

United Way recognizes volunteers

**SUBMITTED BY UNITED WAY
OF NORTHWEST GEORGIA**

At United Way of Northwest Georgia's Annual Meeting and Volunteer Awards on Tuesday, 2016 Campaign Chair Tom Bundros and President Amanda Burt thanked all the CEOs, campaign teams and employees who supported United Way by giving, advocating and volunteering throughout the year.

2016 Board Chair Karen Townsend said, "Simply stated, United Way connects people in need with people who can help. Almost 60,000 lives were touched by United Way in 2016 alone. Our United Way brings diverse groups of people together to create lasting change and improve lives by focusing on the building blocks of a good life — education, basic needs and health."

Bundros said the United Way had 12,000 individual donors. United Way announced earlier this year it surpassed the 2016 campaign goal of \$3.8 million.

More than 200 local companies hold employee campaigns for United Way and 60 companies make corporate gifts.

In order to recognize companies that go above and beyond to champion United Way, the organization annually awards corporate partners for reaching



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Engineered Floors and J+J Flooring Group received the 5-Star Champion, Community Samaritan and Largest Overall Growth Award at the United Way of Northwest Georgia's Annual Meeting and Volunteer Awards. Campaign coordinators Marianne Murray, Becky Evon and Tom Arnold received the Campaign Coordinators of the Year Award. From left are Tom Bundros, 2016 Campaign Chair; Joe Young, 2017 Campaign Chair; Will Young; Murray; Arnold; and Amanda Burt, president of United Way of Northwest Georgia.

Strategic Giving Levels, achieving 5-Star Champion status, and earning top ranks.

United Way 5-Star Champion Award commitments

■ Make a CEO gift and a corporate pledge.

■ Choose a dynamic Campaign Coordinator and team.

■ Allow employees to go on United Way Impact Tours.

■ Host leadership and company-wide campaign meetings with dollars up over last year and

reported to United Way by Oct. 31.

■ Encourage employees to volunteer with United Way.

➤ Please see **WAY, 2C**



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United Way of Northwest Georgia welcomes a new board chair and three new board members. From left are Matthew Moore, Shaw Industries and United Way board chair; Bill Brueckner, Shaw Industries; Kim Thames, community volunteer; and Bob Hardaway, Shaw Industries.

Way: Volunteers celebrated

➤ *Continued from 1C*

United Way Strategic Partner Levels

- \$50,000 Community Collaborator
- \$100,000 Community Patron
- \$250,000 Community Samaritan
- \$500,000 Community Builder
- \$1 Million Community Pillar

2016-2017 United Way corporate awards

- Americhem: Highest Participation Award (for companies that employ fewer than 50 people)
- Brown Industries: 5-Star United Way Champion and Community Patron Award
- Dalton Public Schools: 5-Star United Way Champion Award
- Dalton Utilities: 5-Star United Way Champion and Community Collaborator Award
- Dorsett Industries: 5-Star Champion, Community Collaborator and Highest Participation Award (for companies that employ more than 100 people)

■ Engineered Floors and J+J Flooring Group, a division of Engineered Floors: 5-Star Champion, Community Samaritan, and Largest Overall Growth Award. Marianne Murray, Becky Evon and Tom Arnold were honored as Campaign Coordinators of the Year.

■ Family Support Council: Highest Participating Community Partner Award

■ Greater Dalton Chamber of Commerce: Difference Maker Award

■ Marketing Alliance Group: 5-Star Champion and Community Collaborator Award

■ MFG Chemical: 5-Star Champion Award

■ Mohawk Industries: Community Builder Award

■ Oliver F. Cobb & Associates: Difference Maker Award

■ Phenix Flooring: 5 Star Champion Award

■ Shaw Industries: Community Pillar Award

■ Textile Management Associates: Community Patron Award

■ Textile Rubber and Chemical Co.: 5 Star Champion, Community

Collaborator and Largest Percentage of Growth Award

■ UPS: Global Corporate Leader Award

Volunteer Award Winners:

■ David Blaylock: Connie Woodward Award for Outstanding Volunteerism in Whitfield County

■ Marian Stranahan: Elaine Butler Award for Outstanding Volunteerism in Murray County

■ In honor of the legacy of Elbert Shaw's commitment to volunteer service and youth development, Shaw Industries annually partners with United Way of Northwest Georgia to offer two \$5,000 scholarships for high school students. Randy Merritt, president of Shaw Industries, and John Shaw presented the scholarships to Katherine Baxter and Makina Cook. Cook also received the Youth Volunteer of the Year Award.

■ Joe Young, Engineered Floors, was announced as following Bundros as the 2017 United Way Campaign Chairman.