



# Chamber Connection

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

## Free Family Fun at Business Expo!

**Get to know YOUR Community!**  
The premiere business expo of Citrus County presents an opportunity to get to know the businesses and resources available in your own community and have a ton of FAMILY FUN!  
Open to the public, free to attend,  
9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M., Saturday, September 18th, 2021,  
Citrus County Auditorium, 3610 S Florida Ave, Inverness, FL 34450

- Free goodie bag
- Chance in the MONEY MACHINE
- Hawaiian Dance Demonstrations
- Citrus Rollers Demonstrations
- Local Business Demonstrations
- Free Axe Throwing with JAM! - Just Amuse Me
- Citrus County Jazzercise Demonstrations
- Kids Activities

AND MORE!



For sponsorship opportunities email [Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com](mailto:Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com)



The annual Chamber Business Expo is back this year at the Citrus County Auditorium on September 18th!

Admission is free and we are looking forward to a ton of fun for all ages! Aside from browsing the many local businesses that will be set up and ready to connect with you, all guests will receive a free goodie bag (while supplies last) and have the opportunity to engage in fun entertainment and activities!

What to expect at the Expo:

- Drawings for a free trip into the Chamber Money Machine
- Free Axe Throwing with JAM - Just Amuse Me
- Free craft building with the Citrus Construction Academy Mobile Shop Bus (ages 10+; while supplies last)
- Fun Hawaiian and belly dance demonstrations from Karina's School of Hawaiian Dance
- Fun roller-skating demonstrations from the Citrus Rollers
- Fun jazzercise demonstrations from Citrus Jazzercise
- Free giveaways
- Music by DJ DiOrion
- And more!

Join us Saturday, September 18th, from 9 a.m. — 1 p.m. at the Citrus County Auditorium.

For more information visit [www.citruscountychamber.com/business-expo](http://www.citruscountychamber.com/business-expo).

## Make a difference at Fire Up Citrus!

There are few opportunities in life where you are handed a platform to speak your truth and share your ideas for a brighter future. Fire Up Citrus! is one of those moments. 12 presenters will have 5 minutes each to present their ideas to grow Citrus County for the better. Our community is growing every day and this presents the opportunity for your voice to be heard in front of community leaders, movers and shakers, looking to make a difference.

But what kind of ideas are welcome at Fire Up Citrus? ALL OF THEM! Ideas of all shapes and sizes are encouraged. Over the years, we've heard ideas for skate parks to educational academies, non-profit startups to affordable housing. No idea is too big or small to make an impact for the future of our community!

Applications are open through October 1st,

online at [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/fire-up-citrus](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/fire-up-citrus). You can also access the 2019 presenter video to see what it's all about!

Fire Up Citrus! will be held at the Valerie Theatre in Inverness on

October 19th from 6 p.m. to 9:15 p.m.. General admission is \$10. Free for presenters.

For more information, contact Ardath Prendergast at 352-795-3149 or [ardath@citruscountychamber.com](mailto:ardath@citruscountychamber.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 5:00 p.m. on Spectrum Channel 16 or through LiveStream ([www.livestream.com/watch](http://www.livestream.com/watch) and search for "WYKE TV 47"). This week, host Jade White, Chamber Public Relations & Communication Coordinator, talks with Josh Wooten, Chamber President/CEO, about the Prosperity Citrus Initiative, The CORE Business Center in Inverness, the Chamber's current Shop Local campaign, and their upcoming events for Business Appreciation Month. Chamber Report is your ticket to the many happenings in Citrus County!

**Josh Wooten**

## Senate President to speak at October Chamber Luncheon

The Business Appreciation Month Salute to Business Luncheon is excited to welcome Florida Senate President, Wilton Simpson, as our keynote speaker! Senator Simpson will share his thoughts around the 2022 legislative business agenda.

The luncheon will be held on October 15th from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the College of Central Florida — Lecanto Campus.

Thank you to our October luncheon sponsor Duke Energy. \$25 to attend, lunch included. To RSVP, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2021-October-Luncheon>.



A lifelong Florida farmer and entrepreneur, President Wilton Simpson has deep personal and professional roots grounded in agriculture. He founded, owned and operated several businesses including an environmental services company, which specializes in asbestos removal, mold remediation, and general contracting. He also owns a large-scale egg-laying operation that supplies eggs for Florida's families through supermarkets all over the state.

President Simpson ran for public office for the first time in 2012. He was elected to the Senate and has been reelected subsequently. During his time in the Senate, President Simpson has served as Chair of the Committee on Community Affairs, the Committee on Innovation, Industry, and Technology, and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development. He served as the Senate Majority (Republican) Leader from 2016-2018.

Given his lifelong passion for farming, President Simpson's legislative interests

have focused on good stewardship of Florida's environment. He sponsored historic legislation to restore Florida's Everglades, spearheaded a successful state program to restore our natural springs, advocated for the cleanup of Lake Okeechobee, and continues to focus on incentives to move Floridians from septic tanks to sewer systems.

On November 17, 2020, he was unanimously elected to serve a two-year term as Senate President. In addition to his responsibilities as the Senate's presiding officer, President Simpson is proud and honored to represent the people of State Senate District 10, comprised of a portion of Pasco, and all of Hernando and Citrus counties.

### Chamber Mixer & RACC Business Partner Showcase

SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 FROM 5:30 TO 7:30 P.M.  
714 S. SCARBORO AVE. LECANTO FL 34461  
DOOR PRIZES • HEAVY APPETIZERS • HOT DOGS/HAMBURGERS  
ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A GRILL PACKAGE & 50/50 RAFFLE — PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE CITRUS COUNTY EDUCATION FOUNDATION  
(\$5 ALL YOU CAN DRINK) BEER-WINE ENTERTAINMENT BY DJ TRAE

### 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.

**Lilly's Creative Hair Studio** 352-573-6744



Welcome to the Chamber, Lilly's Creative Hair Studio! They have Wig and hairpieces for sale, lace front and full lace wigs which can be custom fitted. Hair installations to meet your need we also offer various forms of hair attachments we have a skilled Hair Replacement technician on staff. Free consultation by appointment only. 7449 W Gulf to Lake Hwy, Crystal River, FL 34429.

## Chamber Events

- 09/23 – September Chamber Mixer – 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Realtor's Association of Citrus County in Lecanto
- 10/15 – Salute to Business Luncheon featuring keynote speaker Senate President Wilton Simpson, sponsored by Duke Energy – 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. To register email [Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com](mailto:Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com).
- 10/19 – Fire Up Citrus! – 6 p.m. – 9:15 p.m.; The Valerie Theatre in Inverness
- 10/28 – BAM BBQ presented by Crystal Harley Davidson – 6 p.m. – 10 p.m.; M&B Dairy in Lecanto. Tickets on sale now at [www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/bambbq](http://www.CitrusCountyChamber.com/bambbq).

### 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.