



Photo by Ken Henson – ken@whitehotmedia.com

The Alliance E-Newsletter
July 31, 2013
Top Stories

REGISTER NOW: Alliance Annual Meeting and Dinner, Thursday, October 17, 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.
For more information and to register, please go to www.gflalliance.org/2013annual.

To see a list of 2013 Alliance events, please [click here](#).

Port Everglades Applauds U.S. Army Corps Feasibility Report for Channel Deepening and Widening

Broward County and Port Everglades officials recently welcomed the news that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) was releasing its draft report for deepening and widening the South Florida seaport's navigational channels to enable safe passage of deep draft post-Panamax cargo ships. Release of the USACOE Feasibility Report with Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Port Everglades Harbor, Broward County, Florida, on Friday, June 28, kicks off an official 45-day comment period in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act.

"This has been an exhaustive study process, 17 years, for the Corps to ensure that this project is economically and environmentally sound. The fact is that Port Everglades must have deeper water for the newer, larger generation of cargo ships that are replacing the older fleet worldwide, including those transiting the Panama Canal," said Port Everglades Chief Executive & Port Director Steven Cernak. "We appreciate the dedicated efforts of our Broward County Commissioners, Governor Rick Scott, and our state and federal legislators, especially Congresswomen Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Lois Frankel, whose districts include Port Everglades, and who strongly advocated for the project in Tallahassee and Washington so that Port Everglades can continue to support jobs and provide economic stability to Florida."

"We have reached a major milestone, but recognize that there are hurdles that we still need to overcome, and will,

because Port Everglades is too important to Florida's economy and must be able to compete in the global marketplace," said Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz.

The total project will deepen Port Everglades' channel from 42 feet to 48 feet (when constructed, the project will include an additional two feet of allowable overdepth for a total of 50 feet), and widen the channel entrance so that cargo ships can safely pass cruise ships docked along the Intracoastal Waterway inside the Port. The total cost for deepening and widening Port Everglades' navigational channels is estimated at \$313 million, which will be paid for through a combination of federal funds, port user fees and possibly state funds. No local tax dollars will be used for this project.

"The combination of our Port's three priority cargo projects – deepening, adding new berths and building an on-port freight rail facility – will create 7,000 new jobs locally and support another 135,000 jobs statewide when at full capacity in 2027," said Broward County Mayor Kristin Jacobs. "The Corps has studied environmental impacts for the project extensively, and has explored various mitigation alternatives. We applaud the decision to move forward so that Port Everglades can continue to be the economic powerhouse it has always been in South Florida."

Public meetings were held on Tuesday, July 23 at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center.

Copies of the report are located at the following Broward County Public Libraries:

North Regional/Broward College Library, 1100 Coconut Creek Blvd., Coconut Creek

South Regional Library, 7300 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines

West Regional Library, 8601 W. Broward Blvd., Plantation

Main Library, 100 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

For an electronic copy of the draft report and appendices, visit www.saj.usace.army.mil. Official comments may be submitted to USACOE Project Director Terri Jordan-Sellers at Terri.Jordan-Sellers@usace.army.mil at 904-232-1817. The deadline for comments is August 13.

Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Recognized at 2013 FEDC Annual Conference

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, volunteer leader Terry Stiles, and Alliance member Andrew Duffell have been recognized by the Florida Economic Development Council (FEDC) for outstanding contributions to economic development. Awards were presented during the FEDC's annual statewide conference, held June 26 through 28 in Orlando.

The Alliance took home the best internal publication award for its Who's Who in Economic Development Directory, an exclusive compilation of Alliance member companies and partners with critical business information including scope of business, contacts and company leaders, as well as information about the Alliance, its mission, history, leaders, councils and services. The Who's Who Directory is published in partnership with Broward College.

