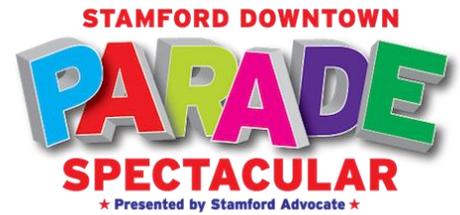


## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Save the Date: Join the Fun at the Stamford Downtown Parade Spectacular Annual Holiday Balloon Parade Set for Sunday, November 18, 2018**

STAMFORD CT, September 26, 2018 – The holiday season will officially kick off in Stamford Downtown on November 18 with the 25th annual Stamford Downtown Parade Spectacular. The parade is one of the largest of its kind in the country, with-giant helium balloons and more than 200,000 spectators annually. This parade is presented by Stamford Advocate/Hearst Media and is hosted by Stamford Downtown Special Services District.

**A press conference with a special photo opportunity and balloon training will be held on Thursday, November 8, 12:00 P.M. at Latham Park on Bedford Street in Stamford. Volunteer balloon handlers and representatives from Stamford Downtown Special Service will gather to announce details of the parade. Full media kits will be provided. Please save the date.**

Planned highlights of the parade include balloons such as returning favorites Shrek, Mr. Potato Head, Paddington Bear, Oscar the Grouch, Bob the Builder and more. In addition to the procession's signature balloons, the streets will also be filled with fabulous floats, dance groups and 10 marching bands, including the NYPD Emerald Society Pipe & Drum Band, the Fairfield County Police Pipes and Drums and high school groups from Stamford, Westhill, Roosevelt, Uniondale, Brentwood and Harrison. Television personality Alan Kalter will return as the parade's Master of Ceremonies at the grand stand for his 15th year.

The parade is scheduled to begin at noon on Sunday, November 18 at the intersection of Summer Street at Hoyt Street and conclude on Atlantic Street, just a few short blocks from the Stamford Metro-North Railroad Station. On the eve of the parade, a Balloon Inflation Party will be held on Saturday, November 17 from 3-6 p.m. at the intersection of Hoyt Street and Summer Street in Stamford Downtown. This pre-parade event will allow spectators a behind-the-scenes look at the balloons as they come to life. Music, parade talent and cartoon characters will greet and delight spectators.

For photographs and more information call 203-348-5285 or to see what's happening in Stamford Downtown, please visit [www.stamford-downtown.com](http://www.stamford-downtown.com) or follow us [@BalloonParadeCT](https://twitter.com/BalloonParadeCT).

**About Stamford Downtown Special Services District:**

Stamford Downtown Special Services District is responsible for creating, managing and promoting a quality environment for people, which enhances the economic vitality of Stamford Downtown.

[www.stamford-downtown.com](http://www.stamford-downtown.com)

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