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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**Annual Morristown Festival on the Green, Northern NJ's Premier Fall Event
set to return in 2021 on October 3rd 12-5 pm, rain or shine**

September 23, 2021 - After a year off in 2020, the Morristown Partnership is proud to present the 26th annual Morristown Festival on the Green, with the support of corporate sponsors, community partners and local businesses, on Sunday, October 3rd from noon to 5 p.m., rain or shine. The return of the festival promises to be something truly special this year.

Of note, while many events are struggling to return due to significant financial constraints, the Morristown Partnership is extremely grateful to have received a generous commitment of \$100,000 from the **Morris County Board of County Commissioners**, via the *American Rescue Plan State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund*. This subsidy has ensured the event will go on as planned despite markedly higher operating costs.

"Our organization is overjoyed to be bringing back this event in 2021 and to shine a light on Morristown's re-emerging vibrant business community", said Jennifer Wehring, executive director for the Morristown Partnership. "It cannot be overstated how thankful we are for the financial support provided by the **Morris County Board of County Commissioners** to our organization and, thereby our community; this event simply would not have been possible without their significant contribution."

Once again, the event will offer a wide variety of entertainment and activities for all ages including four stages, kids place amusements, carnival games and the beer tent. The scene will be set for all ages to come out, enjoy the day and see why Morristown remains the destination of choice for northern New Jersey.

First time performers this year on the **Main Stage** (South and DeHart Streets) will be *Flight Lights* (noon to 1 p.m.), known locally as the winners of Morristown OnStage 2021, adult category. Then visitors are sure to enjoy returning favorites, Joe Bilotti's *Heart of Gold Band* (3 to 5 p.m.). The Main Stage is sponsored this year by 40NORTH Restaurants, owners of Morristown's own TOWN bar + kitchen, The OFFICE Tavern Grill and *just opening* NOM Mexican Table + Tequila Bar.

Washington Street will be home to the **Rising Star Stage**, courtesy of sponsor Summit Health, and feature two new bands this year, *Due South* (12 to 2 p.m.) and *The Counterfeiters* (3 to 5 p.m.). Located right next door, pull up a seat at the 4th annual **Beer Tent** (Schuyler Place), courtesy of sponsor MMU, Operators of Morristown Airport and watch football, socialize and guests 21 and older can enjoy a cold beer.

For families and the younger crowd, try your luck at the carnival games and the nearby, and always popular, **Kids Place** children's amusements, this year courtesy of sponsors SJP Properties. New activities will include an inflatable corn maze, 9-hole mini-golf course and mini car racing. Family friendly entertainment can also be enjoyed at the **Family Stage** (Morris Street and Dumont Place) with its returning performers throughout the day including Wallaby Tales (noon to 12:45 p.m.), Miss Jolie Music (1 to 1:45 p.m.), Polka Dot! (2 to 3 p.m.) and the TropyBand Orquesta (3:30 to 5 p.m.).

"We are thrilled that the Morristown Festival on the Green is back, and are privileged to continue to serve our community by providing extraordinary care to our patients, their families and loved ones" said Trish O'Keefe, PhD, RN, President, Morristown Medical Center and Senior Vice President and Chief Nurse Executive, Atlantic Health System, longtime Family Stage sponsors. O'Keefe added "we are forever grateful to all of our Morristown neighbors who rallied around us with enormous support and

generosity throughout the pandemic.” Morristown Medical Center -- the number one hospital in NJ – is located right here in the heart of town.

Last but not least, wander across the historic Morristown Green to the **Concert on the Green**, courtesy of sponsor Bayer, and enjoy classical favorites by the Stone Soup Symphony Orchestra (noon to 1:15 p.m.) and traditional American tunes by the Morris Plains Community Band & The Swing Tones (1:30 to 2:45 p.m.).

Be sure and read all about the upcoming Morristown Festival on the Green, in the Sunday, September 26th issue of The Star Ledger and online at nj.com in the ‘Autumn in Morristown’ special section.

Thank you to our long-standing and new event sponsors in 2021!

40NORTH Restaurants, Atlantic Health Systems / Morristown Medical Center, Bayer, Beyer Family Automotive Group, Compass, County College of Morris, Geico – Local Office Morris Plains, Kidz World Pediatric Dentistry, Lakeland Bank, LeafFilter Gutter Protection, Morris Animal Inn, MMU – Operators of Morristown Airport, NJ Advance Media, SJP Properties, Summit Health and TD Bank.

What are we doing to make it safe?

In short, everything we can. We will follow the lead of Governor Murphy on the size of mass gatherings, as well as the sanitization guidelines and protocols set forth by the CDC and local agencies. You can expect to see multiple hand washing stations and signage encouraging self-regulated social distancing and the wearing of masks. We aim to provide the safest, healthiest and most patron-friendly event possible.

Tips for coming to and enjoying the festival

Where do I park?

The following public lots are open and FREE during the event:

- Dalton Parking Garage with entrance on Cattano Avenue
- Ann/Bank Street Garage with entrance on Schuyler Place from Ann Street
- DeHart Street Garage with entrances on Dehart Street and Maple Ave.
- Free on-street parking

Exhibitors, Special Venues, Public Restrooms?

See official event details on www.morristown-nj.org

What about the weather?

Morristown Festival on the Green takes place “rain or shine”. There is no rain date!

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Morristown Partnership is a Special Improvement District (SID) created in 1994, designated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. It supports Morristown’s vibrant business district by developing private/public partnerships among business, government, civic and community members. It is self-funded partly through special assessments on commercial properties located in the SID, foundation and/or government grants, promotional participation, sponsorships for community events and financial & in-kind donations. The Morristown Partnership consists of more than 400 commercial properties and 1,000+ businesses physically located in the SID. If you would like more information on the Morristown Partnership, please visit the website at www.morristown-nj.org or call at (973) 455-1133 for business opportunities, as well as commercial space for lease and sale, in downtown Morristown.

Stay up to date!

Follow the Morristown Partnership on Instagram @downtownmorristown and Facebook @MorristownPartnership and visit our website, www.morristown-nj.org, throughout the year for developing news related to special promotions, commercial space for lease and sale, new businesses, and information on all we do including: Morristown Partnership Gift Certificate Program, Morristown Restaurant Week, Meet Me in Morristown, Morristown Farmers Market, Halloween Trick-or-Treat, and our month-long Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green.

