April 30, 2014

Following is a summary of recent and upcoming economic development news, stories and events.

To see a list of 2014 Alliance events, please click here.

Click here to download “Saluting Educational Excellence in Broward County Public Schools” which appeared in the Sun Sentinel on Sunday, April 27.

For further details, click on the following links, or scroll down through the newsletter.

Top Stories:

- REGISTER NOW for the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon, May 22
- Business Facilities Magazine Honors Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance as National Economic Development Achievement Award Winner for Third Year in a Row in 2014
- SHL Pharma Announces Expansion of Manufacturing and R&D Facility and Addition of New Jobs in Deerfield Beach
- Microsoft’s Long Reach to Latin America Starts Here
- Nominations Open for Alliance Economic Development Partner of the Year
- Enterprise Florida Leads Companies to Expo Seguridad

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

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News

Alliance Member Spotlights

Upcoming Alliance Events

Upcoming Enterprise Florida and Member/Partner Events

Top Stories

REGISTER NOW for the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon, May 22
The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Mid-Year luncheon, presented by FPL, will be held Thursday, May 22 at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Pier 66. Join us as we update members on company, jobs and targeted industry growth. Our keynote speaker is Superintendent Robert Runcie of Broward County Public Schools, the nation’s sixth largest school district, which also has the highest number of fully accredited teachers in the U.S. The interest in award-winning, innovative and collaborative educational communities is a driver in business headquarters relocation and expansion decisions. We will hear from one of the top educational administrators in the nation as he shares his results-oriented vision. This event sells out every year, so make sure you register today to guarantee space. Join Presenting sponsor: FPL; Platinum sponsors: Broward College, Hyatt Regency Pier 66, JM Family Enterprises, Lifestyle Media Group, South Florida Business Journal and Starmark; Gold sponsors: AutoNation and Florida Blue and Silver sponsor: Compass Office Solutions. Interested in sponsoring? Alliance events draw the community’s premier business audience. Contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gflalliance.org, or 954-627-0127 for sponsorship opportunities. For more information, please visit: www.gflalliance.org/midyear.

Business Facilities Magazine Honors Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance as National Economic Development Achievement Award Winner for Third Year in a Row in 2014
Business Facilities Magazine, the source for corporate site selectors, has named the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward
County’s official public/private partnership for economic development, as the winner of its 2014 Economic Development “Achievement in Public-Private Partnerships Award.” This 2014 honor follows Business Facilities’ 2013 announcement of the Alliance as its “Excellence in Economic Development Award” winner for communities with population greater than 500K — their highest honor, and Business Facilities’ 2012 announcement of the Alliance as the inaugural winner of its Economic Development “Achievement in Public-Private Partnerships Award.” To read more, please click here.

SHL Pharma Announces Expansion of Manufacturing and R&D Facility and Addition of New Jobs in Deerfield Beach
SHL Pharma, a company of the SHL Group, the world’s largest privately-owned designer, developer and manufacturer of advanced drug delivery systems, has announced the expansion of its manufacturing and R&D facility in Deerfield Beach with a newly renovated $6 million state-of-the-art facility. The building is located at 588 Jim Moran Boulevard. Currently, SHL employs 44 people who earn an average salary of $55,000 and the company is projecting to hire at least 30 new employees over the next year. To read more, please click here.

Microsoft’s Long Reach to Latin America Starts Here
This story, by Doreen Hemlock, appeared in the Sun-Sentinel and also Bloomberg Businessweek. It’s easy to envision what a world-class technology hub for the Americas could look like in South Florida. There’s already one shining example in Fort Lauderdale at Microsoft’s Latin America headquarters. The tech giant employs 400 people at its bustling offices at 6750 N. Andrews Ave., up from100 five years ago. Its business in Latin America and the Caribbean has tripled in that same time to top $1 billion per year. From the Fort Lauderdale headquarters — the largest Latin American tech headquarters in Broward County — Microsoft oversees operations in 46 countries and territories in Latin America and the Caribbean, where it employs some 2,000 people in factories, research, sales and other operations. To read more, please click here.

Enterprise Florida Leads Companies to Expo Seguridad
Florida Secretary of Commerce and Enterprise Florida (EFI) president and CEO, Gray Swoope, announced that EFI would lead a delegation of six Florida small businesses and organizations to Expo Seguridad in Mexico from April 8-10. The exhibition is the largest in Mexico and draws attendance from nearly 30 countries. To read more, please click here.

Nominations Open for Alliance Economic Development Partner of the Year
The Alliance is seeking nominations for an exciting new award, which will debut at the Mid-Year meeting on May 22, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Economic Development Partner of the Year. Don’t delay! The deadline to nominate a company or organization is this Friday, May 2. Please click here to nominate an Alliance partner for the award. Self-nominations are welcomed. For more information, contact Maggie Gunther at mgunther@gflalliance.org.

