May 29, 2015

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

Click here to download “Saluting Educational Excellence in Broward County Public Schools” which appeared in the Sun Sentinel in April.

Top Stories:

- Alliance 2015 Mid-Year Meeting Features Company Announcements, Keynote by Florida Secretary of Commerce and Awards
- SATO Global Solutions to Create 35 Jobs in Fort Lauderdale
- Florida No. 2 Among CEOs as ‘Best State for Business’
- Parkland Recognized as Alliance Platinum City for Business-Friendly Permitting Process
- eMerge Americas Tech Conference Stresses Regional Thinking
- Alliance Economic Sourcebook Advertising Space Available

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

Business Briefs, Alliance Member News

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Upcoming Alliance Events

Upcoming Enterprise Florida and Member/Partner Events

Top Stories

Alliance 2015 Mid-Year Meeting Features Company Announcements, Keynote by Florida Secretary of Commerce and Awards

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance hosted its Mid-Year Luncheon, presented by FPL, on Thursday, May 14, 2015 to an audience of 500 members and guests at the Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six in Fort Lauderdale. President/CEO Bob Swindell and Chairman Mike Moore of COI access reported the following results of the Alliance’s ongoing work as the official public/private partnership for economic development in Broward County: More than $29 Million in capital investment by Alliance-assisted companies in the first two quarters of the Alliance fiscal year; 390 new jobs and 406 retained jobs.

Selected announced company relocations and expansions at the mid-year point include: 1st Choice Aerospace, Aero Accessories and Repair, Allied General Industries, Charter Schools USA, Polenghi, SATO Global Solutions and Syntac Coated Products. Moore also reported that Broward County continues to be a leader in the nation for job creation. In 2014, the County had the second largest year-over-year percentage employment increase among all 32 metropolitan divisions in the U.S. Broward was second only to the fast growing market of Dallas and tied for number two with San Francisco.

“Our new job announcements, in addition to the strong employment increases we saw in 2014, are confirmation that our economy is one of the strongest in the nation,” said Bob Swindell, president and CEO of the Alliance.
The luncheon's keynote speaker was Florida Secretary of Commerce Bill Johnson. The Alliance presented special honors including its World Class Faculty Award to Dr. David Serrano of Broward College and its Economic Development Partner of the Year award to the City of Miramar.


The Alliance’s Annual Meeting and dinner will take place October 22, 2015 at the Signature Grand. To read more, please click here.

SATO Global Solutions to Create 35 Jobs in Fort Lauderdale
Governor Rick Scott recently announced that SATO Holdings, a global leader in auto-ID solutions headquartered in Tokyo, Japan, has established its subsidiary, SATO Global Solutions (SGS), in Fort Lauderdale. The company is creating 35 jobs and making a capital investment of more than $5 million. Governor Scott said, “I am proud to announce that SATO Global Solutions will invest more than $5 million and is creating 35 new jobs in Broward County. We are working to create the best location for job creation not only in the nation,
but across the world. We have created more than 865,000 private-sector jobs in less than four-and-a-half years, and we will continue working to improve the state's business climate." To read more, please click here.

Florida No. 2 Among CEOs as 'Best State for Business'
Florida is once again the second-best state in the U.S. to do business, according to CEOs surveyed for a new report released Thursday by Chief Executive magazine."Industrial development is helping diversifying second-ranked Florida's economy," the magazine said. "Each year, the Sunshine State edges closer to its goal of overtaking Texas as the best state for business." Chief Executive says Florida will chip away at the gap by continuing to transform beyond tourism. The report cites growth in construction payrolls and technology "becoming an increasingly important driver in the state's growth." Texas was ranked No. 1, as it was in 2014, followed again by Florida.

North Carolina, Tennessee and Georgia round out the top five. This article, by Marcia Pounds, ran in the Sun Sentinel on May 7, 2015. To read the full article, please click here.

Parkland Recognized as Alliance Platinum City for Business-Friendly Permitting Process
The list of Broward County municipalities certified as Alliance Platinum Cities grew to 19 this month with the addition of the City of Parkland, which recently passed a resolution demonstrating the city’s commitment to increasing its business friendliness through streamlined permitting/development processes. Mason Jackson, President/CEO of CareerSource Broward and chair of the Alliance’s Permitting Action Team said, “Congratulations to the City of Parkland on its designation as a Platinum City. Your commitment to permitting excellence and business friendly practices is key to the economic vitality of our community.” Platinum Cities include: the City of Coconut Creek, Cooper City, the City of Coral Springs, the City of Dania Beach, the Town of Davie, the City of Deerfield Beach, the City of Fort Lauderdale, the City of Hollywood, the City of Lauderdale, the City of Margate, the City of Miramar, the City of Oakland Park, the City of Parkland, the City of Pembroke Pines, the City of Plantation, the City of Pompano Beach, the City of Sunrise, the City of Tamarac and the City of Wilton Manors. For additional details, please click here.

