



Photo by Ken Henson – ken@whitehotmedia.com

The Alliance E-Newsletter
January 31, 2013
Top Stories

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

Governor Scott Announces New Jobs at Bolton Medical

On January 8th, Governor Rick Scott was joined by CEO of Bolton Medical Oscar Rospigliosi, Sunrise Mayor Michael Ryan, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance president and CEO Bob Swindell, and Broward County officials to announce the creation and retention of over 100 jobs by Bolton Medical.

Governor Scott said, "Each job created or retained by Bolton Medical is another paycheck for another Florida family. We are proud of the work that Bolton Medical is doing here in Sunrise, both for the patients whose lives depend on their devices and the employees who work here. Creating an environment that encourages job growth and business development is one of my priorities as Governor. While we are not done, this is another step in the right direction."

Prior to the announcement, Governor Scott toured the company's state-of-the-art development and manufacturing facility, which manufactures the Relay Thoracic Stent-Graft, a minimally invasive treatment for thoracic aortic aneurysms. The Governor's visit to Bolton Medical follows their recent announcement of FDA clearance of the Relay Thoracic Stent-Graft with Plus Delivery System.

"We're proud to have developed and be manufacturing this cutting edge medical device in South Florida," stated Bolton Medical CEO and General Manager Oscar Rospigliosi. "We believe that U.S. physicians will benefit tremendously from access to the latest medical technology of the Relay Thoracic Stent-Graft with Plus Delivery System."

"We are proud that when Bolton Medical could choose anywhere in the world to locate their development and manufacturing base, they chose Sunrise," said City of Sunrise Mayor Michael Ryan. "Bolton Medical compliments an already strong corporate base in Sunrise and with their exciting future growth prospects, we are confident Bolton Medical will continue to shine in Sunrise."

Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance president and CEO Bob Swindell said, "We are very glad to see Bolton expand in Sunrise and to have had the opportunity to work with the company over the years since assisting the company when it located to Sunrise in 2003. It is one of the important medical device/life sciences industry companies which is so critical to our area. We wish the company continued success."

A number of local dignitaries attended the announcement including Broward County Commissioners Dale V.C. Holness, Chip LaMarca, Tim Ryan and Lois Wexler; Florida state representative Joe Gibbons; Broward County Deputy County Administrator Pam Madison; Trade Commissioner of Spain Mario Buisán; and Javier Pérez-Palencia, Executive Director of the Spain-U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

SmartWater CSI Launches High Tech Crime Fighting Tool from US Headquarters in Fort Lauderdale

To a standing room only press conference on January 24th, Fort Lauderdale Police introduced SmartWater, its latest high-tech, crime-fighting tool that will soon be in action to help catch criminals.

SmartWater is a forensically encoded liquid that can be applied to personal property or even sprayed on intruders to help police identify stolen property and criminals.

City of Fort Lauderdale Mayor Jack Seiler, Fort Lauderdale Police Chief Frank Adderley, SmartWater UK founder Philip Cleary, SmartWater Chairman Sir Keith Povey and SmartWater CSI U.S. President Logan Pierson were on hand to describe SmartWater and its partnership with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department.

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council was pleased to assist SmartWater as they recently established their U.S. headquarters in Fort Lauderdale.

To see more media coverage, please [click here](#).

Governor Scott Breaks Ground on Port Everglades Intermodal Container Transfer Facility

Governor Rick Scott broke ground on the nation's only combined on-port international and domestic cargo rail facility at Port Everglades. The Governor also committed \$13 million to begin work on the Southport Turning Notch Extension project which will add more dock space for Port Everglades. The new Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF) at the Port will lead the way for Florida to attract new international business to the state through its seaports and support the creation of an estimated 135,000 jobs for Florida families.

Governor Scott said, "Today's announcement is another example of Florida's commitment to our world class port system being a driver of our economy. This \$13 million investment in our port system is one of the reasons why Florida's economy continues to move in the right direction and creates more jobs and opportunities for Florida families."

