



**MEDIA ALERT**

**CONTACT:** [public.relations@wawa.com](mailto:public.relations@wawa.com)

**Wawa Hosts Grand Opening Party at New Store in Lafayette, IN**

*Festivities include free t-shirts for the first 100 customers, free any size hot coffee, hoagie building competition between local first responders, and ribbon cutting.*

**What:** Wawa continues its expansion in Indiana with a grand opening party in Lafayette, marking Wawa's 37<sup>th</sup> store to open out of nearly one hundred in 2026. The grand openings will celebrate each new community Wawa is serving with fun and festivities for all! On **Wednesday, June 24**, the festivities will start at **8:00 a.m.** with free t-shirts for the first 100 customers, as supplies last, and free any size hot coffee through June 28. Immediately following at **8:30 a.m.**, customers are invited to participate in a ceremony to celebrate the new store team and the positive impact associates will have on the community.

**Who:**

- Joseph Collins, Wawa Director of Store Operations
- Carmen Reyes, Wawa Area Manager
- Raymond Casillas, Wawa General Manager
- State & Local Officials
- First Responders from the local Police and Fire departments
- Wally Goose, Wawa Mascot
- Wawa Customers and Fans

**When: Wednesday, June 24**

8:00 am – Party begins! T-shirt giveaway for the first 100 customers, as supplies last, and free any size hot coffee for all customers begins

8:30 am – Ceremony with remarks, Hoagies for Heroes hoagie building competition, and ribbon cutting

**Where:** 3790 South St, Lafayette, IN, 47905

**Why:** Wawa is thrilled to celebrate our Nation's 250<sup>th</sup> birthday year with nearly 100 grand opening parties celebrating local communities across the communities Wawa serves! The events are a celebration of the community with the community creating joyful moments and meaningful connections with friends, neighbors and those who serve.

Wawa is bringing its **2026 Grand Opening Tour** to fourteen states in the Mid-Atlantic, Southeast and Midwest regions and is thrilled to serve more communities than ever. Over the next 5-8 years, Wawa plans to build and open 8-13 stores per year in Indiana with plans to open more than 70 stores in the state. To build each store, Wawa will invest more than \$7.5 million and employ, on average, 140 contractors and local partners. Once open, each store will employ an average of 35 associates, with Wawa expecting to create 1,400 new, long-term new jobs as a result of expansion in Indiana.

**Visuals:**

- Free, limited-edition "Wawa Grand Opening Tour in the USA" t-shirt distribution to first 100 customers
- Introduction to the new store team
- Local heroes building hoagies during the Hoagies for Heroes contest
- Fun, music, Wawa's mascot Wally Goose dancing with the crowd, ribbon cutting and confetti