

Promotional information provided by the Citrus County 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 theregion, promote the interests of the business community, provide key leadership on key commerce issues and preserve the county's quality of life.



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

## **1 WEEK to Berry Mania:** Floral City Strawberry Festival Arrives Soon!

alling all berry enthusiasts and festival fanatics! The countdown has begun for the 38th Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival, set to paint the town red on March 1st & 2nd, 2025, at Floral Park.

Presented by Coast to Coast Heating & Air Conditioning and hosted by the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, this year's extravaganza promises a berrylicious blend of fun, flavor, and family-friendly festivities!

Fields of fresh, locally picked strawberries will be transformed into mouthwatering delights like our famous strawberry shortcakes (made with REAL whipped cream!) and juicy flats of berries to take home.

Kick off Saturday with the Posting of the Colors and enjoy non-stop entertainment on the main stage all weekend long including bluegrass sensation, Justin X-Hale. Stay in the loop with our event calendar online for all the very berry excitement!

Explore Floral City's rich



#### FREE CAR GIVEAWAY!

Attendees at this year's Floral City Strawberry Festival could be driving in style, thanks to a special giveaway by Wheels & Deals, providing a chance to win a 2015 Red Chevy Trax, with title fees and a 1-year warranty included, must be 18 or older to win.

Visitors can enter the drawing by visiting the Wheels & Deals booth, where the car will be on display both days. The lucky winner will be announced on Sunday at 4 p.m. on the main stage. Winners must be present to claim the prize. Don't miss your chance to be a WINNER!

history with a tour of the Historic Duval-Metz House, open

Saturday only. Shuttle services this gem of old Florida, whisk you from the festival to offering a glimpse into our storied past.

Feeling competitive? Dive into our pie-eating contests or cheer on the next Miss & Little **Miss Strawberry Princesses in** their berry-themed regalia. Don't miss out—sign up early for these berry-licious showdowns!

Back by popular demand, the Soccer Collies return to wow audiences with their canine soccer skills. Join the fun and see if you can outscore these furry athletes!

Amidst 250+ art and craft vendors, a beer garden, and a kids' play area, there's something for everyone at Floral Park. Festival hours are Saturday 9am-5pm and Sunday 9am-4pm, with \$5 admission (children 12 and under free).

Park hassle-free at Citrus County Auditorium and hop on our free shuttle to the festival grounds for a stress-free start to your berry adventure!

For all things Floral City Strawberry Festival, visit www.GoStrawberryFest.com. Get ready to make memories and indulge in all things strawberry-see you there!

### **March Chamber Luncheon features Citrus County Sheriff David Vincent**

Join us as we welcome Sheriff David Vincent, who will share exciting updates on the reorganization of the Sheriff's Office and his vision for the future of law enforcement in Citrus County.

Sheriff Vincent will dive into his goals, strategies, and the steps he's taking to make our community safer and more connected.

This is your chance to hear directly from the Sheriff about how his leadership will shape the county in the coming years.

**DETAILS ARE:** March 14th, 2025 • 11:30am - 1:00pm Networking: 11:30am - 12:00pm

Program/Speaker: 12:00pm - 1:00pm Sponsor: College of Central Florida Wilton Simpson Campus Location: Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club Pricing: \$25 - Members \$35 - Non-members Reserve your spot today! Advanced reservations are required. No walk-ups will be

accepted. RSVP at www.CitrusCountyChamber.com.



**Citrus County Sheriff David Vincent** 



### ming Chamber Events

- 03/01-03/02 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival; Floral Park, Floral City
- 03/14 March Chamber Luncheon; 11:30am-1pm; Location: Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club; Speaker: Sheriff David Vincent; Sponsor: College of Central Florida Wilton Simpson Campus
- 03/20 2025 Citrus County Legislative Day; Tallahassee
- 03/25 March Chamber Mixer; 5pm-7pm; Suncoast Business Masters at the Citrus County Realtors Association



### RECENT RIBBON CUTTING

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

#### **Citizens First Bank**

Welcome to the Chamber, @citizensfirstbank - Hernando! Experience banking with a personal touch at Citizens First Bank in Hernando, where community values and financial expertise come together. Dedicated to serving the needs of individuals and businesses alike, Citizens First Bank offers a full range of banking services including checking and savings accounts, loans, and investment solutions. With a commitment to personalized service, their knowledgeable team works closely with you to achieve your financial goals, ensuring a banking experience that's both convenient and tailored to your needs. Discover how Citizens First Bank can provide you with trusted financial solutions and exceptional service, all while staying deeply rooted in the community. Your financial success is their priority. 2623 N Forest Ridge Blvd, Unit 10 Hernando FL 34442. (352) 753-9515. https://www.citizensfb.com/



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.