

# Boca Raton Forum

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2015

VOL. 26 No. 20

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## Residents get heard on busy intersection

MARCI SHATZMAN MSHATZMAN@TRIBUNE.COM

Palmetto Park Road and Fifth Avenue downtown is already too crowded and unsafe, residents have been warning Boca Raton City Council for years.

With so many apartments coming online, and the city deciding on the fate of the Wildflower site, the main drag to the beach and through their neighborhoods could be log-jammed.

So about 125 residents, by Mayor Susan Haynie's estimate, said they were glad to have the chance to

weigh in at a consultant's workshop Nov. 16 in the meeting room of the Downtown Library.

Large maps were laid out on tables, and lists were dutifully recorded for the staff of Calvin, Giordano & Associates. All that input will go into a report with at least three alternatives for City Council by mid- to late January, said Eric Czerniejewski, the firm's director of traffic engineer and transportation planning.

As a basis for compari-

son, the firm handed out a list of seven other downtown intersections along Palmetto Park Road and Northeast/Southeast Fifth Avenue with traffic statistics for each one based on counts taken Sept. 2.

"This may just cause more traffic that goes somewhere else," Czerniejewski said.

On the residents' lists were at least 20 suggestions: Heading east on Palmetto Park Road, put "no U-turn" signs.

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## CELEBRATING NATURE



**PLANTED** Gabrielle Russo, 8, left, Cammie Bristow, 9, Paige George, 8, Boca Mayor Susan Haynie and Boca firefighter John Luca plant a slash pine tree at the 36th annual Arbor Day Tree Planting Celebration. STAFF PHOTO/ANNA COLLINS

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## Festival of the Arts Boca announces lineup

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Among the performers and authors recently announced as part of the lineup for the 10th annual Festival of the Arts BOCA are: Herb Alpert and his wife; violinist Joshua Bell conducting the Lynn Philharmonia in Vivaldi's "Four Seasons"; a cirque act and "Raiders of the Lost Ark," each with a live orchestra; and CNN's Fareed Zakaria.

The festival will take place March 4 through 16 in the Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real, and the black box theater in the Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real.

Also on the bill are an English translation of Mozart's "The Magic Flute" and 12-year-old jazz pianist Joey Alexander, who performed at Lincoln Center and the Apollo Theater last year.

Zakaria will speak on global hot spots at the festival's Authors & Ideas series, among other authors and a new addition, Irwin Stovroff, according to Joanna Marie Kaye, festival director. A World War II

POW and bombardier, Stovroff started Vets Helping Heroes and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and an honorary

doctorate by Florida Atlantic University.

Zakaria was already booked in the larger venue when the Paris attacks

happened Nov. 13.

"We knew he would bring in a big

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vulnerable.

“Together, with more donors joining us at all levels, we are taking our efforts to the next level for our community and our people.”

The evening’s \$150 covert includes valet parking. Cocktail attire is

requested. Dietary laws will be observed.

For more information about the event, and other Major Gifts opportunities at the Federation, contact Ida Novack at [idan@bocafed.org](mailto:idan@bocafed.org) or 561-852-3342.

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crowd and especially now with what’s going on in the world,” Kaye said.

“Being here in New York, I have my ear to the ground,” said Charles Letourneau, a veteran arts producer who has worked with the festival for 10 years to book the talent.

A remastered 1981 film “Raiders of the Lost Ark” with the John Williams score will open the festival at 7 p.m. March 4 with the 90-piece Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra at University of Miami’s Frost School of Music.

“The film travels, but this is only the second performance” with an orchestra, Letourneau said.

A 90-minute version of “The Magic Flute” in English, in costume and in front of a live orchestra is set for 7:30 p.m. March 5, the festival’s first opera, he said.

Jazz great Herb Alpert and his wife singer Lani Hall will perform at 7 p.m. March 6.

“I heard them at The

Carlyle Hotel and he has a new album out,” Letourneau said about “Come Fly With Me.” “He doesn’t do many shows and has a great dialogue with the audience.”

Bell will wrap up the festival when he performs and conducts the Lynn Philharmonia with Lynn’s University theater impresario Jan McArt narrating at 7 p.m. March 16.

In the author series, Dr. Robert Sapolsky, who wrote “Why Zebras Don’t Get Ulcers,” and is a professor at Stanford University School of Medicine will talk about “The Biology of Good and Evil.”

“He’s supposed to be very fun and entertaining,” Kaye said.

Laila Lalami, a Pulitzer Prize finalist this year, will speak about her novel, “The Moor’s Account.” Kaye described the book as “historical fiction based on the first black explorer who came over as a Moroccan slave and what would have been his memoir.”

Dr. Jay M. Winter, a professor of history at Yale

University, will explore World War I.

“Cynthia Brown [author series chairwoman] met him on a trip to Normandy this summer and said he was engaging and interesting,” Kaye said.

Festival co-chairman, producer and founder Charles Siemon called the 10th anniversary, “a real milestone and a legacy for the future.”

“Our plan was to have a major sponsor by the fifth year and that didn’t happen because of the Recession,” he said. “We have smaller but significant gifts... and this is an opportunity to celebrate and say thank you and reach back to the people who were key.”

The audiences in Boca “are people who come from all over and have a cultured environment and we think that is part of the attraction,” he said.

New this season is a free Festival of the Arts BOCA app, according to the festival. Tickets are available at [festivaloftheartsboca.org](http://festivaloftheartsboca.org) or by calling 866-571-2787.

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