eMerge Americas Tech Conference Stresses Regional Thinking
South Florida has visions of becoming a major tech hub, but it won't get there without cultivating a sense of regional cooperation, speakers stressed recently as the giant eMerge Americas conference opened in Miami Beach. The conference, in its second year, promotes South Florida as the "tech hub of the Americas." Some 10,000 people from across the region, state, U.S., Latin America and Europe are expected to attend the event through Tuesday at the Miami Beach Convention Center. The debut event last year drew more than 6,000 people. Forty percent were from Florida, with the majority from South Florida. This article, by Marcia Pounds, ran in the Sun Sentinel on May 4, 2015. 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.

“Saluting Educational Excellence” Section Published in the Sun Sentinel
Did you see “Saluting Educational Excellence in Broward County Public Schools” in the Sun Sentinel in April?

This special section, sponsored by Broward College, the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and the Sun Sentinel highlights educational excellence in each of the Broward County Public Schools high schools, along with recognizing outstanding senior students.

To download the section, please click here.
BCPS Home to Best High Schools in the Nation and State by U.S. News & World Report
Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is home to many of the best high schools in the nation and state, according to recent rankings by U.S. News & World Report. In all, 14 BCPS high schools received gold, silver or bronze medals in the 2015 Best High Schools national ranking. To read more, please click here.

29 BCPS High Schools Rank as “America’s Most Challenging High Schools”
Congratulations to Fort Lauderdale High School for earning top 50 placement on “America’s Most Challenging High Schools” 2015 list by The Washington Post. Fort Lauderdale High ranks #35 nationally and #9 in the state, due to their success on providing access to advanced coursework to all students. To read more, please click here.

BCPS Superintendent Robert W. Runcie Named Hispanic-Serving School District Superintendent of the Year
Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) congratulates Superintendent Robert W. Runcie on being named the 2015 Hispanic-Serving School District (HSSD) Superintendent of the Year by the Association for Latino Administrators and Superintendents (ALAS). To read more, please click here.

Hollywood Hills High School Military Academy JROTC Drill Team Ranks Among the Best in the Nation and State
The Hollywood Hills High School Military Academy JROTC Drill Team made Broward County history by competing in two major competitions on the same day, ranking among the best in the nation and state. On April 11, 2015, the Hollywood Hills Military Academy JROTC Drill Team split into two divisions – one that would compete in the Florida State Drill Championships in Lakeland, Florida, and an All Army Nationals Drill Team that would take part in the 2015 U.S. Army Cadet Command JROTC National Drill Championships in Louisville, Kentucky. The Hollywood Hills Military Academy’s Drill Team qualified for both competitions after winning the Broward County championship, an honor the team has earned for two consecutive years. To read more, please click here.

Seven BCPS Seniors Named 2015 National Merit Scholarship Winners
In its second round of announcing winners in the 2015 National Merit Scholarship Program, the National Merit Scholarship Corporation named seven Broward County Public Schools seniors as National Merit Scholars. The students are among the 2,500 Merit Scholar designees chosen from a talent pool of more than 15,000 outstanding Finalists. To read more, please click here.

Lauderhill 6-12 STEM-MED and Parkway Middle School Receive “Golden Shovel” Awards
Congratulations to Lauderhill 6-12 STEM-MED and Parkway Middle School for receiving the Florida Farm to School “Golden Shovel” Awards. Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Adam H. Putnam recently presented the inaugural awards for exceptional school gardens in the state. Lauderhill 6-12 and Parkway Middle are among 10 schools in the state recognized for their exceptional school gardens. Lauderhill 6-12 is the Best New School Garden winner, and Parkway Middle is the recipient of the Best Revitalized Garden award. To read more, please click here.

BCPS Announces Impact on Students from Legislative Changes to State Accountability System
Broward School Board members and Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) Superintendent Robert W. Runcie held a news conference on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, to provide students and families with information regarding the impact of legislative changes to the state’s accountability system on BCPS students. To read more, please click here.

BCPS Congratulates Class of 2015 Gates Millennium Scholars
Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) is proud to announce that eight students are members of the Class of 2015 Gates Millennium Scholars. These outstanding scholars are among the 1,000 winners throughout the country who have been named to this year’s Gates Millennium Scholarship Program. Each of the winning scholars are awarded a scholarship that can be used to pursue a degree in any undergraduate major and selected graduate programs at accredited colleges or universities. To read more, please click here.

BCPS High School Students Participate in First Rally to the Tally for New Floridians
Approximately 300 foreign-born ninth and 10th grade students from 23 Broward County Public Schools high schools recently took part in the first Rally to the Tally for New Floridians. This four-day field trip allows students to visit the state capital as well as visit the University of Central Florida, University of Florida and Florida State University, from May 26 – 29, 2015. To read more, please click here.

