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HOUSE

New development to revive historic home, Page 13A



PENTAGON RETREATS

FROM CLIMATE FIGHT

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Partly sunny and breezy

85°/78° See 28A

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New residential towers are seen looking south along N.W. 2nd Avenue in the historic Overtown area of Miami on Oct. 15.

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\$175 million boost coming to resurgent Overtown, Miami's original Black neighborhood

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A view of Arte Grand Central residences at 218 NW 8th Street in Miami's Overtown neighborhood.

Just a few short years ago, the historic heart of Overtown, Miami's original Black neighborhood, lay desolate and lifeless just steps from Biscayne Boulevard and downtown. There were few if any shops, few homes, not a single grocery store, but lots of vacant lots, the result of decades of demolition, disinvestment and abandonment.

Today, the change along the six blocks of Northwest Second Avenue and its immediate vicinity is nothing short of dramatic. The streets are busy with pedes-

trians, thanks to a few thousand new and renovated apartments, both market-rate and affordable, within a few square blocks. There's not only a new Publix, but also an Aldi, a Ross, a Target with a CVS and a Starbucks in a towering complex that also includes 578 stylish apartments for low-income seniors, many of them longtime Overtown residents.

The resurgence is driven, perhaps ironically, by what some would describe as gentrification: the millions of dollars in tax reve-

A new bond program will provide \$15 million for a redesign of the neighborhood's Ninth Street pedestrian mall by landscape architect Walter Hood.

SEE OVERTOWN, 3A

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New shutdown problem: Miami is the U.S. capital for seniors on food stamps

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Ahead of Thursday's lunch rush at Curley's House Food Bank in Miami's Liberty City, Executive Director Lavern Spicer said she's preparing for a sharp uptick in customers as the federal government shutdown enters

its fourth week and Florida's Department of Children and Families tells millions not to expect food assistance next month. "People are afraid because they don't know what's going to happen with this shutdown," Spicer said. Her organization already feeds 5,000 families a month and expects thousands more if Supplemental Nutrition Assist-

ance Program (SNAP) benefits lapse in November. "We are going to need a lot of help to take on those types of numbers." She's especially concerned about seniors, who she's found to be hesitant to seek help when they need it. "Elderly people have a lot of pride when they're hungry, they're not necessarily going to say that they are hungry,"

MORE INSIDE

- Miami's federal workers hit the bread line as shutdown nears its fourth week, **2A**
- What's happening to your SNAP food benefits? There's good news and bad news, **2A**

Spicer said. "We get those calls all the time with seniors."

SEE SNAP, 2A

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