

# the Stamford DOWNTOWNER



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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN, RICHARD TABER

### STAMFORD AMBASSADORS



Recently, there has been a lot of discussion about the Stamford Downtown Ambassador Program.

This program was implemented eight years ago by the DSSD and has

made a profound difference in creating a people-friendly Downtown environment. This program provides an invaluable service to the Downtown.

The Ambassadors are not police. They serve as neighborhood representatives of good will. They ride their bikes and walk the streets of downtown dressed in yellow uniforms so they are recognizable beacons of assistance to the people who live, work and visit the downtown. Ambassadors have been credited with saving people's lives, as they are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, defibrillator use and first aid. They also give directions, fix flat tires, help people carry packages and cross the streets. They serve as the downtown neighborhood's eyes and ears. Because they are present in the downtown up to 15 hours a day, they know the people, the streetscape and the

day-to-day rhythm of the environment. They therefore notice and report many significant activities to authorities. For that reason, two police chiefs, Dean Esserman and Louis DeCarlo, and innumerable police officers have given our Ambassadors accolades for their meritorious services. Here are some examples:

- In a September 27 letter to Sandy Goldstein, president of the DSSD, Assistant Chief Frank E. Lagan complimented the Ambassadors for their exemplary work around the Landmark Square area and said, "This is not the first time DSSD Ambassadors have come to the assistance of persons in peril or have assisted law enforcement in making the downtown area a safer place."
- In a March 9 Advocate news story, Lt. John Forlivio, head of the department's crimes against person unit, praised the Downtown Special Services District Ambassadors for watching the garage so closely.
- In a Sept 19 letter, Sgt. J. Van Allen of the Stamford Police Department wrote to his lieutenants, saying that "once again the DSSD Ambassadors went above and beyond in assisting the police." He cited his opinion that the Ambassador's actions "most likely

prevented major injury to the victims and also aided greatly in apprehending those arrested in the incident." He further recommended two Ambassadors for civilian commendations, which the chief of police conferred.

Downtown Ambassadors are not unique to Stamford. The program was initiated after research showed that innumerable business improvement districts around the country had such programs and were greatly satisfied with them. In Connecticut, the Bridgeport and New Haven business improvement districts have modeled their Ambassador programs after Stamford's successful one.

The DSSD has scores of letters and voice mails from satisfied downtown patrons, property owners and merchants commending the Ambassadors on their conduct and helpfulness. The Ambassadors take all of these compliments in stride. To them, it's all part of a job they enjoy and perform with distinction.

We are proud of what the Ambassadors do for Stamford Downtown and consider it an important part of the DSSD's programs.

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Special Services District  
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# Art in Public Places, Color/Forms



There will be dramatic splashes of color in Stamford Downtown this summer as sixty sculptures are placed on the streets of the District. Color/Forms, presented by Heyman Properties in partnership with Stamford Town Center and The Advocate/Greenwich Time, features sculptures by fifteen renowned artists from around the country. The works of art will be on display throughout Downtown streets and in the Stamford Town Center, June through August, 2005.

In conjunction with this exhibit, the DSSD will again feature a juried photography

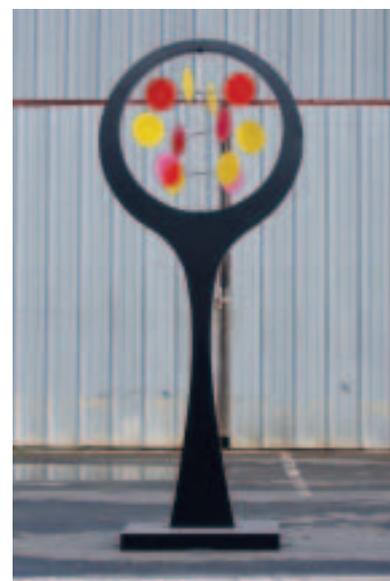
exhibit showcased in downtown retail store windows. At the conclusion of the exhibit, the photographs will be sold at Stamford's craft fair with the proceeds benefiting children's charities.



Wendy Leberman - Fan Dance



Brad Howe - El Mariachi



Troy Pillow - POP



Judith Steinberg - Sunshine Slowdown

For more information or a map of exhibit locations, please call the DSSD at 203-348-5285 or check our website at [www.stamford-downtown.com](http://www.stamford-downtown.com) in mid May.

