

SOUTH FLORIDA SunSentinel



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FOOD

Lobster on Las Olas

Lobster Bar Sea Grille replaces the old Jackson's Steakhouse, with emphasis on fresh catches.



WEATHER

High: 89
Low: 79
Forecast: 8D

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SPORTS

Looking for improvement

Dolphins owner Stephen Ross wants to see real progress. 1C

ONLINE

Head to the Bahamas

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GO!

SnowShow sparkles

Grand production at Arsht filled with small joys too. 8D

ENHANCED CONTENT

Miami actor's homage

Danny Pino pays tribute to his 'abuela' —and yours. 11A



Soccer goldies



JIM RASSOL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

It was a World Cup-style atmosphere around Sun Life Stadium Wednesday night as more than 65,000 fans cheered on four of the world's top soccer teams (A.C. Milan, the Los Angeles Galaxy, Real Madrid and Chelsea) on the last day of the International Champions Cup. Above, Chelsea and Real Madrid fans try to touch the players as they enter the field. Story, 1C

Migrant debate may 'get ugly'

Florida Republicans pressured from both sides

By WILLIAM E. GIBSON
Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — Florida has emerged as a pivotal player in the national immigration debate, the home of leading advocates for reform and of undecided Republicans who could determine the fate of sweeping legislation in Congress.

As a result, advocates on both sides are pressuring lawmakers in the state during the congressional recess, trying to influence them through mass rallies, demonstrations outside their offices and a big turnout at their town hall meetings.

"It's going to get ugly at times," said U.S. Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart, a Republican who represents parts of Broward and Miami-Dade counties. "But I am cautiously optimistic we are going to get something done."

After U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., helped persuade the Senate to pass a sweeping im-

See FLORIDA, 7A

Broward looks to make University Drive safer

By MICHAEL TURNBELL
Staff writer

University Drive needs a major safety upgrade, Broward transportation planners say.

The 27-mile corridor is central Broward's major north-south thoroughfare, running from Coral Springs to just south of the Broward/Miami-Dade county line. But its congestion is now a source of concern.

The Metropolitan Planning Organization is undertaking a \$1.5 million federally-funded study aimed at im-

proving University. Quick fixes could include re-timing traffic signals, extending walk times at intersections, and widening sidewalks and bike lanes. Other proposals, such as establishing a streetcar or rapid bus line, would take place in the next 10 years and beyond.

"We want to create a safer place for everybody, whether it be people in cars, on bikes, riding the bus or walking," said consultant Mary Raulerson.

In June and July, the county held

See ROAD, 7A



Fake service dogs anger pet owners

Owners and trainers of service dogs are not a happy bunch these days.

The reason? Some pet owners are passing off their animals as service dogs and they're using phony credentials to do it.

It's so bad that the Canine Companions for Independence, the nation's largest breeding and training service-dog program, has launched an online petition asking the U.S. Department of Justice to do something about it.

"Unfortunately, people are trading on the fact these harnesses and vests have become distinguishing marks of service dogs, so now you find unscrupulous businesses who sell these things to people who want to take their dogs into the store or res-

YOUR NATION, YOUR WORLD

Weiner calls rival 'grandpa'

In the latest sideshow in Anthony Weiner's bid for mayor of New York, the former congressman called a rival "grandpa" during a confrontation at a forum sponsored by AARP, the lobby group for older Americans. 5A



Congress gets cost break

Congress has partially wriggled free from the Obamacare health care

Al-Qaida on rise in Yemen

U.S. intelligence has long thought of Qaida in Yemen as a force of

Tow truck drivers face daily dangers

By IHOSVANI RODRIGUEZ
Staff writer

For tow truck drivers, the daily grind on South Florida's roads often includes dangerous turns, such as violent confrontations with enraged car owners.

On Tuesday, an argument over a towed car in Lauderdale Lakes ended with the tow truck driver shot dead and a Broward Sheriff's deputy exchanging gunfire with the suspected killer.

The death of David Herr, 36, of Hollywood, horrified many in the tow truck industry, but didn't come as a surprise.

"It's like a different type of road rage. People are getting shot left and right," said Cheryl Mish, executive director of the International Towing Museum in Chattanooga, Tenn. "It's dangerous for operators, even without the violent encounters."

On Wednesday, the Broward Sheriff's Office

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8-8-13

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See ROAD, 7A



CARLINE JEAN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

University Drive — all 27 miles of it — is being studied by Broward County officials for an overhaul to make the street safer and more efficient for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians.

ROAD

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workshops in Coral Springs, Lauderhill and Miami Gardens to get resident input. More meetings are planned this fall.

The stretch of the road between Griffin Road and Oakland Park Boulevard is the most congested, and is usually overcapacity during rush hour. It slows down not only commuters, but those on mass transit, since buses get stuck in the same traffic jams.

And for bicyclists and pedestrians, crossing the street can be deadly. In the last month alone, two bicyclists in separate incidents were killed as they attempted to cross the street.

In the early 1970's, University Drive was a rural road on Broward's western frontier, but since the early '90s it has been a six-lane highway. Despite that, there are stretches that still lack bike lanes, and sidewalks in some cases are less than five feet wide.

At major intersections, bike lanes disappear as multiple car turn lanes take priority. That means bicyclists must share a

lane with cars or ride on the sidewalk.

"They should install pedestrian overpasses for people to walk across busy streets like this," said commuter Craig Nissall.

Others say what's needed is a change in behavior, not in the road.

"Use the crosswalk and wait until it's safe to walk," said commuter Jennifer Nanni. "Drivers also need to pay attention, but I see a lot of pedestrians jumping out in front of cars all the time."

The road is served by two bus routes: A limited stop service called the Breeze that runs every 30 minutes at rush hour, and a local service that stops practically every block.

Both routes carry a combined 9,000 passengers daily on weekdays, making University the fifth busiest route for Broward County Transit. But the University routes are plagued with poor on-time performance, with 4 out of 10 buses running late.

Planners are considering creating queue jump lanes that allow buses to leapfrog cars at intersections and get a green light about 10 seconds ahead of other motorists. Pas-

sengers also might get the ability to pay for fares before they board to cut down on time buses wait at stops. Buses also may be equipped with sensors that enable them to hold traffic signals green just long enough for them to get through an intersection.

Drivers also would see some benefits with better coordination of traffic signals, reducing or eliminating the stop-and-go conditions that many complain about now.

In a survey taken this year by the study's consultants, re-timing signals by University was a top priority by respondents.

"In a perfect world, all of the traffic signals would be timed and you would be able to drive the speed limit and hit all the lights green without having to race between them and then wait," Raulerson said.

Broward transportation planners want your input on the future of University Drive. Take a survey at SunSentinel.com/universitystudy.

mturnbell@tribune.com,
954-356-4155, Twitter
[@MikeTurnpike](https://twitter.com/MikeTurnpike)