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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – photo included

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

Landing, NJ (September 21, 2021) – The 8th Annual Lake Hopatcong Block Party is scheduled for Saturday, October 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Hopatcong State Park, 260 Lakeside Blvd., Landing. The event, which offers a unique Main Street-style experience in a beautiful lakeside setting, is hosted by the Lake Hopatcong Foundation (LHF), with Live the Lake NJ as the main sponsor.

"Our goal for the Block Party is to highlight everything that's great about Lake Hopatcong and the towns that surround it," said Lee Moreau, Block Party co-planner. "It's an amazing showcase of all the region has to offer."

This year's event will feature more than 150 businesses, non-profit organizations, community groups, crafters, and food vendors. Guests will also enjoy entertainment, raffles, giveaways, and boat and trackless-train rides.

A children's scavenger hunt and activity area are set up for families with youngsters while adults can join in the Passport Adventure and check in at sponsors' booths to collect stamps to qualify for exciting prizes. Those wishing to bring their furry companions can say cheese with Fido at the Pooches & Smooches photo spot.

"There's a little something for everyone at the Block Party," said Co-Planner Beth BaRoss "It's a day for guests from all over the region to come and find out what makes Lake Hopatcong so special to so many people."

The Block Party will also include a Mayors Lane, which will enable guests to interact with town officials from Jefferson, Mount Arlington, Hopatcong, and Roxbury. First-aid units from Jefferson, Roxbury, and Hopatcong will be on hand, as well as Jefferson's fire boat DEFENDER. And Roxbury Police Department Community Outreach and Roxbury Fire Company No. 2 will provide safety information and a touch-a-truck opportunity.

The CDC recommends masks in all public indoor spaces and suggests considering masks in crowded settings. To facilitate a safer environment, hand sanitizer will be available throughout the event. In addition, the food court will have added space between tables and sanitizing wipes will be provided. Federal mask mandates require face masks on public transportation and masks will be required to ride on all event shuttles.

On-site parking at Hopatcong 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, Lake Hopatcong Foundation Environmental & Cultural Center, 12 Orben Drive complex, Landing shopping center, Hopatcong Senior Center, and the Wayne L. Threlkeld Hilltop Sports Complex, up the hill from the Senior Center.

A special "Barking Lot" will be available exclusively for guests bringing their dogs to the event as it is within walking distance of the park. It is located at Full Life Assembly of God Church and will only be open if the Hopatcong State Park Lot has filled to capacity.

A parking and shuttle service map and more event information is available at lakehopatcongfoundation.org/blockparty.

"The community was really missing this event last year, and it means so much to all of us at the Lake Hopatcong Foundation to be able to bring it back in 2021," said Caitlin Doran, LHF Development Director. "The LHF team – with support from scores of volunteers – is ready to welcome guests back to Hopatcong State Park for a day of lake-inspired activity and fun that's all but guaranteed to leave you smiling."

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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More than 150 vendors will gather lakeside at Hopatcong State Park on October 2 for the 2021 Lake Hopatcong Block Party.