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Prepared For Hurricane Season? Tips, Suggestions From The City And County

by Keri McAlpine and Joe Potter

Florida's rainy days of summer made an appearance like clockwork following the start of hurricane season last week on June 1.

After weeks of drought conditions that resulted in forest fires throughout Pasco, residents are happy to see lawns watered and lakes and ponds returning to normal.

However, hurricane season, which runs through Nov. 30, is not something to be taken lightly.

County and city officials urge residents to take precautionary steps now in case of a future emergency.

Pasco County Administrator Dan Biles and Emergency Services Director Kevin Guthrie held a joint press conference on May 31 to discuss how county residents can do just that. Longtime Florida residents are no strangers to a disaster preparation



Billy Poe

Hurricane • Continued on Page 7A



A painting of Capt. 'Bo' Harrison was set up on stage next to flowers for a celebration of life and memorial service on the anniversary of his 2003 death on June 1.

Photo by Richard K. Riley

Celebration Of Life Remembers Deputy

Friends And Family Recount Favorite Memories of 'Bo' Harrison

by Keri McAlpine

Community members and the Pasco County Sheriff's Office convened at the Lewis Abraham Boys & Girls Club in Lacochee last week for a memorial service and celebration of life of Capt. Charles "Bo" Albert Harrison Sr.

The service was held June 1, the 14th anniversary of his end of watch in 2003 when he was fatally shot during a surveillance detail.

The room was full of laughter and tears as some of Harrison's relatives

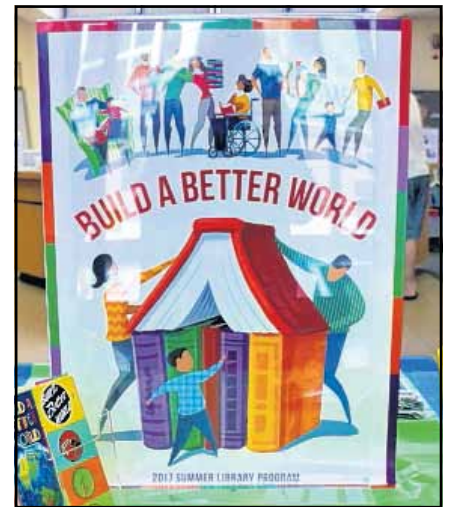
Harrison • Continued on Page 9A

A Look Into First Friday



Robert Roberg of Zephyrhills listens to his grandson, Wisdom Lant, 7, tell him how a kaleidoscope works in the Church Street Shoppe, Toys, Kites, and More store in downtown Dade City on June 2. The First Friday event is sponsored by the Dade City Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Merchants Association. See page 5A

Photo by Richard K. Riley



Building and creating are popular themes during this summer's program. Many events feature lessons on architecture from around the world and allow children to explore their creativity with Legos.

Time To Hit The Books

Library Kicks Off Summer Reading Program

Story and photos by Emily Kochanski

Summer is the best time for kids to head outdoors and get some much-needed exercise, but it's also the time to do some exercising indoors as well.

Cozying up with a good book is the best way for kids to give their brains a real workout.

Dade City's Hugh Embry Branch Library kicked off its annual summer reading program on June 3, which gives kids of all ages the chance to be rewarded for reading. Branch manager Angelo Liranzo sees the program as a fun way for kids to keep their minds stimulated and sharp while out of school.

"Summer reading is an optional program that is designed to be entertaining for all readers," explained Liranzo. "Sometimes there's a chance to win prizes. Also, associated with summer reading are activities people can attend every week to get a little fun and recreation in during the week while also doing something that stimulates the mind."

The summer reading program lasts for about seven weeks and always receives a hearty turn out of children ready to read. The first of

Library • Continued on Page 6A

INSIDE: Pg. 3A - Police Welcome New Furry Officer
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Pg. 1B - Oakley To Compete In World Championship
Pg. 1B - Dragon Fire Tournament Grand Champions

Pg. 1B - Clanahan Wins Titles At State Track Meet
Pg. 3B - Nursing Center Urges Governor To Sign Budget

