



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

August 31, 2017

Top Stories:

- Bureau of Labor Statistics: Greater Fort Lauderdale Leads in Wage and Job Growth
- Fort Lauderdale Area Added Nearly 28,000 New Jobs Over the Year
- Florida Job Growth Rate Continues to Outpace the Nation
- Sponsor and Register for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Annual Meeting

Top Stories

Bureau of Labor Statistics: Greater Fort Lauderdale Leads in Wage and Job Growth

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) recently reported that the Miami-Fort Lauderdale metropolitan statistical area (MSA) had the highest increase in wages, salaries and compensation over the last 12 months. Wages have increased by 3.9 percent, the highest rate of growth amongst the largest MSAs in the country. This news is in addition to Broward County / Greater Fort Lauderdale having the largest percentage of job growth of all 38 Metropolitan Divisions in the nation, also according to the BLS.

Fort Lauderdale Area Added Nearly 28,000 New Jobs Over the Year

On August 18, Governor Rick Scott announced that the Fort Lauderdale area added 27,900 new private-sector jobs in the last year, the third-highest number of jobs among all metro areas. Fort Lauderdale's unemployment rate was 4.1 percent in July, down 0.7 percentage point from one year ago. Statewide, Florida businesses created 26,300 new jobs in July and the unemployment rate remained at the lowest rate since July 2007, 4.1 percent. Since December 2010, Florida businesses have created 1,422,700 new private-sector jobs. Governor Scott also highlighted his proposed amendment to the Florida Constitution that will require a supermajority vote by future Florida legislatures to raise any taxes or fees. To read more, please [click here](#).

Florida Job Growth Rate Continues to Outpace the Nation

In early August, Governor Rick Scott announced that Florida is tied with Georgia for the fastest private-sector job growth rate of the 10 most populous states in the nation over the last year. Also, compared to all states, Florida had the third-fastest annual private-sector job growth rate in the nation, behind Nevada and Utah. For 63 consecutive months, Florida's private-sector job growth rate has outpaced the nation's. To read more, please [click here](#).

Sponsor and Register for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Annual Meeting

Sponsors are sought for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance's Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 19, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Signature Grand in Davie, with keynote speaker Vinnie Viola, owner of the Florida Panthers, founder and chairman of Virtu Financial and co-owner of the 2017 Kentucky Derby winner, *Always Dreaming*. Current sponsors include Platinum sponsors: JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Signature Grand, *South Florida Business Journal*, and *South Florida Business and Wealth*; Gold Sponsors: Baptist Health South Florida, FXE/City of Fort Lauderdale, JetBlue and Memorial Healthcare System, Silver Sponsors: AutoNation, Becker & Poliakoff, FiberNet Direct, FPL, GUNSTER, Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Nova Southeastern University and Starmark. For more information, contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gflalliance.org or visit www.gflalliance.org/annual.

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

[Airglades International Airport Closer to Taking Flight with the help of Nova Southeastern University \(NSU\) Graduate Students](#)

[Broward College Ranks Third Nationally in Conferring Associate Degrees to Minority Students](#)

[Broward College welcomes Disney Institute to South Florida](#)

[Broward College Announces Two New Student Deans: District Director of Disability Services](#)

[South Florida Coral Reefs to Get a Helping Hand – Anchorage Changed to Help Avoid Mishaps](#)

[NSU Study Shows Ocean's Fastest Shark Is Being Threatened by Over Fishing](#)

[Coming August 2017: The FAU Broward Campus One Stop Shop](#)

[Florida Atlantic University creates Apple-style information hub so students can get one-stop services](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

ANF Group and its development partners of the future 82,000 SF Cypress Creek Medical Pavilion at 2122 West Cypress Creek Road, Fort Lauderdale, have reported that the foundation work is complete and tilt-wall panels are being erected. Cypress Creek Medical Pavilion, LLC, consisting of development Partners ANF Group, Inc. and Axis Healthcare Partners, note that construction is proceeding on time with an estimated completion projected for the end of the first quarter of 2018. To read more, please [click here](#).