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Effective with the start of the Fall 2015 semester on Monday, August 24, Broward College will be a tobacco-free and smoke-free campus. The Broward College Board of Trustees recently approved the policy to further promote a safe and healthy environment for faculty, staff, students and the community. To read more, please click here.

Broward County Library has received three prestigious awards from the Florida Library Association (FLA), including Florida's 2015 Library of the Year. BCL also won the Betty Davis Miller Youth Services Award for Teen Programming for its "Show Us Your Bookface" contest/exhibition and FLA's Libraries Mean Business Award for its "Broward County Libraries Mean Business!" campaign. To read more, please click here.

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) was proud to once again partner with JetBlue Airways, a leading carrier in Fort Lauderdale, and Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, to host the third annual Autism in Flight event. Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) from five Broward County elementary schools will have the opportunity to practice the travel experience in a realistic, yet relaxed setting, ultimately allowing families and children to be better prepared for future travel. To read more, please click here.

Higher containerized cargo and passenger volumes at Broward County's Port Everglades helped to increase the number of jobs and economic activity in Florida over the past fiscal year, according to a newly released report by internationally recognized maritime research company Martin Associates. To read more, please click here.

Broward County's Port Everglades experienced an eight percent growth in containerized cargo during the first six months of fiscal year 2015 (October 1, 2014 through March 30, 2015), signaling a continued upward trend that pushed Florida's largest container port past its record high in FY2014. To read more, please click here.

CBRE arranged the sale of Merrill Lynch Plaza, a 77,878-square-foot premier office campus situated on approximately 1.72 acres in eastern Fort Lauderdale. The property at 2601-2611 East Oakland Park Boulevard was acquired from BE ML FLL LLC for $13.1 million. CBRE represented the seller. To read more, please click here.

East Coast ports are growing at a faster rate than their West Coast counterparts, according to the inaugural edition of CBRE Group, Inc.’s “North America Ports Logistics Annual Report.” To read more, please click here.

Holy Cross Physician Partners in Fort Lauderdale and Memorial Health Network in Hollywood have collaborated and joined a newly formed regional clinically integrated network (CIN). This new collaboration will collectively boast 1,400 physicians and 95,000 lives. Together, they now comprise Atlantic Coast Health Network. To read more, please click here.

With U.S. demand growing for Cosmo International Fragrances’ custom-formulated products, the firm has contracted Miller Construction Company to fully renovate a 93,955-square-foot production, distribution and office facility within Newport Center business park in Deerfield Beach. To read more, please click here.

Lauderhill Mayor Richard J. Kaplan, in collaboration with local nonprofits, financial institutions, and Florida Prosperity Partnership, will be announcing the launch of Bank On Lauderhill, a public-private partnership among the area’s regional financial institutions and community-based organizations aimed at increasing the financial stability of the “unbanked” and “underbanked.” To read more, please click here.

As part of their ongoing support of Nova Southeastern University (NSU), representatives from SunTrust and the SunTrust Foundation have donated $50,000 to fund an endowed scholarship, adding to the organization’s significant investment in education throughout the community and at NSU. The scholarship is for undergraduate students with financial need and who are first generation college students. To read more, please click here.

Riviera Point Development Group has marked the completion and rapid leasing pace of Broward’s first international EB-5 funded office complex – the Professional Center at Riviera Point in Miramar – while preparing to launch its third South Florida office development funded through the job-creating federal EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program. The company currently has a total of $42 million in EB-5 funded projects under development. To read more, please click here.

Congratulations to Lifestyle Media Group and South Florida Business & Wealth for being named a Small Business of the Year by the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce.

What do Norway, Finland, Brazil, Germany, Canada and Spain have in common? Technology businesses from each country are located at the Research Park at Florida Atlantic University. "The Research Park is becoming well known internationally as a gateway for European and South American businesses to launch subsidiaries as they search for new and expanded markets here in North America," said Andrew Duffell, president and CEO of the Research Park at Florida Atlantic University. "They are tracking our high-tech focus on innovation and an atmosphere of growing companies that have access to resources to use as a platform to build momentum in the market." To read more, please click here.

Stiles, a full-service commercial real estate developer based in Fort Lauderdale, recently announced the sale of 800 Brickell, a 209,122-square-foot landmark office building located on Brickell Avenue in Miami. The property was purchased by RREEF Property...
Trust, a real estate investment management business of Deutsche Bank, for $111.6 million or $533 per square foot. According to Stiles, the sale represents the highest price per square foot in the Brickell submarket. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Stiles** Realty, a division of Fort Lauderdale-based full-service commercial real estate developer Stiles, announced recently 119,868 square feet in new leases and early renewals at Bank of America Plaza at Las Olas City Centre (LOCC), which has brought the trophy office property to 100 percent leased. 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 the former Harley Davidson headquarters located at 2871 North Federal Highway in Fort Lauderdale. The $4.8 million sales price equates to $106.67 per square foot. To read more, please [click here](#).

