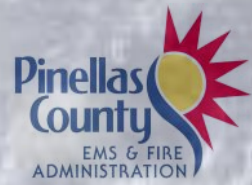




EMS & FIRE CONNECTION



September 2023 Edition

Hurricane Idalia

In the wake of Hurricane Idalia, we want to shine a spotlight on our remarkable Fire/EMS personnel and 911 dispatch team. Their dedication and tireless efforts were the guiding light during the storm's darkest hours.

These heroes worked tirelessly, putting their own safety at risk to rescue and aid those in need. They were away from their loved ones, working long hours, and serving our community with unwavering commitment.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all who were on duty during and after Hurricane Idalia. Your courage and compassion exemplify true heroism, and we are profoundly grateful for your service.

To highlight some remarkable statistics that reflect their dedication and the challenges they faced:

Pinellas County Regional 9-1-1: Answered over 800 calls from Tuesday, Aug. 29, at 7 p.m. through Wednesday, Aug. 30, at 5 p.m.

Fire/EMS Responded to: 63 evacuation calls and water rescues, 47 structure fires, 10 unconfirmed structure fires, and 4 gas leaks.

5 State Ambulance Strike Teams (a total of 25 Ambulances) assisted in evacuating Hospitals; they transported 99 patients.

During the storm week, **Sunstar** evacuated hospital and special needs patients, responded to storm-related incidents, and brought evacuees back afterward. They transported a total of 2,695 patients, with the busiest day being Thursday, August 31st, post-Hurricane, with 638 transports. Additionally, **Fire Departments** handled 4,526 calls during the same week.

On behalf of the Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration, and the Pinellas County Office of the Medical Director, we extend special thanks to all who were working during and after Hurricane Idalia, away from their loved ones, and in ongoing service during this challenging time. Your labor of love for our community did not go unnoticed, and we are grateful for your service.

HIGHLIGHTS

Hurricane Idalia.....	1
9/11.....	2
Lifepak 15.....	3-4
Yellow Dot/Vial of Life.....	5
SES Employee Recognition Awards.....	6
Around the County.....	7-11
Community Involvement....	12-15
Upcoming Events.....	16-19
Mental Health Training.....	20
Adopt a Furry Family Member.....	21
First Responder Breakfast Locations.....	22-23



SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 NEVER FORGET

We shall forever hold in our hearts the memories of lives lost on this day, a somber 22 years ago. Today, on September 11, 2023, we paused to reflect and pay homage to those whose lives were forever altered on that fateful September 11th, 2001. We extend our profound respect to the courageous souls who fearlessly rushed towards peril to aid others, the heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve countless lives, and the innocent souls whose time was cut short too soon. Although the ache of that day still lingers, we, as a united nation, stand together, fortified by our resilience and unwavering strength. This day serves as a testament to the countless acts of valor, compassion, and unity that emerged in the wake of adversity. Throughout the county, Fire Agencies paid tribute to 9/11 in diverse and heartfelt ways. Clearwater Fire & Rescue and Dunedin Fire Rescue maintained solemn vigils outside their stations. East Lake

Fire Rescue bathed their stations in a solemn blue light. Madeira Beach Fire Department, Safety Harbor Fire Department, and Palm Harbor Fire Rescue participated in special ceremonies of remembrance. Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue participated in their annual memorial walk and held a poignant sunset vigil, while others shared beautiful tributes on their social media platforms. No matter how we choose to honor and remember, one truth remains steadfast:

we must never forget!





Stryker Lifepak 15 is Here!!!

See Medical Control Directive 2023-17 on next page for info.



Congratulations to E50's crew (Lt. Morris, DO Westerman, FM Georges, PFF Davis) for delivering the first LP15 shock in Pinellas County at 7:49:24 on September 14, 2023!

This milestone was made possible by countless hours of work by an incredible group of people across multiple agencies. Dr. Jameson says thanks to all of you for doing the heavy lift to get to this milestone for our patients!





