

Service Projects Strengthen our Community

Celebration Breakfast

Jefferson County Fairgrounds 6:59 a.m., Tuesday, April 29, 2014

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



2014 Good News Breakfast Program

- Welcome Mark Smiley: Chair, Good News Coalition
- Invocation Dan Thoemke: Executive Director of Community Faith in Action
- Pledge of Allegiance Americorp Support Team Leaders
- Speaker Introduction Neal Browne: Master of Ceremonies
- Keynote Speaker Teo Nicolais: President Elect, Kiwanis Club of Alameda West
- 2014 Honorees Neal Browne: Master of Ceremonies
- 2014 Hall of Fame
- Presentation Dr. Cynthia Stevenson: Jefferson County Public School Superintendent, 2002-2014
- Benediction Rabbi Jami Arnold: Beth Evergreen Synagogue

Thanks to:

- The Applewood Kiwanis Foundation for helping with parking.
- Jefferson County Sheriff's office and the City of Golden for traffic control.
- Rory Peachey and the entire Jefferson County Fairgrounds management and staff.
- Paul Rodriguez for the production of the Good News Celebration Breakfast Supplement/program.
- Jefferson County Public Library for donating space and resources.
- Jefferson County Education Association for the use of its meeting room.
- Good News Steering Committee.

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 2 for details.

2014 Steering Committee

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Neal Browne,
Neal Browne & Assoc./
Touchpoint Video</p> <p>Felix Cook,
Community First Foundation</p> <p>Roubhie Fairchild,
Duncan YMCA</p> <p>Joe Haines,
Goodwill Industries</p> <p>Jill Hartmann,
Jefferson Center for Mental Health</p> <p>Mallory Hyatt, (Secretary)
Jefferson County Human Services</p> <p>Anne Jefferies,
Community Volunteer</p> <p>Scott Kwasny,
Jefferson County
Education Association</p> <p>Leslie Levine,
Community Volunteer</p> <p>Natalie Martinez,
Jefferson County Library Foundation</p> | <p>Jill McGranahan,
Arvada Police Department PIO</p> <p>Tori Merritts,
Youth Leadership Jefferson County</p> <p>Gary Messick,
Community Volunteer</p> <p>Dexter Meyer,
Community Volunteer</p> <p>Bob O'Connell,
Applewood Kiwanis</p> <p>Sidnie O'Connell, (Treasurer)
Wespective, Inc.</p> <p>Jeanne Oliver,
Jefferson Center for Mental Health</p> <p>Barbara Penning,
The Action Center</p> <p>Kay Pride,
Kay Pride Communications</p> <p>Betty Proctor,
Senior Lobby</p> <p>Melissa Reeves,
Jeffco Public Schools</p> | <p>Susan Riach,
AAUW</p> <p>Pam Russell, (Co-Chair)
Jeffco District Attorney's Office</p> <p>Leah Rybak,
Seniors' Resource Center</p> <p>Marilyn Saltzman,
PR Consultant</p> <p>Elizabeth Shinn,
Community Volunteer</p> <p>Mark Smiley, (Chair)
Glendale Cherry Creek Chronicle</p> <p>Rev. Jack Van Ens,
Creative Growth Ministries</p> <p>Leah Varnell,
CASA of Jefferson & Gilpin Counties</p> <p>Mary Wagner,
JCAA</p> <p>Rebecca Winning,
Jefferson County Public Library</p> |
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Abundant Life Community Church – Food Bags for Head Start Families

Abundant Life Community Church provides food for families enrolled in Jefferson County Head Start. Head Start serves 406 low-income preschoolers and their families. The church gets the food from the Rocky Mountain Food Bank. Church members do all the leg work from applying for the food, picking it up, bagging and delivering it. On average close to 200 families receive a food bag every other week. The project has been in place for four years.

Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth – Santa House

The Santa House, sponsored by the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth, provides holiday gifts for students from 16 Arvada and Wheat Ridge area elementary schools. Since the program started eight years ago, 2,874 families have received gifts for 19,705 children, from infants to 14-year-olds. Partners in the project include Jeffco Schools, Red Rocks Community College and area service clubs. Arvada Plaza has donated space for the Santa Shop. New toys come from all areas of the community.

Blue Heron Elementary Student Leadership Organization

The Student Leadership Organization at Blue Heron Elementary includes about 70 students and 11 staff members who are determined to make a difference. Students are learning about empowerment and social responsibility through the Seven Habits of Highly Effective Kids. They meet every Friday to work on community service projects, which include clothing drives for The Action Center and school supply drives. Blue Heron has formed a partnership with Vivian Elementary and raises funds to help students at that school.

