

# The Bulletin

A Parrish Community High School Student Publication

Spring 2022

## HISTORY in the MAKING



Graduation Photos by Olga Peña/BULLETIN



PCHS boasts first graduating class, prom, signings, state champs, full length musical, academic distinctions, sweepstakes awards and a slew of wins in all areas



Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS



Erin Lisch/PCHS PHOTOS



# PCHS scores Golden Herald winner in only first year

By Grace Crestani

The Bulletin Reporter

Every year, students from around Manatee County compete to be recognized in the classroom and community.

On April 14, Manatee Memorial Hospital presented the Golden Herald awards to deserving seniors around the county.

Since 1948, over 5,500 Manatee County high school seniors have been honored for their service in 16 different categories. These categories include Art, Athletics, Business, Citizenship, Computer & Technology, Drama, English & Literature, Foreign Language, General

Scholarship, Journalism, Math, Music, Science, Social Science, Speech, and Vocational.

This year, Parrish Community High School had three honorable mentions and one winner. The runner-up winners included Cecilia Marty for citizenship, Coleton Korney for speech, and Oreoluwa Owoeye for English and Literature.

The first-place winner for PCHS was India Rawana-McKelvey for Journalism.

She is the first Golden Herald Award winner in PCHS history and is extremely proud to be so.



Rawana-McKelvey

Her interest in Journalism is not a new one as she started her career in TV production in the fifth grade. She has dabbled in journalism and yearbook but always goes back to TV production as it was her "first love".

Rawana-McKelvey is proud to represent Parrish Community High School and set the way for future generations, as well as establish a competitive reputation amongst other schools.

For individuals looking to compete in the future, she said to "just immerse yourself in as much as possible and be the best well-rounded person you can be."

## The Bulletin

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## Volunteer opportunities reap rewards

By Brianna Ngo

The Bulletin Reporter

During these four years of high school, most students prioritize to fill in their volunteer hours when they have the opportunity. According to Mercedes Wildman, PCHS' Media Specialist, volunteer hours are not a graduation requirement.

However, students need a minimum of 75 hours if they plan to register for bright futures scholarships or attend a four-year university.

Even if those are not life goals, students still might want to earn their hours because there is also a Golden Herald Award for high school seniors, Wildman said.

There are 12 categories in which high schools will nominate a senior that has done well academically but has also excelled in the number of hours they have contributed back to the community.

One interesting volunteer opportunity for students is the Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium in Sarasota.

Katylin Hoyer, 11th grader, recalled how kind the volunteers were as she worked alongside other teenagers and adults, too.

She also mentioned her two favorite memories of being at Mote. "Mote Marine does this program where they rescue hatchling turtles, and you get to see them before people come in... they measure the shells on the little turtles and then they mark them with nail polish so they can keep track of them," she said. "It was really interesting and really fun just to talk to people that you were telling them something new for the first time, that you got to be part of a new experience with them."

There also are opportunities on the PCHS campus. Students like Natalie Rodriguez, 11th grader, were counselors at the Little Bulls Camp last summer of 2021.

At this camp, they watched over children from incoming first graders to incoming sixth graders. Natalie explained how the children were split into groups, rotated classes, and as counselors they helped the children comprehend each subject. When asked what skills she strengthened through the camp she responded, "Communication with the little kids, patience, and leadership."



# Congratulations, Class of 2022!

By Gabrielle Redinger

The Bulletin Reporter

Parrish Community High School now has their first graduated senior class.

Senior sponsor, Heather Dietz, worked hard to make sure that the senior class had the graduation that they deserve even with remaining COVID mitigation efforts in place.

"I absolutely love graduation day and sharing that special day with kids after they have worked so hard to earn their diploma and walk across the stage. COVID has changed things and made it a little different than what we are used to, but it should not be looked at as any less special and we should not focus on what is changed or different, but just

the fact that these students have successfully met the requirements to graduate and have earned their diploma," Dietz said.

Preparations have been in the works since last school year. Since 2022 is the first graduating class, some of the details that would have been previously arranged, like the designs for the caps, gowns, diplomas, and programs, had to be established from scratch.

