



# Miami Herald

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**IRAN DEBATE**

## Kerry defends nuclear deal

Some in Congress fear Iran will secretly build warheads

BY JONATHAN S. LANDAY AND WILLIAM DOUGLAS  
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State John Kerry pushed back hard Thursday against fierce congressional criticism of the Iran nuclear deal, insisting that any breaches would be quickly detected and warning that its rejection would give Tehran “a great big green light” to expand its ability to build nuclear warheads.

“The alternative to the deal we’ve reached isn’t what we’re seeing ads for on TV,” Kerry told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. “It isn’t a better deal, some sort of unicorn arrangement involving Iran’s complete capitulation. That’s a fantasy, plain and simple.”

Thursday’s hearing was sometimes heated and personal, the verbal sparring highlighting the opposition by Republicans and some Democrats fearful that Iran will secretly build nuclear warheads and use a financial windfall from the lifting of sanctions to sow further instability in the Middle East.

“I believe you’ve been fleeced,” asserted the panel’s chairman, Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tennessee.

“You guys have been bamboozled,” contended Sen. James Risch, R-Idaho,



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

**MAKING HIS CASE:** Secretary of State John Kerry, above, spoke to members of Congress, including Sen. Bob Corker, center (R-Tennessee), Sen. Ben Cardin, right, (D-Maryland), and Sen. James Risch (R-Indiana) during a hearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.



ALEX WONG/GETTY IMAGES

• TURN TO CONGRESS, 2A

**CUBA**

## Obama trip may come with strings

■ Access to the Internet and progress on human rights are among conditions that will be considered before any presidential visit to Cuba, according to sources.

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The Obama administration will evaluate the progress of its new Cuba policy by considering issues such as the arrests of dissidents, access to the Internet and the development of the island’s private sector, according to participants in a recent White House meeting.

The administration would like to see improvements in those areas when it considers a possible visit by President Barack Obama to Cuba, but such progress would not be a prerequisite for the visit as White House spokesman Josh Earnest has indicated, White House and State Department officials told participants in the meeting, which was closed to the news media.

Several people invited to the Wednesday gathering, who asked that they not be identified, told El Nuevo Herald that the government officials mentioned that a possible decision on a trip may be evaluated in January. The White House denied that any specific month was mentioned.

Participants said Ben Rhodes, deputy National Security Council advisor, told the gathering that a possible Obama trip to Cuba would be evaluated at the beginning of 2016, based on the progress achieved by Cuban authorities on issues that the U.S. government considers to be important, such as human rights.

Rhodes also compared a possible Obama visit to Cuba with the events surrounding the fall of the Berlin Wall, one source at the meeting told the newspaper.

A presidential trip to Cuba “would be a historic opportunity to solidify the closing of a page from the Cold War” and “a natural next step,” said Ted Piccone, a senior fellow at the Brookings

• TURN TO CUBA, 2A

**ROBERT PARKER | 1953-2015**

## Retired chief’s suicide rocks county

■ The suicide death of Robert Parker, who became the first African American to lead Miami-Dade police in 2004, has left friends and former colleagues shocked.

BY HOWARD COHEN AND CHARLES RABIN  
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Robert Parker, the first African American to lead the Miami-Dade Police Department, was a rare sort of public official in South Florida, a man at the top with few enemies or critics. Parker, who retired six years ago as police director, was found dead with a gunshot wound to his head next to a canal near his northwest Miami-Dade home Wednesday night.

Parker, nicknamed “Marathon Man” early in his 33-year

career for outrunning and apprehending suspects, was 62. His death, ruled a suicide by the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner on Thursday, shocked friends and former colleagues.

Police Benevolent Association union Chief John Rivera called Parker a good friend and a great cop. “Sad, sad, day that one of our greatest guardians has left us,” he said.

Rivera, who said he had repeatedly tried to recruit Parker to run for county mayor, texted him on Tuesday for his birthday, nudging him to think about a po-

litical campaign. “Happy birthday my dear friend (and next mayor),” Rivera wrote.

Parker texted back with similar humor: “Thank you John, Mr. President.”

Miami-Dade Police Maj. Hector Llevat said it was unclear why Parker might have killed himself. No note was found. It would be “purely guesses at this point. I’m not sure we’ll ever know,” Llevat said.

From the outside, Parker seemed set for a content retirement. The family’s home in a neighborhood just below the Cloverleaf and west of Northwest Seventh Avenue wasn’t in fore-

• TURN TO PARKER, 7A



DONNA E. NATALE PLANAS/MIAMI HERALD FILE  
**FORMER POLICE DIRECTOR:** The death of Robert Parker was ruled a suicide.



ALEXIA FODERE/FOR THE MIAMI HERALD

**IN MEMORY:** Vivian Azalia, friend of Israel Hernandez-Llach, and others gather Thursday near 71st Street and Collins.

**MIAMI BEACH**

## No charges in Taser death of graffiti artist

■ The family of Israel ‘Reefa’ Hernandez-Llach says it will now sue the maker of the stun gun used by an officer to stop the teen after he spray-painted a shuttered McDonald’s.

