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For Immediate Release
November 5, 2012

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FIVE LOCAL PHILANTHROPY AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT NATIONAL PHILANTHROPY DAY EVENT

Springfield, IL – The Capital Area Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) is proud to announce the winners of the National Philanthropy Day Awards.

AFP will present five awards to individuals and organizations who have demonstrated outstanding dedication to philanthropic efforts in our community at the event.

The **Outstanding Civic or Service Organization Award** honors a civic or service club that has demonstrated exceptional commitment and leadership in the community through service and/or financial support. The 2012 recipient is the **Springfield Public Schools Foundation (SPSF)**. SPSF raises money to support programs and classroom initiatives in District 186.

The **Outstanding Fundraising Professional Award** is designed for an outstanding individual fundraising professional who practices his or her profession in an exemplary manner. The recipient this year is **Denise Schinker**. Schinker served as the marketing and fund development director for a local social service agency for the past twelve years.

The **Outstanding Philanthropic Corporation Award** recognizes a business with a strong record of exceptional generosity that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to philanthropy through direct support and has encouraged and motivated others in the business community to take leadership roles in philanthropy and community involvement. The 2012 recipient of this award is **Zara's Collision Center**. Zara's Collision Center has given away over 20 refurbished vehicles to deserving individuals and families.

The **Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser Award** is presented to an individual who demonstrates a commitment to the advancement of philanthropy through exceptional skills in coordinating and motivating groups of volunteers for fundraising projects or exceptional work on behalf of a nonprofit organization. The 2012 award recipient is **Wes Barr** for the countless hours he has donated to help others in our community.

The **Outstanding Philanthropist Award** honors a family or an individual with a proven record

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of exceptional generosity who, through direct financial support, has demonstrated outstanding civic and charitable responsibility and whose generosity encourages others to take philanthropic leadership roles in the community. The 2012 recipients are **Dr. Stephen and Lisa Stone**. The Stones are well known and highly regarded in Springfield and are involved in many worthy causes that add to the betterment of Springfield.

Please join the AFP in celebrating these outstanding individuals and organizations. The National Philanthropy Day Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, November 15, 2012 at Illini Country Club, 1601 S. Illini Road. Registration begins at 11:30 am. Please RSVP by November 9th to Jen Miller at jen.miller@st-johns.org or (217) 544-6464 ext. 45723. Tickets are \$18 each.

Capital Area Chapter of AFP website: <http://afpcapitalarea.afpnet.org>

AFP is the professional association of individuals responsible for generating philanthropic support for a wide variety of nonprofit and charitable organizations. AFP's National Philanthropy Day is a special day set aside to recognize the philanthropic achievements of individuals and organizations that have contributed their time, talents and resources to ensure the success of our community.

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