



July 31, 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](#).

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

**SPONSORS SOUGHT:** The Alliance's **Annual Meeting and Dinner**, presented by Patriot National Insurance Group, will be held Thursday, October 23 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Signature Grand. Our Keynote Speaker is Jim Clifton, CEO of Gallup and author of *The Coming Jobs War*. The Annual Meeting is a premier, not-to-be-missed business event in Southeast Florida and once again includes a post-dinner reception with gourmet coffees, desserts and live music. Sponsors include: Presenting – Patriot National Insurance Group; Platinum - Broward College, JM Family Enterprises, *South Florida Business Journal* and Signature Grand; Silver – FPL and GUNSTER. For more information and to register, please go to [www.gfalliance.org/2014annual](http://www.gfalliance.org/2014annual). To sponsor the Annual Meeting, please email [Gail Bulfin](mailto:Gail.Bulfin) or call 954-627-0127.

#### [Top Stories:](#)

- Company with Over 1,300 Employees Moves HQ to Miramar
- Sutherland Adds 30 Jobs, Moves to Coral Springs
- NACO Recognizes Broward's Workforce Innovation Efforts through the Alliance, CareerSource Broward and Six Pillars
- FEC Unveils New Rail Facility at Port Everglades
- Alliance Economic Sourcebook Advertising Space Available
- Port Everglades NED Plan Moves Forward
- Copa Airlines Begins Nonstop Service Between Panama And Fort Lauderdale
- Enterprise Florida Leads Florida Companies to World's Largest Aviation Exhibition

#### [Education, Workforce Development and Educational Excellence Builds Business \(E<sup>2</sup>B<sup>2</sup>\) News](#)

#### [Business Briefs and Alliance Member News](#)

#### [Upcoming Alliance Events](#)

#### [Upcoming Enterprise Florida and Member/Partner Events](#)

#### Top Stories

##### **Company with Over 1,300 Employees Moves HQ to Miramar**

Univita Health, which has over 1,300 employees nationwide, has moved its headquarters from Minnesota to Miramar. The company, which manages home health benefits for Medicare Advantage plans and Medicaid HMOs, hired Michael Muchnicki as CEO in June. He previously led the South Florida operations for both Cigna and United Healthcare. (This story, from the South Florida Business Journal, was written by Brian Bandell) To read more, please [click here](#).

##### **Sutherland Adds 30 Jobs, Moves to Coral Springs**

Sutherland Healthcare Services plans to add 30 employees after moving to a larger office in Coral Springs. Cushman & Wakefield's Caroline Fleischer and Michael Feuerman represented the company in leasing a 14,343-square-foot lease at 3111 N. University Drive,

known as University Place at City Center. Butters Construction & Management's Darcie Lunsford and Molly McDonough represented the landlord, a partnership between Butters and Bristol Group. (This story, from the South Florida Business Journal, was written by Brian Bandell) To read more, please [click here](#).

### **NACO Recognizes Broward's Workforce Innovation Efforts through the Alliance, CareerSource Broward and Six Pillars**

The National Association of Counties (NACO) has issued a feature publication called "A Workforce that Works: County Innovations in Workforce Development" which highlights the collaborative work that is being done in Broward County linking economic development and workforce development. The feature describes the award-winning partnership between the Alliance and CareerSource Broward and states that Broward's Six Pillars process is an example of how county leaders can influence a local and regional workforce system that promotes economic growth and improves the quality of life for residents. Broward College is also featured in the story. To read a copy of the report, please [click here](#).

### **FEC Unveils New Rail Facility at Port Everglades**

Recently, the Florida East Coast Railway, LLC (FEC) unveiled its state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF) at Port Everglades with a grand opening ceremony featuring an exclusive firsthand view of South Florida's new global gateway. "We are excited to open this state of the art facility to serve our customers and the community," FEC President and Chief Executive Officer James Hertwig said during the event, which was attended by more than 200 community and business leaders statewide. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **Last Call for Advertising Space in the Alliance's Economic Sourcebook**

The Alliance is once again working with the *South Florida Business Journal* to publish its annual award-winning Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Economic Sourcebook and Market Profile. This valuable guide serves as a primary marketing tool to promote the entire Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County area. 8,500 copies of the Sourcebook are distributed several ways, including to Alliance members, in national and international marketing kits, through Chambers of Commerce and Broward County libraries, distributed in the *South Florida Business Journal*, and it is downloaded extensively on the Alliance website. The Economic Sourcebook provides Alliance members with an outstanding marketing opportunity - don't miss out! For additional information, please contact Ellen Hesse at 954-949-7504 or [ehesse@bizjournals.com](mailto:ehesse@bizjournals.com).

