



# Chamber Connection

915 N. Suncoast Blvd., Crystal River, FL 34429 · 352-795-3149 · 203 E. Dampier St., Inverness, FL 34450 · 352-726-2801

## Florida Manatee Festival coming to Crystal River on January 15 & 16

The Florida Manatee Festival returns for its 35th year to the manatee capital of the world, downtown Crystal River, on Saturday and Sunday, January 15th & 16th!

Featuring a wide selection of delicious cuisine choices, the Florida Manatee Festival is pleased to offer a tasty selection of delectable delights in two food courts. One will be in Little Springs Park along with a beer and wine garden, the second will be near the main stage in Kings Bay Park with another beer and wine garden.

Back this year, guided kayak tours will be offered at the festival with Hunter Springs Kayaks for a nominal fee! Tour guides will take you on a 1-hour tour of the bay and Hunter Springs area giving a first-hand glance at the beauty of our Nature Coast! Also returning are manatee boat tours! Participating local guides will take you to their favorite manatee watch spots for a chance to see our favorite floating friends up close without getting in the water!

Musical entertainment will be ongoing both days from three stages. The Main Stage at Kings Bay Park will feature Center Lane on Saturday from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M., followed by headliner and nationally acclaimed Tom Petty cover band, Heavy Petty, taking the stage from 3 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Growing up in Gainesville, FL listening to Tom Petty's music and stories from friends and strangers that knew "Tommy", these talented musicians started HEAVY PETTY in 2009 for a one-night-only show. Almost a decade later, they are still playing and have fans across the nation. You may come for Tom Petty, but you'll stay for HEAVY PETTY!

Sunday's main stage

**FLORIDA MANATEE FESTIVAL!**  
35TH ANNUAL  
JAN 15 & 16, 2022  
CRYSTAL RIVER, FL  
PRESENTED BY Bailey ELECTRIC & SIGNS  
\$5 ADULTS : FREE 12/UNDER

GUIDED KAYAK TOURS  
MANATEE BOAT TOURS  
THREE ENTERTAINMENT STAGES

- 2 FOOD COURTS
- 2 BEER & WINE GARDENS
- ART IN THE PARK
- CRAFT VENDORS
- KIDS ZONES
- STREET ENTERTAINMENT
- HIPPIE VILLAGE AT HERITAGE HOUSE

WWW.GOMANATEEFEST.COM

Legacy Members: RE/MAX REALTY ONE, CHRONICLE, Tampa Bay Times, BrannenBank, CRISTAL, PLANTATION, Suncoast Credit Union, Wawa, DISCOVER CRYSTAL RIVER, mary jane WELLNESS CLINIC, Waste Bros.

entertainment will kick off with local favorite Barefoot Bob & the Hope from 10 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. followed by headliner Propaganjah from 1 P.M. to 4 P.M. Propaganjah brings a pulse thumping, high energy, melodic, one drop reggae music with a modern feel that has captivated audiences in the short 3 years since their 2017 debut. Propaganjah focuses on the fans and brings a one-of-a-kind experience with a truly unique sound that stems from their diverse cultural backgrounds. Influenced by the greatest of the greats, their strong Caribbean and R&B roots can be heard in every song. Propaganjah's message is meant to inspire a positive, forward-thinking view of life, love and respect.

Additional entertainment will be found at Little Springs Park and in Hippie Village at Heritage House on Citrus Avenue including acts like Mel & The Misfits, Palomino Blonde, the Grass Campers, Madi Carr, Magic Andy, and Reflections Dance Studio. A full lineup with days and times can be found on our

website! Additionally, a vast array of fine art, craft, commercial and non-profit vendors will line the streets on both the north and south sides of downtown. "Art in the Park" will grace Crystal River's beautiful Town Square, offering the perfect setting to browse and purchase an original piece of art for your home or business, or a wearable piece of jewelry that will be a treasure of special meaning forever.

For the kiddos, a Kids Zone and fun activities will span throughout the festival including inflatables, face painting, carnival food and more! For the adults, there will be more food, along with beer and wine gardens near both music stages and throughout the festival. Top it all off with cool cars to drool over, compliments of the Citrus County Vettes & Camaros Club, the Mopars, and the Nature Coast Mustangs. With something to please everyone, the 35th Annual Florida Manatee Festival is the place to go!

For more information visit the website: [www.GoManateeFest.com](http://www.GoManateeFest.com)

## Chamber on Parade!



We were thrilled to once again host the Inverness Christmas Parade last weekend. We want to thank all our participants for spreading some holiday cheer with our community. Thank you, as well, to our amazing sponsors that helped to make the holiday magic happen!



2021 Christmas Parade Sponsors!

CITRUS COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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CRYSTAL HARLEY-DAVIDSON

CITRUS 26.3

66.7

103.1

104.5

Sound

mary jane WELLNESS CLINIC

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## January Luncheon to feature speaker Gerry Mulligan

We are excited to welcome Gerry Mulligan, former publisher of the Citrus County Chronicle, to reminisce on the history, growth, and changes he has seen over the past 40+ years offering a look at where we have come as a Chamber and a community over the years. The luncheon will be held on January 7th from 11:30 - 1:00 at



Gerry Mulligan

Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club. Thank you to our January luncheon sponsor Right Rudder Aviation. \$20 for Chamber members; \$25 for non-members. Reservations required no later than January 4th. Online at <https://tinyurl.com/January2021luncheon>.

## Upcoming Events

- 1/7 - January Chamber Luncheon. Keynote Speaker: Gerry Mulligan, sponsored by Right Rudder Aviation. Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club
- 1/15 - 1/16 - 35th Annual Florida Manatee Festival; Downtown Crystal River
- 1/19 - 1/20 - Citrus County 2022 Legislative Days; Tallahassee
- 3/5 - 3/6 - 35th Annual Floral City Strawberry Festival; Floral Park (Floral City)

## Chamber Legacy Partners

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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.

## '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").

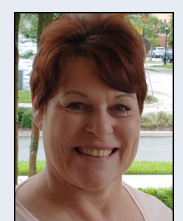


Traci Schoenrock



David Reed

This week, host Jade White, Chamber Public Relations & Communication Coordinator, talks with Traci Schoenrock, Administrative Manager of Save Crystal River, about her recently taking this position with the local waterway restoration organization and a look at the impact of their work in Kings Bay. Also joining Jade is David Reed, Executive Director of the YMCA, about adding their new location in Crystal River, upcoming programs, and their before and after school scholarship programs providing financial assistance to working parents in our community. Finally, Dawn Faherty, Executive Director of the CORE Fitness Center, discusses the programming available to assist current or upcoming businesses work toward a successful business model. Chamber Report is your ticket to the many happenings in Citrus County!



Dawn Faherty