

# Citrus LINK

Linking Citrus County Government with Citizens

August /September 2018

## Contact Us

Give us a call for more information or if you have questions

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## Mission Statement

Citrus County Government will be a value-driven organization dedicated to responsive citizen service by providing quality programs, services and facilities to build a strong community and promote the best quality of life for our citizens.

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3,528 LIKES as of 8/28/2018



Citrus County Government  
offices will be CLOSED  
Monday, September, 3 in  
observance of Labor Day.



*PHOTO from left to right: Kylie (4th grade), Walmart Community Coordinator Suzanne Green, Daelynn (5th grade), Hunter (3rd grade), Hunter (1st grade), Citrus Libraries Communications Facilitator Ben Kampschroer & Isabella (1st grade).*



## Readers Rewarded With Bicycles

For the past fifteen years, the Homosassa Walmart has partnered with the Citrus County Library System to provide all five branches with a bicycle as an incentive to keep children reading all summer long. The Summer Reading Program contestants had a chance to enter their names into the drawing once a week by submitting a log of the titles they had been reading. The drawing took

place during the week of July 23, as each branch randomly selected a winner from their entrants. The winning children and their parents met at the Homosassa Walmart on Saturday, August 11, where each was able to pick out their favorite bike to bring home with them.

*The ultimate goal of the Summer Reading Program is to keep children reading when they are out of school by making the library a fun place to spend time. Besides books, the library offers kids a number of free educational programs, and a handful of reading incentives, like this one. Children who practice their reading skills during their vacation tend to jump right back into the school routine, retaining their reading comprehension skills and performing better on tests.*

## Clerk Annex Set to Open Fall 2018

Angela Vick, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, is pleased to announce that the opening of the Clerk Annex is scheduled for Fall 2018. The annex will be located at 120 N. Montgomery Avenue next to the Publix Supermarket plaza in Inverness and become home to the Clerk's Financial Services Department and Internal Audit Department.

### The following services will be provided at the Clerk Annex:

official records  
recording  
public access/search capability for all records of the Clerk  
tax deeds  
passports  
marriage licenses  
commission records & Board of County Commission minutes  
VAB petitions  
guardianship audits

All court related services such as injunctions for protection, customer service for opening court cases, searches and public access to court documents, payment of court fines and fees, traffic payments, and child support payments, will remain at the Courthouse located at 110 N. Apopka Avenue in Inverness.

The official "open for business" date will be provided following the projected construction completion slated for mid-October, 2018. Updates will be provided on the Clerk's website at [www.Citrusclerk.org](http://www.Citrusclerk.org) and on the Clerk's Facebook at [www.facebook.com/CitrusCountyClerk/](https://www.facebook.com/CitrusCountyClerk/)

WHAT'S NEW?







## Water: The Life of Florida!

**Presented by Environmental Filmmaker Eric Flagg**

Saturday, September 22, 2018 2:00 -3:30 p.m.  
in the 2nd Floor Courtroom  
at the Old Courthouse Heritage Museum  
One Courthouse Square, Inverness

Please call 352.341.6428 or go online to <https://cchistoricalssocietyshop.com> to reserve a seat.

This program is free and open to the public. As always donations are greatly appreciated.

This program is in conjunction with Save Our Waters Week and is sponsored in part by the Inverness Cultural Heritage Council.

### Who Do I Call?

**Job Opportunities**

**527-5370**

**Public Records Request**

**527-5235**

**Planner of the Day**

**527-5239**

**Road Maintenance**

**527-7610**

**Flood Management**

**527-5264**

**Utility Customer Service**

**527-7650**

**Building Permit Status**



### **HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT MEDICARE? JOIN UF/IFAS EXTENSION FOR MEDICARE 101**

**WHO:** Individuals approaching 65 or joining Medicare

**WHAT:** Medicare 101: Learn about Medicare and your options. Get answers to your Medicare questions, concerns, and options from a knowledgeable unbiased source.

