



Dade City News
Serving You In The Storm
Hurricane Irma
 27 Posts • 615 Shares
 122,472 People reached
 1,311 Likes
 148 New Page Followers

Irma Rips Dade City



The base of this oak tree across Florida Avenue in Dade City blocked the road for more than two days. *Photos by Richard K. Riley*

FLORIDA HOSPITAL ZEPHYRHILLS

One of America's Best Hospitals

- Heart Care
- Orthopedics
- Patient Safety
- Stroke Centers

2017 **WOMEN'S CHOICE AWARD**
 AMERICA'S BEST HOSPITALS

HEART CARE
 ORTHOPEDICS
 PATIENT SAFETY
 STROKE CENTERS

FHZeph.org

Cleanup Continues After A Cat 1 Visit

by **Joe Potter**

Dade City came out better than expected when Hurricane Irma crossed its path on Sept. 11.

Trees and power lines were knocked down when the Category 1 storm with winds of between 74 and 95 mph hit Dade City around 2:30 a.m., City Manager Billy Poe said.

City workers were able to begin clearing debris from streets shortly after 7 a.m., Poe said. This was about eight hours earlier than he originally anticipated.

Power was out in most parts of Dade City on Sept. 11, Poe said.

Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative had restored power to 106,230 customers however about 23,270 WREC customers (23 percent) in Pasco County were still without power as of 1:30 p.m. Wednesday. WREC serves customers in Pasco, Hernando, Citrus, Sumter and Polk counties. Approximately 185,000 WREC customers – or 85 percent – had initially lost power because of Irma. Here's a link to find progress in your area:

www.wrec.net/outage-map
 Tampa Electric has an interactive

Irma • Continued on Page 8A



A power pole in front of Dade City Garden Club at Hibiscus Park was snapped during the storm.

An Evening With Irma

She Feared It Was 'Irmageddon'

Story and photo by **Emily Kochanski**

In the several days leading up to Irma's arrival on Sunday, the folks and I stocked up on much needed supplies and worked diligently to get the house 'hurricane ready'. By the time Irma made its second landfall at Marco Island as a Category 3 and it was predicted to reach Pasco County as a Category 1, I was highly convinced that we were prepared to weather Irma's wrath.

I was flat wrong.

The lights flickered and finally went out Sunday around 8 p.m. And when the power gave out, so did my courage. Without the television or radio to keep me distracted, I had nothing else to listen to but the chaos taking place outside.

The wind, howling like a teakettle, slamming sheet after sheet of rain against the surface of the house, and the cacophony of "snaps" and "bangs" from unknown objects being tossed relentlessly

Evening • Continued on Page 7A

Irma Info

Pasco County Schools are scheduled to resume classes Monday.

All campuses of Pasco-Hernando State College are scheduled to reopen Monday.

Pasco County Solid Waste has resumed normal operations. County residents – not businesses – with Irma debris may take it to the East Pasco Transfer Station, 9626 Handcart Road. Fees will be waived. Hours are 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Important links to power companies – Each site has an interactive map; simply zoom in on your area:

- Withlacoochee River Electric Company – www.wrec.net/outage-map
- Duke Energy – www.duke-energy.com/outages/current-outages
- TECO – www.tampaelectric.com/residential/outages/outagemap/

INSIDE: Pg. 2A - City, SLU Already On the Mend	Pg. 6A - San Antonio 'Very Fortunate'	Pg. 1B - Perfect Record No More For Pasco
Pg. 5A - Storm Damages Saint Leo Town Hall	Pg. 6A - Pasco Qualifies For FEMA	Pg. 1B - Centennial Takes Season Opener

ACCIDENT

Door Dings

CALL NOW OPEN

352-437-3200

14343 8th St. • Dade City

City, SLU Already On The Mend

Preparation Helped Protect Residents, Students

Story and photos by Emily Kochanski

Trees, fences, and rooftops were some of the casualties left behind in Hurricane Irma's wake.

Dade City residents hunkered down Sunday, bracing themselves for one of the longest and most trying nights of their lives.

After boarding up the windows of their businesses

and placing a mountain of sandbags in front of every door, residents packed up and headed for home or to the nearest shelter.

Traversing the streets of Dade City on Sept. 11, it was a relief to see that homes and businesses suffered either minimal or no damage. Many local merchants returned to assess the damages and even to offer their services to those in need.

Alyssa Graves, an agent with State Farm Insurance, returned to work right away.

"We don't have electricity, but we were prepared for that," Graves said. "We had already printed all of our book of business so that we would know all of our clients and what they had with us in case they needed to come in and make claims...we also have flashlights and candles inside, so we're as ready as we can be."

