

Chamber Connection

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

It's blue-eyed bivalve time! Are you ready?

Scalloping season returns to Citrus County this Saturday through Sept 24. Book your guide now and secure your opportunity to go scalloping with a pro. The following Chamber members can provide you with the tools and services for your excursions to gather and enjoy these luscious treats from our Gulf waters.

SCALLOPING BOAT RENTALS, CHARTERS, EQUIPMENT & RESTAURANTS:

American Pro Diving Center
www.AmericanProDiving.com
352-563-0041

Bird's Underwater
www.BirdsUnderwater.com
352-563-2763

Blue Heaven River Tours
www.BlueHeavenRiverTours.com
423-320-3008

Charlie's Fish House
www.CharliesFishHouse.com
352-795-3945

Crystal Lodge Dive Center
www.Manatee-Central.com
352-795-6798

Crystal River Outdoor Adventures
www.CrystalRiverOutdoorAdventures.com
352-601-2278

Crystal River Watersports
www.CrystalRiverWaterSports.com
352-795-7033

Dan's Clam Stand
www.DansClamStand.com
352-795-9081

Florida Manatee Adventures
www.FloridaManateeAdventures.com
352-476-7556

Hunter Springs Kayaks
www.HunterSpringsKayak.com
352-228-4715



River Ventures
www.RiverVentures.com
352-564-8687

Salt River Outfitters
www.SaltRiverOutfitters.com
352-427-3610

Suzie B. Charters
www.captusuzie.wix.com/
suziebcharters
352-586-8068

RESTAURANTS — COOK THE CATCH:

Clawdaddy's Raw Bar & Grill
Crystal River
352-564-2529

Dan's Clam Stand
Crystal River & Homosassa
352-795-9081 / 352-628-9588

Charlie's Fish House
Crystal River
www.CharliesFishHouse.com
352-795-3949

Green House Bistro & Market
www.naturecoastfun.com
800-352-0036

Plantation on Crystal River
Crystal River
www.PlantationOnCrystalRiver.com
352-795-4211

The Port Hotel & Marina
Crystal River
www.PortHotelMarina.com
352-795-3113

Seagrass Waterfront Restaurant & Resort
Homosassa
www.SeagrassWaterFrontAndResort.com
352-503-2007

Photo courtesy Discover Crystal River Florida

Questions? Call the Citrus County Chamber at 352-795-3149, Citrus County Visitors Bureau at 352-628-9305, Citrus County Parks & Rec at 352-527-7541 or Florida Fish & Wildlife at 352-732-1225.

Live Action Fishing Adventures
www.CrystalRiverFishingCharters.com
352-613-2864

MacRae's of Homosassa
www.MacraesOfHomosassa.com
352-628-2602

Majestic Manatee Tours
www.MajesticManateeTours.com
352-795-8687

Manatee Connection
www.CrystalRiverManateeTours.net
352-697-0220

Manatee Tour & Dive
www.ManateeToursUSA.com
352-422-2764

Moore Bait & Tackle
TommyMoore94@yahoo.com
352-794-3887

Nature Coast Charters
www.NatureCoastCharters.net
352-746-9067

Ozello Boats
www.OzelloBoats.com
352-634-3862

The Plantation on Crystal River Marina & Dive Shop
www.PlantationOnCrystalRiver.com
352-795-2411

The Port Hotel & Marina
www.PortHotelMarina.com
352-795-7234

Reel Burns Charters
www.HomosassaFishingGuide.com
352-201-6111

Redfish Hunter Charters
www.RedfishHunter.com
813-924-9571

Chamber New Image Award

Citrus Lending is honored

Chamber member Citrus Lending, Inc. is the New Image Award recipient for June.

Family-owned and operated, Citrus Lending was opened by Megan and Mark Ennis in 2005, and has been serving Citrus County and the entire state of Florida with quality home mortgage products continually since that time.

