

Holidays IN MORRISTOWN

ADVERTISING FEATURE | An Official Publication of the Morristown Partnership

Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green

Annual month-long holiday tradition kicks off Sunday, Nov. 28

By Karen Roettger
Special to The Star-Ledger

The spirit of the holidays is once again alive and well in Morristown! The kick off of the Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green, and the arrival of the much beloved Santa on North Park Place, is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 28 at 5 p.m. The evening will also include the 100-plus-year traditional countdown to the 'Lighting of the Green', festive music and plenty of good cheer.

While the sounds of live music and caroling fill the air, event sponsor Hyatt Regency Morristown will once again provide hot chocolate to warm those gathered to enjoy this special night in town. Visits with Santa will continue until 8 p.m.

"The Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green is a magical event that brings families and

the entire Morristown community together to celebrate and be thankful for all that we have during the holiday season," said Amando Hernandez, director of sales and events.

This annual holiday extravaganza is presented by the Morristown Partnership with the support of many generous sponsors. After the official kickoff, a full schedule of activities is planned onsite at the Green and within the heated activity tent on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Sunday, Dec. 19.

"We are happy to support the Christmas Festival, which brings so much joy to the community, and we look forward to visitors from near and far in our Morristown restaurants," said Steve Baliva, divisional vice president of operations, 40North Group. "Starting with Santa's arrival on Thanksgiving weekend and throughout December, the festival literally lights up the downtown," Baliva added.

Visitors of all ages will delight in memorable nostalgia including rides in a miniature wooden train, a vintage oversized rocking horse, ice sculpture demonstrations, thousands of sparkling lights and decorations and, of course, visits with Santa.

Guests can warm up in a heated tent featuring activities and live music. Arts and crafts activities include gingerbread house making, holiday card making and coloring.

Among new sponsors this year is Columbia Bank. Thanks to its support, the Christmas Festival will include added entertainment in 2021."

Columbia Bank is a proud sponsor of the Christmas Festival. We look forward to connecting with the community, bringing families together, and spreading some holiday cheer," said Tom Kemly, president and CEO for Columbia Bank.

Morristown Medical Center, part of the Atlantic Health System, has sponsored the festival for 20-plus years and will continue the tradition this year. Within Morristown Medical Center is Goryeb Children's Hospital, northern New Jersey's leading specialized pediatric hospital, ranked first in the state for the treatment of pediatric cancer.

"Goryeb Children's Hospital is pleased to again participate in this year's Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green, celebrating the holiday season with our community," said Candace Wu, program manager of Pediatric Community Outreach at Goryeb Children's Hospital. "Children will have the opportunity to spread cheer by making cards for those children who will be celebrating the holidays in the hospital as well as make cards for their loved ones."

Another returning sponsor is The Education Association of Morris (TEAM), an organization comprised of educators and support staff of the Morris School District.

Allison Unger, pride chair for the association, said, "TEAM is excited to sponsor the Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green again this year. We choose to sponsor the festival because it is a great opportunity for us to interact with more families of the community. "TEAM will have a table of activities in the children's tent again this



Photo courtesy of Kevin dePoortere

year. Our hope is to spread holiday joy to the children of Morristown and interact with their families" Unger added.

The full schedule of activities and entertainment for the 2021 Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green is available at www.morristown-nj.org.

Photos with Santa \$10

Cash, check and major credit cards accepted.

Santa Breaks on Saturday and Sunday from 3 to 3:30 p.m. and as announced on Friday evenings.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



Hyatt Regency Morristown's renovation embraces history

By Karen Roettger
Special to The Star-Ledger

Hyatt Regency Morristown has made good use of the last year with a wide range of renovations that are sure to impress its visitors.

Located in the heart of Morristown's downtown, Hyatt Regency Morristown ('Hyatt') is ideal for corporate travelers who are looking for after-hours entertainment and dining within walking distance. On weekends, the hotel is a great option for a stay-cation or extended date night for those visiting the dozens of dining options or taking in a show at the highly revered Mayo Performing Arts Center.

