



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

March 31, 2017

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

Top Stories:

- Apotex Announces \$184 Million Investment to Grow U.S. Manufacturing Presence; Expansion Plan Comprises Company's Largest Investment in the United States
- WSJ: Fort Lauderdale Gets Its Day in the Sun
- Broward County's Year over Year Job Growth at 22,800 jobs
- Register Now for Six Pillars Broward Annual Report to the Community, April 18, 2017 – Broward College North Campus
- Sponsor and Attend the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon, Monday, May 15 – Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six
- Nominate an Economic Development Partner

Top Stories

Apotex Announces \$184 Million Investment to Grow U.S. Manufacturing Presence; Expansion Plan Comprises Company's Largest Investment in the United States

Recently, Apotex Inc., the largest Canadian owned pharmaceutical company, announced the details of a \$184 million U.S. expansion plan, including the development of a new R&D center and advanced manufacturing and packaging facility that will serve as the U.S. headquarters for Apotex Corp. and the U.S. offices for Apobiologix. This move marks the largest investment that Apotex has made in the U.S. and will result in at least 150 new full-time positions.

"Over the past several years, Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County has worked to develop this region into the destination of choice for the most advanced companies in the biomedical field," said **Bob Swindell, president and CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance**. "We congratulate Apotex on this bold investment and commit our ongoing support in the company's continued growth and success." To read more, please [click here](#). [Stories also appeared in the following national and local publications: *Bloomberg, Sun Sentinel, Trade & Industry Development, Genetic Engineering & Biotechnology News, CityBizList South Florida*]

The Wall Street Journal: Fort Lauderdale Gets Its Day in the Sun

Florida's Fort Lauderdale, once known for spring-break revelers, is today more likely to draw business moguls seeking relief from state income taxes. Companies such as AutoNation, Citrix Systems and Hotwire Communications call Fort Lauderdale home. Businesses are drawn to the region for its diverse labor pool, easy access to both domestic and international markets, favorable tax climate and lifestyle. In March, Canadian pharmaceutical firm Apotex announced a \$184 million U.S. expansion plan, including the development of a new research and development center, and manufacturing and packaging facility that will serve as its U.S. headquarters in nearby Miramar. Other local companies, such as virtual-reality startup Magic Leap, are expanding as well and are drawing more people to Fort Lauderdale. The population was 180,133 in 2016, but is forecast to grow to 194,063 by 2021, according to the **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance**. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's Year over Year Job Growth at 22,800 jobs

Broward County's job report indicated a 5.0 percent unemployment rate in January 2017. This rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than the region's year ago rate of 4.7 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 22,800 jobs (+2.8 percent) over the year, with an employment of 832,300 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region's jobless rate was 0.2 percentage point lower than the state rate (5.2 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,018,162 there were 50,836 unemployed Broward County residents. "We're very pleased to see that Broward County continues to be a leader in job creation with 22,800 jobs over the year," said **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell**. "Six out of eight major industries experienced positive over the year growth, which is a good indicator of the strength of our economy and of our success in working to diversify our economy." To read more, please [click here](#).

Register Now for “Bridging the Gap” Six Pillars Broward Annual Report to the Community

Save the Date: Tuesday, April 18 from 7:15 – 9:30 a.m., for the Six Pillars Broward 2017 Annual Report to the Community, which includes breakfast, the annual Six Pillars update and results of the JPMorgan Chase & Co./Alliance Broward County Workforce Skills Gap Analysis findings. Sponsors include – Gold: **Broward College** and **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance**; Silver: **Children’s Services Council of Broward County**; Bronze: **Broward League of Cities, Connect One Broward, Marine Industries Association of South Florida, Merrimac Ventures** and **Starmark**. For more information and to register, please [click here](#).

Sponsor and Attend the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon on May 15

Reserve early for the 2017 Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon, presented by FPL on Monday, May 15 at Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six. The keynote speaker is Adam Putnam, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture. Last year’s luncheon sold out early, so do not delay your registration, seats are not guaranteed. Sponsors include - Presenting sponsor: **FPL**; Platinum Sponsors: **JM Family Enterprises, Inc., Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Zimmerman Advertising; South Florida Business Journal** and **South Florida Business & Wealth**. Gold Sponsor: **AutoNation**. For more information, visit www.gfalliance.org/midyear; to sponsor the event, please contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gfalliance.org.

