



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

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Top Stories:

- Broward continues to enjoy a low percentage unemployment rate at 3.3%
- Alliance at 2017 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show
- Companies Sought for Alliance/Broward County Public Schools' 2nd Annual Claim Your Future Showcase
- We're looking for our next Business Intelligence Intern!

Top Stories

Broward continues to enjoy a low percentage unemployment rate at 3.3%

Broward County's job report indicated a 3.3 percent unemployment rate in October 2017. This rate was 1.4 percentage point lower than the region's year ago rate of 4.7 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 25,200 jobs (+3.1 percent) over the year, with an employment of 851,000 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 (3.6 percent). Out of a labor force of 1,034,911, up 23,299 (+2.3) over the year, there were 34,994 unemployed Broward County residents. "October 2017 was the 87th consecutive month with positive over-the-year job growth for the state of Florida," said Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance President and CEO Bob Swindell. "In addition, all industries experienced positive over-the-year job growth in Florida." To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance at 2017 Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show

For the fourth year in a row, the Alliance formally collaborated with the Marine Industries Association of South Florida and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, as well as several partners in economic development and higher education on activities at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. These activities included: the Global Business Luncheon featuring panelists Celebrity Cruises' Lisa Lutoff-Perlo, JetSmarter's Sergey Petrossov and Informa's Charlie McCurdy moderated by Marine Research Hub Chair Howard Greenberg; the Marine Research Hub Breakfast with keynote speaker Dr. Guy Harvey showcasing marine research from FAU, FIU, NSU and UM; the Coral Reef Pavilion which also highlighted marine research; and the Alliance teamed with Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport at the show's VIP Windward Lounge. Also held during the show, the Alliance was part of the Wings, Wheels Water event at Sheltair where Tropic Ocean Air announced investment and job growth. To view photos from the show, please [click here](#).

Companies Sought for Alliance/Broward County Public Schools' 2nd Annual Claim Your Future Showcase

Help Broward county students claim their future at the 2018 Claim Your Future Showcase, February 12 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 Alliance member companies and partners are available free of charge. For more information and to sign up, contact Susan Climan, Manager – Education Programs at scliman@gfalliance.org or 954-627-0126.

Alliance Internship Opening

The Alliance is looking for our next Business Intelligence (research) intern! Click here for the job description. Ideal candidate is an undergraduate or graduate business student. For details, please [click here](#).

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

["What's This" App Wins Broward College 2017 Hackathon](#)

[Flamingo Elementary Receives Delivery of \\$12,000 In School Supplies from Broward Education Foundation](#)

[BCPS Gets Plugged into Computer Science Education Week!](#)

[BCPS Selected for U.S. Department of Education Grant for Creating Career and Technical Educator Pathways](#)
[Broward County School Board Elects Nora Rupert as Chair and Heather P. Brinkworth as Vice Chair](#)
[Lucky's Markets Donates Nearly \\$5,000 to Broward Education Foundation](#)
[Hundreds Attend Sixth Annual Ed Talk](#)
[NSU Trustee, Dr. Zachariah P. Zachariah, Appointed to State University System of Florida Board of Governors](#)
[Renowned Marine Artist Guy Harvey Joins NSU Marine Researcher Dr. Mahmood Shivji to Talk Sharks & Billfish](#)
[Nova Southeastern University Rated 5th Nationally For Minorities with Graduate Degrees](#)

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

Broward County Administrator Bertha Henry is one of nine outstanding public officials honored by Governing Magazine for distinguished leadership, strong management, determination and good governance. Since 1994, the nation's leading media platform covering politics, policy and management for state and local government leaders, has honored individual, state and local government officials for outstanding accomplishments by naming them Public Officials of the Year. The magazine noted "Over nearly a decade as county administrator...Henry has left a lasting mark on the Fort Lauderdale metro area, particularly when it comes to infrastructure and economic development." To read more, please [click here](#).

BankUnited has provided a \$40,000 grant to the FIU Foundation, Inc. to support new research being conducted by the FIU Metropolitan Center, part of the Steven J. Green School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA), South Florida's leading urban think tank. "BankUnited is proud to support the FIU Metropolitan Center's research, which will help address persistent poverty and income inequality through the design of a new community development model," said BankUnited COO Thomas M. Cornish. The FIU Metropolitan Center is an applied research and training institute that provides policy solutions to public, private and non-profit organizations in South Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County's Port Everglades topped its previous record for containerized cargo volumes with 1,076,893 TEUs (the industry standard container measurement of 20-foot equivalent units) moving through the Port in Fiscal Year 2017, which ended September 30, 2017. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward Education Foundation inducted several community luminaries and champions in education to its *Hall of Fame* at the Publix Super Markets Charities "2017 Hall of Fame Breakfast" presented by **Memorial Healthcare System**. The Hall of Fame honors and recognizes distinguished alumni of Broward County Public Schools. The Hall of Fame honors and recognizes distinguished alumni of Broward County Public Schools. Keith Koenig, president and CEO of **City Furniture**, received the JM Family Enterprises Inc. Lifetime Achievement Award, honoring an alumnus who has made an indelible mark in the community. Koenig graduated from Northeast High School in 1969 and has been a philanthropist and advocate for education and children for more than 40 years. Among the inductees who received the Bank of America Community Award for their contributions to the community was Alliance member - Shane Strum, Senior Vice President of **Memorial Healthcare System**, Hollywood Hills High School, Class of 1988. To read more, please [click here](#).