# The Passing of a Torch

After 27 years, the founder of MarLo Associates, Mario Lodato, is stepping down as President of his impressive real estate firm.



Mario Lodato

He is turning the reins of Presidency over to his son, Greg. Mario, a visionary in Downtown development will still be involved with the company, but he will spend more time doing leisure activities and less time at the office and at meetings.

Mario was instrumental in the establishment of the DSSD. He saw a lively, vibrant Stamford Downtown years before the Stamford Downtown that now exists emerged. His vision was that Downtown would become a regional destination and he acquired property in order to bring in more retail shops and restaurants.

His son, Greg, will assume the Presidency of his father's business.

Greg has been with the company since 1994. Starting as a summer employee

overseeing bookkeeping and budgeting, Greg slowly assumed other positions, the most challenging of which was stepping into Jack Condlin's job of leasing and development when Jack (now President of the Stamford Chamber of Commerce) left the company. Although it took time, and some trial and error, Greg was able to negotiate contracts, find and purchase key real estate as well as fill thousands of square footage of real estate.



Greg Lodato

This is truly a bittersweet time for the father and son team who have worked together closely over the last 11 years, both at MarLo Associates and most recently, on the Board of Commissioners of the DSSD. The senior Lodato will still stay involved. He is very comfortable having Greg carry on his vision of a vital Downtown. He said, "I am very pleased to see my son impressively and ably run a company that I built from the ground floor."

## STAMFORD BUSINESS TO HOST FILM PRODUCTION COMPANY



On Saturday, March 19, a local filmmaker teamed up with a respected Stamford business to produce a short dramatic film entitled *Temporary Help*. The film is about the placement of disabled persons in the workforce.

The film depicts kindness, compassion, and helping people find their way to independence and was shot in the offices of Judlind Employment Services, 1 Bank Street in Stamford. Writer/director Jack Rushen employed local and New York City artists, from professional actors and crew to area volunteers. *Temporary Help* was shot under a special contract from the Screen Actors Guild which permits cast and crew to work for a reduced fee, thus lessening the cost of production.

Supporting the production is Linda Scharf, CPC, owner of Judlind. When she became aware of the subject of the film, she had immediate interest because her personal mission is to "help others to help themselves."

For many years Ms. Scharf, a Stamford native, has been active as a leader in Stamford business and volunteer services. She is a 2005 BRAVA honoree, an award presented by the Greenwich YWCA in recognition of business and volunteer achievements.

The film will be completed by the summer '05, at what time there will be a special screening for area artists and business people.

For more information contact: Jack Rushen, 203-820-5664

## Stamford Downtown Summer Events 2005 Calendar of Events

### Color/Forms, Art in Public Places

June-August, 2005

Each year Stamford Downtown hosts a distinguished outdoor sculpture exhibit designed to attract both local and regional audiences. The exhibit features vibrant colorful sculptures gracing the sidewalks and parks of the Downtown and the Stamford Town Center.

Color Forms, Art in Public Places Reception, Wednesday Evening June 1

### French Market

Tuesdays and Saturdays, 8 am - 2 pm\*  
June 7 through November, 2005

\*note new days & time  
COLUMBUS PARK

Come celebrate our NEW FRENCH MARKET with exciting numerous vendors offering the freshest fruits, vegetables, flowers, baked goods and more! Straight from the farm and right to your home!

### Alive @ 5 Outdoor Summer Concert Series

Thursday Evenings, 5:00 to 8:00 pm  
June 23 through July 28, 2005

COLUMBUS PARK

Live music from national and regional headliners. Acts include national recording stars the Spin Doctors and oldies favorite Jay and the Americans. Great music, great dancing and great times!

### Chef's Festival

Tuesdays, 12 - 2 PM  
July 12, 19, 26 & August 2, 2005  
COLUMBUS PARK

This year the festival will be held on TUESDAYS. The most popular lunch hour in Stamford Downtown featuring terrific food from local downtown restaurants prepared and served by your favorite chefs.

### Pops in the Park (NEW!)

Wednesdays, July 13, 20, 27  
COLUMBUS PARK

Enjoy an evening with the Stamford Symphony Pops, A production of Shakespeare's "Much Ado About Nothing," and an evening of Broadway cabaret sure to delight all.

