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The Sun Tavern—Restored To Its Former Glory

FAIRFIELD (July 20) The Fairfield Museum and History Center is working hand in hand with the Town of Fairfield to restore one of Fairfield’s treasures: The Sun Tavern.

Located on the historic town green, behind the old town hall, Sun Tavern is a tangible part of Fairfield’s past. After being burned to the ground during the American Revolution, the Sun Tavern was rebuilt in the early 1780s, and founding father George Washington slept there on October 16, 1789 on his tour of the region.

Today, the Town of Fairfield is managing the final phase of the Sun Tavern’s multi-year restoration. Extensive repairs to the building were needed, including replacing doors, shingles, and window sills. In addition, original paint colors were restored to the interior.

First Selectman Ken Flatto said, “I am thrilled with the essential restoration work that the Town and Fairfield Museum and History Center are performing on this historic and unique structure. It is important to keep our history alive for current and future generations.”

Fairfield Museum and History Center, also located on the town green, plans to offer tours of the Sun Tavern as part of its inspiring new community programming. “Sun Tavern has a long and fascinating history and is one of the more prominent features of the town green. We look forward to opening to the public in 2008,” said Michael Jehle, executive director of the museum.

Other structures around the town green relate to this historic landmark. Across the green one finds the Victorian Cottage and Barn, painted in traditional green and red colors of the time. These structures were built in the early 1890s as outbuildings for the Sun Tavern when it was a private residence, the cottage housing a caretaker, and the barn holding carriages and horses. Today, the cottage has plans for an interior restoration, and the barn is a display center for the museum’s growing collection of farming equipment, a nod to the town’s historical connection with its onion-farming past.

The completion of the Sun Tavern will add to Fairfield’s wealth of cultural opportunities for residents and visitors alike, and the Fairfield Museum and History Center will make the Sun Tavern, and an array of other historic landmarks, accessible for all who come.

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Accompanying Photos	Captions
IMGP0545.jpg	Restoration efforts underway on the Sun Tavern
IMGP0658.jpg	Workers replace shingles on the façade of the Sun Tavern

Pictures taken by: Mary Mayer

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