Dynamic, passionate and eloquent, teaching the best of East and West

Dr. Keith Jeffery

East
Keith has studied with world famous teachers in t’ai chi, chi kung, tantra, meditation, karate (black belt) and Thai massage, and has over 25 years of teaching experience.

West
For almost 20 years, Keith practiced western medicine. As a veterinarian, he was skilled in surgery, dentistry, nutrition, pathology, radiology, pharmacology, as well as preventative and emergency medicine - in a multitude of different species.

The Best of Both Worlds
He skillfully blends the best of both in ways anyone can understand - simply and powerfully. He is a health and wellness motivational speaker sought after by organizations around the world who recognize the value of healthy, resourceful employees.

Participants Overwhelmingly Love His Presentation Style

“You have an exceptional ability to instruct and guide others.”

“Excellent info, outstanding teacher. Great Day!”

“You showed us the deep connection between our thoughts and our health.”

“You are a great motivator. Thanks a million!”

“Very professional - really engaged the audience.”

“Fabulous speaker - total motivation for new changes in my life.”

“...very good balance between humor and empathy.”

“...very positive, inspiring and uplifting.”

“... a wonderful sense of humor.”

“...informative and hilarious session.”

“It totally exceeded my expectations.”

“On a scale of 1 to 10, I give you a 10 plus!”

“...delightful! Both easy to follow and fun to do!”

“Awesome!”

“...joy and laughter filled the workshop.”

“...truly amazing.”

“Best ever!”

“...a wonderful evening.”
Four Minutes to Fitness

By Katherine Dedyna
Times Colonist staff

Retired Nanoose Bay veterinarian Keith Jeffery runs about 15 kilometers a week, walks, exercises regularly with weights and an elliptical trainer, plays golf and practices tai chi religiously. But the indispensable workout in his life, and the one he makes a good living from these days -- is called 4 Minute Fitness.

Not meant to replace other forms of physical activity, this is a mind-body quickie regime that mingles tai chi, yoga, breathing, qi gong, brain science, physics and positive thinking and forms a touchstone for his overall sense of wellness. And he's taught it to thousands of other people in businesses, recreation centers, military schools, professional conferences and by video.

In the past few years, 4 Minute Fitness has taken the 53-year-old Jeffery and his social worker wife, Krisanna, all over North America and the Far East on teaching expeditions. Just back from a major teach-in via the U.S. Department of Defense in Tokyo and Okinawa, he'll be offering a session Tuesday at the Archie Browning Sports Centre in Esquimalt.

Practiced regularly, he says 4 Minute Fitness can translate into "the most powerful exercises you've ever done." It's anything but frenetic, requires no special clothing, nothing but your own body and can be done just about anytime, anywhere, standing or seated. The five simple exercises are done easily, incorporating tenets of positive thinking and mind power used by professional athletes getting pumped, and visualizing what they want to happen.

Jeffery, a member of the advisory board of the American Tai Chi Association and an experienced teacher, no longer bothers to teach hundreds of moves. Instead, he has combined his 25 years of knowledge into a few simple moves.

Four minutes a day doesn't sound like much, but it works out to more than three working days a year -- a whole lot of mind and body focus. "I always joke, it sort of represents everything I learned in the 20 years prior to that. Either I didn't learn very much or there's a lot in it." He prefers the latter definition.

"We work almost every muscle and almost every joint, but slowly and gently. When you squat down and you come up very slowly, you get 10 times more leg value than if you come up more quickly.

"I add breathing because I really think deep breathing is so powerful." Proper breathing, which most of us do not know how to do amounts to unconscious pushups for their respiratory system that can do everything from aid digestion to control anxiety. The rest of the workout can improve flexibility, balance, energy and attitude, he says.

Almost everyone thinks their balance diminishes as they age, but almost no one does anything about it. "Balance only gets better if you practice it," he says. And one of his exercises has people hold their hips and head still -- "a key secret of tai chi practice" -- and turn the shoulders, allowing them to rotate almost every vertebra in the back.

His Website (www.4minutefitness.com) touts everything from hypertension to poor circulation, migraine and irritable bowel syndrome that may be helped by gentle exercise and deep breathing.

