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STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN FARMERS MARKET IS BACK IN SEASON!



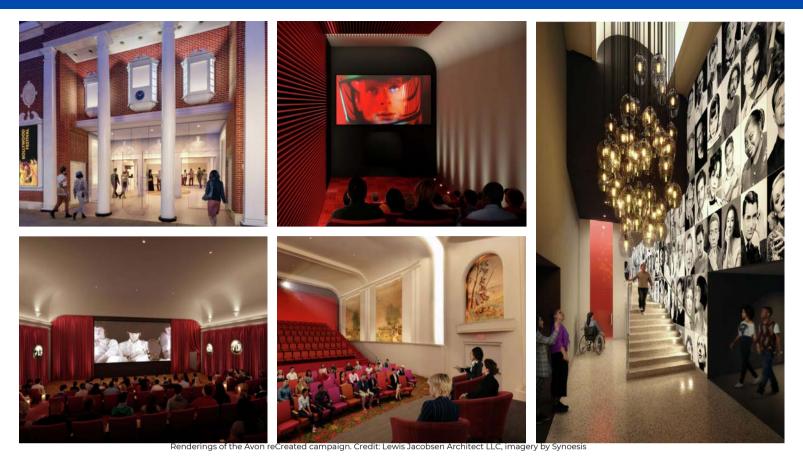
The <u>Stamford Downtown Farmers Market</u> returns on Saturdays, 9am-1pm through October 28 in Veterans Memorial Park (130 Atlantic Street). The market will offer a wide variety of local produce, baked goods, cheeses, olives, and pickles and much more!

There are several options for nearby for customer parking: Landmark Garage via entrance on Atlantic Street, Stamford Town Center garage via entrance on Greyrock Place at Main Street (this portion of the garage is connected directly to Veterans Park via a covered passageway or Metered Parking on Atlantic Street.

New this year: Stamford Downtown is partnering with <u>Food Rescue US</u>, a national organization founded in Norwalk in 2011 dedicated to eliminating huger and food waste. Food Rescue US will collect the fresh food surpluses from participating vendors and transfer to local social service agencies serving the food insecure. Since 2011, Food Rescue US has rescued over 43 million pounds of food kept from landfill and has provided more thank 30 million meals to their social service agency partners in Fairfield County. We are thrilled to help grow these impressive stats! Food Rescue US relies on local volunteers to help collect from donors and deliver to local social service agencies. Stamford Downtown encourages our community to sign up as rescuers <u>here</u>.

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AVON RECREATED

On May 10th, the leadership of <u>The Avon Theatre</u> announced an ambitious plan to bring the theatre to the 21st century while keeping its historic charm. The Avon located at 272 Bedford Street is looking to raise about \$8.5 million for major but essential renovations.

The Avon Theatre was founded in 1939 and changed hands numerous times over sixty years before closing its doors in 1999. In 2001, the Royce Family Foundation purchased the Avon Theatre and embarked on an impressive effort to restore and update the beautiful theatre. The refurbished Avon Theatre Film Center reopened in 2004 as a non-profit, member supported movie house offering a curated mix of independent films, documentaries, art house, foreign language films and classic cinema. The Avon is now the only remaining theater in Fairfield County focused on independent films and documentaries. It also hosts special events, such as small film festivals and screenings. This year, the Royce Family has donated the theater to the Avon Theatre Film Center, a nonprofit arts organization and pitched in \$1 million to the renovation campaign.

The renovations would fix ongoing issues including a leaking roof, poor accessibility, and creating stadium seating. Improvements will also cover updating the lighting, movie screens and audio systems along with a new HVAC system to improve ventilation. The theatre is limited with its capacity for special events so a third screen will be added in a 48-seat room.

To learn more about the Avon Theatre and their campaign to bring more magic to the movies, visit <u>avontheatre.org</u>.



Charles Fazzino and his work

3D POP ART IN STAMFORD DOWNTOWN A LA CHARLES FAZZINO

Have you ever marveled at the captivating artwork in Stamford Downtown? The vibrant pieces at various locations, such as the "Books, Butterflies and Bugs" kiosk at the Ferguson Library Plaza, or the "Downtown Dogs in Stamford" kiosk in front of Capriccio Café (189 Bedford Street)? These stunning works including the Swarovski crystals covered "Stallion" in 1 Landmark Square and others like the pyramid sculpture from Stamford Downtown's 2017 outdoor sculpture exhibit, are the creations of none other than Charles Fazzino, The Master of 3D Pop Art.

Charles Fazzino is widely regarded as one of the most popular and highly collected artists of all time. Over his thirty plus year career, he has skillfully embedded his unique, detailed, and threedimensional style of artwork into the tapestry of popular culture. Fazzino's artworks can be found in numerous museums and galleries across more than twenty countries. He has also received prestigious commissions and has been chosen as the official artist for prominent events and festivals worldwide, including The Super Bowl, MLB All-Star Game, The Olympics, and the GRAMMY Awards.

