



THE  
HOME  
FRONT  
CARES

March 2014

# NEWS

## FROM THE HOME FRONT

### Field Filling for Veterans Cup Golf at Sanctuary

The field is filling fast for The Home Front Cares' annual golf tournament June 27, once again at the prestigious, exclusive Sanctuary in Sedalia, Colo., as golfers will vie this year for the first-ever Veterans Cup.

Sanctuary Presented by RE/MAX, in the foothills south of Denver, was created in 1997 as a place for service organizations to develop unique relationships with those who support their efforts to improve our community. Play is limited not by membership, but to support charitable organizations.

This is the fifth year that Sanctuary has hosted THFC, and tournament organizers are planning the largest, most prestigious event ever.

THFC is proud to have the support of members of the Colorado section of the PGA, and numerous country clubs and golf courses along the Front Range are expected to enter teams. They will join Colorado Springs Mayor Steve Bach and other Front Range community and business leaders, as well as several veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan. Sam's Club, longtime supporters of THFC, is this year's title sponsor.

This year, THFC introduces the Veterans Cup, which will be awarded to the winning foursome. The winners will keep the trophy until the next year's tournament, when it will be transferred to the new champion. The team captained by Troy Calhoun, head football coach at the Air Force Academy, is the two-time defending tournament champions.

See Page 2 for Tournament Info



**Bob Hilty, President of Modern Woodmen of America's Chapter 7226, presented a giant check to THFC's Program Manager, Amy Cutler, for MWA's support of our November "10for10" campaign. Modern Woodmen was one of many new donors who helped THFC to a record year.**

### Broken Records, And Other Broken Things

**By April Speake  
Executive Director**

This past year, we've seen some unusual records broken.

There was the loudest purr by a cat. The world's largest Lego model. The world's youngest pilot to circumnavigate the globe. (I got these from Buzzfeed.com.)

Celebrating our tenth anniversary in 2013, The Home Front Cares also broke a

record—the most money we have raised in our history!

By the end of our fiscal year, April 30, we expect to raise more than \$1 million--the first time we've topped a million dollars! We anticipate providing assistance to more than 350 families with grants to pay rent, utilities and other essential life expenses. We also will have helped more than 800 Colorado veterans find necessary referral and counseling

See Broken, Page 3

# 11 Years Later, THFC Still 'Right Thing To Do'

## Co-Founder's Son Recalls Our Roots, His Father's Vision

Mark Henjum remembers when his father, Joe, and Bob Carlone founded The Home Front Cares in 2003, they weren't sure how long their all-volunteer nonprofit would last. But they knew it was the right thing to do.

The two retired Air Force colonels conceived THFC over breakfast on the day after the United States invaded Iraq in 2003. "A few weeks after he and Bob had that fateful breakfast, my entire family was together for dinner," Mark recalls.

"He reminded us all of how hard it was for my mother during the time he was deployed to Vietnam. He talked about how there is a gap in the support network for military families, and how he and Bob thought that by getting some like-minded folks together, and raising some money and gathering some expertise, they could ease that burden just a little for the families who wait at home. I don't recall if they had a name at that time, but the vision was very clear."

Eleven years later, the mission has evolved, and THFC now has paid staff who serves veterans state-wide. But that vision remains clear—emergency aid for military families—a financial bridge that provides hope for a brighter future.

"I remember him telling me about helping those first few families," Mark said, "taking the calls, going out to meet the



**Col. Joe Henjum, right, was a Vietnam veteran. He and fellow retired Col. Bob Carlone, also a Vietnam veteran, formed The Home Front Cares in 2003 to ensure that families of deployed soldiers had the support system they needed. (Photo courtesy of the Henjum family.)**

families, getting the resources together to solve the problem, and the joy of it all. He really loved seeing those spouses breathe a sigh of relief."

Today's staff and volunteers experience the same emotions. Joe Henjum died Jan. 1, 2010, and Bob Carlone passed last year. But their vision still resonates, a legacy that shapes the nonprofit today.