The senior advisory board was also put together last year and began working toward the big May 18 date.

Graduation took place at LECOM field and featured student and staff speakers. Principal Craig Little noted the momentous occasion, as the class of 2022 established this school.

## From Principal Craig Little's Graduation Speech

*"This group of seniors partnered with our staff in the creation of our school's vision and mission statements, and they provided input on our school rules and bell schedules. They also lead us with flying colors through our school's first accreditation. They have embraced our school-wide growth mindset principles and have understood that most times you learn more from failure than from success.*

*We hope that they will continue to view challenges as opportunities.*

*Most importantly, the class of 2022 had to be our student leaders and role models for our underclassmen for the past three years.*

*They have stepped up to these challenges and put Parrish Community High School on the map. The bar has been set extremely high for our future graduates.*

*On behalf of our staff, parents, and community, congratulations on being the very first graduating class of Parrish Community High School and showing everyone what it takes to be a PCHS BULL!"*



Graduation Photography: Olga Perez/BULLETIN





# Somewhere over the Rainbow

By Julia Smith & Cecelia Cosgrove  
*The Bulletin Reporter*

The first musical Parrish Community High School put on was nothing short of a hit. As the curtain opened on May 7, the audience could immediately feel the infectious energy of the Wizard of Oz cast. Our story started with Emily Mentzer as Dorothy, singing the powerful ballad “Somewhere Over the Rainbow”.

The setting was as colorful and lively as the rest of the cast, with a screen projecting a quaint farm. As the song ended, the audience was introduced to the farmhands who would later become characters of the dream-like Oz. In the words of Emily Patel, a crow and multi-role cast member, “The show’s casting really brought the play to life... everyone was so excited to work together, and the audience really felt it.”

Audience member Emma Harlow seemed to agree. “The play was phenomenal, and the roles fit everyone so well.” Not only was an energetic cast the key to a successful production, synergy seemed to be



the driving force behind the play. It took multiple departments and a group of dedicated volunteers to make sure everything was perfect for the musical, under the direction of theater teacher, Olga Peña. “This massive production is the product of our amazing fine arts team of teachers, talented students and supportive community,” Peña said. She noted the 35 high school cast and crew, 15 additional students in the live orchestra pit, 30 Harvey Elementary School munchkins, 107 costumes, 108 props, and a live dog playing Toto.

“We’re really grateful for all the people who put the time in to help. It means a lot,” said cast member Zoey Bell.

Of course, the cast had a pretty big role in making the experience engaging for audience members. There wasn’t a dull moment throughout the entire play. From flying monkeys running and rollerblading through the aisles, to adorable 5th graders playing Munchkins, the play will be remembered for years to come.



Photos by Erin Lisch, Abigail Ganley, and Jamie Blatt



# Arts

## Music program sweeps awards

The just keep making history.

The Pride of Parrish Music Program at Music in the Parks, 2022 yielded: Mixed Choir-2nd Place, Women's Ensemble - 1st Place in their division, and Overall Top Choral Award, Advanced Orchestra-1st Place in their division and Overall Top Orchestra Award, Advanced Jazz Band-1st Place, Wind Ensemble-1st Place in their Division and Overall Top Concert Band.

The Parrish Community High School Advanced Jazz Band Florida Bandmasters Association MPA season

yielded: a spot to State MPA after a straight superior rating at districts and astonishing straight superiors at state.

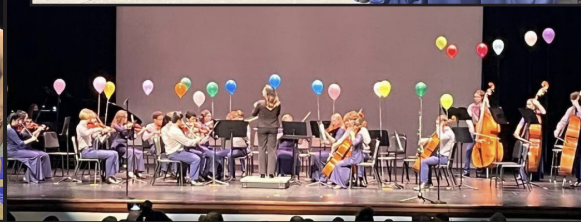
The Wind ensemble also earned straight superiors.

MPA Results for Choir were: Mixed Choir-Overall Excellent with Superior in Sight Reading, Women's Ensemble-Overall Superior with Superior in Sight Reading, Combined Women's Choirs-Straight Superiors.