AutoNation has created a [Houston Help Fund](#) to assist the company's nearly 3,000 associates and their families who have been affected by Hurricane Harvey. 100% of the funds raised by associates will be matched by AutoNation. A special "Support Houston" t-shirt will also be available for purchase for a donation to the fund as of September 1 at www.autonationcompanystore.com.

New Alliance member, South Florida-based **Big Dog Construction Services, Inc.** (BDCSI) is growing. The company, which focuses on commercial and subcontracting construction services from Miami to West Palm Beach, has hired Tom Lindner as Director of Pre-Construction Services. He will oversee client services, manage incoming contracts as well as optimize standard practices and procedures. Big Dog also added Roxanne Goudie as Project Manager/Estimator. In this role, she will oversee residential client projects. To read more, please [click here for Lindner](#) or [click here for Goudie](#).

Rosana Calambichis, **BIG CHEF's** CEO, was honored with the Noble Title of Commander by the Sublime PUMART Order Merit of Honor. The inaugural ceremony took place at the Palácio Maçônico do Lavradio, in the city of Rio de Janeiro-Brazil. Ms. Calambichis was presented with the Noble Title of Commander for being a cultural supporter by collaborating and sponsoring Brazilian Art, Literature, Sports and Social Events in South Florida becoming the newest member of Honorable O.A.M.P.H. Family. To read more, please [click here](#).

As part of the largest and most comprehensive effort to prepare **Broward County Public Schools** students for the upcoming school year, **Broward Education Foundation's** Tools For Schools store received a donation of 750 backpacks from Office Depot Foundation. The specially designed, drawstring-style backpacks includes a zippered pouch containing essential school supplies courtesy of Kids in Need Foundation. To read more, please [click here](#).

Brightline's trains are testing along portions of the Florida East Coast Railway corridor. Motorists and pedestrians should adhere to all safety rules and regulations while approaching at-grade railroad crossings. Brightline partnered with Operation Lifesaver, a nationwide non-profit public information program dedicated to raising overall awareness around rail safety. To read more, please [click here](#).

Informa Exhibitions, the organizers of the 58th annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show (FLIBS) are pleased to announce that world-renowned marine artist, conservationist, scientist and angler **Guy Harvey** will provide the official 2017 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show merchandise this year. An exclusive Guy Harvey design for FLIBS 2017 will be unveiled before the show, which is set to take place from November 1 through November 5. To read more, please [click here](#).

Seafarers' House is pleased to announce that Bob Swindell, President and CEO of the **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance**, has been selected as 2017 South Florida Business Leader of the Year. Swindell will be honored at the 22nd Annual South Florida Business Leaders' Luncheon hosted by Holland America Line to benefit Seafarers' House. The luncheon will take place Nov. 17 aboard the ms Oosterdam at Port Everglades. This year's event co-chairs are Jonathan Hines, Cliff Berry, Inc., and Maggie Gunther of the Alliance. To register and for additional details, please [click here](#).

Jean McIntyre, vice president of **IBERIABANK**, has been named to the Board of Directors for Broward Education Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to transforming the lives of Broward County Public School students through the support of quality education. Broward Education Foundation contributes nearly \$3 million to Broward County schools, serving as the catalyst for educational excellence. To read more, please [click here](#).

Free training program for business owners, CEOs, and nonprofit leaders will offered by the **Jim Moran Institute** Executive Programs Broward and Palm Beach County Spring 2018 Applications accepted through September 30, 2018 for South Florida! To read more, please [click here](#).

Macken Companies, a fully integrated real estate firm, has launched construction on the final two residences at Beach House, a luxury single-family home development on the barrier island of Dolphin Isles in Fort Lauderdale. In conjunction, the firm has also announced the completion and debut of its second model residence. To read more, please [click here](#).

Congratulations to **Memorial Healthcare System**, which was named one of **Florida Trend's** Best Companies to Work For, for the eighth time since 2009.