Megan was born and raised in Clearwater, but vacationed in Citrus County as a young girl with her family and fell in love with the area. She got involved in the mortgage business in 2000, and when she and Mark had the opportunity to start their own business, they chose to establish themselves in the land of Megan's fond vacation memories. They formed Citrus Lending before they made their move, so they were ready to open their doors in a leased space upon arrival in Citrus County.

Although their business



Citrus Lending received the New Image Award at the Chamber luncheon on June 9. Shown, from left, are: Josh Wooten, Chamber president/CEO; Clayton Jeck, Chamber Board chair; Megan and Mark Ennis, Citrus Lending; Jennifer Duca, chair of the Chamber Ambassadors New Image Committee.

was severely tested during the real estate crash from 2007-11 that hit Citrus County especially hard, they were able to maintain business throughout and keep their doors open. As the markets began to improve in 2011, Citrus Lending began to grow again and in November 2016, Megan and Mark knew it was the right time to buy their own building.

The building they chose at 1100 N. Lyle Ave. in Crystal River had been built in 1975 as a residence and most recently

been used as a dental lab, but had never been updated. So, Megan and Mark embarked upon a total interior and exterior renovation and modernization. Popcorn ceilings were scrapped, fixtures and flooring replaced and the old sunken living room was filled in and turned into a conference room with beautiful French doors.

The exterior saw the removal of old '70s-style rock on the walls; it was replaced with new stucco, columns were added and everything was brightened with a fresh and cheerful paint treatment. New landscaping provided the finishing touch.

Citrus Lending currently has five in-house employees, along with four licensed originators that write their loans statewide. They welcome you to call them for your home loan needs, or just to stop by to see the transformation of their new location.

Citrus Lending Inc., 1100 N. Lyle Ave., Crystal River; 352-746-4290. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, or by appointment. Visit CitrusLending.com.



Citrus Lending photos before, top, and after, bottom, are courtesy of Google.

July 4 celebrations coming soon!

It's not too early to begin preparing for your Independence Day celebrations. Make plans now to attend great patriotic events around our county:

- **July 1:** Sparkle in the Park, Beverly Hills, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- **July 3:** Patriotic Evening, Inverness, 6-10 p.m. (fireworks at dark)
- **July 4:** Old-Fashioned 4th, Crystal River, 5-10 p.m. (fireworks at 9 p.m.)



'Chamber Report' on WYKE

Watch the weekly "Chamber Report" show on WYKE-TV to stay abreast of Chamber events, issues and member spotlights with host Josh Wooten. "Chamber Report" is broadcast on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. on Bright House Channel 16 and Channel 47 (digital antenna). It can also be accessed on Live Stream.com by searching for WYKE.

This week's program features Dan Kern, president-elect of the Citrus County Builders Association

and vice president/general manager of Gulf Coast Ready Mix, who talks with Josh about the new Construction Academy that the Builders, Withlacoochee Technical College and CareerSource CLM are developing to meet the needs of our growing construction economy. Dan also discusses his view into the future of building in Citrus County.

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



Dan Kern

Chamber events calendar

- July 13** — Citrus Memorial Hospital 60th Anniversary Celebration
- Aug. 11** — Chamber Luncheon at Citrus Hills, Healthcare Heroes; sponsor is Citrus County Chronicle
- Aug. 17** — Mixer at American Legion Post 155, Crystal River
- Sept. 9** — Chamber Business Expo
- Sept. 21** — Mixer, King's Bay Rotary at George Washington Carver Center, Crystal River
- Sept. 23** — BWA Women's Health & Fitness Expo at Crystal River Armory
- Oct. 5** — Fire Up Citrus! at Tuscany on the Meadows
- Dec. 2** — Crystal River Christmas Parade
- Dec. 9** — Inverness Christmas Parade
- Jan. 13 & 14** — Florida Manatee Festival
- Jan. 24 & 25** — Legislative Days in Tallahassee

For more information on all Chamber events, call 352-795-3149 or go to 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 at 352-795-3149.

