



Photo by Ken Henson – ken@whitehotmedia.com

The Alliance E-Newsletter
September 30, 2013
Top Stories

REGISTER NOW: Alliance Annual Meeting and Dinner, Thursday, October 17, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.
For more information and to register, please go to www.gflalliance.org/2013annual.

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

Cyalume Technologies Holdings, Inc. to Relocate to Fort Lauderdale

Cyalume Technologies Holdings, Inc. will relocate its corporate headquarters from West Springfield, Massachusetts, to a new facility in Fort Lauderdale. The project will create 25 new jobs paying more than \$86,000.

Florida Governor Rick Scott said, “Cyalume’s decision to relocate to Fort Lauderdale is great news for Florida families. I recently sent letters to company leaders in Massachusetts encouraging them to look at Florida as a business destination and letting them know IT’S WORKING in Florida. Our pro-business climate is ranked fifth in the country, and our unemployment rate is the lowest it’s been in nearly five years. Florida is the best state in the nation to live, work and raise a family.”

Cyalume designs and manufactures non-pyrotechnic tactical products and training solutions for the world's militaries and law enforcement agencies, as well as for certain safety markets.

The move will involve Cyalume’s senior executives, and the new headquarters will have the capacity to support the finance, sales and marketing, business development, IT and product management teams.

“This decision reflects Cyalume’s commitment to long-term global growth,” said President & CEO, Zivi Nedivi. “Our new headquarters offers us access to talent and expansion opportunities to international markets, such as South America. South Florida is recognized as a gateway to the world of international business. This relocation is another step towards our goal to become one of the world’s foremost suppliers of tactical products and training solutions for the world’s militaries, law enforcement agencies, and safety markets.”

Florida’s high tech economy and workforce make Florida a great location for homeland security and defense businesses looking for workers with the expertise needed to compete in this rapidly evolving industry.

“Florida is home to one of the nation’s largest defense and homeland security industries, and few states can even come close to matching the scale and scope of our network of major contractors and suppliers,” said Secretary of Commerce Gray Swoope, who serves as President & CEO of Enterprise Florida. “The addition of Cyalume to our growing list of industry leaders is fantastic news for the state. Their headquarters relocation is proof that Florida has the workforce and international access needed for companies to grow domestically and abroad.”

Enterprise Florida, the City of Fort Lauderdale, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, worked together to attract the company to Fort Lauderdale.

Fort Lauderdale Mayor John P. (Jack) Seiler said, “The City of Fort Lauderdale is proud to welcome Cyalume Technologies, an extraordinarily innovative company with an outstanding reputation for developing cutting edge products for our military and law enforcement. Cyalume Technologies joins a growing number of premier headquartered companies who share our confidence in the bright, exciting future that our world-class international business center has to offer.”

Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell said, “We are pleased that Cyalume has chosen to relocate to Fort Lauderdale. The mission of the Alliance is to maintain and grow the presence of target industry companies in the Greater Fort Lauderdale area that can take advantage of our highly educated and diverse workforce, access to transportation and highly rated business and personal tax climate. We welcome Cyalume and the addition of high-skill, high-wage jobs to Broward County.”

In addition to Greater Fort Lauderdale, other locations under consideration included Nevada, South Carolina and expansion at Cyalume’s Massachusetts location. Cyalume is also eligible for State of Florida performance-based Qualified Target Industry (QTI) tax refunds of \$175,000 over six years.

Governor Scott to Lead Trade Mission to the Dominican Republic

Enterprise Florida (EFI) invites businesses statewide to participate in a TEAM Florida trade mission, led by Governor Rick Scott, to Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The mission is scheduled for February 23-26, 2014.

International missions have been very successful for Florida, providing a notable return on the state’s investment into business development activities and long-range jobs-producing opportunities. Governor Scott has led trade and business development missions to Panama, Canada, Brazil, Israel, Spain, United Kingdom, Colombia, Chile and France.

The Dominican Republic is Florida’s ninth largest merchandise trading partner, with more than \$5.5 billion in exports.