Knowing there are several who are suffering damages from Irma's impact, Graves and the members of State Farm want to offer as much help as they possibly can.

"We can take paper claims for now, and then direct customers to the correct facility or the number that they need to contact as far as getting their claim process started," explained Graves.

Several Saint Leo University students left the state to find safety with family. Those students who stayed were in for an adventurous few days.

After the campus closed on Sept. 6, faculty began prepping the for Irma's arrival. This included evacuating many students from their dorms and moving them to the more secure surrounding buildings and classrooms to ride out the storm. While many students found the whole experience to be quite a nuisance, Kadyann Stupart, a sophomore, wasn't at all bothered by Irma's approach.

"To me, hurricanes aren't that big of a deal because I'm from Jamaica," laughed Stupart. "It may be my



Some downtown establishments even left little messages letting Irma know she wasn't welcome here.

first time going through [a hurricane] without family but, even when I heard that Irma was originally a four or five, I still really wasn't as concerned as I probably ought to have been."

Stupart passed the days camped out in the campus science building, surrounded by her close friends and only the bare essentials she was able to bring from her dorm room. Stupart offered a special thanks to the members of Residence Life and Resident Assistants who kept spirits and morale high in such a dire situation.

"The Resident's Assistants were everywhere," Stupart explained. "If you had any questions, you could always go to them."

Other than a few downed trees, the Saint Leo campus suffered little damage. The school is currently running on limited generator power and classes are expected to resume on Monday.

Only time will tell how far Dade City will bounce back from Irma's visit, but the prognosis is already looking promising. As the Saint Leo University community and the members of State Farm and other businesses have demonstrated, now is a crucial time for the people of Dade City to come together.

Flood Warnings Issued For Trilby

The National Weather Service has issued River Flood Warnings for three rivers in Pasco County, including the Withlacoochee River at Trilby. The warnings came into effect Monday morning and will remain until further notice.

On Wednesday at 12:30 p.m. the Withlacoochee was recorded at 14.95 feet. Flood stage is 12.0 feet. The river was forecast to rise to near 17 feet by Sept. 18.

Visit bit.ly/2wSWj7U for additional Withlacoochee River information and listen to NOAA Weather Radio for additional alerts.

If you live near this area be prepared for rising water. Use caution and do not drive cars through flooded areas.

River flood warnings were also issued for the Anclote River at Elfers and Cypress Creek at Worthington Gardens.

Visit bit.ly/2wkRcZM for the full National Weather Service alert.

BOGO: BUY 1 ADMISSION AND GET 1 ADMISSION FREE!
WITH COPY OF THIS AD

JOY~LAN Drive In Theatre

Fri. thru Sun. Sept 15-17	Wed. & Thurs. Sept 20-21	\$5.00 per person Children 4-9 \$1.00	Closed Monday & Tuesday	
------------------------------	-----------------------------	--	----------------------------	--

Stephen King's: IT
R - 8:15 PM

Annabelle: Creation
R - 10:35 PM

COMING SOON

SWAP SHOP • FLEA MARKET SUNDAYS ONLY GATES OPEN AT 5AM

www.JoyLanDriveIn.com **352-567-5085** US 301 • NORTH OF DADE CITY

BUY 1 ADMISSION AND GET 1 ADMISSION FREE

Cash For Your Coins!

HAVE A COIN COLLECTION YOU WANT TO SELL?

CHARLIE'S COINS & COLLECTIBLES

Fair prices for pre 1964 Gold & Silver U.S. Coins & Old U.S. Currency

Call Charlie Proctor
813-780-1858
5529 8th Street, Zephyrhills

27 YEARS IN THE SAME LOCATION

PICK YOUR POWER

BG 50 GAS BLOWER OR **BGA 56 BATTERY-BLOWER**

STIHL OFFERS A FULL RANGE OF FUEL AND BATTERY-POWERED SOLUTIONS

WE CARRY A COMPLETE LINE OF CHAIN SAW PARTS - BARS, CHAINS, OIL AND FUEL.

MS 250 CHAIN SAW
\$349⁹⁵

"GREAT SAW. A JOY to own and operate."
- user bsk713

\$139⁹⁹

BG 50 HANDHELD BLOWER
★★★★★

"It is a great piece of equipment for the price, plus with the STIHL name, it has dependability I can count on."
- user TL805

FS 38 GAS TRIMMER

PICK YOUR POWER GAS OR BATTERY
\$129⁹⁵

AI SERIES
FSA 45 BATTERY TRIMMER

Check out these reviews and others on the product pages at STIHLdealers.com. JOIN US. #RealSTIHL

All prices are DSRP. Available at participating dealers while supplies last. *The actual listed guide bar length may vary from the effective cutting length based on which powerhead it is installed on. ©2017 STIHL

DOWNLOAD & SHARE OUR APP

ANDROID APP ON
 Google Play

Download on the
 App Store

Pasco Turf & Tractor

5117 GALL BOULEVARD
ZEPHYRHILLS, FL 33541
813-715-4359
WWW.PASCOTURF.COM
 CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK

Debris Must Be Placed At Curb

Pasco County Utilities, Solid Waste and Resource Recovery Department, will begin debris removal starting the week of Monday.