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Dade City Police Report

Man With Machete Faces Aggravated Battery Charge

Christopher Leigh Swinford, 39, transient, was arrested by Dade City police on May 27 on charges of aggravated battery with a deadly weapon, domestic battery and possession of paraphernalia. Swinford and his girlfriend of four months, who is also homeless, reportedly became involved in a verbal argument that turned physical. Swinford, who was reportedly holding a machete at the time, allegedly hit the victim in the right side of her head with a closed fist. She then punched him in the face in an attempt to defend herself. The victim told police she was in fear for her life be-



cause Swinford was holding a machete. A glass pipe allegedly containing marijuana residue was found in Swinford's right front pocket during a search following his arrest. Two 15-year-old males were arrested by Dade City police and charged with loitering and prowling and resisting arrest without violence after they were stopped in the area of Lee Avenue and Dewey Street for allegedly riding a bicycle without any lights at 12:02 a.m. Officers were responding to the area of Withlacoochee Avenue regarding a report of shots having been fired when the youth and three other unknown males were observed riding their bicycles with no lights on them. They reportedly fled into a yard in an attempt to

elude police. They allegedly disregarded several verbal commands by police to stop running. The defendants who were arrested was kept on the ground at gunpoint until backup units arrived.

Amber Marie Jones, 29, of Brooksville, was arrested by Dade City police on May 19 on a charge of petit retail theft and on a Citrus County warrant charging her with violation of probation – grand theft. Jones was detained at the Pasco County Probation & Parole Office. The theft allegedly occurred at Walmart, 12650 U.S. 301, where Jones was allegedly observed taking a shopping cart full of items without paying for them. She allegedly loaded the items into her vehicle and fled the scene.

Rebecca Lee Spencer, 40, of 14734 Mitchell St., was arrested by Dade City police on May 18 on a charge of possession of marijuana – less than 20 grams. Contact was made with Spencer during a lawful traffic stop. An odor of recently burnt marijuana could be detected when police approached the vehicle. Spencer reportedly told police she had recently smoked marijuana. When asked if she had any marijuana in the vehicle, Spencer reportedly handed police a container that had three marijuana joints

inside it along with an ash tray containing burnt joints. An additional marijuana joint was found during a search of the vehicle.

James Vincent Dampier, 53, of Tampa, was arrested by Dade City police on May 5 on a charge of trespass after warning and possession of paraphernalia. Dampier was allegedly sitting in his vehicle parked in the driveway of a residence on Florida Avenue where his former girlfriend lives. He had reportedly been trespassed from the residence on May 4. Dampier told police he was aware of the trespass warning and that he was there to take his ex out for the night. He was arrested and taken to the Pasco County Jail.

David Lige Jackson II, 27, of 15232 Polk Ave., was apprehended by Dade City police on May 25 at the Pasco County Parole & Probation Office on Pasco County warrants charging him with three counts of violation of probation – burglary and grand theft. He was booked into the Pasco County Jail upon confirmation of the warrants.

The information provided in the Dade City Police report is taken from public record. All parties are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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Reward Offered For Lost Dog



Cocoa, a 12-year-old male Poodle mix, has been missing from his Lemack Road home, north of the Pioneer Florida Museum, since June 1 around 2 p.m. He is brownish-gray in color, is friendly and approachable, especially if you're holding a slice of bologna. If found, please contact Phyllis at (352) 518-0757. A reward is being offered.

Photo Provided

Pasco County Burn Ban Lifted

The Pasco County Board of County Commissioners has lifted a burn ban that it imposed last month because of drought conditions, Doug Tobin said Tuesday.

Effective immediately, residents may resume open burning, campfires, yard waste burning and fireworks, but are encouraged to follow safe burning practices to prevent wildfires, said Tobin, the county's public information officer.

Pasco County Parks, Recreation and

Natural Resources is also rescinding its county-wide burn ban; however, parks staff reserves the right to reinstate a no-open flame policy (campfires) on a day-to-day basis depending on the Fire Danger Index on any given day

Pasco County Parks staff will inform campers of the open burning status during the reservation process, Tobin said.

Call (727) 847-8102 for more information about fire conditions and safety.

Dade City Police Department Welcomes New Furry Officer

K-9 Scheduled To Meet Public On June 13

Staff Report

The Dade City Police Department is excited to introduce Tyke, a 15-month old German shepherd, who hit the streets with his partner, Officer Kevin Burns, on June 5. Burns is a 12-year veteran of the agency.

Officer Burns and Tyke recently completed a demanding 16-week training course in patrol procedures and tracking sponsored by the Pasco County Sheriff's Office, said Brian Uppercue, DCPD's public information officer.

