



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

November 30, 2015

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

Top Stories:

- TQL Expansion Will Create 60 New Jobs in Dania Beach
- Alliance and Community Partners Host Dignitaries During Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show
- Broward County Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.7 percent
- Greater Fort Lauderdale Gained More Than 26,000 Jobs Over the Year
- Alliance and the Gold Coast Venture Capital Association Partner on SUP-X™: The Startup Expo

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Top Stories

TQL Expansion Will Create 60 New Jobs in Dania Beach

Governor Rick Scott recently announced that Total Quality Logistics (TQL), one of the largest freight-brokerage firms in the country, will be expanding in Dania Beach and creating 60 new jobs. The expansion of their logistics operation will also create a capital investment of approximately \$600,000 in Broward County. TQL has operations in Dania Beach, Tampa, Jacksonville, Orlando and Daytona Beach and currently employs nearly 450 Floridians across the state. To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance and Community Partners Host Dignitaries During Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance led and participated in a number of activities during this year's Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. First, the Alliance was one of the lead partners for the second annual invitation-only Marine Hub Luncheon event which was held at the MIASF Aqualounge at Bahia Mar on Thursday, the opening day of the Boat Show. The purpose of the luncheon was to shine a spotlight on Greater Fort Lauderdale's role as the premier global marine hub and demonstrate the marine industry's connectivity with a diverse array of targeted industries including technology, life sciences, global logistics and aviation. Invited guests included influential business leaders, consuls general, potential business location decision makers and members of the media. In addition to the Alliance, other lead partners in this event were the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau; Marine Industries Association of South Florida, owners of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show; and Starmark. Others participating in hosting the luncheon include Port Everglades; Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport; Pierson Grant; South Florida Business Journal; and Show Management, which is the producer of the Boat Show.

The Alliance was also involved in the 2nd annual Hedge Fund IDF Symposium, which took place at the Hilton Marina Hotel Thursday afternoon, followed by a reception with private equity firm representatives and hedge fund managers in the evening. The symposium featured Ron Insana of CNBC Television and Ken Polcari of CNBC Market.

On Friday evening, the Alliance hosted influential national and local leaders at an exclusive business networking event at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six Pier Top Restaurant.

Throughout the week, the Alliance also worked with some of the aviation company fixed-base operators (FBOs) located at our airports, to reach the high net worth individuals and company decision makers who travelled to Broward County to attend the Boat Show. These FBOs included member companies National Jets, Inc. and Sheltair, among others including Banyan Air Service.

Broward County Unemployment Rate Drops to 4.7 percent

Broward County's job report indicated a 4.7 percent unemployment rate in October 2015. This is a decrease of .8 percentage points from the year ago rate of 5.5 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 26,100 jobs (3.3 percent) over the year, with an employment of 811,100 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 (5.1 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,000,592, there were 46,699 unemployed Broward County residents. The Greater Fort Lauderdale metro area gained the third-highest number of nonagricultural jobs in October 2015 among all metro areas in Florida compared to a year ago. To read more, please [click here](#).

Greater Fort Lauderdale Gained More Than 26,000 Jobs Over the Year

Governor Rick Scott recently announced that the Fort Lauderdale area gained 26,100 jobs over the year in October. The Fort Lauderdale area's unemployment rate declined by 0.8 percentage point over the year to 4.7 percent in October. Florida businesses have added 978,800 private-sector jobs since December 2010. Governor Scott said, "The Fort Lauderdale area continues to be a destination for job growth, with one of the lowest unemployment rates in the state at 4.7 percent. Businesses are succeeding in Fort Lauderdale, which means more opportunities for families to live their dreams right here in the Sunshine State." To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance and the Gold Coast Venture Capital Association Partner on SUP-X™: The Startup Expo

