


Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center
August 8
8:30 a.m.



*Are you
brave
enough to
be there?*

Procrastinators, Think Now About Disaster Preparedness

If there is any advice Don Harwig, Director of Facilities Management, would give County employees prior to a hurricane or other natural disaster, it's "Be prepared. Don't wait until it happens, and know where you're going to go after the storm passes."

Government can't shut down because of emergencies such as hurricanes. In fact, that's exactly when services have to kick into high gear to protect public health, safety and welfare.

If a natural disaster occurs, all County employees should know where they are supposed to report following the storm. For those who work in County Center, if that building becomes damaged and is uninhabitable, that means key elements of County governmental operations will have to relocate out to the Museum of Science & Industry on Fowler Avenue.

Just who will be needed at MOSI to

keep those essential county functions in gear until everything is up and running again was the subject of a study two years ago.

The study team, whose members included staff from the University of South Florida, decided that 165 staff from the occupants of the County Center, composed of members from the County Administrator, County Attorney, Communications Department, Human Resources, Information Technology, Management & Budget, Planning & Growth Management, Purchasing, Facilities Management, Civil Service, and a portion of the Clerk of the Circuit Court should be represented.

Each department or elected official, whether or not they're headed to MOSI, must have a plan of action to follow if they cannot return to the County Center space they're in. Don Harwig needs to know ahead of time



Don Harwig is waiting for departments to let him know where they will relocate if a disaster happens.

where each one plans to relocate so that his people can inspect those building sites to make sure they can be safely occupied following a storm.

(See PREPARE, Page 3)



And The Winner Is...

Bob Gordon, director of Public Works, and Commissioner Ronda Storms present 4th grader Alex Bailey with a first place certificate for his essay on stormwater pipes. The essay, along with an art contest was in celebration of National Public Works Week, May 16-21, celebrated to create awareness of public works services. Winners received two tickets to a theme park.

Hillsborough County Wins National Recognition

The Communications and Parks, Recreation & Conservation departments are building a national reputation for excellence.

The Communications Department received seven awards in the 2004 National Association of County Information Officers competition, including Excellence Awards for the "2004 State of the County Message" and for the "2004 Hillsborough County Directory of Services."

Tammy Peralta, station manager of HTV22, received a superior award and Patrick Dowling received an excellence

award in the category of Public Service Announcements. Dowling also received an Excellence Award for "Timeline: Keystone" in the Television Show category. Receiving Meritorious Awards in the Television Shows category were: Fran Alessi and Michelle Van Dyke for "Hillsborough This Week;" Kevin Hoag for "Paws Club: Miniature Horses;" Sondra Guffey & Tammy Peralta, for "Weekly Review;" and Cornelia Washington, for "ADA: Families With Children With Disabilities."

(See RECOGNITION, Page 6)

Our Team Is Complete

I'm excited to announce the appointment of two new members to the executive team – Wally Hill and Manus O'Donnell. Please join me in making them feel welcome to our Hillsborough County team.

Wally Hill, previously the county administrative officer in San Bernardino, Calif., is our new deputy county administrator. He will be at his desk by June 21, filling the position I vacated when I became County Administrator at the end of last year. Wally brings 22 years of local government experience to Hillsborough County. He served as the chief administrative officer in San Bernardino from April 2003 to March 2004, in a county with 1.8 million residents and 17,000 county employ-



Wally Hill

ees. Before that, he spent seven years as the county administrator for Yuma County, Ariz., and 14 years in management positions for Wake County in North Carolina. He has a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Our other new member is Manus J. O'Donnell, who comes to us from Howard County, Maryland, where he spent 28 years in management and executive positions. For the past 23 years, he has served as director of citizen services, overseeing the same types of government services as he will here – human services, including programs for seniors and children. In Hillsborough County, he also will oversee the library system, Coopera-



Manus O'Donnell

**Pat
Bean**

Message from the Administrator

tive Extension, the Medical Examiner's Office and the indigent health care program.

