

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

A MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

UCONN STAMFORD EMERGES AS LEADER IN DATA SCIENCE AND FINTECH



UConn Stamford's Incubator and Foot Traffic Stats' Logo. Credit: Stamford Advocate

UConn's Stamford Downtown-based campus is quickly becoming a key element in the growth of emerging industries – such as data science and fintech – in lower Fairfield County and the region.

In February 2021, UConn Stamford announced the opening of a data science technology incubator at 9 West Broad Street. As stated in the Stamford Advocate, five Stamford-based, data science startups will utilize the incubator and thus have access to offices and shared work areas, UConn's research infrastructure, faculty experts, student talent, business mentoring, networking, and other benefits that help high potential companies grow. The start-ups include ACW Analytics, Foot Traffic Stats, Illumu, Populi, and Sky Squeegee.

As further described in the Stamford Advocate, the new data science incubator is the first phase of a three-part initiative to expand UConn's existing Stamford-based activities. The next phases will include a cluster hire of five junior faculty with expertise in data science to fuel innovation and an experiential learning co-op led by the Peter J. Werth Institute for Entrepreneurship & Innovation. Stamford Downtown welcomes UConn's data science incubator.

STEP INTO ITALY'S SOUTHERN COAST BY VISITING BARI 167

On October 14th, Bedford Street welcomed the new arrival of **Bari 167**, owned by Dino Sforza, his nephew Gianni Rizzi, and Michele Picciallo. The three owners strived to create a space that encompassed the look, feel, and flavors of Bari, Italy where they each were born and raised.

Bari 167 (167 Bedford Street) brings the old-world charm of Bari to Stamford Downtown. Bari is a large southern coastal city in Puglia (also where the recent Bond 007 movie was filmed). Regional specialties such as orecchiette baresi (pasta with sausage, broccoli rabe, garlic and oil) and panzerotti (Italian street food) are not to be missed. Other favorites include deep-dish pan pizza by the slice and traditional dishes such as veal chop 167 or chicken al carciofi.



Dino Sforza and Gianni Rizzi

The atmosphere is cozy and intimate with both sidewalk and indoor seating. Its long marble counter along the right sidewall is perfect for daily baked Italian pastries with a cup of espresso, or stop by for a glass of wine in the evening with a panini.

"Stamford is a vibrant and lively city and we wanted to be part of it," said Gianni. Bari's owners are no strangers to Fairfield County's restaurant scene - they also own and run Via Sforza at 243 Post Road West in Westport and Mario the Baker at 864 High Ridge Road in Stamford. Bari 167 is open Tuesday-Sunday for lunch and dinner.

SOMETHING NEW AND DIFFERENT IS BREWING IN STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

You are welcome to step inside **Ninja Bubble Tea**, newly opened at 225 Summer Street (adjacent to the Courtyard by Marriott), and taste Bubble Tea and Banh Mi sandwiches at its finest. Come enjoy the unique ambience in this attractive space dedicated to Korean and Vietnamese-inspired cuisine. This Summer Street location is hosted by friendly bubble tea-making Ninja's, with 32 seats along with a comfortable marble top bar. Stamford is Ninja Bubble Tea's third location after being established in 2012 in Brooklyn, New York.

Wow! They have over 30 delicious bubble tea flavors to choose from. The name behind "Ninja" evokes the concept that you do not know when the Boba (black chewy tapioca pearls) arrives in your mouth, it arrives silently like a Ninja.

Have you had Bubble Tea before? "You have not had a Bubble Tea until you've had a "Ninja Bubble Tea," the famous quote by Master Ninja Chef J.

Bubble Tea is not the only thing on the menu at Ninja. Pursue the extensive selection of Banh Mi Sandwiches, including the most popular Bulgogi Banh Mi Sandwich known in Korean as "BBQ Beef". Another popular item on the menu is the Vietnamese/Japanese-inspired Phó Ramen (soup). Newly added to the menu are Ninja pizzas and their summer rolls are frequently in demand. All are invited to experience this eclectic spot with student reward cards available (just show your student ID). To learn more about the menu, check out [here](#).



Ninja Bubble Tea

CHEF VIN FOOD COMPANY ENLIVENS COLUMBUS PARK

If you are looking for a healthy alternative to fast food this season, look no further than **Chef Vin Food Company**, which opened to great reviews this fall at 245 Main Street. Although his first restaurant venture, Chef Vincent Nargi, has spent the last 26 years as the Executive Chef at the famous Saturday Night Live hang out - The Odeon in Tribeca, as well as celebrity driven haunts including Café Cluny in the West Village and Café Luxembourg on the Upper West Side.



Chef Vincent Nargi and a sampling of Chef Vin's dishes

A graduate of the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, Chef Vincent's passion is in sourcing the highest quality food with the freshest ingredients. Nothing is processed and every dish is made to order on premise. "It's how you feel afterwards that makes all the difference," exclaims Chef Vincent.

Drawn to Stamford by his uncle, a partner at Remo's Brick Oven Pizza Company, Chef Vincent envisions eventually creating a market inside his restaurant, where healthy offerings will be available to package and go. But for now, he is just enjoying meeting new neighborhood customers and being part of Stamford Downtown's restaurant scene. Keep abreast of the daily offerings [here](#).



STAMFORD DESIGNATED A PURPLE HEART CITY

Veterans Day was particularly special this year as Stamford was designated as a "Purple Heart City" and placed on the Purple Heart Trail. A Purple Heart is awarded to those who have been wounded or killed while serving. The Purple Heart Trail is a symbolic and honorary system of highways, bridges, roads, and other monuments that give tribute to the men and women who have been given the award.

Stamford has a very long-standing history of citizens serving in the military. In fact, one of Stamford's own was the first to receive the Purple Heart Medal, formerly the Badge of Military Merit (established, August 7, 1782), from its founder, President George Washington. Washington personally awarded the Badge of Military Merit to only three Revolutionary War soldiers, one, a Stamford son, Sergeant William Brown on May 3, 1783. Sergeant Brown was born in Stamford, Connecticut in 1759, enlisted in the 5th Connecticut Regiment as a corporal on May 23, 1775, and re-enlisted as a private on April 9, 1777 for the duration of the war. Today, more than 1.8 million Purple Heart Medals (Badge of Military Merit) have been presented to service members since its creation in 1782.

To learn more about the Purple Heart Trail, click [here](#). To find information about Stamford's Veterans Memorial Park (130 Atlantic Street) Stamford, visit [Stamford Veterans Park Partnership](#).

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN
PARADE
SPECTACULAR



FREE!



PARK PARTY

MILL RIVER PARK

SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 21 - 12-3PM

**Giant Balloons!
Marching Bands!**

**Dance Performances!
Santa & Friends!**



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HEIGHTS & LIGHTS

Presented by **RECKSON**



**Sunday,
December 5 - 5pm**
at Landmark Square & Latham Park
in Stamford Downtown
Rappelling Santa
Fireworks & Tree Lighting
Starring: Brian Cashman
GM NY YANKEES

stamford-downtown.com