



MEDIA ALERT

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Wawa to Open Celebrate Grand Opening of First Store in Staunton, VA

Community members, local officials and first responders to join in celebration as Wawa continues Virginia expansion

What: Wawa is spreading its wings in Virginia and celebrating the grand opening of its first store in the City of Staunton. During the event, the company will be joined by hundreds of customers, local officials, first responders and community partners to mark this milestone in Wawa history.

Highlights of the festivities to include:

- Ribbon-cutting ceremony
- Free, limited-edition t-shirts for first 200 customers, as supplies last
- Free hot, any-size coffee from November 6th through November 9th
- Wawa's "Parade of the Ages," showcasing milestones over the company's 200-year history
- Wawa's leadership sharing expansion plans and ongoing investment in Virginia
- Local officials highlighting the positive impact of Wawa's expansion on the economy
- Grant present from The Wawa Foundation to Blue Ridge Area Food Bank to support hunger relief initiatives in the region
- Wawa's "Hoagies for Heroes" hoagie-building competition between local police and fire departments with \$1,000 donated to each department's charity of choice

Who:

- Kim Dowgielewicz, Wawa Director of Store Operations
- Mark Soroka, Wawa Area Manager
- Shelby Szewczyk, Wawa General Manager
- Blue Ridge Area Food Bank representatives
- Local first responders from the police and fire departments
- Wally Goose, Wawa Mascot
- Wawa Customers and Fans

When: **Thursday, November 6th, 2025**

8:00 am – T-shirts distributed to 200 customers, as supplies last

8:30 am – Ribbon cutting ceremony and Hoagies for Heroes competition

Where: 1031 Richmond Ave. Staunton, VA 24401

Why: After serving the Virginia community for over 25 years with more than 125 stores, Wawa is thrilled to continue its expansion westward. Over the next ten years, Wawa plans to reach a total of 60 stores in the I-81 market. To build each store, Wawa will invest approximately \$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 thousands of long-term new jobs as a result of expansion westward in Virginia.

Visuals:

- T-shirt distribution to 200 customers, as supplies last
- Wawa's "Parade of the Ages," highlighting company milestones
- Wawa's "Hoagies for Heroes" hoagie-building competition between teams of local first responders
- Wawa leadership and local officials discussing the milestone and the impact of Wawa's continued investment in the region
- Fun, music, Wawa's mascot Wally Goose dancing with the crowd, ribbon cutting and confetti