Florida East Coast Railway (FEC) Chief Executive Officer Jim Hertwig said, "The new ICTF will allow the FEC to efficiently and effectively deliver superior transportation service between South Florida and the Southeastern United States. Upon completion, this new facility enables South Florida to be in a competitive position for additional freight and jobs. This facility will be able to handle the additional cargo of larger ships that are coming out of Europe today and when the Panama Canal expansion is complete and beyond."

Port Everglades Chief Executive & Port Director Steven Cernak said, "An ICTF on Port Everglades property 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. 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."

Florida East Coast Railway's new 42.5-acre near-dock ICTF will facilitate containerized cargo transfer through the Port to/from the FEC main line by mid-2014. 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 the advantageous transfer for Port

Everglades customers and local companies.

FEC signed a long-term agreement with Broward County in March 2012 to build, operate and maintain the ICTF. Construction costs are estimated to be \$53 million, which is funded by an \$18 million grant from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and \$35 million from FEC (including a \$30 million State Infrastructure Bank loan from FDOT). Broward County contributed 42.5 acres of Port Everglades property, valued at \$20 million, for the ICTF.

FDOT is also constructing a \$40 million overpass to elevate I-595/Eller Drive to allow the trains to access the Port at ground level for the ICTF. Construction on the overpass began in July 2011 and will be completed in 2014. The project will elevate traffic over the rail tracks, allowing for a better traffic flow and increased port activity.

The completion of the Intermodal Facility, the Eller Drive Overpass, the Southport Turning Notch Extension project and the Port's deepening project will ultimately create more than 135,000 jobs for Florida families.

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

Port Everglades is Number 1 Exporting Foreign Trade Zone in the United States

Port Everglades was ranked the top exporting Foreign-Trade Zone (FTZ) in the country for warehousing and distribution activity in 2011, according to the Foreign-Trade Zones Board's 73rd Annual Report to the U.S. Congress released January 2013. Data show that Port Everglades' Foreign-Trade Zone No. 25 experienced a 68 percent increase in merchandise received during 2011, while exports from the Zone increased by 66 percent over the previous year. In 2011, merchandise received and exported from the Zone reached \$3.7 billion and \$3.6 billion, respectively.

"Our FTZ leads the nation in the value of international goods handled through its facilities," said Steven Cernak, Chief Executive & Port Director for Port Everglades. "The FTZ at Port Everglades already leads the state of Florida in meeting the goals of President Obama's and the Federal Government's National Export Initiative (NEI) to double the nation's exports. We're happy to be recognized as now leading the country in FTZ exports as well. Ports in particular are being targeted as a key component of this Initiative because of the expertise that seaport professionals have in foreign trade."

Port Everglades' FTZ No. 25 is Florida's first and largest, serving 75 businesses in its General-purpose Zone and supporting over 500 direct jobs in the local economy at 14 locations within Broward County. FTZ No. 25 currently also has five Special-purpose Subzones at Port Everglades.

"Our proximity to South America, Central America and the Caribbean makes it efficient to transport goods through our seaports and airports and re-export merchandise admitted to the Zone to these and other markets," said Michael Vanderbeek, Port Everglades Director of Business Development. "Port Everglades' FTZ is the most export-intensive Zone in the country, which reinforces our strategic position at the crossroads of north-south and east-west trade."

Businesses operating within FTZ No. 25 perform a wide variety of activities, including warehousing and distribution of cosmetics, purveying of ship supplies specific to the cruise industry, tools, automobile parts, petroleum, and consumer electronics. The county-wide FTZ program is administered by the Port Everglades Department of Broward County, and operated by NAFTAZ member Robert Jacob.

Port Everglades is the only domestic port that hosts a U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center on its premises, a testament to the key role that Port Everglades plays as a leader in exports.

Florida Growth Projection Highest in 7 years

Florida's economy is expected to keep growing through 2013.

A Federal Reserve index that tries to predict state-by-state economic growth for the short term shows an expanding economy in the Sunshine State. The Philadelphia branch of the Fed issued its latest leading indices Thursday morning, and they look encouraging for most states.

Florida's economy should grow by about 1.7 percent during the next six months, the Fed says. That's the strongest growth predicted by the index since August 2005.