The K-9 duo will be formally introduced to the public at the City Commission meeting on June 13 at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The police K-9 team will quickly become an integral part of the police department and the community. They will be a "force multiplier," capable of searching buildings and tracking suspects, missing children and vulnerable adults.

"Because this dog was purchased through the generosity of the community, I want him to be much more visible to everyday citizens than teams in the past. He will not only be used on patrol, but will be seen interacting downtown and in the schools," said Chief Ray Velboom.

Donations were received from several service organizations, including the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs, as well as many private donors. The Dade City Police Foundation, a private 501 (c)(3) organization, coordinated the purchase of the dog and related equipment.



Dade City Police Department Officer Kevin Burns and his K-9 partner, Tyke, a 15-month-old German Shepherd. The duo officially began working together on June 5 after 16 weeks of training. Photo Provided

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East Pasco Events

June 8 – Bingo in the Creation Café – June Bingo in Florida Hospital Zephyrhills' Creation Café at 7050 Gall Blvd. will include one of America's favorite treats: chocolate chip cookies. The fun takes place from 2-3 p.m. and includes a presentation by Diane Reith, RN, on the many services provided to patients by the hospital's case management department. There will also be a few games of Bingo for prizes and refreshments. Call (877) 534-3108 and make a reservation.

June 9 – Pioneer Painting Class – Grab a moment to breathe with a night of relaxing painting in the Mable Jordan Barn at the Pioneer Florida Museum, 15602 Pioneer Museum Road, from 6-9 p.m. Call (352) 567-0262 for information or visit www.eventbrite.com/e/june-pioneer-painting-class-tickets-34614570111 for tickets. Guests are welcome to bring a beverage of choice.

June 10 – Family Fun Day – Smith Family Walkers present a charity walk to raise money to end Alzheimer's. A family fun day will be held at the VFW Post #4283, located at 12735 VFW Road, from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Backyard carnival games, food, drinks, snow cones and popcorn will be available. Bring the whole family out for a day of fun. Carnival games are a \$1 donation per ticket, \$5 for 10 tickets or \$10 for arm bands. Call Betty at (813) 715-0344 for information.

July 8 – Farmers Market – Held in the San Antonio City Park from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The market offers fresh produce, hand-crafted wine, yard art, plants, jams and jellies, dog treats, honey and other bee products, repurposed glass items, dried herbs and herbal products and baked goods. Shoppers will be able to purchase hot dogs, popcorn, coffee and sodas. Vendor spaces are available for \$25. Contact Winnie Burke at (352) 437-5161 or rotarysanantoniofl@gmail.com for information.

June 13 – Getting Ready for Retirement – Scott Taylor, a University of Florida extension instructor, will give you planning tips for your retirement. Held from 5:15-6:15 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills' Creation Health Wellness Center, 38233 Daughtery Road. Program is free, but reservations are required. Call (813) 779-6476 for information.

June 13 – Dade City Rocks Painting Party – The Dade City Library has graciously set up an hour for us to get together to paint rocks for our group

from 4:30-5:30 p.m. at 14215 Fourth St. Supplies, including rocks, will be available, but please feel free to bring your own. We would love for you to bring your friends and family. Visit www.facebook.com/groups/1847318578836734 for information. Please RSVP so that we can plan supplies accordingly. We cannot wait to see you there.

June 14 – Flag Day – The American Legion Post #15 located at 37745 Church Ave. will salute the flag and pay tribute to all it stands for. The American Legion will also be retiring and disposing of flags that can no longer be displayed by burning them in a very dignified ceremony. Held at the American Legion Hall at 10 a.m. This event is open to the public. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony. Call (352) 518-0021 for information.

June 19 – Infant Care Class – Classes for expectant parents and those with newborns are being offered this month at no charge by The Baby Place at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills. An American Heart Association Family & Friends Infant CPR and choking rescue class will take place from 6:30-8 p.m. This is not a certifying or credentialing class. Call (813) 783-6124 to register and get information about the class location at the hospital.

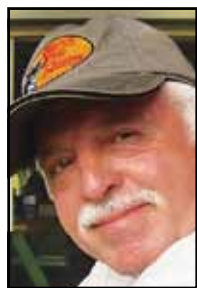
June 23 – Eight Secrets to Weight Loss – Are you curious about how to shed pounds? Best kept secrets are shared. Held from 1-2 p.m. at Florida Hospital Zephyrhills' Creation Health Wellness Center, 38233 Daughtery Road. Reservations required by calling (813) 779-6476 for this free program.