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

HCA East Florida and Nova Southeastern University Join Forces to Create NSU’s Academic Research and Medical Center on Nova Southeastern University’s Main Campus

HCA East Florida is filing a Certificate of Need (CON) with the Agency for Health Care Administration requesting approval to build and operate a hospital of up to 100 beds which will significantly enhance teaching and research on the main campus of Nova Southeastern University (NSU) in Davie. The Hospital will anchor NSU’s Academical Village, a Jeffersonian concept that is defined as “a community of scholars and student lives working closely together, combining theory and practice” and serve as the foundation for Broward County’s only comprehensive academic research and medical center. Teaching and research will serve as the cornerstone of this collaborative between NSU and HCA East Florida which will bring greater choice and access for patients in the community. NSU’s Academical Village plans include more than 3 million square feet of medical office, retail, residential, financial, hotel/conferencing, and governmental space, alongside NSU’s Health Care Clinics and contiguous to the university’s new Center for Collaborative Research facility, of

which construction begins in 2014. Approval of the CON is essential before the hospital can be built. To read more, [click here](#).

Broward College Awarded Largest Grant in College's History in Support of Logistics and Supply Chain Management Program

Broward College has been awarded the single largest grant in its history and will lead a consortium of colleges and universities across the nation focused on supporting growth in logistics and supply chain management (SCM). The U.S. Department of Labor announced recently that Broward College and 12 other schools will receive \$24.5 million through the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training grant program, a multiyear, nearly \$2 billion initiative to expand targeted training programs for unemployed workers, especially those impacted by foreign trade. Broward College's portion of the grant is \$12.9 million, making it the largest grant in the College's history. To read more, [click here](#).

The Alliance's Partner Council, Broward County and WorkForce One Deliver Free Business Forums

The final two of four Broward County Business Forums: "Is Your Business Ready to Grow?" were held in September. Each forum was structured to serve one of four quadrants in the county--The first two forums were conducted in May at Tamarac and Pembroke Pines. The latest meetings were held September 12 at the I.T. Parker Community Center in Dania Beach, and September 17 at Hagen Park Community Center, 2020 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors.

Speakers for the Forums have included: Terra Spero of RealTime Marketing, who provided information on using social media as a marketing tool for business; Neal Murray of Furman Insurance, who provided recent changes and updates to healthcare insurance; Rafael Cruz and George Gadson of the Florida Small Business Development Center (SBDC) in Broward, who provided an overview of the various resources available from the SBDC; Jasmine Jones of the Office of Economic and Small Business Development, who discussed the procurement process and how to do business with Broward County; and Jack Bennings of WorkForce One, who discussed workforce resources for training and employment. Additionally, a mini-business expo was held at each forum, with exhibitors on hand to discuss applicable resources/services available and answer questions that were posed. All forums to date have generated great participation and dialogue.

Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council's Robin Ronne Re-Appointed to CoreNet Global Key Leadership Positions

Robin Ronne, Managing Director of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council, has been re-appointed to serve in several key leadership positions for CoreNet Global, the world's largest organization for corporate real estate and workplace executives, with 7,900 members worldwide and the leading professional organization representing the demand, or occupier side, of the commercial real estate industry.

Ronne will once again serve on CoreNet Global's Finance Committee and Issues Advocacy Focus Group for 2013-2014, and continue to serve as a member of the Editorial Advisory Committee of The LEADER Magazine, the organization's professional journal and official publication. Ronne was a member of CoreNet Global's Board of Directors from 2011 through 2013, and also currently serves as an officer and member of the Board of Directors for the association's Southeast Florida Chapter. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward College Presents the Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series

The Alliance is pleased to announce that it has become a series sponsor of the "Broward College Presents the Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series."

The series, which will be held at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, will feature seven highly distinguished speakers who will share their exciting experiences, insights, points of view, and behind the scenes stories on some of the most current topics of the day. Each lecture will be followed by a spirited Q&A session with questions submitted by audience members. The series begins on October 23, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. and will feature Steve Forbes, Chairman and Editor in Chief of Forbes Media.

*Alliance members receive a 10% discount on tickets to the various sessions with discount code BUS13.

