

- SPRING 2018
- NUMBER 56

# STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

#### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, SANDY GOLDSTEIN



Sandy Goldstein, President

### **Outdoor Sculpture in Stamford Downtown**

Here's a riddle for my readers:

What is 26' tall, weighs 30,000 pounds and is a compelling work of contemporary art?

If you guessed Seward Johnson's monumental sculpture of Marilyn Monroe in her iconic

pose from the movie, The Seven Year Itch—then you are correct!!!!!

Stamford Downtown is thrilled to have her and 35 other sculptures from the renowned artist Seward Johnson on display in the Downtown through the summer of 2018. Johnson's works are extremely famous and have been shown throughout the USA and worldwide. We are honored to have his art grace our Downtown, once again.

The Stamford Downtown has showcased sculpture in the public spaces of Downtown for the last 22 years. This will be our fourth solo show featuring Johnson's art. Ten years ago, Stamford Downtown curated a one man show of his sculptures and the response from our patrons was overwhelmingly positive. His life-like figures capture everyone's imagination. One finds it hard to differentiate between the man hailing a cab or standing on the corner reading the paper from the "real deal".

However, Marilyn is sure to be the star of this summer's show. Through the generosity of the Royce Foundation and The Avon Theatre as well as UC Funds, Marilyn will grace our Downtown and be on display at Latham Park adjacent to The Avon. On June 6<sup>th</sup>, the opening celebration of the summer sculpture event will take place at The Palace Theatre starting at

5:30pm. The following evening, June 7<sup>th</sup>, The Avon will show *The Seven Year Itch* at 7pm. Please go to stamford-downtown.com for further details.

Following are some of the Johnson sculptures coming to the Downtown:







Attic Trophy



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### **Stamford Downtown Joins World's Largest Annual Music Event**

Stamford Downtown is proud to participate in the first annual Make Music **Connecticut**, a wild and wonderful mix of over 250 free outdoor musical events on Thursday, June 21st. Make Music Connecticut is part of Make Music Day, a global music celebration that originated in France and takes place on the summer solstice each year. The event brings people of all ages and skill levels together to make live music. Since its 1982 inception, the event has spread to over 800 cities across 120 countries. This year, more than 70 U.S. cities and the entire state of Connecticut will host thousands of Make Music performances across the country. Completely different from a typical musical festival, Make Music concerts are performed by anyone who wants to take part and enjoyed by everyone who wants to listen. Throughout Stamford Downtown, musicians will fill the parks and sidewalk cafés for a day of music celebration.

Any musician, amateur or professional, young or old, is invited to take part by signing up at MakeMusicDay.org/Stamford. Registration closes on May 21, 2018. Likewise, businesses, buildings, schools, churches, and other institutions can visit the website to offer their outdoor spaces as concert locations.



## **Block-By-Block Brings Upgrades**

With the arrival of spring, Stamford Downtown welcomes changes to its Ambassador and Clean Team Programs. Stamford Downtown has entered into a partnership with Block-By-Block, a Louisville, KY-based firm, to manage both programs. While Stamford Downtown will continue its Ambassador outreach patrols and daily curbside cleaning, the programs will experience several upgrades. To increase their visibility to the public, Stamford Downtown's Ambassadors will have new neon orange uniforms and state-of-the-art Fugi bikes. Stamford Downtown's Clean Team will utilize a new Ford-150 pickup truck to increase the frequency of its power-washing schedule.

The Ambassadors will utilize Block-By-Block's proprietary SMART System software to track physical conditions in Downtown and facilitate needed repairs as well as to document items such as damaged lighting infrastructure, graffiti tags or damaged facades. Hence, physical condition needs will be tracked, quantified and promptly addressed. Stamford Downtown looks forward to its partnership with Block-By-Block to ensure that the Downtown is a welcome, safe and hospitable setting.



### Wayfinding in Stamford

The City of Stamford has designated Stamford Downtown to oversee the Wayfinding Initiative for Stamford's Innovation District. The wayfinding guidelines established will result in a signage system that will improve pedestrian, vehicular and bike connections throughout the Innovation District. The project is funded through CTNext's Innovation Places Grant award to the City. Stamford Downtown has retained Cleveland-based Guide Studio, and its local partner Milone & MacBroom, to facilitate the planning and design of the wayfinding

system. The planning process will commence in early April with Discovery Sessions intended to engage stakeholder input and review the physical setting of the Innovation District, which extends from the Downtown to the South End. Guide Studio, Stamford Downtown and the Steering Committee will work to complete the guidelines by the end of June 2018. Improved wayfinding will foster a walkable, well-connected and safe environment for the enjoyment of visitors, residents and workers.

### **Spotlight on New Luxury Apartments**

This spring, our Downtown residential inventory will increase by 534 apartments with the completion of two residential high rises: the 25-story *Atlantic Station* at **355 Atlantic Street**, next door to the historic post office and the 17-story *Vela on the Park*, located at **1011 Washington Boulevard**, next to **Curley's Diner**. Combined, these two towers will add over 20,000 square feet of street-level retail space to Stamford Downtown.

This past January, *Atlantic Station* opened its doors offering upscale amenities such as 24/7 concierge service and Hello Alfred, the in-home hospitality platform. The building offers 325 luxury studios and one and two bedroom apartments: all featuring dramatic floor to ceiling windows and hardwood floors. The amenities level on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor hosts a large resident lounge equipped with a game and billiards room, which steps out onto an abundantly landscaped Sky Terrace with indoor/outdoor pool and outdoor fire pits.



