



Photo by Ken Henson – ken@whitehotmedia.com

The Alliance E-Newsletter
December 28, 2012
Top Stories

To see a list of 2013 Alliance events, please [click here](#).

“Life. Less Taxing” Campaign Again Hits Airwaves in Major Northeast US and Chicago Markets

The Alliance’s television commercial promoting Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County as a great place for businesses to relocate or expand has begun its second 6 month airing cycle in selected cable markets in New York/New Jersey/Connecticut and Chicago. The campaign began running for the first time in October of 2011. The commercial was produced and edited by Zimmerman Advertising and features CEO Council members Wayne Huizenga, Mike Jackson, Roy Krause and Keith Koenig along with County Administrator Bertha Henry and NFL Hall of Famer Dwight Stephenson. To see the video, please go to <http://www.lesstaxing.com>. The campaign was recently recognized with a Golden Dawn Award from the Public Relations Society of Greater Fort Lauderdale for Excellence in a Public Relations Campaign.

Business Relationship with Colombia Welcomed (reprint of Letter to the Editor of the Sun Sentinel dated December 9, 2012 from J. David Armstrong, Jr., President of Broward College and Alliance Past Chairman)

Sitting in the sparkling new airport filled with high-end shops in Bogota, Colombia, Florida's booming southern neighbor, it is hard to believe this is a developing country with a recent turbulent past.

This week, Colombia impressed approximately 200 business and government leaders from all corners of our state on a trade mission to Bogota and surrounding cities organized by Enterprise Florida and led by Gov. Rick Scott and his economic development team.

My prediction is that Colombia will impress us even more in the future, and we should take full advantage of natural opportunities to partner. My purpose in participating in this trade mission was two-fold: First, to support our local trade efforts as immediate past chair of Broward's economic development partnership, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, and second as an opportunity to visit with one of our international university partners in Bogota.

With approximately 45 million residents — 15 million in the middle-class and growing, a steady 4 to 5 percent growth rate in GDP and growing exports of coffee, raw materials, fresh flowers, gems and precious metals like emeralds and gold — the overall wealth of residents and numbers of small to multi-national businesses is growing. U.S. Ambassador Michael McKinley, who helped shepherd the Free Trade Agreement between the U.S. and Colombia, told our Florida delegation that not only is Colombia safe, but it is also "open for business" with one of the strongest pro-business and U.S.-friendly leaders in President Juan Manuel Santos, who received an excellent university education in the U.S. and England.

Business and government leaders met individually and in groups over three days in Bogota, including several from Greater Fort Lauderdale. In my conversations, there was not just prospective optimism, but some of our area entrepreneurs closed deals. These will bring economic success and additional jobs to our community — the fundamental purpose of these trade missions.

As Gov. Scott said repeatedly to our delegation, "I want all of us to develop relationships that will lead to more jobs for Florida and Colombia." Enterprise Florida will release numbers on the overall value of deals after the results are in, but anecdotal evidence from local business and government leaders including Broward County Commissioner Dale Holness, our top Port Everglades leaders, and Paola Baraya with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance indicated numerous good meetings with prospective businesses interested in increasing business with Broward County businesses.

Colombians love Florida, and they love Greater Fort Lauderdale. Approximately 2,000 Colombian-born students attend Broward College and that number will grow. They are beautiful and warm people in every way with a rich culture that is increasingly attracting not just commerce and trade, but tourists from around the world.

With a new Free Trade Agreement, a growing middle-class and GDP, and daily round-trip flights between Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport and several Colombian cities, we are destined to be closer and stronger economic and cultural partners with this great country.



(L to R): Paola Isaac Baraya, Governor Rick Scott with First Lady Ann Scott and President David Armstrong in Colombia

Port Everglades Rallies with Year-end Increases

Broward County's Port Everglades is celebrating its third consecutive year of growth in cargo and the number of multi-day cruise passengers, according to the Port's preliminary reports for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012.

"We're seeing a robust upward trend in the Port's two largest business sectors, cargo and cruise, that further indicates higher consumer confidence and positive economic benefits for the South Florida region," says Port Everglades Chief Executive & Port Director Steven Cernak. "As a self-supporting seaport, we're committed to boosting long-term growth by investing in the Port's resources to make infrastructure improvements that will help our customers expand their businesses and create new jobs."

