



## ROTARY CLUB OF FAIRFIELD, CT

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*WEB: [www.fairfieldrotary.org](http://www.fairfieldrotary.org)*

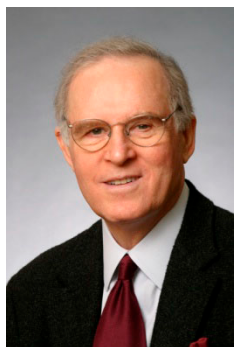
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**DATE: February 3, 2010**

### **Actor Charles Grodin to Speak at Fairfield Rotary's Celebrity Luncheon**



(Fairfield, CT) — The Fairfield Rotary Club will hold its seventh annual Celebrity Luncheon on Monday, March 8th at noon at Fairfield University. The luncheon is the largest fundraising event for Fairfield Rotary and enables over \$20,000 of grants to local charitable efforts as well as an additional \$21,000 in awards to graduating high school seniors who demonstrate a commitment to Rotary's motto of "Service Above Self".

Past celebrity speakers have included former Major League baseball pitcher Tommy John, U.S. Congressman Chris Shays and journalist Frank Deford.

Highlighting this year's event will be actor Charles Grodin.

Charles Grodin is best known for his work in the movies. Among his films are *The Heartbreak Kid*, *Midnight Run* and the children's classic *Beethoven* movies, but for the last fifteen years he's been a commentator on CNBC, MSNBC, 60 Minutes and CBS News, where he is currently a commentator heard daily across the country. He also writes a weekly op-ed piece for the New York Daily News website. He is an activist on behalf of people unjustly in prison and the recipient of the William Kunstler Award for Racial Justice. He was cited by Governor Pataki of New York for being responsible in helping reform the Rockefeller Drug Laws. He has been honored by Help U.S.A., Habitat for Humanity and Mentoring U.S.A. for his efforts in helping the homeless and those in need of mentoring. He is a mentor to a teenager with a form of autism. This fall he was honored for his efforts on behalf of The Children's Cancer and Blood Foundation.

He has written six books and contributed op-ed pieces to the New York Times, Newsweek and Esquire magazine among many other publications.

His proceeds from his last book went to Help U.S.A. His proceeds from his current book go to Mentoring U.S.A. He has been a long time board member with both organizations.

Reservations are required. Anyone interested in attending this fundraiser should contact a member of the Fairfield Rotary Club or George Markley via e-mail at [gcmarkley@aol.com](mailto:gcmarkley@aol.com) or phone at 203.259-1177. For more information go to <http://www.fairfieldrotary.org/>