



June 30, 2018

#### Top Stories:

- Broward County adds 10,600 jobs year over year
- Florida's Credit Rating Highest in State History
- Broward Best in State and National Leader on Fortune's List of Top 100 Employers for Millennials
- Fort Lauderdale named #1 Most Popular Large City to Relocate by moveBuddha
- Alliance receives Commissioner of Education's Business Recognition Award
- Advertise in the 2019 Alliance Economic Sourcebook

#### Top Stories

##### **Broward County adds 10,600 jobs year over year**

Broward County's job report indicated a 3.2 percent unemployment rate in May 2018. This rate was 0.6 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 3.8 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 10,600 jobs (+1.3 percent) over the year, with an employment of 852,200 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano-Deerfield Beach MSA (Broward County). The region's jobless rate was 0.2 percentage point lower than the state rate (3.4 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,042,154, up 12,911 (+1.3) over the year, there were 33,059 unemployed Broward County residents.

"We're very pleased to continue to see low unemployment rates in Broward County and more residents finding jobs," said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. "We continue to be among the leaders in the state in job creation and we thank our many partners for their help in improving Broward County's economy." To read more, [click here](#).

##### **Florida's Credit Rating Highest in State History**

On June 22, Governor Rick Scott announced that Moody's Investors Service, a leading international credit rating agency, upgraded Florida's General Obligation (GO) bond rating to AAA – the highest rating possible. For the first time in the history of Florida, all three rating agencies now have Florida's GO bond rating at AAA. This is a clear indicator of the strength of Florida's economy and will save taxpayers money in future state interest payments. To read more, [click here](#).

##### **Broward Best in State and National Leader on Fortune's List of Top 100 Employers for Millennials**

For the second year in a row, Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County had a very strong showing on Fortune's list of 100 Best Workplaces for Millennials. **Ultimate Software has topped the list two years in a row.** Three of the six top 100 companies headquartered in Florida are in Broward: Ultimate Software (#1), Moss & Associates (#37) and JM Family Enterprises, Inc. (#49). Additionally, Stryker Corporation (#46), American Express (#55), Publix Supermarkets (#62), Total Quality Logistics (#97) and MOD Pizza (#98) are significant employers in the area. To view the full list, visit <http://fortune.com/best-workplaces-millennials/>

##### **Fort Lauderdale named #1 Most Popular Large City to Relocate by moveBuddha**

Major urban hubs like San Francisco, Chicago, and Philadelphia are dominate when it comes to the volume of people moving in and out on a regular basis. But, large, "2nd tier" cities are starting to make a comeback in popularity, especially among millennials. Nowadays, it seems everyone is searching for that perfect balance between big city life and small-town charm. But exactly which large cities are people moving to? moveBuddha compiled a list of the 25 most popular large cities with populations between 100,000 and 200,000 in the United States. Fort Lauderdale was named #1 with only Gainesville as the other Florida location (#14) on the list. To read more, [click here](#).

##### **Alliance receives Commissioner of Education's Business Recognition Award**

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance was recognized with the Commissioner's Business Recognition Award for *Outstanding Support of Education in Broward County* at the Florida Chamber of Foundation's Learners to Earners Workforce Summit. on June 13, 2018 in Tampa. This year marked the 30th anniversary of the Commissioner's Business Recognition Awards, and all the 2018 Honorees have gone above and beyond to uphold the legacy of past recipients. Student outcomes will improve throughout the state as a result of those professional and personal endeavors. The Florida Chamber of Commerce is grateful to have the opportunity to recognize the significant impact you have had on Florida students' lives and your communities. To read more, [click here](#).

## Advertise in the 2019 Alliance Economic Sourcebook & Market Profile

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, in partnership with the South Florida Business Journal, is producing its annual Economic Sourcebook & Market Profile of Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County. Our flagship marketing publication, the Sourcebook is sent to national and international business executives when they contact the Alliance regarding a potential company relocation or expansion. It debuts at the Alliance Annual Dinner and is also mailed to all Alliance members, distributed to all South Florida Business Journal Broward subscribers, placed in select hotels, and distributed to Chambers and business resource organizations. In total, 11,000 copies will be distributed and it is [available for complimentary download](#) on the Alliance website. To advertise, please contact Yasmine Gahed at 786-533-8204 or [ygahed@bizjournals.com](mailto:ygahed@bizjournals.com).

