



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

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

#### Top Stories:

- Greater Fort Lauderdale, the Alliance, Members and Partners Featured in Miami Herald Business Monday
- Newly Formed Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Foundation Receives \$25,000 Gift from the Bank of America Foundation
- Governor Scott Highlights Job Growth at GA Telesis in Fort Lauderdale
- Venezuelan Boat Builder Relocates to Dania Beach
- Broward County Continues to Show Year over Year Job Growth
- Alliance Partners with SUP-X: The Startup Expo to Highlight South Florida's Entrepreneurial Landscape
- Sponsor and Attend: Alliance Annual Meeting and Dinner

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## Top Stories

### **Business in the new Fort Lauderdale Goes Beyond Beaches and Boats**

*Greater Fort Lauderdale / Broward County, the Alliance, Members and Partners Featured in Miami Herald Business Monday Spread*



When outsiders think of Fort Lauderdale, they may see images of tourists relaxing on sunny beaches, retiree communities, yachts, and college students on spring break. These images still hold true, though spring break has shrunken dramatically since its wildest days in the 1980s and the city's population of retirees has remained relatively stable. But over the last two decades, Fort Lauderdale has evolved into a dynamic, ethnically and racially diverse city, a thriving center for businesses from the United States and overseas. To read more of this article, by Joseph Mann, Jr., [click here](#). To read on the Herald's website, [click here](#).

### **Newly Formed Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Foundation Receives \$25,000 Gift from the Bank of America Foundation**



The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Foundation has announced its first major gift, from the Bank of America Foundation, for \$25,000. The 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation, which is affiliated with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward County's official public/private partnership for economic development, was established in 2014. "We are extremely grateful to Bank of America for its generous gift and for being the first major donor to support the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Foundation. Together, we are working to build a brighter, more sustainable economic future for the residents of Broward County," said Alliance president & CEO, Bob Swindell. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **Governor Scott Highlights Job Growth at GA Telesis in Fort Lauderdale**

Governor Rick Scott recently visited GA Telesis, one of the world's largest commercial aerospace firms, to highlight their recent job growth. Governor Scott highlighted GA Telesis' relocation of the GA Telesis Composite Repair Group from Arizona to Ft. Lauderdale. In addition to the relocation, GA Telesis added a new USA-based distribution center in Miami, which is creating 55 new jobs. Since 2011, GA Telesis has created 80 new jobs for Florida families, and the company expects to add 150 new jobs in Florida by 2020. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **Venezuelan Boat Builder Relocates to Dania Beach**

Boat builder Ramon Canela founded Promarine in Venezuela 24 years ago and made a name for himself as a leading boat builder over the years, with more than 1,200 boats sold in South America. Now, Canela is swiftly building his reputation here after relocating his company earlier to Dania Beach. The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance assisted the company with its permitting and licensing process and Promarine USA eventually opened a 4,000-square-foot facility at 2111 S.W. 31st St. earlier this year. The company has doubled its employees from two to four, also creating 12 indirect jobs, Canela said. To read more of this story, by Emon Reiser of the South Florida Business Journal, [click here](#).

### **Broward County Continues to Show Year over Year Job Growth**

Broward County's latest job report indicates a 5.2 percent unemployment rate in July 2015. This is a decrease of 1.1 percentage points from the year ago rate of 6.3 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 3.4 percent over the year, with an employment of 789,100 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region's jobless rate was 0.5 percentage point lower than the state rate (5.7 percent). Out of a labor force of 989,949, there were 51,740 unemployed Broward County residents. The Greater Fort Lauderdale metro area gained the fourth highest number of nonagricultural jobs in July 2015 among all metro areas in Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **Alliance Partners with SUP-X: The Startup Expo to Highlight South Florida's Entrepreneurial Landscape**

To draw global attention to South Florida's burgeoning entrepreneurial ecosystem, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance recently announced that it will serve as the Host Sponsor of SUP-X: The StartUp Expo, an international conference for entrepreneurs and investors being held at the Greater Fort Lauderdale / Broward County Convention Center February 16-17, 2016. To read more, please [click here](#).