"My father would tell you that when the military is called to respond to a challenge on behalf of the nation, the families who are left behind bear a disproportionate share of the sacrifices that are made," Mark

said. "Wives, husbands and children of deployed service members pay an invisible price in times of war, and we as a nation have an opportunity to express our gratitude and support by helping out when the car breaks down, or the basement floods, or the utilities are cut off. It's a hand-up for a struggling spouse, an encouragement that someone really does care.

"And I think he would want more and more people to experience the joy and fulfillment one gets by doing something for another person—without reward—just because it's the right thing to do."

## Veterans Cup Golf Tournament Schedule, Sponsorships and Fees

### SCHEDULE

**SANCTUARY Presented By RE/MAX**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25th**

**9:30 - 11 a.m.**

Player Registration opens,  
practice facilities available  
**10 a.m.**

Lunch service begins  
**11:10 a.m.**

Rules briefing  
**11:30 a.m.**

Shotgun start  
**5 p.m.**

Dinner & awards

**Tee Times:** \$1,000 per individual

Includes brunch and dinner, cart and range balls, on-course beverages, snacks and goodie bags, use of Sanctuary's exquisite club house. *Limited to 120 total golfers*

**Title Sponsor:** \$30,000

Includes three foursomes (12 golfers total); banner at event; recognition and speaking opportunity at golf dinner; logo item in golfers' goodie bags; news release announcing your sponsorship; table for 10 at our annual dinner

**Eagle Sponsor (2 available):** \$20,000

Includes golf foursome; hole sponsorship with sign at your hole; logo item in golfers' goodie bags; recognition from podium, and in our quarterly newsletter, social media and website; table for 10 at our annual dinner

**Hole Sponsorship (18 total):** \$1,500

Includes sign at your hole, recognition in our quarterly newsletter, social media and website

For more information about the tournament, call 719-434-1407 or email [info@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:info@thehomefrontcares.org).

## Broken—From Page 1

services with our many partner agencies.

It has been an amazing year.

Why is this important?

Not because we're proud of ourselves. Because of other things that are broken...the backlog of need at the Veterans Administration, our economy, locally and nationally, and our ability as a nation to support our American heroes who have sacrificed for our freedoms.

Throughout our tenth anniversary, a catchphrase around the office has been "but we're not celebrating." When Joe Henjum and Bob Carlone founded The Home Front Cares in 2003, they did not know how long their small nonprofit would endure—how long THFC would be needed. I don't believe that 10 years later, they would have thought that need would still be growing, and that we'd be serving Colorado veterans from the Western Slope to the Eastern Plains.

We don't celebrate our 10th anniversary or our record year, because those accomplishments, as wonderful and meaningful as they are to our clients, partners, staff and volunteers, shine a light on what's broken in our society.

Over the next couple years, the military will cut tens of thousands of people, returning them to civilian life. None of these men and women were drafted into service. All volunteered, and many hoped or planned to build careers in the military to care for their families. Soon they'll enter a struggling job market, while most of them struggle with Post-Traumatic Stress and other physical or emotional battle wounds. They will wait months for VA benefits, and be without the support system and services that their families have relied upon.

So while The Home Front Cares has broken records this year, we're still not celebrating. There is too much else broken, and that's why we are here. Please join us.

### Sponsor This Newsletter!

THFC thanks Aspen Auto Clinic for sponsoring this newsletter for the past year. If your company would like to be our newsletter sponsor and pay for its printing cost, contact THFC's development manager, George Hayward, at 719-314-5018.

## Author Lee Woodruff to Speak at Annual Dinner

Author and CBS This Morning contributor Lee Woodruff will be the keynote speaker Oct. 17 at The Home Front Cares' tenth annual military appreciation dinner, "For the Love of Our Troops X." This year's event will be held on Friday, Oct. 17, in Broadmoor Hall at The Broadmoor.

As co-author of the best-selling *In an Instant*, Woodruff garnered critical acclaim for the compelling and humorous chronicle of her family's journey to recovery following her husband Bob's roadside bomb injury in Iraq. Appearing together on national television and radio since the February 2007 publication of their book, the couple has helped put a face on the serious issue of Traumatic Brain Injury among returning Iraq war veterans who live with this often invisible, but life-changing affliction. They have founded the Bob Woodruff Foundation to assist wounded service members and their families receive the long-term care that



they need and help them successfully reintegrate into their communities.