### **Port Everglades NED Plan Moves Forward**

Port Everglades has received written notification from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) indicating that they have decided to recommend a National Economic Development (NED) Plan for deepening and widening Port Everglades navigational channels to a depth of 47 feet versus the 48 foot depth proposed in the draft Feasibility Study released in June 2013. (This figure adds one foot of required over-depth and one foot of allowable over-depth resulting in a depth of 49 feet.) Receiving the NED is good news because it was a critical benchmark to reach before a Final Chief's Report can be issued. The Port and County Commission will discuss whether to fund the additional foot of depth to bring the channel to the 50 feet at its next meeting on August 12. For more information on supporting the Port, contact the Port Everglades Advocacy Team at the Alliance at 954-627-0127.

### **Copa Airlines Begins Nonstop Service Between Panama And Fort Lauderdale**

Copa Airlines, subsidiary of Copa Holdings, S.A., and a member of Star Alliance, recently began nonstop service four times a week from its Hub of the Americas at Tocumen International Airport in Panama to Fort Lauderdale, the airline's fourth destination in Florida, its 10<sup>th</sup> in the U.S., and its 67<sup>th</sup> destination overall. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **Enterprise Florida Leads Florida Companies to World's Largest Aviation Exhibition**

Florida Secretary of Commerce and Enterprise Florida (EFI) president and CEO, Gray Swoope, announced that EFI led a delegation of 11 Florida companies and organizations to the Farnborough Airshow from July 14-20 in London. The show provides the state and Florida aviation and aerospace companies with a unique opportunity to demonstrate their competitive advantages in key targeted markets. To read more, please [click here](#).

[Back to top](#)

## **Education, Workforce Development and Educational Excellence Builds Business (E<sup>2</sup>B<sup>2</sup>) News**

### **Nominations Open for Alliance Educational Partner Award**

The Alliance's Educational Excellence Builds Business (E<sup>2</sup>B<sup>2</sup>) Action Team is seeking applications for the Alliance's Educational Partner Award, which will be awarded at the Annual Meeting in October. The deadline to nominate a company member is September 5. For more information, contact [Gail Bulfin](#).

### **BCPS Supports White House Initiative to Improve Academic Achievements of Boys and Young Men of Color**

On July 21 Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) joined the Council of the Great City Schools and urban school districts from across the country for a special White House event with President Barack Obama. The event included an announcement that 60 urban school districts, including BCPS, are pledging to improve the academic and social outcomes of boys and young men of color. BCPS executive

director of Student Support Initiatives, Michaelle Pope, traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend the event, which took place at a Washington area school and included a Town Hall style discussion with President Obama. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **FAU Students to Compete in Global Robotics Competition**

The zigzag trails sparked in the water as the small boat hit about 2 knots. But the Florida Atlantic University student gripping the remote control was no longer instructing the 16-foot robotic craft where to navigate at the Dania Beach Marina. With the flick of a silver switch with his right thumb, he had set the vessel to do everything on its own. FAU's engineering students are among three U.S. teams who will travel to Singapore in October to battle in the Maritime RobotX Challenge, a boat robotics competition offering \$100,000 in prize money. (This story, by Jessica Meszaros, appeared in the SunSentinel) To read more, please [click here](#). If you are interested in sponsoring the FAU RobotX team, please contact Michael Barron at [barronm@fau.edu](mailto:barronm@fau.edu).

### **NSU's Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences to Host ITPalooza**

With more than 2,000 registrants, 60 speakers, 65 sponsors and 50 user groups from across South Florida, the 3rd Annual ITPalooza is set to deliver unbelievable value to the South Florida technology community on Dec. 4 at Nova Southeastern University's (NSU) main campus at 3301 College Ave., Davie. Reflecting its commitment to the South Florida IT community, ITPalooza will once again be hosted by NSU's prestigious Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences (GSCIS). Under the leadership of Dean Eric S. Ackerman, Ph.D., the GSCIS partnership with ITPalooza promises to offer attendees the very best of South Florida technology. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **NSU Researcher Part of Team Studying Ways to Better Predict Intensity of Hurricanes**

They are something we take very seriously in Florida – hurricanes. The names roll off the tongue like a list of villains – Andrew, Charlie, Frances and Wilma. In the past 25 years or so, experts have gradually been improving prediction of the course a storm may take. This is thanks to tremendous advancements in computer and satellite technology. While we still have the “cone of uncertainty” we've become familiar with watching television weather reports, today's models are more accurate than they used to be. To read more, please [click here](#).

[Back to top](#)

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

In a unanimous vote on Thursday, July 17, Miami-Dade County Commissioners approved **All Aboard Florida's** land use plans to construct the highly anticipated nine-acre multi-modal station and transit-oriented development that will be located in the western portion of downtown Miami, just east of Miami-Dade County Hall. The transportation hub will include a mixed-use development with residential, office, commercial use, and a retail concourse, and will serve as a connector between All Aboard Florida's passengers and Miami's existing public transport systems. All Aboard Florida has selected Boston-based **Suffolk Construction**, one of the largest, privately-held building contractors in the country, to perform pre-construction and construction management services for its nine-acre multimodal station. Construction activities are expected to begin in late fall. To read more, please [click here](#).

