

# Boca Raton Forum

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BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS NEED TOYS

5

BALLERINA, 91, STILL DANCING

21

WILLOW PLANS SUMMER EVENTS

23

## REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

Several members of the Boca Raton Police department stand at attention while the colors are raised on the flag pole during the annual Boca Raton Police Services Memorial Ceremony.

STAFF PHOTO/  
HAL COPELAND



SEE PHOTOS  
ON PAGE 11

## County initially OKs panhandling ban

ANDY REID SUN SENTINEL

Getting panhandlers off the streets is the goal, but tossing them in jail isn't necessarily the answer.

That was the message May 19 from Palm Beach County commissioners, who moved ahead with a proposed ban to keep panhandlers and others off the roads, but questioned whether the potential punishments are too steep.

Under the proposal, panhandlers, protesters, peddlers, and anyone else would have to stay off county roads and road medians while collecting money, waving signs or passing out materials.

But several county commissioners raised concerns about the punishments proposed for breaking the new rule. The potential maximum penalties include a \$500 fine or even up to 60 days in jail.

While supporting the new rule, the County Commission agreed to reconsider the potential penalties when the roadside solicitation ban comes up for a final vote on

continues  
on 26

continues  
on 28

## Public meeting set on vacant park site

MARCI SHATZMAN MSHATZMAN@TRIBUNE.COM

The last meeting was back in September. Now the city has called another public meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the Downtown Library for public input on the south side of Hillsboro El Rio Park.

The vacant 18-acre site has sat undeveloped except for Fire Station No. 8, across the street from the completed park at 499 SW 18th St. There's a gate on the south side entrance road, making much of the site inaccessible after a landscaping company was dumping there, said Assistant City Manager

Mike Woika.

The site was on the city's capital improvement plan, but the project was pushed back during the recession.

"There's no budget

money this year, and the next step is developing a new master plan," Woika said.

Now there are more complications.

"That was the municipi-

pal landfill in the '40s and '50s. It's building materials

### MOSHE ELIEZER HIRTH, M.D.

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