



BOCA RATON FORUM

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2016

VOL. 27 NO. 15

WWW.SUNSENTINEL.COM/BOCARATON

EXAMINING STATE AMENDMENTS **3**

O'ROURKE KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN **8**

SPECIAL OLYMPIANS ON A ROLL **16**

Mendes, Marsalis cued for festival

BY MARCI SHATZMAN
STAFF WRITER

Tickets are on sale for the 11th annual Festival of the Arts BOCA 2017 from March 2 to 12. Among the performers are Branford Marsalis, Sergio Mendes & Brasil, the first showing of "The Pink Panther" movie with a live orchestra, and a mystery violinist.

There's already a countdown at festivaloftheartsboca.org for ticket buyers who log on before the new content appears on the website.

Herb Alpert's sellout show with his wife Lani Hall, who sang with Brasil '66, inspired the festival to bring in Sergio Mendes on March 12, said Charles Letourneau, artistic administrator.

"I presented him this summer in Napa Valley and people were dancing in the aisles," he said, recalling the California wine country festival. "He has a great show with 10 musicians and singers on stage, and he does his hits and new material."

Showing an iconic film with a live orchestra has become a tradition for the festival, after "Raiders of the Lost Ark" and "West Side Story." This time, the 1963 "Pink Panther" movie

and the Henry Mancini Institute Orchestra at the Frost School of Music at the University of Miami will perform together for the first time.

"Nobody knew where the music was and they finally found it at [the University of California, Los Angeles]. This is a huge deal and a legacy project," Letourneau said. "The whole [Mancini] family will come in for this, and we're honored the premiere will be in Boca. It's like finding a new Beethoven manuscript."

The festival has been reaching out to the country's first family of jazz, and this year sax player and composer Branford Marsalis reached back.

"Finally the schedules lined up, and he loves playing with an orchestra," Letourneau said. "He'll do two pieces, a contemporary concerto written for him ... and John Williams' music from 'Catch Me If You Can,' 'Star Wars' and 'Harry Potter.'"

Marsalis will play March 3 with The Symphonia Boca Raton.

Also on the program in the seated and roofed Mizner Amphitheater is a semi-staged

continues
on 3

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer



PINK PARADE Walkers cross the finish line at the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Mizner Park on Oct. 22. ORIT BEN-EZZER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10

Four seek Beach & Park District seats

BY MARCI SHATZMAN
STAFF WRITER

Two incumbents and their challengers are in what is usually a quiet race for four-year terms as Greater Boca Raton Beach & Park District commissioners.

It's a runoff. The initial votes on Aug. 30 didn't exceed 50 percent plus one. Now, voters who live in the district will find the candidates' names on the Nov. 8 ballot. Commissioner Dr. Dennis Frisch and Craig Ehrnst are run-

ning for Seat 1. Commissioner Earl Starkoff and Erin Wright are the candidates for Seat 3.

The district was set up in 1974 by the Florida legislature and includes residents who live in the city, to the southeastern corner of Palm Beach County, east of Florida's Turnpike and south of Clint Moore Road. The commissioners who win will take their seat Jan. 1 on a five-person board that oversees projects funded by these taxpayers. The new budget was just approved at nearly \$50.4 mil-

lion.

Why are you running?

Ehrnst: After my 2014 [Boca Raton] City Council race, I attended the city's long-range goal-setting meeting. At the 2016 meeting, the city had issues with the district. The district was complaining about communication with the city. I did a full assessment of the district's role and responsibility and discovered others felt there needed to be changes.

continues
on 5

BRUCE KODNER HIGHEST PRICES PAID

ALL SIGNED JEWELRY, DIAMONDS & WATCHES • ROLEX • CARTIER • PATEK PHILLIPPE • TIFFANY • BVLGARI

BUYING MID CENTURY ANTIQUES

FURNITURE & ACCESSORIES

PAUL EVANS • LAVERNE ETC.

www-BruceKodner.com

10KT. 14KT. 18KT. 22KT. GOLD AND ESTATE JEWELRY • ANTIQUES • FINE ART

OIL PAINTINGS • SCULPTURES • STERLING • GOLD & SILVER COINS & CURRENCY

3rd Generation • Same Day Service • Call Kodner Today • Immediate Payment

24 HOURS ON CALL 1 (800) 920-0067

(561) 998-9999

State amendments, examined

BY MARCI SHATZMAN
STAFF WRITER

A county official did his best to demystify four constitutional amendments on the Nov. 8 election ballot, but it wasn't easy.