Moss Foundation, with support and contributions from employees, subcontractors, and vendors of **Moss & Associates, LLC** collected \$50,000 worth of school supplies for their Back to School Drive. The 12th annual school supply drive benefited seven schools across the tri-county area, including Pace Center for Girls, Kinloch Park Elementary, and Theodore R. and Thelma A. Gibson Charter School in Miami-Dade County. Broward schools selected were Northside Elementary, Thurgood Marshall Elementary and Apollo Middle School. School supplies were also donated to Meadow Park Elementary in West Palm Beach. To read more, please [click here](#).

At the recent Florida Ports Council Annual Board Meeting, **Port Everglades** Chief Executive/Port Director Steven Cernak was elected chairman. "Steven Cernak has been an invaluable member of the Florida Ports Council. His extensive experience at numerous ports around the nation is a great asset to capitalize on the strengths of Florida's diverse seaport system," said Florida Ports Council President and CEO Doug Wheeler. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County has transferred ownership of approximately 60 acres of wetlands habitat at **Port Everglades**, including a successful 16.5-acre Wetland Enhancement project, to the State of Florida for its permanent protection as a conservation area. In addition, the State is developing a memorandum of understanding with the South Florida Audubon Society to manage the conservation area. The land transfer completes a critical component of the Port Everglades Southport Turning Notch Extension project that will increase berth space for cargo ships at the berth-constrained seaport. To read more, please [click here](#).

King Ocean Services and Crowley Caribbean Services, both long-time customers at **Port Everglades**, have entered into a vessel sharing agreement (VSA) that will expand their reach into the Port's top trade market, Central America. In addition, King Ocean will sail its own ship from Port Everglades to Costa Rica for the first time as the VSA calls for alternating ships weekly with Crowley on this route. To read more, please [click here](#). Port Everglades is also gaining a Northern European ocean-shipping route as the 2M Alliance begins service with Wednesday calls starting on August 16. To read more, please [click here](#).

SeaLand has been shortlisted to receive Ethical Corporation's Employee Engagement of the Year award in the area of responsible business. SeaLand's submission was developed around the theme "*Engaging Employees with Community Leads to Business and Social Transformation*". In the first round of the competition, the judges were impressed with SeaLand's "employee-led initiative around the UN Sustainable Development Goals." To read more, please [click here](#).

More than 275 people gathered Aug. 17 at the **South Florida Business Journal** Fast 50 Awards at Jungle Island in Miami to tout the 50 fastest-growing companies in the region. Private companies were ranked by percentage of revenue growth on two lists: those with more than \$25 million in annual revenue and companies with less than \$25 million in annual revenue. To read more, please [click here](#).

Congratulations to the following Alliance member company representatives honored by the **South Florida Business Journal** with its 2017 40-under-40 awards: **Akerman** – Steven Wernick, **Broward College** - Adriana Fazzano Ficano, **Ernst & Young** – Laura Elder, **Greenberg Traurig** – Danielle Gonzalez, **GUNSTER** - Aaron ("AJ") Horowitz, **MBAF** – Steven Morrison, **Memorial Regional Hospital**, - Dr. Brian Harris, **NSU** – Dr. Derek Burkholder and **Suffolk Construction** – Michael Joslyn.

Tripp Scott recently announced that Candice Ericks was elected vice chair of Broward Days. Broward Days is an independent, nonprofit and nonpartisan group of people advocating for the diverse needs and concerns of the citizens of Broward County. Providing a venue in which to engage members of the Florida Legislature, Broward Days To read more, please [click here](#).

