

Despite high oil prices, most companies are surviving **MONEY**

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FRIDAY September 5, 2008

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Giants kick off Super Bowl defense with win **SPORTS**

2 U.S. SOLDIERS KILLED IN BAGHDAD **A4**



VINE TUNING
A GUIDE TO TRAINING THESE PLANTS
Home/Garden

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION

MCCAIN PROMISES 'CHANGE IS COMING'



Charlie Neibergall/Associated Press



CONVENTION COVERAGE

- **Fair Game** Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin is well-trained for the role of presidential candidate Sen. John McCain's attack dog. **A2.**
- **McCain the vanquisher.** John McCain, a POW turned political rebel, vowed Thursday night to vanquish the "constant partisan rancor" plaguing the nation. **A8**
- **High hopes.** The Republicans emerge from their national convention with a new star — and it isn't their presidential nominee. **A8.**
- **The view from St. Paul.** Connecticut delegate blogs at forum.connpost.com/rnc

Republican presidential nominee John McCain waves to the crowd as he is joined by his running mate, Sarah Palin, at the end of his acceptance speech at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul, Minn., Thursday. McCain vowed that "change is coming" to Washington. He also invoked the five years he spent in a North Vietnamese prison, saying that was when he fell in love with his country. **Page A8**

Economy OK, but not jobs

Expert warns CBIA 20,000 positions may be in danger

By **ROB VARNON**
Staff writer

ROCKY HILL — "It could be worse." That's what economist after economist said from podiums and tables Thursday at the Rocky Hill Marriott, during the Connecticut Business & Industry Association's annual forum on the state's economy. But that doesn't mean times won't be tough, especially for working families.

One economist predicts the state will lose 20,000 more jobs in the next 12 months; another expert says those who want to keep their jobs may bid adieu to the 40-hour workweek.

Andres Carbacho-Burgos, an economist with Pennsylvania-based Moody's Economy.com, told the more than 100 people at the event that Connecticut

■ **Energy, health care** top concerns for business owners. **D1**

► Please see **ECONOMIST** on **A6**

Westport bags ban on plastic for purchases

RTM gives retailers 6 months to phase out disposable sacks

By **AMANDA CUDA**
Staff writer

WESTPORT — Pat Meisner has no emotional attachment to plastic shopping bags. Sure, as she exited the CVS on the Post Road in Westport Thursday afternoon, Meisner clutched a plastic bag carrying her purchases. But outside of transporting her loot from store to home, Meisner said the bags serve little purpose.

"A lot of the time, I just end up throwing them out," she said.

Meisner said she knows there are more environmentally sound bagging options, like the cloth bags she sees sold at a number of local stores. She doesn't own such a bag — but she will soon, mainly because she won't have a choice.

Earlier this week, Westport's Representative Town Meeting passed a resolution banning the use of plastic bags at retail checkout counters. Under the new legislation, town businesses have six months to give up the bags, and encourage shoppers to switch to

► Please see **WESTPORT** on **A7**

Hanna expected to reach state Saturday

By **MICHAEL P. MAYKO**
Staff writer

Saturday is supposed to be a day of feasting on borscht and dipping potato-filled pirozhki into melted butter at St. Nicholas Church's Russian Festival on Honeyspot Road in Stratford.

Or attending the 37th annual Antique Apparatus and Fireman's Muster in Milford's Eisenhower Park.

Or tapping your toes to the music of the Oak Ridge Boys at the Norwalk Oyster Festival in that city's Veteran's Park.

But those attending any of these events

could face a very stormy day, thanks to Hurricane Hanna, which, as a tropical storm, is expected to dump up to five inches of rain and pummel trees with gusts of up to 60 mph on Connecticut's coastline Saturday afternoon.

► Please see **STATE** on **A6**

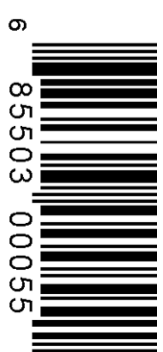
More Inside

Passing muster

Milford Engine 260's 37th annual Antique Fire Apparatus Show and Muster on Saturday will be an emotional and yet proud event for an 11-year veteran of the New Haven Fire Department. **A5**

Charter change?

Half of the proposed revisions to the Derby City Charter have been accepted by the Board of Aldermen, but it's still too soon to say if any of the changes will make it on the Nov. 4 ballot. **A5**



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TODAY'S FORECAST

82 | 68

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Full forecast, A12. Updates at www.connpost.com

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