MEDICAL CONTROL DIRECTIVE 2023-17

DATE: September 12, 2023

TO: Pinellas County EMS Agencies
Pinellas County Emergency Communications
Pinellas County Certified EMTs and Paramedics
Pinellas County Certified Advanced Practice Paramedics, Nurses
Pinellas County Online Medical Control Physicians
Pinellas County Ambulance Billing and Financial Services
ED Nurse Managers

FROM: Dr. Angus Jameson, EMS Medical Director

A blue handwritten signature, likely of Dr. Angus Jameson, is written over the "FROM:" line.

RE: Stryker Lifepak 15 - Authorization for Use

DISTRIBUTION/TRAINING PERIOD: N/A

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 13, 2023, 0800 hrs., but no later than October 11, 2023

- The new Stryker Lifepak 15 V4+ device and Pinellas County EMS issued accessories are authorized for use effective September 13, 2023, 0800 hrs.
- The new Stryker Lifepak 15 V4+ device and Pinellas County EMS issued accessories are to be deployed frontline in all agencies no later than 0800 hrs. on October 11, 2023

Distribution:

- EMSChiefs e-mail distribution group
- Vector Solutions
- Pinellas County EMS Office of the Medical Director Webpage www.pcemsomd.com

Yellow Dot and Vial of Life



Pinellas County's Yellow Dot and Vial of Life programs alert first responders to your critical healthcare needs when you are seriously injured and cannot communicate that information yourself. The brochure now includes emergency pet care contact information that will enable Animal Services to contact a caregiver for your pet during an emergency. Making this information available could help save your life and the life of your pet.

All you need to do is [request a kit](#) and place an information packet in your vehicle's glove compartment and on your refrigerator at home. The kit comes with decals for your vehicle and front door so first responders know you are a participant.

Your participation will help first responders:

- Identify who you are.
- Determine if you have a pre-existing medical condition that may inhibit you from communicating.
- Ensure that your current medications and pre-existing medical conditions are considered during decisions made about your treatment.
- Enable Animal Services to contact a caregiver for your pet during an emergency.

So far over 23,000 kits have been distributed!

Let Yellow Dot and Vial of Life speak when you can't. [Request a kit now](#) and you should receive it in the mail within four weeks. For more information, contact Pinellas County EMS & Fire Administration at 727-582-5750 or yellowdot@pinellas.gov.

A special thank you to **Lynn Abbott** for being the Program Coordinator for this special project!





Safety & Emergency Services Employee Recognition Awards



AUGUST 2023

Congratulations

Regional 9-1-1

Outstanding Service Award: Cheyenne Foxworth

Team MVP Awards: Ben Lounsbury

EMS & Fire

Outstanding Service Award: Steve Fravel

Team MVP Awards: Lynn Abbott

Skilled Craftsman Award: Liz Fogo, Jennyfer Peters

Behind the Scenes Award: Lynn Abbott

Financial Services

Star Award: Katie Mills

Outstanding Service Award: Sue Pierce

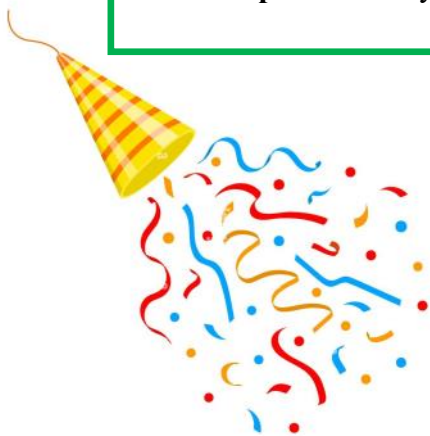
Skilled Craftsman Award: Jennifer Greer

Leadership Award: Cynthia Eden

Support Services

Star Award: Dawn Shontz

Team MVP Award: Candi Makee-Stripe



Please consider nominating someone for September's Employee Recognition Awards for Regional 9-1-1, Fire and EMS Admin, Support Services and Financial Services



Around The County

Congratulations



Woo hoo

East Lake Fire Rescue would like to congratulate firefighters Jeff Jackson, Roberto Hernandez and Mitch Mansour on their recent promotions. Jeff Jackson on his promotion to Lieutenant and Roberto Hernandez and Mitch Mansour on their promotion to Driver Engineer.