Pasco County homeowners must have all debris materials brought to the curb or roadside for pickup. Residents must not block fire hydrants, mailboxes, electrical boxes or any other structures. Additionally, do not bag debris and refrigerators should be empty, with the doors secured or removed.

Contractor generated debris will not be picked up.

Debris must be separated into the following categories: furniture, construction materials, vegetation (tree cuttings must be no more than 5 feet in length and all branches must be bundled), and white goods (appliances, bicycles, items more than 75 percent

metal).

There will be a delayed pick up on hazardous waste materials including any household chemicals, oil, gas and flammables, lawn and garden chemicals, televisions and computer monitors and towers.

Requests for debris pickup must be submitted to Pasco County Customer Service Center by emailing customerservice@pascocountyfl.net, providing the address where the debris is located. Residents can also call customer service at (727) 847-2411.

Sandbags should be disposed of through the proper avenues to avoid damage to storm drains and pipes, as well as to prevent draining issues and long-term property issues. The area sandbag disposal site for residents is Wesley Chapel District Park, 7727 Boyette Road.



Hurricane Irma's fierce winds cleaved this large tree in front of a home on the northwest corner of Seventh Street and Coleman Avenue. Photo by Joe Potter

NOW OPEN!!!



**T&J
TIRE, LLC**

(352) 583-0987
20716 Highway 301 N.
Dade City, FL 33523
(next to Murrell Pest Control)



"Don't go BALD, come see us!"

Owned and Operated by Tim and Jerry (Mike) McLeod

MV-95194

Tired of being **MURRELL**
PEST CONTROL, INC
McLeod Family Owned Since 1984
20718 US 301, Dade City

BUGGED?
**RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
LICENSED & INSURED**
FREE INSPECTION & ESTIMATES

Foundation Pre-Treatments
Termite & Household Pest Control • Tent Fumigation
Lawn & Ornamental Pest Control • Rodent Control

(352) 583-3332
(800) 843-7074




**FAST, FRIENDLY,
LOCAL!**

— EST. 1916 —



SERVICE YOU CAN COUNT ON!

Since 1916, Auto-Owners Insurance has been teaming up with your local independent agent — a person focused on you, the customer. It's a break from the norm... and that feels good. That's why we've been doing business this way for the last 100 years.

Contact your friendly local agent today!

**Peterson
Insurance Agency**
37837 Meridian Avenue
Dade City, FL 33525
(352) 567-9771

**Auto-Owners
INSURANCE**
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Before, when I looked in the mirror all I saw was my weight.

Now I see the real me.

The happy, healthy, active me.

**As I'm getting smaller,
my world is getting bigger.**

Weight loss surgery changed my life.



FREE WEIGHT LOSS SURGERY SEMINAR
Tuesday, November 14, 5:30-6:30 p.m.
Bayfront Health Dade City
13100 Fort King Rd., Medical Plaza I, Classroom 108

Register today at DadeCityBariatrics.com
or call 352-437-5971.



Patient results may vary. Consult your physician about the benefits and risks of any surgical procedure or treatment.

East Pasco Events

Sept. 16 (RESCHEDULED)– Robert D. Sumner Golf Tournament – Help contribute to the continuation of the Pioneer Florida Museum & Village. The second annual tournament will be held at Silverado Golf & Country Club, 36841 Clubhouse Drive in Zephyrhills. Fee is \$50 per player for the four-person scramble. Shotgun start is at 8:30 a.m. with lunch following. Visit pioneerfloridamuseum.org or call (352) 567-0262 for information and to register.

Sept. 16 – Coastal Cleanup Day – The Dade City Coastal Cleanup day has been cancelled until further notice. Call (352) 523-5050 or email hwashburn@dadecityfl.com for information.

Sept. 20 – Free Small Business Seminar – Learn how to start a new business successfully. We will discuss the idea, testing the idea and protecting the idea. We will review key issues for starting a business: finding good people, structuring the business, understanding cash flow, finding the money and the business plan. Held from 1-3 p.m. at SMARTStart Dade City Entrepreneur Center, 37837 Meridian Ave., #309. Visit pascohernando.score.org to register.

