



April 30, 2018

Top Stories:

- Broward County continues to see positive over the year growth
- Governor Scott Announces 30 Low Tax Opportunity Zone Designations for Fort Lauderdale Area
- Register now for the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon, Thursday, May 17 – Pier Sixty-Six
- Sponsor packages now available for the 2019 IEDC Leadership Summit coming to Fort Lauderdale
- Volunteer with Broward County Public Schools

Top Stories



Broward County continues to see positive over the year growth

Broward County's job report indicated a 3.5 percent unemployment rate in March 2018. This rate was 0.4 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 3.9 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 11,500 jobs (+1.4 percent) over the year, with an employment of 849,100 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). "Florida's unemployment rate declined by 0.5 percentage point over the year on March 2018," said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. "Florida's over-the-year job growth rate has been positive every month since August 2010, except for September 2017, when Florida lost jobs due to the hurricane". The region's jobless rate was 0.3 percentage point lower than the state rate (3.8 percent). To read more, [click here](#).

Gov. Scott Announces 30 Low Tax Opportunity Zone Designations for Fort Lauderdale Area

On April 20, Governor Rick Scott announced recommendations to designate 30 census tracts in Broward County as Low Tax Opportunity Zones. Low Tax Opportunity Zones, as established in the federal Tax Cut and Jobs Act of 2017, encourage long-term investment and job creation in targeted communities by reducing taxes for many job creators. Low Tax Opportunity Zones enhance local communities' ability to attract businesses, developers and financial institutions to invest in targeted areas by allowing investors to defer capital gains taxes through investments in federally established Opportunity Funds. Earlier today, Governor Scott announced his recommendation to designate 427 communities across every Florida county as Opportunity Zones. To find out where the Opportunity Zones are located in your area, click [here](#). To read full story, [click here](#).

Don't Forget to Register for the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon and Meeting on May 17

Please mark **Thursday, May 17, 2018** on your calendar for the Alliance Mid-Year Luncheon at Pier Sixty-Six. This annual event has sold out the last few years, so please register early to learn about the Alliance's mid-year economic development progress. The Presenting sponsor is FPL along with Platinum sponsors: JM Family Enterprises Inc., Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina, South Florida Business Journal and South Florida Business & Wealth; Gold sponsors: AutoNation, Crown Castle Fiber and Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport; and Silver sponsors: JetBlue, Kaufman Rossin and Starmark. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Gail Bulfin, gbulfin@gflalliance.org or 954-627-1027. www.gflalliance.org/midyear

Sponsor packages now available for the 2019 IEDC Leadership Summit coming to Fort Lauderdale

The Alliance is excited to host the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) Leadership Summit in Broward County at Pier 66 Resort & Marina January 27-29, 2019. IEDC is the premiere international organization for economic development. If your company would like to support this event and gain valuable access to economic developers, municipal and state officials and supporting industry representatives from across north America, please contact Ron Drew at rdrew@gflalliance.org or 954-627-0130. [Click here to view sponsor package and forms](#).

Volunteer with Broward County Public Schools

Broward County Public Schools launched four new and exciting volunteer opportunities. The opportunities are Bridge2Life Volunteers (assist 12th graders and their parents to complete a FAFSA application); Concierge Volunteers (greet school visitors); Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Volunteers (provide personalized attention to students in the exceptional student education program); and,

Interpreter Volunteers (provide language assistance to non-English speaking students). If you are interested in these volunteer opportunities, contact Nyasha Hinds, Community Resource Specialist, at 754-321-2300 or volunteer@browardschools.com.