Port Everglades is undergoing three major capital improvement projects totaling more than \$500 million to increase cargo business by adding five new berths, deepening its navigational channels to 50 feet and bringing intermodal freight rail on

to Port property with its partner Florida East Coast Railway. These improvements, which are expected to be completed by 2017, are estimated to create 7,000 new regional jobs and support 135,000 new jobs statewide when operating at full capacity.

To read the entire story, please [click here](#).

Port Everglades and FEC Sign Joint Agreement to Promote New 42.5-acre Facility as Global Gateway

Anticipating its new 42.5-acre near-port intermodal container transfer facility (ICTF) to become a major international and domestic freight hub for South Florida, the Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) signed a joint marketing agreement with Port Everglades to promote the facility, which is expected to break ground in early 2013 and be completed in Spring 2014.

"The ICTF with new technology will allow FEC to efficiently and effectively deliver superior transportation service between South Florida and the Eastern United States," said FEC Chief Executive Officer Jim Hertwig. "This agreement enables FEC and Port Everglades to be in a competitive position for additional freight and jobs beyond the completion of the Panama Canal."

The agreement calls for joint promotions including international business development, the creation of promotional materials, shared sponsorships and milestone events.

The ICTF, to be adjacent to the Southport container terminals at Port Everglades, will facilitate containerized cargo transfer through the Port to/from the FEC main line. The facility will be unique compared to similar facilities at other ports in that both domestic and international cargo will be handled at the site, which will result in advantageous transfer and shipping fees for Port Everglades customers. By relocating the intermodal cargo from the current rail facility on Andrews Avenue, two miles from the Port, traffic congestion on State Road 84 will be reduced significantly.

"An ICTF adjacent to the Port Everglades pier operations will not only ensure our seaport remains competitive with other U.S. East Coast gateways, but will give our port a cost and time-to-market advantage over many of these gateways, thereby putting more and more South Florida residents to work as a result of the additional business opportunities it will generate," said Port Everglades Chief Executive & Port Director Steven Cernak. "This unique public-private partnership is consistent with Governor Scott's efforts to expand support to Florida's ports, leveraging private sector capital to complete the project."

FEC signed a lease agreement with Broward County in March 2012 to build and operate the ICTF for 30 years. Broward County contributed the land for the facility to serve its domestic and international business segments. The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) recently provided FEC, with \$18 million in grants through its Strategic Intermodal System program. The remaining costs, \$35 million, will be covered by the FEC with \$30 million from an FDOT State Infrastructure Bank loan and \$5 million from FEC capital plan.

This project is expected to create 767 construction jobs over the next two years, and support thousands of cargo jobs statewide into the future. It is estimated that 180,000 truck trips will be removed from roads by the year 2027, reducing both highway congestion and air emissions.

Port Everglades Celebrates Grand Re-Opening of Four Renovated Cruise Terminals

State and local public officials joined executives from Carnival Corporation and the six Carnival brands that sail from Port Everglades to celebrate the grand re-opening of four fully renovated, expanded and modernized cruise terminals that opened in time for this year's busy cruise season at the port.

Cruise Terminals 2, 19, 21 and 26 are part of a \$54 million renovation project that transformed existing facilities into modern, world-class, guest-friendly cruise terminals, capable of processing both debarking and embarking cruise passengers simultaneously.

Florida Gov. Rick Scott issued a press release saying that he applauded the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) investment of \$9 million to reconstruct and modernize four cruise terminals at Port Everglades. Richard Biter, FDOT Assistant Secretary for Intermodal Systems Development, represented Gov. Scott at the ceremony on December 12 and told the crowd of about 200 people: "Florida is the cruise capital of the U.S. and ranked first in the nation for cruise industry expenditures with \$6.7 billion in direct spending, accounting for 35 percent of total industry direct expenditures."

To read more, please [click here](#).

Pembroke Pines Becomes Seventeenth Alliance Platinum Permitting City

The City of Pembroke Pines has been named the latest Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance “Platinum City” after city commissioners approved a permitting excellence process recommended by the Alliance. Seventeen Broward County cities have now been named “Platinum Cities.” Other cities, in the order that permitting excellence ordinances or resolutions were passed include Tamarac, Davie, Oakland Park, Fort Lauderdale, Miramar, Coconut Creek, Plantation, Cooper City, Deerfield Beach, Coral Springs, Hollywood, Dania Beach, Pompano Beach, Margate, Lauderhill, and Wilton Manors.

“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.”

