

NEWS BRIEFS

Lee issues 14 home permits in Nov.



During November, Lee County Community Development issued permits for 14 single-family homes valued at \$6.7 million to be built in unincorporated Lee County.

In comparison, there were 30 single-family homes permitted in October and 54 in November 2007.

There were six multi-family units permitted in unincorporated Lee County during November, compared to 52 the previous month and 10 in November 2007.

Permits were issued for 10 new commercial buildings valued at \$1.2 million in unincorporated Lee County, compared to \$3.8 million the previous month. In November 2007, newly permitted commercial buildings were valued at \$9.5 million. ■

South Fort Myers Food Pantry opens

The South Fort Myers Food Pantry Coalition, a coalition of faith communities, has opened a food pantry located at Cypress Lake Presbyterian Church, 8260 Cypress Lake Dr., Fort Myers.

The food pantry provides food to the

needy of South Fort Myers and is open Mondays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For additional information, please contact sfmfoodpantry@yahoo.com.

The food pantry is always in need of donations, monetary and food. ■

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Menorah lighting

Join Chabad of Bonita Springs for the fifth annual Grand Menorah Lighting & Chanukah Festivities at the The Promenade Shops in Bonita Springs on Monday, Dec. 22, at 5:30 p.m.

The event will include live music, arts and crafts, latkes and donuts, and Kosher deli items for sale. Admission is free. ■

Mail carriers collecting toys for tots

Area postal workers are hoping to deliver a happy holiday season for underprivileged children in the community.

Lee County letter carriers will help Santa and The Marine Corps League Toys for Tots program on Saturday,

Dec. 6. Toys left by mail boxes will be collected for distribution by the Salvation Army to underprivileged children through the Christmas Cheer program. Lee County residents are encouraged to leave a new, unwrapped toy by their mail box on Saturday, Dec. 6. ■

Deer Santa at the Bell Tower shops

The herd of decorated deer slated for the Bell Tower Shops “Deer Santa” Auction is on display and ready to be enjoyed in a home or business for Christmas. They will be auctioned off on Dec. 5 as part of Friday Fest. All proceeds from the auction will benefit Voices for Kids, in support of the Guardian ad Litem program. Music will be provided by the John Chapman Jazz Team. Fashions will be provided by Island Pursuit.

Some of the larger deer will provide an excellent way for businesses to share holiday spirit with customers while giving back to a charity. Donated by Madison Marquette, they have names like: “Vincent van Doe,” “Rainbow Joe,” “Million Dollar Buck,” and “Jingle Dickens.” There’s even “Big Red,” sporting Red Sox memorabilia. Many deer are accompanied by gift certificates from Bell Tower Shops merchants and restaurants.

The collection of 20 uniquely decorated reindeer will be on display at several Bell Tower Shops merchants and restaurants until Dec. 5. ■



“Big Red” is one of 20 deer to be auctioned at the Bell Tower Shops to aid Voices for Kids.

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