



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

January 30, 2017

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

Top Stories:

- Broward County continues to be a Leader in Job Creation
- Gov. Scott: More Than 237,000 New Jobs Created in 2016
- Employers – please take the Workforce Skills Gap Survey
- Companies Sought for Alliance/Broward County Public Schools' Claim Your Future Showcase

Top Stories

Broward County Continues to be a Leader in Job Creation

Broward County's job report indicated a 4.4 percent unemployment rate in December 2016. This rate was equal to the region's year ago rate of 4.4 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 28,100 jobs (+3.4 percent) over the year, with an employment of 849,400 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 (4.7 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,025,431 there were 44,712 unemployed Broward County residents. To read more, please [click here](#).

Gov. Scott: Ft. Lauderdale Area Added Nearly 27,000 Jobs Over the Year

Governor Rick Scott announced recently that the Ft. Lauderdale area added 26,700 new private-sector jobs in 2016. The unemployment rate in Fort Lauderdale was 4.4 percent in December. Florida businesses created 237,300 private-sector jobs across the state during 2016, bringing the total number of jobs created since December 2010 to 1,262,100 jobs. To read more, please [click here](#).

Employers – please take the Workforce Skills Gap Survey

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward County's official economic development partnership, with support from JPMorgan Chase & Co., and other partners, is conducting a workforce analysis/skills gap survey to evaluate the area workforce. The purpose of this study is to determine if the needs of employers are being met in regard to workforce availability and skills, and if the workforce has the skills necessary to fill the jobs of companies in Broward County. Click here for employer survey or type: <http://boyette-sa.gflworksemployer.sqizmo.com/s3/>.

Companies Sought for Alliance/Broward County Public Schools' Claim Your Future Showcase

Help Broward county students claim their future at the 2017 Claim Your Future Showcase, February 8, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the BB&T Center. The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and Broward County Public Schools need YOUR COMPANY to show our future workforce the great career opportunities we have right here at home. Help us engage with the students of today, who will become the workforce of tomorrow! Our Claim Your Future Showcase will spotlight your company and get 1,500 high school juniors excited about what your company does. Display tables for companies are still available, free of charge. For more information and to sign up contact Susan Climan, Manager – Education Programs at scliman@gflalliance.org or 954-627-0126.

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

[BCPS Celebrates Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day on Thursday, February 2, 2017](#)
[Evening with the Arts Gala, a benefit to support Turnaround Arts \(BCPS\)](#)
[Broward County School Board Adopts New Supplier Diversity Outreach Program Policy](#)

[BCPS Students Kick Off Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida! With Florida First Lady Ann Scott](#)
[Pompano Beach High School Hosts the International Summit 2017](#)
[Broward College Expands its Program Offerings with Degree in New Media Communication](#)
[Broward College Honored by Junior Achievement with a U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award](#)
[Broward College Enters Into Agreement with Dominican Republic Ministry of Youth](#)
[U.S. News & World Report Ranks Three NSU Programs Among the Nation's Best](#)
[Nova Southeastern University's Online Master's in Public Administration Program Selected as One of the Best](#)
[Nova Southeastern University Home To Trauma Clinic for Those Needing Counseling](#)
[Nova Southeastern University one of Florida's Best in High-Earning Graduates](#)
[NSU: Tagged Mako Shark Takes Amazing 13,000 Mile Journey](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

Brightline, the only privately-funded express passenger rail system in the country, recently showcased its first trainset, BrightBlue. Comprised of two locomotives and four coaches, the trainset is housed at its new railroad operations facility, Workshop b, in West Palm Beach. This provided the first opportunity to see the many innovations throughout this first trainset that was manufactured by Siemens in their Sacramento, California facility and is 100 percent Buy America compliant, using components from more than 40 suppliers across more than 20 states. To read more, please [click here](#).