Sept. 22 – Score For Your Business – Join Pasco Hernando SCORE to discuss marketing. Jack Grise will be at the SMART Start Dade City Entrepreneur Center, 37837 Meridian Ave., #309, at 8:30 a.m. to discuss your marketing ideas and questions. Coffee and donuts will be served. Visit pascohernandoscore.org for information.

Oct. 2 – Performing CPR and Choking Rescue on Babies – Florida Hospital Zephyrhills, 7050 Gall Blvd., will offer a free and lifesaving American Heart Association class for parents who are expecting a baby or have a newborn. The class will teach participants how to perform infant CPR and choking rescue and will be held from 6:30-8 p.m. This is not an AHA certifying or credentialing course. Call (813) 783-6124 to register beforehand.

Oct. 7 – Pasco Master Gardener Horticultural Festival – Held from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at San Antonio City Park, 12200 Main Street in San Antonio. Free

parking and gardening products galore await from all of your favorite plant nurseries in the central Florida area. Vendors will be selling tools, plants and anything and everything garden related. Call the UF/IFAS Pasco Extension Office at (352) 518-0156 for information.

Oct. 13 – Focused Selling Skills – This program will address salespersons tactics and ways to improve the selling process in the new millennium. Held from 1-3 p.m. at SMARTstart Dade City Entrepreneur Center, 37837 Meridian Ave., #309. Visit pascohernando.score.org for information and to register.

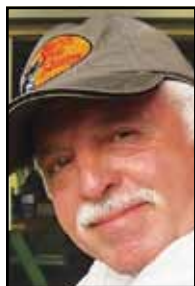
Oct. 14 – Clays for the Community – Put on by the Boots & Roots Foundation, the fourth annual event will be held at 2 p.m. at Tampa Bay Sporting Clays, 10514 Ehren Cutoff in Land O' Lakes. Profits from the event will help give back to local agriculture, outdoors and sportsman communities, focusing on youth, people in need and other local charitable organizations. Dinner is served at 5 p.m. Visit www.bootsandroots.org/registration for registration information and prices, and competition rules.

Oct. 14 – Dentistry from the Heart – Free dental care will be provided at this second annual event, held at Premier Community Healthcare, 37944 Pasco Ave. from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. No appointments necessary. This event is first come, first served. Community members 18 and older without access to dental care may choose one of the following: one filling, one extraction or cleaning services. First 100 patients guaranteed to be seen. Call (813) 971-1688 for information.

Oct. 21 – Pasco High School Reunion – The Reunion of the Decades will be held from 5-10 p.m. at Tampa Bay Golf & Country Club, 10641 Old Tampa Bay Drive. The Class of 1977 is hosting this year and welcomes the Class of 1987 for the first time. Space is limited. Get early bird pricing at \$45 per person when your reservation is received or postmarked by Sept. 1, then cost will be \$50. Price includes buffet dinner, live band and donation to PHS scholarships. A cash bar will be available. Contact 77pasco@gmail.com or call (813) 713.3110 for information.

For more events visit www.pasconewspubs.com

Commentary



First Things First

Greg First

Learning Some Camping Skills

I have never been on a primitive camping trip but I think I am experiencing one as I write this. As a matter of fact I am powering my laptop and a small light and fan using a generator at my house. I bought the generator several years ago and it was probably the best purchase I have ever made.

Along with a couple of my breakfast buddies Jerry Miller and Gordon Hyde we each actually bought a generator during the summer of 2004. There was a lot of talk that we were probably going to get a major hurricane coming right through central Florida. Several weather outlets had predicted Hurricane Charley had a bead on this area. Little did they know Category 4 Charley had a mind of its own and decided to make a hard right turn into Punta Gorda, sparing this area. The generator has been in my shed pretty much since then and when needed it worked flawlessly.

Here is what I have learned so far from those who predict the weather.

First, I do talk with my good friend Howard Shapiro quite a bit. He worked at WTVT Channel 13 in Tampa for 30 years

and has seen many, many storms. He told me as a meteorologist one of the hardest things to predict is the path of a hurricane. As we have seen from Irma all of the American and European models shifted and an East Coast landing just didn't happen. The East Coast was prepared and most places were boarded up and people got out of town. Many headed to the West Coast of Florida.

One thing really impressed me. There was a Sunoco gas station at the corner of Dean Dairy Road and State Road 54 in Zephyrhills that had gas on Tuesday afternoon. It was not a zoo. It was super organized, courtesy of the Pasco County Sheriff's Office. There was one way in and one way out. Nobody succeeded in butting the line. A few tried it but were told politely where the line began. To me it was a major event as people were looking everywhere for a few gallons of gas so they could get by.

As I write this I still have no power but applaud all those who are working extra hard to make this problem go away. I am also super proud of those businesses and individuals that stepped up to help during our time of need.