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

“Saluting Educational Excellence” Section Published in the Sun Sentinel on April 27
Did you see “Saluting Educational Excellence in Broward County Public Schools” in the Sun Sentinel on Sunday, April 27?

This special section, sponsored by Broward College, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Sun Sentinel highlights educational excellence in each of the Broward County Public Schools high schools, along with recognizing outstanding senior students.

To download the section, please click here.

BCPS High Schools Named Among Best in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report
Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is home to several Best High Schools in the nation and state, according to recent rankings by U.S. News & World Report. In all, 13 BCPS high schools received gold, silver or bronze medals in the U.S. News’ Best High Schools 2014 national ranking. Broward’s national gold medal recipients are Cypress Bay High School, Pompano Beach High School and Nova High School. The nine high schools receiving national silver medals are McFatter Technical High School, Somerset Arts Conservatory, Stranahan High School, Fort Lauderdale High School, Atlantic Technical Center and High School, Somerset Academy, Pembroke Pines Charter High School, McArthur High School and Miramar High School. In addition, Broward Virtual School received a bronze medal national ranking. To read more, please click here.

Broward County Public Schools Honored as a 2014 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School District
Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is honored as a 2014 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools - District
Sustainability Award winner. Broward County is the only Florida school district – and is among only nine school districts in the nation - to receive this prestigious distinction. The award recognizes schools and districts for their exemplary efforts to reduce environmental impact and utility costs, promote better health, and ensure effective environmental education. To read more, please click here.

South Plantation High School Science Teacher Pamela Krauss Selected For The Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program
Pamela Krauss, a South Plantation High School magnet coordinator and science teacher, is one of 14 new science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) educators selected nationally for the 2014/15 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellowship Program by the Triangle Coalition for STEM Education. To read more, please click here.

Atlantic Technical Center named 2014 School of the Year by the Broward Chapter of the FRLA
Atlantic Technical Center has been named 2014 School of the Year by the Broward Chapter of the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association. This association is comprised of many of the most successful and influential restaurants and hotels in Broward County. This was the result of a competitive process among all schools in Broward County that have ProStart Culinary Programs. In addition, six Culinary Arts Students from ATC have won a $1000 scholarship toward continuing their education in the Culinary field. To read more, please click here.

J.P. Taravella High School Culinary Students Take Top Honors in Statewide Competition
Students from J.P. Taravella High School in Coral Springs recently won first place overall in the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association's Educational Foundation’s 14th Annual ProStart Culinary Team Competition. The competition took place at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando in March. A total of 60 schools participated in the competition. Teams competed in four events, which included the Cracker Barrel Management Competition, the Johnson & Wales University Culinary Competition, the Keiser University Edible Centerpiece Competition and the Coca-Cola Company Waiters Relay Competition. To read more, please click here.

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News
(Alliance Member Companies in Bold)

Rosana Santos Calambichis, CEO of BIG CHEF™, the company that specializes in gourmet appetizers and hors d'oeuvres is happy to announce the addition of TASTE OF BRAZIL to their extensive line of food products. Created by Chef Deborah Rosalem, TASTE OF BRAZIL offers dishes with emphasis in Traditional Brazilian Cuisine, as Feijoada, Bobo de camarao, Moqueca de peixe, among others. To read more, please click here.

CBRE arranged the sale of Comerica Tower, a Class A, 166,098-square-foot boutique office tower located at 100 NE 3rd Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. Brookwood Financial Partners of Beverly, Massachusetts, acquired the 11-story downtown tower from Beacon Investment Properties of Hallandale Beach for $32,500,000, or $196 per square foot. The property, which features an above-market parking ratio of 3.5 per 1,000 square foot, was 82% leased at the time of the sale. CBRE represented the seller. To read more, please click here.

CBRE has arranged a lease for J. M. Field Marketing, a full-service marketing and fulfillment company for a number of large international companies, both local and Fortune 500 in scope. The company offers e-commerce fulfillment clients a complete inventory management solution with its proprietary inventory management software AllInView™. The company leased space at Prospect Park III, a Class A Distribution Center at 5400 NW 35th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale and assumed occupancy immediately. CBRE represented KTR Capital Partners, the landlord. No other brokers were involved in the transaction. To read more, please click here.

CBRE has arranged a lease for Future Energy Solutions (FES), a global energy solutions provider that leases highly energy efficient indoor and outdoor LED lighting resulting in significant cost savings to property owners and businesses. On April 1, the company moved its North American corporate headquarters from its current location at 2801 Evans Street in Hollywood, where it began with three employees, to a new, approximately 40,000-square-foot, Class A distribution space at Prospect Park III, 5400 NW 35th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale. The company, which currently has approximately 40 employees, plans to add an additional 70 employees over the next two years. CBRE represented the landlord, KTR Capital Partners (KTR). No other brokers were involved in the transaction. To read more, please click here.

