



Photo by Keith Douglas - kd@keithdouglas.com

July 31, 2015

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

Top Stories:

- Chiquita Brands Relocates Banana Division Headquarters to Dania Beach
- Broward County Sees Year over Year Job Growth
- Florida Companies Report Over \$150 Million in Total Sales From the Paris Air Show
- Alliance Economic Sourcebook Advertising Space Available
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Top Stories

Chiquita Brands Relocates Banana Division Headquarters to Dania Beach

Chiquita Brands International Inc. is moving the headquarters of its banana division to Dania Beach from Charlotte, North Carolina. Approximately 70 to 90 jobs will be relocated and the company will take over 19,000 square feet of space at the DCOTA building in the City of Dania Beach. Approximately 200 total jobs will be relocated to Florida with the move of its Fresh Express division to Central Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward County Sees Year over Year Job Growth

Broward County's job report indicated a 5.1 percent unemployment rate in June 2015, which is a decrease of 0.9 percentage point from the year ago rate of 6.0 percent. Nonagricultural employment increased by 3.6 percent over the year, with an employment of 795,900 in the Ft. Lauderdale-Pompano Beach-Deerfield Beach metro area (Broward County). The area gained the fourth highest number of nonagricultural jobs in June 2015 among all metro areas in Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

Florida Companies Report Over \$150 Million in Total Sales From the Paris Air Show

In a move to continue to bolster Broward County's growing aviation and aerospace industry, the Alliance's Vice President of Business Development, David Coddington attended the show with Broward County Aviation Director and Alliance board member Kent George. During the show, Aerospace Precision announced it is moving operations from California to Hollywood, adding 25 employees to the 40 employees already in Hollywood. Governor Rick Scott recently announced that last month's trade and business development mission to the Paris Air Show resulted in \$151 million in total projected export sales for 17 Florida aerospace & aviation and defense & homeland security businesses and organizations. To read more, please [click here](#).

Alliance Economic Sourcebook Advertising Space Available

The Alliance is once again working with the *South Florida Business Journal* to publish its annual award-winning Greater Fort

Lauderdale/Broward County Economic Sourcebook and Market Profile. This valuable guide serves as a primary marketing tool to promote the entire Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County area. 11,000 copies of the Sourcebook are distributed in a number of ways including to Alliance members, included in national and international marketing kits, available at Chambers of Commerce and Broward County libraries, at select local hotels, distributed in the *South Florida Business Journal*, and can be downloaded on the Alliance website. The Economic Sourcebook provides Alliance members with an outstanding marketing opportunity. For additional information, please contact Yasmine Gahed at 954-949-7504 or ygahed@bizjournals.com.

Sponsor and Attend: Alliance Annual Meeting and Dinner

The Alliance's **Annual Meeting and Dinner** will be held Thursday, October 22 from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. at the Signature Grand. Our Keynote Speaker is Peter Kageyama, author of *For the Love of Cities*. The Annual Meeting is a premier, not-to-be-missed business event in Southeast Florida and once again includes a post-dinner reception with gourmet coffees, desserts and live music. Sponsors include: Platinum - Broward College, JM Family Enterprises, Signature Grand, *South Florida Business Journal* and *South Florida Business & Wealth Magazine*; Gold – Comcast Business; Silver – AutoNation and FPL. For more information and to register, please go to www.gfalliance.org/2015Annual. To sponsor the Annual Meeting, please email [Gail Bulfin](mailto:Gail.Bulfin) or call 954-627-0127.

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



Superintendent Robert Runcie Participates in White House Panel

Recently, Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Superintendent Robert W. Runcie participated in a panel discussion at The White House. The event, called Rethink School Discipline, focused on helping school districts create positive school climates and implement effective discipline practices. The daylong conference also included breakout sessions with superintendents, principals and teachers from across the country. Michaelle Pope, the District's executive director of Student Support Initiatives, also took part in the event. To read more, please [click here](#).

