



# Network News



For Professional and Executive Women

August 2014

Volume 31, Issue 8

ENHANCING WOMEN'S LIVES THROUGH COOPERATION, UNDERSTANDING AND GIVING

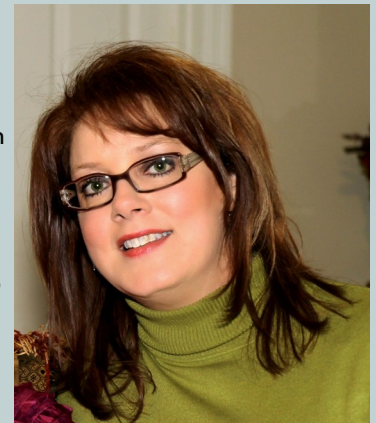


## Luncheon Guest Speakers—Pam Fair Columbus Department of Public Health

Pam Fair has served the Columbus Dept. of Public Health for the past 30 years and wears many hats: the Public Information Officer, Risk Communicator, and Safe Kids Columbus Director. She works with media outlets to respond to and represent the 16 county health departments in the West Central Health District. As a Risk Communicator in the Emergency Preparedness Program, Pam works to develop written plans of action for emergency situations and to build collaborative partnerships to assist in emergency preparation and response. As the Director of Safe Kids Columbus, Pam works with community partners, a Board of Directors, volunteers, and a small staff to help prevent injuries and deaths to children 14 years and younger. The goal of Safe Kids is to monitor local trauma data, state morbidity and mortality data, and use that data to initiate childhood injury prevention programs utilizing our collective resources.

Pam Fair has a Bachelor of Arts in Communication from CSU, attended a Management Academy for Public Health course at UNC/ Chapel Hill, earned her Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification from NHTSA, completed CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training, and is considered an Advance Public Information Officer through FEMA.

Pam has been married for 28 years and has one daughter scheduled to graduate from CSU this December. If she can find the spare time, she loves to paint and repurpose old furniture.



### Special Announcements:

#### Happy Birthday

- Betty Stephens Aug 9
- Kia Chambers Aug 16
- Mary Stewart Aug 21
- Karen Smith Aug 23
- Cheryl Tate Aug 27

#### Membership

Have you invited a guest to visit a Network meeting recently? Bring a friend to a meeting and help us grow this wonderful professional organization.

#### In this issue:

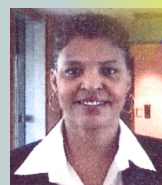
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### Member Spotlight- Ava "Davita" Bynam

Born in Columbus, Georgia, Ava Davita Bynam left Georgia in 1959 with her parents headed to Berlin, Germany. She went to school in Georgia, Germany, and graduated from high school and college in California.

Davita returned home to Columbus in 1992 and got her first job at the Columbus Community Center the next year. She has been the Executive Director for almost 20 years. Prior to that she had worked in corporate America to include Xerox Corporation, Merrill Lynch and the U. S. Government. Although she did not go into teaching like the rest of the women in her family that attended college, she always worked with youth as a volunteer. When she left Phoenix, Arizona driving home in a sports car and carrying her small dog, she decided to work at helping at-risk kids. The Community Center was a perfect fit for her goals.

Davita and Charlie have six children, and more than 12 grandchildren which include twins born, November 2013.

Charlie is a retired veteran of the US Army. Their tight-knit family church is Friendship Baptist Church in Hamilton, GA where almost everyone is connected through birth or marriage.

# From Our President



**Karen Smith**  
**Network President**

## Upcoming Events:

- **Jim Blanchard**  
Leadership Forum:  
August 25—26
- **Network Annual Meeting** will be held  
11/21/2014 11:30 AM @  
Green Island.

Wow! Can you believe it? By the time you read the newsletter, kids will be back in school and the summer will be almost over. Where has the time gone? The best part of this time of year is that football season is upon us. I love high school and college football!!

Speaking of college, the program at the July Network meeting was very informative. If you have someone in high school, they need to begin to prepare as early as the 9<sup>th</sup> grade for getting into college. Entrance into all colleges and universities is very competitive.