They've all been before voters before in other forms, so if they look familiar, it's because they are, Todd Bonlarron, assistant county administration, said at the Oct. 18 Candidates Forum of the West Boca Community Council.

Here's the rundown:

AMENDMENT 1

Solar energy choices

Floridians already have the right to have solar equipment on their property to generate electricity for their own use, he said. "On the proponent side, this is driven by utilities ... to

put forward. On the other side, solar advocates say this may make solar energy more expensive in the future."

AMENDMENT 2

Use of medical marijuana for debilitating medical conditions

This didn't pass before, so proponents "tightened the language, named 10 conditions and the caregiver would have to be licensed," Bonlarron said. "The bottom line is, this would allow for a broader distribution."

AMENDMENT 3

Tax exemption for totally and permanently disabled first-responders

Voters already granted this for spouses and those killed in the line of duty. On the pro side there's protection: "This ex-

emption for first-responders would still be up to the Legislature," he said. On the con side, "If you start creating exemptions, it shrinks the tax pool."

AMENDMENT 5

Homestead Tax Exemption for certain senior low-income, long-term residents

The value of a home appraised at less than \$250,000 would be determined in the first tax year if the owner applied, Bonlarron said. "In some jurisdictions when a property rises to \$250,000 they would lose the Homestead Exemption," he said. "This would get it back." The senior would also have to meet low-income and other requirements to quality.

Visit dos.myflorida.com/elections/laws-rules/constitutional-amendments.

continued
from 1

version of "La Boheme" March 4 with The Symphony and a

cast of young opera singers.

"A part of our mission is to introduce people to new arts forms," said Charlie Siemon, festival founder, chairman and co-producer. The plan is to sell \$9.99 seats through the Kickstarter funding program to encourage a younger audience.

"We'll have subtitles in English above the stage" for the first time this year, he said.

Two performers are considered prodigies.

"We think Joey Alexander was stunning last year and we were able to get him back," Siemon said. The Indonesian jazz pianist will perform March 5 with Daniela Liebman, a classical pianist from Mexico. They're both 13.

"We're not allowed to reveal the name of the violinist until in January" because of noncompetes, Siemon said of the

March 10 performance with 18-year-old pianist Daniel Hsu. In the past, the festival has hosted world-renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman, who will perform at the Kravis Center for the Performing Arts on Dec. 18.

Finally, four authors will be speakers in the festival's Authors & Ideas program. They are Pulitzer prize winner Jennifer Egan, who wrote "A Visit from the Goon Squad"; presidential historian Jon Meacham; and Brian Greene, a theoretical physicist and author of "The Elegant Universe." Also coming is Bob Mankoff, cartoon editor for *The New Yorker*.

"Brian Greene has dedicated himself to bringing science to the people," said Cynthia Brown, who puts the program together every year. "He'll talk to AP physics students at West Boca High."

mshatzman@tronc.com

YOU'VE NEVER LOST WEIGHT

So Quickly, So Safely!™

We
GUARANTEE
your weight
loss!

MICHAEL
LOST **46** lbs.†

MARTINE
LOST **30** lbs.†

THERESA
LOST **86** lbs.†

ALEX
LOST **86** lbs.†



\$100 OFF*
Program Fees
+ 4 FREE B12 Injections
*Upon enrollment. Expires 12/2/16.

- Physician Approved - Dietitian Designed
- Fat Burning & Appetite Suppressing Supplements
- Free Pre-Diet Consultation

1952 NE 5th Avenue, Boca Raton

561-672-7463

www.physiciansweightloss-bocaraton.com



OVER **52 MILLION POUNDS** LOST!

*With our PhysiciansFAST® program. **Based on a full service program of at least 16 weeks. Required nutritional supplements and medical fees, if any, at regular low prices. †Individual results may vary. An independent physician is in the Center a minimum of one evening per week. Not valid with any other offers or discounts. Available at participating locations. Void where prohibited. ©2016 Physicians WEIGHT LOSS Centers of America, Inc.® Akron, OH 44333. A Health Management Group™ company. All Rights Reserved.