



Photo by Ken Henson – ken@whitehotmedia.com

**The Alliance E-Newsletter
June 30, 2011**

Top Stories

Altadis USA Announces Integration of Commonwealth Brands into Fort Lauderdale Headquarters Adding New jobs and Capital Investment

Altadis USA, one of the largest cigar companies in the U.S., announced that it will expand its 22 year headquarters presence in Fort Lauderdale through integrating administrative functions of a related company, Commonwealth Brands, currently located in Bowling Green, KY. Altadis USA and Commonwealth Brands are both subsidiaries of UK-based Imperial Tobacco Group. Imperial had also considered a consolidation of administrative office functions in Goodlettsville, TN, near Nashville.

Officials from Altadis USA worked closely with the office of Florida Governor Rick Scott, Enterprise Florida, the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council to craft state and local incentives that will result in the addition of 55 high paying jobs with an average salary in excess of 150% of the local Broward County average wage, or \$62,448, along with retaining the current 84 Altadis USA employees. The company will expand its existing office space at 5900 North Andrews Avenue and invest over \$700,000 in additional capital expenditures for construction and renovation leasehold improvements and for the purchase of computer equipment, office furniture, fixtures and other equipment. The state and local incentives from Florida and the City of Fort Lauderdale total \$625,000 and consist of \$330,000 from the Qualified Target Industries Tax Refund Program along with \$236,000 from the Governor's Quick Action Closing Fund and \$59,000 in a Direct Cash Incentive from the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Gary Ellis, president and CEO of Altadis USA, said "the decision to choose Fort Lauderdale as the ultimate location for the

co-location of headquarter administrative functions was arrived at only after significant internal discussions were held, and the fact that Altadis USA has a long standing track record of success of operating in Fort Lauderdale was a factor in the final analysis. The leadership and support of Florida Governor Rick Scott, Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jack Seiler, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council Chairman Ray Ferrero, Jr., and many others were critical to Fort Lauderdale's selection, and I am personally grateful for their efforts on our behalf."

"Altadis' expansion in Florida is a vote of confidence in our state's ability to assist leading corporations in fulfilling long-term business goals," said Governor Scott. "I appreciate Altadis' recognizing my efforts to make Florida the number one state for job creation and the best place to live, work and play."

Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jack Seiler said, "Altadis USA and its management and employees have long been an important part of the Fort Lauderdale community fabric and are well known for their generous support of many local and international charitable causes through their corporate and personal contributions, such as Junior Achievement and their own Montecristo Relief Organization for the Haiti earthquake victims. But most importantly, the City of Fort Lauderdale values and appreciates their decision to remain and expand their corporate headquarters in Fort Lauderdale and continue to add to the local economic vitality as we recover from the recent recession. The City of Fort Lauderdale is pleased to play a leadership role in providing the necessary incentives to ensure their continued presence in our community."

According to Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council Chairman Ray Ferrero Jr., "We are delighted to have had the opportunity to work with our partners at the City of Fort Lauderdale, Enterprise Florida and the Governor's Office on behalf of Altadis USA. The CEO Council's mission is to maintain and grow the presence of the more than 150 corporate and international headquarter operations in the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County area that can take advantage of our world class quality of life, transportation access and highly rated business and personal tax climate, and the decision of Altadis USA provides further positive confirmation and ratification of our initiative."

Altadis USA is a manufacturer and distributor of cigars including such famous brands as Backwoods, Phillies, Dutch Masters, Montecristo and Romeo y Julieta. Commonwealth Brands manufactures and distributes cigarettes and other tobacco products including such brands as USA Gold, Sonoma and Davidoff Cigarettes.

Wendy's International Locates in Sunrise

Ross Realty Investments, a well established developer and manager of commercial properties in Florida, is pleased to announce the tenancy of Wendy's International, Inc. at the Indian Trace Commons building in Sunrise. This new class A office building, located at 1398 SW 160th Avenue, serves the Weston/Sunrise market and is visible from Interstate 75.