Nominations DUE APRIL 7 for Alliance Economic Development Partner Award

The Alliance **Economic Development Partner of the Year** award will honor an organization (nonprofit, government entity, educational institution or business/professional association) that has demonstrated a major commitment to Economic Development in Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County. The award will be given each year at the Alliance Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon. Nominations will be reviewed by a selection committee and the honoree will be announced at the event. To submit a nomination, please [click here](#).

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



[Broward College Named Among Top 3 Colleges in the Nation by Aspen Institute](#)
[BCPS Named 'Great District for Great Teachers' By National Council on Teacher Quality](#)
[Broward College Board of Trustees Approves Entering Into a Pre-Development Agreement and a Ground Lease with Stiles Corp.](#)
[Broward College Interns Available](#)
[FAU Welcomes New Head Football Coach Lane Kiffin](#)
[NSU's Huizenga Business College to Honor South Florida Entrepreneurs](#)
[BCPS Recognized for Exceeding Expectations](#)
[BCPS Magnet Schools Receive 2017 National Merit Awards From The Magnet Schools of America](#)
[Piper High School JROTC Among Top Academic Teams in the Nation](#)
[BCPS High School Debate Students Win Big at the State Championship Tournament](#)
[Six Leaders Named Assistant Principal of the Year Finalists for the 2017 Caliber Awards](#)
[BCPS Announces Finalists for 2017 Principal of the Year](#)
[Broward County Public Schools - CTACE – Attire for Hire - Clothing Drive!](#)
[BCPS Hosts Second National Summit for Principal Supervisors](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

At the first South Florida Hope to Dream Sleepover, Ashley HomeStore and the Miami Dolphins surprised 100 underprivileged children with the gift of comfortable sleep for years come. Each of the children, who’ve had less than ideal sleeping conditions, enjoyed a sleepover party at the Dolphins Training Center, where they received their very own twin-size bed and bedding from Ashley HomeStore, decked out with a Miami Dolphins comforter. “Partnering with the Dolphins gave us a terrific chance to create some magic for these kids,” said Keith Koenig, president of **City Furniture**, the southeast and southwest Florida licensee for Ashley HomeStore. “The sleepover party on the Dolphins’ training field made for once-in-a-lifetime memories, and their new beds should make a lasting difference in their comfort and quality of sleep.” To read more, please [click here](#).

Artist as an Entrepreneur Institute (AEI) returns with its successful faculty of presenters and course lineup, guiding artists in developing marketing techniques and business acumen in a series of classes, four Saturdays in June. Artists of all disciplines throughout South Florida are encouraged to attend. To date 600 graduates have attended with remarkable success stories. This is a powerhouse collaboration between **Broward Cultural Division**, Community Partnership for Arts and Culture (CPAC) and **ArtServe**. To read more, please [click here](#).

Baptist Health South Florida is once again one of the 2017 Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For, according to global research and consulting firm Great Place to Work® and Fortune. Baptist Health is one of four Florida companies on the list and the only healthcare provider in the state. This is the 17th time Baptist Health has been named to the prestigious list, which is based on employee ratings of their workplace culture, including the level of trust they feel towards leaders, the pride they take in their jobs and the camaraderie they experience with co-workers. Baptist Health ranked No. #97 on the list. To read more, please [click here](#).

Brightline, the only privately-funded express passenger rail system in the country, is within months of its much anticipated service launch, marking the first time a new private infrastructure passenger rail project will initiate operations in the US in more than 100 years. The company announced on March 10th projected timing for the pre-launch and initial introduction of the hospitality-focused service, providing a needed alternative to South Florida's congested roadways. Introductory express service will begin between West Palm Beach and Fort Lauderdale in late July, followed by service to Miami in late August. The company is anticipating a grand opening and official launch of the train service in September. To read more, please [click here](#).

