



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

June 29, 2017

Top Stories:

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Broward County sees very positive over the year growth of+31,100 jobs

Broward County's job report indicated a 3.8 percent unemployment rate in May 2017. This rate was 0.5 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 4.3 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 31,100 jobs (+3.8 percent) over the year, with an employment of 850,300 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region's jobless rate was 0.2 percentage point lower than the state rate (4.0 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,037,079 there were 39,335 unemployed Broward County residents. To read more, please [click here](#).

Florida's GDP Outpaces All Other Large States

Governor Scott announced today that Florida's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) grew 3.0 percent in 2016, faster than the national rate of 1.5 percent and outpacing all other large states, including Texas and California. Governor Scott also announced today that Florida added jobs at a faster rate than the 10 largest states in the nation in the last year. Florida had the third-fastest annual private-sector job growth rate out of all the states in the nation, behind Nevada and Utah. For 61 consecutive months, Florida's private-sector job growth rate of 2.9 percent has outpaced the nation's. To read more, please [click here](#).

Greater Fort Lauderdale Targeted Industries Life Sciences and Aviation featured in National/Local Publications

- [Sun, Sand and Drugs: How a Beach Town became a Biotech Hub](#)
- [Aviation and aerospace: South Florida's \\$41 billion economic engine – and growing](#)

Alliance Recognized by Florida Economic Development Council for Deal of the Year, Marketing Honors

[The Florida Economic Development Council \(FEDC\)](#) honored the individuals and teams that are helping to drive Florida's economy forward at its 2017 Annual Conference. The conference took place May 7-9 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Ft. Lauderdale. The Alliance was recognized for Urban Deal of the Year for our work with Magic Leap, Inc. and our Economic Sourcebook was chosen as the outstanding external marketing publication. To read more, please [click here](#).

Advertise in Alliance's 2018 Economic Sourcebook & Market Profile

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, in partnership with the *South Florida Business Journal*, is producing its annual *Economic Sourcebook & Market Profile* of Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County. Our flagship marketing publication, the *Sourcebook* is sent to national and international business executives when they contact the Alliance regarding a potential company relocation or expansion. It debuts at the Alliance Annual Dinner and is also mailed to all Alliance members, distributed to all *South Florida Business Journal* Broward subscribers, placed in select hotels, and distributed to Chambers and business resource organizations. In total, 11,000 copies will be distributed and it is [available for download](#) on the Alliance website. To advertise, please contact Yasmine Gahed at 786-533-8204 or ygahed@bizjournals.com.

Education, Workforce Development and Educational Excellence Builds Business (E²B²) News

[Broward Technical Colleges No. 1 in the State for Industry Certification Awards](#)

[2016 Annual Status Report on the Implementation of the Second Amended Interlocal Agreement for Public School Facility Planning](#)

[Broward County Public Schools Announces National Merit Scholarships](#)

[Broward County Public Schools, Innovation Florida, Wyncode Academy - Partner for New High School Coding Program](#)

[NSU Takes Bold Step to Address Teacher Shortage Crisis & Provide Employment for Graduates](#)

[Congratulations BCPS Golden and Silver School Award Winners](#)

[Nova Southeastern University Researchers Part of Team Exploring Seas in Fiji](#)

[NSU's College of Pharmacy Opens ICUBAcares Center](#)

[National Association of School Business Officials Honors Broward County Public Schools with Meritorious Budget Award](#)
[Theater Students Take Home Awards After The 15th Annual Cappies Award Ceremony](#)
[Northeast High School Educator Recognized with Lemelson-MIT Excite Award](#)
[Broward College Receives National Association of Schools of Art and Design \(NASAD\) Accreditation](#)
[Broward College First in the State for Industry Certifications for the Fourth Consecutive Year](#)
[NSU College of Allopathic Medicine Receives Candidate Status for Accreditation](#)
[NuLife Moves into NSU's Center for Collaborative Research](#)
[NSU Continues to Oversee National Coral Reef Management Fellowship Program](#)
[Olympia Duhart, former SALT Co-President, named NSU Associate Dean for Faculty and Student Development](#)
[Forbes Lists Nova Southeastern University as one of America's Best Midsize Employers](#)
[NSU: Chasing the Fastest Shark in the World is No Easy Task](#)
[NSU's Terry Mularkey Recertified as a Certified Fund Raising Executive](#)
[Broward College Receives \\$3.9 Million in U.S. Department of Education TRIO Grants to Help Local Disadvantaged High School Students Access and Succeed in College](#)
[Broward College Named to Forbes' "America's Best Employers 2017" List](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News

Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

Broward College announced that its president, J. David Armstrong, Jr., recently appointed to the Institute of International Education (IIE) Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) Advisory Board for the Fulbright Scholar Program was formally inducted on June 26 at its board meeting in Washington, DC. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Broward League of Cities, an organization representing Broward County's 31 municipal governments and more than 120 associate members, installed **City of Coral Springs** Vice Mayor Dan Daley as its new president, and inducted the 2017-2018 executive committee and board of directors during a ceremony at Margaritaville Hollywood Beach Resort on June 3rd. To read more, please [click here](#).

