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Boca designates dog day for this summer



Keeping guard

Jade Fink has her office guarded by her dog Davinci. Photo credit: Courtesy/Twin-Star Handout photo provided by: (Handout / Twin-Star /June 4, 2014)

CAPTIONS

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By Anne Geggis, Sun Sentinel

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No word on whether cats will get equal representation, but June 20 in **Boca Raton** is officially "Take Your Dog to Work Day," Mayor Susan Haynie has decreed.

It will be the first time Boca has joined the annual event, which started 16 years ago and is sponsored by Pet Sitters International, who presumably want to take that day off.

The proclamation was made earlier this week at a City Council workshop to raise awareness about the furry, four-legged critters waiting for humans at the Tri-County Animal Rescue. The proclamation also spotlighted the 50,000 lives that have been saved since the rescue opened in 1996.

"We hope that everyone here, if they have a business or shop, please allow your employees and yourself to bring your pet," said Suzi Goldsmith, executive director of the rescue. "Help in the awareness of how important it is to be kind and take care of your animals."

For many Boca pooches, going to work is already a way of life. Brutus, a Miniature Pinscher, came to work at BaseLine Engineering & Land Surveying almost every day of his life. Roxanna Trinka, president and CEO of the company, said his job was lowering human blood pressure: "How can you be upset when you have a little love sponge in the office?"

O'Brian's Irish Pub in downtown Boca has a bevy of four-legged regulars: Wickett, a Shih-poo, Maggie May, a boxer, and Oscar, a Shih Tzu, regularly show up. Lisa Giampa, who owns the bar with her husband, said that her German Shepherds, would come more often.

"But they are a handful," she said, laughing.

The day will be mostly about recognizing the good Boca's no-kill rescue has done, but "I am looking forward to seeing pets in everyone's work place on June 20," Mayor Haynie said.

Asked if pooches can come to City Hall that day, though, Assistant City Manager Mike Woika said, "No."