

SPECIAL PHILANTHROPY ISSUE

WESTPORT

Fairfield • Westport

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Clea Newman
Soderlund
on inheriting
the legacy
of generosity



+ Expanded
Weddings
Section

HONORING
PEOPLE WHO
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

THE JOY OF GIVING



westportmag.com

agriculture, supporting Nell and Peter's formation of Newman's Own Organics as a division of Newman's Own. Says Nell, "As the first conventional company to come out with an organic product, Pop's support led the way. Organic products have averaged 18 percent growth yearly for two decades. I certainly never expected that this venture would lead to MacDonald's selling our organic coffee!" newmansownorganics.com

FARMERS' MARKETS & DRESSING ROOM RESTAURANT

Paul Newman and Chef Michel Nischan teamed up to start the Dressing Room Restaurant and the Westport Farmers' Market in 2007, with hopes of stoking an interest in the natural foods movement here in Fairfield County. Just two years later, Nischan is proud to report that things went so well that he has turned over the farmers' markets in both Westport and Fairfield to the farmers. With Paul Newman prodding him to think bigger than he imagined, Nischan's Wholesome Wave Foundation has launched its Nourishing Neighborhoods campaign, which consists of novel farm-to-community programs designed to make locally grown, healthy foods available to people who wouldn't otherwise have access. He says, "We are doubling the value of SNAP (food stamps), WIC, and senior food assistance benefits in forty-eight markets in nine states and D.C. This is a boon to the residents and also to the farmers who reap the rewards of increased local business."

Nischan credits Newman for "teaching us to reach beyond what we thought was possible." The fact that Wholesome Wave now reaches the underserved in forty-eight farmers' markets, he says, is a "great testament to the work of Paul, who inspired us to do more and reach higher." At the Dressing Room Restaurant, where Newman was a partner and frequent diner, the staff often offer a toast to Newman with a bottle of his favorite Samuel Smith's Nut Brown Ale and reminisce about the man who, Nischan says "would have been a great human being whether he was famous or not." dressingroomhomegrown.com and wholesomewave.org

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