



WELCOME AMERICA, INC. ANNOUNCES WAWA'S RENEWAL OF TITLE SPONSORSHIP

***Wawa renews as Title Sponsor of Philadelphia's July 4th festival through 2024;
8 Day Festival: Saturday, June 27, 2020 – Saturday, July 4, 2020***

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Philadelphia, Pa. (January 10, 2020) – Welcome America, Inc., Wawa, Inc. and Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney today announced Wawa's continued support as the Title Sponsor of Wawa Welcome America, Philadelphia's July 4th festival, through 2024.

Wawa has been the title sponsor of Welcome America since 2010, and each year the Wawa Welcome America festival brings hundreds of thousands of guests from around the country and the world to Philadelphia for a multi-day celebration honoring America's Independence Day. As part of the Wawa Welcome America festival, Wawa also hosts the annual Wawa Hoagie Day, which has been held each year since 1992, when the hoagie was proclaimed the "Official Sandwich of Philadelphia" by then-Mayor Ed Rendell. In 2019, Wawa celebrated its 27th annual Hoagie Day by honoring national and local heroes and building and serving the official Hoagie Day hoagie, which weighed a record nine tons.

"All of us at Wawa are thrilled to continue our sponsorship of Welcome America and celebrate our nation's independence and birth day and to recognize our service men and women, and our local heroes who play such an important role in our communities," said Chris Gheysens, Wawa President and CEO. "Welcome America and Hoagie Day are our way of providing free family fun to Philadelphia locals and visitors alike with signature products and events for all to enjoy. We can't wait to continue this incredible tradition in our hometown of Philadelphia for years to come!"

"Wawa's renewal as Title Sponsor of our festival serves to underscore the depth and breadth of their commitment to the City of Philadelphia and its residents. Welcome America is so very grateful to Wawa for their ongoing leadership and generosity, and look forward to many more years of partnership," said Michael DelBene, Welcome America, Inc. President and CEO.

The 2020 Wawa Welcome America festival will take place Saturday, June 27 – Saturday, July 4, 2020 in multiple locations throughout the city. The 8-day festival will feature tried and true events that attendees have come to love over the past 28 years and a generous offering of new and exciting things Wawa Welcome America has never done before.

Philadelphia will once again be the nation's premier destination to celebrate July 4th and Independence Week, offering a robust lineup of concerts, fireworks, family movie nights, museum days, educational activities, continuous recognition of our nation's heroes and much more.

Arts, history, culture and performance will play a central role in the Wawa Welcome America festival, along with education, civics and government. As always, Wawa Welcome America will reflect and demonstrate our gratitude to the men and women who serve in uniform in all branches of public service and dedicate their lives in defense of our freedom. Wawa Welcome America will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the passing of the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote, as well as, partner with organizations dedicated to insuring attendees have the opportunity to register to vote. And, Wawa Welcome America's Day of Service will return, giving attendees the opportunity to celebrate by rolling up their sleeves and giving back to the community they call home.

The full 2020 festival schedule will be released in the Spring.

About Welcome America, Inc.

Welcome America, Inc. is a 501c3, non-profit organization engaged in a public-private partnership with the City of Philadelphia. Welcome America, Inc.'s goal is to promote American history, education, and the City of Philadelphia as global tourist destination. Each year, Welcome America, Inc. produces Wawa Welcome America, a multi-day festival featuring art, culture, community engagement and entertainment - it is the nation's premier Independence Day celebration! Welcome America was founded in 1993, and celebrates its 28th festival in 2020.

Visit www.welcomeamerica.com to learn more, and join the conversation at:

- Facebook – www.facebook.com/WawaWelcomeAmerica
- Twitter – www.twitter.com/July4thPhilly
- Instagram – www.instagram.com/July4thPhilly

About Wawa, Inc.

Wawa, Inc., a privately held company, began in 1803 as an iron foundry in New Jersey. Toward the end of the 19th Century, owner George Wood took an interest in dairy farming and the family began a small processing plant in Wawa, PA in 1902. The milk business was a huge success, due to its quality, cleanliness and "certified" process. As home delivery of milk declined in the early 1960s, Grahame Wood, George's grandson, opened the first Wawa Food Market in 1964 as an outlet for dairy products. Today, Wawa is your all day, every day stop for freshly prepared foods, beverages, coffee, fuel services and surcharge-free ATMs. A chain of more than 890 convenience retail stores (over 600 offering fuel), Wawa stores are located in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Florida and Washington, D.C. The stores offer a large fresh foodservice selection, including Wawa brands such as custom prepared hoagies, freshly-brewed coffee, hot breakfast sandwiches, specialty beverages and an assortment of soups, sides and snacks. In 2018, Wawa was recognized in Forbes as one of The Best Employers for New Grads and one of The Best Employers for Women, and as the Top Rated Workplace for Veterans by Indeed. In 2019, Wawa was designated by Forbes as a Best Employer for Diversity.

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