

News Release

August 26, 2019



Photo Credit: Tony Porter Photography, 2017

Tour the Working Waterfront and More at the 46th Harbor Days Maritime Festival

Tugs-History-Arts-Crafts-Food-Fun for All Ages

Vintage, working and retired tugboats return to the southernmost tip of Puget Sound for three days of fun at Harbor Days, Aug. 30-Sept. 1. Experience it all at Percival Landing and Port Plaza on Olympia's downtown waterfront. The free festival is presented by the Olympia Kiwanis Club thanks to support from the Squaxin Island Tribe, event title sponsor.

Free Port Tours on Saturday, August 31

Learn how Thurston County is connected with the global trade network, and how various modes of transportation move goods to their final destination. See the mobile harbor crane and other operational equipment, which are impressive by size alone. Hear maritime stories told by Olympia's longshore from ILWU Local #47, representatives from local forestry businesses, and Port of Olympia's marine terminal staff. Join them for a tour of your working waterfront!

Tour groups will depart hourly, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, August 31, at the Port of Olympia Booth on the northwest corner of the Port Plaza. Port Plaza is located just north of Percival Landing on Budd Inlet in downtown Olympia.

Harbor Days Festival Information August 30 – September 1

The tugs leave shore on Sunday at noon for the annual Tugboat Races in Budd Inlet. Many of the tugs offer dockside tours on Saturday. Joining the tugs at the dock will be retired US Coast Guard Cutter, Tug Comanche, which is now a floating WWII museum, and Tordenskjold, a 100-year-old Bering Sea fishing vessel.

The festival includes new and updated activities. The festival has teamed with the Capitol Volkssport Club to offer a pre-festival 5K or 10K "Walkabout the Harbor" at your own pace. Registration starts at 2 PM at Batdorf and Bronson on Market Street where you can pick up your step by step map – note this is

not fast walking or racing, a small fee for club members may apply. After a day at the festival, stay for "Harbor Days after Dark" starting at 8PM at the Port Plaza after closing both Friday and Saturday evening for a free live theater performance of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" offered by OlyArts Magazine, a local art publication.

Olympia Harbor Days and The Seafarer Collective have created an introductory class for teens 12 to 18 years old called "Working on the Water," offering insight to maritime educational and career pathways. The 1.5 hour class will be held aboard Virginia V Saturday at 9:30 AM. Participants must be registered in advanced and be accompanied by an adult if under 16 years of age.

At the Port Plaza, find the Squaxin Island Salish Seaport, presenting tribal activities, arts, artists, and cultural history through stories and dance and a beer garden. The Port Plaza also is home to the Port of Olympia booth, robotics, remote control tugs, the Hands On Children's Museum "Rumble Tug" make and race booth. Adults 21 and over can cool off at the Beerwerks Beer, Wine, and Cider Garden.

The famous Tall Ship Lady Washington returns to Olympia and will be sharing the Port Plaza docks with the historic Mosquito Fleet Steam Ship Virginia V and US Navy retired admiral's barge, Old Man IV. The Ships of the Harbor feature will offer tour opportunities (donations appreciated) as well as cruises. Information on schedules, ticket pricing and purchasing is available at www.HarborDays.com.

The Port of Olympia hosts Harbor Days to celebrate the maritime heritage of our community. For more information: www.HarborDays.com.

###

Media Contact:

Jennie Foglia-Jones, Communications, Marketing & Outreach Manager
360.528.8005 JennieF@portolympia.com

About the Port of Olympia

The southernmost deep-water port on Puget Sound, the Port of Olympia owns and operates an international shipping terminal that handles a range of breakbulk and project cargoes. The Port also owns and operates Swantown Marina & Boatworks, a 733-slip recreational marina and boat haulout/repair facility, a regional airport and a real estate division.

Tel 360.528.8000 Fax 360.528.8090 www.portolympia.com