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

Steps communities are taking to provide an excellent permitting experience include pre-development meetings and designating a city staff member as a single point of contact to assist the company through the permitting process. An online permitting system also allows applicants to review the status of their permits on a real-time basis throughout the process.

Cities that adopt the new process are promoted and marketed on the Alliance website (www.gflalliance.org), in Alliance promotional materials, on social media sites and in other ways.

“We already have one of the best business tax climates in the nation,” stated Swindell. Excellence in 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.”

Alliance Past Chair Kathy Koch Honored by Commission for Outstanding Volunteer Work in Broward County

Kathy Koch, president and CEO of Ambit Advertising and Public Relations, has been honored with the Florida Achievement Award by the Florida Commission on the Status of Women for her significant contributions in improving the lives of women and families. The award was presented, along with a congratulatory letter from Governor Rick Scott, at the Florida Achievement Awards Ceremony in Tallahassee on November 15, 2012.

“This award belongs equally to the extraordinary women with whom I have the pleasure of working with every day. It helps shine a light on all women who believe passionately in what they do, and that it is entirely probable that something extraordinary will happen in each of our lives if we live honestly and generously,” said Koch.

Ms. Koch is highly regarded as an expert in marketing and public relations, with Ambit ranked as one of South Florida’s largest agencies. Combined with her strong commitment to help nonprofit organizations, she is an invaluable asset to the South Florida community and has been recognized with numerous awards for her contributions.

The Florida Commission on the Status of Women recognizes meritorious women and men who have improved the lives of women and families in Florida and have served as positive role models for women and girls in their communities. The FCSW studies and makes recommendations to the Governor, Cabinet and Legislature on issues affecting women.

Business for the Arts of Broward will Launch power2give.org with a Boost from the Knight Foundation

In early 2013, Business for the Arts of Broward will launch power2give.org/broward – a new online fundraising platform to support arts and cultural projects in Broward County. The site will offer a unique way for individuals and corporations to make donations to fund artistic projects of nonprofit cultural organizations.

Organizations will list needs for specific projects – for example, instruments for children in a youth orchestra or costumes for an upcoming theater production. People visiting the site can pick a need that interests them and make a donation.

This project has been made possible with a \$75,000 investment from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, as part of its Knight Arts Challenge. “This new platform will give people a personal connection to the organizations that create culture in our communities,” said Dennis Scholl, Knight Foundation’s vice president/arts. “power2give.org/broward also strives to engage new audiences and donors – meeting them where they are, which is increasingly online.”

To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance Member The Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation to Rock The Ocean’s Tortuga Music Festival on Fort Lauderdale Beach, April 13-14, 2013

Multi-platinum artist and touring sensation Kenny Chesney is scheduled to be one of the headliners for Rock The Ocean’s inaugural TORTUGA MUSIC FESTIVAL, April 13-14, 2013, presented by Landshark Lager. The two-day music festival produced by HUKA Entertainment, will play host to twenty plus pop, rock and country artists who will perform on three stages, located directly on the beach. Artists to include: Grammy nominated The Avett Brothers, Gary Allan, Grammy nominated Eli Young Band, Gary Clark Jr, Michael Franti & Spearhead, G. Love and Special Sauce, Kip Moore and Sister Hazel. A second headliner and additional artists will be announced in the coming weeks. Tickets to go on-sale Saturday, Dec 15 at www.tortugamusicfestival.com.

The sands of Fort Lauderdale Beach will be turned into our oceanfront festival grounds, making Tortuga Fest, a music and ocean lover’s paradise. Fans will enjoy music performances with the sun and stars above, an ocean breeze in the air, and sand under their feet. Local culinary fair, sustainable seafood as well as traditional festival favorites will be served.

In partnership with Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation and Ocean Conservancy, a one-of-a-kind Conservation Village will be located on site to educate audience members and provide them with the information and tools they need to help preserve the world’s oceans.

Festival creators Rock The Ocean and HUKA Entertainment are thrilled to partner with the Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation. RTO founder, Chris Stacey said, “in addition to being a world renowned artist, Dr. Guy Harvey is a world-class conservationist. Our team is great at creating amazing concert experiences, and Guy and his team know how to help save the worlds oceans.”

“This is not your average music festival,” stated producer AJ Niland. “This festival will showcase world class talent, with world class amenities on a world class beachfront setting. More importantly, it is a festival with a purpose.”

