



Chamber Connection

915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429 · 352-795-3149 · 106 W. Main St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

You've got pie on your face!

It's messy, but great fun! Try your hand at the strawberry pie-eating contests.

Registration begins at 10 a.m., on both Saturday, March 6th & Sunday, March 7th, at the Chamber Information Tent, with the contests beginning at 1 p.m. on Strawberry Row near the shortcake tent.

There will be contests for adults along with special contests for the little ones. Each participant will have one minute to eat a strawberry and whip cream pie without using their hands. The winner of each age group, both days, will receive a Floral City Strawberry Festival Pie Eating Champion 2021 plaque. (And yes, we do provide water and towelettes for post-noshing hand and face clean-up)

There are 2 categories – Ages 12 and under; Ages 13 and up.

There are only 6 openings in each age category, and they fill up quickly!

Many thanks to our Pie Eating Contest Sponsors Sound Decisions and The Screen Monkey, Corp.

Pie Eating Contest Safety Precautions:

To ensure the safety of all pie-eating contest participants and volunteers, the Chamber will be implementing some new precautions this year.



All participants will be seated at a safe distance apart and strawberry pies will be prepared and served by screened volunteers wearing masks and gloves.

Once seated, we ask participants to stay in place while they are served and through the duration of the contest.

All chairs and table placement will be sanitized and disinfected between contest/age group.



A SALUTE TO HOMEGROWN, AMERICAN AGRICULTURE
OUR FRESH STRAWBERRIES ARE HANDPICKED RIGHT DOWN THE ROAD FROM THE FESTIVAL AT FERRIS GROVES! COME CELEBRATE WITH US AND ENJOY A TRUE TASTE OF CITRUS COUNTY!

- Live Music
- Kids Activities
- Pie Eating Contest
- Strawberry Prince & Princess Pageants
- Food Court
- Beer & Wine Garden
- Vendors
- Fine Arts & Crafts
- Street Entertainment



FESTIVAL SAFETY

We are excited to move forward, safely and responsibly, as we enjoy the beauty of our community and celebrate a true taste of Citrus County! We encourage festival-goers

to stay home if they are vulnerable or feeling ill.

We encourage all attendees to practice social distancing, wash hands regularly, utilize the on-site sanitation stations and wear a mask if social distancing is not possible.

The Floral City Strawberry Festival, and the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, will be implementing and practicing safety precautions to ensure the health of our attendees, volunteers, vendors, and staff.

Also, in accordance with the state-mandated

requirement of masks on public transportation, all attendees, volunteers, staff, and vendors will be required to wear a mask if they choose to utilize the free shuttles to and from the festival at the Citrus County Auditorium. 3610 S. Florida Ave, Inverness.

Welcome to the Chamber Family: Cynthia Oswald

The Chamber would like to welcome it's newest addition to the team, Cynthia Oswald.

Recently retired from her position as Public Information Officer for the Board of County Commissioners, Cynthia was looking for a part-time position that offered a continued connection to our community.

With her extensive background, and a history in the Chamber World as the first woman President/CEO for the Livingston County Area Chamber of Commerce in New York, we are excited and blessed to have her as our new Program Support Specialist.

Cynthia will be holding office hours in our Crystal River location on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WELCOME TO THE TEAM!



Cynthia Oswald

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.

Abitare Day Spa & Salon

352-563-0011



Congratulations on 30 years in business, Abitare Day Spa & Salon! Abitare has been awarded "Top 200 Salons in U.S." by Salon Today as seen in Marie Claire's "Best in Color & Cut." They are a progressive Aveda Salon & Spa offering a vast variety of Salon & Spa experiences, with one goal in mind ... pleasing you! 6630 West Gulf to Lake Hwy, Crystal River.



'Chamber Report' on WYKE

Watch the weekly Chamber Report show on WYKE-TV to stay informed on Chamber events, issues, and member spotlights. Chamber Report is broadcast on Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays at 5:00 p.m. on Spectrum Channel 16 or through LiveStream (www.livestream.com/watch and search for "WYKE TV 47").

This week, host Jade White, Chamber Public Relations & Communication Coordinator, talks with Jake Vaughan, owner of JV Southern Real Estate and Conservation Plus, about his decision to open another business and how the two work together.

Also, Eileen Posadny, owner/CEO of Brightberry Marketing, discusses her work in digital media management, how she honed in and fine tuned her niche, and her business experience with the social media platform, TikTok.

Finally, joining Jade, is Dennis Bailey and Karen Ginda, owners of Bailey's Electric and Signs, highlighting the work their company does and their community involvement, including their Presenting Sponsorship of the Florida Manatee Festival!

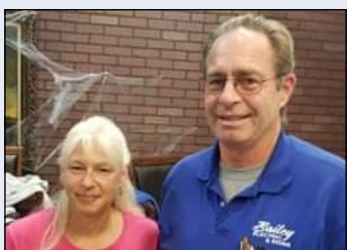
Chamber Report is your ticket to the many happenings in Citrus County!



Jake Vaughan



Eileen Posadny



Karen Ginda and Dennis Bailey

Chamber Legacy Partners



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 at 352-795-3149.

