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-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-

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Marlborough's Labor Day Parade Preparations

MARLBOROUGH— Mayor Arthur Vigeant is pleased to announce the return of the Marlborough Labor Day Parade. The 2023 parade will mark the 71st year of the event.

In 1952, the 28th mayor of Marlborough, Romeo J. Gadbois enlisted the support of the Marlborough Recreation Department under the direction of Louis Ghiloni to organize the parade. That first year the parade had 12 marching units and launched the annual tradition to, as Mayor Romeo Gadbois wanted “to brighten the lives of those living in Marlborough”. Showcased that first year were the veterans who had recently returned from serving in World War II. The parade continued to showcase our veterans but grew to also include the Drum Corps popular in the 1960's and 70's. During the 80's the weekend included a Festival featuring two days of performances under five tents and culminated in a fireworks display. The Festival was held at Ward Park, on D'Angelo Drive on the western edge of the city and at the Middle School. During the 80's and 90's the weekend also included a carnival.

In recent years, with the support of Arthur Vigeant, our 43rd mayor, the parade has grown to include a wide variety of historical re-enactment groups, fife & drum corps, military color and honor guard, drill teams and marching units, high school and college marching bands and rock bands and, from time-to-time, a Mummers group from Philadelphia. Entries include veterans, politicians, home and school groups, non-profit agencies and more.

Melanie Whapham, the 2023 Parade Director, encourages the musical performing groups, schools, veterans, fraternal organizations, politicians, and civic groups to complete and submit the online application at the 2023 Marlborough Labor Day Parade website - marlboroughlabordayparade.com.

Donations are encouraged to supplement the City's sponsorship. Donations are available at five levels of support. These sponsorship levels are described on the website.

<https://marlboroughlabordayparade.com/2017-sponsorship-page/>

The Marlborough Labor Day Parade will step off at Noon on Monday, September 4th at Noon and will be broadcast live on WMCT-TV.

Those with questions about the Labor Day Parade may contact the Mayor's Office at 508-460-3770.

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