In the News



Sun Sentinel: [South Florida reacts to the death of H. Wayne Huizenga](#)

South Florida Business Journal: [Cover Story: Mixed-use zoning key to Cypress Creek's transformation](#)

Pharmaceutical Executive: [South Florida Delivers on Pharma-Friendly Distribution](#), story by Bob Swindell

South Florida Business Journal: [Cover Story: With \\$500M deal, another South Florida tech giant rises](#)

Education and Workforce Development News



[Broward College Narrows Presidential Candidates to Three Finalists](#)

[BCPS Superintendent Robert W. Runcie Provides Update Following Forum on School Safety](#)

[Volunteer with Broward County Public Schools](#)

[Stoneman Douglas Victims Fund Steering Committee Announces Town Hall Meetings](#)

[Broward College Emil Buehler Aviation Students and Aerospace Maintenance Club Members Win Prestigious Aviation Industry Awards](#)

[Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Executive Visits the Broward College Emil Buehler Aviation Institute Following \\$3,187,500](#)

[Florida Job Growth Grant for Workforce Training](#)

[BEF is MSD Strong Benefit Dinner will shine on May 5](#)

[Nova Southeastern University's Commencement Season Begins Thursday, May 10](#)

[NSU & Marine Environmental Education Center to Host Inaugural Environmental Art Festival](#)

[Broward College to Host Statewide Televised Debates in Florida U.S. Senate & Governor Races Announced by Leadership Florida,](#)

[Florida Press Association](#)

[2018 Sea Turtle Nesting Season is Underway](#)

[NSU Marine Research Scientists Participating in Annual Tortuga Music Festival](#)

[NSU Names Barbara Sageman as Executive Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Fund](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

Congratulations to **AutoNation's** Mike Jackson, who will be inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame. Jackson, one of five new members to be inducted in July, has "created a customer focused, transparent and contemporary business model for automotive retailing," the Hall of Fame's news release says. (from *Sun Sentinel*) To read more, [click here](#).

AVI Survival Products announced they have entered into a data license agreement with The Boeing Company allowing the use of detail engineering design for TSO life rafts. The license will permit AVI Survival Products to manufacture licensed parts under AVI Survival Products' FAA approved quality system and distribute directly to operators. AVI Survival Products has been licensed to manufacture in-cabin life rafts and sell to operators and other customers worldwide and their products may be used on all commercial airplane models. AVI Survival is headquartered at their new 134,000 square feet facility at Sawgrass Technology Park in Sunrise, Florida.

Big Chef, the local food company and caterer has been delighting palates and making an impact at Rock the Ocean's Tortuga Music since its inaugural Festival in 2013. During the historic April 7-8 2018 weekend event, the beach was transformed into an oceanfront experience, featuring top country and rock artists and local culinary delights on the shores of the Florida Coast. To read more, [click here](#).

It was an evening to remember for guests attending the Broward Performing Arts Foundation's Annual Celebration which raised more than \$500,000 for the award-winning education and enrichment programs at the **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**. The evening began with a cocktail reception in the lobbies of the Amature Theater, followed by an elegant dinner inside the theater which had been transformed into a tiered dinner club seating 350. After dinner, guests moved into the Au-Rene Theater to watch the hilarious duo of Steve Martin and Martin Short perform stand-up comedy, share behind-the-scenes scoops about their lives in show business and thoroughly entertain a packed and enthusiastic house. To read more, [click here](#).

City Furniture, one of the nation's top-selling furniture brands, became the first furniture retailer in the U.S. to announce the pre-order of five all-electric Tesla Semi trucks, marking the next step in the company's innovative "green" approach to all facets of its business. "We expect all-electric trucks to change the playing field in the years ahead," said City Furniture Chief Operating Officer Andrew Koenig. "Based on the ROI we've already seen by converting most of our delivery fleet to alternative fuel vehicles, we anticipate the Tesla Semis will bring major savings in energy costs and maintenance, while taking performance and reliability to a level that hasn't yet existed." To read more, [click here](#)

Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, in partnership with the Cultural Heritage Alliance for Tourism, Inc. (CHAT), presents the inaugural 2018 Synergy Summit for Cultural & Heritage Tourism, taking place May 16-18, 2018, at the Renaissance Fort Lauderdale-Plantation Hotel. The two-day conference, which is the first of its kind in Florida, was created to broaden inclusion, opportunity and engagement of small businesses, local attractions, tour operators and tour guides in Florida's tourism ecosystem. More

than 200 attendees are expected to gather to communicate and explore synergies for collaboration as well as form strategic partnerships that strengthen and elevate multicultural tourism in Florida and nationally. To read more, [click here](#)

Enjoy Front Row Seats FROM THE SKY at the 2018 Fort Lauderdale Air Show: The Fort Lauderdale Air Show is teaming up with **JetBlue** to kick off this year's show with a low-altitude flyover - while raising funds to help support the victims and first responders of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting. 100% of the proceeds will benefit **United Way of Broward County's** Dispersed Impacted Families, Children and First Responders for Counseling and Care. General Admission tickets are \$150.00 per person. This one-of-a-kind flight departs Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport at 10:45am. For tickets, [click here](#).

