April 30, 2017

Top Stories:
• Broward County Continues to Strengthen and Diversify its Economy
• Greater Fort Lauderdale Featured in Business Facilities “Aerospace Growth Gets Turbocharged”
• Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon on May 15 – NEARLY SOLD OUT

Broward County Continues to Strengthen and Diversify its Economy
Broward County’s job report indicated a 4.0 percent unemployment rate in March 2017. This rate was 0.5 percentage point lower than the region’s year ago rate of 4.5 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 27,800 jobs (+3.4 percent) over the year, with an employment of 845,300 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region’s jobless rate was 0.3 percentage point lower than the state rate (4.3 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,033,009 there were 41,645 unemployed Broward County residents. “We're very pleased to see that Broward County continues to be a leader in job creation with 27,800 jobs over the year and a 4.0 percent unemployment rate,” said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. “Florida's job growth for the past 80 months is a good indicator of the strength of our economy and of our success in working to diversify our economy. Prior to this, Florida had been losing jobs over three years.” To read more, please click here.

Greater Fort Lauderdale Featured in Business Facilities “Aerospace Growth Gets Turbocharged”
The global aerospace and defense (A&D) sector is likely to experience stronger growth in 2017. Following multiple years of positive, but subdued rate of growth, the report forecasts the sector revenues will likely grow by about two percent in 2017, according to Deloitte. The global A&D sector revenue rebound is attributed to a number of factors in both the commercial aerospace sub-sector and the defense sub-sector. Key findings are as follows: Stable global gross domestic product (GDP) growth; relatively lower commodity prices, including crude oil; and strong passenger travel demand, especially in the Middle East and Asia Pacific region, will likely drive the commercial aerospace sub-sector growth. To read more, please click here.

Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon on May 15 – NEARLY SOLD OUT
Thank you for all of those who have RSVP’d - seats are not guaranteed and only a few seats are left for the 2017 Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon, presented by FPL on Monday, May 15 at Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six. The luncheon keynote speaker is Adam Putnam, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture. Sponsors include - Presenting sponsor: FPL; Platinum Sponsors: JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, South Florida Business Journal, South Florida Business & Wealth; Gold Sponsor: AutoNation and Greenspoon Marder; Silver Sponsors: Fiberent Direct, the City of Fort Lauderdale’s Executive Airport and Kaufman Rossin. For more information, visit www.gflalliance.org/midyear; to sponsor the event, please contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gflalliance.org.

Education, Workforce Development and Educational Excellence Builds Business (E²B²) News
Junior Achievement Spotlights Young Entrepreneurs in JA World Shark Tank
Two Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Students Named National Corporate-Sponsored Merit Scholarship Winners
McArthur High School Student Recognized with Scholarship from Take Stock in Children
‘My Next Move’ job fair comes to South Broward High School
Arts for The Future Scholarships Awarded to Local Students
Caliber Awards: And the Winner is… BCPS Honors Top Teacher, Principal, Assistant Principal
Nova Southeastern University Alumni Named Teacher of the Year by Broward County Public Schools
BCPS Students Recognized with Cambridge Learner Awards
Congratulations to the Broward SECME-STEM Olympiad Winners!
Alliance Member Companies in Bold

**Florida Power & Light Company**, Veterans Florida and numerous advocacy organizations and businesses announced on April 6 a new partnership designed to link U.S. military veterans with careers in solar energy development in Florida. Florida is home to 20 military installations and more than 1.5 million veterans, and in collaboration with our partners, FPL plans to conduct educational outreach across all branches of the military to increase awareness of growing opportunities in solar energy in Florida – including the construction of new FPL solar sites, which is expected to employ more than 1,500 people in 2017 at locations throughout Florida in various roles, including equipment operators, electricians and general laborers. To read more, please click here.

**Macken Companies** recently hosted a cocktail reception to debut its newest residential project, Beach House, a collection of four single-family homes located on the Barrier Island of Dolphin Isles in Fort Lauderdale. The event brought together over 175 guests, including top real estate brokers, prospective buyers and local entrepreneurs. To better acquaint attendees with the Beach House community, guests toured the coastal contemporary-designed model residence, and Macken Companies Principal Alan S. Macken, and Director of Sales Jodi Macken delivered a presentation. To read more, please click here.

**Miller Construction Company** has completed the second Broward County location build-out of regional medical practice EliteHealth, at 5480 Griffin Road in Davie. EliteHealth partnered with health insurance giant Humana on the project to create a prototype diagnostic and preventive care facility. Miller’s interior build-out of the 4,347-square-foot space provided all of the visionary elements that are standard in EliteHealth facilities, including six exam rooms, a medical procedure room, ultrasound, X-ray and allergy testing areas, a weight-loss center and an activity room for events such as exercise classes, meetings, seminars and workshops by healthcare experts. The facility will serve a wide range of patients, whether or not they are insured by Humana. To read more, please click here.

At its 2017 Spring Conference, the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA)—the unified and recognized voice of seaports in the Americas—elected Steve Cernak, chief executive and port director for Broward County’s Port Everglades, to serve as the association’s chairman of the board for the 2017-18 activity year that begins in October. Mr. Cernak is slated to be installed as chairman for a one-year term on the final day of AAPA’s 106th Annual Convention, set for Oct. 1-4, in Long Beach, Calif. To read more, please click here.