**WHEN:** October 24, 2018  
Wednesday Night from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

**WHERE:** UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County  
3650 W. Sovereign Path, Ste. 1, Lecanto, FL 34461

**WHY:** What to do about Medicare can be one of the most complex questions you will face when you reach 65. Understanding the basics can provide you with the ability to take the proper steps when required and helps you to deal with problems when you need to.

***For more information or to register for this FREE class, contact Sarah or Stephanie at the UF/IFAS Extension Citrus County office at 352-527-5700.***



To view monthly calendar of events, please visit [www.citrusbocc.com](http://www.citrusbocc.com)

**Commissioners Ronald E. Kitchen Jr., Scott Carnahan and Jimmie T. Smith selected to serve on Florida Association President's Leadership Team**



**Citrus County Commissioner and Chairman, Ronald E. Kitchen Jr.** has been selected to serve on Florida Association of Counties (FAC) President Karson Turner's leadership team as a Policy Leader of the Growth, Agriculture, Transportation and Environment (GATE) Policy Committee.

The GATE Policy Committee is a FAC standing committee and members are tasked to develop and recommend an annual statewide legislative platform for counties based on each of the issue areas under their jurisdiction.

**Citrus County Commissioner Scott Carnahan** has been selected to serve on Florida Association of Counties (FAC) President Karson Turner's leadership team as a Policy Leader of the Finance, Tax & Administration (FTA) Policy Committee.

The FTA Policy Committee is a FAC standing committee and the members are tasked to develop and recommend an annual statewide legislative platform for counties based on each of the issue areas under their jurisdiction.



**Citrus County Commissioner Jimmie T. Smith** has been selected to serve on Florida Association of Counties (FAC) President Karson Turner's leadership team as a Policy Leader of the Health and Safety Policy (HS) Committee.

The HS Policy Committee is a FAC standing committee and the members are tasked to develop and recommend an annual statewide legislative platform for counties based on each of the issue areas under their jurisdiction.



***For more than 85 years, the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) has represented the diverse interests of Florida's counties, emphasizing the importance of protecting home rule – the concept that government closest to the people governs best. The Florida Association of Counties helps counties effectively serve and represent Floridians by strengthening and preserving county home rule through advocacy, education and collaboration.***

**Extension to offer FREE Cooking for 1 or 2 Class**

The University of Florida/IFAS Citrus County Extension Service is providing a free program on Cooking for 1 or 2. Cooking for one or two seems like an impossible task! Find out how to easily plan, shop for and prepare meals for one or two. A cooking demonstration will be given to show how easy it can be. Four classes will be offered, so just pick one:



Tuesday, October 23 at Central Ridge Public Library at 10:00am  
Tuesday, October 30 at Floral City Public Library at 10:00am  
Tuesday, November 6 at Coastal Region Public Library at 10:00am  
Friday, November 9 at Lakes Region Public Library at 10:00am.  
**Pre-registration is not required.**

For more information, call Stephanie Clamer at the University of Florida/IFAS Citrus County Extension office in Lecanto at 352-527-5700.





# Attention Veterans!

## VETERANS TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Citrus County Transit (CCT) provides transportation for Citrus County Veterans to the Villages Outpatient Clinic. **Effective Oct 01, 2018** this service is offered on the 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of each month. This service is funded primarily by the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners and are provided free unless otherwise stipulated.

## TRIPS WILL BE MADE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES CALENDAR YEAR 2018

### WEDNESDAY'S

October 10

November 14

December 12

### THURSDAY'S

October 25

November 22

December 27

**RESERVATIONS:** Reservations ***are required*** no later than 12:00 P.M. (noon) two business days in advance. All reservations ***must be made*** by calling the Citrus County Transit Office at (352) 527-7630.

**WHEELCHAIR** services are available. It is important to make any reservations requiring wheelchair transportation as early as possible due to limitations on seating capacity.

Transportation is available from pick - up locations throughout the county.

