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33RD ANNUAL ATHENA AWARDS LUNCHEON



2024 ATHENA Awards winners, from left: Danielle Shull, Diana Stanley and Angelica Santibanez. CAPEHART

achievements of our award recipients! Diana Stanley was honored with the prestigious ATHENA Leadership Award, recognizing her outstanding contributions to our community. Angelica Santibanez received the ATHENA Young Professional Leadership Award, celebrating her promising potential and commitment to excellence. The Gehring Group was awarded the ATHENA Organizational Leadership Award, highlighting its impactful role in fostering growth within our local business landscape.

We are thrilled to

announce that the 33rd ATHENA Awards Luncheon was a remarkable success, showcasing the incredible

Thank you to everyone who came out in support of the event as well as the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts for hosting. Special thanks to our generous sponsors who made this celebration possible.

For more information on upcoming chamber events please visit palmbeaches.org.

Young Professional Leadership Award Sponsor

FLORIDA

CRYSTALS



Host Sponsor



Presenting Sponsor



Heritage Sponsor

Organizational Leadership Award Sponsor



Community Partner Supporting Sponsor Centerpiece Sponsor Emerald Sponsors Verizon Southwest's











Chairman's Circle Annual Dinner

Saturday, Nov. 2 When: 6:30-9 p.m. Where: Phillips Point, 777 South Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Tickets: Member admission, \$350 ■ Platinum Sponsor — \$5,000: Four tickets to the event, recognition at the dinner and their company name and logo in an article appearing in The Palm Beach Post.



October 2024



The Chamber's 2024 Chairman's Circle promises to be an entertaining and memorable affair. We will recognize our outgoing Chair, Dean Kimberly Lea, and welcome our 2024 Chairman, Mr. Michael Davis.

This year's theme is Boots & Bourbon & Sweet Tea, in honor of Mr. Davis' Tennessee roots! Boots are not required but encouraged! Live music from Leafy Greens

Band, as well as a silent auction and much, much more!

■ Gold Sponsor — \$2,500: Two tickets to the event, recognition at the dinner and their company name and logo in an article appearing in The Palm Beach Post

■ Silver Sponsor — \$1,250: One ticket to the event and a listing in The Palm Beach Post. Contact: Roxine Green, rgreen@palmbeaches.org, 561-833-3712





TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT

Grasford Smith

Grasford Smith is a nationally recognized commercial litigator and



equity partner at Akerman LLP, with nearly 20 years of experience representing diverse clients, including Fortune 500 companies, a major league

akerman

baseball team and a university. He handles a wide range of legal matters such as contractual, shareholder, intellectual property and real estate disputes. Smith's notable cases include representing a New York state development corporation in a \$4 billion redevelopment project

and securing an injunction for a marine lighting company in a noncompete violation case.

Smith is the immediate past president of the Palm Beach County Bar Association and currently serves in leadership roles with the Florida Bar, National Bar Association and Florida State University College of Business. Smith has received numerous honors, including being listed in "500 Leading Lawyers in America" by Law Dragon, Best Lawyers in America and named one of Legacy Magazine's "Corporate Executive of the Year". He holds degrees from Florida State University and New York University School of Law as well as certificates from Cornell and Harvard. Smith currently serves as a Trustee of the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

GOLD MEMBERSHIP

Palmtech Computer Solutions

Chuck Poole 1025 N. Florida Mango Road, Suite 5 West Palm Beach, FL 33409 561-969-1616 **TECHNOLOGY SERVICES** info@palmtech.net

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Frieda Rose 340 Royal Poinciana Way, Suite 317-27 Palm Beach, FL 33480 646-644-9542 REAL ESTATE - COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL friedarose@privateassetusa.com

ENHANCED MEMBERSHIP

Ophelia's Catering LLC Portia Morris, Owner of Ophelia's 6415 Trails Of Foxford Court West Palm Beach, FL 33415-5134 407-701-0528 **FOOD TRUCK** opheliascatering@gmail.com

BASIC MEMBERSHIP Adair Advisory Group LLC

John Adair, Principal 515 N. Flagler Drive, Suite 350 West Palm Beach, FL 33401-4349 AdairAdvisoryGroup.com 561-337-7610 ACCOUNTING, TAX & CPA SERVICES jadair@AdairAdvisoryGroup.com **Bartholemew + Partners**

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VILLAVANA Vacation Rental Management

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VSP Marketing Group / Stealth Restyling

Daniel Gittere 3608 E. Industrial Way, Unit 3 West Palm Beach, FL 33404 vspmarketinggroup.com 561-228-1611 SIGNS dan@vspmarketinggroup.com

UPCOMING EVENTS



YPOP: Chamber & FAU **Community Connection** When: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Where: Venture X

700 S. Rosemary Ave Suite 204 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Cost: Early Bird Discount deadline: Thursday, Oct. 10. Members: \$20 with discount, \$25 without discount. Nonmembers: \$30 with discount, \$35 without discount Contact: Roxine Green at rgreen@palmbeaches.org

Business After Hours for



Business After Hours at South East Spas When: 5:30-7:30 p.m. Where: South East Spas, 2838 Okeechobee Blvd.,

West Palm Beach, FL 33409 Cost: Early Bird Discount deadline: Tuesday, Oct. 15 at 5 p.m. Members: \$20 with discount, \$30 without discount. Nonmembers: \$25 with discount, \$35 without discount Contact: Roxine Green at rgreen@palmbeaches.org

Thursday **OCT. 24**



2024 Firefighter Awards Breakfast When: 7:30-9 a.m. Where:

West Palm Beach Marriott, 1001 Okeechobee Blvd.

