

FORT HILL SENTINELS
FH
2008 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PREVIEW

WILL'S CREEK SURVEY WITH ARTS WALK

Juried exhibition open to visual artists from across the country

HANNA MAY HIT CAROLINAS AS HURRICANE

Tropical storm claims at least 61 lives on path across Haiti

INSIDE TODAY'S EDITION

SEE SLICE OF LIFE, 1C

SEE PAGE TWO

CUMBERLAND TIMES-NEWS

SERVING WESTERN MARYLAND AND THE POTOMAC HIGHLANDS OF WEST VIRGINIA

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Police: State forest gunman threatened to kill several people

Charles County man arrested with numerous assault weapons after two-hour negotiations

FROM STAFF REPORTS
DEER PARK — A 38-year-old Charles County man who allegedly threatened to kill several people in the Lost Land Run area of Potomac State Forest surrendered after two hours of negotiations with police Wednesday afternoon.
 Christopher Conrad Slough of Indian Head was in the state forest with several pistols

and assault-style rifles, according to the Garrett County Sheriff's Office.
 Police said Slough threatened to kill a couple whom he met but they escaped and called police around 2:40 p.m.
 Slough allegedly fired numerous shots at a vehicle that had fled from the area.
 Deputies and a hostage negotiator located

SEE POLICE - 3A

Bill would decrease tax rate on county property assessments

Washington, Garrett paying less on homes

KEVIN SPRADLIN
 TIMES-NEWS STAFF WRITER
CUMBERLAND — The Allegany County commissioners Thursday convened a public hearing on a code home rule bill designed to lower the Homestead Tax Credit rate to 7 percent from 10 percent.
 The bill, expected to be voted on at the Sept. 11 commission meeting, would lower

INSIDE:
 \$500,000 grant going to work at Barton Industrial Park: 1B
 the taxes levied on property assessments beginning July 1, 2009. The credit would be extended only to owner-occupied homes and not commercial buildings, rentals or second-home properties.
 County Attorney Bill Rudd noted the bill would "have a negative effect on revenue" in future years. Money generated from proper-

SEE BILL - 3A

'CHANGE IS COMING'

McCain accepts presidential nomination

Republican candidate vows to vanquish 'constant partisan rancor' in Washington

DAVID ESPO
 ROBERT FURLOW
 ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS
ST. PAUL, Minn. — John McCain, a POW turned political rebel, vowed Thursday night to vanquish the "constant partisan rancor" that grips Washington as he launched his fall campaign for the White House. "Change is coming," he promised the roaring Republican National Convention and a prime-time television audience.
 To repeated cheers from his delegates, McCain criticized fellow Republicans as well as Democratic rival Barack Obama as he reached out to independents and disaffected Democrats.
 "We were elected to change Washington, and we let Washing-

ton change us," he said of the Republicans who controlled Congress for most of the past 15 years.
 As for Obama, he said, "I will keep taxes low and cut them where I can. My opponent will raise them. I will cut government spending. He will increase it."
 Before McCain's speech, the climax of the final night of the party convention, delegates awarded the vice presidential nomination to Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin, the first female ticketmate in Republican history.
 "She stands up for what's right and she doesn't let anyone tell her to sit down," McCain said of the woman who has faced intense scrutiny in the week since she

SEE MCCAIN - 3A



Republican presidential candidate John McCain acknowledges the crowd as he goes on stage at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., Thursday.

QUOTABLE

"Ideas are one thing, and what happens is another."
 — John Cage, American composer and author (1912-1992)

PAGE FINDER

- Business.....5A
- Classified Ads.....6-8C
- Crossword.....4B
- Daily Break.....5C
- Deaths.....3B
- Editorial.....7A
- Lotteries.....2A
- Sports.....1-3D



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SHARING THE WORKLOAD



From left, volunteers Brandon Merica and Tiphane Leffakis, both of Cumberland, and Larry Brock of LaVale sort mums in front of the Western Maryland Railway Station Thursday for today's Day of Caring and Sharing. The flowers are from Daughton's Greenhouse, Lee's Greenhouse, Fischer's Greenhouse and WCI greenhouse.

FSU president receives award for diminishing role of alcohol

Measures taken on campus, in community credited by Gibraltar

JENNIFER RALEY
 TIMES-NEWS STAFF WRITER
FROSTBURG — Frostburg State University President Jonathan Gibraltar is the recipient of a national award that recognizes success in promoting a climate that de-emphasizes the role of alcohol.
 "I was almost speechless," Gibraltar said of when he heard the news. The Presidential Leadership Award, which carries a \$50,000 prize for the university, was presented to Gibraltar on Wednesday at the American Council on Education office in Washington.



GIBRALTER

Creating a campus-wide Alcohol Task Force and supporting a number of community and student programs, such as Saferide, are among the initiatives that earned Gibraltar the prestigious award.
 "The main thing is the outreach into the local community — the landlords, the neighborhood associations, alcohol distributors and bar owners," said Gibraltar. "I am extremely grateful to the community, members of law enforcement and community leaders — this award isn't about

SEE FSU - 3A