The tenant has leased the entire top two floors of the building, comprising approximately 11,000 square feet. The space houses Wendy's International's South Florida headquarters, as well as its Latin American headquarters. The facility serves as an executive training center that will accommodate international and out-of-area visitors.

An important factor was the ability to deliver the space to the tenant during the second quarter of 2011. To that end, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council coordinated meetings with the City of Sunrise's Economic Development Director (Lou Sandora) and Sunrise building services officials to ensure that Wendy's was able to occupy their premises on time.

"We are delighted that leading corporations like Wendy's continue to make the City of Sunrise their location of choice," said Sunrise Mayor Michael J. Ryan. "This project exemplifies the dedication of our staff, and the City's commitment to new and expanding business enterprises. We wish Wendy's International every success in Sunrise."

Ray Ferrero Jr., Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council chairman and chancellor of Nova Southeastern University, stated "We are pleased that Wendy's has chosen to bring their Latin American and Florida corporate headquarters to Sunrise and welcome them to the Greater Fort Lauderdale's area complement of over 150 corporate and international regional headquarter operations. It's made even more special based on our close friendship with Wendy's founder Dave Thomas and his wife Lorraine as longtime Fort Lauderdale residents and wonderfully generous supporters of our area through the Enterprise Ambassador Program at Nova Southeastern University and the Dave Thomas Education Center in Coconut Creek, which offers GED classes to young adults as a legacy to Dave's advocacy and commitment to education and life-long-learning."

For additional information contact: Gloria Fernandez - senior vice president, Ross Realty investments, Inc. at gfernandez@ross-realty.com or Robert Sherman - vice president and director of leasing, Ross Realty Investments, Inc. at bsherman@ross-realty.com.

Great HealthWorks to add 346 jobs in Hollywood

The Alliance is pleased to announce that Great HealthWorks has been awarded a Florida Quick Response Training Grant for \$197,967. The grant is helping Great HealthWorks create 346 new jobs over the next two years and provide customized training for new employees. The training will be coordinated through Broward College. Hiring of employees has already begun.

Great Healthworks, founded in 2003, is a global manufacturer and distributor of one-of-a-kind natural products. One of its most well known products is Omega XL®, a natural, highly purified oil extract from the Green-Shelled Mussel; known scientifically as perna canaliculus. This marine based fish oil comes from the pristine waters of the Marlborough Sound found in New Zealand, and provides a combination of Omega 3 essential fatty acids beneficial to a person's overall health.

"Our goal is to hire, develop and retain the most skilled workforce team possible as we continue to grow," said Great Healthworks CEO and Founder Ken Meares. "This grant helps make resources possible to train our employees and grow the company at a time when new jobs are truly needed in Broward County."

"Great HealthWorks is exactly the kind of fast-growing company the Alliance and Broward College seeks to help expand in Broward County," said J. David Armstrong, Jr., president of Broward College and the current chairman of the board of the Alliance. "They've gone from being a start-up company just eight short years ago to employing several hundred people, and they are in an industry that has great growth opportunities for the future."

City of Hollywood Mayor Peter Bober added, "We are very pleased to have assisted Great HealthWorks move into its location in Port 95 which is located in the City of Hollywood. We continue to work with Great HealthWorks in its expansion efforts and look forward to its continued success as it develops new products to add to its exclusive OmegaXL® line. Great HealthWorks will also take advantage of the Enterprise Zone Corporate Jobs Tax Credit which will provide the company with tax advantages promoting the hiring of employees who reside in Broward County's Enterprise Zone. The City's partnership with the Alliance, WorkForce One, Broward County, and Broward College has proven to be synergistically productive in attracting, relocating or expanding businesses in the City of Hollywood. We commend Great HealthWorks on their success and look forward to seeing them grow in our City for many years to come."

"This announcement of 346 new jobs is very exciting," added Broward County Mayor Sue Gunzburger. "The jobs are in a number of different occupations and will provide employment opportunities for the residents of Broward County. We are very happy the company has decided to expand in Broward County, particularly in Hollywood, which is my hometown. On behalf of the Broward Commission, I wish them the very best in their expansion."

