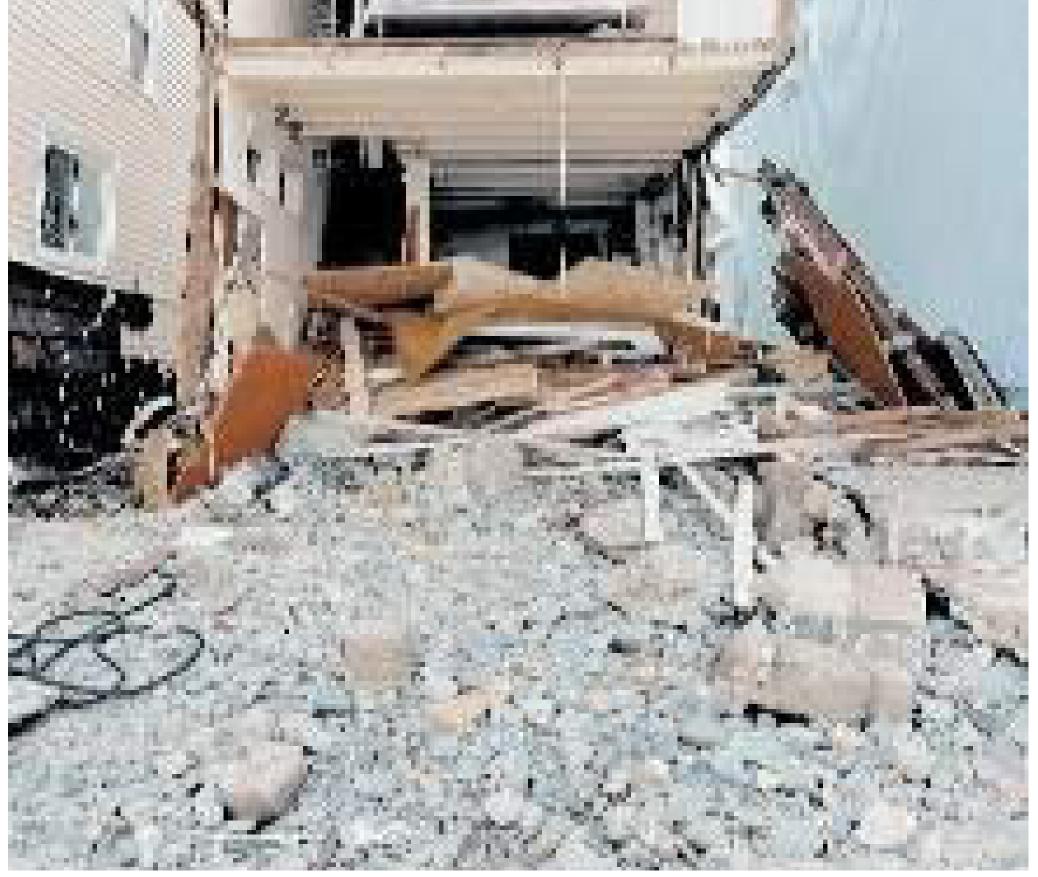
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Stories of kindness, amid Sandy's devastation

As the water rose near the top, I was carrying our most precious things to the second floor — my grandmother's kitchen table, my great-grandmother's linens, the portrait of my nieces that my sister painted ... I was very close to



losing everything. Many of them did. I guess I was very sensitive to their plight." — MICHAEL O'DONNELL, of Fairfield, who spent hours ferrying people to and from their ravaged homes. Lights in the Storm



Christian Abraham/Staff photographer