Pick - up times correspond with the locations and are as follows:

Note: Ensure all appointments are scheduled and completed between the arrival and departure times.

***There will be a home pick-up fee of \$10.00 for those that are pre-approved from the Veterans Office.***

(Continued on back)

CITY / LOCATIONS	TIME
Citrus County Transit/1300 S Lecanto Hwy, Lecanto	6:00 AM $\Sigma$
Homosassa Springs / Winn Dixie	6:15 AM $\Sigma$
Crystal River / Big Lots	6:30 AM $\Sigma$
Beverly Hills / Fresh Start Donuts	6:45 AM $\Sigma$
Lecanto / Sims Furniture	7:00 AM $\Sigma$
Inverness / K - Mart	7:15 AM $\Sigma$
Hernando / Cumberland Farms (Hwy 41 & 200)	7:30 AM $\Sigma$
Citrus Springs / Veterans of Foreign Wars	7:45 AM $\Sigma$
Dunnellon / Tractor Supply	8:00 AM $\Sigma$
Gainesville VAMC Arrival	9:15 AM $\Sigma$
Gainesville VAMC Departure	2:00 PM $\Sigma$

$\Sigma$  = All Times Are Approximate

**NON-VETERAN TRANSPORTATION:** Non-Veterans of Citrus County may travel to the Villages Outpatient Clinic with veterans as seating capacity permits: Veterans have first priority. There is a fee of \$10.00 for this service (this fee is not applicable to persons traveling as escorts of veterans).

**DEPARTURE FROM THE VILLAGES:** All passengers must be ready to leave no later than 2:00 P.M. It is the passenger's responsibility to be aware of the departure time as well. The bus cannot wait for late arrivals. If all scheduled passengers are finished before the 2:00 P.M. departure time, the bus will leave as soon as all passengers are ready.

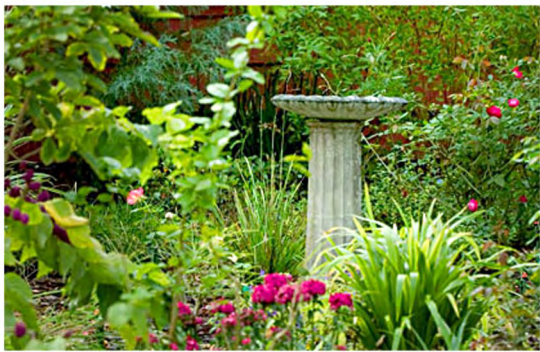
**MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS:** Veterans need to have their appointments scheduled for a Wednesday or Thursday. This bus service is only available for the dates listed on the other side.

Please contact Citrus County Transit for more details regarding Veterans Transportation Services. **For reservations, call (352) 527-7630.**

For additional information, please contact the Citrus County Veterans Service Office at **(352) 527-5915**. For the DAV Van schedule call **(352) 746-8005**.







## Landscape Professional Workshop Planned for October

Research shows local environmental issues will drive business. Current and potential customers are eager to use 'green' best management practices in the landscape. During the Green Tactics for Landscape Professionals Workshop you will learn simple tips, tools and technologies to keep customers satisfied and business thriving. Topics include new irrigation controller technologies, increasing irrigation system efficiency, top performing plants and more. Eat while you learn! Sandwiches and snacks will be served.

The Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ program is hosting this FREE training for all irrigation and landscape industry professionals on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 from 5:30pm to 8:00 pm at the UF/IFAS Citrus County Extension facility located at 3650 W. Sovereign Path in Lecanto. Register at [www.LandscapeProfessionals.eventbrite.com](http://www.LandscapeProfessionals.eventbrite.com) or call 352 527-5708.