Manus has a master's degree in business administration from Loyola College. He'll begin work here on June 28.

Our recruitment process for these positions was different from what we have done in the past. We involved department directors, all members of the executive team, as well as some citizens. Through the help of a search firm, we had extremely qualified candidates from across the country from whom we could make our selection. In addition to formal interviews, we had the opportunity to observe the finalists in a social setting. Each person who participated in the selection process gave their input during the final decision process. It truly was a team effort.

I believe it's important that the members of this organization be a part of a process where the outcome will affect them directly. It gives them ownership in the final decision. This process is evidence that we have a new way of doing business in Hillsborough County.

We are all part of the team that can make Hillsborough County the Number One county in the nation. To accomplish this, we need to be dynamic, not static. We need to be continuously looking for better ways of doing things. We can make Hillsborough County Number One -- but only if we all pull together. I am counting on you and I know you will not let me down.



Ole!

Planning & Growth Management Department employees celebrate their own style of Cinco de Mayo with Hispanic-style food and decorations. Standing near the buffet are County Administrator Pat Bean, far right, Assistant County Administrator Bernardo Garcia, left, Bruce McClendon, director of Planning & Growth Management, and Maricela Medrano, ombudsman. The event is just one of many held by the department to promote cultural diversity and understanding.



A Week Of Their Own

Dexter Barge, director of Housing & Community Code Enforcement, center, and the County's Code Enforcement officers listen as Commissioner Kathy Castor proclaims the week of June 7 to be "Code Enforcement Officers Appreciation Week." The officers perform approximately 37,000 investigations each year.

A Life Saver

Commissioner Kathy Castor congratulates emergency dispatcher David Ferris for helping save the life of an 11-month-old boy whose father found him in the swimming pool. He talked the father through CPR until the paramedics arrived.



AWARDS & RECOGNITION CEREMONY



Paramedic Award
Commissioner Jan Platt presents Paramedic Buck Basnight, a 30-year employee, with the Nancy Lee McKay Paramedic of the Year Award. Basnight was honored for exceptional service to the residents of Hillsborough County.

Everyday Heroes

On May 20 around 8 a.m., two of Hillsborough County's electricians were walking down Jefferson Street, when they passed a couple who were desperately trying to unlock their car door. They had locked the keys in the car and their baby was inside.

It looked as though they had been trying with a wire to unlock the door for some time.

Kenneth Trutch and Joe Camplese called Ray Vega, Hillsborough County's locksmith, who came running, with the new locksmith Jerald Kent. They told him it was a personal car, but the parents were really upset. Within less than 30 seconds, Ray had the door unlocked and went on his way.

Ray did not even stick around to be properly thanked, but the parents, Rich and Carmela Rogers, sent this message: "Thank you so much for your help in unlocking our vehicle with our 2 year old in it. You came in an instant. We appreciate your help."

PREPARE

(From Page 1)

Each organization must identify a move manager and a coordinator to move critical equipment to those relocation sites prior to storm arrival. Plans should include what to put in a "Go Kit," such as supplies and publications needed to support operations at either MOSI or an alternate location.

Harwig, who is in charge of the Move Teams that relocate critical elements to MOSI, is prepared to issue color-coded decals to mark equipment and kits that are to be sent to MOSI, because set-up locations for each organization at the MOSI site have already been designated on a color-coded map, making the set-up process easier. Two moving vans will transport equipment there. Everyone else has to make similar relocation plans for their own department.

ITS, being responsible for setting up temporary telephones and computer outlets, currently is in the process of contacting agencies to see which software programs need to go on line first.

If a natural disaster is forecast for the Tampa area, the Emergency Operations Center will be activated, of course, and most organizations will have staff already assigned to that facility. The Real Estate representative also will be the point of contact for Harwig's special building assessment teams that will be dispatched throughout the County after the storm passes to determine which buildings are safe to reoccupy. Those reports will be transmitted to the EOC so organizations can determine if their relocation facility can be used. People should not proceed to those locations until they have been inspected.

