

The next Do the Right Thing of Charlotte County monthly award program will be held Thursday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 326 W. Marion Ave., Punta Gorda. The following four students will be honored:

**Dylan Jones, 21059 Lawsons Ave., Port Charlotte, FL 33952      Age 10, Grade 5, Neil Armstrong Elementary School**

“Dylan Jones learned that a fellow classmate wished to harm himself and did not hesitate to seek out assistance from myself (Deputy J. Moore) to ensure the safety of his classmate. Dylan was not without obstacles as his first few attempts to meet with me were unsuccessful. Dylan continued to search for me until he was able to locate me and tell me what had transpired.

Due to Dylan's quick action and determination to seek help, I was able to locate the student and provide the appropriate assistance for this child. It should be noted that Dylan was not the only student who was aware that his classmate wished to harm himself, but he was the only person who understood the severity of the comments and took action.

It is no surprise that Dylan is a school Safety Patrol as he always models what it means to be a good citizen and carries himself with Integrity, Honor, and Compassion. It is for this reason, I nominate Dylan Jones as a candidate for Do the Right Thing award.”

**Marissa Mead, 26293 Asuncion Dr., Punta Gorda, FL 33983      Age 8, Grade 3, Deep Creek Elementary School**

“Marissa brought signs to school for each student in the class. They were desk top signs with motivational messages. Each sign she made had a specific message that was personalized to the student. She wanted the signs to be able to sit on their desks as a reminder of their specialness. The students were very thankful and each one stood up and read their inspirational message. It was a very special moment that brought our whole class together. I am so proud of Marissa's thoughtfulness and leadership. In a time where we hear daily the terrible things that are happening in our nation's schools, from bullying to shootings, it is so amazing to witness such a wonderful act of kindness. It is a pleasure to be Marissa's teacher and to have her as an amazing leader in my class. I look forward to watch Marissa continue to inspire others with her thoughtfulness, kindness, love and leadership.”

**Michael Powell, 33101 Oil Well Rd., Punta Gorda, FL 33982      Age 15, Grade 10, The Academy**

**Ja'Ma Washington, 2536 Vestridge St., Northport, FL 34287      Age 18, Grade 12, The Academy**

“In first hour at around 8:45 a young girl stood up during class (rare) and stated she wasn't feeling good, that she was nauseous and asked if she could go to the nurse. Her face was quickly going white so Ja'Ma Washington offered to walk with her just in case. A minute later there was a loud banging. I looked over and Ja'Ma was holding the girl while kicking the window to get my attention. I ran outside and caught up with Ja'Ma who was running with her in his arms to the nurse's office. Another student, Michael Powell, happened to be walking towards us. He took over for Ja'Ma, running with the girl in his arms to the nurse's office. While running we were trying to see if she could hear us, and she would flutter her eyes a bit when her name was said. Ja'Ma meanwhile went to get Mr. Underhill, the assistant principal, then ran back with all the girl's belongings to the nurse's office.

Neither student had any reason to run with a limp girl in their arms. I don't know if either knows her

very well. But when it came down to it both stepped up and jumped into action going above and beyond what even they probably thought they could do.”