## In the News



*Sun Sentinel*: [What the 2026 soccer World Cup could mean for South Florida](#), June 18, 2018

*South Florida Business Journal*: [Ultimate CEO Swindell on what he loves about South Florida](#), June 6, 2018

*South Florida Business Journal*: [Ultimate CEO Armstrong on helping students see themselves as entrepreneurs](#), June 1, 2018

## Education and Workforce Development News



[Broward Reads: The Campaign for Grade-Level Reading](#)

[State Releases Results for Florida Standards Assessments and End of Course Exams](#)

[BCPS is Proud to Host the 2018 National Speech & Debate Tournament](#)

[Theater Students Take Home Awards after the 16th Annual Cappies Award Ceremony](#)

[School Board Approves Safe Havens to Perform Security and Risk Assessment](#)

[National Merit College-Sponsored Scholarship 2018 BCPS Winners Named](#)

[Broward College Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Avis Proctor Named an Aspen Institute Presidential Fellow](#)

[Nova Southeastern University Has One-of-a-Kind Relationship with the NFL](#)

[Researchers Show Human Microbiome Could Help in Solving Crime \(NSU\)](#)

[Broward College Student Selected as NASA Community College Aerospace Scholar](#)

## Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

**ACR Electronics** won in their respective category for Manufacturer-of-the-Year for the State of Florida, at the second Florida Sterling Manufacturing Business Excellence Awards. The Florida Sterling Council and FloridaMakes collaborated on these statewide awards to recognize the state's high-performing manufacturers. Companies were judged on six criteria categories: leadership; strategic planning; customers; measurement; analysis and knowledge management, workforce; and operations. To read more, [click here](#).

The Broward League of Cities, representing Broward County's 31 municipal governments and more than 120 associate members, installed Mayor Tim Lonergan of Oakland Park as its new president, as well as the 2018-2019 executive committee and board of directors on May 19th at Margheritaville Beach Resort. To read more, [click here](#)

Two South Florida business leaders have been named to the Board of Directors for Broward Education Foundation, a 501C3 dedicated to transforming the lives of **Broward County Public Schools** students through the support of quality education and the organization that launched the Stoneman Douglas Victims Fund to raise funds victims and families of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. Joining the board is Ron Drew, Senior Vice President of Marketing and Communications for the **Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance**, and Alfredo Aguirre, Senior Vice President of Wealth Management for Merrill Lynch. To read more, [click here](#).

The Broward Education Foundation is hosting its annual Back to School Supply Drive. Companies are asked to sign up for a collection bin, which is delivered and picked up by the Broward Education Foundation. For more information, visit <http://browardedfoundation.org/drive/>

The Children's Services Council of Broward County and their program, Jumpstart!, are excited to announce the book selection for their 13th annual Read for the Record on October 25, 2018. This year's book is *Maybe Something Beautiful* by F. Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell and illustrated by Rafael López. Jumpstart's Read for the Record brings together millions of people each To read more, [click here](#)

Governor Rick Scott announced the appointment of Matthew Caldwell to the **Broward College** District Board of Trustees. Caldwell, 38, of Fort Lauderdale, is the president and chief executive officer of the **Florida Panthers** Hockey Club. He also serves on the board of directors for the Boys & Girls Club, and as a council member for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance CEO Council. Caldwell previously served as the vice president of investment management for Goldman Sachs. To read more, [click here](#).

**Kaufman Rossin** partnered with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance to produce the *2018 Broward Executive Survey*. Executives reported on the current and future trends in business. This survey report includes the best and worst things about doing business in Broward County; their areas of focus for the coming year; and, business optimism for the year ahead. To read more and review the survey, [click here](#)

**Miller Construction Company** completed ID Flagler Village for developer Ceiba Groupe, delivering one of the first new-construction, luxury rental townhome communities in the Fort Lauderdale market in many years. With 24 three-story residences in four contemporary

buildings, ID Flagler Village wraps the corner of NE 6 Street and NE 1st Avenue, in the art-centric Flagler Village neighborhood, just north of Downtown and the new Brightline station. To read more, [click here](#). Miller also has completed a six-story, \$3.8 million renovation of the public spaces at Esperanté Corporate Center, one of West Palm Beach's premier office towers. Finished ahead of schedule, the eight-month project for owner 222 Lakeview LLC included complete renovation of a four-story atrium and lobby, including walls, ceilings and floors, as well as replacing two lobby escalators that lead from the building's main entrance at the atrium to the second-story main lobby. The building on a busy Downtown site was fully operational throughout the entire project, and Miller's crews phased the project to ensure tenants' convenience and safety. To read more, [click here](#).

On May 24th, more than 75 female business leaders from the **Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce** Women's Council, Women's Executive Club of Fort Lauderdale and Broward Women's Alliance, gathered together at the new Allied Kitchen & Bath design center in Oakland Park to support PACE Center for Girls Broward County. The fundraising event raised over \$3,500 for the nonprofit organization, which provides a safe environment where at-risk middle and high school-aged girls can thrive. To read more, [click here](#)

**GUNSTER**, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce that it has yet again expanded its capabilities and services with the additions of Andrew Piper and Christine Sweet. Mr. Piper will focus his practice on personal and business tax law-related matters in the firm's Fort Lauderdale office. Ms. Sweet will be resident in Gunster's Jacksonville office where she will concentrate her practice in the areas of probate, trust, and guardianship litigation as a member of the firm's private wealth services practice. To read more, [click here](#)