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced it was named a Leader in The Forrester Wave™: SaaS Human Resource Management Systems, Q3 2017. In the report, Forrester evaluated eight vendors across three categories: current offering, strategy, and market presence. To read more, [click here](#). Ultimate also announced that it has been positioned by Gartner, Inc. as a Leader in the Magic Quadrant for Cloud HCM Suites for Midmarket and Large Enterprises based on Gartner's evaluation criteria of Ability to Execute and Completeness of Vision. For more, [click here](#). The company also announced that Crescent Hotels & Resorts, one of the largest operators of hotels and resorts in the United States and employer of thousands of employees, is using UltiPro to improve HCM, including the benefits open enrollment and benefits management experience for its employees. To read more, please [click here](#). Ultimate Software also announced financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2017. Ultimate reported recurring revenues of \$195.1 million, a 23% increase, and total revenues of \$224.7 million, a 20% increase, both compared with 2016's second quarter. GAAP net income for the second quarter of 2017 was \$5.0 million, or \$0.16 per diluted share, as compared with GAAP net income of \$6.1 million, or \$0.20 per diluted share, for the second quarter of 2016.

Waste Management was pleased to award \$2,500 college scholarships to two Margate students: Payton Mulkey who will be attending the University of Florida, and Brandon Fogleman, who is heading to Florida Gulf Coast University. "Waste Management is pleased to partner with the City of Margate to provide \$5,000 annually in college scholarship funds to two deserving high school seniors from the city," said Dawn McCormick, WM Director of Community Affairs. To read more, please [click here](#).

Featured Property of the Month





[Pembroke Point A](#)

880 SW 145th Avenue, Pembroke Pines 33027

Type of space: Office

Listed by [Stephanie Rodriguez](#) of [Duke Realty Corporation](#).

Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events



[Alliance Events](#)

Alliance Ambassador Council Meeting (by invitation only)

Monday, September 11, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Entrepreneurship Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Miller Construction Company, 614 S. Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Liza Bongiovi, 954-627-0132, lbongiovi@gfalliance.org

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation only)

Thursday, September 14, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Alliance Offices, 110 E. Broward Blvd, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting - (Members Only)

Tuesday, September 19, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Urban League of Broward County, 560 NW 27th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

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

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Invitation only)

Thursday, September 20, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Broward County Main Library, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Governor Council Meeting - September 26, 2017 (Members Only)

Tuesday, September 26, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Metropica Sales Gallery, Sunrise

For more information, please contact Peggy Doty at 954-627-0134, pdoty@gfalliance.org

Alliance Annual Meeting and After Party

Keynote Speaker, Vinny Viola, Owner, Florida Panthers

Thursday, October 19, 5:30 p.m.

Location: The Signature Grand

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

[Enterprise Florida Events](#)

Medical Fair Thailand 2017

Wednesday, September 6, - Friday, September 8
Location: Bangkok, Singapore
For more information, please [click here](#).

GITEX Technology Week

Sunday, October 8, 2017 - Thursday, October 12
Location: Dubai World Trade Center, UAE
For more information, please [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 more event listings, please [click here](#).

Member/Partner Events

SFAMC 3rd Annual Charity Golf Tournament

Friday, September 22, 1:00 p.m.
Location: The International Links Melreese Golf Course, Miami
For more information, please [click here](#).

Research Park Annual Awards & Entrepreneurship Celebration

Wednesday, October 4, 6:30 p.m.
Location: The Addison, Boca Raton
For more information, please [click here](#).

5th Annual Block Party for Higher Education

Thursday, October 5, 5:00 p.m.
Location: East Las Olas Blvd. between Andrews and SE Second Ave, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

Nova Law Review to host "Entrepreneurship 2.0: Legal, Regulatory and Economic Challenges to the Innovation Economy"

Friday, October 6
Location: Panza Maurer Law Library, Shepard Broad College of Law, NSU's Ft. Lauderdale campus.
For more information, please [click here](#).

Airline E&M: North America (Aviation Week Network / in Partnership with the Alliance)

Wednesday, October 18 – Thursday, October 19
Location: The Palms Hotel & Spa, Miami Beach
For more information, please [click here](#).

United Way of Broward County Mayors' Gala

Saturday, October 21, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

GFL Chamber of Commerce: Salute to Business

Thursday, October 26, 5:30 p.m.
Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [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).