LT Jackson has been a firefighter/paramedic with the department since 2016. LT Jackson has served a total of 13 years in the EMS/Fire Service. LT Jackson is the IAFF 1158 District Vice President for East Lake Fire Rescue. He chairs multiple committees including the hiring committee, and the new apparatus purchasing committee. He also is on the pension board, collective bargaining team, an AHA CPR instructor, and an instructor for East Lake Fire Rescue with the North County Training team. He has received his certifications in FO1, FO2, Fire Inspector, Fire Instructor, LFTI, NFA, and multiple USAR disciplines. LT Jackson also has emergency room and trauma center experience as a paramedic. Congratulations to LT Jackson, his wife Ashley and their daughter Tegan!

DE Hernandez has been with East Lake Fire Rescue since 2017. He completed EMT school and the Fire Academy at Indian River State College. In 2021, he completed the Paramedic program at St. Petersburg College. He later obtained his Florida State Pump Operator Certification. Congratulations to DE Hernandez and his wife Claudia!

DE Mansour has been with East Lake Fire Rescue since 2016. He started his career as a Firefighter Paramedic with Pasco County Fire rescue where he served for 3 years.

CONGRATULATIONS!

East Lake Fire Rescue is extremely proud of the hard work and dedication shown by these three individuals. Please help the department congratulate them on their recent accomplishment.



Around The County



Congratulations



The Clearwater Fire & Rescue team has some news to share, and it's both heartwarming and bittersweet. Sophia, their remarkable K-9 Inspector, is preparing for retirement after six years of dedicated service. With her unparalleled accelerant-detection abilities, she has been a shining star, assisting in over 100 cases and contributing to multiple arrests across the Tampa Bay area.

Unfortunately, Sophia has recently been diagnosed with glaucoma in her left eye, affecting her night vision. The prognosis for her remaining eye is also uncertain. While her spirit remains high, her eyesight challenges make it necessary for her to retire. Inspector Walter Ramos, her loyal handler and companion, will ensure she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.

The Clearwater Fire & Rescue team will soon begin the search for Sophia's successor, recognizing the enormous pawprints she leaves behind. Today, we take a moment to celebrate Sophia's outstanding career and wish her the happiest and most peaceful retirement. Her legacy of dedication and bravery will continue to inspire us all in our ongoing service to the community.

Sophia, thank you for your unwavering commitment. You will forever be a cherished member of the Clearwater Fire & Rescue family.

Around The County

Congratulations



Seminole Fire Rescue is proud to announce Fire medic Moline has completed his probationary period and received his yellow helmet. The yellow helmet signifies that he has completed all requirements to meet the title of Firefighter and is no longer considered a Probationary Firefighter.



Congratulations Firefighter Leak on becoming a driver-engineer for Palm Harbor Fire Rescue!



Congratulations to Palm Harbor Fire Rescue's Firefighter Klein on passing his one year probationary period and receiving his yellow helmet.



Congratulations to some of Clearwater Fire & Rescue personnel from Station 45 C shift for being named bimonthly team award winners for July and August. They were recognized before city council for their heroic efforts in saving two people and a dog trapped by flames inside their second-story apartment. Those honored were: Lt. Sean Becker, Lt. Anthony Gomillion, Fire Medic Matthew Mauger, Fire Medic Gabriel David-Cerpa, Fire Medic Joshua Engberg, Fire medic Christopher Vital, Fire Medic Noah Kidd, Driver-Operator Michael Billian and Driver-Operator Curtis Fivecoat. Great Job!



Around The County

Congratulations



Congratulations to Firefighter/Paramedic Portale for completing his Acting Company Officer Task Book and passing the final practical test. He is now certified as an Acting Captain for Safety Harbor Fire Department!