BY DAVID OVALLE  
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For prosecutors, there was a crucial element in declining to charge a Miami Beach police officer in the August 2013 Taser death of graffiti artist Israel “Reefa” Hernandez-Llach.

The Taser stun gun, under state law and police policies, is considered a “non-lethal” weapon — making the teen’s death an accident, not manslaughter or murder, Miami State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle announced Thursday after

nearly two years of investigation.

“After the medical examiner determined that Israel Hernandez-Llach’s death was accidental, it left little legal room to pursue any possible criminal charges,” she said. “Our extensive investigation determined that the sad tragedy of this situation is that no one involved intended or anticipated any serious injury occurring to this young man.”

While relatives of Hernandez-Llach — whose death sparked protests against police tactics and drew worldwide media attention — were



COURTESY OF FAMILY

**ARTIST:** Israel Hernandez-Llach died after officer used Taser.

unhappy with the decision, they are now turning their attention to changing people’s minds about Tas-

• TURN TO TASER DEATH, 2A

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Hot sun & storms



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# WEEKEND

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2015 | SECTION G



## 'PIXELS'

1980s arcade games  
attack Earth, 7



# VELVET UNDERGROUND



## MEDIUM SWELL

While some folks starve themselves to fit into their summer swimwear, others couldn't care less and, instead, stuff their faces at burger-eating contests like the one taking place from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday at the Summer Festival Block Party at Rok:Brgr South Miami, 5800 SW 73rd St. You can challenge, torture and stuff your innards for giveaways and prizes, or you can just smash a ball into the dunk tank in between sampling beer at tents



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by Funky Buddha, Wynwood Brewing and Concrete Beach. A street BBQ will provide food for the rest of you, and live music by The Problem Kids and DJ Hans will possibly make you move a little bit to work it all off — so the only thing you're stuffing into your bathing suit the next morning is your svelte, well-fed self.

## READY, SET, PISCO

In celebration of Peruvian Independence Day, Radio Bar, 814 First St., is teaching barflies how to mix up their own Pisco-based cocktails — a Pisco Sour and a Pisco Mule — from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday. The mixology class will be taught by Radio bartender Teddy Collins and a "surprise guest." In addition to imbibing in your own concoctions, students of this boozy study will get "take-home gifts" at the end of the session. Space is on a first come, first served basis. For reservations,



visit [radiosouthbeach.com/events](http://radiosouthbeach.com/events).

## BEVERLY HILLS REDUX

Many moons ago, before craft this and star chef that and gastro whatever, Beverly Hills Cafe in South Miami, among other places, was like the Peach Pit of Miami. A place where everyone knew everyone, portions were big and the only mixology happening was in your salad bowl. Today things have changed, and Bev's founder, Mark Richman, is keenly aware of that, which is why his Entertainment Restaurant and Lounge, 5829 SW 73rd St., has been created not for food bloggers or Bon Appetit, but rather, he says, to "entertain us" with "live music, comedy, sports, open mic, karaoke and a giant screen for video concerts as well as a state of the art sound system." Starting at 8 p.m. Fri-



day and Saturday is Adele on the big screen, followed by Billy Joel from July 28-Aug. 1. All concerts are free and twice nightly at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. "Eat, drink, dance, live, love and laugh," Richman says, adding, "See old friends and make new ones." The spirit of Beverly Hills Cafe is alive and well. For more information, call 305-666-6669.



## SPLASHY CINEMA

Movie theaters are pretty cool these days, serving booze and offering seats that recline so far back that even the most action-packed flick could cause you to doze off, which could be a scary proposition if you fall asleep during Grapeland Water Park's Dive-In Movies, starting at 8 p.m. Friday with a screening of the Disney animated flick "Big Hero 6". Sure, it's a fun flick about a robotics prodigy, but

imagine watching it from a raft, noodle, or simply floating on your back at the park's Captain's Lagoon, where the cool waters may lull you to sleep. Stay awake, swim, tread water and enjoy. Admission is \$5. The park, 1550 NW 37th Ave., opens at 5:30 p.m. for those who want to play on slides and whatnot. Coming Aug. 28: "The Lego Movie." Everything is indeed awesome.



MANNY HERNANDEZ/FOR THE MIAMI HERALD

**SCENE AROUND TOWN:** Ryan O'Neal and Ali MacGraw at the Love Letters press conference at the Broward Center (top); Chantel Jeffries at the Peroni Style Emerging Designer Fashion Show at the SLS South Beach (middle left); Louis Aguirre and Rachael Russell at the 5th Style Saves fashion show at the Edition Miami Beach (middle right); Bianca Ruggeri and 2-time SuperBowl Steelers champ Jeff Reed at the Taste of the Nation at the Loews Miami Beach.