A battle to rebuild with no insurance

Coverage unaffordability has compounded problems in this area far from the coast that was hit hard by Hurricane Ian.

Aerial view of flooded homes along the Peace River on Sept. 30 in Arcadia. Hurricane Ian wallowed the inland area.

For homeless people, campsites have become a refuge

Rising housing costs in Tampa Bay force people to sleep in tents, plot their next moves.

A new full-time teacher didn’t join the team until November.

As a mom of an Armwood High School student, she watched her daughter struggle with her advanced algebra II teacher quit and no replacement was available. So some of the best students are sitting in classes with 30 other students.

BY JEFFREY S. SOLOCHEK
Times Staff Writer

The upshot has been a botch of a recruitment plan along with no sign of shifting, and that’s one reason the school has the highest number of vacant teaching posts.

School districts throughout Florida have shown no sign of abating, and many predict it may worsen. People are leaving the profession behind. “It’s just gotten so overwhelming,” she said, noting that some colleagues are looking at similar sentiments. “People are wondering what’s next.”

The Tampa Bay region entered the first week of November reporting hundreds of vacant teaching positions, with some officials considering emergency declarations to try to renegotiate contracts and deal with the situation. They talked about seeking relief on state class-size mandates and finding ways to more easily monitor in-service teaching posts.

BY LAURENCE MOYER
Times/Herald Tallahassee Bureau

The Tampa Bay Times is committed to improving literacy in the valley by providing more easily accessible ways to reach teachers and students.

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