



**February
27th, 2024**

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This Week: The American Heart Association

This week, we're taking a look at your heart - or at least, the work that the American Heart Association is doing to keep all of our hearts healthier. Our speakers are Berenice Vasquez and Katherine Crump.

Berenice Vasquez is the Community Impact Director in Chattanooga and North Georgia. She is passionate about improving community health by reducing health disparities, improving access to care, and finding effective ways to address social determinants of health. Berenice holds a bachelor's degree in healthcare administration from Reinhardt University. She enjoys being able to make a positive impact in the communities we live, work, and play in through the American Heart Association's initiatives. She finds the work she does at the American Heart Association very rewarding as she has friends and family members who have been affected by cardiovascular disease. Berenice enjoys traveling, hiking, painting, and showing the world to her 2-year-old daughter, Maya.

Katherine is the AHA's Director of Development in Dalton and the North Georgia area. She is passionate about health equity and the amazing work that the American Heart Association is doing to create a healthier future for all. Katherine enjoys traveling, reading and spending time with her adorable labradoodle, Wellington.

Meeting Recap: The Career Academy

Last week we had the distinct honor of welcoming David Moeller to our club. David serves our community as the CEO of the Northwest Georgia College and Career Academy (NWGCCA) and as Director for Career, Technical, and Agricultural Education (CTAE) for Whitfield County Schools. Rotarian, Barbara Ward had the pleasure of assisting in David's hiring during her service on the board at the NWGCCA. She describes David as "not afraid to make a change when one needs to be made".



The mission of the Northwest Georgia College and Career Academy is to "develop a 21st century workforce through world class career, technical, and agricultural education (CTAE)". The career academy serves as a bridge between schools and the workforce. For students wanting to enter the workforce immediately after high school, the career academy prepares them through certifications or licenses, equipping them with the skills needed for their career path. For those students choosing to further their education, the career academy's partnership with Georgia Northwestern Technical College, GNTC, enables students to pursue degree programs while still in high school. Half of the students participating in dual enrollment are working on both academic and career technical education.

David spoke about the eight different pathways available for students. These include automotive services, covering everything from correct usage of tools to performing oil changes; culinary arts where students learn food preparation, menu planning, sanitation, and have the opportunity to earn their ServSafe Food Handler Certification; information technology featuring a state-of-the-art lab for hands-on experience; healthcare science, NWGCCA works closely with Hamilton Health Care System to connect students with industry leaders; mechatronics and engineering, offering classes on mechanical systems to electric motors; manufacturing; law and justice; and the esteemed first responders academy, allowing students to attain Firefighter 1 and 2 certifications and graduate prepared for employment.

Thanks to grants and support from local entities, NWGCCA provides students with real-world experiences essential for developing both technical and soft skills, preparing them for the workforce or further education. Whitfield County is fortunate to have this wonderful resource in our backyard led by inspiring leaders.

February 27th Birthdays and Anniversaries

Member Birthdays

Birthday

No birthdays this period.

Partner Birthdays

Member Name

Birthday

Brooker, Janet	Brooker, Robert H.	27-Feb
Jones, Danielle	Jones, J Sherwood III	27-Feb
Ward, Allen	Ward, Barbara K.	27-Feb
Norris, Calli	Norris, Bradley B	28-Feb
Johnson, Pat	Johnson, Roy Glenn Sr.	1-Mar
Wright, Joanne	Wright, Thomas L	3-Mar

Member Anniversaries

Start Date

Years

Griffin, Ronald L(RON)	3/1/1988	36
Sutherland, George W.(GEORGE)	3/1/1976	48
Bowen, William C. III(BILL)	3/1/1975	49
Pierce, Sara C.(SKEETER)	3/1/1994	30
Manly, William Judson Jr.(JUDSON)	3/3/1964	60

Wedding Anniversaries

Partner's Name

Anniversary

Years

No anniversaries this period.

The Four Way Test