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

Infrastructure Will Play a Big Part in South Florida's Future

South Florida's economy is slowly on the rebound, as developers and investors feel more at ease contributing to the region's infrastructure and community, according to the Business Journal's Regional Economic Future Critical Conversations panel.

The panelists discussed increased interest from South and Latin American investors, how people perceive South Florida in a completely different way now than ever before, and how the region is poised for better connectivity and growth through its upcoming railway projects.

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

FPL Launches PoweringFlorida.com - A New Online Resource to Help Strengthen Florida's Competitive Business Advantage and Grow the State's Economy

Florida Power & Light Company's Office of Economic Development today announced the launch of PoweringFlorida.com – a new online resource dedicated to helping businesses start up, expand or relocate their operations in Florida.

The initiative builds on FPL's existing economic development efforts, which include special discounted electric rates to promote Florida to new and expanding businesses that create jobs for Floridians.

"As the largest electric utility and one of the largest companies in Florida, we believe we have a responsibility to help grow our state's economy and create jobs for our fellow Floridians. When Florida's economy grows, everyone wins," said FPL President Eric Silagy. "A discount on FPL's already-low rates can help businesses set up shop and expand in our service territory, which covers about half the state, but PoweringFlorida.com is designed to help expand the economy across the entire state."

"PoweringFlorida.com showcases the diverse benefits that Florida has to offer and empowers all of our local communities with tools to help them to market the unique values that each corner of the state has to offer," Silagy said.

"Economic development is a team sport. I am grateful to FPL for providing a product to enhance not only the competitiveness of the communities in their territory but also in the entire state. These strategic partnerships are critical to getting Floridians back to work," said Florida Secretary of Commerce Gray Swoope, president and CEO of Enterprise Florida Inc., the state's principal economic development organization.

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

Broward County Companies Invited to Participate in Trade Mission to Chile

Governor Rick Scott invites businesses statewide to participate in a TEAM Florida trade mission to Santiago, Chile. The mission is scheduled for May 20-23. Latin America is the leading export market for Florida companies, accounting for 60 percent of Florida's total merchandise trade. As one of the most dynamic and prosperous economies in Latin America, Chile offers a wide range of opportunities for U.S. goods and services. To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance Council Connect Held at a Truly Unique Location

More than 100 Alliance members and guests attended the Alliance's Spanish-themed Council Connect event, which was held at the Gallery of Amazing Things on January 24th. From fossils to famous collections, this unique gallery located in Dania Beach is truly a sight to see. Guests enjoyed wonderful food, live flamenco music, wine tastings and great conversation. A few photos are included below. To see all the photos from the event, please [click here](#).



(L to R) Hosts Arron Rimpley and Gregg Whittecar, owners of the Gallery of Amazing Things, pose with Gail Bulfin, the Alliance and Ben Wesley, FPL



(L to R) Michael Lassner, Allied Steel Buildings, Rosana Santos Calambichis, Big Chef, Jack Bennings, WorkForce One/Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Mano Calambichis, Big Chef



(L to R) Adriana Fazzano, Peak10, Brian Verdon, Setnor Byer Insurance & Risk and Ashley Boxer Dalley, Baptist Health South Florida



(L to R) Annum Basit and Chiara Tacca, GALLERYone Fort Lauderdale, a DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, are joined by Michael Chong and Carly Arambula of the Riverside Hotel



(L to R) Sandra Mayor, BankUnited, Bob Birdsong, OK Generators, and Donna Bean, Bolton Medical

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

Florida's Education System Jumps to Top Ten in the Nation

A national report ranks Florida sixth in the nation for the quality of its education system. Results of Education Week's 2013 Quality Counts: Code of Conduct report give Florida a B-, surpassing the national grade of C+ and, resulting in an impressive move up from eleventh place last year. Florida earned an A in the Transitions and Alignment category, ranking fourth in the nation.

Governor Rick Scott said, "For Florida to be a global leader in job creation and economic growth, we have to provide our students with a quality education. Today's news that Florida has moved into the top ten in the nation for overall quality of education reinforces that we're taking the steps needed to ensure our students succeed. We've made education a priority by investing \$1 billion in K-12 education – and for the upcoming session, we'll continue working with the legislature to enhance Florida's education system so every Florida family can live the American Dream."