The **South Florida Business Journal** held the 20th annual Business of the Year Awards at Jungle Island on April 27. **AutoNation** was honored as “More than $500M in revenue” winner along with Greenspoon Marder, P.A., as the winner in the $100M-$250M in revenue category. Since its inception, AutoNation has driven cars off the lot, careers for its employees and civic programs for the communities in which it operates. The company also has driven corporate profits and unparalleled performance. **AutoNation** is the first and only automotive retailer on the S&P 500, and was the only retail automotive franchisee to be named to Forbes’ most recent Just 100 list of companies lauded for worker treatment, job creation, environmental impact and other measures. **Greenspoon Marder** has dedicated leaders who ensure that their employees, clients and community are well-served. The firm grew its well-established corporate work and the launch of its national legalized marijuana practice saw the firm expand into Denver, Las Vegas, Nashville, New York, Portland and San Diego. Along with expansion of existing offices, Greenspoon Marder added 59 new attorneys, primarily in the second half of 2016. This year, it has added 13 more.

The **South Florida Business Journal** recently announced their honorees for the 2017 South Florida Ultimate CEO Awards. Among those honored are Terry Stiles of Stiles, Tony Argiz, MBAF, Andrew Duffell, Research Park at Florida Atlantic University and Germaine Smith-Baugh, Ed.D, Urban League of Broward County are among those who will be recognized at the awards dinner at the Harbor Beach Marriott Resort & Spa on September 28, 2017. They were selected for the major roles they have played in South Florida and have been a leader within their organization, throughout the business community and through their countless hours donated to the communities in which they live and work. The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance is one of the sponsors of this event.

Featured Property of the Month
Miramar Centre Business Park - Building B
200 Southwest 1st Avenue, Miramar 33027
Type of space: Mixed Use, Office, General
Listed by Jennifer Widener, IDI Gazeley
Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events

Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation only)
Thursday, May 11, 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Location: City of Dania Beach - 100 W. Dania Beach Blvd., 33004
For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, hkulp@gflalliance.org

Alliance Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon
Monday, May 15, 11:15 a.m.
Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133, tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

Enterprise Florida Events

Hospitalar 2017
Tuesday, May 16 - Friday, May 19
São Paulo, Brazil, International Trade Show
For more information, click here.

Florida Defense Support Task Force (FDSTF) Meeting
Tuesday, May 16, 9:00 a.m.
Residence Inn Marriott Tallahassee
For more information, click here.

CANSEC – Canadian Association of Defense & Security Industries
Wednesday, May 31 - Thu, Jun 1
Ottawa, Canada, International Trade Show
For more information, click here

38th Hemispheric Congress of Latin American Chambers
Mon, Jun 5 - Thu, Jun 8
Coral Gables, Florida, Trade Conferences
For more information, click here

INA PAACE Automechanika
Wed, Jun 14 - Fri, Jun 16
Mexico City, Mexico, International Trade Show
For more information, click here

Meet the Buyer – Superyachts 2017
Wed, Jun 14- Sat, Jun 17
Rhodes, Greece
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**

**Dinner at the Square: What is the Government’s Role in Fighting Poverty?**
Wednesday, May 3, 6:00 p.m.
Location: Hugh’s Catering, Oakland Park
For more information, [click here](#).

**6th Annual City of Fort Lauderdale Transportation Summit**
Tuesday, May 9, 8:30 a.m.
Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Huizenga Pavilion, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).

**Greater Fort Lauderdale CVB 2017 Tourism Day Luncheon**
Wednesday, May 10, 12:00 p.m.
Location: Gulfstream Park Sport of Kings Theatre, Hallandale Beach
For more information, [click here](#).

**Focus Brasil 2017 - Business Panel**
Thursday, May 11, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Huizenga Pavilion, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).

**SPARK - Hollywood, FL**
Thursday, May 11, 2017, 5:00 pm
Location: Hollywood's Arts Park at Young Circle
For more information, [click here](#).

**SFBJ 2017 Influential Business Women Awards**
Friday, May 12, 2017, 11:30 a.m.
Location: Hyatt Regency Pier 66, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).

**Fifth Annual Gotta Luv Them Captain’s Party/Fishing Tournament**
Friday, May 12, 6:00 p.m. & Saturday, May 13, 8:00 a.m.
Location: FAU Sea Tech Campus, Dania Beach
For more information, [click here](#).

**Most Amazing Race Event - Salvation Army**
Saturday, May 13, 7:30 a.m. - Noon
Location: Esplanade Park in Downtown Fort Lauderdale.
For more information, [click here](#).

**2017 Economic Engine Performance Report - PEA**
Friday, May 19, 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Location: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).

**Orange Bowl Food and Wine Celebration**
Friday, May 19, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).

**JASF: Marti Huizenga Roll Up Your Sleeves Awards**
Tuesday, May 23, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Huizenga Pavilion, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).

**SFBJ 2017 Healthiest Employers**
Thursday, June 1, 11:00 a.m.
Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, [click here](#).
GrowFL CEO Forum
Wednesday, June 14, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: FAU Tech Runway, 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).


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