



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

July 29, 2016

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

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Top Stories

Broward County's Year over Year Job Growth Remains Strong

Broward County's job report indicated a 4.5 percent unemployment rate in June 2016. This is a decrease of 0.7 percentage points from the year ago rate of 5.2 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 35,900 jobs (+4.5 percent) over the year, with an employment of 825,300 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region's jobless rate was 0.4 percentage point lower than the state rate (4.9 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,015,219, there were 46,090 unemployed Broward County residents.

"Broward County continues to see year over year job growth in every major occupational category," said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. "We're very pleased to see this positive economic activity across all occupations and pleased that our work in industries that have high paying occupations like professional and business services, financial activities, manufacturing and information technology continues to yield great results." To read more, please [click here](#).

Sponsors Sought for Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Annual Meeting



Sponsors are being sought for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance's Annual Meeting, set for Thursday, October 20 from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Signature Grand in Davie, with keynote speaker Patrick "Pat" Geraghty, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of GuideWell Mutual Holding Corporation, a \$12 billion, not-for-profit health solutions organization headquartered in Jacksonville.

Current sponsors include Platinum sponsors: Broward College, JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Signature Grand, South Florida Business Journal and South Florida Business and Wealth; Silver Sponsors: City of Fort Lauderdale, Comcast Business, FPL and FPL FiberNet For more information, contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@qfalliance.org.

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[Broward Technical Colleges Students Earn the Most Industry Certifications in the State](#)
[NSU's Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship Receives \\$10,000 Grant from The UPS Foundation](#)
[Broward College Announces Two New Campus Presidents: VP of Academic Affairs](#)
[Broward College to Host Disney Quality Service Workshop](#)
[NSU College of Pharmacy Faculty Member Elected to American Pharmacists Association Board](#)
[Broward College Village Square Announces 2016-17 Topics](#)
[Broward College Helps YMCA Students Set Sights on Higher Education](#)
[Broward College Respiratory Program Receives Distinguished RRT Credentialing Success Award for Third Straight Year](#)
[Broward College North Campus Celebrates World Refugee Day with Naturalization Ceremony for 200 New American Citizens](#)
[NSU Selected as the Host for the Woman's Under 20 Continental Volleyball Championship](#)
[Beachside Montessori Village Honored as a 2016 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School](#)

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Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

BIG CHEF hosted a food tasting showcase recently for the culinary industry, on the occasion of launching the AIOLI line, a new addition to the company's extensive food product line. The AIOLI line includes garlic cilantro, chipotle, mustard and chili flavors. Attendees experienced the taste of delectable hors d'oeuvres, fresh canapés, kosher hummus, Mediterranean dips and aioli, sushi, dim sum, gourmet desserts, cakes, pies, brigadeiros and other items featured. To read more, please [click here](#).

To raise awareness of how **Brightline** will connect the major areas of South Florida, the company is kicking off its "Brightline's South Florida Summer" social media promotion. Engaging future riders in a four week social media contest running through August 14, participants are encouraged to snap and submit pictures via Facebook and Twitter showcasing their summer adventures in South Florida for the chance to win a series of weekly Brightline prizes. To read more, please [click here](#).

Due to upgrades for **Brightline** passenger train service, Broward Boulevard will be closed at the railroad tracks in Fort Lauderdale starting 7 p.m. Wednesday, August 10, and reopening Monday, August 15 at 6:00 p.m.

The Florida Airports Council (FAC) recognized **Broward County** Aviation Department (BCAD) for its efforts and commitment to the environment. On Wednesday, July 20, 2016, at the 47th FAC Conference in Bonita Springs, the Broward County's Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL) received the J. Bryan Cooper Environmental Award for its Sustainable Strategic Initiatives. To read more, please [click here](#).

At a recent public meeting, a panel of nationally renowned land use, real estate development, design and urban planning professionals from the Urban Land Institute (ULI) released their recommendations for the potential development of parcels of land on the **Broward County** owned **BB&T** Center property. ULI is a nonprofit multi-disciplinary research and education institute dedicated to responsible land use and the creation of thriving communities. To read more, please [click here](#).

Congratulations to the **City of Fort Lauderdale/Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport**, for being ranked as one of the Aerospace Cities of the Future 2016/17 by FDI Strategy. To read more, please [click here](#).

Byrd F. "Biff" Marshall Jr., president and managing director of the **GrayRobinson** law firm for the past 25 years, announced recently he will step down, effective September 1, 2016, to make way for new leadership at the firm. He will be succeeded by Mayanne Downs, statewide chair of the firm's Litigation Department and a shareholder in GrayRobinson's Orlando office. Very few of the largest 200 U.S. law firms have a woman in their highest leadership position. To read more, please [click here](#).

JetBlue recently announced its intent to serve Havana from three U.S. cities, bringing low-cost, high-quality daily service to customers traveling between the U.S. and Cuba for the first time in more than 50 years. The announcement follows the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) tentative decision to grant JetBlue up to four daily nonstop flights between the U.S. and Havana. To read more, please [click here](#).

JM Family Enterprises appreciates the importance of bridging age boundaries in the workplace – realizing that Millennials represent the future of the economy and are reshaping company cultures while Baby Boomers best understand the path that led to the company's current success. As such, JM Family was ranked #45 on the 100 Best Workplaces for Millennials in 2016 and #15 on the 20 Best

Workplaces for Baby Boomers in 2016 list. Both national surveys were conducted by the consulting firm Great Place to Work® and Fortune. To read more, please [click here](#).