Congratulations to Firefighter/Paramedic Latour for completing his Engine Operator Task Book and passing the final practical test. FF/PM Latour is now certified to drive the fire engine!



Congratulations to Captain Lyall Heishman who was recognized at the City Commission meeting for completing 15 years of service with the City of Safety Harbor Fire Department!



Around The County

Congratulations



Congratulations to Firefighter/Paramedic Cory Allen on his 5 Year Service Anniversary! Tarpon Springs Fire Rescues is proud & honored to have you on their team.



Please help in welcoming Firefighter/Paramedic Shaun Barber to the Tarpon Springs Fire Rescue family! They are excited to have him on their team.



Congratulations Lieutenant Josh Drake on your 15 year Service Anniversary! Thank you for your hard work & dedication!

Around the Community



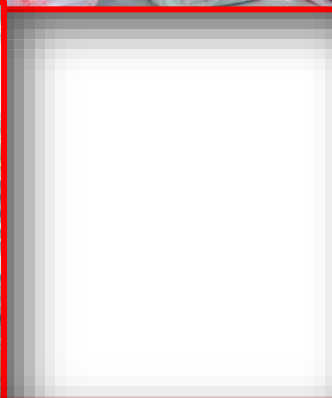
East Lake Fire Rescue had a great time at the Plato Academy Open House event in August! Their Fire and Life Safety Educator and crews from Station 58 provided a touch-a-truck and distributed pedestrian and bike safety information! Wishing all of you a great first day back to school.

Around the Community



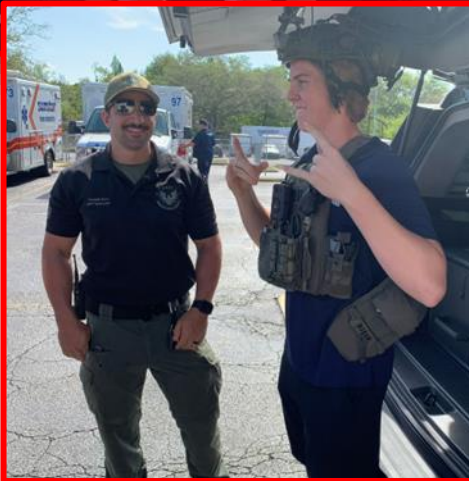
Madeira Beach Fire Department spent this day in August at ROC Park participating in the Jingle Bell Kids Fishing Tournament put on by the Angler Armory! The sea wall was filled with kids fishing and the stage was full of prizes! There were even some wild visitors for the kids.

Around the Community



On August 15th, St. Petersburg Fire Department personnel participated in Feeding Tampa Bay's Mobile Food Pantry at Tropicana Field lot # 9. Alongside a team of volunteers, we were able to serve 93 families and 313 individuals! Attendees received fresh fruits, vegetables, and a variety of other foods. Way to go guys and gals!!!

Around the Community



Youth Leadership Pinellas took a field trip to Sunstar HQ in August! These inspiring young people got to learn hands only CPR from their Clinical Services Department as well as a tour of the facility and trucks. The future is bright for these young leaders. In the front row is East Lake Fire Recue Chairman and Commissioner Kevin Kenney. Commissioner Kenney also serves on the Pinellas County EMS Advisory Council. Thank you Sunstar for hosting this fantastic day of learning!

Upcoming

SATURDAY OCTOBER 7th 2023



20th ANNUAL FIRE SAFETY EXPO

11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

JCPENNEY Countryside Mall
2nd Floor Parking Lot



SWAG BAGS

Exhibits and Activities Include:

- Meet Your Local Firefighters
- Fire Trucks
- Fire Engines
- Department of Forestry
- SPARKY The Fire Dog
- 9-1-1
- Safety Displays
- Emergency Vehicles



Upcoming

25th Annual Bi-State Stroke Symposium Stroke Care Without Borders

Virtual Event

Friday, October 27, 2023

8:00 am - 3:00 pm CT

\$50 Registration

REGISTER NOW

After a quarter-century of collaboration, the Bi-State Stroke Symposium is proud to host our 25th annual event. Join us virtually for a day of learning and partnership, shared with attendees from across the country.

