

Rotary

Club of Asheville Breakfast



Building Community Through Business Values

By Linda J Ruhland on Wednesday, July 19, 2023



Clark Duncan, Senior Vice President of Economic Development, and Keevon Baten, Director Business Recruitment, provided an overview of Asheville's Economic Development Coalition, and what it does.

Asheville's Economic Coalition is funded by a combination of private, city, and county funds. The Coalition focuses on better jobs, wages, diversity, and economic expansion. It is founded on the premise of building a taxpayer in every home, which creates financial freedom, better outcomes in healthcare, jobs, and talent retention.

The Coalition serves Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, and Madison counties. Its "5 x 5" strategic initiatives are prioritized as:

1. Local industry encouragement
2. Business recruitment
3. Startup support through Venture Asheville
4. Workforce expansion
5. Site development

The Coalition finds that housing and healthcare availability are the largest obstacles to strategic growth. Nevertheless, the Asheville area attracts five to six thousand newcomers annually. And the trend they see is that people visit Asheville, move



CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD

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



Cynthia K. Ireland
President



Henry Watson
Jordan II
President-
Elect



Ruth T. Summers
Vice
President



Randy S. Lehman
Treasurer



Carl T. Chesick
Secretary



Richard Anderson
Club Admin
Chair
Sergeant-at-

here, and then establish a business.

Meeting Notes 7.19.23

President Cindy Ireland presented Frank Ungert with the Paul Harris +1 pin for his most recent contributions. Thank you, Frank, for your gifts of time, talent, and money.



Birthdays



[Stephanie Young](#)
August 6th



[Gwen G. Hughes](#)
August 8th



[Carl T. Chesick](#)
August 13th



[Charles E. Killian](#)
August 15th



[William Taylor Biddle Jr.](#)
August 19th













Speakers

July 26th
[Lisa Raleigh](#)
David Hayes Hat Duty

August 9th
[Steve Demeranville](#)

August 2nd
[Jennifer Maneely](#)
Helping Families Dealing with Substance Abuse

August 23rd
[Dr. John Plant](#)

- [Patrick J. Blackburn](#)
Membership Chair
- [David L. Hayes](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair
- [Nathan Patrick Moran](#)
CCO-Club Comm. Offcr
- [Stephanie Young](#)
Club Programs Chair
- [William Taylor Biddle Jr.](#)
International Service Chair
- [Donald R. Swaby](#)
Community Service Chair
- [Linda J. Ruhland](#)
Club Public Image Chair
- [Rodney Douglas](#)
Club Social Chair
- [Henry P. Zaremba](#)
CART Fund Chair
- [James O. Efland](#)
Club PolioPlus Chair
- [James Hylemon](#)
Youth Services Chair
- [Frank Ungert](#)
iPast President



Events

July 30th, 3:00-5:00 PM

Brevard Music Festival 3:30

Tuesday, July 25, 2023

August 24th, 5:30-8:30 PM

Asheville Tourists Game in the Suite 5:30