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## THE DAILY CITIZEN

Serving Northwest Georgia since 1847

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Unsigned editorials represent the view of The Daily Citizen. Members of the newspaper's editorial board are William Bronson, Wes Chance, Jamie Jones, Victor Miller, Charles Oliver and Chris Whitfield. Columns and letters to the editor are the opinions of the authors.

## Brenda Knowles

From going green innovator to a leader of volunteer efforts, Brenda Knowles strives to make our world and our community a better place.

Knowles is the vice president of marketing and product development for Shaw Industries' commercial division. Since joining Shaw in 1984, Knowles was involved in the creation of the environmental



To nominate an individual or group, contact Jamie Jones at (706) 272-7723 or [jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com](mailto:jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com). Fax nominations to (706) 275-6641 or write to The Daily Citizen, Attn: Citizen of the Week, P.O. Box 1167, Dalton, GA 30722.

friendly EcoWorx Performance broadloom, a fully recyclable carpet backing. Knowles is also on the company's Growth and Sustainability Council.

A graduate from the University of West Georgia, Knowles has been active in the local communities where she has lived. She has served on boards, supported local events and acted as

a wish granter for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Knowles is also very passionate about international adoption.

She now resides in Dalton with her daughter, Ava. Since moving back to Dalton in 2007, Knowles has become enthusiastic about the work United Way has been doing in the community and currently serves as board chair of the United Way of Northwest Georgia.

During the past year, she has led the organization's strategic planning process, United Way 2025. Knowles leads a team in refocusing the organization's strategic guidelines, mission and vision statements alongside Chester Chaffin, a fellow volunteer.

"Brenda's ability to work with a large group of people from various backgrounds and facilitate dialogue and consensus was exceptional," said Amanda Burt, president of United Way of Northwest Georgia. "Her leadership in our strategic planning process has positioned us to continue to lead our community in improving education, basic needs and health outcomes."

"I chose to volunteer with United Way because United Way has the greatest and broadest impact in our community," Knowles remarked about her involvement with United Way. "... Every member of the staff and every member of the board, as well as all the committee members and volunteers are passionate about serving in our community and committed to making a positive impact through live united."

The public is invited to the United Way's annual meeting and volunteer awards ceremony on Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. at Stage 123 in downtown Dalton.

For showing such a strong initiative to improve the community, The Daily Citizen names Brenda Knowles Citizen of the Week.