



News Release

For Immediate Release

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2025 Neighborhood Village winners announced

PLANT CITY, Fla. (March 19, 2025) – Officials at the Florida Strawberry Festival’s Neighborhood Village announced during the 11-day event the grand champion winners in its competition of homemade goods.

Divisions in the non-perishables category include quilting, home décor, wearing apparel and accessories, needlework, plastic canvas, toys, games and dolls, knitting, crocheting and tatting, jewelry, paper crafts, and woodworking. The perishables category includes food preservation, baking, cake decorating, cupcakes, gingerbread, cookie, and cake pop decorating. All entries in both categories are entered by citizens of Plant City and surrounding communities.

In the quilting division, the grand champion winners are Connie Crow, Cheryl Haynes, Claudia Ingram, and Shirley Pope.

In the home decoration division, the grand champion winners are Mary Lou Mollo, Pamela Saylor, and Cathy Singletary.

In the knitting, crocheting, and tatting division, the grand champion winners are Pam Chapman and Regenna Griffin.

In the wearing apparel and accessories division, the grand champion winners are Corey Gibb, Jennifer Patt, Judy Rich and Meredith Schertzer.

In the embellished division, the grand champion winner is Debbie Stokes.

In the hand embroidery needlework division, the grand champion winners are Laina Boone, Cheryl Hayes, Dianne Lyon and Judy Rich.

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In the toys, games and dolls division, the grand champion winners are Kaela Alfonso and Mary Spence.

In the jewelry division, the grand champion winner is Rita Miller.

In the paper crafts division, the grand champion winners are Patty Kelley, George Ronchi, Joanie Swaitz and Jill Zakaroff.

In the woodworking division, the grand champion winner is Jim Ethington.

In the food preservation division, the grand champion winner is Cindy Roberts.

In the baking division, the grand champion winners are DeeDee Grooms, Ginger Heath, Karol Hughes, Liz Pigott and Sandy Stephenson.

In the cake decorating division, the grand champion winners are Kelly Burton, Heather Howell, Amanda Lewis, Linda Sagor and Abigail Wedin.

In the cupcake, gingerbread, cookie, and cake pop decorating division, the grand champion winners are Danielle Defelice and Paige Peck.

President's Choice awards went to Judy Rich, Linda Daugherty, Pam Saylor, Debbie Williams, Amanda Lewis, DeeDee Grooms and Pam Chapman.

The Neighborhood Village competition and display, sponsored by Kitchen Craft, has a long-standing history at the Florida Strawberry Festival. The Neighborhood Village building also houses the art show and photography contest.

Entries in the competition will be on display all 11 days of the festival.

About the Florida Strawberry Festival

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 650,000 visitors enjoy the festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its strawberry shortcake. The 2026 Florida Strawberry Festival will take place February 26 - March 8 in Plant City, Florida. For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram, X and YouTube (#berryfest26).

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