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FBI probe into Argentina soccer funds clouds new Miami-area sports complex

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When the head of Argentina’s national soccer federation, Claudio Tapia, announced plans in 2022 to build a sports complex

in North Bay Village, he described it as a global example of a partnership between a local government and a sporting entity. But now, with the FBI investigating whether Tapia personally benefited from potentially illicit money flowing through the Argentine soccer federation’s business affiliates



Claudio Tapia about the finances behind the sports complex —

which is now worth around \$24 million and opened right before the start of the 2026 World Cup. In interviews with the Miami Herald as well as discussions on public forums like Facebook, they claim the project’s implementation was not transparent and that contrary to

how it was initially publicized, access to the grounds has become restricted. A Herald review of the village’s commission meetings and enacted proposals, records of the public-private partnership and legal filings in Miami-Dade and federal courts, found the village did little

due diligence on the firms and figures who finally invested in the project. The village’s approval process was also at times rushed and fraught with disagreements. A bank owned by one of the primary investors, Roberto Dominguez, is

SEE SPORTS COMPLEX, 9A

Does a billionaire landowner have plans for historic building in downtown Miami?

BY CATHERINE ODOM catherine.odom@miamiherald.com

One of Miami’s biggest landowners recently went on a buying spree that included the historic former post office building in downtown Miami. Real estate developer Moishe Mana bought the building and an adjacent property for \$20.3 million, capping several weeks of multimillion-dollar real estate purchases. The most recent string of acquisitions added to the billionaire’s massive footprint in Wynwood and downtown. The purchases included \$12.6 million in commercial condo units at the nearby One Flagler office building and \$24.5 million for a Wynwood building that



Developer Moishe Mana has amassed a massive footprint in Wynwood and downtown Miami.

houses the Miami location of the restaurant Pastis. Mana owns about 80 properties in the downtown area, including the former SunTrust Bank tower at Flagler Street and Biscayne Boulevard, which he bought for \$110 million this year. He owns nearly 50 acres of land in

SEE POST OFFICE, 2A

This Hialeah rapper wowed ‘AGT’ judges. Here is his inspiring backstory

BY MADELEINE MARR MMarr@miamiherald.com

Luke Taleno is living the dream. The freestyle rapper, 28, had the distinguished honor of receiving a rare Golden Buzzer on “America’s Got Talent” on June 2. That means a contestant is fast-tracked by one judge whose opinion overrides all others. Belting out his original tune “Seat to Stage,” about his unlikely rise to fame, the Season 21 stand-out floored comedian Howie Mandel, who did the deed during the auditions phase. If it hadn’t been Mandel, another judge might have taken on buzzer duties — Sofia Vergara. Some of Taleno’s lyrics are dedicated to her: “Hola, Sofia,” the Cuban native serenaded the



‘America’s Got Talent’ episode with Luke Taleno “Modern Family” star, who looked both shocked and thrilled. “Yo te conocia cuando estaba con mi tía viendo la telenovela directo de Hialeah. Tú de Barranquilla, la única Sofia.” (“I first knew you from watching you on your soap opera with my aunt direct from Hialeah. You from Barran-

SEE LUKE TALENO, 2A



People gather near a collapsed building after a powerful earthquake in Manizales, Colombia, on Monday.

DEATH TOLL HITS 181 IN COLOMBIA

Earthquake devastates cities in the west

BY ANTONIO MARÍA DELGADO ADelgado@elnuevoherald.com

At least 181 people have been confirmed dead in Colombia’s main cities after a powerful magnitude 7.4 earthquake devastated parts of the country as rescuers raced Tuesday to find survivors beneath collapsed buildings and authorities struggled to determine how many people remain missing. The Colombian Association of Capital Cities, or Asocapitales, reported 1,310 people injured and 153 buildings collapsed in the cities it represents, according to Executive Director Andrés Santamaría. The figures were continuing to change as local authorities gathered information from some of the hardest-hit areas. Cali had the largest death toll among the capital cities, with 95 people killed, 244 injured and 56 buildings collapsed, Santamaría said. Pereira reported 72 deaths and 66 collapsed buildings, while preliminary figures from Quibdó showed nine deaths and 103 injuries. Five people were killed in Manizales, while Armenia had reported no deaths despite the collapse of five buildings. Authorities cautioned that in-



Rescuers search through debris in Pereira, Colombia, on Tuesday after a 7.4-magnitude earthquake struck the country the day before.

formation remained particularly difficult to obtain from Quibdó, SEE EARTHQUAKE, 2A

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