

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

Jing Ying Continues Its Tradition Of Excellence

By Allie Walker

The Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu and Tai Chi opened in Arnold in November 2000. In 2004, the Greer family, who had been active students at Jing Ying, took over ownership at the Institute.

Billy, who studies and teaches kung fu and tai chi, also teaches the home school Kung Fu program, a Physical Education program for homeschoolers, and a Shaolin Fitness program for seniors.

Billy's wife Nancy studies tai chi and organizes charity events, parties and community activities. Their two children, Glen and Lane contribute to business, classes and performances. While Glen studies kung fu and is known for his sparring and jumping ability, Lane studies kung fu and tai chi and excels in weapons work and flexibility.

"We realized it had become the center of our activities and an important part of life, and we couldn't bear the thought of losing such a unique and important resource for the community," said Billy. "Our decision to take over the school was based primarily on our desire to continue being students ourselves."

The shift to ownership was made easier for the Greers by retaining many of the instructors, such as Chief Instructor Sean Marshall. Sean is "an accomplished martial artist with decades of

experience and numerous medals in national and international competition. He is highly regarded," acknowledged Billy.

Through Nancy's guidance, Jing Ying has become very active in the community, raising thousands of dollars for charity, sponsoring cultural events to celebrate Chinese New Year, and providing educational programs for schools, scouts, churches and other organizations.

Kung Fu is one of the most popular programs at the institute. Billy maintains, "Kung Fu has long been recognized for its health benefits."

Tai Chi, another Jing Ying favorite and a type of kung fu, is low-impact with an emphasis on slow and smooth movements. "We also provide students the opportunity to learn martial arts applications and to train with weapons," notes Billy, who enjoys working with kids.

Although 75% of the programs offered are devoted to adults, the oldest student is 92 and the youngest is 2 years of age. "We have separate Tigers and Dragons programs for our Kung Fu Kids and our pre-school Pandas program is an exercise and games class for children (ages 2-5). We also have programs for homeschoolers including Kung Fu and PE."

Jing Ying also offers per-

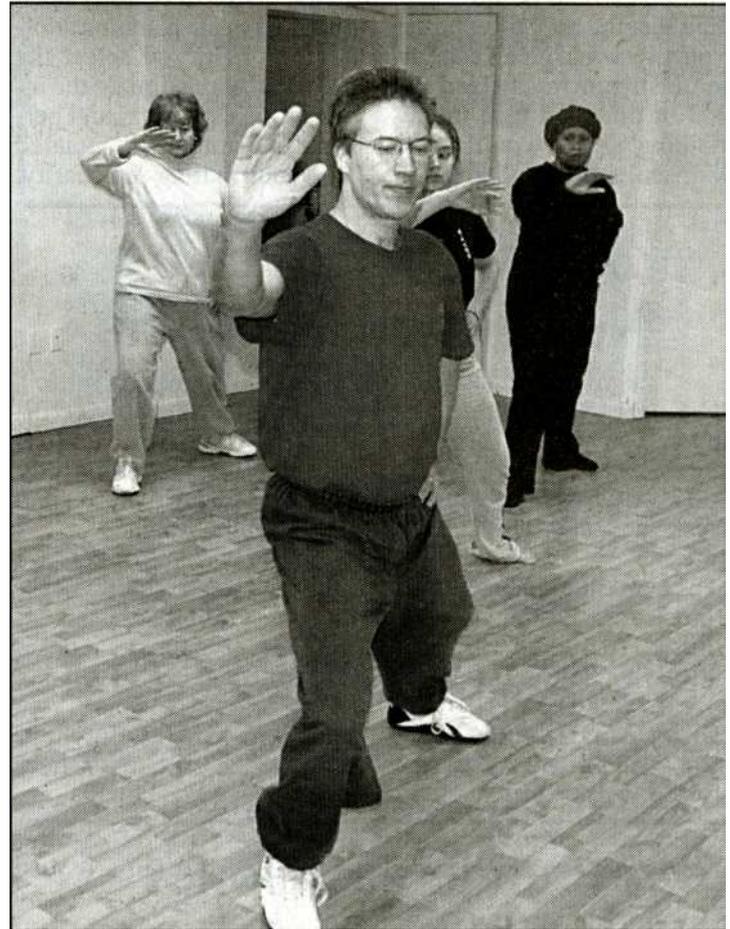


Photo by Brian Lancione

Jing Ying Institute of Kung Fu and Tai Chi owner Billy Greer leads a class in the graceful art of Tai Chi.

formances for entertainment and education. Starting January 26th and ending February 7th, Jing Ying will be offering many no cost or low cost workshops to help celebrate Chinese New Year. Included will be a free woman's self-defense workshop, introductory kung fu and tai chi

classes, tea tasting, a Lion Dance, Kung Fu performances and more.

Billy concludes, "Our family has worked hard and spent time making Jing Ying the best of the best, so students can achieve their best."

For more information, visit www.jingying.org.