For more information about this exciting series, visit <http://www.fortlauderdale.com>.

Alliance Annual Meeting set for October 17

Please register now to attend the Alliance's 2013 Annual Meeting! The annual meeting is our most important event of the year, where we present our economic development accomplishments for the fiscal year ending and introduce the community to our new and exciting plans for the upcoming year. The Alliance will also be presenting its annual economic development leadership awards. The keynote speaker will be Dave Barger, Chief Executive Officer, President, and Director of JetBlue Airways.

This year's dinner event will be held at the Signature Grand in Davie on Thursday, October 17 beginning with a reception at 5:30 p.m. Sponsors of the event include (Presenting) Signature Grand (Platinum) Broward College, jetBlue, JM Family Enterprises, Lifestyle Media Group, South Florida Business Journal and Zimmerman; (Gold) AutoNation and FP&L; (Silver) BB&T, Emerson, Florida Blue, Keolis America, Nova Southeastern University, Starmark and Tripp Scott. A special thanks also goes to our Partner, Broward County. For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact Gail Bulfin at 954-627-0127 or at gbulfin@gfalliance.org. To register, please go to www.gfalliance.org/2013annual.

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

Members wishing to serve on the E²B² Action Team may contact the Alliance for further details.

School Board Approves Five Year Contract Extension for Superintendent Runcie

The School Board of Broward County recently approved Superintendent Robert W. Runcie's contract extension through October 4, 2019. Next month, Superintendent Runcie will have reached the second year of the original three-year Employment Agreement that took effect October 5, 2011.

Among Superintendent Runcie's accomplishments over the past two years:

- Opened the first public military academy for south Florida at Hollywood Hills High School in 2012;
- Introduced the District's Three-Year Strategic Plan, which was approved by the School Board on December 4, 2012;
- Improved compliance with Class Size Reduction (CSR) mandates from 52.4% to 87.7%. This success allowed the District to provide a 2% salary increase for teachers and all staff in 2013; marking the first increase for employees in more than three years;
- Repurposed District-owned facilities and expanded technical and vocational educations programs within the county; and
- Launched the first phase of the District's website redesign and a new mobile app in an effort to increase communication with District families.

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

Two Broward County Public Schools Administrators Receive 2013 Excellence in Educational Leadership Award

The University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) has awarded two Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) administrators, Dr. Elisa Calabrese, Chief Talent Development Officer, and Dr. Sharon Moffitt, Director of Leadership Development, with its 2013 Excellence in Educational Leadership Award. Both awardees were recognized as leaders among leaders at the September 17, 2013, regular School Board meeting. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Congratulates 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program Semifinalists

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) congratulates 35 students for being named Semifinalists in the 2014 National Merit Scholarship Program. These high school seniors are among 16,000 students nationwide selected for this honor from more than 50,000 qualifying applicants. The National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists now continue in the competition to be named National Merit Finalists and ultimately National Merit Scholars, who are eligible to compete for 8,000 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$35 million. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Defining the Core Website Wins National Award

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Defining the Core website is receiving national recognition. The website is the winner of the 2013 Best of the Web award by the Center for Digital Education. This prestigious award recognizes K-12 school districts and post-secondary institutions for their outstanding websites and commitment to using technology to support learning and promote achievement. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Awarded \$11.9 Million Magnet Schools Assistance Program Grant For Sprouting STEM Museum Magnet Schools

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is being awarded an \$11.9 million federal grant to create and expand six elementary magnet schools that will specialize in STEM – science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The three-year Magnet Schools Assistance Grant, awarded from the U.S. Department of Education, will be used to expand choice options for students, increase student achievement, and prepare students for jobs and careers in these fields. To read more, please [click here](#).

West Broward High School Math Teacher Selected as a Master Teacher

West Broward High School Math teacher Horace Buddoo is receiving a special honor. He is being named a Master Teacher as part of the Better Lessons Master Teacher project. Buddoo, who has taught a wide range of courses from Algebra to AP Calculus, is one of two West Broward High School teachers chosen to participate in this project; English teacher Dr. Elizabeth Watts was also recently announced.