The Alliance's iconic "Life. Less Taxing" advertising campaign was recognized as the outstanding economic development advertising campaign of the year for the state of Florida. Produced by Fort Lauderdale advertising firm, Zimmerman, a TV ad is the centerpiece of the campaign, featuring community leaders and Alliance CEO Council members Wayne Huizenga, chairman of Huizenga Holdings; Mike Jackson, CEO of AutoNation; Roy Krause, former CEO of Spherion; and Keith Koenig, President of City Furniture; along with Broward County Administrator Bertha Henry and NFL Hall of Famer Dwight Stephenson, each of whom touts benefits of locating or expanding in Broward County, culminating in Huizenga's statement: "Hey, It's not what you make. It's what you keep," as a critical factor in determining a site location based on the region's exceptional quality of life along with the nation's fifth best state tax business climate for seven consecutive years.

Stiles CEO Terry Stiles was chosen as the outstanding economic development Volunteer of the Year for Southeast Florida, for his dedication to numerous economic development initiatives, and notably for leading the Port Everglades Advocacy Team, an effort in which more than 30 community leaders meet quarterly to develop strategies and take action to support the Port, one of Broward County's leading economic engines.

Additionally, the FEDC named Alliance Member Andrew Duffell, President & CEO of the Research Park at Florida Atlantic University, as the 2013 Young Professional of the Year.

"Through the Excellence in Marketing Awards, communities in Florida have the opportunity to showcase their best practices in marketing and innovation," said Amy Evancho, President and CEO of FEDC, who presented the awards to Bob Swindell, President and CEO of the Alliance and members of the Alliance staff who attended the conference. "Getting the word out about each of the unique communities in Florida is very important to growing our state."

"It is an honor for the Alliance to receive these awards," said Gerry Litrento, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Board Chair and Senior Executive Vice President of BankUnited. "They truly demonstrate the work of our membership development and marketing teams, as well as that of outstanding volunteers and members such as Terry and Andrew."

"We are extremely proud of these honors for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance," said Broward County Commissioner and Alliance liaison Chip LaMarca. "Our public-private partnership is recognized as one of the best in the nation and these awards are a wonderful recognition for the Alliance and all of Broward County – one in which its business community and residents can take pride."

Alliance President & CEO Bob Swindell Recognized by Governor Scott and at 2013 FEDC Annual Conference, Named Chair-Elect

Bob Swindell, President and CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, was recently honored by Florida Governor Rick Scott as a State of Florida Business Ambassador at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Leadership Florida on June 28 in Orlando. Additionally, Swindell was named the Florida Economic Development Council's (FEDC) Regional Director Award honoree for his service on the FEDC board representing Southeast Florida at the FEDC's Annual Conference, also held in Orlando, June 26 to 28.

Swindell was also elected Chair-Elect of the Florida Economic Development Council, which serves as Florida's primary resource for economic development related policy development, education and networking. His term as Chair-Elect goes from now through June 30, 2014, at which time he is slated to be elected as Chair of the Council.

"On behalf of the Alliance's Board of Directors, I would like to congratulate Bob on this well-deserved recognition by Governor Scott and the FEDC for his contributions to economic development in Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County, and statewide," said Gerry Litrento, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance Board Chair and Senior Executive Vice President of BankUnited.

"Bob Swindell is a visionary leader for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and a true asset to our Broward County community," said Broward County Commissioner and Alliance liaison Chip LaMarca. "His focus on economic development through business attraction and expansion in the County has helped provide good jobs that lay the foundation for sustainable, competitive communities. We look forward to the Alliance's continued success under Bob's guidance."

Swindell was named President and CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance in November 2009 after joining the Alliance as the Senior Vice President of Business Development in 2003. He and his team assist local, national and international companies already doing business in Broward County and companies considering a move to Greater Fort Lauderdale.

The Alliance is Broward County's official public/private economic development partnership and brings together the County's business community and 31 municipalities for the purposes of accelerating economic growth.

As a lifelong Broward resident, Swindell's background includes a history of community service and business leadership; from business owner to angel investor. Prior to his position with the Alliance, Swindell was President of Champion Manufacturing for 18 years; a Pompano Beach and Fort Lauderdale based industrial supply company serving the Southeastern United States.

