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Levy County opens shelter for Levy County residents at 4 p.m. today

Published Sept. 3, 2016 @ 12:57 p.m.
on the Home Page of *HardisonInk.com*

BRONSON -- Due to an increased demand from residents, a public shelter will be opened at 4 p.m. today (Saturday, Sept. 3), Levy County Director of Emergency Management John MacDonald announced in an email at 12:25 p.m. today.

The Shelter Location is in the Old Williston High School Cafeteria, located at 427 West Noble Ave. (on U.S. Alt. 27) in Williston.

Residents are reminded that the shelter is a shelter of last resort and will have limited food, bedding and comfort items. The shelter is for Levy County residents who are displaced due to damage from Hurricane Hermine.

For more information, contact the Levy County Department of Emergency Management at 352-486-5155.

Central Florida Electric Cooperative Continues Restoration Efforts

By Whitney McQueen,
CFEC Communications Specialist

Published Sept. 3, 2016 @ 11:07 a.m. on the Home Page of *HardisonInk.com*

CHIEFLAND -- Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc., along with many crews from other areas, are continuing to work to restore the 8,605 outages that remain throughout the service area as of 8:45 a.m. today (Saturday, Sept. 3, 2016).

At this time yesterday, there were in excess of 16,000 outages. Therefore, progress is being made. Crews will remain working throughout the weekend until members are restored.

Members can report power outages by calling 352.493.2511 or 800.227.1302, visiting the website at <http://www.CFEC.com> or by accessing the mobile app, CFEC Connect. Outages can also be viewed through the aforementioned website and mobile app.

For shelter updates, check with local fire departments and your counties' emergency management team:

- Levy - Visit <http://www.levydisaster.com> or call emergency management at 352-486-5213;
- Dixie - Visit <http://www.dixieemergency.com> or call emergency management at 352-498-1231;
- Gilchrist - Visit <http://www.gilchrist.fl.us> or call emergency management at 386-935-5400; and
- Alachua - Visit <http://www.alachuacounty.us> or call emergency management at 352-955-1818.

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## Tri-County Area moves to the recovery stage;



**One member of the Levy County Sheriff's Office tells a resident or business owner that she cannot go into Cedar Key yet on Friday morning (Sept. 2), because the Florida Department of Transportation needs to check the bridges for stability. One of his colleagues is sitting in the cruiser. Some people did not evacuate from Cedar Key, Yankeetown and other low-lying areas of Levy County on Thursday night even though the evacuations were mandatory. When evacuating from some locales, it can prove to be cumbersome to be readmitted to a residence or business.**

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**By Jeff M. Hardison**

**Photos by Sharon and Jeff M. Hardison Video by Sharon Hardison**

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**TRI-COUNTY AREA** – On Friday morning (Sept. 2), Gilchrist County Sheriff Robert “Bobby” Schultz III said the Florida Department of Transportation and the Gilchrist County Road Department had covered every inch of the county to remove trees and other obstructions that fell during the Thursday night passing of Hurricane Hermine.

Sheriff Schultz said there remained some power lines down at that time, and that crews were working to restore services.

Meanwhile on Friday morning, Dixie County Sheriff's Office spokesman Maj. Scott Harden said there were DCSO deputies manning checkpoints into Jena, Horseshoe and the Town of Suwannee to make sure only resident and business owners were allowed in, until the area was more cleared for normal visitor traffic as well.

Levy County Sheriff Robert “Bobby” McCallum Jr. said on Friday morning that emergency crews are in the affected areas of Levy County.

Levy County Emergency Management and Sheriff McCallum are asking people to

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NOT venture into these areas.

“The storm effects are still being felt in our coastal communities and conditions are UNSAFE,” Sheriff McCallum said. “Please do not drive through standing water as it is unsafe for you and causes additional damage to nearby homes.”

Only residents who provide proof of residency will allowed into the Cedar Key and Yankeetown areas once these areas are deemed safe, he added.



**The public boat ramp next to The Treasure Camp Restaurant in Fowler's Bluff remained closed on Friday morning.**



**Jeff M. Hardison serves as a gauge to see the scene in perspective. He is 5-foot, 10-inches tall.**

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Looking from the picnic area of The Treasure Camp, the dock is seen submerged.



Turkeys cross the road.

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**One of the vehicles used by one of the weather coverage broadcasters is seen facing Cedar Key on Friday morning, waiting to be admitted to the island.**



**A whirlpool takes water in. The light brown line seen at the bottom of the picture is the top of a seawall.**

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**Another view of the whirlpool shows it in perspective to some of the water in the distance.**



**Just to the right of many westbound vehicles on State Road 24 awaiting permission to enter Cedar Key, the water existing from a whirlpool on the other side of the road exits through the culvert that allows that flow.**

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**A tree seems to float in the air, although it is supported by underbrush. This tree is seen on Friday morning (Sept. 2) in the Tri-County Area of Levy, Dixie and Gilchrist counties. It answers the question, if a lot of trees fall and only one is photographed and put on *HardisonInk.com*, then did those other trees fall? The answer is 'Yes.'**



**A couple of houses in the Fowler's Bluff area still had water on them on Friday morning.**

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**Jeff M. Hardison walks next to some of the vehicles lined up next to State Road 24 on Friday.**



**An abandoned vehicle with no license tag sits in a ditch, somewhat obstructing the flow of water next to Levy County Road 347 between Fowler's Bluff and State Road 24. This car has been parked there at least two days.**

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## The aftermath of Hermine in Cedar Key



*Canal going out to the airport.  
Road to the airport.*

**Photos  
courtesy  
of  
Jerry  
Lawrence**

***The  
Beachfront  
Motel***



***Swings at the  
Faraway Inn***

***Three Sisters  
Condos***