Columbine Kiwanis Club – Family Care Kits

When the Columbine Kiwanis Club conducted its community survey last year, member Sandy Legge visited Littleton Adventist Hospital. She learned that the patients who arrived with an emergency receive good care, but the accompanying family members are totally unprepared for the situation. The Kiwanians filled the gap with their Family Care Kits, which include items for personal hygiene as well as pens, pencils, paper, puzzle books, cards and snacks. The kits show families that someone cares during their emergency. Hospital staff has noted that the kits are making a difference, and Columbine Kiwanis will continue this work.

Cub Scout Pack #572 – Leawood Paver Project

Cub Scout Pack #572 believes in making its school safer and more attractive. The pack members have re-stripped the basketball courts and yearly clear the weeds from the baseball field. Most recently, the Scouts responded to a security hazard. Rocks from the school's flagpole area were getting kicked into the front doorway, preventing it from closing safely. The Pack designed a plan to remove the rocks, wrote a grant to Lowe's for materials, and led a project for families to purchase pavers to replace the gravel. Pavers are currently being sold, leaving a legacy for Leawood students and families while keeping the school entrance safe.

Eiber Literacy Program

The Eiber Literacy Program was started in 2011 by volunteer Lois Witte as a lunch hour reading program and has grown into a reading, math and homework assistance program. In addition to volunteering her time, Lois was instrumental in enlisting the support of her co-workers at the USDA to volunteer at Eiber. Now

more than 35 volunteers are tutoring students and helping them succeed in school. Lois' work has significantly impacted students by providing mentoring, a stable force, educational assistance and encouragement.

Golden Optimists Club – Bringing Out the Best in Kids

The Golden Optimists Club sponsors three major annual projects as part of the International Optimists "Bringing Out the Best in Kids" effort. The projects are a school supply drive for Golden-area elementary schools; forensics club support and oratorical contest for Golden High students; and Bicycle Recycle. The bike donation program solicits used bicycles from the community and local law enforcement. Bikes are refurbished at a shop in Heritage Square and donated to youth. Since the program's inception, more than 6,000 bikes have been distributed. In 2012, the Optimists significantly increased donations through a partnership with the Golden Sage 6 Pro Cycling Challenge and the Foothills Running and Cycling Club. To promote safety, the club distributes helmets along with the bikes.

Kiwanis AKtion Clubs – Rocky Mountain Partners and Blue Spruce

The Kiwanis AKtion Clubs are for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Like other Kiwanis clubs, members sponsor a wide variety of service projects for the community. Since 2001 the Rocky Mountain AKtion Club has changed the community's perceptions about the abilities and contributions of people with disabilities. It also makes members feel great about their contributions to the community. The club's projects include fundraising for Windy Peak Outdoor Lab School and packaging food every month for The Action Center.

Members of the Blue Spruce AKtion Club ring bells for the Salvation Army and deliver care packages to senior citizens and grieving youth at Camp Comfort. As goodwill ambassadors, they assist the Blue Spruce Kiwanis with such projects as Ice Golf, Big Chili and Elks Easter Eggs. The AKtion Club members donated generously to the victims of the Evergreen flood.

Kiwanis Club of Golden – American Flag Service

The American Flag Service started on Memorial Day 2001 with 155 flags along South Golden Road. A joint project between the Kiwanis Club of Golden and Boy Scout Troop 130, the service provides American flags at homes and community locations on five national holidays – Memorial Day, Flag Day, July 4, Labor Day and Veterans'

Day. Flags are also displayed for special events and in times of national mourning. The Kiwanis Club donates money from the project for Eagle Scout projects and other youth projects in the community. Participating scouts earn money for their camping and adventure trips.

Kiwanis Clubs of Jefferson County – The Write Stuff

In 2009, a task force of Kiwanis Clubs decided to combine forces with The Action Center to reach students who are enrolled in the free and reduced-price lunch program of Jeffco Schools. The Kiwanis Club of Alameda West and its foundation took the lead in the project to provide school supplies in January to augment the Action Center's August school supply drive midway through the school year. Since its inception, the program has served almost 10,000 youth, and now provides supplies to students at Eiber, Stein, Molholm, Lumberg and Edgewater elementary schools. This year 2,700 kids received supplies that included 4,700 packages of paper; 14,000 pencils and 1,750 boxes of crayons. It took approximately 350 volunteer hours and \$4,800 in donations to accomplish the project this January.

Neighborhood Rehab Project

The Neighborhood Rehab Project is about neighbors helping neighbors address their warm, safe, dry household needs in Golden. More than 100 volunteers help residents with scores of home improvement projects each year. These activities include roof replacement, weed removal, kitchen upgrades and mobile home skirting repair. The program is a partnership of Community Faith in Action and the city of Golden. Volunteers are recruited from throughout the faith community and the city.

