

**A NEW SURVEY**

Should the town spend more money on bike, pedestrian routes? **A3**



**BUSINESS**

Devore's legacy lives on

**A14**

**SPORTS**

Rotanz helps Duke win title

**B1**

Friday, July 9, 2010

# Fairfield Citizen

www.fairfieldcitizenonline.com

**A NEW CHAPTER BEGINS**



Autumn Driscoll / Staff photographer

**Gary MacNamara takes the oath of office as Fairfield Chief of Police, while Commission Secretary Arthur Hersh looks during a promotional ceremony at Roger Ludlowe Middle School on Thursday. Visit our website, www.fairfieldcitizenonline.com, to read the full story and view more photographs.**

**A burning memory**

## Revolutionary-era torching of Fairfield recalled

By Meg Barone

The heat wave that brought blistering temperatures to Connecticut this week could not compare to the heat that engulfed Fairfield center 231 years ago when British soldiers punished local Colonial patriots for seeking independence.

About 40 current Fairfielders turned out despite the record-breaking heat Wednesday to learn about the fiery punishment their 18th-Century counterparts endured at the hands of British soldiers and the Hessian rear guard

on July 7 and 8, 1779. They relived the events leading up to the fateful attack on the town by the British at the Fairfield Museum and History Center's 2nd annual "Twilight Walk" commemorating the Burning of Fairfield in 1779.

Costumed staff and volunteers portrayed prominent

local citizens of the time and led the group to several significant historic sites, including Penfield's Sun Tavern on the Town Green, the Burr Homestead on Old Post Road and the Isaac Tucker House on Beach Road. In front of each landmark one of them

See Burning on A2



Christian Abraham / Staff photographer



**The Fairfield Museum and History Center hosted a walk in historic downtown Wednesday to visit some of the spots where the British burned down the town during the Revolutionary War on July 7, 1779. Above, volunteer Rob Wallace, left, lights a lantern as fellow volunteer Rip Littig holds it for him. Above left, Wallace makes his way along Beach Road. At left, Walt Matis, dressed as a local militia member, talks about one of the few homes which survived the fires.**

This story first appeared on our website, www.fairfieldcitizenonline.com

**Metro Center**

## Town may appeal court's new ruling

*First selectman denies wrongdoing in case*

By Daniel Tepfer  
dtepfer@ctpost.com

First Selectman Kenneth Flatto said Thursday there is a "strong probability" the town will appeal a Superior Court judge's ruling that town officials acted illegally when they replaced the town's conservation staff to monitor environmental issues during construction of the Metro Center project, and instead hired a private consultant.

"I believe there are four grounds for an appeal," he said.

In the meantime, however, Bridgeport Superior Court Judge Richard Arnold's 34-page decision Tuesday will stand, finding that the appointment of Gary Weddle by the town's Conservation Commission was illegal. The judge ruled on a lawsuit filed by a local citizens' group challenging the decision.

Flatto also said Thursday he has no problem letting the town conservation staff resume monitoring compliance with wetlands regulations as the project, which includes the town's third railroad station, is built. Flatto had ordered the town staff removed from the job in late 2007.

See Flatto on A7



Tim Loh / Staff reporter

**Annabelle Wanner and Marina Pipher pausing for a smile, mid-sail, off Jennings Beach.**

## Sailing school catches wind

By Tim Loh  
tloh@bcnnew.com

On the hottest morning of the year, Marina Pipher learned a new way to stay cool.

Climbing to her feet, she grabbed the mast of her Laser sailboat and yanked. The boat toppled into Long Island Sound.

Pipher toppled with it. "How's the water feel?" asked her instructor, Jay Lipp, cruising by in a motorboat.

"Good!" she said.

Pipher, 13, had just "capsized" for the first time in her life. And coming at 10:30 on Tuesday morning, it was scarcely an hour after she'd climbed aboard a sailboat for the first time in her life, too. Along with two other youngsters, she was taking part in one of this summer's first "Learn to Sail" courses offered by the Parks and

Recreation Department through the Fairfield Sailing School. The courses are run out of Jennings Beach.

For the past six years, the sailing school has been managed by Lipp, 52, a former U.S. Navy man who's been plying Long Island Sound since fourth grade.

With summer in high gear, Lipp hopes the recent heat wave will convince more teenagers and adults to plunge into his program.

There are several levels of study. For youngsters, there's "learn to sail," "skills building" and "introduction to racing." Each costs \$300 per session and uses Laser sailboats. But there's also a "U.S. Sailing" course, which adds in motorboat skills, uses a 16-foot Daysailer and costs

See Sailing on A4

**Fred's Car Wash**  
The Ultimate in Professional Car Care  
www.fredscarwash.com

Norwalk 498 Westport Ave 203-847-5402  
Norwalk Full Service 64 Connecticut Ave 203-854-5752  
Southport 3400 Post Rd 203-255-8182

**\$2 OFF ANY CAR WASH**  
Starting at \$6.99 Exterior  
\$12.99 Full Service With Coupon  
Good at all Fred's Car Wash locations  
Not valid with other offers. Expires 7/31/10

**\$20 OFF**  
Fred's Bumper To Bumper Complete Detail  
Only \$139<sup>99</sup> (Reg. \$159<sup>99</sup>)  
Good at all Fred's Car Wash locations  
Not valid with other offers. Expires 7/31/10

VOL. 46 NO. 54 40 PAGES ©2010 FAIRFIELD CITIZEN 55 cents

**Inside**

Police Reports ..... **A8**  
Obituaries ..... **A8**  
Editorial ..... **A10**  
Business ..... **A14**  
Legal Notices ..... **B3**  
Lifestyle ..... **B4**  
Classifieds ..... **B11**

**Weather**

**PARTLY CLOUDY**  
70 / 85  
Winds: SE at 11 mph  
Humidity: 65%  
Sunset: 8:28 p.m.