Parrish Community High School's Color Guard became the first state champion in PCHS

history in any sport, with their 2022 show, "Grow As We Go."

Orchestra MPA results included Excellents all across for Advanced and Intermediate, and Intermediate earned a superior in sight-reading.



## Winter One Acts deliver Shakespeare laughs, gasps

By Abbie Lutsch & Gabrielle Redinger  
The Bulletin Reporters

Drama Club members tackled what all serious actors find challenging... Shakespeare. Even though the performance was postponed for almost a month due to COVID-19 mitigation efforts in mid January, they went out and showed how to put on an impactful performance three weeks later.

Although many students were troubled by the sudden rescheduling, they bounced back strong. "Everyone just tried their best to stay positive about the whole situation while still practicing lines and supporting one another while we were all upset," said Kendall Vondran, who played Juliet in "Juliet and this Guy Romeo".

Olga Peña, drama teacher and di-

rector of the Parrish Community High School theatre program, was proud and amazed by the thespians. She described it as "a night of firsts," seeing as this is the first real year for the program, and the cast and crew went for the gold standard. "It was exciting that the fact was that it had to be postponed so the energy and expectancy was at a fever pitch and to see them perform so brilliantly; I don't have words," Peña said.

The Shakespeare One Acts, "Juliet and this Guy Romeo", and Peña's own adaptation of "Macbeth", made double the amount of money from both musical revues from earlier in the year.

After this show, the performers received a standing ovation, with good cause. It was very emotional for not only the performers but as well as the audiences.



Photos by Abigail Ganley/BULLETIN



## Standout athletes hard to choose in strong semester

By Madyson Greeman

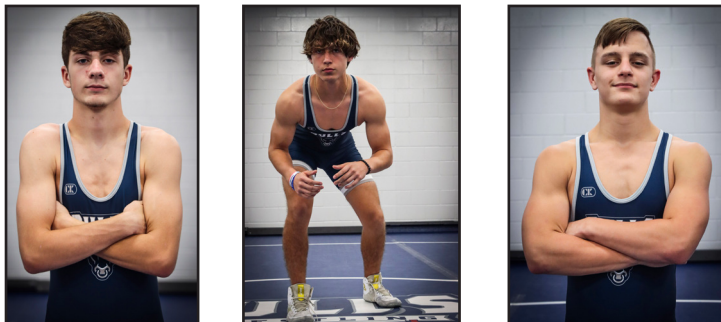
The Bulletin Reporter

**Girls Basketball:** Mariah Martinez and Mary Portwood are two very strong athletes that stand out to Coach Kristy Hebert. Martinez is a senior on the girls varsity basketball team and is described by Coach Hebert as “a good leader on the court for us, she was also one of those players that you could play inside, play outside.” Martinez was great with handling the ball and overall served a great impact to the team. Portwood is a sophomore at Parrish Community High School and is an athlete that will be “young and upcoming for us for our program,” said Coach Hebert. She was exposed to different competition during this season that she will hopefully reflect on and see what she needs to improve on for the years to come.

**Boys Basketball:** Senior Joey Decker is recognized as being a standout on the boy's basketball team this season by Coach Ryan Kardok. He shows that senior leadership to others around him on and off the court. Decker is someone who can “be a great defender and protect the rim,” said Coach Kardok. He is “a great anchor for the defense and can lead from a vocal standpoint as well. Someone who talks a lot on the court and is unselfish.” Decker is a great athlete who is dedicated and works very hard.

**Wrestling:** Brayden Mullins, Dustin Springfield, and Tyler Roper. All three have good records and have placed good in meets.

**Girls Soccer:** Coach Nicole Paternostro said that she is proud of every girl on the team, and it is so hard to just choose one. With



From above, clockwise: Wrestling standouts Brayden Mullins, Dustin Springfield, Tyler Roper, Basketball standouts Joey Decker, Mariah Martinez and Mary Portwood, girls soccer standouts: the team who are 4A District 11 Champions, and boys soccer standout Andrew Hertz. Read more about cheer standout Camryn Yannieh in the competitive cheer story on pg. 8.

it only being a three-year program. Coach Paternostro is especially grateful for the girls that have helped to build the program and their dedication to sticking around to “make sure the girls grew and the program grew.” Coach Paternostro said, “You’re buying into the program regardless of your level of play.” All of the girls no matter how much they play are still going to the games and truly being part of the team.