Brightline, the new privately funded express inter-city passenger rail service in Florida, is readying for the anticipated launch of customer service this summer by growing the ranks of its management team. On March 8, the company announced that Dave Howard, a veteran executive from the sports and entertainment industry, has joined Brightline's leadership team as Chief Executive Officer. Michael Reininger will lead new development and growth opportunities as Executive Director at Florida East Coast Industries (FEI), Brightline's parent company, and Patrick Goddard has been elevated to Chief Operating Officer of Brightline. To read more, please [click here](#).

Modern Healthcare ranked **Broward Health** North as one of America's top four best safety net hospitals for total hip replacements. Modern Healthcare's recognition of Broward Health North is another example of the world-class medical service our Broward Health team and system provides. South Florida residents who need healthcare can depend on nationally recognized, quality care when they come through our doors. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward Health Medical Center was just named by The Scientific Registry of Transplants as one of the nation's top 10 medical centers for liver transplants. To read more, please [click here](#).

On March 22, Governor Rick Scott announced the reappointment of Vijay "Vic" Narang to the Board of Commissioners, South Broward Hospital District. Narang, 51, of Davie, is the chief executive officer of **GDKN Corporation**. He received his bachelor's degree from VRCE in Nagpur, India, and his master's degree from the University of Detroit. To read more, please [click here](#).

Gunster, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce that, on Feb. 14, 2017, Florida Gov. Rick Scott appointed Gunster shareholder Fabienne E. Fahnestock to the judicial bench of the 17th Circuit Court in Fort Lauderdale. She fills a vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Thomas M. Lynch IV. To read more, please [click here](#).

Sir Richard Branson says witnessing a massive spawning aggregation of Nassau groupers was "like being in the maternity ward of the ocean, with thousands of fish mating together." Branson made the dive off the coast of Little Cayman with Dr. **Guy Harvey**, the Cayman Islands Department of Environment (DOE) and Reef Environmental Education Foundation (REEF) to help spread the word about protecting this critically endangered iconic fish. Each year after the February full moon, thousands of Nassau groupers gather off the west end of Little Cayman to spawn. To read more, please [click here](#).

State of the State Featured Local Floridian Fighting for Florida's Future: On March 7, Governor Rick Scott highlighted the following in his annual State of the State address. Linda Cooke, Director of Manufacturing Operations at **HABCO Manufacturing**, Boca Raton - Linda Cooke is the Director of Manufacturing Operations at HABCO Manufacturing, a manufacturer in Boca Raton that employs 200 Floridians, including 150 individuals with unique abilities. To read more, please [click here](#).

For the 19th consecutive year, **JM Family Enterprises** has been named one of the 2017 Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For, according to global research and consulting firm Great Place to Work® and Fortune. JM Family, the top automotive company on the list, ranked No. 55, which is based on employee ratings of their workplace culture, including the level of trust they feel towards leaders, the pride they take in their jobs and the camaraderie they experience with co-workers. "We believe our associates are our most important asset and their well-being is at the core of every decision we make," **said Colin Brown, president and CEO of JM Family**. "Our presence on this list represents the pride and dedication our associates feel toward JM Family, and that is the most distinguished recognition of all." To read more, please [click here](#)

On March 23, Administrator Linda McMahon, the head of the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced the 2017 National Small Business Week awardees for 16 different categories ranging from exporting, outreach, contracting, lending, disaster recovery to manufacturing and research and development. Although not recognized at the national level, David Rosen, owner of Kira Labs in Pompano Beach, was named the SBA's 2017 State of Florida and South Florida District Exporter of Year. Rosen started Kira Labs in 2001 in Pompano Beach; and in a little over fourteen years, has turned the company into a multimillion dollar international cosmetics manufacturer in the global skin-care industry. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF)**, proud owners of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show since 1961, are pleased to welcome Informa Global Exhibitions to Florida through the acquisition of Yachting Promotions, Inc./Show Management. ...The Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show is considered the largest boat show of its kind in the world, with more than 105,000 visitors from 53 countries, 1,200 boats, \$508 million in total sales, and a statewide economic impact of \$857 million. "We feel certain that the strength and popularity of our show will complement Informa's leading show held in Monaco, and that together we will continue to grow and succeed in the recreational boating industry," Purcell added. To read more, please [click here](#).

