

Chamber of Commerce of Palm Beaches selects finalists for 2011 awards

April 30, 2011

Finalists for the 2011 Business Awards have been announced by the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches and PNC Bank.

Presentation to award winners will take place at the Chamber breakfast at 7:45 a.m. May 20 at the Palm Beach Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach.

Small Business Person of the Year finalists are Robin Gianantonio Blakeman, president of Foliage Design Systems of Palm Beach County; Penny G. Murphy, president of Pioneer Linens; and Richard Rampell, CEO of Rampell & Rampell, P.A., Certified Public Accountants and Consultants.

Business of the Year finalists are ESPN 760/Good Karma Broadcasting; Florida Power & Light Co.; and Rybovich Boat Co., LLC.

Nonprofit of the Year finalists are Achilles International of South Florida; Coalition for Independent Living Options Inc.; Girl Scouts of Southeast Florida; the Norton Museum of Art; and West Palm Beach Police Athletic League.

Health/Science Professional of the Year finalists are Brenda Bean, business development representative of The Medical Store; Dr. Hector Gomez, president and CEO of GLG Pharma LLC; and Mark Nosacka, CEO of Good Samaritan Medical Center.

The Community Leader of the Year award will be presented to George Wedgeworth, CEO and president, Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida for more than 50 years.

Advance tickets are \$30 for members and \$40 for nonmembers if purchased by May 16. After that date, tickets are \$35 for members and \$40 for nonmembers.

For tickets and more information, visit palmbeaches.org or e-mail to kburke@palmbeaches.org.

Forum set — A business and professions networking breakfast will feature marketing experts at 7:30 a.m. Friday in the Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion, 701 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach. Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County's Business and Professional Division, "Maximizing Your Business Opportunities: Networking, Media and Charitable Marketing" will feature panels with Alyson Seligman of Seligman Brand Strategies and Roy Assad of Human Capital Group.

Tickets are \$22

For more information and registration, visit JewishPalmBeach.org.

Scripps Lecture — Palm Beachers were in the audience for Dr. Corrine I. Lasmezas' Front Lines of Hope lecture on brain disorders. The presentation was "Age-Related Brain Disorders: How Research into Mad Cow Disease Helps Unlock the Mysteries of the Aging Brain." Lasmezas has been a member of the Scripps Florida research team since her appointment in 2005.

The lecture series provides education and insights on challenging issues facing human health.

For information on the series, call 228-2084.

Corporate Ambassadors — Business leaders and executives can mingle at a cocktail party at 5:30 p.m. Thursday at Ta-boó, 222 Worth Ave. Volunteers can display collateral materials at registration. Tickets are \$10. Complimentary valet parking will be provided.

To volunteer, call 309-2900.

Flagler Rotary Club — Diana Holt will discuss “African Gossip: Lies, Tails and Love Affairs” at the breakfast meeting at 7:45 a.m. Tuesday at The Chesterfield. Tickets are \$20.

For more information, call 494-0515.

Rotary Club of Palm Beach — Dr. Terry Maple of the Palm Beach Zoo will speak at the noon meeting Thursday at The Breakers.

Lunch is \$40, with complimentary valet service.

For more information, call 799-6154.

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