Whether there is a great deal of advanced warning or just a short period of time, everyone should know ahead of time what to do, where to go, and when to go.

It's too late to think about it when a disaster hits.

GOOD NEWS

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The Department of Children's Services honored these employees for the period of January through March: Supervisor of the Quarter, **Fran Burton**; Employees of the Quarter, **Rose Norris, Brenda Gilchrist, Wanda Wynn, Reggie Jones, and Jolanda Collazo**; and Children's Choice Award, **Veronica Williams**.

Parks, Recreation & Conservation Director **Stan Motley** was honored in the Fellows category by being selected as the winner by the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials for life-long achievements in the parks and recreation field. Motley has dedicated 33 years to the parks and recreation industry.

LETTERS

Wesley Frazier sent the following e-mail to **Jim Dickey** at Animal Services: "Thank you very much for the great response from the Animal Control Dept. Your officer (**Luis A. Garcia-Sanchez**) who was sent out is a great asset to your department...Although I have no doubts what will be the outcome of my dad's cat, your help and professionalism really does count to a person who loves cats. Again, accept my deep thanks for the service you provide."

Yvette Kemp sent the following e-mail to African-American Liaison **Joyce Russell**: "I attended the program recently honoring African Americans in the U.S. Armed Forces. Your role as the one of the persons responsible for the program was wonderful. I am not a very public person, but when I have the opportunity to witness a person of your caliber handling that role, I am in awe. You were great! Very well spoken, and your presentation comes across as genuine."

Lake Carroll Way resident Robert Kent Fast wrote to say "thanks" for sidewalk repairs. "I would especially like to note how much we appreciate having **John Newton** as our main point of contact on the project. The few times

where I thought additional inspection or intervention was necessary, Mr. Newton was perfectly willing to listen and check it out. Furthermore, Mr. Newton was willing to intercede on this neighborhood's behalf to assist us in getting ADA ramps installed at an intersection where there was a demonstrated need, even though the money comes from a different funding source."

Consumer Protection's **James Sudberry** and **Kevin Jackson** received pats on the back from Robert Robillard, who served as a volunteer investigator last year. "As a law enforcement professional with over 28 years of experience, I found the agency and its leadership to be of the highest quality...I can state without reservation that the leadership of Hillsborough County's Consumer Protection Agency ranks with the very best that I have experienced."

Bay Crest Park resident Lynette Peel wrote to thank the Water Department's **Jim Miller** for working with the civic association to improve the appearance of a lift station in their community. "He worked with our association from the start and was amenable to our suggestions to improve the appearance of this station. He was very understanding of our needs and very cooperative."

Rene Barrios of Beazer Homes wrote to thank **Margaret Williams**, manager of service availability at the Water Department's Gunn Highway Office. Barrios wrote, "Margaret Williams has always been kind, responsive and respectful...she would be an asset to any organization. She understands what the term 'customer service' really means. Please take the opportunity to personally commend Ms. Williams for her outstanding contribution to your organization."

Section 8's **Tracy Duncan** received a "thank you" letter from Brandon resident Homer Jackson after she helped the Jacksons lease their property to a family on Section 8 assistance. "With this letter, I would like to express my deep appreciation for the invaluable as-

ConGRADulations!

After five years, Lula Banks, director of Purchasing, has successfully defended and earned her doctorate degree on May 4 from Argosy University in Sarasota. Her degree is in Educational Leadership. Her graduation ceremony will be held in November.

sistance, information and patience Ms. Tracy Duncan provided us during this time. Without her, we would have given up before we started."

