

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN

MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

MASA TACO BAR ENLIVENS BROAD STREET



Robert and Erika Monegro's family



MASA Taco Bar (112 Broad Street)

Inspired by street food served up in Mexico City, “Masa” in Spanish, refers to the dough (corn or flour) used in traditional Mexican dishes such as tamales, the tortillas for tacos, and empanadas. MASA Taco Bar is now serving up an exciting vibe at 112 Broad Street, along with its inviting soft green interior and attractive outdoor café. MASA Taco Bar, specializes in fresh and flavorful Mexican street food, bringing people together who seek out zesty food accompanied by all natural delicious hand crafted drinks. Think of it as your neighborhood hang out spot for soccer or football viewing this fall.

Local owners, Robert and Erika Monegro, were both born and raised in Stamford. The family has a long history in the restaurant business, as Robert’s father, Erasmo “Chicho” Monegro, started an eatery named Flamboyant at 61 William Street in Stamford in 1995 which is still open to this day. Having worked alongside his father for so many years, in 2015, Robert decided to open his own restaurant, La Esquina, at 50 Hamilton in Glenbrook. Robert quickly learned that owning and running a restaurant was not for the faint of heart and decided to sell that location. However, in 2019, an opportunity arose at a new location at 351 Shippan Avenue, (next door to Stamford’s beloved Italian eatery, Café Silvium). Robert jumped at the opportunity and opened up Chicho’s Cocina (naming it after his father), and officially opened its doors in May 2020. Despite the difficulties he faced opening up at the beginning of the pandemic, Chicho’s found success at this new location. However, the kitchen and seating was limited so when the former Tomatillo’s space became available on Broad Street, Robert embraced its unique possibilities, creating a warm inviting space with authentic Mexican cuisine for all to enjoy.

For more information on MASA, visit masatacobar.com.



LOCAL ARTISTS COMPLETE ALL WALKS OF LIFE

Check out the latest public art project at the Bedford Street Garage (17 Forest Street) and the crosswalk connecting the garage and the Bedford Street Passageway (189 Bedford Street).

All Walks of Life by Lauren Clayton was completed this summer in collaboration with talented local artists, Tara Blackwell, Alissa Siegel, Bry Isriel, Mike Bazelais, Weverson Ponte, Byron Soza, and Mel Starsoza. Many of whom are from Stamford.

Special thank you to the City of Stamford, our partner in the project. And to Lauren Clayton and her team of artists who battled the extreme heat and other various elements when creating this beautiful work. Click [here](#) to learn more about the project and its artists.



Lauren Clayton, Lead



Mel Starsoza and Byron Soza



Alissa Siegal



Bry Isriel



Mike Bazelais



Tara Blackwell



Weverson Ponte

NEW SIGNAL BOX ART IN FRONT OF FERGUSON LIBRARY



Stamford Downtown's landscape has been enriched with a vibrant new piece of signal box art. Located prominently in front of the Ferguson Library (1 Public Library Plaza) at the intersection of Broad and Bedford Streets, the artwork is the result of a commission to local entrepreneur, Jami Sherwood.

This stunning piece is a testament to the talent within our community. Created using a "wrap" process by Stamford-based, female-owned business Simply Signs, this artwork is sure to become a beloved landmark and conversation starter.

We encourage everyone to take a moment to admire this new addition to our city's vibrant arts scene.

**APPLICATIONS
OPEN AUG 12**

Ignite
A WBDC GRANT
PROGRAM

**UP TO
\$10K**

**Grant opportunity
for women-owned
CT businesses**

 **Women's Business
Development Council**

**COME OUT AND SUPPORT BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH ON
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5
AS STAMFORD DOWNTOWN PAINTS THE TOWN PINK!**

Enjoy special promotions at over 45 downtown businesses during this one-day fund raising effort. Stamford Downtown is partnering with Stamford Hospital to raise over \$5,000 to help low income and uninsured woman, who could not otherwise afford breast care. Check out [here](#) to view each businesses' special one-day promotion.



**STAMFORD DOWNTOWN
PAINTS THE TOWN PINK**

**Join us on Saturday, October 5, 2024
for the start of Breast Cancer Awareness Month!**

Enjoy special promotions at these locations:

Acuario Restaurant	Ninja Bubble Tea
Agora Spa	Noches de Colombia
Americano	Minuteman Press
Avon Theatre Film Center	Pickleball America
Bari 167	Puerto Vallarta (STC)
Bartaco	Russ Hollander Master Goldsmith, LLC
Bedford Hall Craft Kitchen & Bar	Safavieh Home Furnishings
Bradford's Grill & Tavern	Safavieh Express (STC)
Chez Vous Bistro	Salon Shahin
Columbus Park Trattoria	Scout Adventure
Divina Modern Italian	Shiro Dessert
Dunkin' Donuts	Smart Puppies
Ferguson Library	Terra Gaucha
Fiesta on Main Restaurant and Pisco Bar	Tiernan's Bar & Restaurant
Fresh&co	Towne Parlor Pizza & Pints
Friends Book Shop at the Ferguson Library	UCEDA Institute
Garden Catering	United Home & Patio
InThai Restaurant	Vanity Studio Salon
Juice Kings	Whim
Kouzina Greek Taverna & Bar	Winfield Street Coffee
La Jolie Salon, Color Bar & Spa	Wolfe's Cleaners
Lorca	Yi Fang Taiwan Fruit Tea
Natural Herbal Labs	
New York Comedy Club Stamford	

Check out Stamford-Downtown.com for a complete list of participating businesses, their promotions and in-store events.

