



# Carroll County Times

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## County prepares for tropical storm

Hanna could cause flash floods, high winds, dump as much as 8 inches of precipitation

By **KAREN KEMP**  
 TIMES STAFF WRITER

As Tropical Storm Hanna approaches, the state, weather observers and Carroll County officials are warning residents to prepare for heavy rain and wind beginning as early as this evening.

The biggest threat to the county will be the potential for flash flooding, according to Luis Rosa, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.

The NWS is predicting the fast-moving storm will bring as much as 4 to 8 inches of rain to the region, with the bulk of it falling Saturday morn-

ing through the afternoon, Rosa said. Residents can also expect wind gusts up to 40 mph as the storm makes its way through the state, he said.

"We're looking at a six- to eight-hour period of really bad weather," Rosa said.

The county is monitoring the storm closely through all weather channels and daily conference calls with the Maryland Emergency Management Agency, according to Bill Hall, emergency management coordinator for the county.

However, because of the uncertainty of its impact and the exact path the storm will take, the county had not activated its emergency opera-

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tion center as of Thursday afternoon, Hall said.

Baltimore Gas & Electric Co. is anticipating a significant number of power outages from Saturday through early next week, and the company has more than 1,500 employees and contractors on standby to restore power if needed, according to a press release issued Thursday.

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Chris Petersen secures a wooden storm shutter at a beach home in Wrightsville Beach, N.C., as Tropical Storm Hanna made its way toward the coast Thursday.

AP PHOTO

## First football Friday



DYLAN SLAGLE/STAFF PHOTO

Junior Sara Tart and sophomore Michelle Sherman are caught by teammates as the Liberty High School cheerleaders practice Thursday afternoon in Eldersburg to prepare for their performance at tonight's football game.

The moment many **high school students** have been looking forward to for months has arrived. The first **varsity football games** are scheduled for 7 tonight.

Five county high schools are hosting **home games**. The students will once again be the **stars of the show** — and **not all of them will be wearing helmets and shoulder pads**.

By **BRANDON OLAND** ■ TIMES STAFF WRITER

The Liberty High School cheerleaders have practiced their moves and prepared their blue and white signs.

This year's team motto is "bringing the spirit back," which they will try to accomplish after undergoing lots of changes for the 2008-09 school year.

The Liberty cheerleaders will feature a new coach, a new captain and a new dance team during its season debut tonight when the Lions host Middletown in the first varsity football game of the season.

Once again this year, hundreds of students countywide will be the center of attention tonight when five county high schools host home games in Week 1 of the varsity football season.

Many of the performers, both on the field and off, will be adjusting to new roles and preparing for new experiences.

Liberty junior Sara Tart is one of them. She has been named team captain for the first time this season. She is

Please see **Football, A7**



**HIGH SCHOOL**

**FOOTBALL KICKOFF**

Check out the *Times* high school football preview on pages **B1** and **3-6** featuring team previews for all county high schools.

High school football games scheduled to be played in Carroll at 7 tonight:

- Westminster at Francis Scott Key
- Middletown at Liberty
- Walkersville at Winters Mill
- Williamsport at South Carroll
- South Hagerstown at Century

**County comprehensive plan**

## Water issue holds up draft

By **BETH WARD**  
 TIMES STAFF WRITER

A draft of Carroll County's plans for future growth has been held up as the county works through requirements such as water and transportation elements.

However, county officials say the delay is also due to the desire to ensure the plan is done right.

"We want to make sure we have a good plan to roll out to the public," Planning Director Steve Horn said earlier this week. "We want to do it right the first time."

The county has been working on the updated comprehensive plan since 2006, and Horn said there is no mandated deadline.

One of the biggest challenges for the county is meeting the requirements of the Water Resources Element, which must be completed as part of the comprehensive plan by the fall of 2009 as required by legislation passed by the General Assembly in 2006.

The Water Resources Element would require the county's master plan to balance available water capacity and projected demand with plans for future growth.

The Carroll County Board of Commissioners heard a presentation on the status of the Water Resources Element on Thursday. The process has involved working closely

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Board of Commissioners briefs /A7

**WEB EXTRA**

Read more about the Board of Commissioners' meeting from staff writer **Beth Ward** at the **News and Notes** blog: [www.carrollcountytimes.com/talk](http://www.carrollcountytimes.com/talk).



## Visitors tour meeting house

Union Bridge committee tells history of building

By **CARRIE ANN KNAUER**  
 TIMES STAFF WRITER

UNION BRIDGE — A simple sign hangs at the end of a stone and grass drive on Quaker Hill Road, reading "Pipe Creek Friends Meeting House: Worship at 10 a.m."

"When I was a kid ... and I would ride my bike past here, I always wondered what this building was," said Jim Rowe, president of the Union Bridge Area Heritage Committee.

The small, two-room brick building dates back to 1772 and has been continuously used to hold meeting for Quakers since that time.

**IF YOU GO**

**What:** Union Bridge Area Heritage Committee meeting

**When:** 7 p.m. Nov. 6

**Where:** Union Bridge Town Hall, 104 W. Locust St.

**Information:** Call Amy Simpson at 410-775-0151

"This meeting house has supposedly been the longest [used] meeting house west of the Susquehanna," said Frank Reitemeyer, a co-clerk of the meeting house.

The meeting house opened its doors to visitors Thursday evening for a tour and short film on the building's history made by Union Bridge resident Jo Israelson.

Please see **Meeting house, A7**



**SUNDAY LOCAL**

Reducing Md.'s electricity usage



**Dow** - 344.65

**Nasdaq** - 74.69

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**Westminster, Maryland**