**BankUnited** opened a new branch at 3551 N. Powerline Road. The 2,197 square-foot branch offers a full range of commercial and consumer banking services, with three full-service teller stations, three retail bankers, safe deposit boxes and a full-service drive-up window. The drive-up lane has an ATM machine and a night drop-box for after-hours service.

As the County enters its 100th year, the **Broward 100** team invites you to join ongoing communication efforts. Each time you share and like posts, you help spread the word on this yearlong centennial celebration. By following the Centennial on Facebook and Twitter you will be informed on what's to come and also entertained with interesting historic facts on our community. Countywide, you'll discover that culturally rich and diverse grounds thrive from our sports venues, boulevards and public art to green parks. Be in the know. Help grow “Broward 100: Celebrating the Art of Community” one click, share, and follow at a time. Please invite your friends in on the conversation by commenting and suggesting these social media pages to them. For further information or questions on how to get your organization featured, email [Broward100@broward.org](mailto:Broward100@broward.org). Like on [www.facebook.com/BrowardCounty100](http://www.facebook.com/BrowardCounty100), follow on [www.twitter.com/Broward100](http://www.twitter.com/Broward100), the official hashtag is #Broward100 or visit [www.Broward100.org](http://www.Broward100.org).

Avis Proctor, Ed.D., was formally appointed president of **Broward College's** North Campus, located in the **City of Coconut Creek**. She has been serving as interim president since 2013. As the campus' chief executive officer, Proctor is primarily responsible for campus operations, including academics, student and business affairs, health sciences, learning resources, information technology and facilities. To read more, please [click here](#).

Marielena DeSanctis, Ph.D., was recently appointed vice president for student affairs and enrollment at **Broward College**. She has district-wide responsibility for student financial services; student records/college registrar, student admissions, including international students; student development and campus life; athletics; and college publications. In this role, DeSanctis will also set policies and the strategic direction for the overall vision of student affairs and enrollment management. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development** (OESBD) is encouraging small business owners to apply for certification in the local small business programs, Certified Business Enterprise (CBE) or Small Business Enterprise (SBE). The Board of County Commissioners developed the CBE program to increase participation of small businesses in County projects as both prime contractors and subcontractors. The SBE program was similarly created to allow local small businesses to receive first consideration for contracts under \$250,000. Program eligibility requirements, application and other resources can be found online at <http://www.broward.org/econdev/SmallBusiness/Pages/certification.aspx>

As Hello Kitty! celebrates its 40th anniversary, **Broward County** Library/Young At Art Museum has opened international traveling exhibition JAPAN: Kingdom of Characters, which will run through September 7, at the Museum, located at 751 SW 121 Ave. in Davie. Along with Sanrio's whimsical phenom feline, which has captured hearts all over the world, JAPAN: Kingdom of Characters will showcase the history of Japan's affinity for and fame of its world-renowned and beloved characters, beginning in the 1950s with Astro Boy through to the 2000s with Pokémon and more. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Broward Cultural Division** is the recipient of three national Awards of Excellence from the National Association of County Information Officers (NACIO), for information projects that exhibit expertise in communications. For more than three decades NACIO's annual Awards of Excellence program has recognized the best works of county public information officers and state association of county communications staff. The competition honors a variety of projects that include public relations campaigns, brochures and publications, articles and press releases, videos and internet/electronic innovations. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Broward Health** Medical Center (BHMC) has been recognized by the Agency for Healthcare Administration as a Comprehensive Stroke Center, making it part of an elite group of providers focused on complex stroke care. Comprehensive Stroke Centers are recognized as industry leaders and are responsible for setting the national agenda in highly-specialized stroke care. To read more, please [click here](#).

**CBRE** has arranged one of the largest lease transactions in Broward County in Q2 2014. Morris 4X4 Center, a distributor of Jeep parts and accessories, has signed a lease for 60,000 square feet at **Duke Realty's** Atlantic Business Center, Building 5A, located at 2031 SW 2 Street, Pompano Beach. CBRE's brokerage team consisting of Larry Genet, Harry Tangalakis and Tom O'Loughlin represented the tenant. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Colliers International South Florida** is pleased to announce the purchase of 220 NW 180th Avenue in Pembroke Pines by Sports Grill of Miami. The local, privately owned sports restaurant plans to open its first location in Broward County. Ron Osborne, Vice President, represented the buyer in the purchase of the 5,834-square-foot retail building. The buyer selected this location due to its proximity to both a large residential population and commercial area. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Port Everglades** has received written notification from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) indicating that they have decided to recommend a National Economic Development (NED) Plan for deepening and widening Port Everglades navigational channels to a depth of 47 feet versus the 48 foot depth proposed in the draft Feasibility Study released in June 2013. (This figure adds one foot of required over-depth and one foot of allowable over-depth resulting in a depth of 49 feet.) Receiving the NED is good news because it was a critical benchmark to reach before a Final Chief's Report can be issued. The Port and County Commission will discuss whether to fund the additional foot of depth to bring the channel to the 50 feet at its next meeting on August 12. For more information on supporting the Port, contact the Port Everglades Advocacy Team at the Alliance at 954-627-0127.

