



[HOME](#) [POLICE CALENDAR](#) [BUSINESS](#) [COMMUNITY LIFE](#) [LEISURE](#)

## Citrus County Phoenix Rising graduation set for June 24

By Media Contact: Laura Byrnes, APR, CPRC  
Communications Manager

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion

Published June 19, 2019 at 4:39 p.m.

OCALA -- Fifteen students will graduate Monday (June 24) from the Citrus County Phoenix Rising program.

**--UPDATED--**

THURSDAY JUNE 20 8:39 a.m.  
Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties

*More Below This Ad*



**You Seek.  
We Find.**

352.493.6813  
800.434.JOBS

[careersourceclm.com](http://careersourceclm.com)

[f](#) [in](#) [g+](#) [t](#)

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY**  
8am - 4 pm - FREE Parking  
1206 N. YOUNG BLVD. (US19)

**FRI. Free**  
**SAT. SUN. \$12\***  
**DAY**  
INSIDE OR OUTSIDE  
TABLES PROVIDED

\*plus tax

**CLEAN INVITING ENVIRONMENT**  
ANTIQUES - APPLIANCES - PRODUCE  
JEWELRY - TOOLS - FURNITURE  
PLANTS - GROCERIES - HAIR SALON

Click on ads to go to websites.

The program enabled students to work toward earning a high school diploma while being paid for on-the-job training in construction.

Graduation takes place starting at 10:30 a.m. at Withlacoochee Technical College (WTC), 1201 W. Main St., in Inverness.

Citrus County's Phoenix Rising is based on a successful program launched in Marion County in 2011. That program expanded to Crystal River in 2015 and Inverness in 2016, but has been renovated to build on the area's booming interest in the construction industry.

Job growth in the industry is projected to increase 12.78 percent statewide through

2026, according to the Florida Research and Economic Information Database Application (FREIDA).

Through Phoenix Rising, young adults age 18 to 24 enrolled in WTC's construction program and received work experience training with Habitat for Humanity of Citrus County, with wages paid by CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion (CLM).

CareerSource CLM also hired construction supervisors and provided career coaches through its youth services provider, Eckerd Connects Workforce Development, to help manage the project and assist students in the classroom develop work readiness and soft skills.

Kimberly Grey, Eckerd program manager, said that 10 homes were built to various stages in the East Beecher Court/South Apopka Avenue area near WTC in Inverness. Additionally, Grey said that eight members of the class have earned their high school diplomas with more in the pipeline.

Also, in partnership with WTC, graduates have so far earned a total of 112 industry credentials: American Hotel and Lodging Education Institute Hospitality certificate, Forklift certification, OSHA 10 Hour certificate, National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Certificate in Carpentry, Food Handler and National Retail Federation Customer service and CPR.

Those completing the program are John Adams, Luke Adams, Melissa Antley, Sunni Barber, James Bentely, Justin Darlington, Erin Foreman, Matthew Kiker, Lukas Knight, Nathaniel Luttrell, Nathaniel Perry, Rachael Staff, Evan Westcamp, Daniel Wielontek and Justin Woodworth.

Adams will be a featured speaker along with Al Jones, area manager for AutoZone and a CareerSource CLM board member.



## Smart Financial Moves for Every Stage of Life

Published June 17, 2019 at 10:39 a.m.

**NEWBERRY** -- Regardless of what stage of life you're in, you must make financial and investment decisions that will be with you for the remainder of your years.

But the moves you make when you're just starting out in your career may be quite different from when you're retired. So, let's look at some of these moves, stretched out across your lifetime.

- In your 20s and 30s: During this period, you should strive to place yourself on a sound financial footing by taking steps such as reducing, and hopefully eliminating, your student loans and embarking on saving for retirement through investments such as a 401(k) and IRA. You also might buy a home, which offers some financial benefits, but be careful not to become "house poor" by devoting too much of your monthly income to mortgage payments. If you have young children, you might also want to start saving for college, possibly through a 529 plan, which offers tax benefits, high contribution limits and the ability to switch beneficiaries, as needed. And if you do have a family, you'll certainly need to maintain adequate life insurance.

Also, since you're at the early stages of your working life, you should chart a long-term financial and investment strategy with the help of a financial professional. Your strategy should encompass your important goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. And you'll want to revisit your strategy regularly to accommodate changes in your life and financial situation.

- In your 40s and 50s: These are the years in which your career advances, leading to bigger salaries. The more you earn, the more you should be putting away in your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan, along with your IRA. During the middle-to-end of this particular period, you might finish helping pay for your child's higher education – which should free up even more money to put away for retirement. You also may want to consider long-term care insurance, which can help protect you against the devastating costs of an extended stay in a nursing home.

**WE ONLY SMOKE BY THE POOL.**

When you smoke, it's like they're smoking. Help protect them from the dangers of secondhand smoke. It's everyone's responsibility. Visit [tobaccofreeflorida.com](http://tobaccofreeflorida.com) to find free ways to quit!

**Tobacco Free Partnership of Levy County**

352-577-4309 / [www.tfp-levy.org](http://www.tfp-levy.org)