

MIAMI TODAY

WEEK OF THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2011

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\$3.00



Homestead sports complex offers hit table, but game goes on, pg. 7

TODAY'S NEWS

City flunks charter school plans, owner heading for courts, pg. 8



CRA INCENTIVE: The planned Sonesta Mikado Hotel & Residences, 1701 NE Fourth Ave., is to rise with economic aid of Miami's Omni Community Redevelopment Agency, which is giving developer **Tibor Hollo** a break on tax-increment fund contributions. Miami commissioners at Monday's Omni Community Redevelopment Agency meeting approved an "economic incentive agreement," under which the agency is to reimburse the developer for

any tax-increment funds generated from the hotel and commercial portion of the project up to \$600,000 a year. In exchange, the developer is to give city residents hiring priority for the 268 full-time jobs projected in the Mikado's construction and operations. Tax-increment funds finance the agency's projects. In fiscal 2011, the Omni Community Redevelopment Agency collected \$9.2 million.

LOBBYIST CONTRACTS: Miami's Omni and Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agencies have renewed lobbying agreements with Akerman, Senterfitt & Eidson, worth \$24,000 each per year. The contracts are good for two years. Akerman is charged with lobbying federal agencies and Congress regarding appropriations and legislative issues on behalf of the agencies.

BUSINESS AND MOFONGO: The University of Miami's school of business and the Puerto Rico Chamber of Commerce will team up to co-host first E³ Summit of the Americas 2011 from April 1-7 in San Juan. The conference will feature discussions, including UM faculty, on the economic outlook for the region, the role of education in developing the next generation of entrepreneurs, opportunities for new ventures in foreign markets, public-private partnerships, opportunities in renewable energy and more, according to its website. *Details:* www.camarapr.org.

THE ACHIEVER



County cut for voting: \$17 million

BY ASHLEY HOPKINS

With one countywide and one district-wide election on the books May 24 and runoffs likely, Miami-Dade officials are working to pinpoint budget cuts to fund the balloting. No layoffs are expected.

County Manager Alina Hudak says budget officials have targeted nearly \$17.8 million in cuts across 28 departments.

Former County Manager George Burgess had asked all department directors to cut general fund use 3% to help fund the elections. He said each special countywide election could cost \$4 million to \$6 million and district-wide elections \$200,000.