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Gregg Smith Automotive Car Show Drives Community Spirit and Charitable Support at Belleview Founder's Day, Raising over \$1,500 for the United Way of Marion County

BELLEVIEW, FL – The City of Belleview is proud to announce the success of the Inaugural Gregg Smith Automotive Car Show, held in conjunction with the annual Founder's Day celebration on Saturday, May 3, 2025, at Lake Lillian. Drawing an impressive 91 vehicles spanning several automotive categories and decades of design, it raised over \$1,500 in support of the United Way of Marion County through participant registration fees and raffle ticket sales.

From classic and modern cars to trucks, imports, lowriders, Jeeps, and both muscle and non-muscle performance vehicles, the day showcased automotive excellence and community enthusiasm.

"As a new addition to our Founder's Day celebration, the turnout was exceptional," said Robert Vass, Events and Promotions Manager for the City of Belleview. "Not only did we welcome nearly 100 gorgeous vehicles, but we also saw car clubs, families, and residents come together in support of a meaningful cause. The funds raised for the United Way of Marion County will directly benefit programs that serve individuals and families right here in our local community. It was a day of horsepower and heart."

The car show offered judged categories across multiple classifications, giving something for every automotive enthusiast, from vintage restoration to custom modifications. One of the highlights of the day was the award presented to the Ocala Street Cruisers, which earned recognition as the club with the highest number of members in attendance, a testament to their active participation and ongoing support of regional events.

"Gregg Smith Automotive has always been proud to serve and support the Belleview community, and this year's show was a true reflection of that mission," said Betty Otero, owner of Gregg Smith Automotive. "It was an honor to sponsor an event that brings people together not only to appreciate incredible vehicles, but also to make a tangible difference through charitable giving. We were thrilled with the enthusiasm of the participants and deeply grateful for everyone who made the event such a success — from city staff to volunteers, spectators, and our fellow sponsors."

In addition to showcasing vehicles, the event highlighted the power of local partnership. The Gregg Smith Automotive Car Show was made possible thanks to the support of the following local sponsors:

- Gregg Smith Automotive
- Citizens First Bank – Belleview Branch
- Graham Automotive (NAPA Auto Parts) – Belleview
- O'Reilly Auto Parts – Belleview
- Jasper Engines & Transmissions
- Clifford Insurance
- National Parts Depot

The funds raised from this year's show will go directly to the United Way of Marion County, helping to strengthen vital initiatives in the areas of education, income stability, and health throughout the region.

For more information on future events or ways to support charitable efforts in the City of Belleview, visit www.cityofbelleview.gov/events or follow the City on social media at @CityofBelleview.