



NEWS RELEASE

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“Motorists rescued, one arrested after heavy rain and flooding close several roads”

Lineboro, Carroll County, Maryland, August 29, 2009 ---- At approximately 8:00 p.m. heavy rains fell in North-East Carroll County, swelling streams and flooding several roads. Personnel from the Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland State Police, Carroll County Public Works, Carroll County Sheriff's Office and Manchester Police closed several roadways in and around the North Carroll area into the early morning.

At approximately 9:51 p.m., Sheriff's deputies responded to reports of flood waters that had risen above the guardrails along Church Street at the South Branch of Gunpowder Falls. Stopping traffic on the North side of the creek, a Deputy signaled an oncoming Ford Taurus approaching from the South side of the creek to stop, but the vehicle continued and drove into the water where it was swept from the roadway and carried approximately 75 yards down stream.

Attempts to approach the vehicle were unsuccessful due to the depth and speed of the water.

Swift Water, Dive and Advanced Technical Rescue Teams from the Lineboro, Manchester, Gamber, Pleasant Hill and Glen Rock Fire Companies responded to assist. After coaxing him to the roof of his vehicle, rescue personnel were able to reach the driver and pull him to safety using rope lines. While speaking with the vehicle's driver, who was identified as Prakah Rampatsingh, aged 45 from Hanover, Pennsylvania, Deputy 1st Class Ehrhart smelled the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on the driver's breath.

After further investigation, Rampatsingh was taken into custody and transported to Carroll County Central Booking, where he was charged by Deputy Ehrhart with the following Motor Vehicle Law violations:

- Disobeying order and direction of police officer
- Negligent Driving

- Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

Rampatsingh is currently being held at the Carroll County Detention Center awaiting a bail review before the District Court Commissioner.

Just a few miles away from Church Street, Fire Rescue Crews performed a second water rescue of a motorist stranded in a pick-up truck on Grave Run Road at River Valley Ranch. In all cases, persons were treated at the scene and released by rescue personnel; there were no serious injuries. Before the night was over, approximately 15 Fire Rescue Units responded to the area, including teams from neighboring Baltimore County and Pennsylvania.

Carroll County Sheriff's Office



RAMPATSINGH, PRAKASH



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