Aero Mechanical Opening New Division in Hollywood (Source: South Florida Business Journal)

Aero Mechanical, a New Mexico-based supplier of aerospace maintenance services, is opening a new division in Hollywood at Port 95 Commerce Park. CBRE arranged a seven-year lease for the firm on 38,355 square feet at 3901 SW 30th Ave. According to CBRE Research, this is the third aerospace company to either relocate to or expand in South Florida since the beginning of the year. CBRE represented the landlord, Prologis. "We continue to see the aeronautics industry expand across South Florida as a result of state incentives to attract more manufacturing and technology companies to the area," said Tom O'Loughlin, CBRE VP. To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance CEO Participates on Regional Economic Development Panel and Regional Technology Meeting Held

Bob Swindell, President and CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, recently participated on a panel discussion along with Steve Beatus, Executive Vice President of Economic Development for the Beacon Council (Miami-Dade County) and Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County. The panel discussion was hosted by NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association, and focused on the economic development initiatives underway throughout the Southeast Florida Region.

Also, South Florida economic development leaders Swindell, Smallridge, and Robin Reiter, Interim President of the Beacon Council (Miami-Dade County), along with staff members of the economic development organizations met with Diane Sanchez, CEO of the Technology Foundation of the Americas to discuss the marketing of South Florida technology businesses (Photo below). South Florida is fast becoming one of the leading technology gateways, and South Florida economic development and technology leaders are working together to further develop and promote the South Florida region's technology industry to the world.



Pictured (L-R) Julio Piti, Vice President of Member-Investor Services for The Beacon Council; David Coddington, Vice President of Business Development for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance; Robin Reiter, Interim President of the Beacon Council; Bob Swindell, President and CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance; Kelly Smallridge, President and CEO of the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County; Joe Hovancak, Vice President of One Community One Goal for The Beacon Council; Diane Sanchez, CEO of Technology Foundation of the Americas; Jaap Donath, Ph.D., Senior Vice President of Research and Strategic Planning for The Beacon Council; and Ron Drew, Vice President of Marketing and Communications for the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance.

WorkForce One Employment Solutions Launches StartUp Quest, a Unique Training Program Which Mentors Aspiring Technology Entrepreneurs

Startup Quest is an innovative program that provides hands-on training to individuals who want to become entrepreneurs by connecting them with successful CEOs who have experience in technology-based companies. They mentor and guide the individuals through the process of creating business plans to bring new, patentable inventions and technologies to market. This program is the only one of its kind in South Florida.

Startup Quest is open to people with college degrees who are either unemployed or under-employed, and considering self-employment or working for a startup as a career path. Veterans are given preference in the selection process. To learn more about program requirements and to submit an application, please [click here](#).

Interested candidates are also invited to attend a no-obligation Introductory Workshop on Thursday, August 22 (1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) at the Signature Grand in Davie. Applications for the program will be accepted at the workshop; however, it is recommended to apply early to avoid long lines.

“Startup Quest will be the entrepreneurial training experience of a lifetime for the participants,” said Mason Jackson, President of WorkForce One Employment Solutions. “We hope to launch more local technology businesses and help many qualified people find rewarding jobs.”

Participants will gain increased knowledge about advanced technologies, emerging industries, entrepreneurship, market analysis, financial projections, management and the technology development process, as well as significant increases in personal self-confidence with newly developed job skills. These skills will empower participants to form their own startup company or make them more marketable to companies looking to hire professionals with knowledge on how to launch new technologies and open new markets.

The intensive 10-week course is offered free of charge to qualifying candidates. It will take place at the Signature Grand on Thursday afternoons (1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.) from September 12 - November 14, 2013.