Fibernet Direct swept the Mid-sized Service Provider category at the 2017 Business Connectivity Service Provider Excellence Awards at JSA's annual Telecom Exchange NYC Opening Reception in New York City on June 20th. The awards were determined by responses to the firm's annual customer feedback survey which collected more than 4,100 customer evaluations of North American business telecom providers for the 2017 edition of ATLANTIC-ACM's Business Connectivity Report Card. Fibernet Direct received the 'Mid-sized and Under Service Provider' Awards for Brand, Sales Reps, Service Delivery, Network Performance, Billing, Customer Service, and Data Value. To read more, please [click here](#).

First GREEN Bank, a local bank with a global mission, today announced that the financial institution will establish its South Florida corporate headquarters in Fort Lauderdale. The site at 400 East Davie Boulevard cost approximately \$2.1 million. First GREEN Bank currently has a Fort Lauderdale branch located at 12 SE 12th Street (Davie Boulevard) in Ft. Lauderdale. To read more, please [click here](#).

Biz Travel on the Double. Manage all your business travel needs at NO extra cost while earning TrueBlue points with Blue Inc. - **JetBlue's** easy-to-use online booking tool for small and mid-sized businesses. Plus, for a limited time you can earn 2x TrueBlue points—at least 9 points per dollar spent—when you book a trip via Blue Inc. and travel by 7/31/17. To read more, please [click here](#).

JetBlue Airways launched its "Soaring with Reading" program at Joseph C. Carter Park on West Sunrise Boulevard, one of several city sites that will distribute 100,000 free children's books this summer through Aug. 31. Last summer, Fort Lauderdale was selected as the 2017 recipient for the JetBlue giveaway through an online public vote. To read more, please [click here](#).

According to United States Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service, at some time during 2015 12.7 percent (15.8 million) of U.S. households were food insecure, meaning they were uncertain of having enough food to meet the needs of all their members due to insufficient money or resources. During **JM Family Enterprises'** fourth annual Spring into Giving campaign, the organization mobilized its more than 4,200 associates in a fight against food insecurity. To read more, please [click here](#).

Congratulations to Alliance members **Ultimate Software, Inc.**, **JM Family Enterprises** and **Publix** for being included on the list of the country's [100 Best Workplaces for Millennials](#), announced by research and consulting firm Great Place to Work and FORTUNE. To read more, please [click here](#).

Macken Companies, a full service real estate firm, has announced the sale of its four-bedroom, 2,964 square-foot model residence at Beach House, a new luxury development of four single-family homes on the barrier island of Dolphin Isles in Fort Lauderdale. The model residence, located at 3200 NE 26 Street, was sold fully furnished for \$1.55 Million. The price per square foot was \$522.90, the highest single-family home sale in Dolphin Isles this year. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF)** and Informa Exhibitions have signed a 30-year lease extension with the Bahia Mar Fort Lauderdale Beach Hotel & Yachting Center to keep the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, the world's largest in-water yachting and boating exhibition, at the property through 2050. The new lease also has two 10-year extension options, allowing for up to 50 years in place. Owned by the MIASF and managed and produced by Informa Exhibitions, the largest boat show in the world in terms of gross exhibitor space and number of vessels attracts approximately 100,000 attendees, 1,000 exhibitors and more than 1,200 boats each November and is widely regarded as the top annual boating event where consumers and the global marine industry gather to buy, sell, meet up, and see what is new. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF)** has relocated to a new office in Fort Lauderdale at 221 SW 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312.