NSU President Appoints J. Preston Jones Dean of the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) President and CEO George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D. announced the appointment of J. Preston Jones, D.B.A., to the position of dean of the H. Wayne Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship. The appointment was made effective Sept. 5. “The breadth, scope and depth of Dr. Jones’ academic, business and administrative expertise makes him well-suited to further the recognition and acclaim of the Huizenga School of Business and Entrepreneurship,” said Hanbury. “Dr. Jones has worked diligently in his previous roles overseeing all aspects of our business school. I am pleased to announce his appointment as dean of the Huizenga Business School.” To read more, please [click here](#).

Workday to Build Industry’s First Student Application Developed in Last 20 Years – Broward College to Utilize

Workday, Inc., a leader in enterprise cloud applications for human resources and finance, recently announced plans to build Workday Student, the only end-to-end student application built this century for the needs of modern-day higher education institutions. Working with forward-thinking colleges and universities to design the application, including Broward College, Yale University, Tallahassee Community College, and Southern New Hampshire University, Workday will take a new approach to the traditional student system, bringing together a system of record, a mobile-first system of engagement, and a big data analytic foundation, all unified with Workday’s administrative solution and delivered in the cloud. To read more, please [click here](#).

Partnership Established Between Broward College and Shanghai Second Polytechnic University

Broward College President J. David Armstrong, Jr., has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) designed to promote academic collaboration and exchange between Broward College and Shanghai Second Polytechnic University (SSPU) in China. The MOU also calls for collaboration among the faculty and students of both institutions. “Broward College is evolving globally, and our joint efforts to create a presence in Shanghai emerge from the core values we share that are grounded in higher education,” said President Armstrong. “Through this academic collaboration, Broward College and Shanghai Second Polytechnic University will be able to connect both faculty and students with great educational opportunities.” To read more, please [click here](#).

Nova Southeastern University Pharmacist Wins International Microsoft Health App Challenge

More and more people are downloading applications or ‘apps’ to their cell phones to help manage their health, and in less than five years it is predicted that 50 percent of smartphone owners will have downloaded mobile health apps. These developments have not gone unnoticed by Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Research Fellow Zaher Hajar, PharmD. Recently, Hajar, who is based at the College of Pharmacy (COP) Center for Consumer Health Informatics Research, assembled a team of clinicians and coders in response to an international app challenge by Microsoft and Health 2.0. To

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

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

Kent George, director of **Broward County's Aviation Department**, recently reported that beginning December 14, Air Canada will service nonstop flights to the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport. The weekly seasonal service will run through the end of April 2014. Air Canada will fly the modern, 97-seat Embraer E 190 aircraft. Flights will operate from Terminal 2.

Congratulations to the **Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau** and **Starmark**, who received a record 12 Flagler Awards, including Best of Show, as part of the 46th Annual Florida Governor's Conference on Tourism. The Convention & Visitors Bureau won Best of Show for the second year in a row for the "Hello Sunny" marketing campaign.

Broward County's Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department received an Award of Merit from the Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) in the Comprehensive Plan (large) category. "Planning for Climate Change: Broward County Climate Change Element (Element)" was recognized at the APA Florida conference in Orlando this week. The Climate Change Element was adopted by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners in February 2013.

Modernizing its cruise terminals to be more operationally efficient and customer-friendly has earned **Broward County's Port Everglades** the title of "Port of the Year" by Seatrade Insider, one of the world's foremost cruise industry trade publications. Port Everglades was shortlisted in mid-August along with Kirkwall in Orkney, Scotland, and the Port of Toulon in France by a panel of judges comprised of executives with experience in relevant areas, members of Seatrade Insider's global editorial team, cruise consultants, analysts and association experts from around the world. The announcement came recently during the Seatrade Europe cruise industry trade show in Hamburg, Germany. "This is an incredible honor for Broward County and Port Everglades because the Seatrade Insider Cruise Awards are judged by an independent panel of experienced cruise industry specialists," said Broward County Mayor Kristin Jacobs.