Schedule of Training Sessions:

- Session 1: Technology Matching and Team Building, 9/12
- Session 2: Understanding the Value Proposition, 9/19
- Session 3: Market Analysis and Strategy, 9/25
- Session 4: Commercialization Strategies and Intellectual Property, 10/3
- Session 5: Financial Requirements for taking a Product to Market, 10/10
- Session 6: Presentation Skills, 10/17
- Session 7: Corp Structures and Management Team, 10/24
- Session 8: Sources of Funding, 10/31
- Session 9: Business Plan Submission and Work Session, 11/7
- Session 10: Investor Pitch, 11/14

The weekly sessions are led by experienced entrepreneurs and startup mentors. Participants will develop a go-to-market plan for a real technology selected by the mentors and approved by the tech-transfer offices. Mentors come from technology-based industries, such as software, information technology/information systems, aerospace, advanced materials and coatings, nanotechnology, robotics, medical devices, biotechnology, life sciences, automation, and other technology industries. Mentors have startup experience and/or know how to successfully bring a new technology to market.

Startup Quest is part of an evaluation study funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration Workforce Innovation Fund. For more information, contact: Michael O'Donnell, Regional Project Manager, 954-202-3830, Ext. 3120, modonnell@wf1broward.com.

Broward County Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness Hosts Walmart Executives at Economic Development and Job Creation Council Meeting

Broward County Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness hosted his monthly District 9 Economic Development and Job Creation Council on Monday. The meeting featured corporate executives from Walmart as the special guests. Over 25 community and business leaders listened as Michelle Azelle Belaire, Walmart director of public affairs and government relations, in

Doral and Jonathan Nimrod, director of supplier diversity, from Walmart's corporate office in Bentonville, Ark., spoke about economic opportunities associated with Walmart stores. Both speakers noted job creation, affordable and discounted products and corporate giving among the many benefits that Walmart brings to a community.

Walmart is considering using the 36 acres of vacant land on the south corner of Broward Boulevard and 27th Avenue as the proposed site for Riverbend Marketplace with a Walmart Supercenter serving as the anchor store. The project needs the Broward County Commission to redesignate the property from medium-high residential to commercial in order to move forward. To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance Annual Meeting set for October 17

Please mark your calendar and register now to attend the Alliance's 2013 Annual Meeting! The annual meeting is our most important event of the year, where we present our economic development accomplishments for the fiscal year ending and introduce the community to our new and exciting plans for the upcoming year. The Alliance will also be presenting its annual economic development leadership awards. The keynote speaker will be Dave Barger, Chief Executive Officer, President, and Director of JetBlue Airways.

This year's dinner event will be held at the Signature Grand in Davie on Thursday, October 17 beginning with a reception at 5:30 p.m. Sponsors of the event include (Platinum) Broward College, JM Family Enterprises and Signature Grand; (Gold) AutoNation and FP&L; (Silver) Florida Blue and Nova Southeastern University. A special thanks also goes to our Partner, Broward County. For more information or to become a sponsor, please contact Gail Bulfin at 954-627-0127 or at gbulfin@gfalliance.org. To register, please go to www.gfalliance.org/2013annual.

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

Members wishing to serve on the E²B² Action Team may contact the Alliance for further details.

NSU Center Designated as WHO Collaborating Center in Consumer Health Informatics

Nova Southeastern University's Center for Consumer Health Informatics Research (CCHIR) has been designated by the World Health Organization (WHO) as a WHO Collaborating Center in Consumer Health Informatics. This represents the first such Collaborating Center designation by the WHO specific to consumer health informatics in the world. The CCHIR (pronounced see-ker, as in seeking knowledge and answers) is part of the Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy in Fort Lauderdale. This designation of the CCHIR reflects its record of innovation and expertise as well as a history of jointly planned efforts with the WHO. The designation was made, in part, to tap into the expertise at the CCHIR for its contributions to the development of a consumer health informatics research agenda with the WHO. As a WHO Collaborating Center, the CCHIR also becomes part of an international collaborative network carrying out activities in support of WHO's programs. To read more, please [click here](#).