Delivering Miami-Dade County's largest new industrial project on a fast-track schedule, **Miller Construction Company** has completed the 602,657-square-foot second phase of Centergate at Gragny business park in Hialeah. The massive project demanded quick, creative solutions -- from accessing utilities, to pouring 28,000 yards of concrete in just three months. Miller

Construction Company drew on its experience building more than 5 million square feet of industrial space to deliver the \$25 million project on schedule and on budget, despite extreme timing challenges, according to Miller Senior Vice President Brian Sudduth. To read more, please [click here](#).

Covelli Enterprises, the largest franchisee of **Panera Bread**, announces their new small order delivery service that will bring 200 new jobs to the South Florida area. Covelli launched the delivery service in its Ohio market in June 2016, one of the first markets to offer Panera Bread delivery nationwide. After tremendous growth in sales volume the company began the rollout of delivery in its other markets across the country. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's **Port Everglades** has negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that provides the framework for a new long-term business agreement with Royal Caribbean Cruises, Ltd. (RCL) that will include complete, customized renovations of the Port's Cruise Terminal 25 targeted for completion by October 31, 2018. "Our cruise line customers are becoming more sophisticated in the way they think about the guest experience, as we saw when Royal Caribbean partnered in the construction of Cruise Terminal 18 for their Oasis class of ships," said Port Everglades Chief Executive Steven Cernak. "We value the company's partnership and confidence to bring the newest ships from Royal Caribbean and Celebrity Cruises to Port Everglades." On Monday, RCL announced that its newest Celebrity Cruises Ship, Celebrity Edge, will homeport in Port Everglades beginning in the fall of 2018. Royal Caribbean's Harmony of the Seas, the newest Oasis class ship, began sailing from Port Everglades in November 2016. To read more, please [click here](#).

In true awards show style, more than 700 executives, community leaders and members of the non-profit sector attended the sold-out 7th Annual **Community Care Plan** Non-Profit Awards presented by **Signature Grand** and hosted by **2-1-1 Broward** on Friday, February 24th. The Non-Profit Awards celebrated the inspiring work of Broward County's non-profit agencies and recognized the individual efforts of outstanding non-profit executive and board leaders, while raising \$155,000 for 2-1-1 Broward. Award winners included Alliance members: **Broward Center for the Performing Arts'** Ghost Light Society, and **United Way of Broward County**. To read more, please [click here](#).

Fort Lauderdale based **Stiles** Residential Group and Raleigh, NC-based Grubb Ventures announced that pre-leasing of The Carolinian on Glenwood has begun as the project nears completion. The project is being built by Clancy & Theys Construction Company. The luxury 186-unit mid-rise apartment community is located at 2600 Glenwood Avenue in the heart of Raleigh at the intersection of Glenwood Avenue and Oberlin Road, inside the I-440 Beltline. The project boasts one of the most desirable locations in Raleigh overlooking the prestigious Carolina Country Club golf course, and is just minutes from downtown and Cameron Village. The first residents will be welcomed in July. To read more, please [click here](#).

Angela Harms, CPA, joins **Templeton & Company, LLP** as Partner. With more than 20 years of experience, Angela provides accounting and tax services, business consulting, family office services, tax planning and representation before tax agencies to her clients. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tower Commercial Real Estate named Scott Allen as Managing Director to lead the growing firm's tenant representation division. Allen has focused exclusively on tenant representation throughout his 23-year career, serving clients nationally and in South Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott announced that Sen. Chris Smith, an attorney with the law firm, has been appointed by Florida Senate President Joe Negron to serve on Florida's Constitution Revision Commission. Smith was among nine appointments to the commission by Sen. Negron. Tripp Scott's chairman emeritus, Sen. Jim Scott, previously served on the commission. To read more, please click [here](#).

Tripp Scott also announced that Scott Jordan, a director with the law firm, has been appointed by the board of trustees for YMCA of South Palm Beach County to serve on its board of trustees. Jordan previously was on the Advisory Board for the Peter Blum Family YMCA of Boca Raton. The YMCA is a cause-driven organization that is for youth development, for healthy living and for social responsibility. The organization is committed to building a strong community by investing in our kids, our health and our neighbors. To read more, please [click here](#).