June 29 – Guns and Coolers Bash – Hosted by Ducks Unlimited and Al's Famous Pizza, funds raised will go towards wetlands preservation. Doors open at 6 p.m. at 11931 Curley St. in San Antonio. Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased at the pizza shop. Raffle prizes include six different guns, seven YETI coolers and a Swarovski optic scope. Call Steve at (813) 503-5094 or Heath at (813) 714-3837 for information.

July 8 – Farmers Market – Held in the San Antonio City Park from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. The market offers fresh produce, hand-crafted wine, yard art, plants, jams and jellies, dog treats, honey and other bee products, repurposed glass items, dried herbs and herbal products and baked goods. Shoppers will be able to purchase hot dogs, popcorn, coffee and sodas. Vendor spaces are available for \$25. Contact Winnie Burke at (352) 437-5161 or rotarysanantoniofl@gmail.com for information.

For more events visit www.pasconewspubs.com

Commentary



First Things First

Greg First

East Pasco's Past Not Forgotten

I was raised in Zephyrhills and have fond memories of the yellow school bus that took me and my brother, Gary, to St. Anthony's Catholic School in San Antonio.

I had an important job during my time there – I was one of many who had to make sure no weeds grew in the stone shrine next to the school. I took my job seriously.

My wife, Jenny, was born and raised in Dade City. We have both seen where this area has come from and where it is heading, but there is so much more.

I think one of the neat things about growing up in this area is you can share some really great stories with fellow residents. It is great to remember the good ol' days, like swimming in Crystal Springs.

Do you remember the first time you swam out to the floating platform in Lake Iola? How about jumping or diving off the high dive at the Olympic size swimming pool in Zephyr Park? How many remember shopping at Peeples Clothing and Shoe Store in Zephyrhills or Hardy's in Dade City? I think just about every kid in town

got their clothes at one of these stores. Remember if you bought a pair of shoes you got to see a goose that laid golden eggs and you won a prize. That was a pretty big deal.

I remember when they started selling water in Zephyrhills. Many thought that you would have to be crazy to try and sell Zephyrhills water and if you did you wouldn't make any money at it. How about the Coca Cola Bottling Company in Dade City – does anybody have some of those old bottles?

The other day I was reminded by my wife, a Pasco graduate, that the Pasco High School band used to play the song called, "The Horse," all the time. I just listened to it on YouTube and it is pretty awesome. Remember band director John T.V. Clark from ZHS? He could play just about every single instrument in the band with perfection. Both schools had awesome music programs.

There are two amazing Facebook groups where you can learn stuff you might not have known or if you did it could bring back some great memories. The Zephyrhills area is well represented with by the group, "You Know You Grew Up In Zephyrhills If You Remember" and the Dade City area group page is, "If You Grew Up In Dade City Do You Remember". Combined there are over 8,000 members contributing to the success of these pages. Check them out and gain a wealth of information about this area.

It is great fun and some awesome reading to see what has been going on for all those years. Let's try and keep that tradition going so future generations will have something to talk and laugh about as they make their memories.

Letter To The Editor...

Joe,

The entire leadership team wanted to extend a huge thank you and massive amounts of gratitude for the [June 1] article that was published. As we [A Helping Rock, a transitional housing program] are coming out of our first year we still work diligently

at raising awareness of the services we provide and of our mission goals. We appreciate your help with that and look forward to our continued partnership.

Cheers,
Daniel O. Martin,

Public Relations Officer, A Helping Rock

Grants Available For Special Events In Pasco

The Pasco County Office of Tourism Development and the Tourist Development Council budget \$80,000 yearly to market special events held in Pasco County. Special event organizers are invited to apply for a Special Event Marketing Program Grant.

The application cycle is open through June 19. Tourism staff will review all eligible application packets and make

recommendations to the TDC. Applicants will be required to present their information to the TDC on July 19 at the Historic Pasco County Courthouse, located at 37918 Meridian Ave. in Dade City.

To apply for funding, please contact Pasco County's Office of Tourism Development at (727) 847-8129 or tourism@pascocountyfl.net.