Castle Hill Elementary School Garners State Honors

Castle Hill Elementary School in Lauderhill recently received state honors for its outstanding parent and family engagement program. Commissioner of Education Dr. Tony Bennett recognized Castle Hill's Everyone Counts Family Program as one of the state's most exemplary parental involvement programs on Saturday, July 13 at the Florida Parent Teacher (PTA) Association 2013 Leadership Conference in Palm Harbor. In all, 10 top parental programs were honored statewide. The Florida Department of Education Parental Involvement Recognition Program honors the programs that successfully engage parents in meaningful school-based programs. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Broward Fire Academy Receives 2013 Best of Davie Award

For the sixth consecutive year, the U.S. Commerce Association (USCA) has selected Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Broward Fire Academy (BFA) at McFatter Technical Center for the 2013 Best of Davie Award in the School's category. The USCA "Best of Local Business" Award Program recognizes outstanding local businesses throughout the country. Each year, the USCA identifies companies that they believe have achieved exceptional marketing success in their

local community and business category. These are local companies that enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers and community. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Educators Participate in International Field Experience in India

Three Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) teachers are visiting India this summer to take part in the Teachers for Global Classrooms Program's (TGC) International Field Experience, sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA). The teachers, Andrew Shipe from Pompano Beach High School, Tina Stoklosa from Cypress Bay High School in Weston and Laurie Tanner from Crystal Lake Middle School in Deerfield Beach, are part of a group of 80 teachers selected to participate in the program. The Teachers for Global Classrooms Program is an exchange and professional development opportunity for secondary school teachers sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the non-profit organization IREX. Through the program, teachers from across the United States learn how to advance their schools' global education practices, internationalizing teaching and learning in their classrooms. To read more, please [click here](#).

Business Briefs and Alliance Member News (Alliance members in bold)

Broward B-cycle bike sharing is now servicing 275 bicycles at 27 stations in 6 cities in Broward County - and growing. Bike sharing makes it economical and convenient to use bikes for trips that are too far to walk but too short to drive. As a member of B-cycle, members can use bikes to run an errand, grab lunch, travel from the bus stop to the office, or just get some fresh air. With a B-cycle bike, riders don't have to look for a parking space or bring their own bike everywhere they go. Plus, riding a B-cycle is good for a user's health and for the environment. Broward B-cycle is designed to encourage users to use a B-cycle for all their short trips. Once members have paid a modest membership fee, they can take an unlimited number of rides. For information on Broward B-cycle, please go to www.broward.bcycle.com. For information on how companies can provide membership benefits to their employees, please [click here](#).

Broward County Vice Mayor Barbara Sharief was recently elected to serve as 2nd Vice President of the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). "I am both honored and very humbled to receive the nomination for 2nd Vice President of FAC. I am so appreciative of the confidence and faith that my colleges have in me. I will continue to represent the best interest of all Florida's counties to the best of my ability," said Vice Mayor Sharief. Vice Mayor Sharief was also recently awarded the FAC Presidential Advocacy Award for her work during the 2013 Florida Legislative session and received the FAC Advanced County Commissioner designation after completing a series of advanced leadership seminars. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County Commissioner Chip LaMarca has been presented the Florida Association of Counties' (FAC) Presidential Advocacy Award. The award is given annually to county commissioners who have shown exceptional leadership in partnering with FAC to advance the counties' legislative agenda. To read more, please [click here](#). Commissioner LaMarca has also earned the Advanced County Commissioner designation from the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). The designation is awarded to Commissioners who have completed a comprehensive study program developed by FAC.

Work on the new **Broward County** Courthouse continues as construction crews have already topped off the seventh floor of the concrete superstructure. The imprint of the building is now evolving as work picks up at the Southeast Sixth Street and Southeast First Avenue site. As the 20-floor project continues to rise, work on the parking garage and the renovation of the adjacent Midrise building is following closely behind. Project managers say the projects are on schedule. For more Courthouse construction updates, visit www.broward.org/newcourthouse. Also, [click here](#) to check out the live camera views of the Broward Courthouse from the on-site webcam.

Congratulations to Lonnie Maier, Director of Enterprise Sales, **FPL FiberNet** and Stephanie Toothaker, Director/Partner, **Tripp Scott** who have been recognized by the **South Florida Business Journal** as among South Florida's 25 most Influential Business Women. Both companies are members of the Alliance.