## Florida-Friendly Landscaping™

### Two free Florida-friendly gardening workshops in September 2018

#### •Optimizing Irrigation Systems

Citrus County Utilities Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program is offering a free gardening workshop on September 4, 2018 from 2:00-3:30 pm. Landscape irrigation is supplemental, but often uses 50-70 % of total residential water consumption. Irrigation practices such as seasonal scheduling, catch can calibration and selection of drought tolerant plants are essential to creating a sustainable and water conserving landscape. Classes are held at the Citrus County Extension Service building located at 3650 W Sovereign Path in Lecanto. Please contact Steven Davis at (352) 527-5708 to confirm your participation or register at <https://ccufflprogram.eventbrite.com>.

#### •Managing Pest Wisely

Citrus County Utilities Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ Program is offering a free gardening workshop on September 18, 2018 from 2:00-3:30 pm. Correctly identifying the cause of plant damage is always the first step to controlling an infestation. Inspection, scouting, identification, selecting the least harmful control and accurate application are all important IPM practices.

**Classes are held at the Citrus County Extension Service building located at 3650 W Sovereign Path in Lecanto. Please contact Steven Davis at (352) 527-5708 to confirm your participation or register at <https://ccufflprogram.eventbrite.com>.**





## **Look What's Coming!**

*(Special thanks to Joanna Coutu, Land Development Director for preparing this popular feature for the Citrus Link each month.)*

**Wal-Mart** has requested a remodeling permit (2018-08290) to allow a canopy and online kiosk/pickup area at the Lecanto store at 1936 N. Lecanto Highway (CR-491) in Lecanto.

**McDonalds Corp.** has requested an interior renovation permit (2018-08600) for the site in the Inverness Wal-Mart store at 2461 E. Gulf to Lake Highway (SR-44) in Inverness.

**American Legion Post 166** has requested a remodel permit (2018-09216) for the site in a shopping complex at 4520 S. Suncoast Blvd (US-19) in Homosassa.

**Clark Stillwell, on behalf of Suncoast Central Control, LLC**, has requested a Comprehensive Plan Amendment and Atlas Amendment application (CPA/AA-18-06) on approximately 9.6 acres from the Coastal Lakes Commercial District to the Coastal Lakes Residential District. The site is located on the northeast corner of W. Foss Groves Path and US-19 (N Suncoast Blvd.) in Inglis. The application will be discussed by the Planning and Development Commission on October 18, 2018 before being placed on the agenda of the Board of County Commissioners for final consideration.

**Calvary Christian Center** has requested a Conditional Use application (CU-18-10) to allow placement of a 30' x 51' steel shed at their site at 2728 E. Harley Street in Inverness. The application is tentatively scheduled to be discussed by the Planning and Development Commission on November 1, 2018.



## **THE OLD COURTHOUSE HERITAGE MUSEUM** **THREE GREAT PERFORMERS ALL IN ONE SHOW**

For the event of the summer, if you would like you can pull out your formal wear (optional) for this fun event of the year.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018  
DOORS OPEN 6:00 P.M.  
APPETIZERS, CASH  
BEVERAGE BAR - MUSIC  
7:00 - 9:00 P.M.



Armando Diaz



Emily Gorsuch

Call 352.341.6428 or go online at  
[www.cchistoricalocietyshop.com](http://www.cchistoricalocietyshop.com)  
\$25/per person - Show takes at  
1 Courthouse Square, Inverness



JACK BERRIOS





## BOCC Recognitions, Presentations, Honors & Events

*Get Involved! Community Spirit abounds in Citrus County. Your friends and neighbors are making a difference in the lives of their fellow citizens.*



**The BOCC proclaims John W. Hull Day in Citrus County**

The Citrus County Board of County Commissioners presented a Proclamation at their regular meeting on August 21, 2018 proclaiming Tuesday, August 21, 2018 as John W. Jull Day in Citrus County. Family and friends in attendance for the Proclamation presentation were; John's wife, Denise Hull, daughters, April Royal and Tiffany Hull, Jennifer Grow, JJ Grow, and R.J. Cummins.