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First Friday Becoming A Staple Of Downtown

The Dade City Merchants' Association held the monthly First Friday event to kick off last weekend. In addition to street performers, dozens of merchants and restaurant owners welcomed visitors into their stores after normal business hours, most staying open as late as 9 p.m. Select stores scheduled in-store sales to coincide with the event and some even offered tasty treats or activities for customers to enjoy. First Friday is on its way to becoming a staple of Dade City as it continues to bring in visitors and business to the downtown area. The next First Friday will be held July 7.



Frank Notarianni is one of the coordinators and supporters of the First Friday merchant's event that will continue monthly.



Juan Valle, right, of Dade City, purchases two hot dogs from Reginald Blossom's D & R Specialty Hot Dogs cart. Blossom sells in front of the government center on weekdays and on every First Friday.



Tamcat and Pasco-Paul Belmore of the Dade City band, The Grass Holz, were two members of several performing groups set up on the sidewalks and parking areas in downtown to entertain people coming to Dade City last Friday evening. *Photos by Richard K. Riley*



David Simpson of Zephyrhills is the new bike mechanic and sales associate for Flint Creek Outfitters on Seventh Street. The store was one of many that stayed open from 5 to 9 p.m. last Friday evening.



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Library • Continued from Page 1A

many activities will begin on June 8. A "Captain Underpants" themed event will take place at 11 a.m. for younger children, followed by a pizza party for teens at 3:30 p.m.

Participation is fun and easy. For every six books read, children are eligible to enter for a chance to win a prize. They are also eligible based on the number of weekly programs they attend. Prizes range from small objects, such as the new and popular fidget spinners, to more elaborate items.

"For some children, there is a money prize," said Liranzo. "Or they may win some sort of technology, like a tablet or an electronic game."

The weekly events at the Hugh Embry Branch Library are appealing to children ranging from Kindergarten to 12th grade, as well as adults. Each schedule of events differs among

libraries throughout Pasco County. While younger kids are invited to learn about architecture by building with Legos, teens have the chance to participate in popular card games, such as Magic or Yu-Gi-Oh. Parents and kids alike can take part in movie matinees and other family activities throughout the summer.

"We leave everything up to the children," said Liranzo. "This is a great way for them to practice making choices; choosing what they want to read, when they want to read, and how much they want to read. What we want here at the library is a flexible environment where children are a little bit more independent about their choices. And they can make those choices with their families."

For a full schedule of events, stop by the Hugh Embry Branch Library at 14215 Fourth St. or call (352) 567-3576.



The summer reading program has been around since the Pasco County library system was established. Angelo Liranzo, who has worked for the system for 12 years, said the program was in place long before he arrived and would surely continue to run long after he's left.

Summer Reading Program Schedule

Remember: Each time you finish another six books, you are automatically entered to win a reading prize. Each time you attend a program, submit an entry form for an extra chance to win an end-of-summer prize.

Elementary Programs

Grades K through 3 – All Weekly Events held Thursdays at 11 a.m.

- June 8 Captain Underpants
- June 15 Buggin' Builders
- June 22 Emojination
- June 29 Reuse-A-Palooza
- July 6 World of Colors
- July 13 Architecture Around the World
- July 20 Ready, Set, Lego!
- July 22 Last Day to Log Books

July 29 Final Party: Group Drum Circle and prizes. Grades K through 5 welcome. Held at 2 p.m.

Pre-Teen Programs

Grades 4 through 7 – All Pre-Teen Events held Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.

- June 8 Pizza Party and Games Day
- June 15 Make Balloon Animals for Fun and Profit
- June 22 Learn Yu-Gi-Oh, Magic, and

Other Strategy Games

- June 29 Pre-Teen Midway Party
- July 6 Learn Facepainting
- July 13 Magic Course (limited seats; registration required)
- July 20 Yu-Gi-Oh Game and Competition Day
- July 22 Last Day to Log Books

July 26 Final Party: Combined Teens and Pre-Teens Final Party. Food, fun, and prizes

Teen Events

Grades 8 through 12 – All Teen Events held Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m.

- June 14 Make Balloon Animals for Fun and Profit
- June 21 Learn Yu-Gi-Oh, Magic, and Other Strategy Games
- June 28 Teen Midway Party
- July 5 Learn Facepainting
- July 12 Magic Course (limited seats; registration required)
- July 19 Yu-Gi-Oh Game and Competition Day
- July 22 Last Day to Log Books
- July 26 Final Party: Combined Teens and Pre-Teens Final Party featuring food, fun and prizes.