Moffitt Cancer Center and **Memorial Healthcare System (MHS)** have entered into a clinical partnership that will enhance the care of leukemia and lymphoma and establish a comprehensive Blood and Marrow Transplant Cellular Therapy Program for South Florida residents starting July 1. With both institutions recognized nationally and internationally as leaders in cancer care, this collaboration provides major benefits to patients seeking highly specialized cancer care close to home. "Both Moffitt and Memorial share common goals in providing world-class treatments for patients in South Florida and beyond, as well as, a dedication to innovation in clinical research and personalized medicine," said Aurelio M. Fernandez, III, FACHE, President and CEO for Memorial Healthcare System. "Personalized medicine will be advanced through a much larger patient population – leading to new discoveries in the fight against cancer." To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance board member Malcolm MacInnes, president of **MGM General Contracting, Inc.**, was recently featured in two articles by *Construction Dive*, a construction news publication. Please [click here](#) and [here](#) to read the articles.

Miller Construction Company is fast-tracking the first spec building in phase one of Flagler Global Logistics' new Countyline Corporate Park. Scheduled for Fall completion, the 197,427-square-foot, tilt-wall structure in Hialeah, is the first of nine planned buildings in the park's initial 2.4 million-square-foot phase. Building One offers next-generation industrial space with 32-foot clear ceiling heights, 180-foot building depth and a 180-foot non-shared truck court that includes trailer parking. This is Miller Construction Company's fifth project for Flagler Global Logistics, bringing the firm's total space constructed for the developer to over one million square feet. To read more, please [click here](#).

Miller Construction Company has completed the upscale Sereno at Bay Harbor Islands condominium community for co-developers Integra Investments and 13th Floor Investments. From the private, 13-slip marina to elaborate rooftop amenities, the nine-story, post-tensioned concrete structure takes full advantage of its location overlooking Florida Bay, Bal Harbour and the Atlantic Ocean. Miller's crews created the curving structure to maximize the waterfront site's panoramic views. To read more, please [click here](#).

Ken Morris, president of **Morris Southeast Group** announced that Avi Baecht has joined his firm as Vice President and Office Leasing Specialist. In her new position, Mrs. Baecht represents property owners market available office space and negotiate leases with prospective tenants and works with tenants in the marketplace to identify potential office space for lease and represents them in negotiating terms of occupancy. "We are pleased to have recruited a professional with Avi's experience, market expertise and enthusiasm for serving clients and for being active in the commercial real estate industry in general. She's a great addition to our team," said Ken Morris. To read more, please [click here](#).

Kevin Lynch created the Quell Foundation to educate communities about mental health issues and promote open, judgment-free dialogue. And when he heard about **Nova Southeastern University's** equine-assisted family therapy program (EAFT), he knew he had to get involved. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's Port Everglades will be investing more than \$100 million for a complete makeover of Cruise Terminal 25, which will continue to be a preferential berth for Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. (RCCL) as part of a new long-term agreement approved unanimously by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners. The new agreement replaces the current RCCL agreement, which expires at the end of 2017, and continues through September 30, 2026, with options to extend the terms for an additional four years, followed by an additional five years. RCCL owns both Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises cruise lines, both of which sail from Port Everglades. "Renovating Cruise Terminal 25 was already part of our Master/Vision Plan, and was scheduled to begin this year," said Port Everglades Chief Executive and Port Director Steven Cernak. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's Port Everglades is purchasing three low-profile Super Post Panamax container-handling gantry cranes at \$13.8 million each to meet demands from current customers and new services anticipated from the port's multi-million-dollar expansion program. The Broward County Board of County Commissioners approved the \$41.4 million crane purchase today, with an option for the seaport to purchase an additional three cranes anytime within five years of placing the order for the first three cranes. To read more, please [click here](#).

Congratulations to Alliance members and member companies recognized as **South Florida Business Journal** 2017 40 under 40 honorees, including: Jeremy Bedzow, **Ceiba Group**; Dr. Derek Burkholder, **Nova Southeastern University**; Laura Elder, **EY**; Adriana Fizzano Ficano, **Broward College**; Danielle Gonzalez, **Greenberg Traurig**; Aaron Horowitz, **Gunster**; Dr. Brian Hunis, **Memorial Regional Hospital**; Jenna Ingraham, **Breakthru Beverage Florida**; Michael Joslyn, **Suffolk Construction**; Steven Morrison, **MBAF**; Steven J. Wernick, **Akerman**. To read more, please [click here](#).

Starmark awarded with two District-level ADDY awards during the District 4 American Advertising Federation gala. These District ADDY wins, for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau Brand Essence Video and the Nickelodeon Hotels & Resorts Spacewalker Restaurant Brandmark, add to the 16 ADDYs Starmark took home at the AAF Fort Lauderdale awards gala earlier in the year. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stearns Weaver Miller announced that Chambers USA has once again recognized the Firm and its lawyers as among the top in Florida; the 2017 edition ranks 19 of the Firm's lawyers in eight practice areas. Chambers USA is a branch of Chambers & Partners, a highly regarded global publisher of directories that ranks the world's top lawyers and law firms. Rankings are based on extensive research and client interviews conducted by Chambers' team of researchers. To read more, please [click here](#).