John has volunteered countless hours to many organizations including the Phil Royal Legacy, American Pride Lodge building project, Pleasant Grove Elementary playground construction, building wheelchair ramps for wounded veterans, volunteering his free time helping others build their homes. He has also volunteered at the Boy Scout Reservation of Citrus County and dedicated his time to building the sky box named for Dr. John Glenn at CHS and building the Swine Shrine for the Citrus FFA program. With many other projects, John has spent his time helping build a great Citrus County and making our community a better place.

The Board of County Commissioners recognizes August 21, 2018 as John W. Hull Day in Citrus County and calls the observance to the attention of all citizens.





The Old Courthouse Heritage Museum presents



## Stitches and Stories

Citrus County Quilts on exhibit September 6th  
through mid November 2018



Location: 1 Courthouse Square—Inverness, FL 34450 - Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Telephone 352.341.6428—cccourthouse.org.



## JOIN US FOR LUNCH AND A PADDLEBOAT RIDE ON THE ST JOHNS RIVER SATURDAY, October 6, 2018



**COST PER PERSON - \$80**

**Ticket price includes bus ride to Sanford, 3 hour  
cruise with live entertainment, full lunch (including  
dessert) coffee, iced tea and water.**

**Bus departure: 8:00 am**

**Location: Citrus County Resource Center**

**Tickets available at the Citrus County Resource Center or by calling  
352-527-5952**

Seating is limited! Reserve your ticket by September 21st.

Payment due within 7 days of reservation.

**Tickets are non-refundable**



**CHRONICLE**

Proceeds Benefitting the Friends of Nature Coast Volunteer Center

## Southwest Florida Water Management District Temporarily Closes Airboat Slides in Citrus County



The Southwest Florida Water Management District (District) has temporarily closed the Brogden Bridge at Turner Camp Road and Wysong-Coogler airboat slides in Citrus County due to safety concerns associated with high water levels.

Attempts to use the slides in current conditions could damage airboats or injure passengers. Staff will continue to monitor conditions and will reopen the slides as soon as practical.

The District operates one additional airboat slide in the area, the Moccasin Slough slide. It is currently open but could be temporarily closed as conditions change.

For more information, please call the Operations Section at the District's Brooksville Headquarters at 1-800-423-1476 or (352) 796-7211, ext. 4222.

## Central Ridge Community Center Office to Modify Hours of Operation



The **Central Ridge Community Center Office** at 77 Civic Circle, Beverly Hills, FL 34465 will be **closed between the hours of 11:00am and 1:00pm each day** effective immediately. The purchase of Pool passes and Gym passes will be **unavailable** between these hours. All other aspects of the Park will remain open during this time. For more information on Central Ridge Park and other Citrus County Parks visit: <https://www.citrusbocc.com/commserv/parksrec/parks/parks.jsp>.

## KUDOS & THANKS CORNER

### attracts large crowd (cont.)



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Dalton House resident Clay Farshee got a special treat. Two firemen from the Sugarmill Woods station placed her in the driver's seat of Engine #18, where she got to inspect its features, toot the horn and sound the siren. Fireman Ryan Maloney lifted her out of the cab.

**Your Time Is Valuable ...  
Homosassa Open MRI  
Offers A Quick, Convenient And**

"**Lt. Maloney (Fire Rescue)**, I don't know if you got to see the picture in the Greenbelt Gazette. This is one of those moments that you were caught in an act of extreme kindness that you probably do more than people could ever know. Please know this makes me feel extremely proud and humble to work in this department with you. Thank you for demonstrating to our community what customer service really is. This shows the care and compassion we have for our citizens and community. As an officer in Citrus County Fire Rescue you have definitely set the example." Thank you again, **Craig Stevens Fire Chief Citrus County Fire Rescue**

"On Pittsburgh Ave, in Homosassa, there was a pretty decent pothole that needed to be filled. I sent an email and Wow, that was fast! Came into work today and **Citrus County Road Maintenance** already had the main pothole patched! Thank you so much!" **Jennifer LeFrancois, Deem Cabinets, Inc.**