Valrico resident Joe Havian wrote to thank Public Works' **Carlos Fernandes, Jim Hodges** and **Thomas Devore** for the way they handled a problem with invasive weeds in Valrico Lake. Havian wrote, "Thomas and Jim deserve some special recognition for enduring the obstacles and just jumping in to complete the project with the equipment at hand...Also, Carlos deserves compliments as well for recognizing that the County's growth projects sometimes have an environmental impact that should be corrected. Rather than ignoring it, he chose for the County to 'step up to the plate' and correct it."

Tina Russo, trails manager for Parks, Recreation & Conservation, received kudos from Rob Gamester, of the Town 'N Country Youth Council, after she helped the group plant trees. "Tina had her crew dig the holes with a back hoe since the ground is so hard. At first they tried an auger but broke it on the first few holes because the ground is marl. As you can guess, we would not have planted the trees if we relied on volunteers. She supplied pine straw mulch for these trees. Tina has been a big help in all of this."

William Thomas of the Improvement League of Plant City wrote to thank Economic Development's **Marilyn Hett** for her office's assistance with the league's cultural arts festival. "The festival was a complete success and could

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GOOD NEWS

(From Page 4)

not have had the economic impact on surrounding businesses without your involvement... Your office's networking resources provide great outlets for partnerships and collaborations."

Gary Farmer, of Public Work's West Service Unit, received a "thanks for your efforts" from Odessa resident Rick Newman for the job his crew did clearing and reshaping ditches. "With over four inches of rain we had in our area since yesterday, the streets in our area drained properly and there was no standing water."

Temple Crest resident Terrance Neal wrote to thank the Environmental Protection Commission staff, particularly **Mary Yuergen**, for stopping demolition on a hazardous waste site. "Fortunately, because of the Ybor City EPC office staff, the proper precautions are being taken to clean up this dangerous site. Without this intervention, the City of Tampa would have allowed a hazardous waste site to have been razed, contaminating the river, our wells and other areas surrounding the property." Neal said that the property is a Superfund cleanup site, a former battery dump.

A letter from **Robert Gordon**, director of the Public Works Department, to Brandon resident Linda Brandt, prompted a "thank you" letter in return. "I appreciate the detailed explanation in addition to the prompt attention given to this matter (traffic at Kings Avenue and Lumsden Road)... a safer environment has been created for everyone, and I cannot thank you enough."

Jack Kroll, division director of Health & Financial Services with Health & Social Services received an e-mail from Brandon resident **M a r l e n e Daks**: "I wanted to write and thank the people of Hillsborough County for the County Medical Assistance Program. My sister, who had to stop working due to a serious illness, had no medical in-

surance. She has since been approved for Medicaid, but I do not know what we would have done without the medical help she received from the county. Thank you."

"Dear **Patricia Bean**, I am writing to let you know what a fine job **Shibu Mamen** (Aging Services) is doing for your organization. He has been my mother's senior social worker for the past few years, and has helped us very much with all our needs. He is very knowledgeable and always returns our calls and checks up on how my mother is doing," wrote Tampa resident Joseph Saenz.

Tom Mineo wrote to Animal Services' **Tom Green**: "Your rep' came to my house at 9 a.m. Monday. Of course by that time the pups had scattered. I just wanted to let you know that I have contacted your office on two occasions and have been highly impressed with your outstanding service. Please take the time to share my appreciation with your staff for an outstanding job."

Jerry Giovinazzo e-mailed **Bill Armstrong**, director of Animal Services, to say: "I am writing to tell you how pleased I am with Mr. (**Dennis McCullough** and **Sgt. Donald Mathias**). They are true professionals and were a pleasure to deal with. Thank you for your response."

Ron Dreggors of Angell Construction, Inc. wrote about Planning & Growth Management's **Mike Crawford**, "I thought I would like to inform your department of an individual who has become to us The Building Inspector. He has gone above and beyond his duties guiding us through our building remodel project... without his assistance, code knowledge and honesty, my job would have been three times as hard." Dreggors praised Crawford for being strict, but reasonable and very helpful. "With over 40 years of construction experience, on a scale of 1 to 10, Mr. Crawford receives a 12 plus from me. He has gained my utmost respect (not easily gained) and whoever hired

him is to be commended as well for his intelligent hiring decision."