**Boys Soccer:** Andrew Hertz is a sophomore at PCHS and is an incredible athlete. Fun fact: He had started every game, unless he was sick. Coach Gabriel Mazo describes Hertz as “very respectful when it came to talking to me off the field and talking to his teammates off the field.” Hertz made sure to continue showing his respect even when on the field and even was described an athlete on the soccer team that would work twice as hard as a senior did. Coach Mazo even mentioned that when Hertz wasn’t playing, that the team had dropped their level, whereas when he was playing he “solidified that position that he played.”

**Cheer:** Coach Jenna Davies says that senior Camryn Yannieh is an all-around athlete. Whether it’s jumps, tumbling, or stunting she can do it. Yannieh moved to Florida this past year where she continued doing all-star cheerleading and has been a varsity athlete for all four years. Coach Davies describes her as someone with great technique and someone who applies her knowledge to the PCHS cheer team. “You can put her in a pod that might not know what they’re doing, and she can almost diagnose the issue just based off her own skill set.”





## Track team takes state

May 12 State Championship Track and Field results  
at the University of Florida

- 12 athletes in total advanced to the 2A FHSAA State Finals for Track and Field.
- Brian Valiente finished 11th place out of 18 qualifiers in the Discus for the highest finish in PCHS Track and Field program history; he threw 42.31 meters (138 feet, 9 inches).
- Gabby Lamprecht finished 12th place out of 18 qualifiers in the 300m hurdles event, finishing with a mark of 47.69 seconds.
- Girl's 4 x 100 meter relay finished 15th out of 18 qualifying teams with a mark of 50.40 seconds - Team: Kendall Hecht, Morgan Gingras, Madyson Greeman, Madison Hay.
- Girl's 4 x 400 meter relay finished 12th out of 18 qualifying teams with a time of 4:08.80 - Team: Amaya Peralta, Morgan Gingras, Reagan Panico, Gabby Lamprecht.



Above: The men's 4x400 team after they took first in their event at the district qualifier. At right: PCHS Track & Field state qualifiers place in numerous events at UF on May 12.



## Competitive cheer team wins big in first year

By Kaylani Pusateri

The Bulletin Reporter

The competitive cheer team at PCHS has had some amazing achievements, but this year was their most accomplishing by far. They surpassed expectations at the regional and state level, winning first place at regionals and third place at states. The team has gone through many ups and downs in the past, but this year was one for the books.

Head coach Jenna Davies has been the coach at PCHS for three years and has been coaching overall for about eight. She was excited to say how proud she is of the team making it to states, let alone placing in the top three. Davies explained how there was a lot of preparation necessary for the girls to compete, which included practicing 2-3 times a week, cheering at athletic events at school, clinics, summer training at USF, and extensive choreography sessions. The first step to getting to states was to win at regionals. "As

soon as I saw them hit and I saw their performance, I started crying, because I knew they had the cut score to make it," Davies said. She was looking forward to the overall experience of being at states since it was at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and she was excited to watch other teams compete as well. She thought of the trip as "a great team bonding experience."

The team needs great leaders to keep things running smoothly, and captains Madyson Greeman and Reagan Panico do just that. The two sophomores have been on the team for two years and have enjoyed seeing the program grow and improve.

Greeman has been cheering for All Star teams for three years, and she says her favorite part about cheer is the performing aspect. She described states as being a great experience and a fun time with her teammates. The energy was high when the girls stepped out onto the mat, and that helped with their overall performance. "The adrenaline rush I get when I step on the

mat is a feeling that I will never forget, and it added to the amazing experience I had at states," Greeman said. Another sophomore on the cheer team, Sullivan Morris, agreed with Davies and Greeman when she said it was a great experience. "Going to states this year was significant because last year we weren't able to, but the fact that we could go this year and get third place was just an amazing feeling," Morris said.

