



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

November 30, 2016

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

**Top Stories:**

- [Broward Adds 26,800 Jobs in Multiple Sectors](#)
- [FAU, FIU, NSU, and UM Take First Step in Establishing Marine Research Hub](#)
- [Chris Hart Named New Enterprise Florida Leader](#)
- [Broward County Public Schools Bond Issue - SMART Futures Update](#)
- [Workforce Skills Gap – Employer Survey](#)

## Top Stories

### [Broward Adds 26,800 Jobs in Multiple Sectors](#)

Broward County's job report indicated a 4.6 percent unemployment rate in October 2016. This is a decrease of 0.1 percentage points from the year ago rate of 4.7 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 26,800 jobs (+3.3 percent) over the year, with an employment of 834,300 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 (4.9 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,021,629 there were 47,287 unemployed Broward County residents.

"Broward County continues to experience robust year over year job growth in a number of industry sectors," said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. "This is exactly what we want to see as an indication of a strong and diversifying economy. Our employment growth rate and the variety of jobs added in multiple sectors places us among the leaders in the state in job creation." To read more, please [click here](#).

### [FAU, FIU, NSU, and UM Take First Step in Establishing Marine Research Hub](#)

On Friday, November 4, at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Marine Industries Association of South Florida convened a region-wide panel discussion featuring South Florida university presidents and marine research deans, representatives from economic development organizations, and elected officials to discuss branding an initiative to support awareness, collaboration, and investment in marine research throughout South Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

### [Chris Hart Named New Enterprise Florida Leader](#)

Governor Rick Scott released the following statement on Chris Hart being named the new President and CEO of Enterprise Florida. Governor Rick Scott said, "I am proud that Chris Hart has been selected as the new President and CEO for EFI. Chris previously co-founded a small business which grew to employing around 75 people in seven states and Canada. Chris has hands on experience building a business, growing a company and making sure families have opportunities to live the American Dream. To read more, please [click here](#).

### [Broward County Public Schools Bond Issue - SMART Futures Update](#)

Broward County Public Schools has issued its latest SMART Futures Update regarding progress being made through bond funding to upgrade facilities and technology in schools. Currently, there are 683 facilities projects underway, which includes 98 new projects that have been initiated since the start of September 2016. Technology in 129 schools has been upgraded as of the end of September 2016, which includes infrastructure/network equipment, wireless access points, and more than 54,600 computer devices. For additional details, please [click here](#).

For a video interview with Superintendent Robert Runcie discussing improvement projects, hosted by Tripp Scott President Ed Pozzuoli, 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.](#)  
<http://boyette-sa.gflworksemployer.sgizmo.com/s3/>

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



[BCPS Awarded \\$53.8 Million Grant from the U.S. Department of Education](#)  
[Superintendent Robert W. Runcie Honored by NABSE as 2016 Superintendent of the Year](#)  
[BCPS School Choice Application Window for 2017/18 School Year Opens Dec. 1](#)  
[BCPS is Home to Two of the State's Top 10 Culinary Arts Schools](#)  
[Ramblewood Middle School Teacher Ellen Davis Chosen for Prestigious Overseas World War II Program, Understanding Sacrifice](#)  
[Broward County Public Schools Hosts 5th Annual Ed Talk Community Forum](#)  
[Broward College Ranks Sixth Nationally in Conferring Associate Degrees](#)  
[Broward College Announces New Bachelor's Program in Aerospace Sciences](#)  
[Nova Southeastern University Receives \\$3 Million Grant from U.S. Navy and NAVAIR](#)  
[Dr. Robert C. Speth Receives Prestigious Provost's Research and Scholarship Award from NSU](#)  
[Broward College receives Chancellor's Best Practice Award from the Association of Florida Colleges](#)  
[Heiko Dobrikow named FAU's 2016 Business Leader of the Year](#)  
[NSU Researchers to Present at World Stem Cell Summit](#)  
[Nova Southeastern University Researcher Honored by Loggerhead Marinelife Center](#)  
[Nova Southeastern University Honors Donors at its Sixth Annual Fellows Society Celebration](#)  
[Nova Southeastern University Scientists Study Disease that Impacts Hundreds of Thousands of Gulf War Veterans](#)  
[Broward College Announces Three New Faculty-Led Study Abroad Locations](#)  
[NSU Optometry Professor Receives National Award](#)

## Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

**Ambit Advertising and Public Relations**, a full service integrated communications agency, announces that Brenda Bailey has joined Ambit as senior account executive. Bailey will be responsible for executing marketing strategies and maximizing client brands. She will manage programs that include advertising, public relations, and social media. To read more, please [click here](#).