The first cruise ship to sail to Cuba from **Broward County's Port Everglades** since the 1950s departed recently on a 10-day cultural voyage to Havana and several other ports of call on the island. Pearl Seas Cruises has scheduled 11 cruises aboard the 210-passenger Pearl Mist from Port Everglades to Cuba through April 2017. More are scheduled during the 2017-2018 cruise season. To read more, please [click here](#).

Get the help you need this summer by providing work opportunities for the youth of our county. Employ a youth (ages 16 to 18) by contributing 50% of the wage and **CareerSource Broward** will match the wage through Children's Services Council funding. Join us for the 2017 summer program by participating and making a difference in a young person's life. To read more, please [click here](#).

The United States must build - and rebuild - its cities for a more prosperous future. CityAge has been part of that business conversation for the past five years: bringing together the leaders in business, design, government, research and society who are building - and rebuilding - the communities that will shape the future for all. CityAge is now proud to be bringing its national summit on the business of city-building to Fort Lauderdale on February 22 & 23: www.cityage.org/florida.

Covelli Enterprises, the nation's largest franchisee of **Panera Bread**, announces the grand opening of its newest Panera Bread location in Hollywood, Florida on Tuesday, January 31. Specials are available for those who visit on Tuesday, January 31 and Wednesday, February 1. To read more, please [click here](#).

Gunster, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce that the firm has been named one of the "50 Most Generous Companies of 2015-16" by the United Way of Palm Beach County. To read more, please [click here](#).

Gunster, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce the recent acquisition of nine attorneys to the firm statewide. David George has joined the firm's West Palm Beach office as an of counsel litigator; Elizabeth Bowers has joined the firm's Boca Raton and West Palm beach offices as an associate; and Jacquie Thomas has joined the firm's Jacksonville office also as an associate. Additionally, six from the 2015 summer associate class have returned to the firm as first year associates. To read more, please [click here](#).

Nova Southeastern University officially named its recreational arena in honor of community leader and automobile dealer, **Rick Case** at a special ceremony on January 19, 2017. The arena is located at the Don Taft University Center, an active multipurpose facility focused on student programs and services, located in the heart of NSU's Fort Lauderdale/Davie campus. Rita and Rick Case's gift to NSU established a scholarship endowment to attract outstanding undergraduate students as part of Realizing Potential, NSU's first comprehensive fundraising campaign. This is the largest philanthropic campaign in the university's history which aims to raise \$250 million for students, faculty, and 21st century education. The naming of the arena is in honor of the Cases' gift and ongoing support of NSU. To read more, please [click here](#).

Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group, one of the world's largest and most dynamic hotel groups, joined Riviera Point Development Group this week to launch construction of the nation's third - and Florida's first -- Radisson RED hotel, on a prime site in the Miami International Airport district. **Riviera Point Development Group**, a South Florida pioneer in developing hotels and office complexes through job-creating federal EB-5 Immigrant Investor financing, is creating the 155-room hotel under Carlson Rezidor Hotel Group's innovative Radisson RED flag. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stiles, a Fort Lauderdale-based full service real estate development firm established in 1951, recently announced new appointments to its senior management team that will expand the company's retail development platform while driving further growth to its other commercial development groups. Ryan Karlin was appointed President of Stiles Retail Group, focus on Expansion in Southeast and Justin Siemens was appointed VP and Development Officer Supporting All Commercial Development Groups. To read more, please [click here](#).

SUP-X announced recently that it had formed a partnership with Next Gen Summit, a nationally acclaimed conference and community

for outstanding young entrepreneurs. Dylan Gambardella, Co-Founder of Next Gen Summit, will moderate the "Next Gen Entrepreneurs Panel Presented by Next Gen Summit" at SUP-X. The panel will include sensational teen entrepreneurs Shelby Gogulski of Jacksonville and Rachel Zietz of Boca Raton with accomplished Next Gen entrepreneurs Mike Clum and Jacob Goodman joining them on panel. Both Gogulski and Zietz recently appeared on Shark Tank to pitch their companies. Gambardella, Zietz, Gogulski, Clum and Goodman join dozens of other outstanding entrepreneurs and investors as [speakers](#) at SUP-X. The SUP-X [agenda](#) has some 18 panels, speeches and keynote addresses on topics such as the importance of good design, minority access to capital, FinTech and blockchain, raising capital and becoming a better angel investor. To read more, please [click here](#).

