



Girl Scouts honor 2016 'women of distinction'

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By STAFF REPORT

PANAMA CITY — The Girl Scouts of the Florida Panhandle honored nine "Women of Distinction" on Friday during an awards gala at the Edgewater Beach & Golf Resort.

"We are honored to recognize the honorees as women who exemplify the mission of Girl Scouts," said Raslean M. Allen, Girl Scout Council of the Florida Panhandle Inc.'s chief executive officer. "The recipients are women who have distinguished themselves through leadership and community service demonstrating courage, confidence, and character, while making the world a better place."

The Pearl Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to **Dr. Carrie Baker**, retired educator of Bay County and past board member of the Girl Scout Council of the Apalachee Bend. The Pearl Award is bestowed upon an adult Girl Scout for her significant contributions to the Girl Scout movement in support of building girls of courage, confidence and character who make the world a better place, according to a news release. Given in memory of Girl Scouts founder Juliette Gordon Low, the significance of the pearls symbolize the devotion by Low to the success of the start of Girl Scouting which included selling a strand of pearls to fund the early operations.

Ginger Littleton, Bay County School Board member, received the Diamond Award, presented to a woman whose contributions to the community embody the vision of Juliette Gordon Low, founder of Girl Scouts. The woman honored

displays courage, confidence and character while truly making the world a better place, the release said.

Other honorees are: Dinah Crayton, Crayton Communications; Claire Sherman, General Manager, Lamar Advertising; Jennifer Wolgamott, Senior Manager, ZHA; Renee Willoughby, Gulf Coast Children's Advocacy Center; Tiffani Hinds, United Way of Northwest Florida; Eberle Funches, Battleship CrossFit; and Karen Smith, Beachy Beach Real Estate.

Katharine Murphy, Girl Scout Ambassador Troop 161, was named the Rising Young Woman of Distinction and received a scholarship from Perry Young.

Other nominees for this year's Women of Distinction honor included: Gayle Ahrens, Habitat for Humanity Bay County; Jasmine Allen, Life Management Center; Andrea Boutwell-Hess, Scott Ingraham Real Estate; Jennifer Burke, Central Payment of Panama City; Teri Cable, Florida Therapy Services; Terri Davidson, The Wine Dog; Jeanette Deatherage, Mary Kay; LaRue Keller, US Army (retired); Nancy Luther, Adecco Staffing; Cynthia McCauley, Chautauqua Charter School; Ginger Owens, First Baptist Church; Adrienne Pelletier, Catholic Charities of NWFL; Pam Perry, Retired; Jennifer Rader, Mary Kay; Thelma Rohan, Panama City Orthopedics; Naomi Sharp, Catholic Charities of NWFL; Alisa Stone Dennis, Stone Real Estate Group; Dawn Veit, Veit's Dairy; and Shonna Young Gay, 14th Judicial Circuit.