### **Sponsor and Attend: Alliance Annual Meeting and Dinner**

The Alliance's **Annual Meeting and Dinner** will be held Thursday, October 22 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Signature Grand. Our Keynote Speaker is Peter Kageyama, author of *For the Love of Cities*. 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: Platinum - Broward College, JM Family Enterprises, Patriot National, Inc., Signature Grand, *South Florida Business Journal* and *South Florida Business & Wealth Magazine*; Gold - Comcast Business; Silver - AutoNation and FPL. For more information and to register, please go to [www.gflalliance.org/2015Annual](http://www.gflalliance.org/2015Annual). To sponsor the Annual Meeting, please email [Gail Bulfin](mailto:Gail.Bulfin) or call 954-627-0127.

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



[BCPS Offers Free Breakfast to All District Schools](#)

[Nearly 270,000 BCPS Students Head Back to Class for the 2015/16 School Year](#)

[BCPS Receives \\$200,000 Grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation for Minority Success Academy Early Years Program](#)

[SFEC Davie Campus Express Public Shuttle Service Launches August 2015](#)

[Broward College Offers New Technology-Focused Degree Programs to Meet Local Workforce Demand](#)

[Broward College Announces New Accelerated Weekend Supply Chain Management Express Program](#)

[Broward College Hosts Inaugural National Campus Safety Awareness Month Events](#)

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## **Business Briefs and Alliance Member News**



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

As **Advanced Roofing Inc.** adds jobs and expands statewide, the fast-growing company has received top statewide roofing industry honors. ARI ranks as the number one commercial roofing contractor in Florida for the third consecutive year -- and fourteenth in the U.S. -- in national magazine Roofing Contractor's just-published annual ranking. To read more, please [click here](#).

**AutoNation**, America's largest automotive retailer, announced Tuesday that it has entered into agreements to buy 16 stores across Georgia, Alabama, Tennessee and Maryland. It's the largest deal by revenue since 2001 for AutoNation, the company said. To read more, please [click here](#).

FITCE, the Florida International Trade & Cultural Expo launched by **Broward County**, provides opportunities to connect your business to the world, international leaders and more, October 12-16, 2015. For details, [click here](#).

The **CareerSource Florida network** provided training and employment services to a record number of businesses. From July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, 124,336 Florida businesses received employee services, a nearly 23-percent increase over the previous year. The CareerSource Florida network also assisted 445,437 Floridians who secured employment during the 2014-2015 fiscal year. To read more, please [click here](#).

**CBRE** arranged the sale of Venture Corporate Center, a three-building office community located at 3440 Hollywood Blvd. and 200-300 S. Park Road in Hollywood. The property, which is improved with three office buildings totaling approximately 253,000 rentable square feet, was acquired from MetLife Real Estate Investors by Dividend Capital Trust. To read more, please [click here](#).

**CBRE** arranged the sale of a prime downtown development site at 100 E. Las Olas Blvd. in the heart of the main business corridor of Fort Lauderdale. The 0.88-acre property was acquired from SVP Las Olas Limited Partnership by Kolter Acquisitions, LLC for \$17.25 million. To read more, please [click here](#).

**CBRE** is pleased to announce the promotions of the following South Florida commercial real estate professionals -- for details [click here](#).

The **Florida Atlantic University** Foundation Board recently held its annual meeting and election of officers. Alliance board member, Patricia McKay '78, of **Templeton & Co.** was elected as the Board's new chair, taking over for Bruce Allen '71, who served as chair since 2013. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Florida Power & Light** Company wants to help entrepreneurs and small businesses grow and prosper with our new PoweringFlorida® Small Business Tool now available on PoweringFlorida.com. This local business intelligence tool is designed to help small and medium-sized business owners compare themselves to their competition and make intelligent business decisions. See more at: <http://www.poweringflorida.com/smallbiztool>

The Third Annual **Go SOLAR & Renewable Energy Fest** will be held in October at the Broward County Convention Center. Go SOLAR Florida will sponsor this FREE event, which includes free parking, to educate businesses and residents on solar and renewable energy. The Fest will run from 10AM-6PM Friday, October 9th, and from 10AM-4PM Saturday, October 10th. Pre-registration is required to attend, exhibit or be a sponsor. This year, the exhibit hall will be on the ground floor of the convention center, which will enable alternative fueled vehicles, vans, and trailers to be inside with other exhibitors. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Gunster**, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce that its roster of 18 attorneys honored by **Florida Trend** in 2015 makes Gunster one of the top 5 firms with the most honorees, according to the publication. To read more, please [click here](#).