The hotel opened in 1983 and was affiliated as a Hyatt in 2005. Chosen for its central location in the tri-state area and easy access via major highways, trains to New York City and proximity to Newark Liberty International Airport and Morristown Airport, Hyatt's choice of location proved astute. The revitalization and unprecedented growth since that time has solidified Morristown as a leading destination of choice. In addition to the vibrant downtown, Morristown's historical and cultural significance is undeniable.

"Morristown has been called the military capital of the American Revolution, home to George Washington's Headquarters and Continental Army encampment in 1779" said Jeff Babcock, general manager of Hyatt Regency Morristown.

"The hotel renovation design fully embraces this history, taking on a modern Colonial theme specifically with blue and brass tones throughout the property, symbolic of officer uniforms. Steps from the Morristown Green, guests are encouraged to integrate historical education in their vacation."

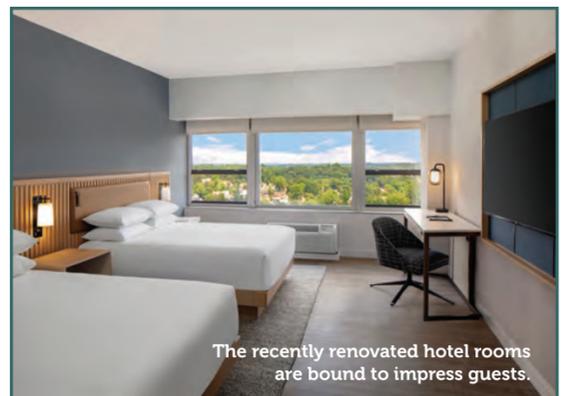
Keenly aware of the importance of guest relations and community involvement, the team at Hyatt excels in both. Staff is always available to make recommendations to guests exploring the downtown and often direct them, based on their individual preferences to tried and true local businesses. The hotel regularly gives back to the community via sponsorships, as well as on-site staff participation in longstanding local events. Hyatt attends the Morristown Festival on the Green, which draws tens of thousands to downtown each fall. Year after year, Hyatt also regales the crowds with hot chocolate and cookies at the family favorite kick off of the Christmas Festival at the Morristown Green. The event ushers in the holiday season with the arrival of Santa and the 100-plus-year traditional 'Lighting of the Green'.

The 2021 renovation was a complete transformation of the property's guest rooms, lobby, food and beverage offerings, as well as indoor meeting spaces. Upgrades to the 256 guest rooms, including 50 studio suites, included adding 55-inch flatscreen TVs, blackout window shades for improved sleep

quality and complimentary wireless internet access on unlimited devices. Guests are encouraged to enroll in the World of Hyatt loyalty program for member discounts on room rates and to earn points for free nights. Also included in the loyalty program, via the World of Hyatt app, are convenient digital tools such as mobile key entry, simplified amenity requests and contactless express check-in and check-out.

Hyatt has 31,000-square-foot of newly renovated meeting space, suitable for events of many sizes and varieties, from corporate meetings to weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs and reunions. Hosting outdoor events are also an option at the adjacent new Pioneer Park courtyard.

Lastly, the hotel has completely reimaged its food and beverage services with two experiences in one location — the Market & Bar (opening soon) is a grab-and-go concept well-suited for travelers on the move, while the lounge invites guests to relax and enjoy a meal and local beverages while enjoying spanning



The recently renovated hotel rooms are bound to impress guests.

views of downtown. Executive Chef Hyder-Ali Abdussamad's menu provides a variety of healthy and hearty options, incorporating local ingredients and inspired by the culture of New Jersey.

For more information on Hyatt Regency Morristown, and its current 15% discount on stays through April 30, 2022, visit hyattregencymorristown.com or via social media at Facebook — Hyatt Regency Morristown or Instagram @hyattregency.morristown.

2022 Event Calendar



Monday, April 25 through Friday, April 29



Thursdays, May 26, June 30, July 28 & August 25



Sundays, June 19 through November 20



Sunday, October 2



Monday, October 31



Sunday, November 27 through Sunday, December 18

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