West Palm Beach, FL 33401 Cost: Early Registration ends: Friday, Oct. 11. Members: Individual tickets - \$55 with discount, \$60 without discount. Full table of 10, \$650. Nonmembers: Individual tickets - \$75 with discount, \$80 without discount. Full table of 10, \$800 Contact: Roxine Green at rgreen@palmbeaches.org

Tuesday **OCT. 29**

Business Builder When: 9-10 a.m. Where: Chamber Boardroom, 401 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach,

FL 33401 Cost: Free to members and nonmembers Contact: Jessica Straghn at jstraghn@palmbeaches.org



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Palm Beach County and West Palm Beach firefighters to be honored at breakfast on Oct. 24



The Chamber's annual Firefighter Breakfast will honor both Palm Beach County and West Palm Beach firefighters for their courage and dedication to keeping our community safe.

Award Sponsors and West Palm Beach Fire and Rescue Chief Diana Matty will be making the annual award presentations for Outstanding Firefighter of the Year, Outstanding Station of the Year, Outstanding Leadership and Outstanding Community Service.

Presented by



Annual Firefighter Breakfast Thursday, Oct. 24

When: 7:30-9 a.m.

Where: West Palm Beach Marriott, 1001 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Tickets: Discount deadline, Friday, Oct. 11, 5 p.m. Members: \$55 with discount, \$60 without discount. Full table of 10, \$650

Nonmembers: \$75 with discount, \$80 without discount. Full table of 10, \$800

Contact: 561-833-3711 or visit palmbeaches.org for more information







2024 AWARD

CATEGORIES

Outstanding

Outstanding

Outstanding

Outstanding

Leadership Award

Community Service

Station of the Year

Firefighter of the Year



2025 Leadership West Palm Beach Application NOW OPEN

Join the 2025 class of Leadership West Palm Beach today.



Investment: Chamber Members \$1,300; Nonmembers, \$1,500 tuition nonrefundable Application deadline: Friday, Oct. 31

2025 Class Dates

Orientation: Tuesday, Jan. 14, 2025, 3:30-6 p.m. City Center Day: Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2025, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Cityplace Day: Thursday, Jan. 30, 2025, 7 a.m.-4 p.m. The South End Day: Wednesday, Feb. 12, 2025, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Western Communities: Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The North End: Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Community & Culture: Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Health & Human Services: Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Graduation: June (date TBD)

For more information on Leadership West Palm Beach, contact Teri Page at tpage@palmbeaches.org or 561-833-3711, ext. 228.

RIBBON CUTTING



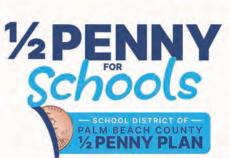


ABOUT THE 1/2 **PENNY**

This November, Palm Beach County voters will have the opportunity to invest in our children, our schools, and our future with the 1/2 penny sales tax for education.

This dedicated funding is a continuation of an existing 1/2 penny that has ensured Palm Beach County is fostering strong schools and strong communities.

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1/2 PENNY KEEPS OUR SCHOOLS STRONG



FUNDS capital and maintenance projects

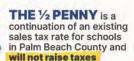


REINVESTS

in schools and

facilities

UPGRADES the school bus fleet



1/2 PENNY KEEPS OUR COMMUNITY STRONG

Dedicated funding for specific capital-related projects for traditional public and charter public schools

- Independent oversight committee of local experts and citizens ensures transparency and accountability
- Invests in our kids, classroom technology, and school safety to keep our schools strong
- Tourists, businesses, and residents all contribute to the plan
- The ½ penny expires in 2035 and cannot be reissued without voter approval

LEARN MORE AT



Bennisson Watch Sept. 25, 2024 2250 Palm Beach Lakes Blvd. Suite 109, West Palm Beach, FL 33409 561-629-7815, bennissonwatch.com



Coffee & Chat with Past ATHENA Young Professional Recipients

ATHENA Past Young Professional Awardees, Sarah Criser Elwell and Alexandria Ayala, gave great insight into what it took to become ATHENA Award-worthy.

JOIN NOW TO APPEAR IN THE 2025 GUIDE TO THE PALM BEACHES!

Looking to attract business? Increase your visibility and your sales by appearing in the Chamber's 2025 Guide to the Palm Beaches. This



award-winning, full-color publication is used as a buying guide for products and services by Chamber members as well as residents, tourists and visitors to Palm Beach County. The Chamber prints 4,000 copies of the guide and each member of the Chamber receives two free listings – one alphabetical and one by business category. The

Guide will debut at the Mayor's State of the City Address on Jan. 30, 2025. It will also be available in the Chamber's lobby and online at palmbeaches.org directly after the State of the City.



Chamber seminar

On Sept. 7, 2024, Susan Kaplan and Grace Tallman Johnson informed chamber members about the Corporate Transparency Act, which requires



businesses to disclose beneficial owners. They emphasized compliance and the chamber's

support for members navigating these regulatory changes.

For more information on seminars visit palmbeaches.org.

RETIRING CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

The Chamber thanks the following individuals for their service as members of the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors for the past three years.



Holly Griffin Goodman Gunster



Matthew Hedrick Florida Power & Light Company



Kenneth R. Kennerly K2 Sports Ventures



Kristin Ahr Nelson Mullins

Julia Murphy

Habitat for Humanity of

Greater Palm Beach County



Kate Arrizza Cox Science Center and Aquarium



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