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Gold Coast Venture Capital Association have announced SUP-X™: The Startup Expo, a two day international startup conference and expo that will be held at the Broward Convention Center in Ft. Lauderdale on February 16-17, 2016. The event is expected to draw 1500+ startup and early-stage entrepreneurs, angel and VC investors and related service providers from throughout North America. SUP-X features nearly 50,000 SF of exhibit space, intensive workshops for entrepreneurs led by distinguished subject matter experts, a special half-day of workshops specifically for women entrepreneurs and women investors, and unique and exclusive opportunities for investors to meet fellow investors from throughout North America to develop deal flow and partnership opportunities. The event has already been produced for two years, but has been rebranded and dramatically expanded to attract an international audience. Our organization has partnered with SUP-X™ as we believe the conference has much to offer our community. To read more, please [click here](#).

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



[FAU Part-Time MBA Ranked Among the Top in the Nation](#)

[BCPS Educators Nominated for the National Life Group Foundation's LifeChanger of the Year Award](#)

[BCPS SMART Initiative Projects Moving Forward](#)

[FAU Receives \\$5 Million Gift from Christine E. Lynn](#)

[Broward College Selected to Participate in the Pathways Project](#)

[First Sergeant Manuel Valdez, Hollywood Hills High School Awarded Governor's Shine Award](#)

[School Board Elects Dr. Rosalind Osgood, Chair and Abby M. Freedman, Vice Chair](#)

[Broward College Named to 2016 Military Friendly® Schools List](#)

[FAU Recognized for Its Commitment to Veterans](#)

[FAU Outstanding Leaders Honored at 2015 Talon Awards](#)

[Broward College Professor Named 2015 Florida Professor of the Year by Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and CASE](#)

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Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

All Aboard Florida, developer of the only privately-owned and operated passenger rail service in the United States, recently introduced **Brightline**, the express train travel service that will connect the major cities of south and central Florida along a 235-mile route. At an

event held on the construction site for MiamiCentral, the new downtown transportation hub and mixed-use urban development in the heart of Miami, the company revealed the new Brightline brand identity and previewed the innovative trains that are the centerpiece of the new service. The brand launch presents a bright and optimistic view of the future for the millions of residents and tourists who crisscross the state's highways and skyways annually by offering an important new travel alternative in Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

Quantum Marine will be consolidating several of its departments and adding dozens of jobs once it moves into its international headquarters being built in Fort Lauderdale. The company, which manufactures stabilizing technology for yachts between 164 feet and 656 feet long, broke ground on the 30,000 facility this week. It's slated for completion in summer 2016. It will be home to Quantum Marine Engineering and Quantum Controls, related companies that make hydraulic and stabilizing technology for superyachts. **ANF Group, Inc.** is the General Contractor for the new headquarters, and Saltz Michelson Architects is the design firm.

Besting its record 1 million TEU count, containerized cargo volumes at **Broward County's Port Everglades** grew another 5 percent during Fiscal Year 2015 (October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015) to 1,060,506 TEUs (20-foot equivalent units, the industry's standard container measurement), according to preliminary fiscal year-end reports. Port officials credit the increase to new and expanded cargo services, and the first full operational year of the **Florida East Coast Railway's** (FECR) intermodal container transfer facility (ICTF) at the Port. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE Capital Markets arranged the sale of 800 Fairway, a four-story suburban office building located at 800 Fairway Drive in Deerfield Beach. Fairlead Commercial, an Atlanta-based investment group, acquired the property. CBRE represented the seller in the transaction. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE arranged the sale of a freestanding medical office property at 3536 Federal Highway in Fort Lauderdale, Florida to a local investor. The 12,808-square-foot asset, formerly known as the Broward Health Building, was acquired from Federal Associates Inc. for \$2.35 million by 3536 North Federal, LLC. To read more, please [click here](#).