The **Broward Center for the Performing Arts** recently held its annual volunteer recognition event which paid tribute to the nearly 1,000 volunteers who donated 118,000 hours of community service during the past season to the Broward Center and its affiliate venues. More than 550 volunteers attended an appreciation dinner and were entertained with musical performances by Broward Center staff members and cast members of Tarzan and the Broward Center Spotlights youth vocal ensemble singing a medley from the Broadway season. To read more, [click here](#). Also, long-time advocates and supporters of the arts Bonnie Barnett and Rebecca F. Bratter have been appointed to the Performing Arts Center Authority, the 13-member governing body of the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. To read more, [click here](#). The Broward Performing Arts Foundation named Alliance board member, Shawn Sackman of **SunTrust Bank** to its Board of Directors. 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 earned the following top practice area rankings from U.S. News - Best Lawyers® "Best Law Firms" for 2018. In addition, individually, 66 Gunster attorneys made the Best Lawyers list for 2018, including 10 named "Lawyers of the Year." To read more, please [click here](#). In addition, seven new attorneys joined the firm's West Palm Beach, Fort Lauderdale and Miami offices. To read more, [click here](#). Gunster shareholder Aaron J. Horowitz was appointed to the board of directors of the Broward County Bar Association. To read more, [click here](#).

Miller Construction Company has delivered Holman Automotive's 57,641-square-foot Lauderdale MINI dealership at 2125 South Federal Highway, fast-tracking a complex renovation on a high-profile site just south of Downtown Fort Lauderdale. To read more, please [click here](#). Miller also announced the \$15 million transformation of 801 Lincoln Road – a highly visible retail and dining destination in the heart the new NOLI district (North of Lincoln Road) - for Terranova. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Miramar Trust hosted a reception for the "Soaring: The Legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen in South Florida" exhibition it is sponsoring in collaboration with Florida Memorial University's Department of Aviation. The exhibition is on display from now through December 31 in the Ansin Family Gallery at the **City of Miramar** Cultural Center. To read more, please [click here](#)

As part of the **Moss Foundation's** efforts, Bob Moss, along with the Moss team assembled 30 Thanksgiving baskets to complete a holiday meal for the families of children who participate in HANDY, a non-profit organization dedicated to achieve positive, lasting change for youth by providing life skills, education and a supportive community. To read more, please [click here](#)

Ultimate Software, a leading provider of human capital management (HCM) solutions in the cloud, announced that it has been ranked #2 on this year's 50 Best Workplaces for Parents list by Fortune and Great Place to Work. The ranking is based on survey responses from more than 440,000 employees in organizations across the United States, and also considers the range of benefits and programs companies offer to equally support working parents and employees without children. To read more, [click here](#). It was also announced that they received a perfect score on the 2018 Corporate Equality Index (CEI), a national benchmarking survey and report on corporate policies and practices related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) workplace equality, administered by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation. Ultimate Software joins 609 corporations and businesses that also earned top marks this year. To read more, please [click here](#). The company also recently announced that CIO.com has ranked Ultimate #1 on its 10 Best Places to Work for Women in Technology list. To read more, please [click here](#).

Upcoming Events



Alliance Events

Alliance Holiday Council Connect

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Riverside Hotel, Fort Lauderdale

For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133, tvinaixa@gfalliance.org or Peggy Doty at 954-627-0134, pdoty@gfalliance.org

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting - December 6, 2017 (Members Only)

Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Research Park at FAU, Boca Raton

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

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation only)

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

Location: Lallo's Roti Restaurant, Lauderhill

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

Enterprise Florida Events

Arab Health 2018

Jan. 29 – Feb. 1

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

International Trade Show

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

Singapore Air Show 2018

Feb. 6 - 11

Changi Exhibition Centre, Singapore

International Trade Show

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

Medical Japan 2018

Feb. 21- 23

Osaka, Japan

Trade Conference

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

Export Sales Mission to San Jose, Costa Rica

Feb 26 - Mar. 1

San Jose, Costa Rica

Export Sales/Trade Mission

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](#).

Member/Partner Events

Broward Leaders Water & Climate Academy - Day 3 - Site Visits

Friday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Leaving from Gov't Center East, 115 S Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please [click here](#).

Area Development - Consultants Forum 24

Dec. 4 - 6

Location: Vinoy Renaissance Hotel, St. Petersburg

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

SFTA - ITPalooza South Florida

Thursday, Dec. 7, 8:00 a.m.

Location: Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention Center

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

SFHHA Annual Dinner

Thursday, Dec. 7, 5:30 p.m.

Location: Signature Grand, Davie

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

South Florida Aviation Maintenance Council Holiday Party Masquerade Ball

Friday, Dec. 8

Location: Coral Gables Woman's Club

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

Gulfstream Clasico Internacional del Caribe

Saturday, Dec. 9

Location: Gulfstream Park, Hallandale Beach

For more information, [click here](#)

South Florida Symphony: Mozart Meets Hemingway & Siudy Flamenco

Tuesday, Dec. 19, 2017, 7:30 p.m.

Location: Parker Playhouse, Fort Lauderdale

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

Broward Leaders Water & Climate Academy, Day 4 - Legislative Workshop

Friday, Jan. 5, 8:30 a.m.

Location: Broward County Government Center, Room 302, Fort Lauderdale

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

2018 Marcum Florida Construction Summit

Wednesday, Jan. 17, 11:30 a.m.

Location: The Westin Fort Lauderdale

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

20th Season South Florida Symphony Gala

Tuesday, Jan. 23, 5:00 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts

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

Aviation Week's Aero-Engines Americas

Jan. 31 – Feb. 1

Location: Pier Sixty-Six Hotel & Marina

For more information, [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.

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