



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

Chamber attends FACP Spring Conference

The Citrus County Chamber of Commerce recently attended the Florida Association of Chamber Professionals Spring Conference in Kissimmee.

Chamber President/CEO, Josh Wooten, Chamber Board of Directors Chairperson, Lindsay Platz, Chamber PR/Communications Manager, Jade White,

and Chamber Member Relations Manager, Corrine Sachewicz, spent two days listening to and conversing with fellow Chamber professionals, panels, and

keynote speakers to bring back insight for advancing our business community and continuing to build beneficial relationships with other Florida Chambers.



L-R: Tammy Bracewell, Director of Florida Association of Chamber Professionals; Corrine Sachewicz, Chamber Member Relations Manager; Jade White, Chamber Public Relations Manager; Lindsay Platz, Chamber Board of Directors Chairperson; Josh Wooten, Chamber President/CEO.



Josh Wooten speaks on a panel with fellow Chamber leaders regarding diversity, equity, and inclusion.

June Luncheon to feature Senator Jeff Brandes

The Chamber is pleased to welcome Senator Jeff Brandes as the keynote speaker for its June 10th Chamber luncheon at Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club. Senator Brandes will provide an update on the May special session along with information on the 501(c)(4) non-profit policy think tank that he is forming.

Luncheon reservations are only \$20

for Chamber members; \$25 for non-Chamber members and must be made in advance no later than 5PM on Friday, June 3rd. Easily make your reservations online at www.CitrusCountyChamber.com. No walk-ins will be accepted.

Thank you to our June luncheon sponsor, Mike Bays State Farm.



Jeff Brandes

Senator Jeff Brandes, a true Florida native, was born and raised in St. Petersburg and attended Northside Christian School, where his mother served her entire career as an educator; first as a teacher, then as principal, and finally as headmaster. Like his father and grandfathers before him, Jeff had a deep-rooted desire to serve his country. He joined the United States Army shortly after graduating high school. After graduating from Marion Military Institute in Marion, Alabama, he attended Florida Southern College and subsequently Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tennessee, where he graduated in 1999 with a degree in Business Administration. Frustrated by the status quo's lack of leadership, Brandes ran for the Florida House of Representatives in 2010 and defeated a two-term incumbent in one of the state's most competitive districts. In 2012, Brandes successfully ran for the Florida Senate and was re-elected in 2014, 2016 and 2018. In his short time in the Legislature, Brandes has made a name for himself as a pragmatic leader that embraces innovative technology and brings creative solutions to the problems facing our state. With a particular interest in transportation, Brandes sponsored the bill bringing Google's autonomous vehicle technology to Florida, where it is currently being tested. When the Federal government's failure to act on Flood Insurance created a crisis for homeowners, Brandes sponsored legislation creating a private, Florida-based marketplace that offered lower rates.

Term limited after this year in the Senate, Brandes has focused on addressing the property insurance crisis in Florida. When meaningful reform was not passed during the regular 2022 session, he instigated the special session that has now been called by Gov. Ron DeSantis starting May 23.

Upcoming Events

- 5/19 — May Chamber Mixer hosted by The Citrus County Education Foundation; Location Gulf to Lake Marine; 5PM – 7PM
- 6/10 — June Chamber Luncheon; Speaker: Senator Jeff Brandes; Location: Citrus Hill Golf & Country Club; 11AM – 1PM; Sponsor: Shaw's Senior Home Health Care
- 6/16 — June Chamber Mixer host TBD; Location: TBD

Save the Date: July Political Candidate Forum!

Save the date for the Chamber's Political Candidate Forum during the July 8th luncheon at Citrus Hills Golf & Country Club. The luncheon will feature a panel of the current County Commission candidates answering questions designed by the Chamber's Governmental Affairs committee. Reservations are available online at 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 by emailing Corrine@CitrusCountyChamber.com.



Class of 2022

Congratulations, Graduates!

Over the next two weeks we will celebrate the 2022 graduates from our local schools. Please join us in congratulating these amazing students for their hard work and dedication. They are our future and we are excited to watch you continue to grow!

2022 Graduation Schedule

- CREST School – May 19th #GoDolphins
- Withlacoochee Technical College – May 23rd
- Crystal River High School – May 24th #GoPirates
- Citrus High School – May 25th #GoHurricanes
- Lecanto High School – May 26th #GoPanthers
- Seven Rivers Christian School – May 27th #GoWarriors

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.

Creative Stitching Boutique



Welcome to the Chamber, Creative Stitching Boutique! Creative Stitching Boutique is a unique boutique specializing in women's clothing and accessories. Their jewelry selection includes fashion jewelry, beaded jewelry created by local artisans and vintage jewelry. They also have a large selection of fabric remnants, in addition to an alterations and custom embroidery department. They will be offering beading and sewing classes and have a limited selection of beading kits and Czech glass. 4029 N Lecanto Hwy, Beverly Hills, FL, United States, 34465. (352) 513-4470.

Coastal Flooring Solutions



Welcome to the Chamber, Coastal Flooring Solutions! With over 20 years' experience, they provide professional service and material for all your luxury vinyl, hardwood and laminate flooring needs. Call for a free estimate at 352-697-2812. 6200 E Penrose St, Inverness, FL 34452.