



**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 theregion, promote the interests of the business community, provide key leadership on key commerce issues and preserve the county's quality of life.

Promotional information provided by the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce.

# Chamber Connection

915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429 · 352-795-3149 · 203 E. Dampier St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

## BAM BBQ to support Hurricane Helene Recovery Efforts

In the wake of Hurricane Helene's impact on our community, the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce has announced that a portion of the proceeds from this year's Business Appreciation Month (B.A.M.) BBQ will be donated to support Hurricane Helene recovery efforts.

### Event Details:

- Date: October 24th
- Time: 6 P.M. - 10 P.M.
- Location: M&B Dairy, Lecanto (8760 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto, FL 34461)

"As our community comes together to celebrate the tremendous contributions of our local businesses, we also recognize the resilience and strength that has emerged in the face of adversity," said Josh Wooten, President/CEO of the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce. "By contributing a portion of the proceeds from our B.A.M. BBQ, we aim to support the ongoing recovery efforts and extend a helping hand to those affected by Hurricane Helene."

The B.A.M. BBQ is the grand finale of Business Appreciation

Month, where Citrus County's business professionals, community leaders, and residents gather to enjoy an evening of delicious BBQ, live music, and networking in a relaxed, rustic farm setting.

With over 700 attendees expected, this event serves as an opportunity to celebrate our local businesses' impact while now also providing vital support to rebuild and recover.

Guests can look forward to indulging in Leon McClellan's famous BBQ, sumptuous sides, and a delectable dessert from

The Ice Cream Club—featuring ice cream made with the milk from M&B Dairy's very own cows.

Entertainment will be provided by George Morris & The Lariat Band, ensuring a night of great food, music, and community spirit.

### Ticket Information:

- General Admission: \$35
  - Open Bar Admission: \$60
- Sponsorship opportunities are also available for those who wish to elevate their brand and impact. To learn more, please

reach out to Corrine at [corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com](mailto:corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com).

"Now, more than ever, our community's unity and strength are on full display," Wooten added. "We invite everyone to join us at the B.A.M. BBQ as we not only celebrate our local businesses but also come together to party with a purpose and support our community."

For more information about the event or how you can support the recovery efforts, visit [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com).

## October Salute to Business Luncheon features Senate President-Elect Ben Albritton

*Make reservations now for Oct. 11 event*

Join us for the highly anticipated Salute to Business Luncheon as part of the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce's Business Appreciation Month. This event is one of our most prominent luncheons of the year, bringing together leaders and professionals from across the county to celebrate the strength and success of our local business community.

We are excited to welcome Senate President Elect Ben Albritton as our keynote speaker. Senator Albritton will provide an insightful overview of his legislative agenda for the upcoming year, offering a unique perspective on how state policy will impact businesses in Citrus County and beyond.

The luncheon will be held at the College of Central Florida, Wilton Simpson Campus in Lecanto, and will feature a delicious catered meal by Kanes Cattle Co.

### Event Details:

- Date: October 11th, 2024; 11:30am - 1:00pm



Sen. Ben Albritton

- Location: College of Central Florida, Wilton Simpson Campus, Lecanto
- Admission: \$35 per person
- Luncheon Sponsor: CORE Business Center
- Venue Sponsor: College of Central Florida

Proclaimed by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners and produced by the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, the month of October is celebrated each year as "Business Appreciation Month" to recognize the invaluable contributions, made by ALL of our local businesses, to support and uplift our community.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect with fellow business leaders and gain valuable insights into the future of business in Florida.

Reservations for this annual luncheon are only \$35 and must be made in advance online at [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com). Table sponsorships are also available. Please contact Corrine to inquire at [Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com](mailto:Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com) or call 352-795-3149.



Numerous volunteers get to work providing food and supplies to residents in Homosassa following Hurricane Helene.

## Citrus County Rallies in Wake of Hurricane Helene

In the aftermath of Hurricane Helene, Citrus County has once again demonstrated the remarkable strength and generosity of its community. Over the past week, residents, local businesses, and organizations have united to support those affected by the storm, showcasing the incredible spirit that defines our county.

The Chamber was honored to be involved in several giveback events including one in Homosassa organized by Worthington A/C and the Old Homosassa Civic Club. Additionally, in an extraordinary display of solidarity, Citrus Sports & Apparel and Chopping Block organized a relief initiative in Crystal River just 24 hours right after the storm. Our community also welcomed Senator Marcio Rubio on Wednesday who toured Ozello and Homosassa to witness first hand the extensive flood damage and provided an opportunity to directly discuss our current needs and long-term recovery plans.

Building on the current efforts, the Chamber is launching the Cards for Kindness Campaign. We invite community members to purchase gift cards from local restaurants impacted by Hurricane Helene. These gift cards will be donated to residents in need, providing a dual benefit: supporting local businesses in their recovery and offering direct aid to our neighbors facing



Chamber President/CEO Josh Wooten met with Senator Marco Rubio to discuss impacted areas of Citrus County.

hardship. Cards purchased for this initiative can be dropped off at the Chamber office in Crystal River during regular business hours.

For more information on how to get involved and to access an up-to-date list of business and individual resources available for hurricane assistance, please visit the Chamber's website at [www.citruscountychamber.com](http://www.citruscountychamber.com).

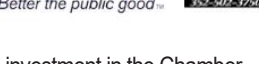
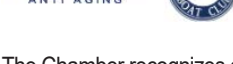


Will Wilson, Citrus Sports and Apparel, and Brittany Swainston, Chopping Block, organized drive through giveaway in only 24 hours to provide relief for hurricane victims.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

10/11 Salute to Business Luncheon; 11:30am – 1:00pm; College of Central Florida; Speaker: Senate President-Elect, Ben Albritton; Sponsor: Core Business Center  
10/24 BAM BBQ; 6:00pm – 10:00pm; M&B Dairy; Tickets on sale at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com)

### 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](mailto:Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com).