Woodruff is a contributing reporter for *CBS This Morning*, commenting on a variety of home, current events, and family-related topics. Her best-selling book, *Perfectly Imperfect – A Life in Progress*, was followed by her first novel, *Those We Love Most*, which became a *New York Times* best-seller and won the Washington Irving Book Award for fiction.

"We are honored to have Lee join us this year," said April Speake, executive director of The Home Front Cares. "She has a special gift for putting the issue of TBI and the struggles of both the wounded and their families in a context that everyone can understand."

Tickets and sponsorship packages for the dinner are now available. For reservations or more information, visit [www.thehomefrontcares.org](http://www.thehomefrontcares.org).



### Caring Calendar

Here are a few more upcoming opportunities to support THFC:

**1st Wednesday of every month, 5-9 p.m.—Freddie's Steakhouses'**  
Colorado Springs locations donate 10% of sales to THFC

**May 10—Gamers Giving RPG Event** at Total Escape Games, 6831 W. 120th Ave. Suite C, Broomfield CO. For info, email [justin.suzuki@gmail.com](mailto:justin.suzuki@gmail.com)

**May 24—ColorMeRad 5K** Sky Sox Stadium, Colorado Springs, register at [www.colormerad.com/race/colorado-springs](http://www.colormerad.com/race/colorado-springs)

**June 16—Tri-Lakes Lions and Tri-Lakes Chamber Golf Outing**, Monument Hill Country Club, register at <http://trilakeschamber.com>

## Where Your Donation Goes

The Home Front Cares provides responsive, emergency financial aid and other support to Colorado's service members, veterans and military families. ***Quite often, our grants pay rent or utilities that save a veteran from homelessness or keep the power turned on for a military family.***

According to our 2013 audit, our administrative overhead is less than 19%—an outstanding figure for a nonprofit. Nearly 82 cents of every dollar goes toward aid and programs: Grants to Families, Energy Assistance, Adaptive Housing and Welcome Home Heroes. Since 2003,

we have helped thousands of Colorado military and veteran families with grants.

The need for our aid will increase in the next few years, as the wars abroad wind down and 100,000 service members exit the military into an uncertain economy. They, and their families, have sacrificed so much for us. It is time to show them that their home front cares about them. Please help us.

**To donate, please use the enclosed envelope, or visit [www.thehomefrontcares.org](http://www.thehomefrontcares.org) and click the Donate button.**

The Home Front Cares, Inc.  
P.O. Box 38516  
Colorado Springs, CO 80937-8516

Non Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Colorado Springs, CO  
Permit Number 857

## Your Donation Makes A Difference

### A Client Testimonial

**Our case managers often receive notes of gratitude from our clients. We like to share some of those notes, because they are a reminder of the struggles of today's veterans, and the importance of our work.**

Your ability to help me with my finances not only helped me with my bills and getting financially stable again, it also helped me as a mom and it gave me hope for my future. Being so stressed and overwhelmed caused me to put more focus towards that and less towards my children. I had lost hope of recovering financially from my situation but with your help I saw a light at the end of the tunnel. I can't even explain how this helped me spiritually and emotionally.

The Home Front Cares  
P.O. Box 38516  
Colorado Springs, CO 80937-8516  
Phone: (719) 434-1407  
[www.thehomefrontcares.org](http://www.thehomefrontcares.org)  
[info@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:info@thehomefrontcares.org)  
**Helpline 719-434-1501**



The Home Front Cares is a Colorado charitable corporation with 501c3 status that provides responsive emergency aid and other support to Colorado service members, veterans and military families.

**Executive Director**  
April Speake: [april.speake@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:april.speake@thehomefrontcares.org)  
**Development Manager**  
George Hayward: [g.hayward@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:g.hayward@thehomefrontcares.org)  
**Office Manager**  
Ruth Wilson: [ruth.wilson@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:ruth.wilson@thehomefrontcares.org)  
**Program Manager**  
Amy Cutler: [amy.cutler@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:amy.cutler@thehomefrontcares.org)  
**Case Manager**  
Tamara Tiefel: [tamara.tiefel@thehomefrontcares.org](mailto:tamara.tiefel@thehomefrontcares.org)