

5 things to know, including an inside look at completed Bay Harbor Islands condos

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Buenos días, South Florida.

The Sereno condominium is open for business.

1. Waterfront living

The Sereno at Bay Harbor Islands condominium in Miami-Dade County is completed and resident move-ins are in full swing. The developers, 13th Floor Investments and Integra Investments, said it has sold all 38 units in the eight-story waterfront tower. Click here for an inside look at the condos and to read more by Senior Reporter Brian Bandell, including the condominium's location, how much the project grossed in sales, specs on the units and its amenities.



Sereno in Bay Harbor Islands.

2. FTL's real estate boom

The *Business Journal's* "Breaking Ground with Brian Bandell" panel on Fort Lauderdale's thriving real estate market was packed to capacity Friday, with about 120 people in attendance to hear panelists Chairman and CEO of Stiles Corp. Terry Stiles; Merrimac Ventures President Dev Motwani and Ellis Diversified Chairman and President Jim Ellis. Bandell led the discussion, where the business leaders spoke of the prominent projects they're working on in the area, and shared insights on the Broward city's transformation and the trends shaping real estate development today. Click here to read more and to view a gallery from the event.

3. Entrepreneurship on tap

One of the SFBJ's most esteemed features is our weekly Lists, which our readers use as a valuable source for leads that help generate connections and business. The latest addition to our cadre of lists showcases one of the tri-county area's burgeoning industries: craft breweries. Our research indicates that the number of breweries in Florida jumped more than 235 percent from 45 in 2011 to 151 in 2015 and South Florida is getting its fair share of those brewers. Click here to access the list of South Florida Brewers and for additional content on the growing sector by Research Director Gilberto Medina and Digital Producer Emon Reiser. (Cheers!)

4. Broward Workshop highlights gains/challenges

About 1,000 people attended Broward Workshop's "State of the County" forum Friday where many of the region's heavy hitters in business were on hand to hear about Broward County's gains in the past year, such as job creation, and some of its current challenges, including the potential loss of new employers due to uncertainties surrounding Florida's embattled economic development engines Enterprise Florida and Visit Florida. Click here to read more takeaways from the event by Ventures reporter Debora Lima.

5. Prison sentences for fraud

Nine people, including seven from South Florida, were sentenced to prison for a \$172 million insurance fraud scheme involving drug compounding at local pharmacies. They were part of 16 people the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Florida announced charges against for allegedly misleading insurance companies to boost payments for compounded drugs. Click here to read more, including the identities of the nine, how much they agreed to forfeit in assets, how many of the defendants have pleaded guilty and the local companies allegedly involved in the scheme.

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