**BBX Capital** is pleased to announce that it has named seasoned restaurant veteran Brick Kerge as Vice President of Operations for their MOD Pizza ("MOD") Franchise in Florida. BBX Capital recently announced they joined MOD's growing family of select franchisees and created a new division with the goal of developing up to 50 MOD locations throughout central and southern Florida over the next five to seven years, including the major metropolitan markets of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, Orlando and Tampa. To read more, please [click here](#).

In its fourth year, **Broward College** Speaker Series continues to feature notable speakers from a variety of backgrounds to educate and enlighten the community on a variety of topics. From current events in our nation, to the study behind character traits that determine success, this year's selected speakers will bring their personal perspectives on the world around us. Scheduled speakers include Ana Navarro, a CNN political contributor and Republican strategist; Ted Koppel, an award-winning journalist; and Angela Duckworth, a TEDx phenomenon and author of New York Times bestselling book called Grit: The Power of Passion and Perseverance. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Broward County's** inaugural Cultural Marketplace will celebrate the holiday season and Sistrunk community on Saturday, December 3, from 2 - 6 pm, at Delevoe Park, 2520 NW 6th St. in Fort Lauderdale. The Cultural Marketplace supports creative and cultural assets of Fort Lauderdale's historic African-American Sistrunk neighborhood by providing a unique gathering place for creative industry entrepreneurs to interact with the community. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Broward Cultural Division** will offer an application workshop for the Tourist Development Tax Capital Challenge Grant Program on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 2 pm and 6 pm at the Broward County Main Library, 6th Floor, Bienes Center Conference Room, 100 S. Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Broward Cultural Division** announces a Cultural Investment Program (CIP) Grant Application Workshop, for the fiscal year 2018 funding cycle. The workshop takes place on Wednesday, November 16, 2 pm, at the Broward County Main Library, 6th Floor, Bienes Ceremonial Room. RSVP online. The purpose of this program is to assist eligible. To read more, please [click here](#).

NYK Line today launched its new, monthly "Magellan Straits Express" South America RoRo service from **Broward County's Port**

**Everglades.** The first vessel Rigel Leader, loaded at Port Everglades and is destined for the Port of Santos, Brazil. Horizon Terminal Services provides cargo handling at the South Florida seaport. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Broward County's Port Everglades** exceeded one-million TEUs (20-foot equivalent units, the industry's standard container measurement), for the third consecutive year, reporting a total of almost 1.04 million TEUs and maintaining its status as Florida's number one container port, according to preliminary data for the fiscal year ending 2016. To read more, please [click here](#).

Through a creative green initiative, **Broward County's Port Everglades** is addressing a berthing capacity shortfall by developing new wetlands that support wildlife and ecological quality in the center of an urban, industrial seaport. The Port Everglades Wetland Enhancement Project recently received a "Notification of Trending Towards Success" from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for successfully cultivating 16.5 acres of nursery-grown mangrove and native plants on property that was originally dry land intended for other uses. To read more, please [click here](#).

The College of Business at **Florida Atlantic University** is honoring Heiko Dobrikow, Executive Vice President at the **Las Olas Company** and also the General Manager of the **Riverside Hotel**, as the 2016 Business Leader of the Year. Dobrikow is a seasoned hotelier of over 30 years and a business professional with extensive experience in all areas of the property and asset management. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Gunster**, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce that Bob Lamm received the Lifetime Achievement award at the ninth annual *Corporate Secretary Corporate Governance Awards*. Lamm serves as co-chair of Gunster's securities and corporate governance practice. He has devoted his career to governance in his prior positions with companies such as Pfizer; CA, Inc.; and W.R. Grace & Co. To read more, please [click here](#).

**JetBlue** codeshare partner, **Emirates**, recently announced it will launch a daily service between Dubai and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, on December 15, 2016, serving the South Florida area, including Fort Lauderdale, Miami, and West Palm Beach. This will be Emirates' 11th passenger route in the United States. To read more, please [click here](#).

**JM Family Enterprises** and its subsidiaries Southeast Toyota Distributors and JM Lexus will once again donate a total of \$40,000 to local nonprofits to celebrate the 2017 African-American Achievers. For each adult Achiever, \$10,000 will be awarded to the charity or charities of his / her choice. Additionally, the person(s) who nominated the selected Achiever in each category will have a total of \$500 donated to a charity or charities of his / her choice. Since the creation of the awards ceremony, JM Family Enterprises has donated \$449,000 to local nonprofit organizations in recognition of the contributions of our 149 Achievers. Nominations can be completed at [www.AfricanAmericanAchievers.com](http://www.AfricanAmericanAchievers.com) through December 2.

**Miller Construction Company's** complete interior and exterior renovation of a 93,955-square-foot flex facility within the Newport Center business park in Deerfield Beach won the top honor – the Overall Craftsmanship Performed on a Commercial Project Award -- in the Construction Association of South Florida's (CASF) 58<sup>th</sup> annual Craftsmanship Awards. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Nova Southeastern University's** Vice President for Advancement and Community Relations, Jennifer O'Flannery Anderson, Ph.D., was named Outstanding Fundraising Professional at the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Fort Lauderdale/ Broward Chapter National Philanthropy Day Awards luncheon held at the Signature Grand on November 9. To read more, please [click here](#).