Other companies and organizations that have recently received training grants in Broward County include Marina Medical Instruments, Inc.; Epoxytec International, Inc.; Ricera American Corporation; Nipro Diagnostics, Inc.; Certified Metal Finishing, Inc.; Digital Cut, Inc.; Designer's Specialty Cabinet Co., Inc.; RIIMIC LLC; Gonzalez & Goetz, LLC; Coventry Management Services, Inc.; Chase Roofing & Contracting, Inc.; and Florida Health Plan Administrators, LLC. For information about available training programs in Broward County, please contact Vernon Bailey, Director of Workforce Development for the Alliance and WorkForce One Employment Solutions at 954-524-3114.

Alliance Announces Streamlined Permitting 'Platinum' Cities

Four Broward County communities have been named Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance "Platinum Cities" after approving a streamlined permitting process recently recommended by the Alliance. The cities are Tamarac, Davie, Oakland Park and Fort Lauderdale.

The idea behind the streamlined permitting process is to provide businesses with a first-rate experience when going through the development, permitting and inspection process for office and industrial properties. The streamlined process is intended to be available to high-impact, targeted industry businesses that are relocating or expanding in Broward County.

"The Alliance is pleased to promote these communities as 'Platinum' cities because they have committed to taking what can be a cumbersome process and making it more transparent and client-friendly," said Bob Swindell, Alliance president and CEO. "This is extremely important, especially in a time when we are doing all we can to create new jobs in Broward County." Cities that adopt the new process will be promoted and marketed on the Alliance website (www.gflalliance.org), in Alliance promotional materials, on social media sites and in other ways.

Andy Berns, public and economic affairs officer for the City of Tamarac, was behind the efforts of Tamarac to be the first city in Broward County to adopt a streamlined permitting process. "The City of Tamarac takes great pride in providing customer service, second to none," he said. "Passage of this ordinance by the City Commission exemplifies that standard and lets the world know Tamarac is open for business."

To qualify for streamlined permitting, businesses must be a part of identified targeted industry clusters and hire new employees with salaries at least 15 percent higher than the average wage in Broward County. They must also show that the property is properly zoned, platted and ready for the type of business being proposed.

Steps the communities are taking to streamline the permitting process include pre-development meetings and designating a city staff member as a "concierge" to assist the company through the permitting process. An online permitting system will also allow applicants to review the status of their permits on a real-time basis throughout the process.

"Other communities in Broward County are currently making plans to adopt this streamlined permitting process to demonstrate their commitment to permitting excellence," added Swindell. "We already have one of the best business tax climates in the nation. Streamlined permitting is just another reason we will be known as a great place to relocate or expand a business because communities stand ready to help companies succeed and grow in other ways as well."

Florida Economic Development Council Recognizes Ray Ferrero Jr. at Annual Conference in Orlando

Ray Ferrero Jr., chancellor of Nova Southeastern University, past chair of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the founding and current chair of the Alliance's CEO Council, has been recognized by the Florida Economic Development Council (FEDC) as its 2011 Economic Development Volunteer of the Year. The award was presented to Chancellor Ferrero during the FEDC's annual conference held in Orlando June 23-24.

"Chancellor Ferrero has truly been a catalyst for private investment and an exceptional leader for economic development for many years," said Bob Swindell, president and CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, who joined Chancellor Ferrero on stage as he received his award. "It is no surprise that he was recognized for outstanding achievement."

As Founding Chairman of the Alliance's CEO Council in 2007, Chancellor Ferrero took the lead role in getting 20 of Broward County's leading CEOs to support economic development with an annual commitment of \$50,000 each. Under his leadership, the CEO Council has funded and implemented a plan to make Greater Fort Lauderdale more competitive when working to attract and expand headquarters companies. The plan involves a number of initiatives including a national/international print and electronic advertising campaign to attract companies to Greater Fort Lauderdale.

"More than 70 headquarter projects are now in the Alliance's pipeline considering Greater Fort Lauderdale as a potential location due to the leadership of Chancellor Ferrero," said Swindell. "A number of companies have selected Greater Fort Lauderdale as their location of choice since the CEO Council program was launched."