"**Sunniva Brown (Growth Management)**, thank you very much for your assistance and incredibly timely response. This county is the most cordial and helpful I have dealt with." **Rafael Gonzalez, Cherokee Trace**

"Yesterday a water line broke in front of my home off Cogwood circle in Pine Ridge. I just wanted to email **Gary Loggins, Mark Rodriguez and Jeff Miller (Water Resources)** and the Utilities Department to offer up a thank you. Not only where you there quickly, the situation was handled fast, professionally and courteously. There were a number of people out to fix the problem and each one was polite and respectful, everyone was right off to work upon getting to the site. The communication seemed to be very efficient from the supervisor down and service was back up and running in a timely matter. Let all of the men that worked yesterday know that we appreciate you coming out after hours, in the rain to do your job and get service restored." Respectfully, **Kurt A. Davis, Citrus County Sheriff's Office**

"Good afternoon **Carl Jones (Growth Management)**, I just wanted to send you and all the staff at Citrus County building department a note to say that everyone from the girls at the front desk to the folks behind the scene have been great to deal with. I've been building commercial buildings for over 30 years and the staff at Citrus County have been one of the best I've ever dealt with. Everyone there has been incredibly helpful and polite. One in particular has been **Debbie Cribbs (Growth Management)**. She has been so helpful communicating to me different things that needed to be done so that I wasn't hit with any surprises during the duration of this project. I had a very small window to complete this project and I couldn't have done it without all the prompt response from you all." Sincerely, **Keith Crum, HJB Construction**

"Kudos! Went by the intersection today—and voila! The pothole was already fixed! Thank you to **Citrus County Road Maintenance** for getting this scheduled and done!" A grateful **Kensington Estates** resident, **Bill Perry**

"**David Whitelaw (Road Maintenance)**, this is my first encounter with Citrus County Government and I am impressed! Super response time, great communication, excellent service. You and your staff are superb! Thank you and your team for your excellent service." **Jim Stroupe, Beverly Hills**





## CR491 Roadway Shift Announced



Vehicular traffic on CR491 is set to be shifted to the newly constructed roadway pavement immediately following the Labor Day holiday, weather dependent. This new traffic pattern on CR491 will be from just north of SR44 to West Audubon Park Path. Traffic shift is to begin at approximately 9:00am and be finalized by approximately 3:00pm on the day of the shift.



Project Variable  
Message Signs  
have been placed  
to notice the traveling public of the  
date the New Traffic Pattern  
will be in place. Variable  
Message Signs have been  
placed to announce lane shift  
and any schedule changes.



## Library Hours to Change on October 1

Beginning October 1, 2018 the Citrus County Library System will be open at 9am at all five branch locations, Monday through Friday. The Central Ridge branch in Beverly Hills, Lakes Region branch in Inverness, and Homosassa branch will be open on Saturdays from 10am until 4pm. The Coastal Region branch in Crystal River and the Floral City branch will be closed on Saturdays. All branches will continue to be closed on Sundays. The table below includes complete details of hours changes including varied closing times throughout the week.

The change in hours allows for the Library System to shift personnel to the busiest locations and times throughout the county while maintaining current staffing levels. "The addition of the 9am opening hour has been a long-time request of many patrons at all locations," said Eric Head, Library Director, "this change will allow us to shift our staff where they are requested most and maintain good overall coverage county-wide."

Access to your library account and digital resources is available 24/7 through the Library's website at [www.citruslibraries.org](http://www.citruslibraries.org). The site provides detailed schedules of events and programs at all locations and well as highlights for upcoming classes. Materials can be requested online for pick-up at a location nearest you and renewal of items is also available. The library offers instant access to a growing collection of eBooks, eAudio-books, and curated content and databases that provide essential information for research and study. Visit your local branch for additional services and follow us on Facebook @CitrusLibraries.

NEW  
HOURS