Many times you hear people say they are not motivated or they need to be motivated when they actually need inspiration and not motivation. Motivation relies

on circumstances around you but inspiration means you choose to make things happen, no matter the circumstances. Therefore, let's all decide to rely on inspiration in our daily lives and not rely on the circumstances to take control of our lives. If everyone were inspired while performing their duties instead of waiting on motivation, customer service at all levels in every organization would be out the roof. How nice it would be to walk through the aisles of a store, walk through the door of an organization, or call the customer service line for an organization and have the people you come into contact with be genuinely happy to assist you with your request.

I love history and since school has begun or is about to start, I thought I would research some historical events that

occurred in the month of August.

In 1775, the first article proposing women's rights in America was written by Thomas Paine and published in the Pennsylvania Magazine. The first child born in America was Virginia Dare in 1587 and she was born in Virginia. In 1932, Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly across the United States. The first American-born Saint, Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton, was born in 1774 in New York City. Anne Frank made her last diary entry in 1944.

As you can see, women have had a huge impact on this country and around the world. So, I hope you have learned something new today. I know I did.

## Do You Know Network Member Cheryl Myers?

Cheryl Myers is the Vice President of our Network chapter. She is the Executive Director of Community & College Relations with Columbus Technical College. Cheryl has been with the college since 2006. In her role as Executive Director, she is responsible for all internal and external communications, building and enforcing a strong brand, and ensuring the college is presented in a positive light in the community.

Prior to working at Columbus Technical College, Cheryl was a local TV news reporter/anchor known as "Cheryl Morgan."

She is a graduate of Georgia State University and has called Columbus home since 1994. Cheryl is married to Frank Myers and they have one daughter, Emiline.



## Member News and Links

### Thank You

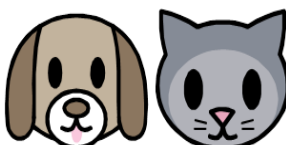
I would like to say thank you to the Network members for your cards, calls, emails and the dinner provided after my Dad passed away in July. I am truly blessed to have such friends as all of you. I have truly felt your thoughts and prayers during this very sad time for my family.

Karen

**Columbus Hospice** presents a Pet Loss Grief Workshop Contact Katie Greene, LCSW, Volunteer Coordinator at [k.greene@columbushospice.com](mailto:k.greene@columbushospice.com) or by calling 706-569-7992 to register to attend one of these dates.

9/15/2014 5– 6:30

10/20/2014 2-3:30



The Foundations of Columbus Regional Health and St. Francis are joining forces on a fundraiser to fight breast cancer.



**We are In It to End It...Together!** Each foundation is putting together teams of 10 with each team challenged with raising \$5,000. On September 27<sup>th</sup> we will honor your gift by walking 10K in support of this effort and for all women who have experienced Breast Cancer or know someone who has. The proceeds from this event will benefit The John B. Amos Cancer Center at Columbus Regional and the Elena Diaz-Verson Center for Breast Health at St. Francis. Bringing together the leading healthcare systems in Columbus for this cause also brings together again the legacy of John and Elena Amos. John and Elena were leaders in our community and chose to give back to the community to support causes they believed in, specifically the care of cancer patients. Our team, "Girls on Fire" is honored to continue the legacy they began.

I hope you will join our team and make a donation to **In It To End It...Together.**

You may pay by credit card by calling Sandy Lewack at 706-660-6181 OR visit the website [www.inittoendittogether.com](http://www.inittoendittogether.com) and enter "Girls on Fire" team name and select Nancy Williams to support with a donation. If you have any issues with donating call 706-329-1399.

We would be pleased to receive gifts in honor or memory of someone you love as well. Please let us know if you would like to designate your gift and provide us the name of the person you are honoring as well as a name or family member and their address you would like the gift acknowledged to. On the day of the walk, this person's name will be added to a ribbon on our flag pole which will lead the **In It To End It...Together** participants.

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