SUP-X is excited to announce that nationally acclaimed Venture for America is now a SUP-X Alliance Partner. Venture for America seeks to revitalize American cities and communities by developing the next generation of socially responsible entrepreneurs. The prestigious two-year fellowship program provides an avenue through which outstanding recent college graduates learn to build a business while making a social impact. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott announced that eight of its attorneys recently received an AV Preeminent Rating from Martindale Hubbell. Martindale-Hubbell® Peer Review Ratings™ are the gold standard in attorney ratings, and have been for more than a century. Attorneys looking to refer a client, as well as individuals researching lawyers for their own legal needs, use these ratings to identify, evaluate and select the most appropriate lawyer for their legal issue. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott announced that Jeff Fauer, an attorney who was previously with the firm, has been promoted to director. Fauer joined the Tripp Scott in 2007, and is an AV® Preeminent™ Peer Rated attorney by Martindale Hubbell®. A well-rounded litigator, Fauer has represented clients at all stages of litigation, from inception through trial. To read more, please [click here](#).

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced that the company has been ranked #1 on the *30 Best Workplaces in Technology* list for 2017, created by Fortune and Great Place to Work. The Best Workplaces in Technology rankings are determined entirely by survey feedback from more than 42,000 randomly selected employees from 155 companies that identified themselves as being in the technology sector. This is the second consecutive year Ultimate has been ranked as the top large technology company on the prestigious list. To read more, please [click here](#).

Featured Property of the Month



10,286 SF Free Standing Office Building

5300 N. Federal Highway
Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33308

Type of space: Office

Listed by NAI Rauch Weaver

Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events

Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation only)

Thursday, Feb. 9, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

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

Enterprise Florida Events

Enterprise Florida Trade Mission to South Africa

Fri, Feb 24, 2017 - Sat, Mar 4, 2017

Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town

Mobile World Congress

Mon, Feb 27, 2017 - Thu, Mar 2, 2017
International Trade Show, Barcelona, Spain

Dubai International Boat Show

Tue, Feb 28, 2017 - Sat, Mar 4, 2017
International Trade Show, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Expo Seguridad Mexico 2017

Tue, Mar 14, 2017 - Thu, Mar 16, 2017
International Trade Show, Mexico City, Mexico

CeBIT 2017

Mon, Mar 20, 2017 - Fri, Mar 24, 2017
International Trade Show, Hannover, Germany

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

2017 Claim Your Future Showcase (Companies Needed)

Wednesday, Feb. 8, 8:00 a.m.
Location: BB&T Center, Sunrise.
For more information, please call Susan Climan (954-327-0126) or [click here](#).

Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce 107th Annual Meeting Luncheon

Friday, Feb 10, 11:30 a.m.
Location: Marriott's Harbor Beach Resort & Spa, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

Broward College Village Square: Does Florida Over-Criminalize Juvenile Offenders?

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 5:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Location: Hugh's Catering, Oakland Park
For more information, please [click here](#).

SFBJ 2017 Best Places to Work

Thursday, Feb. 16, 11:30 a.m.
Location: Signature Grand, Davie
For more information, please [click here](#).

CityAge Florida

Feb. 22 - 23
Location: Riverside Hotel
For more information, please [click here](#).

Broward College 2017 Speaker Series Featuring Ted Koppel

Wednesday, Feb. 22, 7:30 pm
Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Amaturo Theatre, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

Turnaround Arts Gala

Friday, Mar. 3, 6:30 pm
Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

SUP-X: The Start Up Expo 2017

Mar. 6 - 7
Location: Broward County Convention Center
For more information, please [click here](#).
Alliance Discount: 50% off General Admission Tickets: [SUPX17GA99](#); 25% off VIP Passes: [SUPX17VIP299](#)

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).