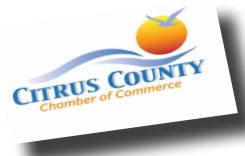




**Mission of the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce**

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.



# Chamber Connection

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

## SBA Restaurant Revitalization Fund Applications Now Open

The American Rescue Plan Act established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund (RRF) to provide funding to help restaurants and other eligible businesses keep their doors open. This program will provide

restaurants and other food / beverage businesses with funding equal to their pandemic-related revenue loss up to \$10 million per business and no more than \$5 million per physical location. Recipients are not required to repay

the funding as long as funds are used for eligible uses no later than March 11, 2023. Applications are open now at <https://tinyurl.com/RestRevitalization>. For assistance preparing your appli-

cation, you can access the following:  
● Call center support: 1-844-279-8898 (Hours: Monday-Friday 8am-8pm ET)  
● Call SCORE Nature Coast FL 352-249-1236

### WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Eligible entities who have experienced pandemic-related revenue loss include:
- Restaurants
  - Food stands, food trucks, food carts
  - Caterers
  - Bars, saloons, lounges, taverns
  - Snack and nonalcoholic beverage bars
  - Bakeries (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33% of gross receipts)
  - Brewpubs, tasting rooms, taprooms (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33% of gross receipts)
  - Breweries and/or microbreweries (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33% of gross receipts)
  - Wineries and distilleries (onsite sales to the public comprise at least 33% of gross receipts)
  - Inns (onsite sales of food and beverage to the public comprise at least 33% of gross receipts)
  - Licensed facilities or premises of a beverage alcohol producer where the public may taste, sample, or purchase products.

### HOW CAN YOU USE THE FUNDS?

- Funds may be used for specific expenses including:
- Business payroll costs (including sick leave)
  - Payments on any business mortgage obligation
  - Business rent payments (note: this does not include prepayment of rent)
  - Business debt service (both principal and interest; note: this does not include any prepayment of principal or interest)
  - Business utility payments
  - Business maintenance expenses
  - Construction of outdoor seating
  - Business supplies (including protective equipment and cleaning materials)
  - Business food and beverage expenses (including raw materials)
  - Covered supplier costs
  - Business operating expenses

### Chamber provides grant funding for furloughed employees

The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce offers a grant program for businesses that furloughed employees due to COVID-19 and have since rehired them. To qualify for full funding, the business must have furloughed an employee for a minimum of two months before rehiring and steadily employing for a minimum of 90 days. The grant amount is \$2,000 per rehired full-time equivalent employee.

All local businesses are eligible. Complete information on the grant program and documentation required is on the application form. Applications are open at [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/furlough-rehire-grant](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/furlough-rehire-grant). For questions, please email [CitrusFurloughRehire@gmail.com](mailto:CitrusFurloughRehire@gmail.com)

## Representative Massullo to Speak at May Luncheon

Representative Ralph Massullo will be joining us as our keynote speaker to give us an update on the 2021 legislative session. The luncheon will be held May 14th from 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m. at the Plantation on Crystal River.



Rep. Ralph Massullo

consider bringing a donation of supplies to help support the essential services that they provide to our schools, teachers and students.

Call Janet to make your reservations at (352) 795-3149. Walk-ins will not be available. \$20 for Chamber members; \$25 for non-members. Masks and social distancing is encouraged.

Our luncheon sponsor is the Citrus County Education Foundation. We ask our guests to

### CF Corporate College: Marketing and Your Brand — How to Do It Right

■ May 18th, 8:30 AM – VIA Zoom  
Marketing is way more than just advertising, and your brand is an asset that can be built and protected by your actions as much as, or more than, any available budget. This workshop will focus on what marketing encompasses, and what you can do with the

resources you have to optimize marketing decisions and to reinforce and build upon your brand. We'll also talk about channels available to you (more than just advertising) that might prove most valuable to various business segments.

Individual workshop fee is \$29. Register and pay online at: [CF.edu/CorporateCollege](http://CF.edu/CorporateCollege) or call 352-873-5855. No refunds will be granted five (5) business days prior to each workshop.

## Shop Citrus First

Shopping Citrus First supports the local businesses that support us. Shopping Citrus First means supporting our local charities, local sports leagues, youth programs, and fundraisers. For every \$100 spent at local Citrus County businesses, \$68 stays circulating within our economy. It pays local taxes that support our schools, fire department, and sheriff's office. It utilizes other local services and resources like farms, printing, marketing, and accounting. It makes donations to local organizations that you care about and it pays local wages. Your dollars circulating in Citrus County pays the salaries of your loved ones, your neighbors, and your children. When you shop Citrus first, you don't just support a locally owned business, you also support the future of our community creating jobs, local prosperity, better schools, and so much more. Shop Citrus First and put our future first. Brought to you by the Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, The Citrus County Board of County Commissioners, The City of Crystal River, The City of Inverness, and the Citrus County Chronicle.

## SHOP CITRUS FIRST

What is the impact of spending \$100 with a Citrus County business?

**\$68 STAYS IN**  
YOUR COMMUNITY AND CONTINUES TO CIRCULATE.



Shopping with a local Citrus County business creates jobs, local prosperity, better schools, and a stronger community. Buying from online and out of town retailers who have no investment in Citrus County creates almost no local benefit.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



## Virtual Mobile Office Hours

### The Office of Senator Marco Rubio



Citrus County: Monday, May 10, 2021 — 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

To schedule a virtual appointment, go to <https://tinyurl.com/hknmejk7>

Virtually meet your local staff and learn about the services Senator Rubio's Office can offer his constituents via Skype Video Chat including in areas such as:

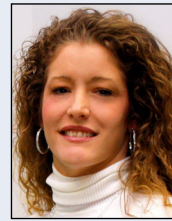
	IMMIGRATION		MILITARY/VA
	MEDICARE		SOCIAL SECURITY
	IRS/BANKING		LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

This is an official event conducted by the Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio.



## '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](http://www.livestream.com/watch) and search for "WYKE TV 47").



Trista Stokes



Chris Hill

This week, host Jade White, Chamber Public Relations & Communication Coordinator, talks with Trista Stokes, Sales Manager at the Citrus County Chronicle, about their current features, the Nurses Appreciation event, Graduation Portal, and benefits to advertising in our local newspaper. Also joining Jade is Chris Hill, Owner of Charlie's Creamery and Sweets, to give an overview of the new Inverness establishment and their community involvement.

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

### UPCOMING CHAMBER CALENDAR

- 5/13 – Chamber Ambassadors meeting, Chamber Office – Crystal River.
  - 5/14 – May Chamber Luncheon, Plantation on Crystal River; Speaker: Representative Ralph Massullo. Luncheon Sponsor: Citrus County Education Foundation.
  - 5/20 – May Chamber Mixer, hosted by the Inverness Golf and Country Club.
  - 5/22 – Chamber Young Professional's Coffee & Conversation, Cattle Dog Inverness.
- For more information on all Chamber events, call 352-795-3149 or go to [www.citrusCountyChamber.com](http://www.citrusCountyChamber.com)

## 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.