I was disappointed to find out everybody does not know the rule when a traffic light is out. Here is what I do know: the light becomes a four way stop. The person on the busiest highway does not have the right of way. Many people blew right through the light like they were extra special. I am surprised there were not more accidents. I am pleased at some of those areas where law enforcement was present. Funny, when that happened, it went really well.

Many folks are stressed out. I get that. Not to have power, the Internet or even

First • Continued on Page 5A

DADE CITY LIQUORS

Drive-Thru Available

Hours: Mon-Thurs 9am-12am • Fri-Sat 9am-2am • Sun 11am-11pm

Discounts Available for Large Orders

Jack Daniels
750mL
\$19.99
Plus Tax
Limit 2 bottles per customer.
With coupon. Expires 9/28/17

Fireball
1.75L
\$19.99
Plus Tax
Limit 2 bottles per customer.
With coupon. Expires 9/28/17

Ciroc
All Flavors 1.75L
\$49.99
Plus Tax
Limit 2 bottles per customer.
With coupon. Expires 9/28/17

New Amsterdam
Vodka 1.75L
\$17.99
Plus Tax
Limit 2 bottles per customer.
With coupon. Expires 9/28/17

Jose Cuervo
Gold & Silver 750ml
\$17.99
Plus Tax
Limit 2 bottles per customer.
With coupon. Expires 9/28/17

Bacardi
1.75L
\$19.99
Plus Tax
Limit 2 bottles per customer.
With coupon. Expires 9/28/17

14737 7th St. • Dade City • 352-521-3400

Pasco News Publications

Dade City News • East Pasco Senior News • Zephyrhills Free Press

Publisher
Chris Drews
cdrews@pasconewspubs.com

Editor
Keri McAlpine
keri@pasconewspubs.com

Reporters
Joe Potter
jpotter@pasconewspubs.com

Accounting
Linda Wood
lwood@pasconewspubs.com

Design
Edwin Pitts
pasconewspubs.design@gmail.com

Dave Walters
walters@pasconewspubs.com

Sales
Krista Black
kblack@pasconewspubs.com

Public Relations
Greg First
gfirst@pasconewspubs.com

Max Zimmerman
mzimmerman@pasconewspubs.com

Sports
Mark McLeod

Dade City News | www.dadecitynews.org

38440 5th Avenue - Zephyrhills, FL 33542

(813) 783-1300 - www.pasconewspubs.com



NEWS & ADVERTISING DEADLINE: Monday at 12:00 noon • CIRCULATION ISSUES: Please call the office at (813) 783-1300
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Letters to the editor should be limited to 200 words. Pasco News Publications reserves the right to edit published letters.
Letters to the editor are the writer's opinion and do not reflect the opinion of Pasco News Publications. Please include your name and phone number.
ADVERTISING ERRORS: Pasco News Publications is not responsible for the validity of claims made by advertisers or for advertisers errors. Pasco News Publications is responsible only for the cost of space for the first insertion.
PASCO NEWS PUBLICATIONS IS A MEMBER OF: The Greater Dade City Chamber of Commerce and The Greater Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce.
COPYRIGHT: Contents copyright of Pasco News Publications, all rights reserved. Reproduction in part or whole prohibited without prior, written permission of the publisher.

TRINITY VIP TRAVEL



has merged with **K&M Travel**

More than 50 Years Experience in Cruising/Vacation Packages & Motorcoach Tours!

OUR ANNUAL VALENTINE'S CRUISE IS BACK!
CARNIVAL MIRACLE
FEB 10-17 2018

Starting at \$795 pp/dbl

8-Day Exotic

Western Caribbean Cruise

Leaving From Tampa

Cruising Grand Cayman,

Mahogany Bay, Belize & Cozumel

Includes bus transfers from Zephyrhills, FL



TRAVEL with
IP CASINO RESORT'S
#1 TOUR OPERATOR
in FLORIDA

Professionally Guided Tours

BILOXI GAMBLING

Now taking reservations for upcoming trips.

Call Today!

Check out our websites for much more!



813-788-6686
www.kmtravel.com
cruise@kmtravel.com



TRINITY VIP TRAVEL
352-597-4822
www.trinityviptravel.com

Storm Damages Saint Leo Town Hall

Staff Report

Hurricane Irma damaged St. Leo Town Hall when the eye of the storm passed within two miles of the town early Sunday morning, Mayor Pro Tempore Greg Smith said.

A sewage backup caused by the storm will require carpets to be replaced at the facility located at 34544 State Road 52.

Contractors are working on removing damaged carpets, cleaning the interior, and mold prevention / abatement, Smith said.

Numerous trees were damaged or downed and the Florida Department of Transportation had cleared the portion

of S.R. 52 running through the town by 8 a.m. on Monday said Smith, who is also the town's streets commissioner.

