



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

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Top Stories:

- Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Mid-Year Meeting Features Announcement of Mid-Year Economic Results, Keynote by Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam, and Award Presentations
- Broward County leads job growth in South Florida
- Argentina Trade Mission Led by Governor Scott Yields \$24 Million in Expected Sales

Top Stories

Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Mid-Year Meeting Features Announcement of Mid-Year Economic Results, Keynote by Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam Putnam, and Award Presentations

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance hosted its Mid-Year Luncheon, presented by FPL, on Monday, May 15, 2017 to an audience of nearly 600 members and guests at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale. Alliance President/CEO Bob Swindell and Chair Bill White, Co-Founder and Principal of Compass Office Solutions, reported the following results of the Alliance's ongoing work as the official public/private partnership for economic development in Broward County: nearly \$207 million in capital investment by Alliance-assisted companies in the first two quarters of the Alliance fiscal year; 1,075 new jobs and 1,688 retained jobs. Companies assisted included: Apotex Pharmaceuticals, Bayview Financial, Royal Caribbean, Triangle Services and United Data Technologies,

"Today's new job announcements, low current unemployment rate of 4.0 percent, and year-over-year private sector job growth of 25,500 (3.6%) is confirmation that our economy is one of the strongest in the state and nation," said Bob Swindell, President and CEO of the Alliance. "The Alliance is hard at work year-round telling the story of our community's premier business location status. Companies continue to see the competitive advantages of locating and expanding high wage, high value industries in Broward County. We will continue to advance our county-wide collaboration as a community in developing and providing a talented workforce and creating a favorable business climate."

The luncheon's keynote speaker was State of Florida Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services Adam Putnam, who declared his candidacy for Governor of the state of Florida. The Alliance also presented its annual World Class Faculty and Economic Development Partner of the Year Awards To read more, please [click here](#).



Bob Swindell with Guest Speaker Adam Putnam and Commissioner Chip LaMarca



2017 Economic Development Partner - Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF).



2017 Alliance World Class Faculty honoree Dr. Bob Speth (center) with Board of Directors Chair Bill White and Bob Swindell,

Broward County Leads Job Growth in South Florida

Broward County's job report indicated a 3.8 percent unemployment rate in April 2017. This rate was 0.6 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 4.4 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 26,400 jobs (+3.2 percent) over the year, with an employment of 846,200 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 1,029,711 there were 38,820 unemployed Broward County residents. "We're delighted to see that Broward County continues to lead job growth in South Florida with 26,400 jobs over the year and a 3.8 percent unemployment rate," said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. "All 10 of the

major Florida industries experienced positive over the year growth in April 2017, and this is a good indicator of the strength of our economy." To read more, please [click here](#).

Argentina Trade Mission Led by Governor Scott Yields \$24 Million in Expected Sales

Governor Rick Scott announced in mid-May that the nearly 40 businesses that participated in the recent economic development mission to Argentina have reported more than \$24 million in expected sales. Additionally, these businesses generated \$1.85 million in actual sales during the mission. This was the first trade mission by any governor from the U.S. under Argentina's new administration and Governor Scott was the first U.S. governor to meet with Argentine President Mauricio Macri. To read more, please [click here](#).

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



[BCPS Selected for \\$35,000 Grant from Google to Support Computer Science Education](#)

[Congratulations to Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School JROTC Cadet Named the 2016/17 Cadet of the Year!](#)

[25 BCPS High Schools Rank as "America's Most Challenging High Schools"](#)

[BCPS Hold Opportunity Event for Small Business Vendors](#)

[U.S. News & World Report Announces the 2017 Best High Schools](#)

[Broward College to Offer Career-Themed Summer Kids & Teen College at its Campuses and Centers](#)

[Broward College to Host Inaugural Continuous Improvement Conference 2017 for Local Businesses](#)

[NSU Professor Named 'World Class Faculty' at Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon](#)

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

[Nova Southeastern University's Dr. H. Thomas Temple Named a Health Care Hero](#)

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

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

[Nova Southeastern University Receives Telly Award for Human Trafficking PSA](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

Powering up Lockheed Martin's new 145,379-square-foot solar carport in east Orlando, lead contractor **Advanced Green Technologies (AGT)** and a sister company to **Advanced Roofing Inc.** joined the global security and aerospace company in marking completion of one of Florida's largest privately owned solar arrays. As an innovative way for companies large and small to "go green" with rapid ROI, the project spotlights the potential of high-tech carports to offset energy use while shielding employees' vehicles from the Florida sun. Fort Lauderdale-based **Advanced Green Technologies**, Florida's largest solar contractor provided design, procurement and construction of the project. To read more, please [click here](#).