CBRE arranged the sale of Lakeside Office Center, a five-story, Class A office building in Plantation. Brookwood Financial Partners of Beverly, Massachusetts acquired the 134,443-square-foot office property at 600 N. Pine Island Road from Invesco Real Estate for \$21.5 million. CBRE represented Invesco in the sale, and secured financing on behalf of the buyer in the amount of \$14.7 million. The property was 75% leased at the time of sale.

Poised to add 100 jobs statewide, **City Furniture** recently announced plans to expand its Central Florida operations by opening two showrooms in November at the fast-growing active adult community of The Villages. City Furniture President Keith Koenig said opening stores at The Villages is a key step in City Furniture's strategic direction of expanding statewide. "We're confident in the long-term strength of Florida's markets, and we've scaled our infrastructure and planning accordingly," he explained. "We rolled out e-commerce earlier this year, and that has really boosted deliveries to the Orlando and Tampa areas. Residents at The Villages have shopped at our South Florida stores, so we're already making deliveries in that dynamic growth market," he added. The move gives City Furniture a footprint that extends from south Miami-Dade through Lake, Sumter and Marion counties.

The **Coconut Creek** City Commission named Mary Blasi as City Manager, with a unanimous vote. She serves as the first female City Manager in the City's history and will be responsible for overseeing the City's 107 million dollar budget, 323 full-time employees, and managing the City's day-to-day operations.

Wilton Manors Mayor Gary I. Resnick, Shareholder in **GrayRobinson's** Fort Lauderdale office, has been re-elected to serve as a member of the board of directors for both the Florida League of Cities and the Florida League of Mayors. Resnick has served in these roles since 2003 and 2009, respectively.

HEICO Corporation recently announced it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Lucix Corporation, a leading designer and manufacturer of high performance, high reliability microwave modules, units, and integrated sub-systems for commercial and military satellites.

Thomas Cornish, President and CEO of Marsh & McLennan Agency, Florida Region, has announced the promotion of Stewart Martin to Executive Vice President of Sales and Producer Development at **Seitlin, a Marsh & McLennan LLC Company**. In his position as Executive Vice President of Sales and Producer Development, Martin will manage development of new property and casualty producers in the South Florida market, participate on the producer recruiting team and assist President and CEO Cornish in statewide sales initiatives. Martin, who has been with Seitlin for 17 years,

will continue to manage his own book of business as well. Actively involved in the business and philanthropic life of South Florida, Martin is a member of the board of directors of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Florida Atlantic University Foundation, and a member of United Way of Broward County's Tocqueville Society.

The **South Florida Business Journal** recently announced its Broward Ultimate CEO honorees, which include Alliance board members Scott Verner of **Nipro Diagnostics** and Kelley Shanley of the **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**.

The **South Florida Business Journal** also recently honored South Florida's most Influential Business Women, which included past Alliance Chair, Lonnie Maier of **FPL Fibernet**, Stephanie Toothaker of **Tripp Scott, P.A.**, Chris Rotolo, of **Stiles** Property Management and Kelly Sobolewski of **Bank of America**.

Community Based Organizations are invited to apply for Mini Grants for Speak Up Broward to design and conduct their own public outreach efforts to get Broward talking about transportation issues. A meeting will be held with additional details at the African American Research Library in Fort Lauderdale on Wednesday, October 16 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. For more information, [click here](#) or call 954-764-8500.

Stiles Construction, a division of full-service real estate firm Stiles, announced recently that the new EcoDiscovery Center wing of the **Museum of Discovery and Science** in downtown Fort Lauderdale has achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental (LEED®) Silver certification. The Museum contracted Stiles Construction to build this two-story, 34,000-square-foot addition that effectively doubled the public space of the Museum.

Stiles Property Management also announced that the **Bank of America** Plaza at Las Olas City Centre (LOCC) on Las Olas Boulevard has achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental (LEED®) Gold certification. The 96.65% leased office tower in downtown Fort Lauderdale is leased and managed by Stiles, its original developer, and owned by Institutional Investors Advised by JP Morgan Asset Management.