NSU Marine Researcher's Studies Featured by National Geographic

The marine industry is a vital component of the South Florida lifestyle. To that end, Nova Southeastern University researcher Matthew Johnston, Ph.D., has been studying the impact invasive species have on our marine ecosystem. One species in particular – the lionfish – has been a focus of his studies at NSU's Halmos College of Natural Sciences and Oceanography. His work and insight was recently featured as part of a National Geographic story on this very subject. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward College Ranks Third Nationally in Conferring Associate Degrees to Minority Students

Over the past 10 years, Broward College has conferred associate degrees to 24,490 minority students, ranking third among public, for-profit and nonprofit institutions nationwide – according to a special report in *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*. Within that total, 10,915 associate degrees were conferred to African American students, ranking Broward College third, and 11,332 associate degrees were conferred to Hispanic students, ranking the College sixth in the nation. To read more, please [click here](#).

Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine Achieves Full Accreditation

In less than four years since admitting its inaugural class, FAU's Charles E. Schmidt College of Medicine has earned full accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME). Accreditation signifies that national standards for structure, function, and performance are met by a medical school's education program leading to the M.D. degree. The LCME is the nationally recognized accrediting authority for medical education programs leading to a medical degree in U.S. and Canadian medical schools, and is a joint committee of the Association of American Medical Colleges and the American Medical Association. To read more, please [click here](#).

Scientists at FAU Driven to Help Transform Commutes

FAU has received a \$300,000 grant from the Florida Department of Transportation and a \$100,000 grant from the City of Miami Beach to research and test more efficient traffic signals. Traffic jams not only make daily commutes exasperating, they also contribute to excessive fuel consumption and air pollution. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, outdated traffic signaling accounts for more than 10 percent of all traffic delays. To read more, please [click here](#).

Broward College and Workday Partner to Provide Unique Training and Internship Experience for Students

This summer, Broward College students are among the first to participate in Workday@College, a new initiative that trains students enrolled at higher education institutions with the leading-edge skills and real-world experience required to join the next generation of consultants that will support Workday customers. Workday is a leader in enterprise cloud applications for finance and human resources, and was recently named one of the 100 Best Companies to Work For by Fortune magazine. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Recognizes Outstanding Educators for Professional Accomplishments

Broward County Public Schools recognizes several outstanding educators for their recent contributions and professional accomplishments. These individuals continue to learn, research, present, teach, serve and share expertise with their colleagues and students. Congratulations to the following BCPS educators on their recent achievements: Melton Mustafa, piano director at Parkway Middle School, and Kathryn Lotocky, music teacher at Fort Lauderdale High School, are both selected as a Grammy Music Educator of

the Year finalists for 2016. They are among 213 music teachers from 194 cities across 42 states announced as quarterfinalists for the Music Educator Award™ presented by the Recording Academy® and the GRAMMY Foundation®. The semifinalists will be announced in September. This special award will be presented at the Special Merit Awards Ceremony and Nominees Reception during GRAMMY Week 2016. To read more, please [click here](#).

Apollo Middle School Receives Family and Community Involvement Award

Congratulations to Apollo Middle School for receiving the 2015 Family and Community Involvement Award by the Florida Department of Education and Florida Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Apollo Middle was one of 10 Florida schools honored by Commissioner of Education Pam Stewart and Florida PTA President Mindy Haas with the Family and Community Involvement Award during the 2015 Florida PTA Leadership Convention at Innisbrook Resort & Golf Club in Palm Harbor, FL, July 16 – 19, 2015. Apollo Middle was recognized for successful implementation of its Parent 2 Parent Connection program that encourages increased family and community engagement. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Confucius Institute Students Visit China

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Confucius Institute hosted 17 students from Cypress Bay High School, Fort Lauderdale High School and Pompano Beach High School on a summer trip to China, July 14 – 31, 2015. Students travel and visit historically and culturally significant locations throughout Beijing and the Jiangsu province, including the Confucius Institute headquarters, Tiananmen Square, Palace Museum and Great Wall of China. To read more, please [click here](#).