Working with Alliance staff members, Chancellor Ferrero has personally hosted site selectors and officials from companies considering Greater Fort Lauderdale as a location of choice, and has been interviewed by a number of publications including *Florida Trend* and *Site Selection* magazine, talking about the advantages of locating in Greater Fort Lauderdale. He has also led a number of county-wide and region-wide meetings of governmental and economic development leaders to discuss opportunities to work collaboratively with each other and also with the education community in preparing the community and the workforce for high skill, high wage knowledge based jobs of the present and future.

Alliance's Robin Ronne Co-Authors LEADER Magazine/CoreNet Global Article

Robin Ronne, managing director of the Alliance's CEO Council, has co-authored an article in the May/June edition of CoreNet Global's *LEADER* magazine called *The New Definition of Client for Economic Developers*. The article was co-authored by Del Boyette, principal of Boyette Strategic Advisors, an economic development and public policy consulting firm. The article addresses the question economic developers are asking in the new economy: "Just who is my client, and to

whom should I strategically spend my limited time, energy and money to establish and maintain relationships to achieve the greatest benefit and return on my investment – the end users, brokers or site selection consultants?" To read the entire story, please [click here](#).

Alliance's Robin Ronne Featured in New Book on Leadership

Ron Starner, Conway Data/*Site Selection Magazine's* executive vice president and general manager, has just published a wonderful new book on leadership entitled "*Thank God it's Monday*" for which CEO Council Managing Director Robin Ronne was privileged and honored to write the Foreword and to also be profiled by Ron. Please [click here](#) to see a note from *Site Selection Online* along with a brief overview of the book, which can be ordered directly through Conway Publications by contacting Julie Clarke at 770-325-3422 or via email at julie.clarke@conway.com.

Morris Southeast Group/CORFAC International Expands and Extends Greenfield World Trade Warehouse Lease in Weston

Morris Southeast Group/CORFAC International has extended and expanded the warehouse lease for Greenfield World Trade in Weston announced President Ken Morris, SIOR. Morris represented Greenfield World Trade in its expansion by 16,650 square feet of distribution warehouse space at 3355 Enterprise Avenue, a building located within the Meridian Business Campus in Weston. Greenfield also extended its lease by another 30 months and now occupies an entire building comprised of 61,000 square feet.

Meridian Business Campus, LLC is approximately 1.5 million square feet in 16 buildings and located in Weston near I-75 between Royal Palm Parkway and Griffin Road. Noteworthy tenants include United Stationers, Hopper Memcorp, Cardinal Health, Quantum Fine Caseworks, Edy's Ice Cream and Tree of Life.

Greenfield is one of the largest distributors of food service and preparation equipment and represents over 32 world-class manufacturers of high quality commercial restaurant equipment throughout the world. Equipment lines include Bakers Pride, Champion, EVO, General Food Service, Groen, KitchenAid and many other top brands recognized by chefs, cooks and bakers.

Broward County Launches GrowBROWARD

Local entrepreneurs and business owners are expected to get a much needed economic boost from the launch of GrowBROWARD, a new initiative by Broward County's Office of Economic and Small Business Development (OESBD) to attract, retain and expand local business and create jobs.

GrowBROWARD is a reciprocal endeavor between government and business. Working one-on-one with an OESBD specialist, local business owners are counseled on how to develop new opportunities, including identifying new markets, growing the supply chain, monitoring growth and planning for a disaster.

The program offers essential technical assistance and support services to assist local companies in focusing on Goals, Resources, Opportunities and Wealth to realize their full potential. A healthy business community leads to increased local tax revenues and stimulates the local economy.

"This new program is another step toward helping Broward County-based small companies grow to meet their full potential in an expanding global marketplace," said Norman Taylor, director, OESBD.

GrowBROWARD is part of the County's ongoing efforts to reinforce the local economy through a network of healthy small- and medium-sized businesses.