JM Family Enterprises, Inc., the \$15.1 billion diversified automotive company with more than 4,200 associates across North America, announced that it would launch construction on a three-year, \$150 million renovation of its Deerfield Beach headquarters. The campus overhaul, which coincides with the organization's 50th Anniversary celebration, will consolidate its footprint to the south end of Jim Moran Blvd to create a more collaborative, pedestrian-friendly atmosphere. "As we celebrate our 50th Anniversary year, our intention is to reinvest in our company, our loyal associates and our headquarters in Deerfield Beach," said Colin Brown, chairman and CEO, JM Family. "JM Family has called Deerfield Beach home since 1981 and these plans reaffirm our commitment to this city, the community and our role in the local economy. We know that these efforts will modernize the way we work and build an even stronger and more unified JM Family." To read more, [click here](#).

Colin Brown has announced Brent Burns as the next chief executive officer of **JM Family Enterprises**, effective July 1, 2018. At that time, Burns will be responsible for all company operations. Brown will continue his position as chairman of the board, focusing on providing guidance and counsel to Burns, much the same way company founder Jim Moran did when he named Brown CEO in 2003. To read more, please [click here](#).

KEITH (formerly known as Keith & Associates, Inc.) is celebrating its 20th Anniversary and is launching a new website, <http://keithteam.com/>. Congratulations on 20 years!

NBC Sports Group will present coverage of the 59th annual Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show – the largest in-water boat show in the world – this December on NBCSN. Owned by **Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF)** and produced by Informa Exhibitions, the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show is heading into its 59th year, now with more than 1,500 boats on display and three million square feet of exhibit space. December's telecast on NBCSN marks the first of three consecutive years that the network will provide coverage of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. To read more, [click here](#)

Miller Construction Company today announced an expanded team of senior executive leaders who, as shareholders, are positioning the prominent South Florida commercial construction services team for next-generation growth. "We were determined to find a different approach to ensure the company culture we've built for 45 years moves into the future," said Harley Miller, who founded and has helmed the firm with his brother Tom Miller. "Many of our region's Boomer business owners face a tough choice: sell or find a family member equipped to take the reins. There's a third way, though, to keep the culture alive and retain jobs," Harley Miller explains. To read more, [click here](#).

After 35 years at the Venture Corporate Center in Hollywood, the **South Florida Regional Planning Council** moved its office to a new location at the Oakwood Business Center within the Oakwood Plaza Shopping Center. To read more, [click here](#)

Stiles Property Management announced today they won three regional TOBY® (The Outstanding Building of the Year) awards at the BOMA Southern Region Conference held on April 7th at the Margaritaville Hollywood Beach Resort in Hollywood, Fl. Stiles Property Management, a division of full-service real estate firm Stiles, is a leading provider of third-party commercial and facility management services throughout Florida. To read more, [click here](#).

Sheltair, one of the nation's leading providers of aviation support services, is pleased to present the 4th Annual Run for The Angels 5K fundraiser taking place on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at Pompano Beach Airpark. This one-of-a-kind event gives participants the unique experience of running a road race through the Airpark and on the runway while raising funds for two deserving local not-for-profits Angel Flight™ Southeast and Marine Industry Cares Foundation. To read more, [click here](#)

SUP-X: The StartUp Expo presented by **South Florida Technology Alliance**, Florida's largest early stage conference will take place on July 26, 2018 at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale. This conference is geared toward early stage entrepreneurs and associated capital; cutting edge topics by experts from around the country on crypto/blockchain, cannabis, AI, social innovation, fintech, medtech/life sciences/digital health and more. Highlights include #WomenForWomen, the largest gathering of angel groups, seed series funds and VC funds focused on women investors in the US in 2018 and the startup competition with prize money of \$25,000+ for 1st place. To read more, [click here](#).