Fifth Third Bank (South Florida) is expanding its commercial and private banking operations in Fort Lauderdale, recently purchasing naming rights to a high-rise building in the city's financial district. The new location will serve as the bank's commercial headquarters in South Florida, and will replace the current office space in Sunrise. Located at the intersection of East Las Olas Boulevard and Southeast Third Avenue, the 22,000 square foot space will include a retail center and wholesale commercial and private bank offices. Fifth Third plans to initially use 11,000 square feet, and sublet the remaining space to other tenants. About 30 employees will begin working in the new location by mid-July 2013. To read

more, please [click here](#).

Bruce Allen was elected chair of the **FAU Foundation** Board at the recent annual meeting and election of officers. Jay Weinberg was elected vice chair and Brett Greenberg was elected secretary. Former secretary Patricia McKay was elected treasurer. To read more, please [click here](#).

Rhonda Goodman, PhD, ARNP, FNP-BC, NCSN, AHN-BC was recently named "Nurse of the Year" at the Palm Healthcare Nursing Distinction Awards. She also was named "Educator of the Year." Goodman is an assistant professor at **FAU's Christine E. Lynn College Nursing**.

The Alliance is pleased to announce that it has become a series sponsor of the "**Broward College Presents the Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series**." The series, which will be held at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, will feature seven highly distinguished speakers who will share their exciting experiences, insights, points of view, and behind the scenes stories on some of the most current topics of the day. Each lecture will be followed by a spirited Q&A session with questions submitted by audience members. The series begins on October 23, 2013 at 8:00 p.m. and will feature Steve Forbes, Chairman and Editor in Chief of Forbes Media. For more information about this exciting series, visit <http://www.fortlauderdale-speakerseries.com/>.

Gerry Litrento, Senior Executive Vice President of **BankUnited** and Chair of the board of the Alliance, is one of five Broward County residents who will be honored by the **Leadership Broward Foundation** during the 2013 Profiles in Leadership Gala, presented by BankUnited, at the **Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six**, 2301 S.E. 17th Street, Fort Lauderdale from 6 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, October 5. John Benz, **Memorial Healthcare System**; Lisa Scott-Founds, Winterfest; Michael Goodman, **Bitner Goodman**; and Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Burnadette Norris-Weeks, P.A. will also be honored for their talent and resources in helping to make Broward County a great place to live and work. This year the Leadership Broward Foundation will also present a prestigious new award when **Marti and Wayne Huizenga** will deservedly be presented with the Excellence in Leadership, Lifetime Achievement Award. Sharon D'Eusanio will receive the Excellence in Leadership, Special Recognition Award. D'Eusanio, a crime victim assistance and disability consultant, has donated her time over the years as a speaker for Leadership Broward program days. For sponsorship, tickets and more information, contact Patty Sacco at 954-767-8866 or patty@leadershipbroward.org.

Nova Southeastern University's (NSU) President and CEO, George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., has announced the appointment of Bonnie Clearwater, M.A., as the new Director of NSU's Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale effective September 3, 2013. Clearwater joins NSU's Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale from the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in North Miami. Clearwater will work closely with the museum and university staff, and the museum's Board of Governors, to lead the museum into an era of unprecedented transformation and growth. To read more, please [click here](#).

Signaling strong market demand for quality retail properties, **Stiles Realty** recently announced the sale of the former 25,000-square-foot West Marine property in Fort Lauderdale for \$4.5 million or \$180 PSF. The price per square foot is nearly 25 percent over the Broward retail market average price per square foot for retail properties over 10,000 square feet sold in 2013. The property, located at 2300 North Federal Highway, comprises 1.93 acres on three separate parcels. A Stiles Realty team led by Vice President of Retail Services Ryan Karlin and including Retail Associate Michael Carpenter and Industrial Associate Patrick Conness were involved in its sale to Miami-based Sunshine Gasoline Distributors. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Grand Alliance will be adding a direct ocean shipping service to Northern Europe from **Port Everglades** in South Florida starting in August. Florida International Terminal (FIT) at Port Everglades is the new terminal operator and stevedore for the GAX (Gulf Atlantic Express) service, which is jointly operated by Hapag-Lloyd and its partners NYK Line and OOCL, and covers the trade between Northern Europe and the U.S. East Coast and Gulf areas. "The GAX service offers our customers an additional well-established East-West connection," said Port Everglades Chief Executive & Port Director Steven Cernak. To read more, please [click here](#).