Attorney Rebecca Rodriguez, associate in **GrayRobinson's** Fort Lauderdale law firm office, was accepted to Leadership Fort Lauderdale's Class XXII. Since its inception in 1994, over 700 tri-county business leaders have graduated from Leadership Fort Lauderdale. To read more, please [click here](#).

**JM Family Enterprises** is raising its minimum wage to \$16 an hour, nearly double Florida's \$8.05 minimum -- a pay hike for 400 workers. But the auto giant's shift is even more far-reaching: It also bumps up wages of about 600 hourly employees who already were making \$16 an hour or more, beginning with their first pay period in August, the company said. To read more, please [click here](#).

Michael L. Gaylor, Ed.D. will be joining **Leadership Broward Foundation** as its new CEO. The Board is excited about bringing fresh talent to Broward County and are looking forward to the utilization of Dr. Gaylor's past experiences and talent to elevate LBF and its programs to a new level.

The Broward County Central Examining Board for the General Construction Trades has four board positions available, including two consumer representatives and two professional representatives. If you are interested, or for more information, please contact board chair Malcolm MacInnes, President of **MGM General Contracting Inc.** for more information, at [mgm@mgmgc.com](mailto:mgm@mgmgc.com).

Frank V. Sacco, who has dedicated 41 years of service to **Memorial Healthcare System** and 28 years as President and CEO, has recently announced his retirement, effective February 29, 2016. Sacco is credited for leading the growth of Memorial Healthcare

System from one hospital to six in South Broward County and building the financial strength of the system with a current net worth of over \$1.8 billion – the third largest, public healthcare system in the nation. To read more, please [click here](#).

The South Broward Hospital District Board of Commissioners that oversees all actions of **Memorial Healthcare System** elected its officers at the July board meeting. Jose Basulto was elected Chairman, Vic Narang of **GDKN Corporation** was elected Vice Chairman and Douglas A. Harrison was elected Secretary/Treasurer. The board members serving alongside the officers are L. Kenneth Barnett, Hobel Florida, Albert C. Jones and Laura R. Miller.

**Miller Construction Company** has launched the \$20.8 million build of Sereno at Bay Harbor Islands. The upscale condominium community on one of Bay Harbor Islands' few developable waterfront sites will provide panoramic views of Florida Bay, Bal Harbor and the ocean. To read more, please [click here](#).

Modernizing Medicine and Mobile Help have distinguished themselves by achieving growth records that have placed them in the Inc. 500 ranking of the fastest-growing private companies in America. Both companies maintain headquarters within the **Research Park at Florida Atlantic University**. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Research Park at Florida Atlantic University** is seeking proposals for audit services. Proposals are due September 7. For details, on the RFP, contact Christine Cannon-Burres, Director of Operations at 561-416-6092 or [cc@research-park.org](mailto:cc@research-park.org).

The **South Florida Business Journal** announced its Broward Ultimate CEOs. Alliance members represented are: Margaret Callihan, **SunTrust Bank**, Steven Cernak, **Port Everglades**, L. Scott Helms, **IDI Gazeley**; C. Kennon Hetlage, **Memorial Hospital West**, Steven Ronik, **Henderson Behavioral Health**; Gary Rosen, **Becker & Poliakoff P.A.** To read more, please [click here](#).

Cocuy, Burns & Co., P.A., a CPA and consulting firm in Wellington, and **Templeton & Company, LLP**, a leading South Florida-based firm, combined practices effective August 1. Juan Cocuy and Tom Burns became partners in the newly combined firm, called Templeton & Company. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Tripp Scott** recently announced that Tanya L. Bower, a director with the law firm, has been elected to the Board of Directors as the Chairwoman of **Leadership Broward Foundation**. To read more, please [click here](#).