To find companies that are convincing their talented workforce to stay, Fortune asked Great Place to Work to review the 401(k) plans, health insurance, phased retirement offerings, defined pension benefits and internal promotion rates at more than 600 employers. Of the top companies whose associates say they are great places to build long-term careers, **JM Family Enterprises** ranked No. 13 and is the only Florida company to make the list. To read more, please [click here](#).

Macken Companies has released a new high-tech lifestyle video that showcases the multi-million dollar estate, Casa440, at 440 Royal Plaza Drive in Las Olas Isles. Professional models were hired, and exotic automobiles and luxury powerboats were leased for the shoot. In the video, as the models utilize the indoor and outdoor spaces, you really get a sense of what the homeowner will experience living there, making it an emotional experience. And, as the boat coasts by, viewers see all the beauty that Downtown Fort Lauderdale offers. To read more, please [click here](#).

Macken Companies has announced that Monte Greenberg has been brought on as Director for the fully integrated real estate firm in South Florida. In his post, Greenberg is responsible for leading Macken Companies in its efforts to grow its third party development business and consulting services. To read more, please [click here](#).

Macken Companies is pleased to announce the opening of the onsite sales center for Beach House, a new luxury residential development featuring four two-story single-family homes on the barrier island of Dolphin Isles in Fort Lauderdale. The sales center is located at 3200 NE 26 Street in Fort Lauderdale and is open on Saturdays from 12-4 p.m., Sundays from 1-5 p.m., or by appointment. To read more, please [click here](#).

Recently, the **Marine Industries Association of South Florida** and Show Management, the owners and producers of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, respectively, announced the results of an economic impact study conducted by Thomas J. Murray & Associates in conjunction with the University of Florida. The study concluded that the 56th Annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show (FLIBS), the largest boat show in the world in terms of gross exhibitor space and vessels gathered for any event, contributed a whopping \$857 million to the overall economy in the state of Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

The President of **MIASF**, Danielle Butler, announced the election of two new members to the MIA SF 13-member board. Effective July 1st, Walter B. Duke III of **Walter Duke + Partners** and Gail Ellis of Land 'n' Sea Distributing, Inc. were elected by the full membership to serve a two-year term. "Walter and Gail are excellent additions to an already dynamic board of directors," said Butler. "We are pleased to welcome them aboard and look forward to another great year promoting the marine industry. To read more, please [click here](#).

President Ken Morris, SIOR, RPA, of **Morris Southeast Group** announced two recently completed tenant representation lease transactions that he managed in South Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

Through the Training to Work 3 (T2W3) competitive grant opportunity, \$21.2 million has been awarded to 16 organizations by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), including \$1.4 million to **OIC of South Florida**. The grant serves individuals in high need areas and offers returning citizens, including veterans and people with disabilities, in state or local work release programs the opportunity to participate in a career pathway program that clearly defines a sequence of education and workforce skills training, resulting in skilled workers that meet the needs of local employers. To read more, please [click here](#).

OIC of South Florida will convene a 2016 Middle Class Summit of key ecosystem stakeholders to dialogue strategies and solutions focused on Florida's highly vulnerable middle class. Together, we will identify how to elevate the middle class by reducing barriers to success while equipping and empowering those below to realize economic self-sufficiency. The "Building, Elevating and Sustaining the Middle Class Summit" promises to elevate both the conversation and the consensus about how to begin reversing the middle class crisis. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stearns Weaver Miller Labor & Employment Shareholder Kara Nickel presented "Understanding the FLSA to Maximize Compliance and Minimize Exposure," to the Children's Services Council of Broward County on July 8, 2016.

Transwestern's South Florida office announced recently that **110 Tower**, the 30-story, 391,473 square-foot Class-A office building in Downtown Fort Lauderdale, has been awarded LEED® Gold Recertification for Existing Buildings. The LEED rating system, developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), is the foremost program for buildings, homes and communities that are designed, constructed, maintained and operated for improved environmental and human health performance. To read more, please [click here](#).

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Featured Property of the Month





NSU Center for Collaborative Research
3301 College Ave. Davie, FL 33314
Listed by Colliers International South Florida
Additional details at GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com
[Click Here](#)

Upcoming Events



Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Thursday, August 11, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Jim Moran Institute For Global Entrepreneurship, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Council Connect

Thursday, August 25, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Gulfstream Park Racing & Casino

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org.

Alliance Annual Dinner

Thursday, October 20, 5:30 p.m.

Location: The Signature Grand, Davie

For more information, please contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gflalliance.org.

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Enterprise Florida Events

Medical Fair Asia 2016

Aug. 31 – Sep. 2, 2016

Location: Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

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

FASTTRAC - New Venture Series

Thursday, August 4, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Innovation Hub @ Broward College, Fort Lauderdale

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

SFBJ - 40 Under 40 Awards

Friday, August 5, 11:30 a.m.

Location: Jungle Island Treetops Ballroom, Miami

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

SFBJ – Meet the Newsroom – Fort Lauderdale

Thursday, August 11, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Goldstein Schechter Koch, Fort Lauderdale

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

FAU | Broward Networking Breakfast - Topic: Hotel Investments & 2016 Tax Assessments

Tuesday, August 16, 8:00 a.m.

Location: FAU Davie

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

SFBJ - Fast 50 Awards

Thursday, August 18, 11:30 a.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Fort Lauderdale

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

Junior Achievement South Florida - 4th Annual Light Up the Night

Wednesday, August 24, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Prime Cigar & Wine Bar, Boca Raton

For more information, [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).

Looking for commercial properties and demographic information? Visit 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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