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## **A&M provides strong HurricaneShield windows this season**

By ALBA FIGUEROA

According to the National Hurricane Center, it is important to strengthen the exterior of a home so that wind and debris don't tear large openings in it. All year round, but especially this hurricane season, Aluminum & Mill-works Etc. (A&M) exclusively provides the local public with Pella Corp.'s HurricaneShield® windows and doors.

HurricaneShield is an impact-resistant glass approved by the Miami-Dade County, ensuring the product is up to hurricane protection standards. It is an impact-resistant laminated glass that contains a unique ionoplast layer of rigid plastic encased within two sheets of glass. This glass is then mounted on aluminum covered wood frames for more durability. It is also hard to break. According to Pella Corp., HurricaneShield is 100 times more rigid and five times more tear-resistant than commonly used laminated glass, and is also more effective against theft.

HurricaneShield products are affordable but vary in price due to their customizable nature. Mini blinds inside the glass, retractable screens, and pliable curtains are among the features clients can choose from. They also come with a 10-year limited warranty from Pella that includes repairs or replacements effective from the date of purchase.

Glenda Alemañy, co-owner of A&M, recommends that home-owners stop by the showroom to see their products and meet the staff before getting any quotes. Sales for HurricaneShield products, she added, don't vary much during hurricane season since they are sold all year round. Moreover, company owners Alemañy and husband Hiram Toro plan to move to a larger showroom in Carolina soon. The location hasn't been decided yet.

Based in Cupey, A&M has been in business since 2000. It specializes in custom-made home furnishings such as kitchen cabinets, doors, bathroom vanities, and iron gates as well as customizable windows and doors such as HurricaneShield. "In one stop you can find all of your home's needs," said Alemañy.