



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

BAM FAM Tour: Behind the scenes of local Industry

In a celebration of local entrepreneurship, community growth, and business innovation, Citrus County Chamber of Commerce proudly hosted its Annual BAM FAM Tour last week as a part of Business Appreciation Month. The tour, which saw the participation of over 40 prominent local business and community leaders, was a whirlwind journey that highlighted the bustling economic landscape of our beautiful county.

We want to thank Nick Nicholas Ford, our presenting sponsor for Business Appreciation Month, for their support and attendance of the event. The tour bus, sponsored by Heather Cogar - Sell-state Next Generation Realty, whisked participants from one business hub to another, providing a firsthand experience of the growth and potential our county has to offer.

Highlights of the tour included visits to:

- Crystal Aero Group, renowned for its aviation prowess.
- City of Crystal River, giving insights into the city's administration and future



CELEBRATING LOCAL BUSINESS
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projects.

- The Bin Spot - Homosassa, showcasing unique retail ventures.
- Homosassa Distillery, which raised anticipation levels as the attendees got a preview of what's 'brewing'.
- Stillwater Preserve RV Resort, another anticipated business that prom-

ises to be a haven for travelers.

- Carol Scott, Planning and Environmental Management Administrator for Florida's Turnpike, shared invaluable details about the current and future plans for the Parkway.
- Joe Cappuccilli provided detailed and exciting updates on the 491 / 486

area construction and what lies ahead for the region.

- Covanta Energy, the stalwart of sustainable energy in the county.
- Citrus County Administration, where leaders shared countywide initiatives and plans.

- City of Inverness, showcasing its commitment to community development and its significance in Citrus County.

- Rock Solid Creations, a testament to the craftsmanship and ingenuity of our local artisans.

- And, of course, a return to ClearSky Rehabilitation Hospital of Lecanto for an in-depth understanding of and the exceptional services they provide.

The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce wishes to extend its gratitude to all the businesses and individuals who graciously welcomed the tour participants, sharing their expertise, vision, and passion.

Together, they exemplify the vibrant, forward-thinking, and cohesive community that makes Citrus County a premier business destination.



Chamber VP, Ardath Prendergast, gives a brief overview to the BAM FAM attendees before departure.



BAM FAM attendees get a sneak peek at the Homosassa Distillery Company.



BAM FAM attendees tour the site of the future Stillwater Preserve RV Resort.

Lights, Camera, Christmas Magic! Parade Applications OPEN

Get ready to deck the halls and light up the streets, because the 2023 Crystal River and Inverness Parades are just around the corner! This year, we're inviting local businesses and community organizations to be a part of the holiday magic by applying to participate in these beloved annual events.

Parade Theme: "Christmas Movies"

Embrace the spirit of the season by bringing your favorite Christmas movies to life through imaginative and festive floats. Whether you're a fan of timeless classics, nostalgic cartoons, or modern favorites, there's a place for you in these parades. Let your creativity shine as you

engage with the community and spread holiday cheer.

Double-Sided Parades with Friendly Competition

Both the Crystal River and Inverness Parades are double-sided, ensuring maximum visibility for your spectacular float. To add a dash of excitement, each float will be judged by a panel of community members, with winners recognized in several categories. It's a chance to showcase your creativity and compete in the spirit of fun.

Float Entry Fees:

We understand the importance of community involvement, which is why we've kept entry fees affordable:

- School-affiliated floats, first responders, government officials, and reigning 2022 pageant winners: No-cost entry.
- Non-Profit, Car clubs and religious affiliations: Only \$30 per parade
- Commercial units: Just \$60 per parade

Parade Details and Deadlines

- Crystal River Parade, Presented by Seacoast Bank: Join us in the evening on December 2nd, as the streets come alive with the magic of the season. The deadline to register is November 25th.
- Inverness Parade, presented by

Tony's Collision Center: Be part of the early afternoon festivities on December 9th and help spread joy throughout the city. The deadline to register is December 2nd.

For any questions or to register your organization, please reach out to Missy Slanker at Events@CitrusCountyChamber.com.

Don't miss this incredible opportunity to be a part of the magic of the 2023 Crystal River and Inverness Parades. Let's make this year's parades the most extraordinary and unforgettable yet! Apply now and be a part of the holiday tradition that brings our community closer together. Online at www.CitrusCountyChamber.com

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.

Dream Kitchens and Baths Inc.



Welcome to the Chamber, Dream Kitchens And Baths INC.! Dream Kitchens & Baths in Crystal River Florida has been making dreams come true for many years. The professionals at Dream Kitchens and Baths can help you with the design of your next remodeling project. They can help you select from hundreds of samples of quality products ranging from porcelain tile, ceramic tile, hardwood flooring, laminate flooring, shower wall tile, granite countertops, and solid surface countertops in the bathroom as well as the kitchen. 8010 W Gulf to Lake Hwy Crystal River FL 34429. (352) 613-7996. <https://dreamkitchensandbaths.com/>

Twistid Arts Initiative



Welcome to the Chamber, Twistid Arts Initiative! They were born from the desire to raise awareness and access to all forms of visual and performing arts in the community through innovative programming, hands-on education, and immersive events right here in Citrus County. Their 2nd Annual Walk Of Arts Festival is scheduled for November 4th at Floral Park! Learn more about their mission, how you can help, and their upcoming events at <https://www.twistidartsinitiative.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Fire Up Citrus! Now Nov. 1

After postponing due to the recent tornado event in Crystal River, the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the new date is set for November 1st at The Valerie Theatre from 6PM-9PM. Our

ALSO COMING UP:

11/16 — November Mixer hosted by the Sugarmill Woods Country Club
11/17 — November Chamber Luncheon;

presenters are eager to show off their BIG IDEAS for the future of Citrus County and the community is invited to join us for an electrifying evening that will leave you wondering "What-If" or "Why Not". Limited tickets are still available for only \$10, online at www.CitrusCountyChamber.com.

Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club; 40 Under Forty Awards; Sponsored by Digital Hound Media

12/2 — Crystal River Christmas Parade; 6PM
12/9 — Inverness Christmas Parade; 12PM

Chamber Legacy Members