### A Grand Summer Night

Wednesday, August 10, 2005

Organized by the "Friends of Stamford Downtown," this annual fund-raiser salutes fine dining in Stamford Downtown and raises money for outdoor sculpture. Please call 203-348-5285 for an invitation.

### Stamford Tables Restaurant Weeks

August 15-28, 2005

Stamford Restaurant Weeks is a great way to experience Stamford Downtown restaurants with specially priced menus. Please visit [www.stamford-downtown.com](http://www.stamford-downtown.com) in July for participating restaurants.

### Arts, Crafts & Blues on Bedford (NEW!)

Saturday, September 24 & Sunday,  
September 25, 2005

New this year, great blues, and arts & crafts festival on Bedford Street. Bedford Street will be closed to car traffic for the weekend, so that you can shop and browse the many boutiques featuring jewelry, paintings, photography, clothing, accessories for the home and more! Then listen to blues and jazz while dining *alfresco* at many of our local restaurants on this charming street.

# Luxury New York City Style Living in our own Backyard

The much anticipated Highgrove Condominium Residences will break ground at 70 Forest Street in just three short months.

Highgrove represents a rare opportunity to live in a new residential landmark designed by American master architect Robert A.M. Stern. He is recognized by Architectural Digest magazine as one of America's greatest architects, and is currently Dean of Yale's School of Architecture. The neoclassical design of Highgrove evokes the feeling of an English manor home. Named after Prince Charles' centuries-old estate in England, Highgrove's architecture blends flawlessly with its surroundings, making it seem to have been there forever.



Units in the 17-story complex boast hand finished hard-wood flooring, terraces for outdoor enjoyment, fireplaces in many homes, 10 ft ceilings and state-of-the-art designer appliances.

With over 50% of the 83 units already sold, anticipated move-in for the residents is December of 2006. They will be able to enjoy many of the luxuries and amenities of a private country club. A typical day might include such pleasures as unwinding in the steam room or sauna, taking a refreshing swim in the indoor pool, toning up in the health club or relaxing in the library. Around-the-clock doormen are in constant attendance to screen visitors and provide assistance when needed. For proper keeping of resident's vintage Cabernets and Bordeaux, there's a private temperature-controlled wine cellar. For viewing pleasure, there's a private screening room. And when entertaining friends, either formally or casually, there's the elegant club room or the more intimate billiards room.

# French Market Style Shopping Comes to Stamford Downtown



*Spring is in the air, as is the new French Market, formerly the Stamford Downtown Farmers' Market. The French Market will be opening Tuesday, June 7 on West Park Place in Stamford Downtown and will have a brand new look and dozens of additional farmers. Colorful metal canopies, similar to those in European open air markets, will line the street and customers will be able to choose from a large regional selection of vegetables, fruits, flowers, cheeses and condiments.*



*Please note the new dates and times of the French Market: Tuesdays and Saturdays from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM.*

**Win!  
Two Tickets to  
Paris, France**

Log onto  
[www.stamford-downtown.com](http://www.stamford-downtown.com)  
to download your entry form.  
Return the form to the French  
Market before  
Tuesday, July 12 at 12 noon.  
The drawing will be held at our  
first Chef's Festival in Columbus  
Park on Tuesday, July 12. No  
purchase necessary, need not be  
present to win

## Chef's Corner



### Anchovy Aioli

- 4 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
- 2 Cloves Garlic, finely chopped
- 4 Anchovies, finely chopped
- 4 Oven Roasted Tomatoes (plum tomatoes, halved, baked in a 250° oven for about an hour)
- Cup White Wine
- lb. Cooked Fettuccini (al Dente)
- 10 Capers (non-peril)
- Pecorino and Romano Cheese
- Chopped Parsley for Garnish

*In a frying pan, sauté garlic and anchovies in extra virgin olive oil until the garlic is transparent. Add the tomatoes and white wine. Cook until tomatoes are heated through. Add the fettuccini, capers and cheeses. Toss together and serve in a pasta bowl topped with the parsley.*

Serves 1



Courtesy of  
122 Pizza Bistro  
Broad Street  
203-348-1232