

AFP to Hold National Philanthropy Day Luncheon on Nov. 18

- David Vaina, TCPalm.com
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AFP Treasure Coast

The 2011 National Philanthropy Day Committee: Lisa Marie Michener, Wendie Berardi, David Vaina, Renee Booth, Gigi Suntum, Millie Wood. Amy Christensen, Cecilia De Filippis, and Louise Murtaugh

STUART — The Treasure Coast Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) will hold its annual National Philanthropy Day (NPD) Luncheon at 11 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 18 at the Willoughby Country Club in Stuart.

AFP was created to advance ethical and effective fundraising, and to support charities around the world which improve the lives of people in every conceivable way. AFP's Treasure Coast chapter has hosted the NPD luncheon locally since 1994. In 2011, AFP Treasure Coast will work with commissioners in both St. Lucie and Martin Counties on proclamations recognizing the importance of philanthropy to our community.

"Philanthropy has long made compassion and civic engagement perhaps our community's most dominant values," said Gigi Suntum, who is co-chairing the event this year with Wendie Berardi. "And yet, with each passing year, local philanthropists are amplifying their impact on the region's most vulnerable."

The luncheon will be presented in partnership with Bank of America.

The Treasure Coast Chapter of AFP will recognize outstanding individual and corporate philanthropists as well as fundraising volunteers whose achievements have made a significant impact in St. Lucie and Martin Counties.

The award categories are as follows:

- Presidents Award
- Individual Philanthropist
- Volunteer Fundraiser
- Corporate Philanthropist
- Small Business Philanthropist
- Group Supporting Philanthropy
- Unsung Hero
- Youth in Philanthropy
- Youth Group in Philanthropy

Nominations for all categories except Youth in Philanthropy and Youth Group in Philanthropy must be postmarked Sept. 9. Nominations for the Youth in Philanthropy Award and Youth Group in Philanthropy must be postmarked Oct. 3.

In addition, AFP Treasure Coast has organized a how-to workshop, "Writing a Great

National Philanthropy Day Award," which will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. on July 14 at Harbor Place (3700 SE Jennings Road in Port St Lucie).

2011 Nomination forms and information on the workshop are available online at www.afptreasurecoast.org.

For tickets and more information, including details on a range of sponsorship packages, please contact Gigi Suntum at 772-221-8777 or via email at gigisuntum@hotmail.com.

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