“Live music and the beachfront are rooted in the Landshark lifestyle,” said Michael Lourie, Landshark Lager brand manager. “In teaming up with Rock the Ocean’s Tortuga Music Festival, we’re excited to showcase a weekend of great music while we raise awareness about the collective responsibility we have to care for our coastlines.”

Registration Now Open for Broward County Go SOLAR Fest, January 25-26

Want to be part of bringing solar to South Florida? Don’t miss Broward County’s Go SOLAR Fest, which takes place Friday, January 25, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Saturday, January 26, from 9 a.m. to noon, at the Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Blvd., Fort Lauderdale.

Local, state and federal government officials, licensed solar and electrical contractors, financial institutions, solar installers, legal experts and residents are encouraged to attend. Go SOLAR Fest will highlight the successes of the Go SOLAR Broward Rooftop Solar Challenge and progress on improving rooftop photovoltaic (PV) permitting in Broward County. The event will serve as a catalyst to promote PV system installations, diversify energy sources, and create jobs in Broward County and the State of Florida.

To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance Holiday Council Connect Event Draws Record Attendance

More than 100 Alliance members and guests attended the Alliance’s annual Holiday Council Connect event, which was

held at the Riverside Hotel in Fort Lauderdale on November 29. Guests enjoyed wonderful food, holiday music and great conversation. To see photos from the event, please [click here](#).

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

Over 80% of Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) High Schools Earn an A or B

This year's results highlight that 82% of Broward's high schools earned a grade of 'A' or 'B' versus 76.3 last year, including Hallandale and Piper high schools, both improving to an A from a C last year. Flanagan, Fort Lauderdale and Taravella high schools all also improved to an A from a B last year. All District and charter high schools earned a grade C or higher.

Broward high schools outperformed the State's big five districts (including Hillsborough, Miami-Dade, Orange and Palm Beach) and the State with 69% receiving an A and 82% receiving an A or B.

For elementary and middle schools, the grades are based entirely on Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) results. High school scores include other components including student performance and participation in accelerated courses, college readiness in reading and mathematics, and the overall graduation rate as well as the graduation rate of "at-risk" students. District high schools show improvement in each of these areas.

To read more, please [click here](#).

Coral Springs High School Speech and Debate Coach Receives National Honor

The National Forensic League, a speech and debate honor society, has named Justin Weaver as its newest diamond coach. Weaver, a teacher and speech and debate coach at Coral Springs High School, was selected for his professional career that "combines excellence and longevity," according to an announcement issued by the organization.

Diamond coaches are determined through a point system that is based on the points earned by students on his or her team. A coach must be a member of the league for five years and attain a minimum of 1,500 points to be awarded a "first diamond." Coaches can then earn higher-level diamond awards every five years, if a specific number of points are earned.

On June 30, 2013, Weaver will receive special recognition at the Lincoln Financial Group/National Forensic League National Speech & Debate Tournament in Birmingham, Alabama. The tournament is expected to draw over 5,000 students, coaches and parents from across the nation.

Pompano Beach High School Hosts First International Summit

Students at Pompano Beach High School had a unique opportunity to learn about the government, economy, educational system and tourist destinations of many countries during the school's first International Summit, which was held on December 3, and will be slated to become an annual event.

Principal Hudson Thomas and event organizer and Magnet Coordinator William Bankowski, invited various government officials, teachers and students from such countries as Spain, Mexico, France, Sweden, Taiwan and Japan, as well as members of the U.S. Peace Corps. Some invitees served as guest teachers during the week or participated in conversations via Skype. Among the guest teachers was Consul Juan Jose Cogolludo (Spain); Consul Manuel Hernande (Mexico) and Steve Hunsicker, U.S. Peace Corps representative.

To read entire story, please [click here](#).

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

AutoNation, Inc., America's largest automotive retailer, has signed agreements to acquire Audi, Porsche and three Volkswagen stores in the Dallas, Texas market from Boardwalk Auto Group and Spring Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram in the Houston, Texas market. The transactions are subject to customary terms and conditions, including manufacturer approval. Together, the stores are expected to sell over 14,000 new and used retail units in 2012 with approximately \$575 million of revenue. Upon completion of the transactions, AutoNation will own and operate 50 franchises in the state of Texas.

CBRE arranged the sale of Herald Plaza, a 77,209-square-foot, two-building office property, for \$9,000,000 to Grover & Corlew, LLC. CBRE marketed the asset for sale and negotiated the transaction on behalf of the seller, Herald Plaza, LTD.

