



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 · 203 E. Dampier St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

Relationships build a better Community

This past week we were honored to attend the installation of the newest Life Jacket Loaner Station at Hunter Springs Park. These loaner stations were first proposed as a presentation at Fire Up Citrus! in 2017 by Jessica Barnes. She formed the non-profit Cayla's Coats with the mission to help keep our children safe through drowning prevention and awareness. This new loaner station is one of four that can be found around Citrus County. Other stations are at Ft Island Gulf Beach, Hernando Beach and Boat Ramp, and MacRae's of Homosassa.

What caught our attention with this particular installation? The number of Chamber members that we saw who were involved. Handy Hicks, Citrus Mobile Welding & Fabrication, and The City of Crystal River all played roles in building and/or installing it and Hunter Springs Kayaks sponsored the project. We almost feel like proud aunts/uncles watching our members do such great and important work to better our community. Their initiative to come together on this project is a perfect example of the role that business-to-business relationships play in building a better community for us all. If you don't mind, we think some kudos are in order.

Let's start with Handy Hicks. Josh Hicks is quickly becoming a household name in Citrus County through the work he



does to uplift and empower our local youth. An incredibly skilled handyman by trade, Josh is a philanthropist at heart and his dedication is not going unnoticed. From his newly founded Skill Building Class, Inc. and the Citrus Anti-Poverty Youth Program that provides early educational skill building experiences and nonhazardous work ethic

strategies for 13-to-17-year-olds, to jumping on board with projects like this Cayla's Coats installation, Handy Hicks makes lasting impact.

Another Chamber member, Jesse Winger of Citrus Mobile Welding & Fabrication, was an early participant, donating much of his time, resources, and vast knowledge to assist in getting the job done. A



small, family-owned business, Citrus Mobile Welding & Fabrication is a full mobile welding service with the skills and availability to come to you. Their skillset, years of technical expertise, and dedication to our community are qualities to be applauded.

Whether it be time, treasure, or influence, there are different ways local businesses can get involved and make a difference. We have seen this member, Hunter Springs Kayaks, support many projects and organizations over the years. Owners Dave and Mellisa Perry rarely pass an opportunity to support causes that are dear to their hearts.

Finally, we would like to acknowledge one of our community partners, the City of Crystal River, for making it

possible for these local businesses and organizations to install this life jacket loaner station.

What makes Citrus County a beautiful place to live, work, and play is not just the amazing natural resources that we are blessed with on the Nature Coast. It's the people and businesses that are the pulse of our community. Working together helps us build a stronger community and as your Citrus County Chamber of Commerce, we are proud to facilitate the space and availability for those relationships to form and grow. We encourage you to look around at your neighbors, friends, and fellow businesses. These are your potential partners to make a difference and create the positive change you want to see in this world.

CHAMBER BUSINESS EXPO

September 24th, 2022; 9AM - 1PM
Inverness Depot Pavillion
218a N Apopka Ave, Inverness,

SPOTLIGHT YOUR BUSINESS!

The premier business expo of Citrus County presents an opportunity for businesses to showcase their products and services to hundreds of potential new clients, create new working relationships, and make community connections.

To reserve your slot, visit www.CitrusCountyChamber.com

For sponsorship opportunities email Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com

- FREE GOODIE BAG
- A CHANCE AT THE MONEY MACHINE
- CHANCE DRAWINGS
- FUN ENTERTAINMENT
- DIY DEMOS
- KIDS ACTIVITIES

PRESENTED BY: TRUSTED SOLUTIONS INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. PRODUCED BY: CITRUS COUNTY Chamber of Commerce

SPONSORED BY: CoreCivic, The Florida Health Insurance Exchange, Sound, KOVACH & BAKER, HTS, HEALTHY TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS, SHAW'S, LIFESOUTH, COASTAL

August Mixer to be hosted by Shaw's Senior Home Care Services

Join us for our August Chamber Mixer, hosted by Shaw's Senior Home Care Services!

Networking after-hours is one of our favorite ways to build relationships and connect with fellow Chamber professionals.

Our host, Shaw's, will be providing a host of fun and excitement with

- Live entertainment from local star and American Idol contestant, Reggie Real Star
- Appetizers

- Beer & wine
- Gift basket raffles (bring a basket to promote your business!)
- Legacy member, LifeSouth, bloodmobile
- Live remote with Chamber member, Citrus 95.3
- The Brain Bus
- And more!

This mixer is sure to be a memorable one! August 18th, from 5PM - 7PM at Shaw's Senior Home Care Services, 1037 E. Norvell Bryant Highway, Hernando, FL, 34442.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 8/18 — August Mixer 5PM – 7PM; Host & Location: Shaw's Senior Home Care Services
- 8/26 — Comedy @ The Valerie – Last Laugh of the Summer; Valerie Theatre; 7:30PM
- 9/9 — September Chamber Luncheon, 11:30am; Plantation on Crystal River; Speaker: Melissa Seixas, President/Duke Energy; Sponsor: Duke Energy
- 9/15 — August Chamber Mixer 5PM – 7PM; Host & Location: Homosassa Springs Adventure @ Homosassa Wildlife Park; *Members Only
- 9/24 — Chamber Business Expo 9AM -1PM; Inverness Depot Pavilion
- 10/6 — BIG BAM Mixer 5PM-7PM; Host & Location: Crystal River Airport
- 10/14 — October Salute to Business Luncheon 11:30AM; College of Central Florida Lecanto Campus; Speaker: Dane Eagle, Secretary of the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

CHAMBER LEGACY PARTNERS



AUTOMOTIVE / MOTORCYCLE / TRACTOR & EQUIPMENT



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.