BankUnited was honored at the third annual Financial Capability Innovation Awards presented by the nation's leading technology innovator, EverFi, Inc. Presented at Nasdaq Marketsite in New York City, the award recognizes BankUnited's significant efforts to improve the financial capability of Americans through unique digital learning initiatives. BankUnited has partnered with EverFi to bring the Financial Scholars Program to local students at no cost to schools or taxpayers and has reached over 6,974 students since 2011. The web-based program uses the latest in simulation and gaming technologies to bring complex financial concepts to life for today's digital generation. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Miami HEAT and **BankUnited** will award \$25,000 in scholarships to five outstanding high school seniors attending school in Miami-Dade, Broward, Monroe or Palm Beach County. "BankUnited is proud to partner with the Miami HEAT to help send deserving South Florida students to college," said BankUnited President and CEO Rajinder P. Singh. "For the fourth consecutive year, we are honored to play a part in helping students pursue their dreams of earning a college degree." Now in its 21st year, the Miami HEAT Scholarship Program recognizes students based on excellent academic performance, exceptional community service and financial need. To read more, please [click here](#).

Siemens is putting the final touches on each of the trainsets and getting them prepped for their trip. The two trains are coupled together with the noses of the locomotives facing each other. Each train is almost 500 feet in length, so together they are nearly 1,000 feet long. Each is comprised of four coaches and two locomotives on each end. "With the delivery of *BrightGreen* and *BrightOrange*, we will have four of our five trainsets in West Palm Beach, bringing us one step closer to the launch of our service," said Tom Rutkowski, **Brightline's** Chief Mechanical Officer. Brightline's two previous trains – BrightBlue and BrightPink – attracted quite a bit of attention as they came across the country! To read more, please [click here](#).

Parents looking for new and exciting summer activities for their children will find it through the **Broward College Kids & Teens College (KTC)**. In its 30th year, the Broward College KTC program will provide a unique opportunity for students, ages 8-15 years to experience college. The six-week program offers quarter, half and full days from June 19 to August 4. "It's never too early to start thinking about careers and exploring interests," said Diane Peart, director of Continuing Education at Broward College. "With the KTC summer camp, students will be given a rare glimpse into life as a college student through fun activities on an actual college campus. They will have the option to choose their 'course schedule' with classes that will build the skills and habits children need to prepare them for success in school." To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Broward Library Foundation's** annual fundraiser, Literary Feast, which celebrates literature and brings well-known national and international authors to Broward County, raised more than \$175,000 for 15 Broward County Library programs in 2017. It featured 17 best-selling authors of fiction and non-fiction and included Pulitzer Prize-winner Robert Olen Butler and the winner of this year's PEN Hemingway award for debut fiction, Yaa Gyasi. Even William Shakespeare made an appearance at this year's Welcome Reception where he used the persuasive power of iambic pentameter to entice guests to choose a book raffle from our library cart! To read more, please [click here](#).

Fibernet Direct is proud to announce that they are now a part of Crown Castle (NYSE:CCI) and will bring their leading end-to-end business connectivity solutions along with the scale, reach and stability of Crown Castle, the nation's largest provider of shared wireless infrastructure. Fibernet Direct looks forward to offering the same award-winning personalized service that we became known for as FPL FiberNet, while taking advantage of the new opportunities that Crown Castle can provide. While the name has changed, day-to-day interaction with Fibernet Direct will be the same, and executed contracts remain in effect. They continue to be a premier fiber-optic infrastructure provider, recognized in the industry for our highly reliable network and award-winning service delivery and customer service. 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. First GREEN Bank's new South Florida headquarters will be constructed at the newly purchased 400 SE 12th Street site in Fort Lauderdale. The new headquarters building is scheduled to be open by the end of 2018. It will include USGBC LEED-certification Platinum, Net Zero Energy (solar powered), storm water collection/reuse, the highest level of sustainability/regeneration, and the highest GreenGlobes rating. The structure is also slated to have a gym, community room and other facilities which will be open to customers and the community organizations. To read more, please [click here](#).

