

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 16, 2012
To: Harbor Commissioners
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

USS Halsey Visit

The guided-missile destroyer USS Halsey visited Santa Barbara September 6th through 9th, anchoring a half-mile offshore, just outside the harbor. Commissioned in 2005, the 509-foot ship arrived fresh from duty off the Somali coast, where it took part in anti-piracy operations. The visit offered 280 sailors and crew much needed liberty while providing ship tours for 950 visitors. The Halsey's visit was hosted by the Santa Barbara Chapter of the United States Navy League, which helped coordinate a Yacht Club reception, softball games, a fundraiser at the Reagan Ranch Center in downtown Santa Barbara, as well as the 45-minute public tours of the ship, tickets for which were distributed through Sea Landing.

Southern California Ta-Ta

A boat rally known as the Baja Ha-Ha, which runs 750 miles from San Diego to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, has been a popular fall run for California sailors and power-boaters since 1994. In all, nearly 2,500 boats have participated in the Ha-Ha. This year, rally organizers added a "Southern California Ta-Ta" to the itinerary, ahead of the Baja Ha-Ha. The week-long Ta-Ta started in Santa Barbara, then proceeded to Santa Cruz Island, Paradise Cove and King Harbor (Redondo), finishing at Two Harbors, on Catalina Island. On the weekend of September 8th and 9th, 27 Ta-Ta participants, mostly ranging in length from 32'-50', rented slips in Santa Barbara Harbor before setting off on the journey. With any luck, this will become an annual event that puts Santa Barbara on the map for yet another prestigious boat rally, much the way the King Harbor race has done. Staff will communicate with Ta-Ta organizers to gauge their interest in future, similar events.

Harbor Festival October 13th

The 11th annual Harbor and Seafood Festival will take place Saturday, October 13th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. We've got it all again this year—fresh crab, lobster, oysters and shrimp, plus barbequed albacore, lobster bisque, paella, sea urchin "uni," seafood gumbo, clam chowder, fish tacos and more. And while indulging the seafood, enjoy tall-ship and Coast Guard cutter tours, live music, touch tanks, arts-and-crafts vendors, free boat rides and maritime education booths. And remember, festival admission is free, so bring the whole family for a day at the harbor you won't forget. For more information, visit the Harbor Festival website at www.harborfestival.org

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