

Rotary

Club of Asheville Breakfast



Nathan Ramsey, Executive Director Land of Sky Regional Council

By Nathan Patrick Moran on Saturday, January 28, 2023



Nathan Ramsey, Executive Director for the Land of Sky Regional Council, spoke last week. He brought a lot of useful data to share. The area's GDP has doubled over the last 20 years. The area holds the lowest unemployment rate in the state but during the Covid lockdown we held the highest. The economy is driven by the size of the labor force and productivity and he believes the challenges finding employees being faced right now has a lot to do with retiring Baby Boomers. Employers want to be here because they want to be in areas where population is increasing. Our area has increased by about 100,000 in the last 20 years. Housing is a challenge with the average home price going for a little under half a million dollars, and average wages are under the state and national averages.

He also shared some sector specific information. Hospitality and tourism, and healthcare in our area are the only two sectors that pay more than the state average. Manufacturing is a bit of an unknown bright spot. The sector saw a pretty steady decline from the 1970s to the great recession, but has been steadily increasing since 2011. We have about 24,000 manufacturing jobs that create about 1.4 billion dollars in wage income alone which is the greatest of any sector in the region. No other sector comes close outside of healthcare. Healthcare average wages are at \$50,000



IMAGINE ROTARY

Club Meeting Place & Time

Asheville Breakfast
Meets at Four Points
by Sheraton Hotel
22 Woodfin Street
Asheville, NC 28801
Time: Wednesday at
07:30 AM

Club Officers



Frank
Ungert
President



Cynthia K.
Ireland
President-
Elect



Ruth T.
Summers
Vice
President



Randy S.
Lehman
Treasurer



Carl T.
Chesick
Secretary



Richard
Anderson
Club Admin
Chair

per year and those jobs should be supported as our population is about 20 years ahead of the nation in aging. Skilled trades and labor jobs by number are still lower than they were prior to the great recession which contributes to housing costs. The Technology and IT sector has seen steady growth and that is promising as they tend to offer higher pay. If we can become known for Tech Nathan believes that would be a game changer for the region. Thank you to Nathan for sharing all the time with us.

Carole Browning Memorial Bench

By Nathan Patrick Moran on Saturday, January 28, 2023

Phil Pratt created a memorial bench in honor of the late Carole Browning, wife of long time club member Shirley Browning. The bench is at T.C. Roberson High School where Carole volunteered as a reader for over 20 years. Thank you to Phil for his artistry, to Justin for helping deliver the bench, and to all the club members who helped financially support the project. Most importantly thank you to Carole, Shirley, and family for all their service to the community through the years. Please be on the lookout for the official dedication to be announced in the near future.



Meeting Notes 1.25.23

By Nathan Patrick Moran on Saturday, January 28, 2023

Don has the Manna Foodbank project organized and is taking volunteers. Please see him if you can help on Feb 17th from 9 to noon.

Rod asked the membership to let him know if there are any objections to having some socials on Tuesday or Wednesday during the week. Traditionally the socials have been on Thursdays but Rod is exploring some ideas to increase participation.

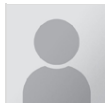
Justin reminded the club our fund raiser for the year is the "Lets Have Fun Fundraiser". Each member is asked to host an individual event to fundraise in place of a larger event. The hope is to have everyone have an event by summer so please get your mind working on that and see Justin if you have questions.

Patrick brought in wood cubes with different professions written on each side encouraging us to think outside the box (well done Patrick). My table's cube had butchers, bakers, delivery people, and more. Please don't pre-judge who would want to participate in Rotary and spread the word on what we do.

Birthdays



[David L. Hayes](#)
January 31st



[Robin Ponder](#)
February 20th



Sergeant-at-Arms
[Patrick J. Blackburn](#)
Membership Chair
Club Public Image Chair



[Nathan Patrick Moran](#)
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr



[David L. Hayes](#)
Club Programs Chair



[L. Thomas Kelly](#)
Community Service Chair



[William Taylor Biddle Jr.](#)
International Service Chair



[Rodney Douglas](#)
Club Social Chair



[William John Byrne](#)
Scholarship Chair



[Henry Watson](#)
[Jordan II](#)
Youth Services Chair



[Justin A. Arnall](#)
iPast President



[Cynthia K. Ireland](#)
Assistant Governor



[Patrick J. Blackburn](#)
February 20th

Speakers

February 1st
[Judge Pope & Kevin Rumely, Veteran Treatment Court](#)

February 15th
[John Boyle, Asheville Watchdog](#)

February 8th
[Geoff Sedoli, Child Abuse Prevention](#)

February 22nd
[New Member Talk, Ryan and Arlene](#)

Events

November 26th
[Asheville Breakfast Elliston Foundation](#)

February 17th
[Manna Foodbank Service Project](#)

Saturday, January 28, 2023

January 28th
[Club Party, Sheraton Asheville](#)