The team has much more in store, and many of the girls are looking forward to continuing the legacy they have built and hope that in the future, they can accomplish bigger things and go farther than they ever have.





## Wrestling team grows in another winning season

By Kaylani Pusateri

The Bulletin Reporter

The wrestling team at PCHS has had many successes this year. The boys have continued to exceed expectations and have a winning season. Many new faces joining the team mean that there are new opportunities, and all the athletes bring their own set of skills to the team that enable them to keep their winning streak alive.

The team would not be able to strive for greatness without their head coach Tyler Small. Small has been the coach at PCHS for three years and has been coaching high school wrestling for a total of six years. He explained how he is excited to see how the team just keeps improving and getting better with each meet. Not only is wrestling a great way to stay fit, but also to learn valuable life lessons that go beyond wrestling. "My favorite part about the sport of wrestling is the life lessons that this sport teaches," Small said.

He was happy to point out a few strong standouts on the team including Brayden Mullins, Tyler Roper, and Dustin Springfield, who have all had great records this season, with over 25 wins each. Small noted how he was proud of "dou-

bling the amount of dual meet wins from last year and almost filling a full lineup."

Small is also looking forward to building the team even more and competing with more advanced teams in the state.

Two new freshman, Ashton Springfield and Gage Cameron, entered this year with high hopes of creating a lasting legacy. Springfield has been wrestling for five years and this year, he already has about 20 wins this season. Cameron has also been wrestling for five years and says his greatest accomplishment was starting on varsity as a freshman.

"Not many guys get to start varsity as a freshman, so me getting to do that was a big personal accomplishment," Cameron said.



## Game, set, match

By Melanie Carlson

The Bulletin Reporter

The tennis team didn't just grow in size, it grew in popularity. Now the program has many more devoted students willing to learn. "This year we feel a lot more confident now knowing what to expect," said Ana Florez-Garcia. "It feels more like a home."

Florez-Garcia is a junior at Parrish Community High School and is the number three seed for the team while also being a returning player. Erin Lisch is the teacher and coach making this all possible.

Lisch is putting into motion a lot of different tactics to tackle their competition from "more organization in our days" to

"working individually, then to small groups and then collectively as a big group."

To win in a singles match, a player must win by two sets out of four games in each set, and win by two in each set. To win a doubles match, two people on the court on each side, you must play eight games and win by two.

There are 16 tennis players on this team; they started winning in February and have not stopped.



Odessa Eisch



James Carlson



### Flag on the play

Flag football is in its second year, with additional coaches and enthusiastic athletes who play multiple sports, keeping strong and in shape all school year. From above left, clockwise are: Madelyn Portwood, Nariah Sparkman, Jada Scott and Mary Portwood.



# Teacher focuses on helping students become best self

By Hannah Mayhew

The Bulletin Reporter

PCHS is full of incredible staff who make a difference everyday. A standout staff member, Lucy Coleman, has an incredible story that is sure to inspire others.

Coleman is a Speech-Language Pathologist, AKA a Speech Therapist. This year is Coleman's first year at PCHS and she is very excited.

"I was really excited to work at PCHS since it is a newer school," Coleman said. "I love new beginnings and I was very intrigued to see what this community could become."

Coleman attended USF for four years to earn her bachelor's degree, one year of prerequisite courses for Speech-Language Pathology, and two more years to earn her master's degree. That's a total of seven years of college after high school. "Although it was difficult at times, earning my degrees was such an amazing experience and totally worth it," Coleman said.

Coleman wanted to make a difference in people's lives. She explained, "My greatest inspiration for my career path was my passion for helping people become their best selves on a daily basis. My love and interests in psychology, human connection, and language lead me to the field of Speech-Language Pathology."

Coleman agrees that it is a great field where you can work in many different settings, and work with people of all ages to make a huge difference in their lives. Coleman said she wants to continue to inspire not only her own students, but also other students that may be interested in a similar career path. Coleman encourages students to feel free to come and speak with her, she would be happy to share more information.



## Women's Golf Association raises funds for PCHS girls golf team

By Marissa Krone

The Bulletin Reporter

January 18 is a date to remember for the girls' golf team. This was the start of an annual fundraiser organized by the River Wilderness Women's Golf Association. The team is so grateful for the warm welcome from River Wilderness, as well as the growing connection with the community at their home course.