For additional information on GrowBROWARD and other services offered by the Office of Economic and Small Business Development, visit <http://www.broward.org/econdev> or call 954-357-6400 (voice), 954-357-5664 (TTY).

Capital Gains: Major Construction Projects in Broward County Prove the Arts are Here to Stay

(Source: Broward County Cultural Division) Across the nation, the arts are getting hit hard. NEA grants are on the chopping block (again), music and art programs are being axed by cash-strapped schools and paid attendance at concerts and

museums is down.

So what are Broward arts organizations doing to survive? With the help of city governments, planners and foresighted boards of directors, organizations throughout the county are investing serious capital to reinforce their value and expand their public appeal. It's a gutsy move in these tough economic times, but one that promises enormous dividends: by building for the future, they send a clear message that the arts are here to stay.

Examples: Young At Art Museum and Broward County Reading Center: Learning through Art - Each year, for 20 years, Young At Art has provided innovative arts programs to an estimated 100,000 children of every socioeconomic level, including the homeless. Its unique approach to integrating math, science, social studies and language with hands-on art experiences is known for reviving the joy of learning. Families have responded by doubling enrollment in after-school art classes. To read more, please [click here](#).

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

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Ranks Florida's Workforce and Job Training No. 1 Among States

Continuing a pattern of national recognition for its workforce training, Florida earned the top spot in the second annual Enterprising States report just released by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Chamber Foundation. After being ranked No. 2 last year for its workforce and training, the Sunshine State moved into the lead based on measures including job placement, the affordability and efficiency of its higher education system and the number of high school students enrolled in advanced placement courses. The nationwide report also touted Florida's Quick Response Training (QRT) Program. To read more, please [click here](#).

NSU Ranks Number One in the Nation in Awarding Doctoral Degrees to Hispanics for Third Consecutive Year

The *Hispanic Outlook in Higher Education Magazine* has ranked Nova Southeastern University (NSU) as the number one institution in the nation in the number of doctoral degrees awarded to Hispanics. The ranking was published in the magazine's 2011 "Top 100 Colleges for Hispanics" edition. For the third consecutive year, NSU earned the top spot on the list for doctoral degrees, with 266 degrees conferred on Hispanic students out of the 1,806 conferred in total, which represents 15% of NSU's doctoral and first-professional degrees granted. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Tops State in First Time Algebra | End-of-Course Assessment Results

The Florida Department of Education has released results of the 2011 Algebra 1 End-of-Course (EOC) Assessment State Report of Districts. Results highlight that Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) again leads the state and big five school districts. A review of the assessment results indicates that Broward's mean score at 51 was higher than the state and three of the four largest districts. In addition, the proportion of Broward students scoring in the upper third was higher than the state and other four large districts.

Twenty-four from Broward County Public School District Getting National Merit Scholarships

Twenty-four Broward County Public School District high school seniors have been chosen to receive the college-sponsored National Merit Scholarship. The awards range from \$500 to \$2,000. They are given annually for up to four years of undergraduate work at the sponsoring college. The college selects a winner from among National Merit Finalists who plan to attend their school.

The National Merit Scholarship Corp. is a nonprofit organization that rewards students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in college. Students become eligible when they take the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test during their junior year of high school.

Plantation High School Rocket Team Wins Ninth in Nation

The Plantation High Rocket Team placed ninth in the nation at the Team America Rocketry Competition (TARC) recently held in Manassas, Virginia. Over 500 teams from around the United States qualified for the competition. This accomplishment

qualifies the team for two NASA grants. Plantation has won more NASA grants than any other team in the nation.

South Plantation Magnet Wins Fairchild Challenge

Students in the Environmental Science and Everglades Restoration Magnet program at Broward County Public Schools' South Plantation High topped off an award-winning year by becoming the overall champion of the Fairchild Challenge, the largest student environmental competition in the world. The 2011 title was the fourth consecutive win for South Plantation, earning them a "Met the Challenge" banner, which represents five years of sustained competition.

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News (Alliance members in bold)

Becker & Poliakoff has announced that former Miami-Dade County Manager George Burgess has joined the law firm as Chief Operating Officer. In his new position, Mr. Burgess will lead and supervise the firm's administrative, management and operational strategy and structure, including IT, human resources, administrative and financial functions.

