

Press Release

MEDIA CONTACT

Ria Brown

Lee County Animal Services

(239) 533-9202

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



8th Annual Home 4 the Holidays Pet Adoption Campaign Kicks Off! Lee County Animal Services Promotes the Joys of Owning Shelter-adopted Pets

Fort Myers, Florida, November 19, 2008—Lee County Animal Services will join more than 2,000 pet shelters and adoption centers across the country for Home 4 the Holidays 2008, a national event organized to raise awareness of the joys of owning shelter-adopted pets. Organizers hope to match more than 350,000 dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens with loving, adoptive families. Lee County Animal Services will launch its local campaign on December 1st and by December 31st hopes to place 300 pets from its facility in life-long homes.

Special pet events in December will include Pet Photos with Santa December 6th from 9 am until noon at the shelter, 5600 Banner Dr., off 6 Mile Cypress Pkwy. next to the Sheriff's Office, and an offsite adoption at Regal Cinemas at Gulf Coast Town Center on December 13th from noon to 4 pm.

Pets adopted during the month of December will receive a new toy in addition to the services normally provided with each adoption. The adoption fee includes spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations appropriate for each animal's age, flea treatment, worming, heartworm test for dogs six months or older, feline aids and leukemia test for cats, a county license for pets three months or older, collar, training DVD, Behavior Hotline, Microchip Pet ID, bag of Hill's Science Diet pet food, and 10-day Health Guarantee. The total adoption package is valued at more than \$500.

Each week during December adopters also will be entered for a drawing to win a new pet bed for their new dog or cat. With all that is offered with each adoption there is no better time to add a new companion to your family.

The Home 4 the Holidays adoption campaign is a departure from the traditional practice of shelters suspending pet adoptions during the holidays, which are normally very hectic. In the past it was considered a bad time to introduce a new pet into the household. However, many shelters now realize that the practice only contributes to overcrowding and their homeless pets are missing out on the season when most people seek to add a companion animal to their family.

Adoption hours at Lee County Animal Services are 10 am to 4:00 pm Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 am to 6 pm on Tuesday, and 10 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday. For more information call 533-7387 (LEE-PETS). Pictures of pets available for adoption can be viewed online at www.LeeLostPets.com.