

Our favorite meeting of the month came again. That's right, it was our students of the month. Whether they are from the middle or high school, they never stop impressing us with their unique styles, interests and abilities. The common threads that they all seem to share is compassion and determination, the ability to balance academics and outside activities, and an inner drive to be successful in their endeavors.

From Inverness Middle School – we met Jaiden Loy and Hayleigh Callahan. Jaiden is an A/B student with a 3.6 gpa and was student of the month. A person that embraces a challenge, he is very involved in excellence in sports and would like to be an MLB baseball player. If, however, he doesn't make the "big show", he would like to be a PE teacher and coach baseball. Hayleigh is a 4.0 gpa student who spends much of her time encouraging others and tutoring, and enjoys using her abilities to help others. A student of world history, she hopes to be a lawyer one day to bring justice for all. And for an additional challenge, she plays tennis and golf.

From Citrus High School – we met Ansley Waas and Caleb Blanch. Ansley will not settle for just doing something, today or in the future. And while she is setting her path, she is also willing to help others along the way. With credentials such as Academic All Star and advancements in education with AP, Honors, Dual Enrollment, she has her next step set out for her by enrolling in the radiography program at Central Florida. She plans to continue her education after that by pursuing something in the medical field, and plans to explore her options before deciding on the next direction of her life. Caleb is a soft-spoken, competitive young man. With a 4.3 gpa, he has demonstrated that he can handle the challenges of education and sports. Caleb has been the county champion in tennis for the past 4 years. However, he also finds time to fit varsity basketball into his life. He is dual enrolled at Central Florida and will receive his AA from there. He then plans to attend the University of Central Florida to receive a degree in accounting. And if that's not enough, he also manages to work part-time for Stanley Steemer.

Hats off to all of these outstanding young people who understand that anything is possible if you are willing to put in the effort. It's another sunny day!

As an added bonus, we had a presentation by a young man named Stanley from the 4H. He came to share the focus of 4H and the work that they do throughout the year, up to and including the County Fair. From raising and caring for the animals, to setting up and tearing down the facilities and the exhibits, the students spend a great deal of their time on this event. He encouraged all of us to come to the fair March 22-29 and appreciate what our county students can do!

Other News:

*The beer wagon at the Outdoor Expo brought in @\$2600.

*Greg Hamilton reminded us about the Founder's Day Picnic on April 26 at Whispering Pines

March 16 – St Patrick's Day Parade float building 1 pm ---CANCELLED

March 22- Brewfest

March 24 – Fireside Chat 12 noon on zoom

March 29 – 6 club social at Washington Carver Community Center

50/50 - \$38 to Megan Carella