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 · 352-795-3149 · 212 W. Main St., Inverness · 352-726-2801

Salute to Business Luncheon Serves Up Inspiration

The Chamber is turning next week's regular luncheon into a standout event. On Friday, October 10 from 11 am to 1 pm, the Annual BAM Salute to Business Luncheon will be held at the College of Central Florida's Wilton Simpson Campus. This elevated gathering is part of Business Appreciation Month and is designed to bring local business leaders together for food, fellowship, and forward-looking ideas.

This year's keynote speaker is Florida Commissioner of Agriculture Wilton Simpson, a leader well known to Citrus County and former Florida Senate President.

He will share his insights on Florida's economy, agriculture, workforce trends, and growth opportunities right on the campus that bears his name.

Attendees can expect more than just a meal. The luncheon will feature a locally crafted lunch by Kane's Cattle Co., plenty of networking with community leaders and business professionals, and timely takeaways to bring back to your organization.

Tickets are priced at $40 and the event tends to sell out quickly, so reserve your spot now at CitrusCountyChamber.com.

Special thanks go to Duke Energy, the Luncheon Sponsor, and Nick Nicholas Ford, this year's Business Appreciation Month Presenting Sponsor, for helping make this event possible.

Want to make a bigger impact? Contact the Chamber for sponsorship opportunities or simply join us for a lunch that is as meaningful as it is memorable.

BAM BBQ Bash is Back!

The Chamber's Annual BAM BBQ is back on Thursday, October 23 from 6 to 10 pm at M and B Dairy in Lecanto, and it promises to be the grand finale of Business Appreciation Month.

This beloved tradition is more than just dinner under the stars, it is a chance to honor and celebrate the businesses that fuel growth, innovation, and community spirit here in Citrus County.

Guests will be treated to a mouthwatering spread featuring Leon McClellan's famous barbeque, Larry Rook's crispy fried okra, Dixie Hollins' southern fried green tomatoes, hearty sides, and sweet treats from The Ice Cream Club, made with fresh milk from the cows at M and B Dairy. The food alone is reason enough to attend, but the BAM BBQ is known for being a full evening of entertainment and community pride.

This year's event will feature live music from the always popular Echo Sixx, keeping the energy high and the dance floor full. Adding to the excitement, guests will also experience a stunning fire performance by Jen Ferry, whose dazzling show will light up the night.

With more than 800 business professionals, community leaders, and residents expected, the BAM BBQ is one of the largest and most anticipated gatherings of the year.

TICKETS
General Admission: $40
Admission w/Open Bar: $70 (must be 21 or older)

Beyond the food and entertainment, the BAM BBQ is about connection. It brings together Chamber members, business leaders, and neighbors for an evening that reminds us all of the importance of supporting local businesses and recognizing the people who keep Citrus County thriving.

Tickets are on sale now at www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/BAM-BBQ. Sponsorship opportunities are also available for businesses who want to elevate their brand presence while supporting this signature event.

Come hungry, come ready to celebrate, and prepare for a night filled with incredible food, great entertainment, and Citrus County pride. The BAM BBQ is a Business Appreciation Month tradition you will not want to miss.

Upcoming Chamber Events

- **10/10** Salute to Business Luncheon; 11:30am – 1:00pm; College of Central Florida; Speaker: Wilton Simpson, Florida Commissioner of Agriculture; Sponsor: Duke Energy
- **10/23** BAM BBQ; 6:00pm-10:00pm; M&B Dairy
- **11/14** November Chamber Luncheon; 11:30am – 1:00pm; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club
- **11/20** November Chamber Mixer; 5:00pm – 7:00pm; The Oaks B&B
- **12/06** Crystal River Christmas Parade, 6pm
- **12/12** Chamber Luncheon; 11:30am – 1:00pm; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club
- **12/13** Inverness Christmas Parade, Noon
- **12/18** Chamber Mixer; 5:00pm – 7:00pm; (members only), Sweet Citrus Acres

Chamber Member Spotlight

Twisted Oaks Golf Course: A Hole-in-One for Citrus County

Twisted Oaks Golf Course has once again earned the title of Best of the Best Local Golf Course in Citrus County for the eighth consecutive year. That kind of consistency does not happen by accident, and much of the credit goes to General Manager and PGA Golf Professional Tommy Lyman, whose leadership has guided the course from its past challenges into today's award-winning success.

Built in 1991 and designed by Karl Litten, Twisted Oaks plays as a semi-private facility with a full layout stretching 6,876 yards from the back tees and a par of 72. Its rolling terrain provides character and challenge, with uphill and downhill shots, risk versus reward holes, and plenty of strategic options. Practice lovers also enjoy the chipping and putting greens, a practice bunker, and a full driving range.

For Lyman, golf has been a lifelong journey. Born in Dallas and raised in Charlotte, he turned professional in 1971 and earned PGA membership in 1976 after an extensive apprenticeship. With more than forty years in the golf industry, including decades as a head professional and general manager in Georgia and Florida, Lyman took ownership of Twisted Oaks in 2014 and has invested steadily in its growth. From upgrading the golf carts and clubhouse to focusing on course improvements, his vision has been to restore Twisted Oaks as a true golf club built on pride, service, and community.

"Without golf, it is nothing," Lyman has said of the club. "That is what I wanted to bring back into the club, the importance of someone who knows the game, runs competitions, knows the rules, and understands teaching." His approach underscores that Twisted Oaks is more than a course, it is a community asset.

Twisted Oaks also hosts numerous local tournaments and fundraisers, such as the CCBA's Jim Blackshear Memorial Golf Outing, benefiting the Boys & Girls Clubs of Citrus County, and the RACC Charity Golf Tournament, which supports nonprofits like Bridge 4 Veterans, Habitat for Humanity, and the Family Resource Center.

As a proud Chamber Member, Twisted Oaks Golf Course continues to shine as both a recreational destination and a community partner. Their eight-year streak as Best of the Best is a testament to the quality, service, and hometown pride that make them a true Citrus County favorite.

Want to experience Citrus County's award-winning course for yourself? Visit Twisted Oaks Golf Course in Beverly Hills, explore membership opportunities, or call 352 746 6257. Learn more online at www.twistedoaksgc.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.