Broward County Commissioners have given Port Everglades approval to start negotiating an intermodal container yard deal with the Florida East Coast Railway. Both Port Everglades and the Port of Miami have made plans for rail operations near their docks to handle growing trade – especially Asian cargo that is expected to increase after an expansion of the Panama Canal is completed in 2014. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County Cultural Division is proud to be the recipient of five awards for excellence in county government. To read more, please [click here](#).

Lisa Jesmer has been selected to lead the **CBRE** South Florida asset services teams in the Miami-Dade, Broward and Palm Beach offices.

Colliers International South Florida is pleased to announce the sale of 2727 W. Cypress Creek Road - a 25,000-square-foot office building in Fort Lauderdale. Robert Listokin, SIOR, senior vice president, and Sal Bonsignore, CCIM, senior commercial associate, represented the seller, the Miller Family, in the \$2 million transaction. Camelot Properties of Florida, LLC. purchased the property for use as a law office for their Philadelphia based firm.

Congratulations to **Ernst & Young** "Entrepreneur of the Year Florida 2011" award recipients **Mike Jackson, AutoNation** and **Rick and Rita Case, Rick Case Automotive Group**. Mike Jackson received the Lifetime Achievement Award and Rick and Rita Case received the Retail and Consumer Products Award.

Florida Power & Light Company has filed a petition with the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) to modify its electric service offerings to help support the state's economic recovery by providing an incentive for businesses to start up, expand or relocate in the Sunshine State. To read more, please [click here](#).

Site Selection Publisher and Founder Hobart McKinley "Mac" Conway, one of the most significant figures in the history of economic development, passed away in Shiloh, Fla., on May 29, 2011. He was 90. Conway lived a truly remarkable life. In fact, during his nine decades he created such a dazzling array of landmark moments that his life can almost sound like fiction. He excelled in multiple arenas: as a publisher, a writer, a globetrotting adventurer, a pilot and a musician. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stiles has announced that the company will develop a 50,000-square-foot build-to-suit flagship store for West Marine in Fort Lauderdale. West Marine, the biggest specialty retailer of boating supplies and accessories, has signed a long-term lease agreement with Stiles to lease the space, which will be the largest West Marine boating store in the company to date. To read more, please [click here](#).

SourceRight Solutions, a division of **SFN Group, Inc.**, has been named one of the top Managed Service Program (MSP) providers in *HRO (Human Resource Outsourcing) Today's* "Baker's Dozen." The *HRO Today* "Baker's Dozen" listing ranks the top providers of MSP services – both in the U.S. and internationally – and is based on data collected and analyzed from customer satisfaction surveys. The company has consecutively been named to the "Baker's Dozen" since its inception seven years ago and for the second year since the launch of the MSP list. To read more, please [click here](#).

Spotlight on Recently Joined Alliance Members

We are very pleased to welcome our newest **CEO Council** investor, **Jordan Zimmerman**, founder and chairman of Fort Lauderdale-headquartered **Zimmerman Advertising**. Zimmerman Advertising is one of the largest advertising agencies in the U.S. with projected billings of approximately \$3B. They represent, among others, AutoNation, Ashley Furniture, Papa John's, Nissan, Office Depot, Pep Boys and CARFAX.

Jordan is a recent recipient of the Sun Sentinel Excalibur Award, is a member of the NSU Entrepreneur Hall of Fame, serves on the Board of Trustees for his alma mater the University of South Florida, and has been recognized as one of "America's Most Productive CEO's" by *Inc.* magazine. Following in the footsteps of another Alliance Council member CEO, Jordan is also a partner in the Florida Panthers.

Jordan and the Zimmerman team are responsible for creating and implementing the CEO Council's new national/international advertising/branding campaign for headquarters recruitment with the tag line "Life. Less Taxing".

Welcome Jordan and the Zimmerman Advertising team!