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Hurricane • Continued from Page 1A

kit, but many recent transplants to the Sunshine State have never experienced a hurricane.

Here are a few reminders and essentials to consider when preparing for this hurricane season:

- Familiarize yourself with evacuation areas and know in advance where you would go in case of an evacuation.
- Put together a basic disaster supplies kit and consider storage locations for different situations.
- Plan for pets – if it's not safe for you, it's probably not safe for your pet
- Know who to contact – familiarize yourself with county and city contacts, local news/radio/weather stations and emergency services to stay up to date and to ask questions about weather conditions. Don't call 911 for information during a hurricane. Only use 911 for emergency purposes.
- Obtain flood insurance now as it can be one of the best ways to protect yourself from a storm.

For a full list of disaster preparation tips, visit www.pascocountyfl.net/DocumentCenter/Home/View/726 to view Pasco County's 2017 Disaster Planning Guide.

In addition to preparing the

essentials, Guthrie encouraged residents to download the MyPasco mobile application. The app contains information about a new service, Alert Pasco, which will allow the user to get emergency notifications and severe weather alerts.

"We are checking our generators and other equipment we would use if a hurricane hit the area," Dade City City Manager Billy Poe said.

"We work closely with the Pasco County Emergency Operations Center," Poe said. He added the EOC would keep city officials updated on weather conditions in the Dade City area in the event a storm was headed this way.

It has been several years since a major storm has hit Dade City but residents could expect significant localized flooding if a hurricane or tropical storm dumped a few inches of rain over the area. The city's antiquated storm water system is unable to handle even moderate amounts of rainfall. Loss of power and fallen trees could also be expected.

Residents may call the Dade City Police Department at (352) 521-1493 to report flooding or downed trees, especially if they have struck vehicles or structures or are blocking roadways.

Power outages should be reported to

Area Is Overdue For Major Hurricane

It has been nearly 86 years since the Tampa Bay area was last hit by a major hurricane. A category 3 storm with sustained winds of 115 mph created a storm surge of 10 to 12 feet when it hit Tampa Bay on Oct. 25, 1921. The storm also dumped 8.53 inches of rain on Tampa and Tarpon Springs.

It caused \$10 million in damage in Tampa and \$5 million damage in St. Petersburg in 1921 dollars. Adjusted for inflation, modern damage estimates of the 1921 hurricane were \$150 million combined in Tampa and St. Petersburg.

The hurricane's path ranged from Cuba to Key West, Sanibel and Captiva islands, Fort Myers, Estero Island, Punta Gorda and the Tampa Bay area.

Most of the damage to the Tampa and St. Petersburg areas were caused

by storm surges and abnormally high tides.

The Tampa Bay area was also hit by major hurricanes in 1910 and 1848.

An Oct. 17, 1910 hurricane blew water out of Tampa Bay to the lowest level ever recorded up to that time.

The hurricane of Sept. 23-25, 1848, produced the highest storm tide ever experienced in the area. The water rose and fell about 15 feet in six to eight hours.

This storm, known as the Great Gale of 1848, hit Fort Brooke, a military outpost in the Tampa area.

That storm also completely changed the coastal geography of the Tampa Bay area by cutting new inlets, filling in others, and altering the shapes of bays and keys. This rendered navigational charts of that time useless.

the appropriate utility company.

In case of an emergency, Dade City residents will be guided to take shelter at one of three locations: Centennial Middle School, 38505 Centennial Road; Lacochee Elementary School, 38815 Cummer Road; or Pasco Middle School, 13925 14th St.

When thinking about your emergency plan, don't forget about your furry friends.

Andrea Ciesluk of Pasco County Animal Services said residents should remember to consider their pets when making an emergency plan.

Be sure your planned evacuation route will take you to a place that is pet friendly. Some hotels will allow people to bring their pets with them if they seek shelter there. However, such rooms are quickly booked when a storm is looming.