Florida's rise into the top ten is based on a solid showing in the Transitions and Alignment category, which tracks state policy efforts to coordinate K-12 education with early learning, postsecondary education, and the workforce. Florida earned an A in this category, moving up to fourth from a fourteenth-place B- last year.

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

Broward College Economic Impact \$1 Billion

A just released economic impact study indicates that Broward College has a dynamic effect on the community it serves. Specifically, Broward County, the region and the state of Florida receive concrete and direct economic benefits from Broward College, its graduates, its faculty and staff and its programs that result in a total economic impact of \$1 billion — representing 1.5% of the total regional economy and roughly 23,340 average-wage jobs.

A December 2012 report from Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc., details the significant role Broward College plays in the local and regional economy:

- Students benefit from increased earnings and improved lifestyles.
- Taxpayers benefit from a larger economy and lower social costs.
- The community as a whole benefits from increased job and investment opportunities, higher business revenues, greater availability of public funds and an eased tax burden.

The report provides a look at the investment from the student, social and taxpayer perspectives as well as an economic growth analysis that includes the effect of college operations, student spending, productivity and transfer.

The material from the report is available in three documents. To view these documents, please [click here](#).

Guy Harvey Honored by NSU with President's Award for Excellence in Community Service

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) awarded world-renowned artist, scientist and researcher Guy Harvey, Ph.D., with one of NSU's newest awards, the President's Award for Excellence in Community Service. President George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., bestowed the award upon Harvey and four others at the university's annual Celebration of Excellence event.

The President's Excellence in Community Service Award recognizes superior professional engagement activities in the community by alumni, students, faculty, staff, and a member of the South Florida community. The awards encourage the ongoing pursuit of community service and exemplify NSU's "community" core value.

The awards are conferred upon individuals (one in each category) who demonstrate significant contributions to the community while exemplifying all eight of NSU's core values. This year's five honorees were selected from 79 total submitted nominations.

FAU: Harbor Branch Earns Recognition for Work with Marine Mammals

The Harbor Branch Marine Mammal Research and Conservation (MMRC) program has earned international recognition for its work with bottlenose dolphins.

In December, MMRC was recognized by the International Marine Animal Trainers Association (IMATA) during the annual conference in Hong Kong for "Research Advancements" associated with its 2012 Indian River Lagoon bottlenose dolphin Health and Risk Assessment (HERA) project. HBOI won 2nd place in a field of contenders from 38 countries, with 367 abstracts being submitted. Steve McCullouch and Dr. Juli Goldstein also were recognized as part of the team that won the "Editor's Choice Award" for collaborative efforts in working with the veterinary and training staff of the Farglory Ocean Park in Taiwan.

NSU Hosts Conference on New Institute for Neuro Immune Medicine

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) hosted a conference on January 26 about the upcoming opening of the NSU College of Osteopathic Medicine's Institute for Neuro Immune Medicine. The conference featured physicians and researchers speaking about the clinical practice and research that will be conducted at the new \$5 million Institute for Neuro Immune Medicine.

With a grand opening on February 12, the Institute will be the only one of its kind in the nation that will treat patients with conditions such as chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis (CFS/ME), Gulf War Illness (GWI) and other neuro immune conditions, as well as conduct basic and clinical research under one roof in this field.

Alliance's Education Action Team to Present Business and Education Meeting

On February 6th, the Alliance's Education Action Team will present "Business & Education: An Innovative Partnership Creating Tomorrow's Workforce Superstars." Students in the program will be presenting their newly acquired "workforce readiness" skills during the presentation. This LEEO meeting (Linking Education and Employment Outcomes) will be held from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at McArthur High School in Hollywood. A special thank you to Broward College, Broward County Public Schools, Citrix and the Alliance's E²B² (Educational Excellence Builds Business) Action Team. For more information, please [click here](#).

