



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.

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

Music, Memories, and the Sweetest Weekend of the Year Arrive in Floral City NEXT WEEKEND

With just ONE WEEK to go, excitement is building for the 39th Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival, presented by Coast to Coast Heating & Air and produced by the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce. This year's unforgettable event returns to Floral Park on March 7 and 8, 2026, filling the weekend with music, community traditions, and activities the whole family can experience together.

Two days. One park. Endless ways to enjoy it. From the moment the festival opens at 9 a.m., the Main Stage will be alive with entertainment. Saturday begins with Opening Ceremonies, followed at 9:15 a.m. by the beloved Strawberry Princess Pageants. The Little Miss and Miss Strawberry Princess competitions have become a cherished tradition, giving young participants the opportunity to build confidence, develop public speaking skills, and shine in front of a supportive hometown crowd. Live performances will continue throughout the weekend from Rekindled Bits of Grass, The Rick Lynn Band, Money for Nothin', and The Honey Badgers. Guests are welcome to bring lawn chairs, settle in, and enjoy hours of music through-



out the day. One of the biggest crowd favorites returning this year is the World Famous Undeclared National Champion Professional Soccer Dog Team, the Soccer Collies. Beginning at 9:45 a.m. each day, these talented pups take on festival guests in interactive soccer challenges once an hour. It is high energy, family friendly, no additional cost, and always draws a crowd. Families with children will find plenty to keep little ones busy throughout the day. The Kids Zone features several free opportunities for hands-on fun

and interactive activities, including the Citrus Libraries StoryWalk, character appearances from The Star Wars Guys, facepainting, and Citrus County Fire Rescue's Fire Safety House on Saturday. There is room to explore, laugh, and simply enjoy time together outdoors. Also included in your festival entry, the ever-popular Strawberry Pie Eating Contests will be held both days at 1 p.m., with registration beginning at 10 a.m. at the Chamber Information Tent, near the shortcakes. Participation fills quickly, but cheering on contestants is part



of the fun for everyone gathered around Strawberry Row. History lovers can also take advantage of complimentary shuttle service on Saturday to Downtown Floral City where you can tour the Historic Duval Metz House, the oldest documented home still standing in Citrus County. Open on Saturday only, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the home offers a meaningful glimpse into the area's heritage and adds another layer to the festival experience. Of course, strawberries remain at the heart of it all! While strawberry shortcake and fresh berry flats are available for purchase, simply strolling the grounds, enjoying the music, and taking part in the day's



activities are all part of what makes this weekend special. Festival hours are Saturday, March 7 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 8 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is only \$5 per adult, with children 12 and under admitted free. Free parking and shuttle service from the Citrus County Auditorium in Inverness will run continuously throughout both days. For complete schedules and details, visit www.GoStrawberryFest.com or search Floral City Strawberry Festival on Facebook.

DIX JENKINS AUTO GROUP | **TRUSTED SOLUTIONS** | **VILLAGE POWERSPORTS** | **Kawasaki Can-Am SeaDoo** | **CITRUS 95.3** | **Fiber** | **99.9 FM**

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CHRONICLE | **BrannenBank** | **CoreCivic** | **REALTORS ASSOCIATION OF CITRUS COUNTY, INC.** | **LifeStream** | **Tampa Bay TGH** | **Tampa General Hospital** | **WAVE** | **QUALITY FIRST ROOFING, LLC**

LIFESOUTH | **Nature Coast** | **RENEWAL WANDERSEN** | **Suncoast Credit Union** | **Langley** | **ARBOR TRAIL** | **WasteBros** | **WM** | **SOIL WIZARDS**

GARY & JULIE MOCK | **FLORAL CITY METHODIST CHURCH** | **PHIL ROYAL LEGACY**

RECENT RIBBON CUTTING

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.

Titan Tree Service



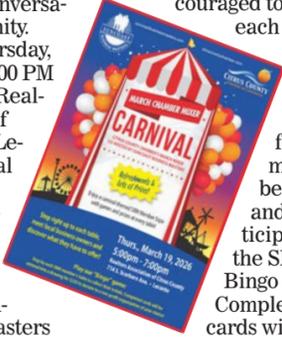
Welcome to the Chamber, Titan Tree Service! Based in Lecanto, Florida, this locally owned and operated company has been providing expert tree care throughout Citrus County since 2022. Their mission is straightforward: to deliver safe, reliable, and affordable tree services with exceptional customer service. From residential to commercial properties, they offer tree trimming and pruning, tree removal including hard to reach or hazardous trees, land clearing, and around the clock emergency removal to keep your home and property safe during storms. With experienced crews, transparent pricing, free estimates, and full insurance, Titan Tree Service is a trusted partner for maintaining healthy, well-kept landscapes in our community. You can find them at 4985 West Gulf to Lake Highway in Lecanto or reach them at (352) 503 7646. We're thrilled to have them join our Chamber and serve Citrus County with outstanding care.

March Chamber Mixer: Community Connections Take Center Stage

Step right up and join the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce for its March Chamber Mixer, an engaging evening focused on connection, conversation, and community. Taking place Thursday, March 19, from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM at the Realtors Association of Citrus County in Lecanto, this carnival themed mixer is co-hosted by Suncoast Business Masters. The event will feature a Suncoast Business Masters

Member Expo with interactive exhibitor tables, games, refreshments, and prizes throughout the evening. Attendees are encouraged to visit each table, connect with fellow members, and participate in the SBM Bingo game. Completed cards will be

entered into a drawing for a \$250 donation to a local non-profit organization of the winner's choice, turning friendly competition into a meaningful community impact. The event will be held at the Realtors Association of Citrus County, located at 714 S Scarboro Avenue in Lecanto. Chamber members are invited to attend and enjoy an evening where business relationships grow, community connections strengthen, and a little carnival flair brings it all together.



UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

- 03/06 - 03/22 CCBA Citrus Showcase of Homes; www.CitrusCountyShowcaseofHomes.com
- 03/07-03/08 Floral City Strawberry Festival, Floral Park, Floral City; parking at the Citrus County Auditorium
- 03/13 March Chamber Luncheon; 11:30am - 1:00pm; Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club, Sponsor: Seven Rivers Christian School, Speaker: TBA
- 03/19 March Chamber Mixer, 5:00pm - 7:00pm; Realtors Association Citrus County, Sponsored by: Suncoast Business Masters

Chamber Legacy Members

TRUSTED SOLUTIONS | **DIX JENKINS AUTO GROUP** | **BRIJE HOMES** | **VILLAGE POWERSPORTS** | **Kawasaki Can-Am SeaDoo**

WAVE | **Seacoast Bank** | **TGH Tampa General Hospital** | **ARBOR TRAIL** | **CRYSTAL TRACTOR & MOTORCYCLE GROUP** | **CITRUS COUNTY CHRONICLE** | **Michael D. Bays State Farm**

HOMETOWN Citrus | **Family Chiropractic** | **LifeStream** | **CareerSource** | **QUALITY FIRST ROOFING, LLC** | **REALTORS ASSOCIATION OF CITRUS COUNTY, INC.** | **Ag-Pro** | **Central Motel**

CF COLLEGE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA | **LIFESOUTH** | **Nature Coast** | **SOIL WIZARDS** | **ClearSky** | **ROOFING + GUTTERS** | **CoreCivic** | **WM** | **Langley** | **Signs** | **Worthington** | **Freedom Body Flow**

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.