His transformation from veterinary medicine came about when he was doing tai chi on the beach one day. "All of a sudden, the whole concept just came into my mind," he recalls. That was in the mid-1990s and he subsequently took it all over

Along with his other video, Tai Chi For Busy People -- a five-minute session -- he has sold about 25,000 copies at $30 apiece, many through the Reader’s Digest.

A year ago February, he addressed 1,500 teachers and support staff in one month.

Relatively unheralded close to home, people thousands of miles away get excited about his program. One of them is Dr. Nancy Bresell, Ph.D, director of the U.S. Department of Defense Dependents Schools for the Pacific region. She first met Jeffery while vacationing on Vancouver Island and pursuing her interest in tai chi with him. She thought his 4 Minute Fitness approach had merit and could dovetail with the need for approaches to wellness and stress release by time-pressed leaders in her organization, which employs about 3,000 people and is responsible for 26,000 pupils.

In the past two-and-a-half years, Jeffery has worked with almost 100 principals and assistant principals (in Tokyo), 300 employees in Guam (and Okinawa), as well as hundreds of students, and provided additional training for staff and teachers, she estimates.

"While we are not in the military, we work with the military. Keith's work was incredibly well-received," she says in an e-mail.

Bresell regularly practices both tai chi and 4-Minute Fitness.

"I find that these routines keep me grounded and centered throughout the day, and I am less frustrated by the small annoyances of everyday life and work (except when I am driving!). Keith's approach is really designed for busy people who can't seem to find the time to exercise, or meditate, or relax!... I would recommend the practice to anyone."

The mind also gets a mini overhaul under Jeffery's system.

What people put their attention on tends to be what they get, so focus on the bright side, says the preternaturally positive father of twin boys and stepfather to another -- all age 20.

Assuming a posture of depression can lead to just that, while a confident body position can make people feel on top of the world. Focusing on past failures is no different than an athlete trying to psych himself up for the big game by reliving his biggest gaffe. Professional athletes pump their fists into the air to increase their energy and feel good about themselves in order to earn their million-plus salaries.

"I'm so passionate about the mind aspect of this," he says. By focusing on what they want, he says people hone their body's "reticular activating system" - a brain filter that lets us ignore most stimuli around us but still hear our names spoken at a noisy party.

Power phrases and loving affirmations set it positively when often we've unconsciously set it negatively.

"Every day, make a conscious effort to focus on all the beauty, wonder, joy and opportunity in your life, then your reticular activating system will support that thought."

He cites the example that recently came from the prestigious Cleveland Clinic, where 10 volunteers did mental biceps curls five times a week and increased their biceps by 13 per cent.
East and West offers huge potential. Now add male and female to the mix. Keith and Krisanna often work together presenting a variety of different wellness and life skill techniques.

**Exclusive Personal Coaching**

Each year Keith and Krisanna work with a few exclusive clients (individuals or couples) for private, one-on-one life enhancement sessions, designed for high functioning people in business or entertainment who wish to:
- master their 4 Minute Fitness™ and/or Easy Tai Chi™ movements to maximize benefits.
- find balance and joy in their personal lives while continuing to offer a high level of business productivity
- deal with fears, phobias, addictions, personal sabotage.
- enhance personal, family or sexual relationships.

Accommodation at a local luxurious spa, or the location of your choice.

www.4MinuteFitness.com/exclusive.htm

**Teacher Certification**

Increasing numbers of organizations are Certifying 4 Minute Fitness™ and/or Easy Tai Chi™ instructors to work within their organizations. There are many options - please call for further information.

www.EasyTaiChi.com/teachers.htm

**Information**

**Websites**

Corporate e-brochure - including video clips
- www.4MinuteFitness.com/corporate.htm
General T'ai Chi information - www.EasyTaiChi.com

**Videos & DVDs**

Best selling videos - Tai Chi for Busy People™ and 4 Minute Fitness™
- www.EasyTaiChi.com/video.htm and www.4MinuteFitness.com
Easy Weight Loss for Busy People™ - www.Best-Weight.com

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