Citrix has been recognized as a Best Place to Work for 2013, a Glassdoor Employees' Choice Award. The Employees' Choice Awards, now in its fifth year, rely solely on the input of employees, who elect to provide feedback on their job, work environment and company via Glassdoor's anonymous online company review survey. Close to half a million company reviews were submitted by employees to Glassdoor during the past 12 months to help put their employers in the running for the awards.

Colliers International has been appointed the exclusive leasing agent and property manager for Hillsboro Executive Center North, a 171,155-square-foot office property located in Deerfield Beach. Robert Listokin, Executive Vice President, will lead the leasing effort for the over 60,000 square feet that is available.

Congratulations to **Midgard Management** whose Crown Center building at 1475 W. Cypress Creek Road in Fort Lauderdale recently won the Suburban Low Rise TOBY Award. The company also just received their third LEED Certification and are now the only campus in the State of Florida with multiple designations. Midgard Management was also recently selected by the Ft. Lauderdale Executive Airport to receive their Achievements in Community Excellence (ACE) Award.

Miller Construction Company will launch construction in January for Ashley Furniture HomeStore's new, 35,000-square-foot store in West Palm Beach. **Keith Koenig, president of City Furniture**, which is the Ashley Furniture HomeStore licensee for the South Florida region, announced that Miller will be general contractor for the \$5-million project, scheduled for completion in spring 2013. Designed to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification from the U.S. Green Building Council, the facility will incorporate regionally sourced materials and feature highly efficient climate control, lighting, plumbing and irrigation systems.

Sol Shipping Services, Inc., a prominent produce importer, especially of melons from Central America, has entered a new five-year agreement to operate a five-acre marine terminal at **Port Everglades**.

Stiles Architectural Group (SAG) took home the 2012 American Institute of Architects (AIA) Fort Lauderdale Chapter Award of Merit for the renovation and design of Stiles' new corporate headquarters. The AIA awards program identifies trends and emerging ideas while honoring excellence in planning and strategic design.

United Airlines has announced plans to launch nonstop service between its San Francisco hub and Fort Lauderdale with once-weekly flights beginning March 2, 2013, and daily service beginning April 9, 2013. The new flights will operate with Boeing 737-800 aircraft. "South Florida is the largest region in the country not currently served by United from San Francisco," said Jim Ferea, United's managing director of domestic planning. "We're pleased to link these two areas that are important to both business and leisure travelers."

Spotlight on Alliance Members

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance welcomes the following new members to the Alliance organization.

CEO Council

Emerson Network Power Systems, a global leader in protecting and optimizing critical infrastructure, joins the Alliance on its CEO Council. **Alex Blochtein** began his career with Emerson in 1988 as an international financial analyst with Emerson Motor Company and quickly moved up the ranks to become president of the company's Latin America region. Alex earned a bachelor's degree in business administration and public administration from the Universidade do Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil, followed by a master's degree in business administration with a specialization in international management from Thunderbird University in Arizona. www.emersonnetworkpower.com



Alex Blochtein

Governor Council

The Signature Grand, a prestigious hotel and banquet hall located in Davie, FL, is a Governor's Council member. Co-founder **Arlene Pecora** also serves as Sales Executive for the company. An alumnus of Nova Southeastern University, Arlene takes part in various charitable activities, and has served on dozens of different boards and committees over the years. Many of her endeavors have earned Arlene awards commemorating her philanthropic and community-enriching work. www.thesignaturegrand.com



Arlene Pecora

Leadership Council

Keolis Transit America, a professional transportation management and contracting company, is a member of the Alliance's Leadership Council. **Vasti Amaro**, the company's Senior Vice President of East Operations, is a 19-year veteran of the transit industry and has worked in both the public and private sectors. Vasti's expertise in transportation has resulted in the successful start-up operations for transit systems in Tampa, Dallas, and Phoenix. Vasti holds a bachelor's degree in business management from the University of Phoenix. She is an active member of APTA, the Arizona Transit Association, and the Arizona Airports Association. She also serves as an International Board Member of the Women's Transportation Seminar. www.keolistransit.com



Vasti Amaro

Corporate Council

Headquartered in Coral Gables, **Florida East Coast Industries, Inc.** is one of the state's oldest and largest full-service commercial real estate and infrastructure companies, and is now a member of the Alliance's Corporate Council. As Executive Vice President of Corporate Development for FECI, **Husein Cumber** is responsible for guiding major capital projects from initial concept through development. Husein holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in US National Security from Duke University. In 2008, Husein was nominated by President George W. Bush to be a member of the Surface Transportation Board. Ali Soule and Jose Gonzales will also be participating from FECI. www.feci.com
www.allaboardflorida.com



