



Promotional information provided  
by the Citrus Chamber of Commerce.

### Mission of the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce

The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce is an organization of businesses unified in efforts to advance the economic growth of the region, promote the interests of the business community, provide key leadership on key commerce issues and preserve the county's quality of life.

# Chamber Connection

915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429 · 352-795-3149 · 106 W. Main St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

*Citrus County is headed to Tallahassee!*

## Join the Chamber for Legislative Day on March 23

The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce is headed to Tallahassee on Thursday, March 23, for Citrus County Legislative Day and we invite you to join us!

This annual event is one of the Chamber's most popular for our business community to hear from legislators and agency officials on issues that are important to our community. Each year, we welcome 100 of our Chamber members, community leaders and citizens to join us and let Tallahassee know that Citrus is a community that is involved and cares about what our legislators are doing. Thanks to our participants, Citrus County has the reputation of having one of the most influential Chamber events in the state. Registration for Legislative Day is



More than 100 Citrus County business and community leaders attended last year's Chamber Legislative Day in Tallahassee.

now open on the Chamber website.

Two options are available:

- An all-inclusive trip that includes roundtrip bus transportation, the Legislative speaker sessions, lunch with a keynote speaker, and free time to sit in

on sessions or attend committee meetings.

- For those who wish to drive on their own, a second option includes the speaker sessions and lunch.

The Chamber thanks our Presenting



**Crystal Automotive and Motorcycle Group is the Presenting Sponsor for Legislative Day on March 23 in Tallahassee.**

Sponsor Crystal Automotive and Motorcycle Group; Governors Club dinner sponsor ZF Systems, and luncheon sponsor Duke Energy for their support in making this event possible.

For information, call Ardath Prendergast at 352-795-3149 or email to ardath@citruscountychamber.com. To register, go to CitrusCountyChamber.com.

### GET READY FOR

## STRAWBERRIES!

*Floral City Strawberry Festival is March 4 & 5*



**Pageant Director Mary-Ann Virgilio crowning last year's Little Miss Strawberry Princess winner.**

Following a successful Florida Manatee Festival on the west side of the County two weeks ago, the Chamber is now gearing up for the Floral City Strawberry Festival on the east side! Join us on March 4 and 5 for continuous musical entertainment, a beer and wine garden, luscious strawberry shortcake, the Miss Strawberry Princess pageants, pie-eating contests, car shows, art and craft booths and kids activities. There is something for everyone.

General vendor spaces are still available for you to put your business in front of over 25,000 festival attendees. Special

MARCH 4TH AND 5TH, 2017  
**30th Annual FLORAL CITY STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL**  
PRESENTED BY:  
**Insight CREDIT UNION**  
FLORAL PARK, FLORAL CITY, FL

- STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE
- PIE EATING CONTESTS
- STRAWBERRY PRINCESS PAGEANT
- ARTS & CRAFTS
- MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT
- BEER AND WINE GARDEN
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES
- AND MORE!

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**CITRUS COUNTY Chamber of Commerce**

GO STRAWBERRY FEST.COM 352-795-3149

rates are available for Chamber members.

And for every young lady that dreams of being a princess, we invite her to participate in the Miss Strawberry Princess pageant Saturday morning, March 4, from 9 to 11 a.m. on the main stage in the park. This special pageant is designed to be fun and enjoyable for the whole family and to help children build self-esteem. It is not a highly competitive event.

Vendor applications

and Miss Strawberry Princess applications are available at [www.GoStrawberryFest.com](http://www.GoStrawberryFest.com). For more information, contact Kathleen at 352-795-3149 or [kathleen@citruscountychamber.com](mailto:kathleen@citruscountychamber.com). We thank Presenting Sponsor Insight Credit Union and Bronze Sponsors Suncoast Credit Union and Brannen Bank for their support. For other sponsorship opportunities, we invite you to contact Janet at 352-795-3149.



**Scott Carnahan**

### Scott Carnahan to be speaker for February's Chamber Luncheon

Citrus County Commission Chair Scott Carnahan is the keynote speaker for the Chamber's luncheon on Feb. 10 at Citrus Hills. The commissioner will speak about

his visions and goals for Citrus County for 2017. The luncheon is sponsored by Citrus Memorial Hospital. To RSVP, call Janet at 352-795-3149.

