Getting in Step with the Hooker Day Parade
Two Events Kick-off Special Edition of Unique Parade

---NEWS RELEASE---

(October 22, 2010)--- The City of Hartford loves a parade, especially when it's a birthday party to boot! Mayor Pedro E. Segarra invites people to Saturday's "Hooker Day Parade"--- a quirky, little Downtown event in honor of Hartford's founder, the Reverend Thomas Hooker.

The fun kicked-off on Friday with two recognition ceremonies. The first, thanked Downtown restaurants for getting into the spirit of Hartford's 375th Anniversary celebration by sponsoring specialty drinks. Trumbull Kitchen (which hosted the news conference), City Steam and Salute all will provide a special menu item and give out a Hartford 375 lapel pin to all patrons who make the special order.

Mayor Segarra says, "It's fun but it's also important to engage our business community in this once in a lifetime celebration. This promotes the celebration, stirs up some extra business, and creates a vibrant atmosphere for our residents and visitors alike."

The Mayor later made a presentation to Patti Christians who, through her ancestry research, discovered that she is a 13th generation descendant of the Rev. Thomas Hooker. She has made a pilgrimage from Alabama to Hartford and will be the Hartford 375 Celebration Committee's guest at the parade on Saturday.

"There's so much interest today in discovering our family roots. We are honored to meet Ms. Christians and help her learn more about Hartford. It is a great pleasure to roll out the welcome mat, especially as the City celebrates this milestone. Her participation in the 'Hooker Day Parade' helps make this year's event even more memorable," said Mayor Segarra.

Ms. Christians was presented an autographed copy of a book about Hartford and a Hartford plaque during a ceremony in the Function Room at City Hall.

For information on the parade, please go to the Hartford Business Improvement District's website: www.hartford.com.