Stamford Downtown is incredibly fortunate that Charles Fazzino and his studio comrades have generously donated their supplies, time, and efforts to design, produce and maintain these exceptional outdoor pieces over the years. Their colorful and playful creations have enriched our Downtown, captivating both residents and visitors alike. And although there are plans to remove the kiosk in front of the Ferguson Library soon, we will remember it fondly. We want to express our gratitude to the Fazzino studio for embracing Stamford Downtown and hope to see more of his amazing artwork in the future. To explore Charles Fazzino's entire collection, visit <u>fazzino.com</u>.

For more information, contact the gallery at Museum Editions Ltd - Charles Fazzino Studio, 32 Relyea Place, New Rochelle, NY 10801, (914) 654-9370, and mark your calendar to visit his open studio during ArtFest in New Rochelle, NY on October 20-22, 2023.

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN PARTICIPATES IN MENTAL HEALTH FAIR



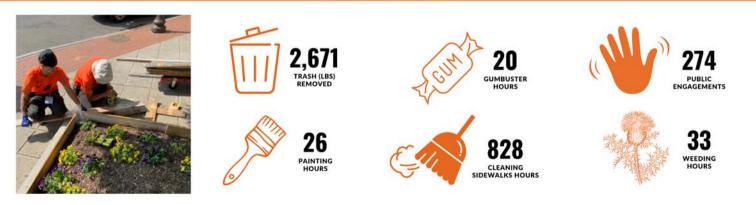
Ambassadors Alex Nelson, Bob Cornell, and Harold Hasell

On June 5, 2023, Stamford Downtown participated in the Stamford Police Department's (SPD) Behavioral Health Unit's (BHU) first Mental Health Fair. The SPD's BHU was created in May 2021, in partnership with a private organization (Recovery Network of Programs), to address the rise of mental illness and affects on the community. The Stamford Police Department is the first Police Department in the State to partner with a private entity for this mission. Stamford Downtown works closely with the SPD SHU to identify individuals who are in mental distress and then works to connect these individuals with available services.

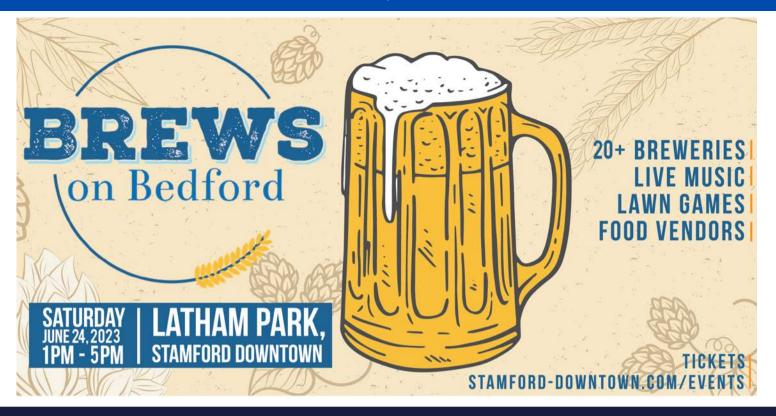
The Mental Health Fair took place outside on the lawn of the Stamford Police Headquarters and included representatives from many regional and local social entities. In addition, attendees were able to experience Stamford Fire Department trucks or receive a lesson in performing CPR. Cheryl Vukelic, Stamford Downtown's Director of Operations + Administration, and members of the Stamford Downtown's Ambassador Program, including Bob Cornell, Harold Hasell and Alex Nelson, attended the event on behalf of the organization and described Stamford Downtown's social service and quality of life programming.

Stamford Downtown is happy to partner with the SPD's BHU to help reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and to connect those individuals in the downtown community, who are suffering mental distress, homelessness or addiction, with much needed services.

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE & AMBASSADOR SERVICES MAY STATISTICS



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2023

Stamford Downtown Summer Events



Arts & Crafts on Bedford

Bedford Street

June 10 & September 9

• 10am-6:30pm



Farmers Market

Veterans Memorial Park

- Saturdays through October
- 9am–1pm



Summer Restaurant Weeks

Participating Downtown Stamford Restaurants • August 14 through August 27



Free Fitness Classes

Latham Park & Veterans Memorial Park • May through September



Open Play Chess

Latham Park

- Saturdays through Sept. 9
- 1pm-3pm



Duck, Duck, Goose

Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit • June through September



Learn more at stamford-downtown.com/events



Latham Park



Mondays at 6:30pm Bollyfitness with NEHA

Thursdays at 6:30pm Yoga with Chelsea Piers

Saturdays at 9am Yoga with Dew Yoga

Sundays at 9am Power Workout with Rumble Boxing Stamford

Veterans Memorial Park

Tuesdays at 6:30pm

Boot Camp with Coach Jaime

Wednesdays at 6:30pm Cardio Dance with Chelsea Piers

Fridays at 6:30pm Zumba with Stamford YMCA





Scan for details & wavier. stamford-downtown.com

No pre-registration required. Participants must sign waiver prior to first class.