### RECENT RIBBON CUTTINGS

**Welcome New Chamber Members:** The Chamber continues to grow weekly! We welcome our new members and thank all of them for joining the Chamber. We encourage the community to patronize their businesses.

### Live Action Fishing Adventures

352-613-2864



**The Chamber welcomes Captain Justin Rolph with Live Action Fishing Adventures. He offers full- and half-day fishing and scalloping charters out of Crystal River. Ambassadors to welcome him include Dennis Pfeiffer, Orkin Pest Control; Michele Fowler, Cruise Planners; and Jeanne Green, West Central Solutions. Captain Justin can be reached at 352-613-2864.**

## Chamber Member News

### Songsation on Feb. 4

Join Chamber member Nature Coast Ministries and The Sanctuary Mission from 2-5 p.m. Feb. 4 at Curtis Peterson Auditorium in Lecanto for Songsation! This free-to-the-public event will feature performers such as Audience of One, Harold Waddington, Jill and Don Joyful, Leah Russau, Margie Sipes and Felicia Smith. Songsation is brought to you through the sponsorships of local companies that make the free event possible. All monies raised support the work of Nature Coast Ministries and The Sanctuary Mission to provide services to the homeless and indigent population.

### Take Stock in Children Charity Golf Tournament on Feb. 12

The Citrus County Sheriff's Office is sponsoring "Dollars for Scholars," the Fourth Annual Golf Tournament at the Black Diamond Quarry Course to support Take Stock in Children. For information: 352-464-0118 or 352-746-6920, or email to [linda\\_hotch@hotmail.com](mailto:linda_hotch@hotmail.com).

### Inverness Woman's Club celebrates 100 Years of service: Community invited to high tea, open house

In March, the Inverness Woman's Club will celebrate 100 years of service to Citrus County with two big events that are open to the public.

On Saturday, March 4, a "high tea" will be held at the Old Courthouse Heritage Museum. In addition to enjoying scones, clotted cream, preserves, tea sandwiches and more, attendees will be treated to a fashion show of clothing through the decades, from

1917 through 2017. Guests will also be able to see a historic display of the club's community involvement over the years of its existence. Tickets to the event are \$25 each and may be purchased by calling 341-3911 or 613-0460.

The second event is an open house at the club's home, 1715 Forest Drive, across from Whispering Pines Park, on Wednesday, March 15, from 4 to 7 p.m. Chamber members as well

as community and club leaders are invited to attend.

The Inverness Woman's Club was officially formed on March 17, 1917, only five years after the Historic Courthouse was built. In June 1921, the club became part of the national organization, the General Federation of Women's Clubs and is officially known as the GFWC Woman's Club of Inverness.



### 'Chamber Report' on WYKE

Watch the weekly "Chamber Report" show on

WYKE-TV to stay abreast of Chamber events, issues and member spotlights with host Josh Wooten. "Chamber Report" is broadcast on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. on Bright House Channel 16 and Channel 47 (digital antenna). It can also be accessed on LiveStream.com by

searching for WYKE.

This week's program features three Chamber members — Bobby Winsler with Winsler Consulting Advocacy, Bonnie McMullin with Nature Coast Ministries and Jean Riley with Alpaca Magic USA — who share information about their businesses and upcoming events.

"Chamber Report" is your ticket to the many happenings in Citrus County!

## Chamber events

- Feb. 2 — Mixer — Village Cadillac Toyota
  - Feb. 10 — Chamber Luncheon at Citrus Hills; guest speaker is Commission Chair Scott Carnahan; sponsored by Citrus Memorial Health
  - Feb. 23 — "Know Your Chamber Benefits" Chamber Membership Benefits Meeting, Welcome Center
  - March 4 & 5 — Floral City Strawberry Festival, Floral Park
  - March 10 — Chamber Luncheon at Crystal River Golf Club; speaker TBA
  - March 16 — Mixer at Highland Hills Country Club
  - March 23 — Legislative Day in Tallahassee
- For more information on all Chamber events, call 352-795-3149 or go to [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com).

## Chamber Legacy Partners

The Chamber recognizes our Legacy Partners that have made a special investment in the Chamber to support the programs and mission of the Chamber. For information on becoming a Legacy Partner, please contact the Chamber at 352-795-3149.