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN
STAMFORD-DOWNTOWN.COM

 **STAMFORD HEALTH**



The Stamford Partnership serves as the administrator of the Southwest CT Tech Hub. The Tech Hub was created to nurture a highly skilled, tech-oriented workforce in Lower Fairfield County. The Tech Hub hosts a variety of events at UConn Stamford. Please read below to learn more about this vital initiative.

Southwest CT Tech Hub Overview:

The Southwest CT Tech Hub plays a pivotal role in the region's tech ecosystem by connecting over 50 local companies with a skilled workforce and fostering innovation in cities like Stamford and across Fairfield County. Its mission is pertinent toward public funds, creating strategic alliances, developing a pipeline of varied talent, and carrying out effective workforce development programs. By concentrating on these pillars, the Tech Hub hopes to accelerate economic growth and technical improvements, establishing Southwest Connecticut as a preeminent center for tech innovation.

Scheduled Programming Summary:

The Tech Hub provides a wide range of initiatives aimed at helping people and companies take advantage of technology. It affects strategic goals and investment priorities to promote the expansion of the tech industry. By means of roundtable discussions and networking events, it cultivates partnerships among industry stakeholders. The Tech Hub places a high priority on fostering a sense of community by establishing open networks that connect individuals, opportunities, and resources. Furthermore, it collaborates with the WorkPlace to offer free tech training courses designed to give people the fundamental abilities that employers need. As stated on its website, WorkPlace is a statewide organization that creates programs to prepare people for careers while strengthening the workforce for employers.

For individuals interested, the Tech Hub provides frequent webinars and networking events taking place on a weekly basis, that connect emerging talent with local tech employers. A highlight of its offerings is the Tech Training Program, a flexible, three-month online course conducted in collaboration with the WorkPlace. This program prepares participants for successful employment in the sector by offering virtual labs and expert-led training sessions focused on tech platforms. To help participants move into tech-related positions and make sure they are prepared for the opportunities and challenges of the contemporary tech landscape; it pays certification fees and provides job placement aid. With these programs, the Southwest CT Tech Hub gives people and companies the tools they need to prosper and create in Fairfield County's cutting-edge technology sector.

Source: The Stamford Partnership

Authored by Ethan Rochester. Ethan is a rising senior at the Taft School in Watertown, CT and served as a research intern for Stamford Downtown during the Summer 2024.

CRA ACROSS CONNECTICUT



Photo credit: CT Restaurant Association

Senator Richard Blumenthal, Mayor Caroline Simmons, Small Business Association Deputy Director Moraima Gutierrez and CT Restaurant Association President Scott Dolch meet with Fairfield County restaurant owners on August 26 to discuss issues being voted upon in the upcoming Legislative session. Sick leave, swipping fees, gift card cash payments were several of the topics discussed. Stamford Downtown was represented by the owners of Columbus Park Trattoria, The Americano, Kouzina Greek Taverna, Winfield Street Coffee, Flinders Lane and Penny Cha. Stamford Downtown thanks hosts Puerto Vallarta for serving up a delicious breakfast and an informative meeting.



October 5, 2024 3-5:30 PM (VIP entry 2pm)
Latham Park, Stamford Downtown
TICKETS: STAMFORD-DOWNTOWN.COM/EVENTS

STAMFORD DOWNTOWN ENVIRONMENTAL MAINTENANCE & AMBASSADOR SERVICES JULY & AUGUST STATISTICS



STAMFORD DOWNTOWN PARADE SPECTACULAR

Sunday, November 24,
2024 at 12 Noon

STAMFORD-DOWNTOWN.COM

Point72 Giant Balloon Inflation Party
Saturday November 23
3-6pm



Art by Greenbank Design

ELMO, PEPPA THE PIG, TARGET, MUPPET © 2024 Sesame Workshop, UNICEF, © 2024 The Muppet Studios Company, © 2024 Peppa Pig Studios Ltd. © 2024 Target Brands, Inc. © 2024 Greenbank Design

Heights & Lights

Presented by
Reckson

5pm - Sunday
December 8, 2024

Rappelling Santa, Fireworks
and Tree Lighting

Landmark Square & Latham Park
in Stamford Downtown

STAMFORD-DOWNTOWN.COM

