



**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

## Silent Auction Open Online

For many years, the Chamber enjoyed holding a silent auction in conjunction with the annual Pillar Awards event. We have always been thankful to the many donors who contribute lovely baskets, artwork, and more for the auction. However, due to limited seating at the awards event, opportunities to bid on these auction items were also limited.

A few years ago, we decided to move the auction online to give our whole community a chance to participate and bid on items. From a day of fun on the beach or off-shore on a fishing charter, tasty treats and beautiful photography art, to weekend getaways and gift certificates this is one auction you won't want to miss!

See all the incredible items and get your bids in before 10PM on April 28th! Visit <https://tinyurl.com/PillarAuction23>.

Thank you to our generous donors! Arbor Trail Rehab & Skilled Nursing Center, Big Dan's Carwash, Bob Oswald,

Place  
Your  
Bid!

Bravera Health Seven Rivers, BubbaQue's BBQ, Citrus County Chronicle, Citrus Inflatables, Crystal River Health & Rehab, Encompass Health, Sound Decisions, Diamond Ridge Health & Rehab, Explorita Adventure Center, Extreme Fishing Habit Charters & Tours, Gary Kuhl, Grand Living of Citrus Hills, HomeTown Citrus, Hunter Springs Kayak, Jazzercise, Kane's Ace Hardware, World Fusion, WOW Citrus Massage & Fitness, Lora L. Wilson Attorney, Mary Kay - Shelia Millaway, Mariana's The Stinky Rose, Mederi Home Health Care, Mertailor's Mermaid Aquarium Encounter, New York Style Hand Wash & Detail, Plantation on Crystal River, Twisted Ink, Sadie's Corner Kitchen, Breakfast Station #7, Dillon's Cinnamon Sticks, Seafood Seller, Prohibition Grill, Guyer's Doughnuts & Ice Cream, Quality First Roofing, Transparent Mortgage Lending, The Boil Yard, and Twisted Oaks Golf Club.

## RECENT RIBBON CUTTINGS

The Chamber is growing every week. We welcome our new members and thank all of them for joining the Chamber. We encourage the community to support their businesses.

### New York Style Hand Car Wash & Detail Center



Welcome to the Chamber, New York Style Hand Car Wash & Detail Center! They are a family-owned business, that has been up and running for almost 20 years! They take pride in their work and are determined to get customers' satisfaction. All of the cars are done by hand and they also detail motorhomes, motorcycles, trailers, and boats! 728 South US Highway 41, Inverness. (352) 341-1010.

### Rustic Mama's Boutique



Welcome to the Chamber, Rustic Mama's Boutique! Rustic Mama's products consist of handmade all-natural bath and body products, small-batch soy candles & wax melts. American made. If it Smells Good, they made it! We truly believe in shop local, buy local. Their shop also houses pieces crafted by about 12 local artists that were hand-picked for their specialty craft. Stop by the store, Sniffs are always FREE! 441 NE 1st Terr, Crystal River. (352) 794-3555. <https://www.rusticmamasboutique.com>

## Chamber Supports META

The Chamber was pleased to present a check to local non-profit organization META (Manatee Eco Tourism Association) for \$5,299 for their hard work and volunteerism providing the manatee boat tours at the 36th Annual Florida Manatee Festival.

Captains from Explorita, Manatee Swim Center - Captain Mikes, Plantation Adventure Center, Manatee Tour & Dive, and River Ventures all volun-

teered their equipment and time.

We are proud that our major annual events not only offer an economic impact for our community but also allow us the opportunity to support organizations like this.

META : is the Manatee Eco Tourism Association of Citrus County and strives to ensure that all human/manatee interaction is conducted in safe, non-stressful, and considerate manner.



Pictured: Gloria Witkus, META Director of Outreach & Education; Kim Altman, META Past President; Paul Cross, META Past Vice President; Missy Slanker, Chamber Special Events Manager. Not Pictured: Justin Strickland, META President; Ron Ross, META Vice President; Cory Bronson, META Treasurer.

## May Luncheon features Rep. Massullo

The Chamber is excited to welcome Florida House Representative, Ralph Massullo, to give us a legislative session wrap-up during our May Luncheon on May 19.

The Florida Legislature is scheduled to sine die on May 5. This will be one of the first opportunities to hear from Representative Massullo post-session about the bills that passed

this session and their impacts on Citrus County, as well as local appropriations passed by the legislature and awaiting signature by the Governor. This luncheon will fill fast, so don't delay. Register today.

May 19th, 2023; 11:30am-1pm; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club

Sponsored by YMCA of the Suncoast - Citrus

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

Pricing: \$25 - members  
\$30 - Non-members  
Advanced reservations are required. No walk-ups will be accepted.

Make reservations online now at [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com)

### WoodSpring Suites



Welcome to the Chamber, WoodSpring Suites Inverness! WoodSpring Suites® Inverness is an extended-stay hotel with great weekly and monthly rates along U.S. Highway 41. Amenities include free basic WiFi, free parking, an onsite laundry facility, an exercise room, and vending machines. Each of their furnished suites has its own kitchen, complete with a microwave, cooktop, full-size refrigerator, and prep sink. 123 South Seminole Avenue, Inverness, FL 34452. 352-419-0456.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

4/28 — An Evening of Elegance Chamber Pillar Awards Event, Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club

5/18 — May Chamber Mixer; Suncoast Business Masters — Location: Realtor's Association

5/19 — May Luncheon; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club; Speaker: Representative Ralph Massullo; Sponsor: YMCA

6/9 — June Luncheon; Plantation on Crystal River; Speaker: FDOT District 7 Secretary David Gwynne; Sponsor: Turtle Girl, LLC

## Chamber Legacy Members