Animals should be up to date on shots

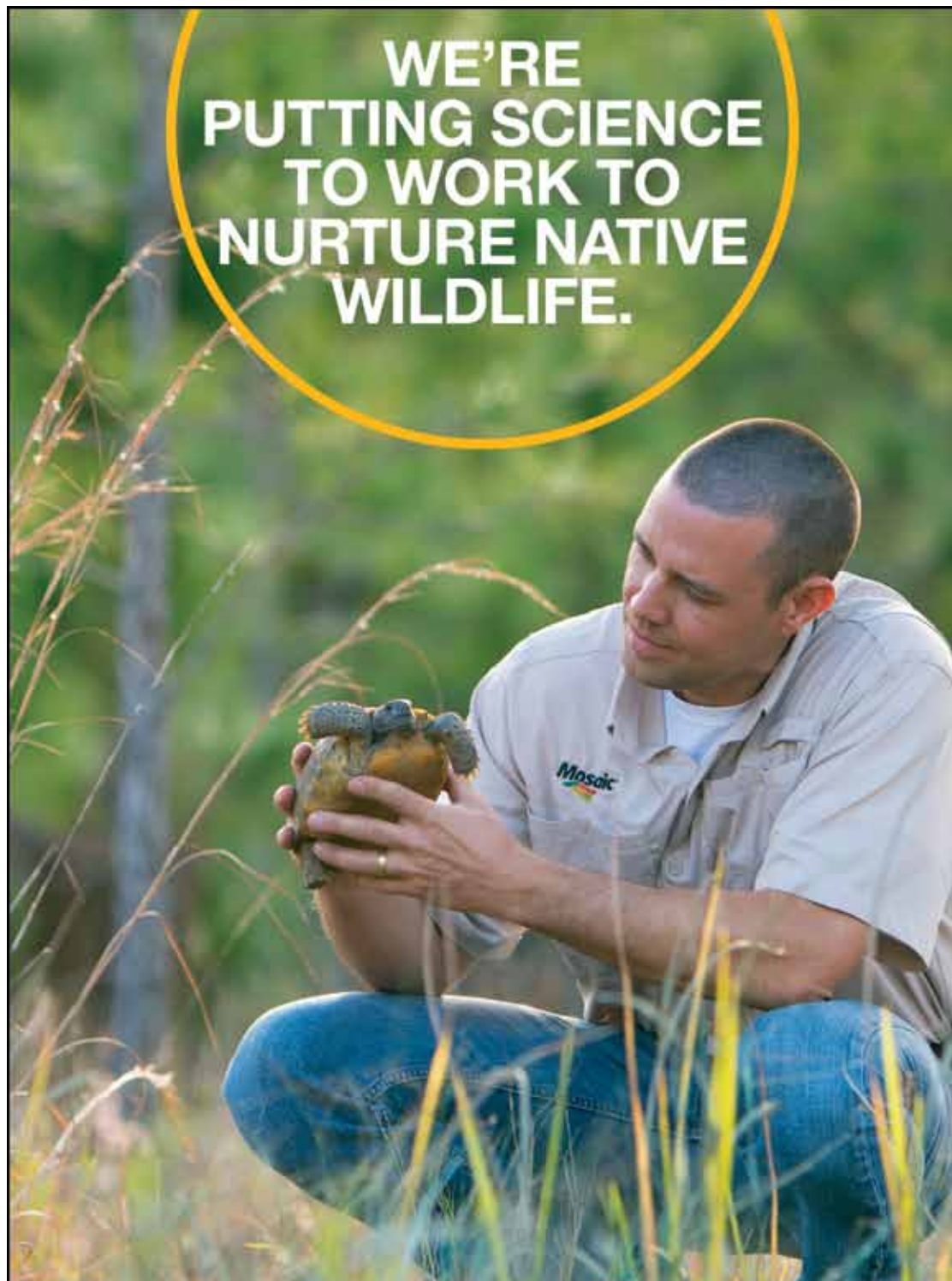
and have the proper identification and paperwork acknowledging their health. Microchips should be updated with current records in case of separation and loss of collars or leashes.

A pet emergency kit should contain: vaccination records, food bowls, leashes, a crate in case where you're going doesn't allow free roaming animals, a week's worth of food, litter and litter boxes for cats and poop bags for dogs.

"If you can't get to your pet in time make sure you have a backup plan – a trusted friend or neighbor, someone who lives near you who could come in and care for your pet until you get back to them," Ciesluk said.

If there is a shelter where it is safe to board your pet, Ciesluk said it is okay to board your pet. Never leave your pet behind in your home.

"If you're home's not safe for you, it's not safe for your pet," she said.