**Tripp Scott** recently announced that two of its directors, Paul Lopez and Stephanie Toothaker, have been recognized by *South Florida Business & Wealth’s* Leaders in Law Awards.

Video: Lon Tabatchnick, developer of the new Margaritaville Resort on Hollywood Beach, visits the Fort Lauderdale offices of **Tripp Scott** and its president, Ed Pozzuoli, to reveal the latest progress, features and timeline for completion. To view the video, [click here](#).

Join **United Way of Broward County** for an evening of entertainment and networking on Saturday, October 24 at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center. This event is a great opportunity for key influencers and charity supporters to come together with the common purpose of building a better community through United Way of Broward County. By partnering with MISSION UNITED, each city will also have the opportunity to nominate a military veteran to be honored in a “Celebration of Service” at the event. **Broward County** Mayor Tim Ryan will serve as the host of this year’s event. To read more, please [click here](#).

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**Featured Property of the Month**

**Sawgrass Court**  
1401 NW 136th Ave., Sunrise  
*Listed by JLL*

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

[Click Here](#)

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**Upcoming Events**

**Alliance Events**

**Alliance Council Connect (Invitation Only)**  
Thursday, June 11, 6:00 p.m.  
Location: GALLERYone Fort Lauderdale  
For more information, please [click here](#).

**Alliance Partner Council Meeting (Members Only)**  
Thursday, June 11, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.  
Location: City of North Lauderdale  
For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at [hkulp@gflalliance.org](mailto:hkulp@gflalliance.org)
Alliance Leadership Council (Members Only)
Monday, June 22 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Location: Greenspoon Marder Law, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

Alliance Governor Council (Members Only)
Tuesday, June 23, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.
Location: Broward College - Simulation Center, Davie
For more information, please contact Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org

Alliance Corporate Council Meeting (Members Only)
Wednesday, June 24, 8:30 - 10:00 a.m.
Location: GUNSTER, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, please contact Helen Kulp at 954-627-0131 or at hkulp@gflalliance.org

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 gbulfm@gflalliance.org or Tania Vinaixa at 954-627-0133 or at tvinaixa@gflalliance.org
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Enterprise Florida Events

36th Hemispheric Congress of Latin American Chambers
June 1 - 4, 2015
Location: Coral Gables
For more information, click here.

FOOMA Japan International Food Machinery & Technology 2015
June 9 – 12, 2015
Location: Tokyo, Japan
For more information, click here.

International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition (SiL) 2015
June 9 – 11, 2015
Location: Barcelona, Spain
For more information, click here.

Paris Air Show 2015
June 15 – 20, 2015
Location: Paris, France
For more information, click here.

ExpoPack 2015
June 16 – 19, 2015
Location: Mexico City, Mexico
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

South Florida Business Journal: 2015 Healthiest Employers
Thursday, June 4, 11:00 a.m.
Location: Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six
For more information, click here.

2015 SFHHA Annual Healthcare Summit
June 4-6
Location: DCOTA, Dania Beach
For more information, click here.
South Florida Symphony Orchestra: A World of Pride
Tuesday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.
Location: Leiser Opera Center, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, click here.

Center for Hemispheric Policy - Mexico: Reform without Development?
Wednesday, June 10, 8:00 a.m.
Location: Westin Colonnade Coral Gables
For more information, click here.

2015 Greater Pompano Beach Business Expo
Tuesday, June 16, 5:00 p.m.
Location: Pompano Elks Lodge, Pompano Beach
For more information, click here.

Center for Hemispheric Policy - Latin America Economic Forecast 2016
Thursday, June 18, 8:00 a.m.
Location: Conrad Hotel Miami
For more information, click here.

South Florida Business Journal: Meet the Staff
Thursday, June 18, 8:30 a.m.
Location: South Florida Business Journal Office, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, click here.

South Florida Business and Wealth Up & Comers Awards
Thursday, June 18, 5:30 p.m.
Location: The Venue, Wilton Manors
For more information, click here.

2nd Annual Marine Industry Day
Saturday, June 20, 12:00 p.m.
Location: Esplanade Park, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, click here.

Jim Moran Institute: 5th Annual South Florida Business & Leadership Conference
Wednesday, June 24, 9:00 a.m.
Location: Greater Ft. Lauderdale Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, click here.

Business for the Arts Broward Cultural Tour
Friday, July 24, 9:00 a.m.
Location: ArtServe, Fort Lauderdale
For more information, click here.

July 29 – August 1
Location: Greater Ft. Lauderdale Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale
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).