



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 · 203 E. Dampier St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

Last Day of the Strawberry Festival!

It's the final day of the 36th Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival produced by The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce and presented by Jenkins Auto Group!

This salute to our local agriculture offers fresh strawberries hand-picked right around the corner from the festival at Ferris Groves. Luscious strawberry shortcakes will be available for your nosing pleasure, along with flats and half-flats of whole fresh berries that you can take home with you as a sweet souvenir of your day to make your own delectable treats.

Entertainment

Today's entertainment lineup includes Bad Luck Penny from 10 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. with headliner Palomino Blonde closing out this year's festival from 1 P.M. – 4 P.M.

Contests, tours

Sticking to its very berry American roots, the annual pie-eating contest opens for registration at 10am with the event itself at 1pm on Strawberry Row! Visitors are also invited to tour the Historic Duval-Metz House in Floral City. Considered to be the oldest home in Citrus County, it will be open today during festival hours along with the Floral City Heritage Museum in the Town Center just across the street. Guests can also take a stroll downtown to see the beautiful Avenue of the

Oaks and charming local shops for a true "taste" of Old Florida. Shuttles will run all day Saturday and Sunday from the festival grounds to the Town Center. Look for the bus marked "Downtown Shuttle".

Ball-playing pups!

New this year, we are excited to welcome The Soccer Collies! They are a professional team of soccer-playing Border Collies, right out of Floral City, on a Mission to connect the soccer world with the dog rescue world. Once an hour participants will be able to form a circle around a Soccer Dog and a very soft ball. When the dog pushes the ball out of the circle, then the dog has scored a goal! It is free to participate so make sure you schedule some time to PLAY BALL!

Round out your festival adventures by strolling the park and browsing over 200 arts and craft vendors; indulging in a cold beer; glass of wine or hard seltzer at the beer garden near the main stage; enjoying the gastronomic pleasures offered by the many food vendors; or enjoying laughs and smiles with the young ones as they "play themselves silly" in the kids' area.

If you go ...

Floral City Strawberry Festival hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Entrance fee is \$5.00 for adults, children 12 and under are free. Park free at the Citrus County Auditorium and take a shuttle to the festival location.

For complete information on the Floral City Strawberry Festival, visit www.GoStrawberryFest.com.

On Facebook, search for "Floral City Strawberry Festival."



Thank you to our 36th annual Floral City Strawberry Festival sponsors:

- At Home Realty
- Carson Valley Accounting
- Homosassa Springs Adventures
- Schlabach Security & Sound
- Movement Mortgage
- NatureCoaster
- Russell's Western Wear
- Suncoast Credit Union
- Three Rivers Outdoors & Archery
- Phil Royal Legacy
- Ultimate Health Plans
- Citrus 95.3
- The Fox 96.7
- Nick Nicholas Ford
- Sound Decisions
- The Hagar Group
- Brannen Bank
- Digital Hound Media

Luncheon to focus on Mental Health in our Community

Join us for our March Chamber Luncheon featuring Sgt. Rachel Montgomery, CCSO behavioral health sergeant, to discuss the mental health issues our community is facing.

March 10th, 2023; 11:30am-1pm; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club

Networking: 11:30am-12pm; Program/Speaker: 12pm-1pm

Sponsored by Vitas Health Care

Pricing is \$25 for members, \$30 for Non-members. Advance reservations are required. No walk-ups will be accepted. Reserve your space NOW at www.itrusCountyChamber.com.

Upcoming Events

3/05 — Floral City Strawberry Festival; Floral Park

3/10 March — Chamber Luncheon; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club; Speaker: Sgt. Rachael Montgomery, CCSO – Behavioral Health Division

3/16 — March Mixer hosted by Daystar Life Center; Daystar Life Center

3/22-3/23 — Annual Legislative Days; Tallahassee

Chamber Legacy Members



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 by emailing Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com.