The team, along with Coach, Erin Lisch, consider themselves incredibly lucky and they are extremely excited for the opportunities that the money raised will open.

In total, the team raised \$3,000. Connie Goodman, the president of the River Wilderness Women's Golf Association, explained why the PCHS Girls Golf Team was chosen. "The association wanted to give within the community and wanted to show these young women that even when you are grandmothers and great grandmothers you can still play this amazing game," Goodman said.

According to Lisch, the money raised will help the team "buy new equipment, grow our program, and buy our entry fees for additional tournaments."

Freshman athlete, Ashland Hirst, also said that she is excited for the new opportunities that the new program will provide. From the look on everyone's faces, it seems this new-found friendship between the team and the River Wilderness Women is one that will last and benefit both parties greatly.

## FFA students dominate in all areas of fair competition

By Melanie Carlson

The Bulletin Reporter

The fair was a huge success, from showing plants to steers, PCHS did it all. The stage for competition and exhibition was the Manatee County Fair, and it was "eventful," said Tory Ziemer. Ziemer is a junior and Parrish



FFA student Jace Gutshall wins big at the fair.

Community High School and is one FFA member who attended the fair this year.

Only a few FFA members represented PCHS at the fair; some activities that they represented included showing pigs, dairy cattle, and plants. The two agriculture teachers are Susan Grainger and Caitlyn Corbran, who

See FFA, Page 11



# Art students shine at school, city, beyond

By Emma Harlow

The Bulletin Reporter

Art is a creative outlet for those who want to channel their creativity.

PCHS has a fantastic art department with an experienced teacher, Hailey Patalano. "I've been interested in art my entire life," said Patalano.

Patalano went to a college away program at MICA in Baltimore, then attended art college at Ringling. She received her master's in art education in Boston. Patalano has been teaching for a little more than six years, and she has two main goals when it comes to teaching her students.

"I want my students to have a creative outlet for themselves," Patalano said. She also wants her students to be aware that choosing art as a career will not mean you are selling paintings on the side of the road, struggling to make

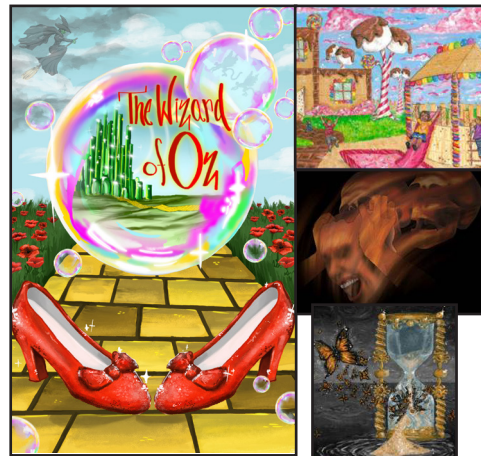
a living. Patalano wants her students to know there are several pathways for an artist that will lead to successful careers.

Mia Gonzalez, a freshman at PCHS, has had a passion for art her whole life. "I enjoy being able to think of something and then creating it on paper," Gonzalez said.

Gonzalez recently won \$1,000 for the Embracing Our Differences contest. The contest had 123 different countries apply, but only 50 submissions were selected. Of those selected, Gonzalez was the only one selected for "best in show" student winner. In doing so, Gonzalez's work is displayed in downtown Sarasota on a 50-foot billboard. "I definitely want to continue art for the rest of my life," said Gonzalez.

