

BOCA RATON TIMES

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Top 'home style' dog announced

The 2006 national contest to seek out America's Top Dog with "home style" is all over. The winner is Mia, a miniature dachshund and rescue dog from Valencia, Calif.

The theme for the Top Dog Model Contest was "home is where the heart is." The Humane Society of the United States' organized global leadership in promoting the protection of all animals was chosen as the platform for the contest, which supports local animal shelters with its events. The first event was the Red Carpet Launch Party, held at Boca Raton's Three Dog Bakery, with partial proceeds being donated to the Tri County Humane Society. The Top Dog photography event took place at Boca's Robb & Stucky Interiors, with a contribution from that event being made to the Florida Humane Society.

During Boca Festival Days there will be a contest follow-up event on Aug. 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Mizner Park's Robb & Stucky Interiors, 200 Plaza Real. The Dog Days of Summer Red Carpet Promenade presents the contest winner, Mia, and the 11 finalists, who will arrive in a limo

and be introduced on the "red carpet," just like Hollywood's Oscar night. Doggie guests will have



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an opportunity to place their "paw print" on the walk of tile and be pampered at "relaxing paws" spa. There will be gifts and refreshments followed by a seminar, "Pet Proof Your Palace," with Barbara Van Voast of Robb & Stucky.

Top Dog Mia will grace the cover of the America's Top Dog Model 2007 national calendar, which also will feature the 11 other finalists. Four of the finalists were from Boca Raton: Lola, a Pomeranian owned by Bonita Hureau; Petey, a Mi-Ki (Maltese, Japanese

Chin, Papillon mix) owned by Maria Dytko; Tia, a Yorktese owned by Joyce Pessel and Shorty, a Chihuahua terrier owned by Bonnie Scaggs who was adopted from the Humane Society.

Visit www.americastopdogmodel.com.