After weeks of suspense, 50 girls at Arcola Lake Elementary School in Liberty City opened the door to their new dream room this week – the Embrace Girls Foundation's princess-style after-school clubhouse. From the bubblegum-pink walls to kid-sized furniture and cozy touches, the "big reveal" quickly made the second- through fifth-graders feel right at home. As 2nd grader Darnise Willis summed it up, "Our room is full of life, full of love and full of happiness." Created by **City Furniture's** volunteer labor and donation of furniture and materials, the double-room makeover at the school sets the stage for transformational change. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Florida Atlantic Research and Development Authority** has named Keefe McCullough (KMC) its auditor for the 2014-2015 fiscal year, effective Oct. 14, 2015. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship** in the Florida State University College of Business and the Urban League of Broward County will present the fourth high-profile speaker in its Advice Straight Up: An Expert Entrepreneur Speaker Series in South Florida on Tuesday, Dec. 8, at the Community Empowerment Center in the heart of Fort Lauderdale. This breakfast lecture series features nationally recognized business leaders from some of the nation's best companies who share experiences and insight on building innovative businesses. To read more, please [click here](#).

Efrem "Skip" Zimbalist III, chairman at Active Interest Media, Inc. and president of Show Management, talks about the growth and increasing popularity of Fort Lauderdale's International Boat Show (owned by Alliance member organization **Marine Industry Association of South Florida**) with Ed Pozzuoli, president of the law firm **Tripp Scott**. To read more, please [click here](#).

Rick and Rita Case of **Rick Case Automotive**, discuss their 50 years in business, their support of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Broward County and "Rick Case Bikes for Kids" with Paul Lopez, director with the Fort Lauderdale based law firm **Tripp Scott**. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stiles Realty announced the successful sale of the 62,573-square-foot retail component of Renaissance Commons, a mixed-use commercial complex in Boynton Beach, Florida. The property was sold for \$18.2 million after being on the market for only 30 days. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stiles Property Management is proud to announce that five of its South Florida managed office and retail projects as well as several of its key personnel received a record eight TOBY (The Outstanding Building of the Year) awards at the annual Fort Lauderdale/Palm Beach Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) gala. The ceremony took place at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino in Hollywood on Nov. 6, 2015. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott announced that Tanya Bower, a director with the law firm, has been named a Woman of Distinction by the March of Dimes. To read more, please [click here](#).

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Featured Property of the Month



2100 W Cypress Creek Road
Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33309
Listed by Stiles Realty
Additional details at GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com
[Click Here](#)

Upcoming Events

Alliance Events

Alliance Joint Governor & Leadership Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Margaritaville Hollywood Beach Resort

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

Alliance Holiday Council Connect

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Riverside Hotel, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

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

Location: Atlantic Technical College

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

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Enterprise Florida Events

Export Sales Mission to Honduras

Dec. 1-3

Location: Tegucigalpa, Honduras

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

7th Annual SE FL Climate Change Summit

Dec. 1-3

Location: Casa Marina, Key West

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

Keys to Increasing Performance, Productivity and Profits

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 7:30 a.m.

Location: Broward College, Fort Lauderdale

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

IT Palooza

Thursday, Dec. 3, 11:30 a.m.

Location: NSU's College of Engineering and Computing, Davie

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

SFHHA Annual Dinner

Thursday, Dec. 3, 5:30 p.m.

Location: Signature Grand, Davie

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

Advice Straight Up: Phyllis Newhouse

Tuesday, Dec. 8, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Urban League of Broward County, Fort Lauderdale

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

Latin America 2016: Economic and Political Forecast

Wednesday, Dec. 9, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Conrad Miami

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

2015 SFBJ Business Growth Expo

Thursday, Dec. 10, 2:00 p.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six

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

Free admission when you register in advance online at <http://bizj.us/1hv2i7> Code: GFLALLIANCE

Broward College Speaker Series - Mo Rocca

Wednesday, Jan. 13, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale

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

IoT Evolution Expo

January 24 - 28

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center

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

Save 20% on admission with Code: GFLA

Safe Streets Summit 2016

Jan. 29, Date, Time

Location: Doubletree by Hilton, Deerfield Beach

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

SUP-X: The StartUp Expo

Feb. 16 - 17

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale-Broward County Convention Center

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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