Vela on the Park

Opening this April, Vela on the *Park* stands at the center of one of Downtown's most desirable destinations, with picturesque views of Mill River Park, Stamford Downtown and the Long Island Sound. Named for a brilliant star in the southern night sky, the luxury building will have stunning studio, one, and two bedroom apartments, as well as penthouse apartments. Residents will enjoy smart and artistic social spaces, such as the fresh air oasis Skydeck and penthouse-level private dining and unique entertainment areas including an old school arcade and a cutting-edge fitness center,



plus a yoga and wellness room.

For more information:

atlanticstationstamford.com and velaonthepark.com.

**Atlantic Station** 

### In Memoriam of Andrew Munce

"Creative isn't the way I think, it's the way I like to live"
Paul Sandip

Andrew Munce was an artist, our dear colleague and the technical genius behind all of our sculpture exhibits and many events since 2000. He passed away in February 2018. We remember Andrew's great creative mind and passion for this organization with great fondness in our hearts.

He will truly be missed in Stamford Downtown.



### **New Merchants Open on Bedford**

Foodies, chefs and curious passersby are marveling at the new gourmet shop located at **180 Bedford Street**, which opened this past winter. *Stagecoach Olive Oil & Vinegar Co.* is a specialty boutique, selling over 60 varieties of the freshest olive oils and vinegars, from around



Stagecoach Olive Oil & Vinegar Co.

the world. Owner Rick Doyle, promises to make your taste buds dance with his 18 year old balsamic, which is equivalent to a fine wine. A former restaurateur in New York and Las Vegas, Rick fell in love with the small village feel of Bedford Street, combined with the friendliness of the people. He welcomes you to sample salts from France, Italy and Hawaii

or his locally sourced organic jellies, jams and honey. Just two doors down from *Stagecoach*, is the newly opened *Roasted Sandwich Company* located at 148 **Bedford Street**. Bill and Kristin Hall of Easton, are bringing the successful formula used at their White Plains shop *Melt*, to their new sister location in Stamford Downtown. Stamford's location is larger with an



**Roasted Sandwich Company** 

expanded menu and a bar featuring wines, cocktails and beers on tap, including Stamford-based *Half Full Brewery* and Stratford-based *Two Roads*. The Halls are pleased to establish a new location here among the many popular Bedford Street restaurants. They feel right at home!

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#### STAMFORD DOWNTOWN EVENTS SUMMER 2018

Please visit stamford-downtown.com for more information on events

Timeless – The Works of Seward Johnson June-August

June-August
A distinguished outdoor sculpture exhibit that attracts both local and regional audiences. Art in Public Places features sculptures lining sidewalks and parks.
Opening Party: June 6

Fashion Night Out Wednesday, 5/2 An annual Spring Fashion Show showcasing Downtown stores and

ion Show showcasing Downtown stores and their latest spring offerings. Local restaurants host a bountiful preshow cocktail party at this popular event.

Chess Day in Latham Park Saturdays, 5/26, 6/23, 7/7 & 7/21, 8/4 & 8/18, 9/1, 1pm-3pm *Latham Park* Join the National Educational Chess Association – Open Play. Learn and meet new players. A full outdoor season of chess. Free. Brews on Bedford Saturday, 6/9 Latham Park Join us for Brews on Bedford. Fill your sampling glass with beers from a variety of different breweries from

across the region.

Make Music Day Thursday, 6/21 Part of an international event, "Make Music Day" will take place in public spaces throughout Stamford Downtown. Open to any musicians at any level, all ages and genres.

ARTWALK Friday, 6/22 Artwork from professional artists will be displayed in galleries on a walking route of Stamford Downtown.

Stamford Downtown Farmers Market Saturdays, 6/23 – 10/27 Prospect St. at Latham Park Visit our farmers market with vendors offering the freshest fruits, vegetables, flowers, baked goods and more!

Alive@Five in partnership with Reckson and BevMax Outdoor Summer Concert Series Thursdays, 6/28, 7/12, 7/19, 7/26, 8/2, 5pm, Columbus Park Live music from national and regional headliners. Over 21 only.

Morgan Stanley presents Wednesday Nite Live in partnership with Purdue Pharma Wednesdays, 6/27, 7/11, 7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 6:30pm, Columbus Park
Summer sizzles in Stamford Downtown with a hot music series.

A Grand Summer Night Thursday, 8/9 *UConn Stamford* Organized by the "Friends of Stamford Downtown", this annual fundraiser salutes fine dining in the Downtown and raises money for outdoor sculpture.

Stamford Tables Summer Restaurant Weeks

Weeks 8/20 – 9/2 Stamford Restaurant Weeks is a great way to celebrate the summer with specially priced menus.

Arts & Crafts on Bedford Saturday & Sunday, 9/15 & 9/16, Bedford St.

Shop at over 100 craft and artisan boutiques on Bedford St., which will be closed to traffic for the weekend. Dine at our extended sidewalk cafés.

Bark in the Park Sunday, 9/23, Latham Park Join us for a fun-filled day for dog owners ar

Join us for a fun-filled day for dog owners and dog lovers alike. The day will feature an agility course, demos, pet vendors and more!