A joint venture of Rockefeller Group and **Stiles** has sold Amaray Las Olas, a new 30-story luxury apartment tower in downtown Fort Lauderdale. Rockefeller Group and Stiles completed the new development in 2016, after which the building achieved full occupancy in record time for Fort Lauderdale. Stiles has developed more than 43 million square feet of award-winning projects throughout its 66-year

history, including more than four million square feet of residential, office and mixed-use projects in the Las Olas corridor – playing a major role in revitalizing Fort Lauderdale’s downtown. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott announced that 13 of its attorneys have been recognized in the 2017 edition of Florida Super Lawyers Magazine. Super Lawyers names Florida’s top lawyers as chosen by their peers and through the independent research of Law & Politics. To be eligible for inclusion in Rising Stars, a candidate must be either 40 years old or younger or in practice for 10 years or less. Only 2.5 percent of the lawyers in Florida are named Super Lawyers. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott announced that Stephanie Toothaker, a director with the law firm, has been elected as vice chair of the Bonnet House board of directors. Toothaker was also appointed to the Board of Trustees for St. Mark’s Episcopal School. Toothaker is a Martindale Hubbell AV rated partner and leads the firm’s land use department. From 2011 through today, Stephanie has been regularly recognized as a SuperLawyer and by Florida Trend’s Legal Elite. To read more, [click here](#).

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced that it has been ranked the #1 midsize organization on Computerworld’s 2017 Best Places to Work in IT list. Computerworld recognizes companies that provide an intellectually challenging environment for their IT staffs, along with outstanding benefits and compensation. To read more, please [click here](#).

Featured Property of the Month



[Point West - Suite 300A](#)

15851 SW 41st Street, Davie 33328

Type of space: *Light Manufacturing / Warehouse / Distribution Center*

Listed by [Suzana DePaola](#), Butters Realty

Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events

[Alliance Events](#)

Alliance Ambassador Council Meeting - (Invitation only)

Monday, July 10, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133, tviaixa@gflalliance.org

[Enterprise Florida Events](#)

FIME 2017

Tue, Aug 8 - Thu, Aug 10

Location: Orange County Convention Center, Orlando

FIME is a trade exhibition for medical equipment, products, services and technologies and showcases everything from hospital equipment to medical disposable products, nursing care, surgery instruments, diagnostic tools, equipment for emergency rooms and laboratory facilities, long-term care products, dental equipment, products for rehabilitation and orthopedics, electro-medical devices, medical services up to the pharmacy and much more. (For more information, [click here](#).)

Enterprise Florida (EFI) conducts or participates in an extensive schedule of export marketing missions and exhibitions worldwide. These trade events are open to all businesses registered in Florida. For more information and more event listings, please [click here](#).

[Member/Partner Events](#)

ArtServe: RedEye

Saturday, July 15, 6:00 p.m.

Location: ArtServe, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#)

Broward College - Inaugural Continuous Improvement Conference 2017

Sunday, July 23 – Wednesday, 25

Location: Broward College - A. Hugh Adams Central Campus, Davie

For more information, please [click here](#).

Bend an Elbow for Literacy

Saturday, July 29, 6:00 p.m.

Locations: General Provision (FAT Village), Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please [click here](#).

City of Fort Lauderdale's Unleash Your Business Power Academy – 3 Sessions – Must Register by July 17

Strategic Thinking - Tuesday, August 1, 4:30 p.m. ([click here](#) for more information)

Make Your Business Bankable - Tuesday, August 8, 4:30 p.m. ([click here](#) for more information)

Doing Business Successfully with the City - Tuesday, August 15, 4:30 p.m. ([click here](#) for more information)

Location: Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce

Airline E&M: North America (Aviation Week Network)

Wednesday, October 18 – Thursday, October 19

Location: The Palms Hotel & Spa, Miami Beach

For more information, please [click here](#)

Calendar items are subject to change without notice. Please visit www.gfalliance.org for the most current calendar of events and meetings and for more information regarding the Alliance.

Connect and follow the Alliance on Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#). Also, join our [LinkedIn group](#) (*for members only*).

Looking for commercial properties and demographic information? Visit www.greaterfortlauderdaleproperties.com.

Why have so many companies relocated to Greater Fort Lauderdale? [Click here](#) to find out (90 second video).