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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – photos included

## Annual Lake Hopatcong Block Party set to celebrate New Jersey's largest lake

Landing, NJ (April 18, 2019) – Winding roads around Lake Hopatcong rarely form a neatly four-cornered square, but organizers of the Lake Hopatcong Block Party have never let geometry get in their way.

The popularity of the annual event, held on the sprawling grounds of Hopatcong State Park, proves that block parties aren't just for squares.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lake Hopatcong Block Party is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the park, 260 Lakeside Blvd., Landing. The event is hosted by the Lake Hopatcong Foundation, with Live the Lake NJ as the main sponsor.

"The Block Party promotes all four towns around the lake, so there's no other place that would work as well as Hopatcong State Park. We've taken every space available in the park," said Moreau, a co-planner of the event.

The Lake Hopatcong Block Party started as an annual event in 2014, taking up only a small fraction of the park. Now the event fills the park and organizers anticipate an estimated 3,000 guests, including 180 booths showcasing businesses, non-profit organizations and crafters. More than a dozen food vendors will also be on-site.

Guests will also enjoy live demonstrations, raffles, giveaways, boat and trackless-train rides, and a children's scavenger hunt and activity area. The Passport Adventure program encourages guests to check in at sponsors' booths to collect stamps to qualify for prizes. New attractions will include Marina Way, a designated area for boat displays. There will also be dog-friendly activities, highlighted by a Canine Costume Parade, with prizes, and a Pooches & Smooches photo spot.

"This event gives lake residents a perfect opportunity to shake off winter and become reacquainted with their neighbors," said Co-Planner Beth BaRoss. "It also extends a warm welcome to people from other communities to discover and enjoy everything the Lake Hopatcong area has to offer... which is quite a lot."

The Block Party will include a Mayors Corner, which will enable guests to interact with town officials from Jefferson, Mount Arlington, Hopatcong and Roxbury. Roxbury Community Policing will offer a children's ID program and public safety touch-a-truck opportunities. Also, first-aid units from Jefferson, Roxbury and Hopatcong will be on hand, as well as Jefferson's fire boat DEFENDER and Mount Arlington's antique fire truck.

"Our vision to make Lake Hopatcong a premier destination will help build and strengthen not only the lake, but the surrounding communities," said Lisa Palanchi, Chief Operating Officer of Camp Six, which oversees all Live the Lake NJ businesses. "The Block Party reminds us how important the lake is to our economy and that we need to take care of it for future generations."

Parking at the State Park will be offered on a space-available basis for a \$10 donation. Free parking, with shuttle service, will be provided at the Landing Park Recreation Complex, Landing shopping center, Hopatcong Senior Center and the Wayne L. Threlkeld Hilltop Sports Complex, up the hill from the Senior Center.

Volunteers are still needed for the Block Party. For information, visit lakehopatcongfoundation.org or call 973-663-2500.

The Lake Hopatcong Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to protecting the lake environment and enhancing the lake experience by bringing together public and private resources to encourage a culture of sustainability and stewardship on and around New Jersey's largest lake, for this and future generations. To learn more, visit lakehopatcongfoundation.org.

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## Brief:

Lake Hopatcong Block Party

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Lake Hopatcong Block Party is scheduled for Saturday, May 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Hopatcong State Park. Hosted by the Lake Hopatcong Foundation, the event gives nearly 200 businesses and organizations an opportunity to showcase their work.

The Block Party also features music, raffles, giveaways, boat and mini-train rides, demonstrations and a children's area, as well as numerous food and beverage options.

For more information, visit lakehopatcongfoundation.org or call 973-663-2500.





More than 180 vendors will gather at Hopatcong State Park on May 11, 2019 for the 6th Annual Lake Hopatcong Block Party.



Trackless train rides, boat rides, demonstrations, vendors and more await Lake Hopatcong Block Party guests on May 11, 2019 at Hopatcong State Park.