

## United Way of St. Lucie County Kicks Off Annual Campaign



Caption: Keynote Speaker and Editor of Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers Mark Tomasik spoke about the importance of giving back to the community and how help can come from the most unlikely of sources. Photo Credit: Photo by Gorilla Magic

**FORT PIERCE, FL** – United Way of St. Lucie County held their annual Live United Kickoff Breakfast on Thursday, October 15th at the Port St. Lucie Civic Center. With over 150 volunteers and community leaders in attendance, the kickoff marked the start of the annual community-wide fundraising campaign to raise funds to build a brighter future in St. Lucie County.

Campaign Chair Amy Brunjes of Florida Power & Light spoke about the needs of the community and the importance of everyone coming together to make education, income and health a priority in St. Lucie County. She also spoke about the importance of giving, advocating, and volunteering, and challenged those in attendance to seek out opportunities to give back in any way they are able.

Keynote speaker and Editor of Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers Mark Tomasik recounted some personal experiences of charitable giving about how an act of kindness from an unlikely source forever shaped his viewpoint of asking people to contribute to the community.

Pacesetter awards were also given out to many of the local companies who have already completed their workplace campaigns, setting the pace for the rest of the community. AT&T, Council on Aging, FedEx, Live United Bowling League, Mustard Seed

Ministries, Office of the Public Defender- 19<sup>th</sup> Judicial Court, Publix, UPS, Wachovia, and Wal-Mart Distribution Center #7038 were all honored for their early contributions that set the pace for the campaign.

United Way of St. Lucie County is encouraging people in the community to LIVE UNITED by giving to the annual campaign, helping spread the word about programs and services that help people in need, and volunteering their time and talent to a local cause. For more information on how you can LIVE UNITED and help create a brighter future for those in need in our community, please call 772-464-5300 or visit our website [www.unitedwayslc.org](http://www.unitedwayslc.org) and Facebook page [www.facebook.com/unitedwayslc](http://www.facebook.com/unitedwayslc).