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## Featured Property of the Month



**Intracoastal Building**  
3000 NE 30th Place, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306  
*Listed by Mink & Mink, Inc.*  
Additional details at [GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com](http://GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com)  
[Click Here](#)

## Upcoming Events

Alliance Events

### **Alliance Entrepreneurship Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance

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

### **Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Thursday, Sept. 10, 8:30 a.m.

Location: City of Coral Springs

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

### **Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday, Sept. 15, 8:30 a.m.

Location: GUNSTER, Fort Lauderdale

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

### **Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

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

### **Alliance Governor Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday, Sept. 22, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Girl's Club, Fort Lauderdale

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

### **Alliance 2015 Annual Meeting**

Thursday, October 22, 5:30 p.m.

Location: The Signature Grand, Davie

For sponsorship information and additional details please contact Gail Bulfin at [gbulfin@gfalliance.org](mailto:gbulfin@gfalliance.org) or Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at [tvinaixa@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.org)

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## **Enterprise Florida Events**

### **12th Annual Florida-Japan Summit**

Wednesday, September 2

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**

### **Broward County Public Schools: Celebrating 100 Years of Educational Excellence**

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Kathleen C. Wright Building, Fort Lauderdale

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

### **Baptist Health South Florida - Calling All Runners: Training for the Big Race**

Tuesday, Sept. 1, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Weston YMCA Family Center

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

### **Six Sigma White Belt - Workshop**

Wednesday, Sept. 2

Location: Broward College

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

### **Inventpalooza South Florida**

Friday, Sept. 4, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Renaissance Fort Lauderdale-Plantation Hotel

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

### **World Trade Center Fort Lauderdale Grand Opening Ceremony**

Sept. 5 - 7

Location: Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa

For more information [click here](#).

### **2015 Florida Recycling Summit**

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 10:00 a.m.

Location: Port Everglades Cruise Terminal 4, Fort Lauderdale

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

### **City of Fort Lauderdale State of the City Address**

Wednesday, Sept. 9, 6:00 p.m.

Location: U.S. Customs and Border Protection: Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport

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

### **Community Development & CRA: Building Communities through Strategic Partnerships**

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Nova Southeastern University, Davie

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

### **Baptist Health South Florida: My Optimal Wellness: Decoding Food Labels**

Wednesday, Sept. 16, 6:30 p.m.

Location: Weston YMCA Family Center

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

### **SFTA: It's Academic with IoT**

Thursday, Sept. 17, 5:00 p.m.

Location: FAU Tech Runway, Boca Raton

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

### **SFBJ: 2015 Ultimate CEO Awards**

Thursday, Sept. 17, 5:30 p.m.

Location: Marriott Harbor Beach Fort Lauderdale Resort & Spa

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

### **Baptist Health South Florida: Caring for the Caregiver: Health Screenings and Meditation**

Thursday, Sept. 17, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Gilda's Club South Florida, Fort Lauderdale

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

### **Business for the Arts Broward Cultural Tour**

Friday, Sept. 18, 9:00 a.m.

Location: ArtServe, Fort Lauderdale

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

### **IANA Intermodal Expo**

Sept. 20 - 22

Location: Greater Ft. Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center

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

### **Broward Sherriff's Office: Dangers of Flakka and Other Synthetic Drugs**

Thursday, Sept. 24, 5:00 p.m.

Location: FAU Davie Campus

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

### **Center for Hemispheric Policy: Modernizing LAC Economies**

Friday, Sept. 25, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Westin Colonnade Coral Gables

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

### **United Way Broward County Rock United**

Friday, Sept. 25, 7:00 p.m.

Location: Revolution Live, Fort Lauderdale

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

## **InfraGard South Florida Members Alliance Conference**

Tuesday, Sept. 29, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Sheraton Fort Lauderdale Airport & Cruise Port Hotel, Dania Beach

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

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

Looking for commercial properties and demographic information? Visit [www.greaterfortlauderdaleproperties.com](http://www.greaterfortlauderdaleproperties.com).

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

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