Husein Cumber

Floridian Community Bank is a state-chartered bank that opened its doors in March of 2003, and has recently joined the Alliance's Corporate Council. President **Lee Frankhouser** upholds the mission of the bank's founders – to meet the financial needs of individuals and businesses of all sizes and to develop long-lasting relationships with all clients, based on high standards of honesty, respect, and integrity. Lee serves as a member of Floridian Community Bank's Board of Directors. **Scott Toth**, Community Market Manager, represents the bank as Chair of the Alliance's Business Retention and Visitation Outreach program (BRAVO). www.floridiancommunitybank.com



Scott Toth

Entrepreneur Council

Under the direction of President and CEO **Grant Sadowski**, **Mosaic Business Solutions** joins the Alliance's Entrepreneur Council. This year, Mosaic Business Solutions was voted as the #1 Small Business in South Florida and one of the fastest growing companies by the South Florida Business Journal. Besides heading up his successful team of managed print productivity consultants, Grant serves on the Board of Directors for Second Chance Society, is an active member of Emerge Broward and the Tower Club's "Tower 100," and participates on the advisory board for Paradise Bank. Grant also makes time to volunteer regularly with Habitat for Humanity. www.seemosaic.com



Grant Sadowski

Since its founding in 1998, **Midgard Management, Inc.** has become one of South Florida's premier commercial property management companies. They join the Alliance on the Entrepreneur Council along with **Lynn-Ann Lerna**, Director of Property Management. Lynn-Ann joined Midgard in 2008 and is responsible for all property management services. Throughout her 22 years of senior property management experience, Lynn-Ann has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2007/2008 BOMA Property Manager of the Year in Broward County, and has earned four Toby Awards. Lynn-Ann earned a bachelor's degree in economics from American University in Washington, DC.

www.midgardmanagement.com



Lynn-Ann Lerna

For more information on Alliance membership, contact Gail Bulfin, VP Membership Development gbulfin@gfalliance.org or Tania Vinaixa, Membership Development Manager, tvinaixa@gfalliance.org

Upcoming Economic Development Meetings, Missions & Events

Enterprise Florida Events:

AACCLA's Outlook on the Americas Conference

Tuesday, January 1, 2013

Miami, Florida

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Various

Region: Latin America & the Caribbean

2013 International Days

January 1-3, 2013

Tallahassee, Florida

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Various

Region: North America

Team Florida Mission to Chile

May 13-17, 2013

Santiago, Chile

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Various

Region: Latin America & the Caribbean

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/Caribbean: How Sea Level Rise is Already Altering Our Built Environment

Monday, January 7, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Florida Atlantic University - Higher Education Complex, 11th Floor, 111 E Las Olas Blvd, Fort Lauderdale

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

ULI SE/Caribbean: How Sea Level Rise is Already Altering Our Built Environment

Tuesday, January 8, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Bilzin Sumberg, 23rd Floor, 1450 Brickell Avenue, Miami

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

iConnect Event

Friday, January 25, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, 512 NE 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

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

Go SOLAR Fest

January 25 & 26, 2013 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Friday) | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Saturday)

Location: Broward County Convention Center, 1950 Eisenhower Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

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

South Florida Business Journal: 2012 CFO Awards

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum, 300 Gulfstream Way, Dania Beach
For more information, please [click here](#).

[Alliance Calendar of Events](#)

Alliance Entrepreneur Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Wednesday, January 9, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Michelle Cook at 954-627-0132 or at mcook@gfalliance.org

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Thursday, January 10, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: Corporate Park at Inverrary, 3800 Inverrary Boulevard, Lauderhill

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

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Tuesday, January 15, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gfalliance.org

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Wednesday, January 16, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: GUNSTER, 14th Floor, 450 East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Governor Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Tuesday, January 22, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gfalliance.org

Alliance Council Connect

Thursday, January 24, 2012 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Gallery of Amazing Things, 485 South Federal Highway, Dania Beach

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gfalliance.org

SAVE THE DATE: Alliance Mid-Year Meeting

Thursday, May 2, 2013 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier 66, 2301 S.E. 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gfalliance.org

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).

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