Bruce Starford, Public Works Traffic Services sign shop supervisor, received a letter from Paul Flamik on behalf of the Countrywood Meadows residents thanking him for new road signs. "We thank you for your department's attention to our problem and the quick reaction to correct the faded signs."

"Please allow me to express my appreciation for the exemplary work of Athletic Director **Scott Burkett**. I attended a special board meeting conducted by the Valrico Soccer Club at Keith Waller Park. Mr. Burkett was invited to this meeting in order to provide the soccer club with guidance in several areas. Mr. Burkett's professional demeanor, knowledge of the respective issues and insight were integral to the successful conclusion of this meeting," wrote Tom Feeney. He also praised Burkett for attending a Sunday meeting and said that professionals like Burkett make Hillsborough County a great place to live.

Section 8 housing counselor **Pat Matz** received a glowing recommendation from client Angela Stacy, who called her a "wonderful, caring, and very good worker... My recommendation is that Pat Matz becomes Employee of the month or Employee of the Year. I'm very proud that she is my counselor and I would rather have no other... she takes that extra mile to help if she can."

Litha-Pinecrest Road resident Robert Galloway wrote to say thank you for the work done on his ditch and driveway apron. "The South County Unit did an excellent job. I am very pleased with the work they did." The people who worked on Galloway's property were **James Starling, William McDonald, Michael Sayers, Walter Shaw, Steve Williams, John Sanders, Steve Stidham, Owen Wilson, Jullie Holland, Jim Starling, Jeffrey Lashley, Leo Padron** and **Steve Willams**.

RECOGNITION

(From Page 1)

The Hillsborough County Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department captured seven national awards in the 2004 Annual NACPRO Awards Competition -- the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials.

The department won the top award in the environmental category for a restoration project at Wolf Branch Creek, the largest and most complex habitat restoration project ever implemented along the shores of Tampa Bay.

Other recognition included five Cer-

tificates of Excellence in the following: Program Award for Blaze Sports Tampa Bay-a program for physically disabled children; Outstanding Volunteer, Terry O'Grady; Facilities, West Dog Park, Rotary's All Person's Playground, and the Tampa By-Pass Canal Boat Ramp.

CLASSIFIED

MERCHANDISE

LAZYBOY couch, answr machine, recliners. Love seat. \$1,000. Call 633-8372.

DRYER, full size, \$50. Futon, queen size, \$50. Call 335-2965.

BDRM, queen hbrd, 2 night stands, dresser w/ mirror, chest. \$300 OBO. Call 390-1774.

MICROWAVE, Sharp, 1100 watts. \$50. Call 960-2048.

STAMPS, Celebrate the Century series, 1900s thru 1990s. In pkg. \$50. Call (727) 822-9823.

PENGUINS, approx. 120. Glass, brass, pewter, plush, etc. \$250 OBO. Call (727) 822-9823.

TV, 20-inch color. \$40. Call 985-5704.

ORGAN, Wurlitzer upright. 2 keyboards, bench, books. \$150. Call 980-2212.

MOWER, '03 Craftsman 40 inch rider. \$700. Call 621-2845 after 8 p.m. or 307-4578 days.

EXERCISE bike, Pro-Sport Fitness, Club Line 4200. \$275. Call 787-2055.

SLEEPER sofa & matching chair. Light beige leather. \$150. Call Dennis, 643-0490.

MAC computer, 500 mHz, 30 gig HD, monitor, printer, more. \$699 OBO. Call 684-6038.

BDRM, queen hbrd, 2 night stands, dresser, mirror, chest. \$300. Call Betty, 237-2936.