Protec Fuel Management announced on May 23rd the completion of a project to enable the **City of Hollywood** to run all Flex Fuel capable vehicles on the cleaner-burning biofuel E85. The switch to the ethanol product contributes strongly to the city's cost management efforts, while delivering significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, improving hurricane preparedness, and supporting American jobs. Leading the way in the region, Hollywood becomes the first municipality in South Florida to adopt the high octane, E85 fuel to power its fleet. To read more, please [click here](#)

At a City Commission meeting on March 21st, the City of North Miami Beach and The Commission on the Status of Women recognized **Macken Companies** for again serving as the Presenting Sponsor of the City's 4th Annual Heart Health Walk. Macken Companies Director Monte Greenberg accepted a plaque from Councilwoman Beth E. Spiegel, the event liaison, during the City Commission meeting. The event, which took place on Saturday, February 25th at the Gwen Margolis Amphitheater, comprised of a 2.6-mile walk with the goal of building awareness to heart disease in women. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Marine Industries Association of South Florida** received the 2017 Economic Development Partner of the Year award from the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance at its mid-year luncheon on Monday. The MIA SF is the largest marine trade organization in the Southeast and is dedicated to promoting, protecting and growing 110,000 jobs in Broward County and 136,000 jobs regionally in marine businesses. Since 1961, the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show (FLIBS) has evolved under the MIA SF's ownership into an event that hosts more than 100,000 visitors from more than 52 countries. The MIA SF also collaborates with the alliance, hosting the annual International Marine Hub Luncheon during FLIBS, and it has partnered with the alliance to establish South Florida as a global marine research hub. To read more, please [click here](#).

Community leaders **Memorial Healthcare System** and Arthur J. Gallagher & Co. were honored for their impact on public education and student achievement in Broward County at the recent **Broward Education Foundation** Black & White Gala that celebrated 34 years of educational excellence. Each year, the Foundation contributes more than \$2.2 million to Broward County schools, serving as the catalyst for educational excellence. "I congratulate our honorees who both have provided unwavering support for Broward Education Foundation and Broward County Public Schools and share our commitment to serving and improving the nation's sixth largest school district," said Broward Education Foundation Executive Director Shea Ciriago. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's Port Everglades is taking an active role in the state's multimodal freight planning initiative as David Anderton, Port Everglades Assistant Director, was recently appointed to the Florida Freight Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee works in cooperation with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) to development freight connections that strengthen the state's position as a primary cargo hub in the United States. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's Port Everglades was honored by receiving two Community Appearance Awards from the City of Fort Lauderdale for artwork incorporated into new construction projects. The projects are part of Port Everglades' continuous investments in creating the ultimate cruise guest experience to welcome passengers and port visitors alike. As a self-funded enterprise within Broward County government, Port Everglades works with **Broward County's Cultural Division** to foster public art projects in the cruise terminals and public areas throughout the Port that create a sense of place and improve aesthetics. The projects selected for the Community Appearance Awards are both exterior art enhancements. To read more, please [click here](#).

Fitch Ratings has affirmed the 'A' rating on **Broward County's Port Everglades'** outstanding \$167 million port facilities senior revenue and refunding bonds, and has revised the Rating Outlook from Stable to Positive. The *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Port Everglades Navigation Improvements Project*, a critical component of the expansion effort, received federal authorization as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act signed into law December 16, 2016. The project is currently in the preconstruction engineering and design phase, and is proceeding through the permitting and federal funding processes. The \$389.3 million project is anticipated to be completed by 2024, creating an estimated 2,200 construction jobs and nearly 1,500 permanent direct jobs locally resulting from additional cargo capacity. Port Everglades is consistently ranked among the top three busiest cruise ports in

the world, is one of the nation's leading container ports and is South Florida's main seaport for receiving petroleum products including gasoline, jet fuel and alternative fuels. To read more, please [click here](#)

