

BILL BRUECKNER

Bill Brueckner didn't grow up in Whitfield County, but he has taken a stake in working to improve the community he now calls home.

Brueckner began working at Shaw Industries in 1991, having been born in Chattanooga, growing up in Elba, Alabama, and later graduating from Auburn University. But it is Whitfield County that he now calls



home along with his wife Wendy and their two daughters, Henley and McKenzie.

But it isn't through his work or the success his daughters have had on the basketball court at Northwest Whitfield

High School that Brueckner has impacted his community. He has also become one of the most committed and dependable United Way of Northwest Georgia volunteers.

"Bill Brueckner is a wonderful community volunteer," said Jessica Trivino, director of donor engagement and strategy for the local United Way.

"He's actively involved in the community with United Way and with his daughters' basketball and school activities. He's

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always willing to help however he can."

Brueckner has been on the United Way's Community Solutions Panel for several years and is now the committee chair. He also has previously served as the board chair for Looper Speech and Hearing Center. In a biography of Brueckner on the United Way website, he said that he donated to causes in the past and thought, "giving was more than enough, only because I did not see what else was needed."

After his work with Looper and his early work with the Community Solutions Panel, he said doing more was a necessity for the community.

"While I am grateful for my path, I wish I had learned the impact of volunteerism earlier to go along with what I thought was enough," he said.

The United Way recently surpassed its 2018 fundraising goal of \$4.1 million, which is a record for the agency, and it is through the efforts of Brueckner and those he helps lead which ensure the continued success of the program.

For his efforts in giving back to his community, the Daily Citizen-News names Bill Brueckner its Citizen of the Week.