Stiles Realty director Norm Adams recently announced that Fanatics Mounted Memories, the memorabilia and collectibles division of online retailer Fanatics, has leased 178,791 square feet of industrial space at Sawgrass International Corporate Park (SIPC) at 251 International Parkway in Sunrise, in a facility originally built by Stiles. This lease represents the largest in Sunrise and one of the largest in Broward County in 2013.

Stiles and Greystar are pleased to announce that One Plantation was awarded LEED certification by the United States Green Building Council (USGBC). One Plantation is a 321-unit luxury high-rise apartment community in Plantation, Florida developed and constructed by Ft. Lauderdale-based Stiles, and professionally managed by Greystar. In order to achieve LEED certification, the community had to meet high performance in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, material selection and indoor environmental air quality. One Plantation is located in the Midtown District at 1650 SW 78th Avenue at the northwest corner of University Drive and I-595.

Stiles Realty, a division of Fort Lauderdale-based full-service real estate firm Stiles, announced recently that Sentry Data Systems has moved its corporate headquarters to the repositioned 800 Fairway office building in Deerfield Beach. Sentry, a pharmacy procurement management and compliance solutions provider, signed a 21,615-square-foot, five-year lease for top-floor office space at the property.

The **United Way of Broward County's** Mayors' Gala is coming up soon. For more information on the event, which honors the mayors of all Broward municipalities, as well as the county, [click here](#).

Spotlight on Alliance Members

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance welcomes the following new member organizations.

Corporate Council

The Alliance welcomes **Deloitte, LLP** a full service accounting firm specializing in audit, consulting, financial advisory, risk management and tax services. *Fortune* and *BusinessWeek* consistently rank the organization among the best places to work **Scott Cerutti** represents Deloitte on the Corporate Council. Scott was made Partner last year capping nearly 15 years of service with the company. **Lisette Casares** serves as Senior Manager of Audit and Enterprise Risk Services. She is a Miami native, and a graduate of Florida International University.

[Deloitte](#)



Scott Cerutti



Lisette Casares

Entrepreneur Council

With a focus that hasn't changed for more than two decades, **Continental Real Estate Companies** is Florida's leading independent real estate firm, showcasing a portfolio of more than 11.4 million square feet across 100+ properties. CREC has offices located across the state, providing services including property management, construction supervision, leasing, and brokering – just to name a few. **Mark Goldstein** is Senior Vice President at CREC, and brings with him an expertise in commercial real estate investments in the Coconut Grove area.

[CREC](#)



Mark Goldstein

Headquartered in Hallandale Beach, **123 LumpSum** is a specialty finance company that applies institutional financing, underwriting and legal expertise to purchase future cash flows (structured settlements and insurance annuities). **Andrew Savysky** is a co-founding principal and officer and an attorney licensed to practice law in Maryland. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Villanova, and holds a J.D. and M.B.A post-graduate degrees from American University in Washington, D.C. **Michael Asseff** holds the title of CEO and is directly involved in the operations of the company. He graduated from Boston College with a BA in Accounting and Marketing. Michael is involved with numerous charitable organizations in the South Florida area including the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, the Red Cross and the Hollywood Arts and Culture Center.

[123 LumpSum](#)



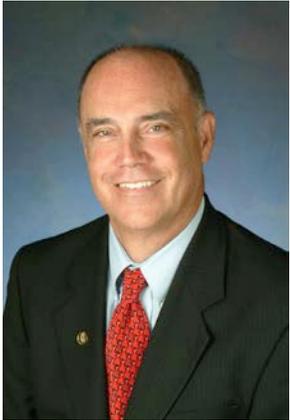
Andrew Savysky



Michael Asseff

Founded in 1987, and headquartered in Boca Raton, **First Southern Bank** is a strong, well-capitalized community bank. First Southern Bank, led by President / CEO Lynn Wines, provides products and services for businesses and consumers throughout Florida. **Bill Kelley** serves as executive vice president of community banking. His nearly 40 years of banking experience in developing and executing successful community banking strategies has helped drive the focus of providing clients with local service and products to meet their needs. Bill will be joined at the Entrepreneur Council by **Debra Block**, Senior Vice President and Business Development Officer at the bank's Las Olas office. Debra has more than 25 years of banking and financial experience, and specializes in business development and branch management.

