

Boca Raton Forum

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PEARL CITY TURNS 100

4

SLOW BURN CLOSES UP 'SHOP'

20

DOLANDIS SINGS AT BOCA CLUB

31

Car show at Mizner Park Sunday with nod to Russ G

MARCI SHATZMAN MSHATZMAN@TRIBUNE.COM

Car lovers can admire and take selfies with 150 classic, new, custom and vintage cars when the Downtown Drive Show returns to Mizner Park on Father's Day Sunday for the fifth year.

The free show is from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the park and the Mizner Park Amphitheater, before a free concert 7 to 8:30 p.m. by the Florida Atlantic University Summer Concert Band. Make-A-Wish Foundation benefits from the car entrance fees and donations.

Everything will look

the same, but the car clubs and owners will know something is different. Russell Gagliano III has stepped in as event promoter with Russ G Events, since his father had a major stroke in February.

"Russ G has been instrumental to do this over the years," said Andrew McKinney, general manager of Mizner Park. "We're fortunate and thankful that car exhibitor groups and individuals come out and support Mizner Park. It's a tight knit group, and through-

out the day we get thousands of people."

The car show isn't just another event for his father, Gagliano III said. "This was a show I assisted with my father since the beginning. It was a show that was important to me, and my grandfather also attended. Three generations, and it was one of those things we always marked on the calendar."

The response has been rewarding, he said.

"To see and hear

continues on 16

PUPPY POWER



COMPETING SPIRIT Jenna Gardner, of Lake Worth, with her black lab Secret, during the Boca Raton Dog Show puppy competition at the South Florida Fairgrounds in West Palm Beach. STAFF PHOTO/HAL COPELAND

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10

Dog park restrooms, turf vs. grass solved at summit

MARCI SHATZMAN MSHATZMAN@TRIBUNE.COM

In their first face-to-face meeting in four years, city officials and a local taxing authority resolved longstanding issues.

Mizner Bark Dog Park will finally get restrooms, and natural grass will go on four more playing fields, both part of the second phase of the Spanish River Athletic Facilities at de Hoernle Park. A long-awaited agreement between the city and the Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District, the authority, will have to be signed before that addition can move forward.

The city had decided to

circumvent the district and put artificial turf at de Hoernle and pay for the project itself. But now that won't happen. By the end of the June 9 joint meeting, phase II at de Hoernle was back in dis-

trict hands.

"Out of frustration, we directed staff to move forward," Mayor Susan Haynie said early in the meeting.

Also resolved at the summit was artificial turf

vs. natural grass as part of planned district renovations at Patch Reef Park. The city has wanted more artificial turf fields to keep maintenance and

watering costs down and playing fields usable despite rainy weather.

"It makes a lot of sense to have a balance," Haynie said.

Putting organic turf on three fields at Patch Reef was seen as a district compromise, but ev-

continues on 29

MOSHE ELIEZER HIRTH, M.D.
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