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Santa Rosa County recognizes its leaders

Louis Cooper
lcooper@pnj.com

The Santa Rosa County Chamber of Commerce celebrated its 73rd annual Leadership Awards and Installation Banquet on Saturday night at Sikes Hall at Whiting Field Naval Air Station near Milton.

The president's award went to the Santa Rosa Clean Community System. The Fred Hunter spirit of Santa Rosa award went to the Honor Flight Santa Rosa Initiative. The hall of fame award went to Dr. Elbert Sutton.

Santa Rosa County Sheriff Wendell Hall was named man of the year. Margarita Vazquez was named woman of the year. Carrie Swilley was named community leader of the year. Jayer Williamson was named emerging leader of the year.

United Bank was named industry of the year. WXBM 102.7/Soft Rock 94.1 was named business of the year. Connie Clark was named volunteer of the year. The community achievement award went to the Blackwater Pyrates Inc.

The 2010 chamber board of directors was installed by Santa Rosa County Judge Robert Hilliard.

Officers include: President Ricardo Layun, TATA Business Support Services; President-elect Ron Fields, PenAir Federal Credit Union; Past President Joshua Durst, Durst Accounting; Treasurer Carrie Swilley, Gulf Power Co., and Secretary Larry Strain, University of West Florida Small Business Development Center.

Other members of the board include: Tracy Allen, First National Bank of Florida; Kevin Brown, MetLife Financial Services; Georgieanna Bryant, Pensacola Junior College; Dave Cobb, WXBM 102.7/Soft Rock 94.1; Adair Cotton, Kiwanis Club of Milton; Nicole Gislason, University of West Florida; Frank Gossett, individual member; Capt. Pete Hall, Whiting Field; Ildi Hosman, TEAM Santa Rosa Economic Development Council; Tim Mallon, Santa Rosa Medical Center; Paulette Martin, Nouveau Pastries; Debra Russell, Sacred Heart Medical Group; Ferd Salomon, NAI Halford; JoAnn Sission, ERA Bill Wallace Realty; Margarita Vazquez, Primerica Financial Services; Brian Watkins, City of Milton; Jayer Williamson, Williamson Electrical Company Inc., and Tina Wilson, Wilson Total Maintenance & Construction.