About 400 people from throughout the tri-county region gathered for the ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale. **South Florida Business Journal's 2017 Influential Business Women Awards**. The signature luncheon highlights the burgeoning number of women in South Florida excelling in business, while also spotlighting the numerous efforts they lead to help improve their local communities. A common thread throughout the awards is how many of the honorees have been mentored and inspired by other women. Alliance Member company honorees included Alliance Board Executive Committee member & CEO Council member Juliet Murphy Roulhac, **Florida Power & Light Co.**, along with Rebecca Faith Bratter **Greenspoon Marder**, Luciana Carvalho, **Blanca Commercial Real Estate**, Cristina DiMauro, **BankUnited**, Lisa Duke, **Walter Duke + Partners**, Tanya Ferreiro, **Kaufman Rossin**, Armina "Mindy" Figueroa, **Latin2Latin**, Tracy L. Gerber, **Greenberg Traurig**, Mika Mattingly, **Colliers International South Florida**, Julie Palmer, **Suffolk Construction**, Ileana Salort-Horta, **MBAF**, Whitney Schiffer, **Berkowitz Pollack Brant Advisors and Accountants**.

Starmark was awarded with two District-level ADDY awards during the District 4 American Advertising Federation gala in Miami on May 6. 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. "It's a thrill to have our work recognized on a local and national level this year," states VP, Executive Creative Director, Dale Baron. "So much big thinking and collaboration went into this work, and these wins tell us we're doing something right. It's fuel to one-up ourselves next year." To read more, please [click here](#).

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced today it has been ranked #7 on Forbes magazine's 2017 list of the 100 Most Innovative Growth Companies. Recognized companies are ranked by their Innovation Premium—the difference between their market capitalization and the net present value (NPV) of cash flows from existing businesses. Forbes' method relies on investors' ability to identify firms they expect to be innovative now and in the future. To be included, firms need at least seven years of public financial data and between \$2 billion and \$10 billion in market cap To ready more, please [click here](#).

Featured Property of the Month



[Coral Ridge Financial Center](#)

2419 E. Commercial Blvd, Fort Lauderdale 33071

Type of space: Office

Listed by [Brady Titcomb, JLL](#)

Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events

Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting - (Invitation only)

Thursday, June 8, 8:30 a.m.

Location: CareerSource Broward, Hollywood

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, hkulp@gfalliance.org

Entrepreneurship Council Meeting - (Invitation only)

Tuesday, June 13, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Liza Bongiovi at 954-627-0132, lbongiovi@gfalliance.org

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting - (Invitation only)

Tuesday, June 20, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting - (Invitation only)

Wednesday, June 21, 8:30 a.m.

Location: GUNSTER, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131

Alliance Council Connect - (Alliance Members & guests only)

Thursday, June 22, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Brightline Fort Lauderdale Station

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

Alliance Governor Council Meeting - - (Invitation only)

Tuesday, June 27, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Enterprise Florida Events

38th Hemispheric Congress of Latin American Chambers

Mon, Jun 5 - Thu, Jun 8

Coral Gables, Florida, Trade Conferences

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

INA PAACE Automechanika

Wed, Jun 14 - Fri, Jun 16

Mexico City, Mexico, International Trade Show

For more information, [click here](#)

Meet the Buyer – Superyachts 2017

Wed, Jun 14- Sat, Jun 17

Rhodes, Greece

For more information, [click here](#)

International Paris Air Show

Mon, Jun 19 - Fri, Jun 23

Paris, France, International Trade Show

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

Korea Import Goods Fair 2017

Thu, Jun 22 - Sat, Jun 24

Seoul, Korea, International Trade Show

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

Doing Business with the World Bank

Jun 22, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

University of North Florida - University Center, Trade Conferences

For more information, please [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 to see more event listings, please [click here](#).

Member/Partner Events

SFBJ 2017 Healthiest Employers

Thursday, June 1, 11:00 a.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six. Fort Lauderdale

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

Save the Date: Broward League of Cities 60th Annual Gala

Saturday, June 3, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Margaritaville Beach Resort, Hollywood

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

MIASF 2017 Annual Dinner Meeting & Awards Ceremony

Saturday, June 3, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Riverview Ballroom, Fort Lauderdale

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

Broward County Office of Economic & Small Business Development - Business Resiliency Workshop

Wednesday, June 7, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Broward County Emergency Operations Center, Plantation, FL 33324

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

GrowFL CEO Forum

Wednesday, June 14, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: FAU Tech Runway, Boca Raton

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

Jim Moran Institute Business & Leadership Conference

Wednesday, June 21, 2:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention Center

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

Jim Moran Institute Business & Leadership Conference

Thursday, June 22, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention Center

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

Digital Transformation Forum 2017

Thursday, June 22, 1:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Location: C&I Studios, Fort Lauderdale

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).