<http://www.zadv.com>

<http://www.yousleepwhenyoudie.com/>



Jordan Zimmerman

Special thanks to **Leadership Cabinet** Chair **Julie Berry** of Stiles and her team: **Gale Butler**, AutoNation; **Frank Herhold**, Marine Industries Association; **Mike Moore**, ArcView Associates LLC; **Peggy Nordeen**, Starmark International; **Barry Somerstein**, Ruden McClosky; **Jon Swergold**, Greenberg Traurig; **Adam Uhlán**, Bank of America Merrill Lynch; **Bill White**, Compass Office Solutions, LLC.; **Gail Bulfin** and **Liz Taschereau**, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance

Upcoming Economic Development Meetings, Missions & Events

Enterprise Florida Events:

The Government of Cameroon (Ministry of Trade): Economic & Trade Mission to the U.S.

July 14 - 15, 2011

Miami, Florida

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Various

Cannes International Boat Show

September 6 - 11, 2011

Cannes, France

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Marine

AFRICANDO 2011

September 15 - 16, 2011

Miami, Florida

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Information Technology

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 go to <http://eflorida.com/Events.aspx>.

Other Events:

ULI SE Florida/Caribbean - Airport Compatible Land Use Presentation & Panel Discussion

Presentation by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in cooperation with the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA) and the Florida Airports Council (FAC) on the recently produced *The Airport Compatible Land Use Guidebook*.

July 13, 2011 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Sheraton Fort Lauderdale Airport Hotel, 1825 Griffin Rd, Dania Beach

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

Broward College Career Symposium and Expo

International commerce and trade is a target industry for Florida's growth economy for the future and will provide thousands of high paying jobs in South Florida. Learn about career opportunities, industry trends, and job skills necessary to be successful. Free informational symposium and expo. Breakfast will be served.

July 16, 2011 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Signature Grand, 6900 W. State Road 84, Davie

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

Greater Fort Lauderdale Sister Cities: 50th Anniversary Celebration

Celebrating 50 years of relationship with sister city Medellin at the Tropical Symphony Concert. For the first time in history, the two most important performance groups from Medellin, Colombia (The Amadeus Symphony Orchestra, The National Ballet of Colombia) will travel to Fort Lauderdale for a one-time performance with Claudia Diez and Tono 40.

July 16, 2011 8:00 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

For more information or to purchase tickets, please [click here](#).

"How to do Business with Broward County" Workshop Series

Business owners interested in contracting with Broward County can attend free two-hour seminars presented monthly by the Office of Economic and Small Business Development and the Purchasing Division. Learn the secrets of doing business with Broward County government while gaining valuable insight into the County's purchasing process and small business certification programs.

July 21, 2011 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: African-American Research Library and Cultural Center, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd., Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Calendar of Events

Partner Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Thursday, August 11, 2011 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Plantation Preserve Golf Course, 7050 West Broward Blvd., Plantation

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

Alliance Countywide Business Forum - "How to get on the Road to Recovery"

Thursday, August 4, 2011 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Southwest Focal Point Senior Center, 301 N.W. 103rd Avenue, Pembroke Pines

Please [click here](#) for more information or to RSVP.

Alliance Countywide Business Forum - "How to get on the Road to Recovery"

Tuesday, September 13, 2011 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: City of Hallandale Beach Cultural Community Center, 410 S.E. 3rd Street, Hallandale Beach

Please [click here](#) for more information or to RSVP.

Alliance Countywide Business Forum - "How to get on the Road to Recovery"

Thursday, September 22, 2011 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: City of Lauderhill Commission Chamber, 5581 W. Oakland Park Blvd., Lauderhill

Please [click here](#) for more information or to RSVP.

Alliance Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 13, 2011

6:00 p.m.

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

Follow the Alliance on these websites: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#)

Also join our [LinkedIn group](#) (for members only).

THE ALLIANCE: *PARTNERSHIP FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH*

Broward County's Official Economic Development Partnership

110 E. Broward Boulevard, Suite 1990, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 • Phone: 954-524-3113, 800-741-1420 • Fax: 954-524-3167

www.gfalliance.org