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

The Alliance was pleased to assist in hosting Florida Lt. Governor Jennifer Carroll as she visited Broward County on January 23 and 24. During her visit, the Lt. Governor toured Alliance CEO Council member company **Nipro Diagnostics**, who was named Manufacturer of the Year by the Florida Manufacturers Association in 2011. She also attended the Broward Workforce Development Board meeting at **WorkForce One Employment Solutions**.

Bank of America said it originated \$846.2 million in small business loans in Florida in 2012, an increase of 45 percent from the prior year. The company also announced that it reached its goal of hiring over 1,000 small business bankers across the country, including 50 in South Florida.

Research In Motion has announced that it will now operate around the world under the iconic name **BlackBerry**, effective immediately. The Company will adopt the name of its revolutionary BlackBerry smartphone to coincide with the launch of its new mobile computing platform, BlackBerry 10. The move consolidates the company's brand into a single cohesive global presence. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Broward College Foundation is currently accepting nominations for the 2013 Alumni Hall of Distinction. This award recognizes and honors those alumni who have distinguished accomplishments, outstanding character and commitment to community service. The nomination deadline is February 8th. For more information or to nominate someone, please [click here](#).

A permitting process that used to take weeks is now reduced to a few online clicks, thanks to Go SOLAR online permitting, a streamlined system with standardized fees and pre-approved designs that utilize uniform connectivity to utility systems. It's all part of the **Broward County** Go SOLAR Rooftop Solar Challenge – a U.S. Department of Energy grant-funded initiative that makes it easier for residents and businesses to convert to solar energy by reducing the cost and wait time associated with the permitting process for photovoltaic (PV) rooftop installations. To read more, please [click here](#).

The first Robotic Assisted Pediatric Urology Surgery in Dade/Broward was performed at Chris Evert Children's Hospital, a division of **Broward Health Medical Center**.

On behalf of Rowland Schaefer & Associates, a Florida general partnership, **CBRE** marketed and negotiated the sales transaction of the purchase of Claire's Corporate Plaza, a 50,141-square-foot medical and professional office building with Claire's Stores as the major tenant, for \$6.5 million. CBRE also represented two sellers in the purchase of two premier medical and professional office buildings for \$17.5 million.

Colliers International has been selected to represent Romark Center in Fort Lauderdale. The building, which is in an ideal location close to I-95, 441, Downtown Fort Lauderdale and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, has space available ranging from 500 square feet to approximately 9,500 square feet.

A webcam is now available at fll.net to view the construction progress of the expanded South Runway at **Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport**. There are three cameras with different views of the future 8,000' elevated runway. The cameras take photos every 15 minutes.

Fort Lauderdale law firm **Greenspoon Marder** is kicking off a new non-profit foundation to support charity groups.

Fort Lauderdale-based commercial real estate services company **Mink & Mink, Inc.**, recently negotiated a new lease agreement for 6,557 square feet space in Ft. Lauderdale consisting of five buildings.

The **Museum of Discovery and Science** will host its 18th Annual Wine, Spirits and Culinary Celebration on Friday, April 5, 2013. The event is presented by Bank of America and all proceeds benefit the Museum.

Peak 10 announced that its data centers and cloud infrastructure have been validated for Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) 2.0 Level 1 compliance, which is a proprietary information security standard for organizations that handle cardholder information for the major debit, credit, prepaid, e-purse, ATM and POS cards. The company recently underwent a rigorous audit by an independent Quality Security Assessor (QSA) to ensure that it meets best practices and security controls needed to keep credit card data safe and secure during transit, processing and storage.

Fixed-base operator **Sheltair** has hired Turner Construction for a \$13.6 million project with 134,806 square feet of hangar and office space at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport. The company is also planning two more phases starting in 2014 that will add 359,000 square feet.

Do you know a company that sets the standard for growth, service, quality, innovation and execution of a superb business strategy? We want you to tell us about them! The **South Florida Business Journal** is seeking nominations for the 16th annual Business of the Year Awards. To be eligible, companies must have significant operations in Palm Beach, Broward or Miami-Dade. Public and privately-held companies are eligible. For more information, please [click here](#).

