

Lee DAS offers special event, pet adoption discounts

In recognition of National Animal Shelter Appreciation Week, celebrated the first week of November, Lee County Domestic Animal Services is asking residents to take a closer look at the valuable role their animal shelter plays in enhancing the quality of life in their community.

LCDAS has implemented numerous programs and services in the past year that have reduced euthanasia by 32 percent even during our present economy. More than 800 pets have been able to stay in their current homes due to the agency's Community Pet Pantry which provides food, supplies, vaccines and sterilization for pets of disadvantaged owners.

"We are proud to serve Lee County by providing our many services and programs," said LCDAS Director Donna Ward. "But we can't do it without the support of our community's residents."

Some of the ways to show appreciation for the shelter's contribution to the community are:

- Make an in-kind or monetary donation to the Animal Care Trust to help fund LCDAS sterilization and adoption programs.

- Adopt a pet from the shelter. Throughout November, anyone donating an item from the shelter's Wish List will receive \$25 off the regular adoption fee for any pet.

- Have your pet microchipped. This will help shelter staff identify you as the owner and return your pet quickly. LCDAS will hold a Microchip ID Clinic from noon to 2 p.m. Nov. 21. Microchips are just \$15 or \$5 with proof of public assistance. Cash only.

- Help raise funds for the Animal Care Trust by purchasing an item from the shelter's yard sale and craft fair from noon to 2 p.m. Nov. 21. Anyone wishing to contribute new items for the craft fair or used items in good condition for the yard sale (no clothing) may drop them off at the shelter the week of Nov. 16-20.

- Volunteer to help at the shelter, foster pets in needs or help with special events and fundraising.

For more information, go to www.LeeLostPets.com or call 533-7387. Pets available for adoption also may be viewed on the Web site, which updates hourly. ■

Make-A-Wish Foundation needs community's help

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida is seeking help from individuals, business owners, organizations and community leaders of Lee, Collier, Hendry and Glades counties to fulfill the wishes of local children with life-threatening medical conditions.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida grants wishes to children 2½ to 18 years old with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. Twenty-five years of magic and more than 7,000 wishes later, the foundation continues its mission to share the power of a wish with ailing children. To find out more about volunteering, fundraising or becoming a wish sponsor for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Southern Florida, call 992-9474 or visit www.sfla.wish.org. ■

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SATURDAY, NOV 7TH

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