The Shakespeare Trail neighborhood, with its canopy of old oaks, was hit hard, Smith said.

Town Clerk Andrea Calvert praised the preparation and timely cooperation of Pasco County officials.

"Ralph Lair and Kevin Guthrie were a great help to municipal officials by organizing conference calls and issuing emergency bulletins. They and the Pasco Sheriff's Department did a great job," she said.

Lair is a government affairs officer and Guthrie is Pasco County's assistant county administrator for safety services.



Emergency crews were out assessing safety concerns and clearing roadways and power lines in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

Letter To The Editor...

Editor,

I am writing to you today because I see all the articles on first responders and all the help people are doing for (each) other. When we have catastrophes of this nature it is wonderful to see what (our) community and others around the nation do to help their neighbors and also complete strangers when they are needed.

I would also like to thank all the

linemen from our own county and also those who come from other states, who have (worked) tirelessly in Texas and now are on their way or are already here doing a fantastic job in our state. My nephew Josh is one such lineman. He and his crew work have (worked) 16-hour days in Texas and now will do the same thing in Key West!

God bless these young men and women who do this job!

Michael P. Kozina

Dear Editor,

The Residents of The Edwinola wish to give grateful thanks to our executive director, Darceille Gray, and her staff for their wonderful efforts to provide us with comfort and safety during the "Irma" hurricane. Most of them pulled a 36-hour shift. It was truly amazing – even including sleeping arrangements in the "safety zone," (yes, we had some air mattresses).

Many times, we tend to overlook – and just accept – our God-given blessings. So, at this time, we certainly want to thank God for saving our community, but most of all for giving us leadership in time of trouble – leaders like Darceille Gray and her staff.

Thank you.

Submitted by Pat Clayton
on behalf of residents of The Edwinola

Volunteers Needed For Irma Recovery Efforts

Pasco County needs willing and able volunteers to help with disaster assessment in the field. If faith-based, charitable, other organizations or civic-minded individuals are available and have successfully passed recent background checks, please email your contact information to volunteer@

pascocountyfl.net or call our Volunteer Hotline at (727) 847-8940.

This storm has created a tremendous need for assistance. Other volunteer opportunities may become available. Additional information will be posted at www.pascocountyfl.net.

First • Continued from Page 4A

Facebook can cause a panic attack in some.

I have to admit, my family including our dog, Pooh, have adapted to this new way of life. My wife Jenny said we will be laughing about all the stuff that has happened one day. For now it has brought many closer. Friends have gone out of their way to help friends and family and have lent a helping hand to those they didn't even know. Many have told me

they are actually talking while preparing a meal with no electricity. That part is kind of neat. Praying was on the increase and I believe that prayers were answered.

I'm glad the weather people didn't get this one totally right. If they did God only knows what we would really be facing today. It would have been a totally different story.

Be safe everyone.

When you need a physician, it's good to know they are nearby. Our network of primary care physicians is growing to meet the needs of our community, and chances are there is one right around the corner from you.

From minor coughs and colds, to major chronic disease treatment and preventative care, our physicians offer comprehensive, compassionate care when you need it most and are now accepting new patients.



Danielle Albritton, DO
Family Medicine
12880 US Hwy 301
Dade City



Jayapriya Raj, MD
Internal Medicine
37740 Meridian Avenue
Dade City



Michael I. Weiss, MD
Obstetrics & Gynecology
37740 Meridian Avenue | Dade City
7050 Gall Blvd | Zephyrhills
ZEPHYRHILLS LOCATION
This physician practices as part of Florida Hospital Zephyrhills Physician Group

Schedule your appointment today!
 (352) 559-2755

 ONLINE SCHEDULING AVAILABLE

A MEMBER OF  **Adventist** HEALTH SYSTEM

 **FLORIDA HOSPITAL**
Physician Group

San Ann 'Very Fortunate'

Most Of Town Escapes Wrath Of Irma

by Joe Potter

Hurricane Irma knocked trees and power lines down as it roared through San Antonio around 2 a.m. on Sept. 11 but the city was "very fortunate," Mayor Mark Anderson said Wednesday.

"We're doing okay. This storm could have been much worse," Anderson continued.

One house was rendered uninhabitable after a large tree crashed through its roof, Anderson said.

Power has been restored in most of the city, Anderson said.

San Antonio didn't have to issue a boil water advisory during the power outages because generators at the city's pump stations enabled water pressure to be kept at the proper level.

Anderson credited public works director John Weaver and his crew with quickly and efficiently clearing debris from streets. Weaver, who is retiring this year after 28 years with the city, was one of the first people out after the storm, Anderson said.

