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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

## Top Stories

### **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** and **Zimmerman**; Gold Sponsors: **AutoNation** and **Greenspoon Marder**, Silver Sponsors: **Fibernet Direct**, the **City of Fort Lauderdale's Executive Airport** and **Kaufman Rossin**. For more information, visit [www.gflalliance.org/midyear](http://www.gflalliance.org/midyear); to sponsor the event, please contact Gail Bulfin at [gbulfin@gflalliance.org](mailto:gbulfin@gflalliance.org).

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

[Broward Education Foundation Forges Partnership with Partners in Education](#)  
[NSU Researchers Are Pioneers in Addressing Substance Abuse Via Healthy Lifestyle Choices](#)  
[Broward College Recognizes Seven Outstanding Faculty with \\$70,000 in Awards](#)  
[Broward College Student and Alumna Earn Jack Kent Cooke Undergraduate Transfer Scholarships](#)  
[FAU - Course Prepares Students with Disabilities to Join Workforce](#)  
[FAU Celebrates 2017 President's Gala](#)  
[NSU Researchers Are Pioneers in Addressing Substance Abuse Via Healthy Lifestyle Choices](#)  
[Nova Southeastern University Researchers Studying How to Disrupt Bacteria to Treat Infections](#)

## Business Briefs and Alliance Member News

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 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 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Miramar 33027**

Type of space: Mixed Use, Office, General

Listed by [Jennifer Widener](#), IDI Gazeley

Additional details at [www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com](http://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@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.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@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.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](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*).

*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).