A groundbreaking occurred for the development of 77 affordable homes in Pompano Beach, made possible by a Habitat for Humanity of Broward project funded in part by South Florida auto dealer **Rick Case Automotive Group** and other donors. Named "A Rick Case Habitat Community," in honor of the businessman who contributed \$500,000 in cash to the project, the development has been a decade in the making. It is located on 9 acres at the corner of 11th Street and Sixth Avenue. To read more, [click here](#)

Broker Associate, Nikki Smith of **Mink and Mink, Inc.**, a Fort Lauderdale based commercial real estate company, represented the seller in this \$580,000.00 transaction on June 5th, 2018. This large office condo totaling 2615 square feet, is located in the highly sought-after Marina Mile Business Park Commercial Condo Association. To read more, [click here](#)

**SUP-X®: The StartUp Expo** presented by South Florida Technology Alliance, Florida's largest early stage conference, announced that its programming will include an opening forum devoted to female founders, entrepreneurs, investors, business leaders and technologists. The three-hour-long forum, called #women4women, will be the opening event of SUP-X. To read more, [click here](#). They also announced Alex Brown, Founder of The Beard Club and Serial entrepreneur and marketing guru, will give the SUP-X lunch keynote address this year. Alex has founded multiple successful startups and is an active advisor to others. To read more, [click here](#)

**Tripp Scott** announced that Charles Tatelbaum, a director with the firm, was named one of Daily Business Review's Distinguished Leaders. The Daily Business Review's Distinguished Leaders awards recognize lawyers who achieved impressive results in 2017 and demonstrated clear leadership skills that helped them achieve those results. The award is about highlighting South Florida lawyers who demonstrated great performances as well as valuable leadership skills while doing it. To read more, [click here](#)

**Ultimate Software**, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced that it has been ranked the #1 midsize organization on Computerworld's 2018 Best Places to Work in IT list for the second consecutive year. Computerworld recognizes companies that provide an intellectually challenging work environment for their IT staff members, along with outstanding benefits and compensation. To read more, [click here](#). Ultimate Software was also ranked #2 on the 25 Highest-Rated Public Cloud Computing Companies to Work For list by Battery Ventures, a global investment firm, and Glassdoor, one of the world's largest job and recruiting websites. The list highlights 25 publicly traded companies—all business-to-business cloud companies—where employees report the highest levels of satisfaction at work, according to employee feedback shared on Glassdoor.

Lynne Wines, a high-profile banking executive, has been hired by **United Way of Broward County** to lead a new initiative to house the homeless. Wines has been named senior director of the Business Council on Homelessness and will be managing the "United We End Homelessness" initiative as well as the business community's efforts to end homelessness. In May, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance announced it would partner with United Way on the United We End Homelessness initiative. Business leaders overseeing the effort are AutoNation Chairman and CEO Mike Jackson and Castle Group CEO James Donnelly.

## Featured Property



### 2050 Spectrum

2050 Spectrum Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale

Type of space: Office

Listed by [Jonathan Kingsley](#) at Colliers International

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

## Upcoming Events



### Alliance Events

#### **Leadership Trip Roundup - Happy Hour (Invitation only)**

Monday, July 9, 5:30 p.m.

Location: Funky Buddha, Oakland Park

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

#### **Permitting Action Team Meeting**

Wednesday, July 11, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Emergency Operations Center, Plantation

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

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

Thursday, August 9, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

#### **Alliance Council Connect - Gulfstream Park (Invitation Only)**

Thursday, August 30, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Gulfstream Park, Sport of Kings Theatre, Hallandale Beach

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

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

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

Location: TBD

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

#### **Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday, September 18, 8:30 a.m.

Location: TBD

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

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

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

Location: TBD

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

#### **Alliance Governor Council Meeting (Invitation Only)**

Tuesday, September 25, 8:30 a.m.

Location: SHL Pharma, Deerfield Beach

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

### **Member/Partner Events**

#### **Community Health & Wellness Fair**

Saturday, July 14, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Atlantic Technical College - Arthur Ashe, Jr. Campus, Fort Lauderdale

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

#### **Business for the Arts of 2018 Cultural Tour**

Friday, July 20

Location: Bus Tour, starts at ArtServe, Fort Lauderdale

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

#### **SUP-X: The StartUp Expo Presented by the SFTA**

Thursday, July 26

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center

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

#### **Continuous Improvement Conference at Broward College**

Monday, July 31

Location: Broward College south Campus, Pembroke Pines

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

#### **Jim Moran Institute - Small Business Leadership Conference**

Wednesday – Friday, August 1-3

Location: JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes

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.

### **Enterprise Florida Events**

#### **Farnborough Air Show 2018**

July 16 - 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](http://www.greaterfortlauderdaleproperties.com).

*Why have so many companies relocated to Greater Fort Lauderdale?* [Click here](#) to find out (90 second video).