
- 2012: Jefferson County, A Home for Everyone... Meeting the Basic Needs of Our Community
- 2013: Spiritual Values: Inspiring Stories That Enrich Our Communities

The good news is you can still attend the Celebration Breakfast!


Would you like to join us in honoring these 2013 outstanding individuals, groups and organizations? The breakfast will begin at 6:59 a.m., Tuesday, April 16, 2013 at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds. Tickets are \$13.

To make reservations, please visit our website at www.goodnewsjeffco.org. Reservations must be received by Friday, 5:00 p.m., April 12, 2013.

The Good News Coalition thanks our major sponsors!

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Lakewood

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Congratulations




Congratulations to the 2013 Honorees!




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Jefferson County Education Association

JCEA is
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Congratulations to all award recipients and nominees being honored at the 23rd annual Good News Breakfast!

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Congratulations!

Jefferson Center for Mental Health Salutes the Good News Breakfast Coalition and This Year's Honorees!

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