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced that *Fortune* has ranked Ultimate #7 on its 2017 list of the 100 Best Companies to Work For. This marks Ultimate's highest-ever ranking on the prestigious list and our sixth consecutive year in the top 25, recognizing our core commitment to fostering a "People First" workplace built on care, trust, and respect. To read more, please [click here](#).

Ultimate Software was also ranked #2 on People magazine's inaugural 50 Companies That Care list. The ranking recognizes companies going the extra mile to foster caring workplace cultures by offering employees extraordinary benefits and perks, professional and personal development, and many opportunities for giving and community service. "We are honored to be named to People's first-ever Companies That Care list," said Vivian Maza, chief people officer at Ultimate. To read more, please [click here](#)

The Museum of Discovery and Science and United Way of **Broward County** have announced that United Way of Broward County has granted funding for a fourth year of APP-titude, a two-year internship for high school juniors. The internship will expose students to careers in engineering and computer science while being introduced to coding and APP development. The program provides students the opportunity to earn volunteer service hours, college credit, and a stipend while advancing their knowledge in STEM education. To read more, please [click here](#).

Featured Property of the Month



[The AutoNation Building](#)

200 Southwest 1st Avenue

Type of space: Office

Listed by Norm Adams, Stiles Realty

Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events

Alliance Events

Alliance Ambassador Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Monday, April 3, 12:00 p.m.

Location: National Jets, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Thursday, April 13, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Bridging the Gap - Six Pillars Report to the Community 2017

Tuesday, April 18, 7:15 a.m.

Location: Broward College North Campus Omni Auditorium

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

Alliance Mid-Year Meeting and Luncheon, May 15

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, tviaixa@gflalliance.org

Enterprise Florida Events

Intermodal South America

Tuesday, April 4, 2017 - Thu, April 6

International Trade Show, Sao Paulo, Brazil

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

Aircraft Interiors Expo

Tuesday, April 4, - Thu., April 6

International Trade Show, Hamburg, Germany

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

World Strategic Forum

Wednesday, April 19 - Thu, April 20

Trade Conference, The Biltmore Hotel Miami

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

Export Trade Mission to Buenos Aires, Argentina

Sunday, April 23 - Thursday, April 27
Export Sales/Trade Mission, Buenos Aires, Argentina
For more information, please [click here](#).

Vietnam Manufacturing Expo 2017

Wednesday, April 26 - Friday, April 28
International Trade Show, Hanoi, Vietnam
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 to see more event listings, please [click here](#).

Member/Partner Events

Broward Public Library Foundation LitLive! & Literary Feast

Friday, March 31 / Saturday, April 1
Location: Various
For more information, please [click here](#).

FAU - 2017 President's Gala

Saturday, April 1, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Martin F. and Jane Greenberg Foundation Tower at FAU Stadium, Boca Raton
For more information, please [click here](#).

Broward Technical College Scholarship Foundation: Blue Jean & Bling

Tuesday, April 4, 6:00 p.m.
Location: Signature Grand, Davie
For more information, please [click here](#).

Broward College Village Square – The Economic Development of Florida

Tuesday, April 4, 6:00 p.m.
Location: Broward College, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

Broward College 2017 Speaker Series - Angela Duckworth

Wednesday, April 5, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts
For more information, please [click here](#).

NewVenture Workshop APPLY NOW - Deadline April 7

Friday, April 7
Location: Apply online at <http://oesbd.affiliate.fasttrac.org/>
For more information, please [click here](#).

3rd Annual PoweringFlorida®: Illumination

Thursday – Friday, April 13 - 14
Location: Fort Lauderdale Beach (place TBD)
For more information, please [click here](#).

Black & White Gala benefitting the Broward Education Foundation

Friday, April 21, 2017, 6:30 p.m.
Location: Westin Fort Lauderdale Beach Resort
For more information, please [click here](#).

JA Business Hall of Fame

Tuesday, April 25
Location: JA World
For more information, please [click here](#).

Business for the Arts: Art & Soul

Friday, April 28
Location: GALLERYone DoubleTree Suites by Hilton
For more information, please [click here](#).

SPARK - Hollywood, FL

Thursday, May 11, 5:00 p.m.
Location: Hollywood's Arts Park at Young Circle

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).