BCPS Algebra I End of Course Exam and Grade 10 English Language Arts Assessment Show Continued Improvement

The Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) released the 2014/15 passing rates for the Florida Standards Assessment (FSA) Algebra I End of Course Exam and Grade 10 English Language Arts assessment. The percentage of students passing the required Algebra I and English Language Arts assessments have increased each year. In fact, BCPS is the only district, among the five largest districts in Florida, to show increases in both subject areas across the past three years. To read more, please [click here](#).

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Business Briefs and Alliance Member News



Alliance Member Companies in **Bold**

With strong demand fueling its statewide growth, **Advanced Roofing, Inc.**, Florida's largest commercial re-roofing contractor and solar contractor, has acquired Roth Bros. of Florida, Inc., a Tampa-based roofing firm founded in 1973. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tickets are on sale for "WE"...The Passion & Rhythm of the People, the highly-anticipated "Show of the Century" and pinnacle of the Duende weekend culminating Broward's yearlong centennial celebration, **Broward 100** - Celebrating the Art of Community. This Broadway-style musical will be held on Saturday, October 3 in the Au-Rene Theatre at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE arranged the sale of Palm Square, a 77,705-square-foot, multi-tenant retail center located at 9801-9965 Pines Boulevard in Pembroke Pines. Bar Invest Group, Inc. purchased the property for \$17,600,000. The seller was Pebb Enterprises, LLC, which hired CBRE to market the asset for sale and negotiate the transaction. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE arranged the sale of a freestanding, 29,770-square-foot industrial property prominently located at the corner of Ravenswood and Stirling Roads in Dania Beach. The Ravenswood Industrial asset, which sits on a 2.1-acre property at 5950 Ravenswood Road, was acquired from Trust Number BM-1 by Flooring King for \$2.5 million. The Flooring King is currently located at 59 S.W. 12th Ave Suite 106, in Dania Beach, FL 33004 in 5,000 square feet and is expanding into the full 29,770 square feet available at Ravenswood Industrial. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE arranged the sale of Heron Bay Corporate Center I & II, an 89,043-square-foot premier office campus situated on 6.02 acres in Coral Springs. The property at 11555 & 11575 Heron Bay Boulevard was acquired from Ivy Heron Bay, LLC by Benedict Realty Group, LLC for \$20.2 million. CBRE represented the seller. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE arranged the sale of Pompano Plaza, a 61,658-square-foot, two-story multi-tenant retail/office center located at 1602 S. Cypress Road in Pompano Beach. S and S R.E. Investments, Inc. purchased the property for \$4,500,000. The seller was IR-Pompano Plaza, LLC, which hired CBRE to market the asset for sale and negotiate the transaction. To read more, please [click here](#).

CBRE arranged the sale of University Commons, a 79,998-square-foot, multi-tenant retail center located at 6702-6852 N. University Drive in Tamarac. Bar Invest Group, Inc. purchased the property for \$10,700,000. The seller was University Commons, LLC, affiliated with Boca Raton-based Pebb Enterprises, which hired CBRE to market the asset for sale and negotiate the transaction. To read more, please [click here](#).

Florida Atlantic University's College of Business sport management MBA program is among the best in the world, according to the latest rankings from SportBusiness International. The program was ranked sixth internationally and fifth in North America out of more than 600 graduate-level programs worldwide. SportBusiness International's Postgraduate Sports Course Rankings, which compiled the rankings, is the only internationally recognized annual review of the world's top university-level sports management courses. To read more, please [click here](#).

Florida East Coast Railway (FECR) is celebrating its first-year anniversary operating its new Intermodal Container Transfer Facility (ICTF) adjacent to **Port Everglades** with a 26 percent increase in volume, according to James R. Hertwig, FECR President & CEO. To read more, please [click here](#).

GUNSTER, one of Florida's oldest and largest full-service business law firms, is pleased to announce that 35 of its attorneys have been included in the 2015 Florida Super Lawyers list, and an additional 9 were named Rising Stars. To read more, please [click here](#).