Vascutek and **Bolton Medical**, subsidiaries of Terumo Corporation of Japan, have combined into a single business as it looks to grow its presence in the global aortic and vascular implants market. Known as **Terumo Aortic**, the integrated company will become a world leader in driving innovation and developing devices to treat aortic disease. As a combined business, Terumo Aortic aims to become recognized for its focus on individualized treatments that offer clinicians more options than ever before. Terumo Aortic will have a combined revenue of nearly \$200m and over 1,100 employees worldwide. Its primary research and manufacturing facilities will remain in Glasgow, Scotland and Sunrise, Florida. To read more, [click here](#)

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced today that it has been ranked #4 on the 2018 Workforce 100 list, created by Workforce magazine. The worldwide Workforce 100 scores and ranks companies that perform best in seven core areas: workplace culture, employee benefits, diversity and inclusion, employee development and talent management, human resources innovation, leadership development, and talent acquisition. To read more, [click here](#). Ultimate also was ranked #2 on the Beat Workplaces in Canada list. [Click here for story](#). And, they also announced that Moore & Van Allen, one of the largest law firms in the Southeast, is using UltiPro to improve workforce diversity reporting and simplify compensation management. To read more, [click here](#).

Featured Property



Sample 95 Business Park 4

3139 N. Andrews Ave. Extension, Pompano Beach 33064

Type of space: Industrial

Listed by [Stephanie Rodriguez](#) at Duke Realty Corporation
Additional details at www.GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com

Upcoming Events



Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Thursday, May 10, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport

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

Alliance Mid-Year Meeting

Thursday, May 17, 11:15 a.m.

Location: Pier 66 Resort & Marina, Fort Lauderdale

For sponsorship opportunities, please contact Gail Bulfin at 954-627-1027 or gbulfin@gflalliance.org.

Alliance Entrepreneur Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Thursday, June 12, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

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

Location: TBD

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

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

Thursday, June 20 8:30 a.m.

Location: Gunster, Las Olas Centre, 450 East Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 1400, Fort Lauderdale

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

Alliance Governor Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

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

Location: SHL Pharma, LLC, 588 Jim Moran Blvd., Deerfield Beach

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

Member/Partner Events

Broward College Village Square Dinner at the Square: A Free Market for Education

Wednesday, May 2, 6:45 p.m.

Location: Funky Buddha Brewery, Oakland Park

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

Run for the Angels [sponsored by Sheltair]

Saturday, May 5, 7:30 a.m.

Location: Pompano Beach Airpark

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

My Next Move – 2018 Annual College/Career & Work Readiness Program (Companies Needed)

Thursday, May 10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County; Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, [click here](#) or email Susan Climan at scliman@gfalliance.org or call 954-627-0126

Business for the Arts of 2018 Cultural Tour - May 11, 2018

Friday, May 11, 8:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.

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

SFBJ 2018 Influential Business Women Awards

Friday, May 11, 11:30 a.m.

Location: Pier Sixty-Six Resort and Marina, Fort Lauderdale

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

2018 Synergy Summit for Cultural & Heritage Tourism

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

Location: Renaissance Fort Lauderdale-Plantation Hotel

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

2018 Recovery Community Golf Classic

Friday, May 18, 7:00 a.m.

Location: Jacaranda Golf Club, Plantation

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

The Village Square: Does Your Voice Count

Wednesday, June 6, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Funky Buddha Brewery, Oakland Park

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

Calendar items are subject to change without notice. Please visit www.gfalliance.org for the most current calendar of events and meetings and for more information regarding the Alliance.

Enterprise Florida Events

Hospitalar 2018

Tuesday, May 22 - Friday, May 25

Location: São Paulo, Brazil

International Trade Show

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

Africa Health

Tue, May 29, 2018 - Thu, May 31

Location: Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

International Trade Show

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

CEBET 2018

Mon, June 11, - Fri, Jun 15

Hannover, Germany

International Trade Show

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

Farnborough Air Show 2018

Mon, Jul 16 - Sun, Jul 22

Farnborough International Exhibition & Conference Centre (England)

International Trade Show

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](#).

Connect and follow the Alliance on Social Media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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).