United Way of Broward County has received its single largest grant -- \$2 million from the Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) Program, a division of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The one year grant will be used for the organization's MISSION UNITED, a cooperative program among area agencies led by United Way supporting U.S. military service members, veterans and their families in Broward County. "This amazing grant will allow us to provide tremendous help in the community and to serve those who have already served us," said Kathleen Cannon, President/CEO of United Way of Broward County. "The needs of our veterans are great, and with this grant, we can reach and support so many of them in a significant way." To read more, please [click here](#).

[Upcoming Economic Development Meetings, Missions & Events](#)

Alliance Calendar of Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members only)

Thursday, August 8 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: Nova Southeastern University, Oceanographic Center, 8000 North Ocean Drive, Dania Beach

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

Alliance Council Connect (Members Only)

Thursday, August 29 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Gulfstream Park Village, Sport of Kings Theater, 901 South Federal Highway, Hallandale Beach

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

Alliance Entrepreneur Council Meeting (Members only)

Wednesday, September 11 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBA

For more information, please contact Michelle Cook at 954-627-0132 or at mcook@gfalliance.org

Alliance Leadership Council Meeting (Members only)

Tuesday, September 17 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

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

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Members only)

Wednesday, September 18 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Location: TBA

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

Alliance Governor Council Meeting (Members only)

Tuesday, September 24 8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

Location: TBA

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

Alliance Annual Meeting & Dinner

Thursday, October 17 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Signature Grand, 6900 West State Road 84, Davie

Platinum sponsors of this year's event include Broward College, JM Family Enterprises, Inc. and Signature Grand. Gold Sponsors include AutoNation and FPL. Silver Sponsors include Florida Blue and Nova Southeastern University.

For more information and to register, please go to www.gfalliance.org/2013annual.

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

Enterprise Florida Events:

AFRICANDO 2013

September 1, 2013

Location: Miami, FL

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Information Technology

Region: Africa

Cannes International Boat Show 2013

September 10-15, 2013

Location: Cannes, France

Event Type: International Trade and Investment

Industry Sector: Marine

Region: Europe and the Middle East

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](#).

Other Events:

Tools For Schools Broward School Supply Drive

Date: Through August 16, 2013

The Alliance is proud to partner to help provide our schools with needed supplies.

We hope all members will participate!

Please [click here](#) for the flyer.

BioFlorida Miami/Broward Chapter Event Biosimilars: Current Guidelines & Future Opportunities

Thursday, August 22, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Oceanographic Campus, 8000 North Ocean Drive, Dania Beach

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

Broward County Business Forum - "Is Your Business Ready to Grow?"

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2013

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: I.T. Parker Community Center, 901 N.E. 3rd Street, Dania Beach

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

Broward County Business Forum - "Is Your Business Ready to Grow?"

Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Hagen Park Community Center, 2020 Wilton Drive, Wilton Manors

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

BioFlorida Conference 2013

September 15-17, 2013

Location: Tampa Marriott Waterside, Tampa, FL

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

Business for the Arts: Arts Mean Business Breakfast

Date: Friday, September 20, 2013

Time: 8:00 - 9:45 a.m.

Location: Museum of Art Fort Lauderdale

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

Urban League of Broward County: 2013 "Love Boat" Red Gala

Date: Saturday, September 21, 2013

Time: 7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Location: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale

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

Broward College Presents the Fort Lauderdale Speaker Series

Series begins Wednesday, October 23 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW 5th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale

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).

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