Due to high demand, The Idea Center at Miami Dade College, in partnership with LaunchCode, a nonprofit organization revolutionizing technology education and job placement, will expand its CS50x Miami program to more underserved communities in the South Florida area. To read more, please [click here](#).

Design/builder **Miller Construction Company** has completed a massive new \$15 million service center for Holman Automotive that will provide the full range of services for the regional automotive retailer's nearby Lauderdale BMW and Lauderdale MINI dealerships. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Construction Association of South Florida (CASF) has appointed **Miller Construction Company** Vice President Jeff Slade to the executive board of directors of the tri-county, non-profit building industry organization. To read more, please [click here](#).

The Master of Science in Nursing (M.S.N.) Program at **Nova Southeastern University's** (NSU) College of Nursing was recently ranked in the Top 50 Best Value Online M.S.N. Programs of 2015 by Value Colleges. The independent online publication, which provides information for prospective students considering the best value for their education, ranked NSU No. 44 out of the top 50 in the United States and the second highest in Florida. To read more, please [click here](#).

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the **Research Park at Florida Atlantic University** and the 15th anniversary of the Technology Business Incubator (TBI), the Research Park has created the Distinguished Entrepreneur of the Year Award and the Distinguished Researcher in Economic Development Award to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the economic development of South Florida in 2015. To read more, please [click here](#).

Inspired by 2014 **Six Pillars Broward** guest speaker Peter Kageyama, Fort Lauderdale's first urban art trail is gearing up for the official launch of phase one of the exploration-based project. Currently in the fabrication period, the anticipated sculptures are scheduled to launch on October 17th, 2015. The 2-mile route will wind throughout Flagler Village and was designed by Cadence - Landscape Architects, Girls' Club, Flagler Garden and sculptor - Valeria Yamamoto. To date, the trail has garnered considerable local support, while the team continues to search for additional financial backers for sculpture production costs and ongoing maintenance. To read more, please [click here](#).

Stiles Realty, a division of Fort Lauderdale-based full-service commercial real estate developer Stiles, recently announced the sale of Lauderdale Marine Center, the largest yacht repair facility and marina in the U.S. The property was purchased by a division of The Carlyle Group, a global asset management firm based in Washington D.C., for an undisclosed amount. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott recently announced that Kristopher Aungst and Stephanie Toothaker, both directors with the firm, were selected by their peers as Florida Trend Magazine's 2015 Florida Legal Elite. To read more, please [click here](#).

Tripp Scott recently announced that eight of its attorneys have been recognized in the 2015 edition of Florida Super Lawyers Magazine. To read more, please [click here](#).

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Featured Property of the Month





Trade Centre South
100 W. Cypress Creek Rd.
Listed by Avison Young
Additional details at GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com
[Click Here](#)

Upcoming Events



Alliance Events

Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Invitation Only)

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

Location: Dania Beach

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

Alliance Council Connect (Invitation Only)

Thursday, August 27, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Gulfstream Park, Hallandale Beach

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

Alliance 2015 Annual Meeting

Thursday, October 22, 5:30 p.m.

Location: The Signature Grand, Davie

For sponsorship information and additional details please contact Gail Bulfin at gbulfin@gfalliance.org or Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gfalliance.org

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Enterprise Florida Events

12th Annual Florida-Japan Summit

Wednesday, September 2

Location: Miami

For more information, [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 to see more event listings, please [click here](#).

Member/Partner Events

2015 OESBD Workshop Series: FY 16 Capital Projects and Contracting Opportunities

Saturday, August 1, 2:00 p.m.

Location: Broward County Governmental Center, Fort Lauderdale

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

2015 SFBJ 40 Under 40 Awards Luncheon

Friday, August 7, 11:30 a.m.

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

SFBJ Critical Conversations: Marine Industry

Thursday, August 13, 9:00 a.m.

Location: South Florida Business Journal, Fort Lauderdale

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

Latin America and Beyond: What you Really Need to Know About Expanding Your Business for Overseas Growth

Thursday, August 27, 6:00 p.m.

Location: Conrad Hotel, Miami

For more information, [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).

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).

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