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Celebrating Wawa's 26th Annual Hoagie Day June 28th: Honoring our Heroes with a Taste of Home
WMMR's Preston Elliot and Casey Foster Join USO, Delaware Bay Coast Guard, and Army and Air National Guard
in Seven-Ton Hoagie Salute to our Service Members and First Responders
Free Admission to National Constitution Center All Day

Wawa, PA. (June 28, 2018) – As part of its ninth year as title sponsor of Wawa Welcome America!, Wawa is celebrating our nation's birthday with events that focus on honoring our everyday heroes—the men and women who serve and protect the independence we celebrate throughout Independence week.

Wawa Hoagie Day: June 28th

On June 28th, **Wawa Hoagie Day is back** to honor our Heroes with a taste of home. This year's event marks the 26th annual *Wawa Hoagie Day* since the inaugural Hoagie Day was held in 1992, when the hoagie was proclaimed the "Official Sandwich of Philadelphia" by then Mayor Ed Rendell. This year's Hoagie Day hoagie will be the largest to date—weighing 7 tons! The 2018 Hoagie Day celebration will include a hoagie march by military heroes and re-enactors, a charitable Hoagies for Heroes hoagie-building competition, and so much more. As always, a highlight of the event will be the **Seven-Ton Hoagie Salute**, named in honor of our hometown heroes—military service men and women, firefighters, and police officers. During the salute, the **seven-ton hoagie—which will be built the morning of the celebration at the nearby National Constitution Center**—will be marched in by Wawa associates and re-enactors from military moments throughout history, **and served to the crowd, free of charge**. Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney, Wawa Associates and thousands of Wawa fans and hoagie lovers from around the region will also be in attendance. **Admission to the National Constitution Center is free all day courtesy of Wawa Hoagie Day**. During the event, Wawa Chief Operations Officer Cathy Pulos will announce The Wawa Foundation's goal to donate **\$800,000 for its annual USO campaign**, which kicked off in Wawa stores in June and runs through July 22, 2018.

The Wawa Hero Award Presentation: July 4th

This year marks The Wawa Foundation's third-annual "Hero Award," an honor given to a non-profit organization serving the greater Philadelphia area that helps to advance our local communities by assisting others and building stronger communities through preserving our independence, protecting our safety and mentoring and inspiring our youth.

The Finalists are:

- 1) [Boys & Girls Clubs of Philadelphia](#)
- 2) [EducationWorks](#)
- 3) [Inn Dwelling](#)
- 4) [Philadelphia Fire Department Explorers](#)



The winner was chosen by public vote on The [Wawa Foundation's website](#) and will be announced live on July 4th. The Wawa Foundation Hero Award will be presented as part of the Independence Day morning ceremony on July 4th in front of Independence Hall. The recipient of The Wawa Foundation Hero Award will receive a \$50,000 grant and the three runners up will each receive \$10,000 grants.