

# FCCLA RECOGNITION BANQUET CONTINUES REESE BARKER'S SERVICE LEGACY



**Above:** FCCLA Gold Member Allie Johnston. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)

**Below:** The current chapter membership of the CCHS FCCLA, with Heather Barker and advisers Misty Garrett and Sara Phifer. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)



## By Ron Barry

Honestly, it seems inaccurate to ever write the words that a tragic automobile accident last August “took the life” of Crockett County High School student Reese Barker.

There’s a simple reason: While Reese is no longer physically with her fellow classmates, her legacy of service and inspiration continues to grow and impact her school community. Her “life” seems to be increasing abundantly, echoing the message of a certain itinerant preacher from around 2,000 years ago.

The latest example that a sizeable number of Crockett folks are maintaining a #LiveLikeReese attitude came at the first FCCLA Recognition Banquet held this past Friday night. The FCCLA – Family Career and Community Leaders of America, the CCHS chapter which Reese served as an officer – presented a check to Alamo City School Special Education Director Tracy Foster and ACS Special Education teacher Kate Foust for \$3,200 to go toward upgrades of the ACS Sensory Room used by multiple special needs students throughout the year.

Special needs students were one of Reese’s passions, and the FCCLA chapter worked closely this year with Reese’s mother Heather and father David – a coach and teacher at CCHS – to make raising funds for this project a reality.

Heather’s gratitude for the way FCCLA students and their leadership in preserving Reese’s legacy of service was evident in her reaction to the presentation.

“Oh, my heart – thank you to everyone who made this possible,” she said. “Crockett County FCCLA, Misty Garrett and Sara Phifer (CCHS chapter advisers), the Crockett County community and businesses – thank you! Our girl is still at work – praise God!”

The recognition banquet was the first one held for the FCCLA group, and officers and members enjoyed dinner together and the distribution of awards in celebration of their work together during the school year. The chapter awarded the following students for their achievements:

**Gold Member** – Allie Johnston. She participated in every volunteer event and attended every meeting.

**Silver Members** – Jasmine Brimm, Bryson Higgins, Lelah McCurrie, Ally Haynes, Bailey Antwine, and Ryley Embry. These members attended every meeting.

**Power of One participants** – Lily Maddox, Hope Stewart, Lelah McCurrie, Ryley Embry, Brooklyn Delph, Allie Watson, Allie Johnston, and Jasmine Brimm. These members completed the FCCLA Power of One program.

**Members of the Months** – Rachel Jordan and Ally Haynes, Allie Johnston and Bryson Higgins, Adalee Doyle and Kadynce Harber, and Jasmine Brimm and Bryson Higgins. Two members each month were recognized as chapter members of the month.

**Rosebuds** – Jasmine Brimm, Allie Watson, and Jannette Bautista. They will be shadowing the current FCCLA officers to prepare to be future chapter officers.

Those who served as FCCLA officers in the 2023-24 school year were Hope Stewart, Gayle Prescott, Addyson Moorehead, Jack Sanders, Ashley Boone, and Lily Maddox.



**Above:** A banquet highlight was a presentation of a \$3,200 check to Alamo City School for upgrades to its special needs Sensory Room, a particular passion for Reese Barker. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)



**Left:** FCCLA Silver Members. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)



**Above:** FCCLA Power of One program completers. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)



**Above:** FCCLA Members of the Month. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)



**Left:** FCCLA Rosebuds. (Photo courtesy of Lily Maddox)