Florida’s quest to increase privately owned businesses’ use of natural gas vehicles is gaining momentum, as retailer City Furniture recently marked completion of a new, $1.5 million compressed natural gas (CNG) station on its Tamarac headquarters campus. One of the first major furniture retailers in the U.S. to build its own CNG station and convert the majority of its delivery fleet to run on CNG, the firm plans to convert its entire 85-truck fleet by 2016. To read more, please click here.

Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport was recently ranked as one of the cheapest in the nation to fly from, according to data released Tuesday by the U.S. Department of Transportation. From October through December 2013, the Broward County airport
had an average domestic airfare of $289, the fourth-lowest of the top 100 U.S. airports tracked by the federal agency. (Source: Sun Sentinel)

To enhance productivity for over-the-road container movement, Port Everglades has rebuilt McIntosh Road, the main roadway in the Port’s Southport containerized cargo area, into a multi-lane loop road. Elected officials and Port customers celebrated the newly expanded and configured loop road recently with a festive ribbon cutting ceremony. To read more, please click here.

The Research Park at Florida Atlantic University has completed a restructuring of its Technology Business Incubator (TBI) that returns it to exclusively serve technology-based startups. “The Technology Business Incubator was created 14 years ago with the mission to provide a place for a cluster of young, emerging technology companies to reside together to collaborate and share ideas,” stated Andrew Duffell, president & CEO of the Research Park. “Over time, the TBI veered from its mission and purpose toward a tenant mix that included general business startups (non-technical and non-research).” To read more, please click here.

Fort Lauderdale-based Stiles Construction and Stiles Architectural Group, along with Gunther Motor Company, hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the all-new Gunther Kia dealership located at 1900 State Road 7 in Fort Lauderdale. At 425,536 square feet and with a value of approximately $16 million, this dealership will be Gunther’s largest full-service facility. Expected to open in late 2014 or early 2015, Stiles will utilize a fast track construction delivery method, which has been employed to successfully complete similar dealerships. More than 100 jobs will be created through the ten-month construction period. To read more, please click here.

New Governor Council Member

City of Coconut Creek
The Alliance is proud to welcome the City of Coconut Creek, “The Butterfly Capital of the World,” to the Governor Council. Coconut Creek is home to about 50,000 people and 1,400 businesses. Mary Blasi, City Manager, was appointed to the position in September 2013 after serving the city in various positions since 1996. She is one of the founding directors for the Coconut Creek Chamber of Commerce and sits on the Board of Directors for the Southeast Risk management Association and the Florida Chapter of the Notre Dame Alumni Association. Joining Mary is Sheila Rose, Director of the Department of Sustainable Development, who sits on our Leadership Council, and Scott Stoudenmire, Deputy Director, Department of Sustainable Development, a member of the Corporate Council and Permitting Action Team.

New Corporate Council Member

AeroTurbine
Welcome to Tony Treglia, David Crull and AeroTurbine CEO Michael King to the Alliance. AeroTurbine offers the aerospace and aviation industries access to one of the world’s largest pools of quality used aircraft and engine products. Vice President of Human Resources Tony Treglia has more than 20 years of experience developing people – from C-level executives to entry-level contributors – and mentoring them to success. David Crull was named Chief Financial Officer in May 2013, after joining AeroTurbine in May 2009. David is a former Marine, and graduate of the University of Dallas and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In 2008, Michael King was named Chief Executive Officer after joining the AeroTurbine team in 2006. Michael has an extensive aviation background, having served as Group Vice President of Sales & Marketing for AAR Corp, where he worked for 14 years. Prior to joining AeroTurbine, Michael held various positions in sales and distribution roles with companies in the US and the UK.

Member Spotlights
Welcome to the Alliance!
New Entrepreneurship Council Member

Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship

In 1995 The Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship was established at the Florida State University College of Business through contributions from Jim and Jan Moran and JM Family Enterprises, Inc. The mission of The Jim Moran Institute is to cultivate, train and inspire entrepreneurial leaders through world-class education, leading-edge research and applied training, consulting, mentorship and public recognition. Jennifer Kovach, a South Florida native, is director of the Institute’s South Florida Outreach Division. She is charged with advancing the mission of the Institute throughout South Florida. Her background includes extensive leadership roles in business development and the non-profit industry, specifically with management, finance, fundraising, event planning, educational programming and marketing.

Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship

Jennifer Kovach

Back to top

Upcoming Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members Only)
Thursday, May 8   8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Location: 7 Pecados Restaurant, Pembroke Pines
For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at hkulp@gflalliance.org

Premiere Exhibition of Artists for Conservation- Exclusive Alliance Invitation
Monday, May 12    6:00 p.m.
Location: Alvin Sherman Library Gallery at NSU, Davie
Click here to RSVP. For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

Alliance Mid-Year Meeting & Luncheon
Thursday, May 22    11:15 a.m.
Location: Hyatt Regency Pier 66, Fort Lauderdale
Keynote Speaker: Robert W. Runcie, Superintendent, Broward County Public Schools
For more information and to register, visit www.gflalliance.org/midyear or contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

Alliance Council Connect (Members Only)
Thursday, June 5    6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Location: GALLERYOne Fort Lauderdale - A DoubleTree Suites by Hilton
For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org
**Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (Members Only)**  
Thursday, June 17  8:30 – 10:00 a.m.  
Location: International Swimming Hall of Fame, Fort Lauderdale  
*Guest speaker: John Webb, President of Florida Sports Foundation, a division of Enterprise Florida*  
For more information contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

**Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Members Only)**  
Thursday, June 12  8:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
Location: TBA  
For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at hkulp@gflalliance.org

**Alliance Entrepreneurship Council Meeting (Members Only)**  
Wednesday, June 11  8:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
Location: TBA  
For more information, please contact Lisa Evancho at 954-627-0125 or at levancho@gflalliance.org

**Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members Only)**  
Thursday, June 12  8:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
Location: Town of Davie  
For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at hkulp@gflalliance.org

**Alliance Annual Meeting & Dinner**  
Thursday, October 23  5:30 p.m.  
Location: Signature Grand, Davie  
*Keynote Speaker: Jim Clifton, Chairman of Gallup*  
For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

**Back to top**

**Enterprise Florida Events**

**Florida Logistics & Trade Conference**  
May 15 - 16  
Location: Miami  
For more information, click here.

**Enterprise Florida (EFI)** conducts or participates in an extensive schedule of export marketing missions and exhibitions worldwide. These trade events are open to all businesses registered in Florida. For more information and to see more event listings, please click here.

**Member/Partner Events**

**eMerge Americas Techweek**  
May 1 – 7  
Location: Various Locations, Miami  
For more information, please click here.

**Big Chef: Book Cocktail Launch Celebration**  
Saturday, May 3  7:00 p.m.  
Location: Big Chef, Davie  
For more information, please click here.

**The South Florida Symphony Presents the Blue Door String Quartet - Murder in the Chamber**  
Monday, May 5  7:00 p.m.  
Location: Josephine S. Leiser Opera Center, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

**Doing Business with Bolivia**  
Wednesday, May 7  9:00 a.m.  
Location: Broward College, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.
National Tourism Appreciation Day  
Thursday, May 8  12:00 p.m.  
Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

Broward County Americans with Disabilities Act Symposium  
Friday, May 9  8:30 a.m.  
Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

A Creative and Cultural Industries Symposium on the Report: The Orange Economy: An Infinite Opportunity  
Friday, May 9  9:00 a.m.  
Location: NSU Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

2014 Broward League of Cities Installation Dinner  
Saturday, May 10  6:00 p.m.  
Location: Westin Diplomat Resort & Spa, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

Premiere Exhibition of Artists for Conservation- Exclusive Alliance Invitation  
Monday, May 12  6:00 p.m.  
Location: Alvin Sherman Library Gallery at NSU, Davie  
For more information, please click here.

City of Fort Lauderdale’s third Annual Transportation Summit  
Wednesday, May 14  8:30 a.m.  
Location: Florida Atlantic University, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

Business for the Arts Broward Cultural Tour  
Friday, May 16  9:00 a.m.  
Location: ArtServe, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.

How to Do Business with Broward County  
Saturday, May 17  10:30 a.m.  
Location: Weston Branch Library  
For more information, please click here.

11th Annual Florida - Japan Summit  
Tuesday, May 19  1:45 p.m.  
Location: Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens, Delray Beach  
For more information, please click here.

Broward College Presents the Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series: Jean-Michel Cousteau  
Wednesday, May 21  8:00 p.m.  
Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please click here.  
Alliance member discount code: BUS13

Center for Hemispheric Policy: Ninth Annual Latin America Conference  
Thursday, May 22  8:00 a.m.  
Location: Conrad Hotel, Miami  
For more information, please click here.

Mayor Sharief Presents Business Loan $eminar $eries  
Saturday, May 24  10:30 a.m.  
Location: Hallandale Beach Branch Library  
For more information, please click here.

Second Annual Go SOLAR and Renewable Energy Fest  
June 6 – 7
Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please click here.

Florida Economic Development Council (FEDC) 2014 Conference
June 8 – 10
Location: Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay, Tampa
For more information, please click here.

Calendar items are subject to change without notice. Please visit www.gflalliance.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).