Topics Covered

- EMS and Hospital Collaboration
- Stroke Program Development
- Advancements in Interventional Neurology for Acute Stroke Care
- Blood Pressure Control with Expanded Use of IV Thrombolytics
- Stroke Simulation
- Patient Level of Care Discussions
- New Stroke Recovery Options

Who Should Attend?

- Neurology RNs
- Stroke Coordinators
- Neurologists
- EMTs
- Pharmacists
- ED Physicians
- Rehab Facilities & Staff

The Bi-State Stroke Symposium is a continuing education activity. Information coming soon on CE credits.

Exhibitor Opportunities Available

Questions & exhibitor info: Kayli.Saathoff@heart.org



Upcoming



Pediatric Emergencies... and sometimes Surgery!

All Children's Hospital will host a quarterly seminar discussing the most common pediatric emergencies which may require transfer for further evaluation and surgical management.



Listen to experts review best practice for pediatric emergencies



Discuss the timeliness of diagnostic exams and management prior to transfer



Join us in developing a continuous dialogue on improving care for the region's pediatric population

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Surgical Performance
Improvement & Patient
Safety (SPIPS)

Register for one or the series to add them to your calendar, use the QR Code below.



1 PEDIATRIC CAT1 CME/CNE

Surgical Performance
Improvement & Patient Safety

Surgeon Champion
Nicole Chandler

Program Manager
Alex Willoughby

Dept of Surgery

501 6th Ave South
St. Petersburg, Florida 33701
P 727-767-8724
HopkinsAllChildrens.org

JHACH—Pediatric Presentations / Dates

- Pediatric Neurosurgery – August 10th, 2023 / 4-5pm
- Pediatric Trauma Patient – November 2nd, 2023 / 4-5pm
- Pediatric Volvulus/Intussusception – Feb 1st, 2024 / 4-5pm
- Pediatric Concussion Injuries – May 2nd, 2024 / 4-5pm

COME AND SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES, YOUR COMMON PRACTICE, AND ASK QUESTIONS – OUR GOAL IS TO IMPROVE CARE OF THE PEDIATRIC PATIENT WITHIN THE TAMPA BAY REGION.



Upcoming

MADEIRA BEACH FIRE DEPARTMENT LEGENDS NEVER DIE 5K

PTSD | MENTAL HEALTH
SUICIDE PREVENTION



**FIRST RESPONDERS
ACTIVE MILITARY & VETERANS**

OCTOBER 22, 2023

9:00 AM ARCHIBALD BEACH PARK

15100 Gulf Blvd, Madeira Beach, FL 33708



Find us on [Runsignup.com](https://www.runsignup.com)
Questions? Call MBFD 727.391.3400

Kids 12 & Under Are FREE

Early Registration (Race Tshirt Included)

June 1 - September 11 \$35

Regular Registration

September 12th - 30th \$35

Late Registration

October 1st - 20th \$40

PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO THE FRANCISCAN CENTER'S OPERATION RESTORE. THE FIRST RESPONDERS POST TRAUMA TRAINING CREATES A SAFE, CONFIDENTIAL ENVIRONMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS TO WORK THROUGH THEIR MOST CRITICAL INCIDENTS AND PROCESS THE CUMULATIVE STRESS OF RISKING THEIR LIVES THROUGHOUT THEIR CAREER.

Since 2021, **Madeira Beach Fire Department** has hosted Legends Never Die 5K. Our mission for this event is to bring awareness to mental health, PTSD and suicide in first responders, veterans, active military personnel and their families.

We all have a role to play in listening, connecting and reaching out to those who may be struggling with challenges. By talking about mental health and suicide, it not only helps reduce stigma and increase awareness, but it also has the potential to save a life.

