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City of Port St. Lucie
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PATCHES Santa's Summer Toy Drive
4th Annual Toy Drive kicks off Friday, June 24th at City Hall

Port St. Lucie's 4th Annual Summer Toy Drive to benefit children begins Friday, June 24th at City Hall with a kick-off event and tree lighting ceremony at City Hall, located at 121 S.W. Port St. Lucie Boulevard, in the City Council Chambers at 10 a.m. All toys and donations will benefit PATCHES.

The kickoff event begins at 10 a.m., with holiday music, refreshments, and a few brief comments. Afterwards, collection boxes will be placed at the following locations:

- City Hall building A, 121 S.W. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL
- PSL Police Department Lobby, 121 S.W. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Building C, Port St. Lucie FL
- Community Center, 2195 SW Airoso Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL
- Port St. Lucie Civic Center, 9221 SE Civic Center Pl., Port St. Lucie, FL
- Starbucks, 1789 St. Lucie West Blvd., St. Lucie, FL
- Dermody Pediatric Dentistry, 441 S.W. Bethany Dr., Port St. Lucie, FL
- Butterfield Drugs, 5009 Turnpike Feeder Rd., Fort Pierce, FL
- Butterfield Pharmacy, 1707 St. Lucie West Blvd. Port St. Lucie, FL

A drop-off box will also be placed that the City of Port St. Lucie's Parks & Recreation tent at FreedomFest on Monday, July 4th from 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.

PATCHES asks that only new toys in unopened containers be donated. PATCHES has a specific need for baby dolls of all sizes, soft-bodied trucks, large balls, mp3 players and headphones (not

ear buds), Zootopia toys, Finding Dory toys, regular baby toys for ages 6-36 months and anything that plays music.

Santa's Summer Toy Drive began in 2012 when donated toys were stolen day before Christmas as PATCHES was preparing to deliver them to the kids. When people at City Hall heard the bad news, they quickly began gathering replacement toys and within hours, those toys were replaced and delivered.

This year the Santa's Summer Toy Drive's goal is to collect 300 toys and raise \$3,500 in monetary donations. All monetary donations will be used exclusively to purchase toys for the PATCHES. "The happy response from the kids and their parents was so rewarding to see that we just had to do it again," said City Councilman Ron Bowen. "These children are dealing with some very difficult medical problems, so we want to make sure they can enjoy great toys without waiting until the holidays."

All monetary donations need to be made out to PATCHES, and dropped-off or mailed in to City Hall, Attention: PATCHES, 121 S.W. Port St. Lucie Blvd, Port St. Lucie, FL 34984.

PATCHES is a local not-for-profit licensed nursing facility and medical daycare center that specializes in helping children with serious medical conditions. With professional medical staff attending the children during the day, parents can leave their kids in a caring environment Port while working or running family errands. The children return home in the evenings to rejoin family.

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The City of Port St. Lucie is proud to be a hometown where people live, learn, work and play, and celebrate all of life's opportunities. With over 179,000 residents, Port St. Lucie is Florida's eighth largest city by population (South Florida's 3rd largest city). The City occupies an area of 120 square miles in St. Lucie County on Florida's east coast, about 50 miles north of West Palm Beach, half way between Miami and Orlando. The City provides most traditional municipal services including law enforcement, water and sewer, and public works.

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