

30 Years MIAMI TODAY

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\$4.00

ACTION COMING DOWN THE LINE FAST FOR NEW MIAMI-ORLANDO RAIL, pg.18



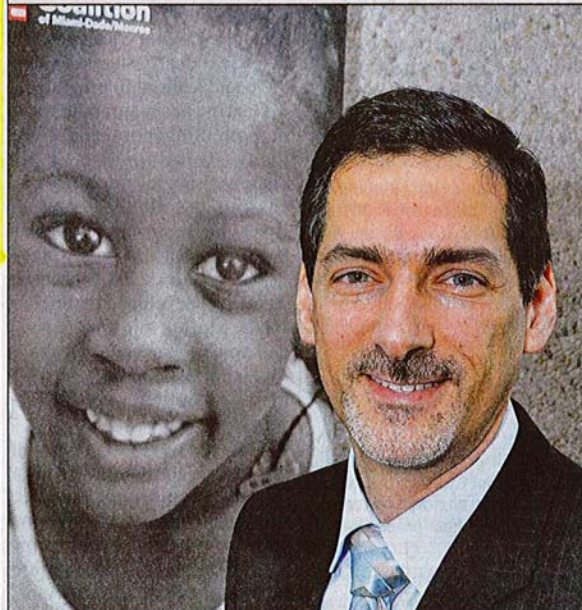
ECUADOR TRADE HUB OPENS: Pro Ecuador, a new trade office to promote the export and investment of Ecuadorian goods, has opened in the Miami Free Zone. Ecuador has 27 similar offices in nations around the world. The Miami office will focus specifically on supporting Ecuadorian companies and strengthening Ecuador's presence in Miami, according to the office. "We strategically located our office in the Miami Free Zone because of the logistical

platform it provides. The networking among tenants, being centrally located, and the proximity to the airport and seaport were all things we considered," said **Fernando Navia**, trade commissioner of Ecuador in Miami. According to the center, Miami is Ecuador's third biggest district in total imports and exports, falling behind Los Angeles at No. 1 and Houston at No. 2.

FBI AT MIA: The FBI is opening an office at Miami International Airport that would pay Miami-Dade County \$197,221 in annual rent, according to county documents. The County's Regional Transportation Committee unanimously approved a resolution June 11 to authorize a 10-year lease agreement for the office with the US General Services Administration. The measure is expected to go before the full commission June 19 or July 3. The lease allows the government to increase security in the area during times of heightened alerts. It also allows for installation of communications equipment and the use of 10 parking spaces.

CLASS FOR COMMISSIONERS: For the first time ever, newly elected Miami-Dade commissioners will go through orientation. The resolution was approved 6-0 by the County's Internal Management & Fiscal Responsibility Committee on Tuesday. The resolution said that despite its size – with 35 cities, 2.5 million population, 25 departments, 26,000 employees and \$6 billion budget – there "is no coordinated

THE ACHIEVER



Big project a joint deal with airport

By LOU ORTIZ

The Miami-Dade County Aviation Department is negotiating with a developer to build on 56.7 acres west of Miami International Airport that in land rents alone would generate nearly \$2.9 million a year to the airport, officials said.

The land can accommodate hotels, office buildings, industrial uses – such as storage, distribution and manufacturing – and retail establishments, including restaurants, according to documents filed with the County Regional Transportation Committee.

The land is just outside the airport's fence line near Milam Dairy Road.