[First Southern Bank](#)



Bill Kelley



Debra Block

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

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members only)

Thursday, October 10 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, 110 E. Broward Blvd., Suite 1990, Fort Lauderdale

Hosted by the City of Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Annual Meeting & Dinner

Thursday, October 17 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Signature Grand, 6900 West State Road 84, Davie

Presenting Sponsor: Signature Grand; Platinum sponsors of this year's event include Broward College, jetBlue, JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Lifestyle Media Group, South Florida Business Journal and Zimmerman. Gold Sponsors include AutoNation and FPL. Silver Sponsors include BB&T, Emerson Florida Blue, Keolis America, Nova Southeastern University, Starmark and Tripp Scott.

For more information and to register, please go to www.gfalliance.org/2013annual.

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

Alliance Entrepreneur Council Meeting (Members only)

Wednesday, November 13 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Members only)

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

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Council Connect (Members Only)

Thursday, November 21 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Riverside Hotel, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Business Connect Breakfast (Members Only)

Friday, November 22 7:15 – 9:00 a.m.

Location: Tower Club, Fort Lauderdale

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

Enterprise Florida Events:

AFRICANDO 2013

October 2-4, 2013

Location: Miami, FL

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Information Technology

Region: Africa

Team Florida Mission to Dominican Republic

February 23-26, 2014

Location: Dominican Republic

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 [click here](#).

Other Events:

South Florida Manufacturing Association: 53rd Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 3 2:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Fort Lauderdale Coral Springs Marriott Hotel, Coral Springs

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

Leadership Broward - 2013 Profiles in Leadership Gala

Saturday, October 5 6:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty Six, Fort Lauderdale

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

Port Everglades Master/Vision Plan Update Public Meeting

Tuesday, October 8 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location: Broward County Main Library Auditorium, Fort Lauderdale

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

Peak 10 Oktoberfest Open House

Thursday, October 10 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: Peak 10, Fort Lauderdale

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

Broward County Public Schools - Ed Talk 2013

Saturday, October 12 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale

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

2013 Future of Florida Forum

October 14 - 16

Location: Disney's Contemporary Resort, Orlando

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

Research Park at FAU - Affordable Care Act: Challenges and Opportunities

Tuesday, October 15 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Wyndham Boca Raton

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

Life Sciences South Florida Webinar - How Cloud-Based Technologies are Changing Healthcare

Tuesday, October 15 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Location: Online

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

ULI Southeast Florida: Florida's Future – Funding Growth through Public-Private Partnerships

Tuesday, October 15 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Akerman Senterfitt, Miami

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

BizTank - a Special Feature of MEDWeek 2013

Friday, October 18 1:00 p.m.

Location: Kovens Conference Center, Miami

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

South Florida Hospital & Healthcare Association 21st Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, October 21 1:00 p.m.

Location: Fort Lauderdale Country Club, Fort Lauderdale

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

Sustainable Authentic Florida Conference

October 23 – 25

Location: Miami Beach

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

Broward College Presents the Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series: Steve Forbes

Wednesday, October 23 8:00 p.m.

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

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

10% Ticket Discount for Alliance Members with code: BUS13

"Noche Tropical" 25th Anniversary of the Light of the World Clinic

Friday, October 25 6:00 p.m.

Location: Signature Grand, Davie

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

United Way of Broward County: Mayors' Gala

Saturday, October 26 6:00 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale

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

New Leaders Lean Forward: Building the Region's Creative Class for a Next-Generation Future

Tuesday, October 29 6:00 p.m.

Location: The Lab Miami, Miami

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

Democracy in the Americas Symposium

November 14 – 15

Location: Nova Southeastern University, Davie

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

South Florida Business Journal MedUTech IV

Friday, November 22 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Location: Nova Southeastern University, Davie

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

ITPalooza South Florida

Date: Thursday, December 12, 2013

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Nova Southeastern University, Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences, 3301 College Avenue

Davie

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

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

Connect and follow the Alliance on Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#)

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

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