Join us on October 22, 2023 as we honor those that have lost the battle to traumatic stress, and show support for those who are currently battling and those who have survived the battle. We will stand together to advocate for education, resources and treatment for mental health for first responders and military/veterans.

INVISIBLE WOUNDS ARE THE HARDEST TO HEAL

Mental Health Training

Franciscan Center 'Operation Restore'



DATES FOR UPCOMING RETREATS

October 16-19, 2023

If you, or someone in your agency is interested in attending,
please email or call

Liz Fogo @ lfogo@pinellascounty.org or 727-582-5755

Seats go quickly! Reserve yours now!



Announcing!

Pinellas County Animal Services has many amazing dogs and cats that need loving homes! These are just a few of them looking for their fur-ever homes! Please consider adopting one of these wonderful animals or spread the word to anyone who is looking to add a furry member to their family! For more info on these animals, visit <https://pinellas.gov/adoption-center-dog-cat-adoptions/>



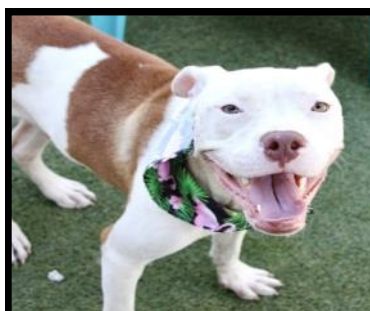
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RAMBO



LYRA



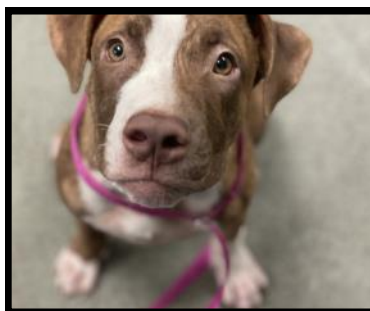
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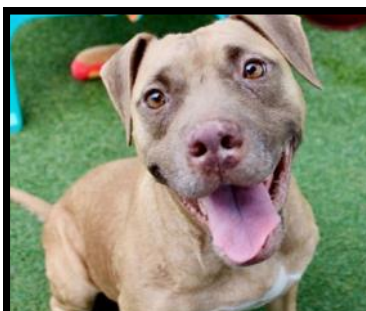
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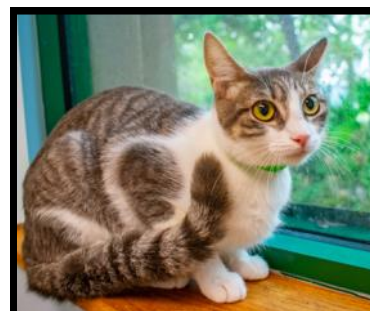
GUS GUS



Ryan Fleacrest



MARMALADE



BETSY

PINELLAS COUNTY, FL

Please join us for our monthly First Responders

OCTOBER 6TH

Free First Friday Breakfast

8:00-10:00

Active duty & Retired: Fire-EMS-LEO-Dispatch

2023



**40489 US-19
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689**



443 Main St, Safety Harbor, FL 34695



**10555 Park Blvd,
Seminole, FL 33772**



2151 54th Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33714



Rotary
Club of Tarpon Springs



"Create Hope in the World"- "Together. We Can Make an Impact"

All Pinellas & Pasco County Breakfasts are sponsored by Rotary Clubs District 6950

www.tarponspringsrotary.com

#D6950Strong

PASCO COUNTY, FL

Please join us for our monthly First Responders

Free First Friday Breakfast

Active duty & Retired: Fire-EMS-LEO-Dispatch

OCTOBER 6TH

8:00-10:00

2023



10740 SR-54
Trinity, FL 34655



Rotary
Club of Tarpon Springs



"Create Hope in the World"- "Together, We Can Make an Impact"

All Pinellas & Pasco County Breakfasts are sponsored by Rotary Clubs Distric County

www.tarponspringsrotary.com

#D6950Strong