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Health And Wellness
by *Tobin M. John, MD*
Family Medicine Physician
Florida Hospital Prompt Care

What's The Fate Of Your Prostate?

This is a special month as Father's Day approaches. I think it's a safe assumption that men in general do not enjoy going to the doctor's office, but we all enjoy the idea of preventing health problems down the road. So, is a prostate cancer screening something you should do? The short answer is maybe.

According to the USPSTF (U.S. Preventive Services Task Force), prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer in men in the United States, with most cases having a good prognosis even without treatment. Even though it's a common cancer, the lifetime risk for dying of

prostate cancer is 2.8% with very few men dying of prostate cancer before age 60 years. Screening generally involves either DRE (digital rectal examination) or blood test with PSA (prostate specific antigen). If this testing is abnormal, a Urologist will determine need for biopsy and assess the presence of cancer.

As of 2017, guidelines from the American Urological Association recommend against screening for prostate cancer in men under 40 years of age, men greater than 70 years of age and men 40-55 years of age with average risk. This guideline changes if you are considered higher risk such as positive family history of prostate cancer or African American race in which you should consider screening.

Pay attention because if you are between ages of 55-69 years of age, there is not a clear yes or no recommendation for prostate cancer screening. Screening at this age group is largely individualized. It's important to assess the benefits versus the risks of screening, such as psychological stress with a borderline result and complications from a biopsy. Discussing this with your primary care provider will help you decide if a prostate cancer screening is right for you.

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Harrison • Continued from Page 1A

and closest friends recalled their favorite memories with him.

Most the program was handed over to William “Willie” Broner Jr., Harrison’s lifetime best friend.

“Today gives me great pleasure to honor a great man, a great father, a great uncle, a great law enforcement officer... a great Christian, a great athlete and my great, great friend, Capt. Charles “Bo” Harrison,” Broner said.

After opening with a joke, Broner asked the more than 150 people in the room for a standing ovation for all law enforcement present from the Pasco County Sheriff’s Office. Harrison, who died at the age of 57, was the sheriff’s department’s first black deputy, rising to the rank of lieutenant before his death



Luevenia Harrison, sister to ‘Bo’ Harrison, spoke from the heart about her brother.

only 15 days away from retirement. He was posthumously promoted to the rank of captain.

Harrison’s shooter, Alfredie Steele Jr., of Lacoochee, who was 19 at the time, turned himself in two days later. He was subsequently convicted in Harrison’s death and is serving a life sentence.

Broner talked about how inspiring Harrison was to the children of their community, showing them how they, too, could achieve great things in life, and the importance of giving back to those around them.

“Bo was a man with a big heart for helping others... Bo realized early in life... love isn’t love until you give it away,” Broner said.

After telling tales of childhood shenanigans and playing on the high school football team together, Broner had to pause when bringing up the duo’s time together in Vietnam.

“When I was in Vietnam, Bo was in Vietnam at the same time. Bo, he drove 20 miles through enemy territory all alone, just to see his friend. I knew I had a special friend at that time,” Broner said, bringing tears to dozens as they pulled out tissues and handkerchiefs



Ava James-Moore of Lakeland, Amber Smith-Harrison of Lacoochee, and Maj. Ken Gregory, Director of Pasco County Patrol Operations, look at one of the boards that showing parts of “Bo” Harrison’s life.

Photos by Richard K. Riley

from their pockets.

“Bo had the recipe for life... I will always treasure his friendship,” Broner concluded.

Harrison’s love for music was then honored during the memorial service. The men’s choir of St. John Missionary Baptist Church of Dade City, which Bo participated in as much as possible, sang three songs dedicated to the captain. Guests sang and clapped along, smiling as they thought of their own memories of Harrison.

Other speakers at the memorial included Pasco Sheriff Chris Nocco, retired deputy Bert Ferguson, and Luevenia Harrison, Bo Harrison’s sister, who recited a poem she had written.

Luevenia’s poem described Harrison as her second dad growing up, always making sure she followed the straight and narrow path and always looking out for her.

“You are in my soul; gone but not forgotten,” she said.



Pasco Sheriff Chris Nocco spoke on the dedication of his men and women in Pasco County and how ‘Bo’ Harrison was one of the best.



A'Shariya Harrison, grandniece, and Amber Smith-Harrison, niece of ‘Bo’ Harrison, wear t-shirts commemorating their uncle.



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