Alliance members and other community leaders were featured in the **South Florida Business Journal's** slideshow titled 100 Power Leaders 2013. To view this slideshow, please [click here](#).

In an unprecedented move to expand construction and development operations throughout the Southeast U.S. and beyond, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. and Stiles Construction, a division of **Stiles**, announced a new joint venture partnership to create Seminole Development and Construction, LLC. The newly created venture provides both Seminole Tribe of Florida, Inc. and Stiles with access to a range of real estate construction project opportunities within the Native American tribal network and also includes projects planned under the auspices of the U.S. federal government.

Spotlight on Alliance Members

Please join us in welcoming several new member-companies to the Alliance.

Leadership Council

The United Way of Broward County recently stepped up their membership to the Leadership Council. Newly-named President and CEO **Kathleen Cannon** began her role in May of this past year, heading up one of the largest non-profits in Broward County. Kathleen is a licensed clinical social worker and earned her master's degree in social work from Florida International University. Before joining the United Way, Kathleen served as Vice President and COO at Broward House, an HIV and AIDS community service organization. Kathleen will be joined at the Alliance by **Howard Bakalar**, Senior Vice President, United Way. www.unitedwaybroward.org



Kathleen Cannon

Corporate Council

Gregg Whittecar and **Arron Rimpley**, owners of **Gallery of Amazing Things**, join the Alliance's Corporate Council. Gregg has more than 25 years of experience in the fine arts business working in every facet of the industry including sales, gallery direction, and corporate buying. He left his home state of Kansas in 1987 and in 1999, he and Arron co-founded the Whitley Collection. Arron is originally from Colorado and spent his youth finding and refinishing antique furniture. After college, he was able to start traveling the world doing the same. In 2002, they collaborated on a book, *Royal Doulton: A Legacy of Excellence 1872-1945*. Their newest venture is The Gallery of Amazing Things in Dania Beach. The space features a grand foyer and five other subspaces, which currently house collections from Waterford Crystal, Lladro, Eostone, and Royal Doulton. www.galleryamazing.com



L to R: Gregg Whittecar and Arron Rimpley

Entrepreneur Council

A member of the Alliance's Entrepreneur Council, **Paladin Global Partners** provides guidance and hands-on management to solve complex business challenges. The company's collaborative team of professionals is led by founding partners **Sean Dannelly** and **Raymond Monteleone** who deliver results with vision, leadership, diligence and the utmost integrity. As CFO, Sean provides expert financial counsel and critical support and guidance in the areas of strategy, mergers and acquisitions. Ray, a former Deputy Commissioner/COO for the Florida Department of Education, provides creative, innovative, and unique solutions for a broad range of national and international companies focused on strategic management, mergers and acquisitions, and senior executive mentoring, among others.

www.paladinglobalpartners.com



Sean Dannelly



Raymond Monteleone

OK Generators is the largest industrial generator dealer in the US. Their reputation as a leader in the standby power

industry was earned over a thirty year period. **Bob Birdsong** came to the company in 1990 as a service technician. Now as CEO, Bob upholds the company's reputation by continuing to provide emergency power generation systems and equipment backed by a cohesive team of engineers and sales staff. Bob also contributes to local and national charities, including The March of Dimes and the Broward YMCA, and has served on the Board of Directors for Six Degrees of Golf, Broward Health Foundation and Broward 2-1-1. www.okgenerators.com



Bob Birdsong

DWV Investments, Inc. is a commercial real estate company with strong business relationships within Fort Lauderdale. They have provided expertise in property acquisition, management and sale of properties for more than twenty-five years. **Volkmar Dirksen**, owner and founder of DWV Investments, grew up in a real estate family in Germany where his father worked as a builder. Volkmar's early exposure to the business of real estate gave him a deep understanding of every facet of the industry. He earned a degree in Finance and Real Estate from Florida Atlantic University and, with his solid background and vast knowledge of commercial real estate, has become a leader in the industry. Victoria Hauser is the second representative from DWV. www.dwvinvestments.com