"He was out clearing streets at 3:30 a.m. on Monday. I wouldn't have recommended anyone being out that early. He has been doing a tremendous job," Anderson said.

City residents also pitched in to help. "Our residents were pulling together and working together. It was a case of neighbors helping neighbors," Anderson said. "Some people were clearing debris from elderly people's yards."

The mayor said Pasco County



San Antonio Public Works Director John Weaver, foreground, directs cleanup efforts on Oak Street. Photo Provided

Emergency Management also worked well together with city employees in handling the cleanup effort after what could have been a much worse disaster.

CHARLIE'S

AUTO DETAIL COMPLETE CAR CARE
 27 years in the same location
 MasterCard VISA
NOW HIRING
 Apply in person
DRIVE A CLEAN CAR!
 Interior & Exterior
 • Washing • Waxing
 • Vacuum • Buffing
 We also do Motor Homes!
 Charlie Proctor, Owner
5529 8th Street • Zephyrhills
813-780-1858

Pasco Qualifies For FEMA

FEMA has declared Pasco County residents eligible for individual assistance while recovering from Hurricane Irma.

Residents and business owners are encouraged to register with FEMA as soon as possible. If you preregistered with FEMA, you do not have to apply again. If you have phone and/or internet access, you may register online at DisasterAssistance.gov; or on the FEMA Mobile App; or by calling (800) 621-3362 (FEMA). Applicants who use 711 or Video Relay Service may also call (800) 621-3362. People who are deaf, hard of

hearing or have a speech disability and use a TTY may call (800) 462-7585.

The toll-free numbers are open from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m., seven days a week.

Don't be discouraged if you do not have access to telephone or Internet service. Disaster survivor assistance specialists will soon be helping people register for assistance in their communities.

Assistance for eligible residents can include grants for temporary housing and home repairs, and for other serious disaster-related needs, such as medical and dental expenses or funeral and burial costs.

JOIN our Instant Text Program for Special Offers & Discounts!
 TEXT TO: 49798 TEXT MESSAGE: BBQ70 (Zephyrhills Sonny's)

Smoked Pork, Beef Brisket, BBQ Chicken, and Sweet and Smokey or House Dry-Rubbed Ribs, plus three Sidekicks, garlic bread or homemade cornbread and four soft drinks. Serves four.

FAMILY FEAST \$45.99

ZEPHRHILLS LOCATION ONLY
 6606 GALL BLVD. | ZEPHYRHILLS | 813.782.4272
 HOURS: 11am - 9pm Sunday thru Thursday
 11am - 10pm Friday and Saturday
 Cannot be combined with any other promotions, discounts or coupons.

www.sonnysbbq.com
SONNY'S BBQ





The loss of our ceiling tiles made for a long night of cleaning and worrying.

Evening • Continued from Page 1A

in the maelstrom. I found myself jumping out of my skin at every sound and it was all I could do not to leap to my feet and perform a room to room damage-check.

The worst event of the evening for my family and I occurred when the kitchen ceiling sprung a leak. Three fiberglass tiles filled with water and proceeded to burst, leaving us with a sopping wet kitchen floor and countertops and a gaping hole in the ceiling. After that, I paced the living room, my stomach in knots, thinking to myself, "Oh, my gosh, the roof is gone. The roof is gone!"

Needless to say, sleep did not come easily that night.

I was just a little thing the last time a major hurricane struck Florida, so I had no comprehension of what I was in for with Irma's arrival. The great strength she

possessed, coupled with the darkness that blackened the night, turned that Category 1 storm into one of the most frightening experiences of my life. The waiting was the worst part; the not knowing what horrors I would awaken to the next morning.

Fortunately, my worst fears were not confirmed. I was relieved to see that my roof had not been lifted into the sky like Dorothy's house in "The Wizard of Oz" and, aside from several small tree limbs, everything was as it should be.

I wouldn't be looking for a new home anytime soon.

And now comes the bigger challenge, the same one that I'm sure most Pasco County residents are currently facing; that seemingly endless wait for the return of power and gas.

The next time a hurricane approaches, I plan on leaving town. And if it's a Category 5, I think I may even leave the state.

www.badcock.com

Badcock & more. HOME FURNITURE

Prices and offers effective September 12 - September 25, 2017

NO CREDIT REFUSED†
*see store for details

FALL SUPER SALE!