The following Broward County business and community leaders will be honored at **Leadership Broward Foundation's** 2014 Profiles in Leadership Gala, hosted by the **Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six Resort & Spa**, from 6 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, October 11 at Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, 2301 S.E. 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale: David Armstrong, President, **Broward College**; Kelley Shanley, President / CEO, **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**; Andreas Ioannou, CEO, Orchestra Hotels & Resorts; Bob Moss, Chairman/CEO, **Moss & Associates**; Ginger Martin, President/CEO, American National Bank To read more, please [click here](#).

The nationally-recognized Technology Business Incubator® at the **Research Park at Florida Atlantic University** and FAU's Center for Cryptology and Information Security are actively expanding opportunities for cyber-related tenants to share Center expertise and provide an outlet for research to be applied to marketable products. To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance Member, **Skanska**, was recently featured in an article in the Wall Street Journal on workplace safety for its innovative practices. To read the article, please [click here](#).

**Stiles Residential Group**, a division of full-service real estate firm Stiles, and The Rockefeller Group are pleased to announce the groundbreaking of downtown Fort Lauderdale's newest and only ultra-luxury residential high-rise building. Located at 215 SE 8th Avenue, just one block from the best shopping and dining on the iconic Las Olas Boulevard, the new 254-unit luxury residential tower is part of Stiles' long-term vision to create a downtown district that provides a successful urban mixed-use environment in the heart of Broward County. To read more, please [click here](#).

[Back to top](#)

## Upcoming Alliance Events

### Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members Only)

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

Location: Hotel Bailey Art Center (Art Hall), Pompano Beach

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

### Alliance Council Connect (Members Only)

Thursday, August 28 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Gulfstream Park Racing & Casino

*Special silent auction for JetBlue airline tickets*

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at [tvinaixa@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.org)

### Alliance Entrepreneurship Council Meeting (Members Only)

Wednesday, September 10 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Liza Bongiovi at 954-627-0132 or at [lbongiovi@gfalliance.org](mailto:lbongiovi@gfalliance.org)

### Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members Only)

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

Location: City of Dania Beach

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

### Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (Members Only)

Tuesday, September 16 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Butterfly World, Coconut Creek

For more information contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at [tvinaixa@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.org)

### Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Members Only)

Wednesday, September 17 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

### Alliance Governor Council Meeting (Members Only)

Tuesday, September 23 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Axis Space, Fort Lauderdale

For more information contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at [tvinaixa@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.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@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.org)

[www.gfalliance.org/2014annual](http://www.gfalliance.org/2014annual)

[Back to top](#)

## Enterprise Florida Events

### Cannes International Boat Show 2014

September 9 - 14

Location: Cannes, France

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

### Movimat + Transport & Logistics Brazil

September 16 - 18

Location: Sao Paulo, Brazil

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

### 37th Annual Joint Meeting of the Southeast U.S./Japan & Japan-U.S. Southeast Association Conference

September 18 - 20

Location: Tokyo, Japan  
For more information, [click here](#).

### **Export Sales Mission to Singapore & Malaysia**

September 19 - 26  
Location: Singapore & Malaysia  
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**

#### **Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development - FastTrac: Listening to Your Business**

Wednesday, August 6, 4:30 p.m.  
Location: African American Research Library  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **NAIOP South Florida Developing Leaders Event**

Thursday, August 7 4:00 p.m.  
Location: Cafeina Midtown Miami  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **Networking Reception with German Consul General**

Thursday, August 7 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Riverside Hotel, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **How to Do Business with Broward County**

Thursday, August 21 1:00 p.m.  
Location: South Regional/Broward College Library, Pembroke Pines  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **ULI Vision Awards**

Wednesday, August 27 5:30 p.m.  
Location: JW Marriott Marquis, Miami  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **The Arts Mean Business Breakfast presented by BankUnited**

Friday, September 5 7:30 a.m.  
Location: Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **Urban Land Institute: Developing in the Caribbean Basin Conference**

September 11 - 12  
Location: Conrad Hotel, Miami  
For more information, please [click here](#).

Calendar items are subject to change without notice. Please visit [www.gflalliance.org](http://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).

[Back to top](#)