



Chamber Connection

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

Shop Citrus First for Back 2 School!

School is back in session August 10th, and now is the time to get prepared! Our Chamber members are here to get our students ready for success!

The Back-to-School Sales Tax Holiday is running now through August 9th offering tax free purchases on items including purchases of clothing, footwear, and certain accessories selling for \$60 or less per item, purchases of certain school supplies selling for \$15 or less per item, and the first \$1,000 of the sales price of personal computers and certain computer-related accessories, when purchased for noncommercial home or personal use.

Additional information on qualifying items can be found at www.FloridaRevenue.com

Athletic Supplies

- Citrus Sports and Apparel, Crystal River

Big Box Stores

- Wal-Mart Supercenter, Homosassa
- Wal-Mart Supercenter, Inverness

Beauty School Basics

- Abitare Paris Salon & Day Spa, Crystal River
- Angel's Heaven on Earth Boutique, Homosassa

Changes Hair Design Studio, Homosassa
Citrus Plaza Barber Shop, Inverness
High End Hair Salon, Crystal River
Lilly's Creative Hair Studio, Crystal River
Salon Vo, Inverness

Clothing Conundrum

- Heritage House, Crystal River
- Ritz & Glitz on the Square, Inverness
- Rustic River Boutique & Yoga Studio, Crystal River
- The Cotton Club, Crystal River
- Wisteria Boutique, Hernando

Desk Supplies

- Betty's Creative Studio, Lecanto
- Manatee Office & Computer Supplies, Crystal River
- Office Depot, Inverness

Dorm Room Décor

- Badcock Home Furnishing Center, Crystal River
- Easy Livin' Furniture, Crystal River
- Farmer's Furniture, Homosassa
- New 2 You Estate Sale Emporium, Inverness
- RJ's Furniture Living, Inverness
- Smart Interiors II, Lecanto

Electronic Boogie

- Citrus Archives & Computers, Crystal River



Shaunda Burdette

#ShopLocal

Support the businesses that support our schools! Help revive our local economy and get your kids ready for school at the same time by making the right choice and choosing to shop local in Citrus County!

Throughout each school year our local businesses are the core of our funding to support our student programs here at the Citrus County Education Foundation. Now, more than ever, these businesses need us as a community to support them! Let's do our part! Help us restock the free teacher store by SHOPPING LOCAL to ensure our neighbors who need our help have the supplies they need to make this school year a huge success!

— Shaunda Burdette

Executive Director, Citrus County Education Foundation

- Sound Decisions, Crystal River

Safe Travels

- Crystal River Firestone, Crystal River
- Dirks Auto Clinic, Crystal River
- Eagle Buick GMC, Homosassa
- Mobil 1 Lube Express, Crystal River

One Stop Shop

- Citrus County Charities Thrift and Furniture, Inverness
- Connor's Gifts, Inverness
- Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County, Inc - ReStore, Inverness
- Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County, Inc - ReStore Crystal River
- Nature Coast Ministries Thrift Shop, Homosassa

GOT SOME EXTRA SCHOOL SUPPLIES?

- The Supplies for Success teacher store offers FREE supplies to our local teachers throughout the school year, the Supplies for Success program is always accepting donations including glue sticks, markers, expo markers, highlighters, colored pencils, construction paper, erasers, sticky notes, printer paper, tissues, and rulers. To make a donation call 352-726-1931 EXT. 2240

- Sheriffs Ranches Thrift Store, Homosassa
- The Crystal River Mall, Crystal River

Chamber Events

- **08/04** — Chamber Young Professionals meeting — 5:30 p.m.; Chamber office in Crystal River
- **08/13** — Healthcare Heroes Luncheon sponsored by The Citrus County Chronicle — 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.; Citrus Hills Golf and Country Club
- **08/26** — August Chamber Mixer — 5 p.m.; Kelly's Half Shell in Crystal River
- **09/10** — September Chamber Luncheon sponsored by Big Brothers Big Sisters — 11:30 a.m. — 1 p.m.; Plantation on Crystal River; Speaker: Jennifer Quinn, Economist & Director of Economic Development | Florida Realtors®
- **09/23** — September Chamber Mixer — 5 p.m.; Realtor's Association of Citrus County in Lecanto
- **10/07** — Big BAM Mixer — 5PM; Bayfront Health Seven Rivers
- **10/15** — Salute to Business Luncheon sponsored by Bayfront Health Seven Rivers and The College of Central Florida — 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- **10/19** — Fire Up Citrus — 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.; The Valerie Theatre in Inverness
- **10/28** — BAM BBQ presented by Crystal Harley Davidson — 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.; M&B Dairy in Lecanto

Healthcare HEROES



Citrus County Sign-On Bonus Program offered

Citrus County small businesses have a new option that may boost their ability to attract workers to fill their open positions: The Citrus Sign-On Bonus Program.

The program is available to all local businesses with 75 or fewer full-time or part-time workers.

Jobs to be filled must be

full-time positions that pay \$15/hour or less.

The newly hired workers must work for the employer for 90 days to qualify to receive the \$1,000 sign-on bonus.

To participate, employers must post the jobs they seek to fill through CareerSource.

Likewise, employees must apply for the job through

CareerSource.

Following 90-days of successful employment, employers will invoice CareerSource for reimbursement of the bonus.

Funding for the bonus program comes from \$70,000 in CARES funds that were set aside by the County for economic development uses aimed at boosting workforce

affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

An additional \$30,000 has been allocated to the Citrus County YMCA to provide day care scholarships for parents in the same workforce category.

If you are a business that would like to participate in the program, go to the CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion website at

<https://careersourceclm.com/> and click on the Citrus County Sign On Bonus link.

Workers who are interested in learning more about job opportunities under the program should reach out to CareerSource at the Citrus County location at 683 South Adolph Point, Lecanto, FL, 34461 or call (352)249-3278.

Grants offered to businesses that rehire 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 em-

ploying for a minimum of 90 days.

The grant amount is \$2,000 per rehired full-time equivalent employee.

Applications are open at www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/furlough-rehire-grant. For questions, please email CitrusFurloughRehire@gmail.com



'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 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 Erika Corley, Chamber Special Events Manager, about upcoming events including the Business Expo, Business Appreciation Month's BAM BBQ and Fire Up Citrus, and the 2021 Christmas Parades!

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



Erika Corley

14th Annual Women's WELLNESS EXPO

Saturday, October 23, 2021

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

The Depot

218a N Apopka Ave, Inverness, FL 34450

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.