Seniors' Resource Center – Holiday Food Baskets

The Seniors' Resource Center's Holiday Food Baskets have become an annual tradition of giving from the heart. The seniors create 130 festively decorated boxes filled with food and gifts and personally deliver them to the elderly and individuals with disabilities between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Volunteers and local grocery stores, schools, youth organizations and businesses help collect the food, provide gifts, make ornaments and even provide treats for the recipients' pets. Many of the recipients live in remote areas of Jeffco and are hungry and alone. Seeing a smiling volunteer bearing gifts warms their hearts.



Teo Nicolais



Jefferson County native Teo Nicolais is a real estate entrepreneur who loves to teach. Nicolais owns and operates a real estate investment company, Nicolais, LLC, which invests in multifamily rental properties in Lakewood and is active in Jefferson County's "fix-and-flip" market. Nicolais is the president-elect of the Kiwanis Club of Alameda West, chair-elect of the Apartment

Association of Metro Denver's Independent Rental Owner's Council, and a member of the Urban Land Institute.

After graduating from Green Mountain High School, Nicolais earned his bachelor's degree from Harvard College with a concentration in economics. As part of his undergraduate academic work, he studied advanced real estate finance at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and leadership at the Harvard Business School.

Throughout his professional life, Nicolais has always made time to teach. He is a teacher at Harvard's Division of Continuing Education and was the recipient of the 2012 and 2013 Student Choice Award from the Harvard Extension Student Association.

GNC Hall of Fame Recipients

- 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
- 2014: Dr. Cynthia Stevenson

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
- 2014: Service Projects Strengthen our Community



2014 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 Herb Atchison**, Westminster
- Mayor Joyce Chase**, Wheat Ridge
- Ted Mink**, Jefferson County Sheriff
- Peter Weir**, Jefferson County District Attorney
- Dr. Cynthia Stevenson**, Former Jeffco School Superintendent
- Ken Witt**, President, Jeffco School Board
- Dr. Michele Haney**, President, Red Rocks Community College
- Patty DeLorenzo**, President, Jefferson County Administrator's Assn.
- Ami Pritchard**, President, Jeffco Education Assn.
- Michele Patterson**, President, Jeffco PTA
- 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
- Sonja Christiansen**, Chair, Duncan Family YMCA Board
- John Zabawa**, President/CEO, Seniors' Resource Center
- Pam Nissler**, Executive Director, Jeffco Public Library
- Patricia Mesec**, President, Jeffco League of Women Voters
- Emily Robinson**, President, FirstBank West
- Jeff Whippie**, Vice President & Community Banking District Mgr., Wells Fargo Bank
- Scott Shields**, CEO, Family Tree
- Tami Bandimere Schrader**, President, Jefferson County Library Foundation
- Mag Strittmatter**, Executive Director, The Action Center
- Gerry Marks**, Chair, Arvada Chamber Board
- Susan Hammond & Vickie Autry**, Co-Chairs, Evergreen Chamber Board
- Dianne Bennett**, Chair, Golden Chamber Board
- Joni Inman**, Chair Elect, West Chamber Board
- Brian Willms**, President, CEO, West Chamber
- Kevin McCaskey**, President, CEO, Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation
- Rob Osborn**, 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 living continuous family residents
- Ray Elliott**, Chair, Jefferson County Public Library Board of Trustees
- Lynn Johnson**, Jefferson County Human Services

Cindy Stevenson



Dr. Cindy Stevenson was appointed Superintendent of Schools for Jeffco Public Schools in 2002.

Dr. Stevenson has more than 34 years experience as a Jeffco Public Schools educational leader, including time as a teacher, an assistant principal, a principal, the assistant superintendent for instruction, and deputy superintendent.

She is the first Jeffco Public Schools alumnus to lead Colorado's largest public school system, with more than 85,000 students at 155 schools and many other programs at a total of 185 campuses.

As Jefferson County's largest employer, Jeffco Public Schools employs nearly 14,000 full and part-time staff, and invests more than \$1 billion annually into the county's economy.

Dr. Stevenson earned her university degrees, including a Ph.D. in Administration, Supervision and Curriculum Development, from the University of Colorado.

In 2004, she pushed for a \$323.8 million bond package, which was approved by voters. The bond paid for approximately 356 school Capital Improvement Projects including a \$1.2 million addition to Evergreen Middle School, a new Golden High School, new Bear Creek High School and Arvada West High School. This was the first bond passed to support Jeffco school facilities since 1997.

She helped save the district from a projected \$45 million budget reduction by spearheading an effort to pass a bond and mill election in 2008. The measures passed with 60 percent of voters in favor.

During her almost 12-year tenure as superintendent, Jeffco's record of achievement garnered national attention. U.S. News and World Report has continually ranked Jeffco's high schools on their Best High Schools list. Jeffco Public Schools tied for the second-best graduation rate of the nation's 50 largest school districts, according to Education Week's Diplomas Count report.

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.

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.



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

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