Volkmar Dirksen

Holland & Knight is a global law firm with more than 1,000 lawyers and other professionals located in 17 US cities as well as Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Bogotá and Mexico City. They provide representation in litigation, business, real estate, and governmental law. **Ying Geneve DuBois** is an associate who specializes in the area of real estate and focuses on representing developers and hotel companies in negotiating and drafting hotel and resort management agreements. She is fluent in Mandarin Chinese and Cantonese and graduated summa cum laude from Texas Christian University and later graduated cum laude from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law. **Nicholas Milano**, the executive partner for the Fort Lauderdale office of Holland & Knight is the Real Estate Practice Group leader for the Fort Lauderdale and West Palm Beach offices. Nick focuses his real estate practice on the representation of lenders, developers and borrowers. Nick is a graduate of the University of Florida's School of Journalism, and earned his law degree from Samford University Cumberland School of Law. www.hklaw.com



Ying Geneve DuBois



Nicholas Milano

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

[Upcoming Economic Development Meetings, Missions & Events](#)

Enterprise Florida Events:

AACCLA's "Outlook on the Americas" Conference

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Miami, FL

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Various

Region: Latin America & the Caribbean

Team Florida Mission to Chile

May 19-23, 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:](#)

iConnect Event

Friday, February 1, 2013 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, 512 N.E. 3rd Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

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

Broward County Broward Leaders Water Academy Day 2

Friday, February 1, 2013 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: Depart from Broward County Government Center West, 1 North University Drive, Plantation

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

State and Federal Transit Grant Workshop

Thursday, February 7, 2013 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Location: District 4 Headquarter office's auditorium, 3400 West Commercial Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

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

ULI Southeast Florida/Caribbean: 2013 South Florida Economic & Development Outlook Program

Thursday, February 7, 2013 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Gulfstream Park, Sport of Kings Theatre, 901 South Federal Highway, Hallandale Beach

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

Florida Chamber Foundation's Transportation Summit

Monday, February 11, 2013 9:00 a.m.

Location: Honey Lake Plantation, 1290 Honey Lake Road, Greenville

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

NAIOP: 2013 Awards of Excellence

Thursday, February 21, 2013 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Location: IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum, 300 Gulf Stream Way, Dania Beach

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

SFTA: What You Don't Know Will Hurt You

Thursday, February 28, 2013 5:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Lauderdale Marriott North, 6650 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

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

Port Everglades Association: Fifth Annual Economic Engine Performance Report Luncheon

Friday, April 5, 2013 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

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

For more information, please contact Celeste Davis at peassn@portbiz.org

Florida Chamber of Commerce: 2013 International Days

April 1-3, 2013

Location: Florida State University Conference Center, 555 West Pensacola Street, Tallahassee

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

Rock The Ocean's Tortuga Music Festival

April 13-14, 2013

Location: Fort Lauderdale Beach

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

South Florida Manufacturers Association: Recognition of Excellence Banquet and Awards Presentation

Thursday, April 18, 2013 5:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Location: IGFA Fishing Hall of Fame & Museum, 300 Gulf Stream Way, Dania Beach

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

Lauderdale Air Show

April 20-21, 2013

Location: Fort Lauderdale Beach

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

34th Hemispheric Congress of Latin Chambers of Commerce and Industry

May 20-24, 2013

Location: Biltmore Hotel, 1200 Anastasia Avenue, Coral Gables

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

Alliance Calendar of Events

Alliance Education Action Team Presentation

Wednesday, February 6, 2013 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: McArthur High School, 6501 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood

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

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Thursday, February 14, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: 701 S.W. 71st Avenue, North Lauderdale

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

Economic Gardening CEO Roundtable II (by invitation only)

Friday, February 15, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Location: Citrix, 851 West Cypress Creek Road, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Entrepreneur Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Wednesday, March 13, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Thursday, March 14, 2013 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Tuesday, March 19, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Wednesday, March 20, 2013 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Governor Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Tuesday, March 26, 2013 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Council Connect

Thursday, April 11, 2013 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: GALLERYone Fort Lauderdale – A DoubleTree Suites by Hilton, 2670 East Sunrise Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

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

Calendar subject to change without notice. Please go to www.gflalliance.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).