FAIRMONT 880685/86/87/88
5PC: Queen bed (headboard, footboard, rails), dresser & mirror
STORAGE BED OPTION FOR \$1198

SAVE 401.90 **\$998** REG. \$1299.90



HEFNER SILVER 883657/58
5PC: Queen bed (headboard, footboard, rails), dresser & mirror

SAVE 401.90 **\$1098** REG. \$1499.90



OPTIONS 886279
4PC SECTIONAL: includes 2 armless chairs & 2 corner chairs

SAVE 201.80 **\$998** REG. \$1199.80



BRISTOL 886726
7PC SECTIONAL: includes 3 recliners & 1 console

SAVE 401.70 **\$1598** REG. \$1999.70



THEATER POWER RECLINER

Lights up in 7 different colors
119133

SAVE 101.95 **\$598** REG. \$699.95




PAIGE

table & 4 dining chairs
119276

SAVE 201.95 **\$298** REG. \$499.95

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS!



General & Implant Dentistry

San Antonio's First and Only Dental Practice

Happily serving the community since 2009



Dr. Louis P. Cerillo **Dr. Kali R. George**

We pride ourselves on providing quality care in a friendly environment!

Let us welcome you and your entire family to our practice.

We are conveniently located at 32347 SR 52 just 0.2 miles west of Curley Road and 2.7 miles east of I-75 next to the San Antonio Hospital

Call 352-668-4819 for your appointment today!



MATTRESS MADNESS

FLAT SETS UP TO **\$800 OFF!**

Legends, Century Collection, Century Signature

Sleep Better. Live Better.

24 months INTEREST FREE!*

*PROMOTIONAL 24 MONTH NO INTEREST OFFER IS SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL AND APPLIES TO A SINGLE RECEIPT (SINGLE PURCHASE ON AN APPROVED BADCOCK ACCOUNT. MINIMUM PURCHASE MAY BE REQUIRED). EQUAL PAYMENTS ARE CALCULATED BY DIVIDING THE FINANCED PURCHASE BY 24. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS.

OPEN SUNDAYS 14009 7th St.
DADE CITY • 352-567-3322
MON. - FRI. 9AM - 7PM; SAT. 9AM - 5PM; SUN. 12PM - 5PM

Irma • Continued from Page 1A

map indicating outages in the greater Dade City area, about 15,300 are still without power as of 4:15 p.m. on Tuesday.

Plug in the link below to monitor their progress. There is no need to call TECO as they are aware of what areas need attention.

www.tampaelectric.com/residen.../.../outagemap/index.cfm.

Pasco County strongly encourages residents and business owners affected by Irma to report damages to their homes, properties and businesses by opening the MyPasco App and clicking the Report Irma Damage icon, or by completing a Damage Assessment Survey located online at www.pascocountyfl.net.

Gathering accurate information from Pasco's community members will aid the State of Florida and the Federal Office of Emergency Management in



A tree rests on the roof of an apartment at Hillside Trace, 37975 Hillside Lane, after it was felled by Hurricane Irma.

distributing financial assistance to make necessary repairs to their properties.

There was flooding in the area of Tenth Street and Whitehouse Avenue. The Combined Cycle Congeneration Plant at the Dade City Business Center usually pumps stormwater out of that area. However, that plant didn't have electricity on Monday and wouldn't be able to help clear the area until power was restored, Poe said.

Conditions were bad at Hillside Trace, an apartment complex on U.S. 301. A tree had fallen on the roof of one of the apartments.

The entire apartment complex of approximately 60 units was without electricity, said Randy Roberts, who heads up maintenance work for Hillside Trace.

"Residents need help from the Red Cross and from anyone else who is willing to help," Roberts said.

Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative had a four-day supply of food on hand at its main office in Dade City on Monday to feed its employees who were restoring power after Hurricane Irma passed through the area, Ronnie Deese of WREC said Wednesday

The food supply was quickly extinguished, however, when one of WREC's district offices needed food for its workers. WREC serves 220,000 customers in Pasco, Polk, Sumter, Hernando and Citrus counties.

The Publix Supermarket in Dade City opened its doors at the request of state Sen. Wilton Simpson, (R-Trilby), Deese said. The store was closed but its manager agreed



People packed sandbags on Saturday in preparation for Hurricane Irma. *Photos by Joe Potter*

to let WREC workers come in and shop for groceries following Simpson's request, Deese said.

Irma developed on Aug. 30 in the Atlantic Ocean near Cape Verde Islands. It quickly strengthened in intensity to a Category 5 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 185 mph. It had quickly lost strength after having made landfall over the Florida Keys on Sept. 10.



Streets were flooded in the area of Futch Street and Whitehouse Avenue after Irma passed through the area.

WE'RE PUTTING SCIENCE TO WORK FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

At Mosaic, we're putting science to work right here in the community. From volunteering at science fairs to providing grants for robotics programs, we work closely with local schools to provide students with innovative learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). We're dedicated to preparing the next generation for rewarding careers in a 21st century economy.

To learn more about Mosaic's support of STEM education, visit Science.MosaicCo.com.

