

I'm going a little out of order this week. I wanted to let you all know that our cherished rotarian, Paul Perregaux, has been experiencing some trying health issues. He is in Clear Skies Rehab recovering from another setback, and he would love to have visitors. Please reach out to him or go by and spend some time, if you can.

On a brighter note, it was our pleasure to induct Holli Herndon into the club. Deeply connected with the Citrus County Schools, Holly brings a strong desire to see our youth have the best opportunity to find their way into the future. As an educator, she demonstrates a passion with strong purpose and the ability to make things happen. Our club is blessed to get another outstanding member who is ready to do more good things in our community. Welcome, Holli!

So, did you bring your shades? The room was brighter than ever, as our students of the month and their support groups arrived. And the lighting would grow brighter as we heard from this month's "best student" selections. (and boy were they good!)

From Inverness Middle School – we met Connor Fitzpatrick and Deborah Brunk. Connor is both an academic and athletic, always working to the highest standard and is a role model for his peers. His strengths are in math and language, landing him in Honor Geometry and Advanced English. He also plays golf and tennis, and enjoys outdoor activities. He is planning to attend the IB school next year and will finish off his education at FSU, UF or Vanderbilt. Deborah is a ball of energy and hyper-focused. She loves her sports and participates in basketball, track, volleyball, and soccer. A compassionate soul, she is very involved in her church and hopes to include theology and missionary work in her future career. She is also planning to attend the IB school next year and personally loves her gifted class and all it has to offer.

From Citrus High School – we met Landon Hensley and Marilyn Gasperak. Landon has a gpa of 4.4. He is also an outstanding athlete. Landon believes it is important to have a balance in life between education (academics) and activity (sports). He is a dynamite tennis player and can hold himself up against some of the best players in the region. He also plays basketball and swims. He uses his strong leadership skills to be involved in school clubs, including Link, Key, Crazyies, and Avid. Landon wants to attend USF and get a degree in exercise science. Marilyn is first in her class with a gpa of 4.87, but it doesn't stop there. She has received her AP Capstone Diploma and AP Honors, her AA degree and 4 additional certifications. Loving learning and all things educational, she is excited to attend school every day to learn something new. Pleasant Grove Elementary has her as a volunteer, and she is also part of the Deutschman and Zakaria Law Firm team. Marilyn admits that she has received only one "B" grade her whole life and that was in the 3rd grade. (Can you imagine always getting "A"s?) The future for Marilyn is to continue her education at CF with a degree in Business Administration. Additionally, and simultaneously, she will get four AA degrees in related business fields, including office and business structure and business organization. This will all be completed by 2026. Graduating at the age of 20, she will be prepared to take the world by storm.

Other News:

*January 22 – Feed Citrus – County Fairgrounds 8-11 (arrive around 7am)

*January 23 – Fireside Chat – 12 noon on zoom

*January 25 – Relief Share Medical Sorting, 1st Presbyterian Church, 9-2

*February 1 – Habitat Home Build, Habitat Village in Citrus Springs, 8-12

*February 4 – One Bag at Whispering Pines Park 11:30-1:30

****50/50 - \$38 to Padma Li ***H/S \$173