Downtown Riverhead Halloween Fest downtownriverhead.org/halloween-fest Riverhead Business Improvement District downtownriverhead.org

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Halloween Fest: Coffin Race, Trick or Treating, Grand Costume Parade A Weekend of Fun and Frights across Downtown Riverhead

(Riverhead, NY...October, 2021) — <u>Downtown Riverhead</u> ignites for its annual Halloween-themed weekend of spooktacular free events from one end of town to the other. <u>HALLOWEEN FEST</u>, hosted by the <u>Riverhead Business Improvement District</u> [BID], will take place Saturday, October 23rd (rain date Sunday, October 24th) with day and night activities, restaurant and brewery specials, and entertainment for ghouls and goblins of all ages.

In celebration of October festivities, businesses and local organizations will decorate lamp posts with Halloween and harvest decor beginning October 13th. Veteran's banners on downtown lamp posts will remain in place through November in honor of Veteran's Day; on those posts, the BID will install corn stalks and pink/orange decor in celebration of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the Making Strides walk taking place downtown on October 30th.

<u>Suffolk Theater</u> kicks off the weekend [Friday, October 22nd, 8pm] with the <u>'Return of the Funk' concert by That 70's Band</u> followed by the Saturday night show, <u>Motown concert by Under the Streetlamp</u> [October 23rd, 8pm]. Additional cultural events include <u>Suffolk Historical Society's 'Gory Gallery'</u> humorous history exhibit and <u>'Mix Tape' exhibit at East End Arts.</u>

**[11am]** Saturday October 23rd, Halloween festivities begin with the <u>Bats, Barnacles and Broomsticks</u> children's party at the <u>Long Island Aquarium</u> and <u>Pumpkin Painting on the Porch at East End Arts</u>.

**[3pm] BID** sponsored activities begin with the <u>Coffin Races</u> along Griffing Avenue, in front of the court house. Teams build a coffin and race the street for a chance to win prizes in 'Ghoulies' or 'Zombies' categories. **[4-6pm]** Trick or treaters swarm Main Street as businesses and community members hand out candy, sponsored by <u>Island Federal Credit Union</u>, in partnership with the <u>BID</u>.

[7pm] Goblins will march down Main Street in the <u>Grand Halloween Parade</u> finale ending at the <u>Town of Riverhead</u> Showmobile stationed in the north parking lot. Performances by local theater groups (<u>Peconic Ballet Theater</u> performs 'Thriller') and talented community members will entertain; parade cash prizes for Best Costume, Best Decorated Car etc. will be awarded by the <u>Downtown Riverhead BID</u>.

"Island Federal, a long-time member of the Riverhead community, is proud to sponsor the Halloween Fest being held on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>," John McGregor, CCUFC | SVP – Business and Community Development. "After a year when most family-friendly events were canceled or suspended, it will be great to see children and their parents enjoying traditional fall activities again. We are pleased to help make that happen."

Reflextions Riverhead: Art in the Park walkable light art display welcomes visitors for a self-guided tour through Grangebel Park. While waiting for parade participants to line up [6-7pm], viewers are encouraged to walk the magical exhibit or dine at local restaurants and breweries offering food and drink specials all weekend.

"In Downtown Riverhead, we work hard to offer extraordinary events throughout the year. Halloween Fest is a wonderful celebration that delivers a fun and safe Halloween experience at no cost to our community and visitors, thank you to the generosity of our partners and sponsors," Kristy Verity, Executive Director, Downtown Riverhead Business Improvement District. "Nestled between the forks, Riverhead is flourishing as the Eastern Long Island mecca to Eat, Stay and Play. Our downtown offers rich history, parks, riverfront, family friendly activities, hotels, craft spirits and restaurants - embracing visitors to the east end. Like all of our events, Halloween Fest aims to give something to everyone, and we invite all to come dressed in their Halloween best for a great day Downtown."

Find Halloween Fest on Facebook and Instagram @halloweenfestriverhead

## Images:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Hgv-b7riZuY4nhBG3wYI2mzPxENBw8se?usp=sharing

The Riverhead Business Improvement District (BID) mission is to expand sustainable economic activity in historic downtown Riverhead, NY, create and expand businesses and develop jobs for community residents. RiverheadBID [downtownriverhead.org] is a non-profit special tax district management association fostering downtown revitalization and economic development. For more information call 631.440.1350 or email hello@downtownriverhead.org f./ @downtownriverheadbid i./ @downtownriverhead

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