**PNC** Foundation's Arts Alive program... Five Broward County arts organizations will receive funds totaling \$65,000 this year from the part of a three-year, \$170,000 award PNC recently announced at the Broward County Commission. 2016 Broward recipients of the **PNC Arts Alive** grant included the *Coral Springs Museum of Art*, *Florida Grand Opera*, *Grace Arts*, *Brazilian Voices* and *Ashanti Cultural Arts*. To read more, please [click here](#).

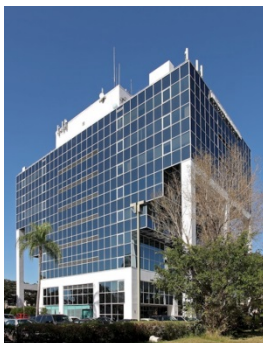
The "**Rick Case** Bikes for Kids" program, celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, has provided more than 100,000 bikes to needy children during the holidays since 1982, and is now collecting bikes for the 2016 holiday season through December 21, 2016. This year's collection goal is set at 5,000 bikes, which will be distributed through area Boys & Girls Clubs as well as other local charities, churches and schools. To read more, please [click here](#).

**South Florida Cultural Consortium** (SFCC) has awarded three Broward County artists through its Visual and Media Artists Program. Anthony Anaya, Mixed Media; Madeline Denaro, Painting; and Sri Prabha, Video; each received the maximum award of \$15,000. These are the largest awards accorded by local arts agencies to visual and media artists in the United States. The three artists were honored by the Broward Cultural Council on November 3, and will be featured in a winners exhibition for the works of the 12 recipients from the five counties within the SFCC jurisdiction. The artworks will be on view at the Art and Culture Center/Hollywood, 1650 Harrison Street, from September 8 through October 22, 2017. To read more, please [click here](#).

Fort Lauderdale-based **Stiles** Realty announced today that vice presidents Patrick Conness and Mike Crissy recently completed a sales trifecta that encompassed two industrial building sales and a land sale for a total of more than \$6,200,000. To read more, please [click here](#).

Featured Property of the Month





**Coral Springs Executive Tower**

210 North University Drive, Coral Springs 33071

Type of space: Office

Listed by Brady Titcomb at JLL

Additional details at [GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com](http://GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com)

[Click here](#)

## Upcoming Events



### Alliance Events

#### **Alliance Holiday Council Connect**

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Riverside Hotel, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133, [tvinaixa@gfalliance.org](mailto:tvinaixa@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation only)**

Thursday, Dec. 8, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Permitting Action Team Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Porsche West Broward, Davie

For more information, please contact Peggy Doty at 954-627-0134, [pdoty@gfalliance.org](mailto:pdoty@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation only)**

Thursday, Jan. 12, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

#### **Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Invitation only)**

Wednesday, Jan, 18, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131, [hkulp@gfalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gfalliance.org)

### Enterprise Florida Events

#### **Arab Health 2017**

Mon, Jan 30, 2017 - Thu, Feb 2, 2017

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

#### **Enterprise Florida Trade Mission to South Africa**

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

Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town

**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

#### **SFBJ - 2016 Business Growth Expo**

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2:00 p.m.

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please [click here](#).

#### **The CEO Forum – GrowFL with Daniel Cane, Modernizing Medicine**

Wednesday, Dec. 7

Location: FAU Tech Runway, Boca Raton

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

#### **ITPalooza South Florida**

Thursday, Dec. 8

Location: Signature Grand, Davie

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

#### **South Florida Aviation Maintenance Council Holiday Bash**

Thursday, Dec. 8

Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six, Fort Lauderdale

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

#### **FAU | Broward Networking Breakfast: Improve Retirement Security and Retirement Income Strategies**

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Florida Atlantic University, Davie

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

#### **Port Everglades Association: Rising with the Tide**

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 2017, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Lauderdale Yacht Club, Fort Lauderdale

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

#### **JA World Uncorked**

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2017, 6:30 p.m.

Location: JA World Huizenga Center at Broward College, Coconut Creek

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

#### **Broward College 2017 Speaker Series - Ana Navarro**

Monday, Jan. 23, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Fort Lauderdale

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

#### **2017 Safe Streets Summit**

Thursday, Jan. 26, 2017

Location: Sunrise Civic Center, Sunrise

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

#### **FAU 2016 Business Leader of the Year honoring Heiko Dobrikow**

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2017, 7:00 a.m.

Location: Boca Raton Resort & Club, Boca Raton

For more information, please [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).