EXERCISE equip., 3 stations, \$50. Stationary bike, \$70. Call 817-3704.

CHILD SEATS, integrated unit with 2 seats, will fit Chrysler, Dodge & Plymouth mini vans. \$300 OBO. Call 907-5335.

SONY 63 inch HDTV, projection. \$2,000. Call Louise, 340-0236 after 6 p.m.

SOFA, love seat, \$250. Bdrm set, hbrd, dresser, mirror, night stands, \$200. Call 833-7121.

YOUTH bdrm furn, loft bed, mattress, dresser, desk. \$150. Call 989-8530.

AUTOMOTIVE

TIRES, set of 17-inch factory Nissan Bridgestone Potenza. \$75 each OBO. Call Demeris, 728-1584.

'95 LINCOLN Continental. 131K miles. New tires. Original owner. \$3,950. Call 684-3525.

'71 DODGE Dart. Rebuilt motor. Needs work. \$1,500. Call 892-6673 after 6 p.m.

'92 DODGE van B250. 130K miles. TV, tapedeck. \$3,500. Call 294-0154, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

'87 OLDSMOBILE Firenza, 2 dr. \$400. Call 362-6443.

PARTS, for '91 Honda Accord LX. 72K miles on engine & trans. Make offer. Call 265-0634.

'00 DODGE Dakota SLT. Ext. cab, V-8 318, CD. \$11,000. Call 323-2080 or 655-4369.

'96 TOYOTA Corolla, 4 dr. Sun roof, AC. \$3,000 OBO. Call 817-3516.

'89 DODGE Ram D-100 pick up. V-6, full 8-ft bed. \$1,500 OBO. Call 237-2798.

'99 TOYOTA Camry LE. All power. CD. 119K miles. \$6800 OBO. Call 334-2293.

'90 DODGE Daytona ES. 2 dr hatchback. 69K miles. \$700 OBO. Call 784-8452.

NEW rims, factory alum. 18-inch from Avalanche. 4 tires. \$1,200 OBO. Call 662-2564.

'98 CHEVY Blazer, loaded. 71K miles. \$9250. Call 626-4638.

'89 HONDA Accord. 4 dr., 5 spd, manual. \$1,300 OBO. Call 695-0113.

'03 HONDA Accord XE, 2 dr. Leather, CD. 22K miles. \$24,900. Call 361-5126.

REAL ESTATE

LUTZ, home, 3/2 1/2. 1,946 sf. Pool, corner lot. \$169,900. Call 961-4770.

CARROLLWOOD condo. 2/2, 1st floor, waterfront. 1,154 sf. \$114,900. Call 334-5380.

HOME, 3/2, 1-car garage. Recently painted. Deep lot. \$144,900. Call 215-6725.

MISCELLANEOUS

SAILBOAT, Catalina 30, diesel. 250 hrs. \$17,000. Call 645-2004 after 7 p.m.

BOAT, inflatable Sea Eagle 9. Holds 1,500 lbs. Missing parts. \$250. Call 817-3704.

JON boat, 14 ft, trlr. \$600. Call 988-7746 after 4 p.m.

ANIMALS

COCKATIELS, hand-fed babies. \$25 each. Call 653-2765, lv msg.

COCKATIELS. \$50 each. Call 988-7746 after 4 p.m.

LOVING cat needs home as only cat. 5 yrs, female, declawed, spayed. Call 685-5399.

WANTED

Child care transportation for children, ages 12, 14. To, from school. Call 627-9061.

BOXER'S heavybag w/stand if possible. Call 760-5626.

ROOMMATE, male to share 2/1 home in Palma Ceia. \$350/month plus share utilities. Call 857-8140 or 839-8724.



Hillsborough County

NEWSLINE

A monthly newsletter published by the Communications Department for Hillsborough County employees.

Communications Department
County Center, 1st floor

Call 272-5314 and tell us your news.

Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners

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