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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **United Way Board Welcomes New Directors**

*Fort Pierce, FL, August 31, 2011* – United Way of St. Lucie County is proud to acknowledge new members Bob Baldassari, Robbin Lee, and Ken Pruitt to its Board of Directors as of July 1, 2011. Board members act on behalf of the community to provide strategic planning and oversight with a commitment to the mission of United Way of St. Lucie County, advancing the common good in the areas of education, income and health.

Baldassari, Senior Director, Player Development, The PGA of America, also oversees the 35-acre PGA Center for Golf Learning and Performance, an instruction, fitness and technology park in Port St. Lucie. Aside from his many innovative and groundbreaking programs promoting the PGA and the game of golf, Baldassari has received the keys to two cities for his service to their communities and was appointed by the Governor of Maryland to a water advisory committee to preserve and protect the environment. He developed the “Santa’s Open” annual charity golf tournament for needy children, the “Streets to Fairways Program”, a campaign to introduce underprivileged youth to the game of golf as a positive alternative, and the creation of two Executive Women’s Golf Association Chapters.

Robbin Lee is the Chief Operation Officer for Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute. Lee has received many honors and awards for her work in the medical field including; *Modern Healthcare Up & Comers*, Nominee, *Leadership Gwinnett*, Nominee, *Crystal Eagle for Outstanding Leadership*, and an *International Healthcare Emerging Leader Award*. Lee co-authored the chapter, “Developing Organizations by Developing Individuals”, *The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Healthcare Leader*. Jossey-Bass Publishers. 1999 Ms. Lee provided leadership for gang awareness and risk assessment for Palm Beach County hospitals and is a past chairperson for Palm Beach County Healthcare Emergency Coalition.

Ken Pruitt is the elected Property Appraiser of Saint Lucie County. Pruitt served as President of the Florida Senate from 2006 to 2008. He was appointed as chairman of the Florida House of Representatives Appropriations Committee from 1998-2000 and the Florida Senate Appropriations Committee from 2002-2004. Pruitt’s legislative accomplishments include the Bright Futures Scholarship Act, Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan and the Bert Harris Private Property Rights Act. Among the state and local associations that have honored Ken Pruitt are the Florida Chamber, the Florida Association of Counties, BIO Florida, Coastal Conservation Association, Florida School Board Association, and the Florida Bar.

For more information on the United Way of St. Lucie County please call 772-464-5300 or visit our website [www.unitedwayslc.org](http://www.unitedwayslc.org).

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