



Dreamstime/TNS

The rise of the equity rich: How US homes have gained value and owners home equity.

In today's paper
DEATHS: Robert Redford, screen idol turned director and activist, was 89, 12A



FRED R. CONRAD The New York Times | 2013

Miami Herald



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FUN AT THE FREEDOM TOWER

Above, Rosie Gordon-Wallace excitedly finds her photo among 400 portraits of Miami residents inside the 'Voices of Miami' exhibit at Miami Dade College's Freedom Tower in Miami on Tuesday. MDC gave a preview to special guests before the tower's public reopening in celebration of its centennial after two years of renovations. At right, music mogul Emilio Estefan takes a photo with niece Liliana Del Carmen Estefan as they tour the 'Reflections' exhibit.



PHOTOS BY CARL JUSTE cjuste@miamiherald.com

Commissioners of Broward city want \$30,000 pay raise. Residents are outraged

BY AMANDA ROSA
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Big drama is brewing in a tiny Broward city. Residents of West Park, a municipality south of Hollywood, are sounding the alarm on what some call "self-serving" proposed spending by city commissioners ahead of a commission meeting today. In one of Broward's smallest cities, three out of five commissioners recommended

raising their salaries to \$40,000, effectively quadrupling their current \$9,600 salaries. The final budget public hearing is at 6 p.m., followed by the regular city commission meeting at 7. "What they do in Hollywood, this city can't do. We only have 16,000 residents," said Carolyn Hardy, 75, a longtime West Park resident. "When you got little money, you work with

SEE WEST PARK, 2A



AMANDA ROSA arosa@miamiherald.com

West Park Commissioner Katrina Touchstone says city officials run the government 'like a dictatorship.' But some residents say she rules the commission like a 'mob boss.'

Epstein's ghost to follow Trump across the pond as president meets with UK royals

BY EMILY GOODIN
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When Donald and Melania Trump receive the royal welcome at Windsor Castle today, the ghost of Jeffrey Epstein will be trailing beside them. All of the major players in the Trumps' unprecedented second state visit to the United Kingdom have ties to the late, disgraced financier. And all would likely prefer to avoid the topic. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer found himself embroiled in his own

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FBI director blames Alex Acosta for the 'original sin' in how Epstein was prosecuted, **11A**
Epstein scandal after newly released emails showed his ambassador to the U.S., Lord Peter Mandelson, gave fervent support to Epstein after his conviction for soliciting a minor for sex. Mandelson, subsequently, was fired and has expressed remorse that he ever met Epstein.
President Trump was a

SEE EPSTEIN, 2A



PEDRO PORTAL pportal@miamiherald.com, file

President Donald Trump is visiting the United Kingdom, where Jeffrey Epstein scandals abound.

Lawmakers are cracking down on posts about Charlie Kirk. What about free speech?

BY CLAIRE HEDDLES
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Florida politicians insist their efforts to punish Floridians over comments that they don't like about Charlie Kirk's assassination aren't flying in the face of the First Amendment.

Free-speech advocates aren't so sure.

"It's a massive free-speech problem," Florida International University law professor Howard Wasserman said. "This is exactly what the First Amendment prohibits, which is the government punishing people — including through something like firing them from their job or pushing a private employer to fire them from their job — because the government or people in the government don't like what somebody says."

Florida lawmakers have been on the front lines of a mounting effort on the right to punish people who have criticized Kirk after the conservative activist was shot and killed at a campus event in Utah last week.

Florida's Department of Education vowed to investigate teachers who make "despicable com-



AL DIAZ adiaz@miamiherald.com | 2024

Conservative activist Charlie Kirk was killed last week in Utah while speaking at a college. The married father of two was 31.

ments on social media regarding the horrific assassination of Charlie Kirk." Secretary of State and former Florida Sen. Marco Rubio told Fox News the country should be revoking visas of people who "celebrate the murder" of Kirk.

And some Floridians have already faced professional consequences for their Kirk comments, including a University of Miami neurologist who was fired, a Florida Atlantic University professor who was placed on administrative leave and a Clay County teacher who was suspended.

Miami-area U.S. Rep.

SEE FREE SPEECH, 5A

Trump says U.S. sank 2 more drug boats from Venezuela and killed 3 'terrorists'

BY ANTONIO MARÍA DELGADO
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U.S. naval forces in the Caribbean have sunk a third alleged drug-running boat off the coast of Venezuela, President Donald Trump said Tuesday.

"We knocked off, actually, three boats — not two — but you saw two," Trump said on the White House lawn following the release of footage Monday showing three alleged drug smugglers being killed in a U.S. airstrike. That came after a Sept. 2 strike in which 11 people aboard a similar vessel were reportedly killed.

The president did not say how many people were killed in the third

➔ MORE INSIDE

Trump adds Venezuela to drug-transit list and decertifies Colombia as drug-fighting ally, **5A**

strike.

The president was responding to statements by Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro, who accused the U.S. of plotting an invasion of his country.

"Stop sending members of the Tren de Aragua to the United States. Stop sending drugs to the United States," Trump said of the Venezuelan gang.

The latest announcement came a day after the president posted on social media that U.S. forces had attacked a boat leaving Venezuela, killing

SEE BOATS, 5A



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