Alos, Gonzalez's artwork titled, "Lane to the School House of Sweets" was selected as the winner of the 9-12 ESS

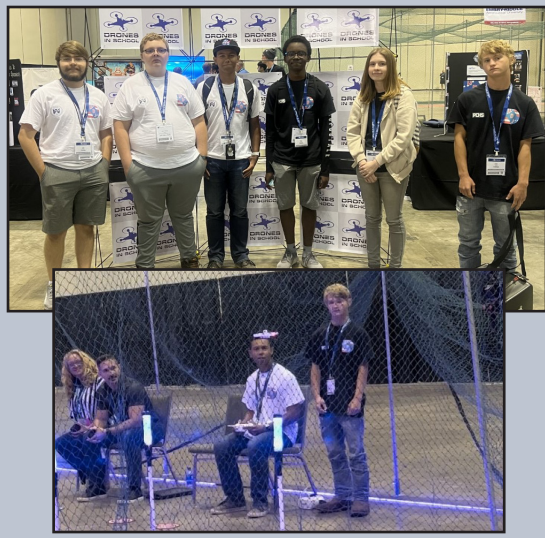
Art Contest in April, and she along with Madelyn Wilson, Mia and Keenan McRoberts had their artwork selected for the The Dalí Museum's Student Surrealist Art Exhibit 2022: "The Metamorphic Moment". Their work will be on display at The Dalí Museum in the Raymond James Community Room from through August 24.



Gonzalez also designed PCHS Theatre's musical logo, playbill cover, poster and T-shirt graphics. ESS and Dalí Museum art mentioned in story is pictured above.

## Drones in Action

Applied Engineering has been working with Drones in School and took a team of six students to the National race in Orlando in April. The race was part of AUVSI Expo 2022. AUVSI is the Association for Unmanned Vehicle systems. The team is: Chase Terlep, Don Clutts, McKenzie Hallenbeck, Wally Cheso, Bryson Pryor, and Joseph Dolan.



## Parrish Town Center proposal features PCHS art students

Staff reports

Portfolio and Commercial Art students worked together, in partnership with the Parrish Civic Association, to design a concept for Parrish's new town center. They

created an image of a town center using PCA's vision and required architectural styles. The students used a Isometric Grid to draw the design. They were asked to create and design parking, buildings with apartments, a grocery store, signs, benches, landscaping and more.

The students involved in this project were: Madelyn Wilson – Overall Design, Street Design Jaxon Gaddis, Zach Christman, Ellie Raistrick, Mia Gonzalez – Building Design, Alani Garcia – Landscape and Fountain Design, and Brooke Gillaspay – Benches, Lamps, and Signs Design. "They are so excited that this design may someday be used as the inspiration for builders creating Parrish's town center," said art teacher, Hailey Patalano.





### FFA Continued

made sure that everyone was where they needed to be while helping coach students who have never participated in the fair before.

When it comes to showing steers and dairy heifers, there is a lot to do before even showing the animal that you have been preparing for months. The student must clip the animal right beforehand and make sure it is its prettiest for it to place well in the classes.

When showing their steer or heifer in the ring, students must be able to set up their project to make it look like it is competition-ready and also stands out.

The fair can be very stressful, but it also feels very homelike, said sophomore FFA student Jade Stanton, adding, "The chapter learned how to work together as a team."

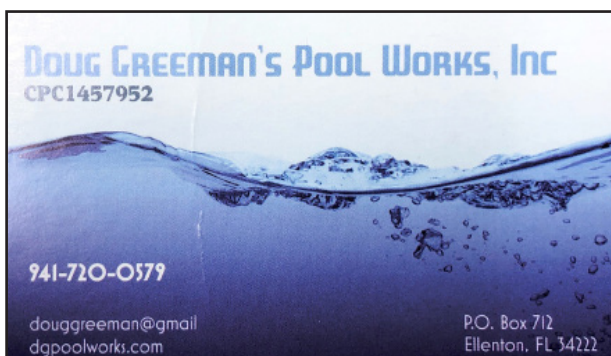
It isn't all individual efforts when at the fair; there also is teamwork. Spectators can see students helping each other often. If a student won a class or a category they would get a ribbon, blue for first and a red ribbon for second.

When it comes to showing a plant, a judge walks around and determines whether the plant deserves a ribbon and what ribbon to give. After the judge walks around and gives out the ribbons to each plant, then the bidding begins. The bidding for plants can be between zero to whatever the bidder inputs.

The highest bid was \$1,000 this year. If a student had a chapter plant or animal, they wouldn't get the money that they won; the school would, but students earn experience.



FFA student James Keen poses with his winning entry at the Manatee County Fair.







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