

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

Date: September 19, 2013
To: Harbor Commission
From: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director
Subject: Harbor Operations Report

King Harbor Race Recap

At the height of our yachting season, 72 sailboats departed Santa Barbara Harbor July 26th for the 41st annual King Harbor Race, an 81-mile course that terminates at King Harbor in Redondo. The number of competing boats was down from last year's 93, but on a par with the 78 boats that competed in 2011. This "up and down" participation typically mirrors years when the biannual Transpac race occurs. This was a Transpac year, so many participants who would otherwise participate in the King Harbor Regatta were racing across the Pacific instead.

King Harbor racers enjoyed a good breeze, so good in fact, that one 30-footer dropped out because, according to Yacht Club sources, the wind was testing the construction of his boat. On the plus side, because of the steady, stiff breeze, all boats finished by 12:15 a.m.—almost unprecedented for this race. There was a live finish cam in addition to race tracker and much more. All this and results can be viewed online at <http://sbycracing.org/2013-sb-to-kh/>.

Harbor Patrol Rescues Kayakers; Life Jackets Saved Their Lives

On August 4th Harbor Patrol Officers responded to a victim hanging from a boundary buoy and his overturned kayak east of Stearns Wharf. He was wearing a Personal Floatation Device (PFD, or "Life Jacket") and had been in the water for over five minutes. He was too weak to get in the kayak and was pulled aboard the Patrol Boat and transported back to the dock.

The victim said he was with another couple that might still be outside the harbor on a tandem kayak. Officers located the other overturned kayak outside the summer anchorage, with those two persons in the water. They, too, were unable to get back in their kayak, having spent 10 minutes immersed. They, too, were wearing PFDs, and were pulled, unharmed, into the Patrol Boat.

While these were somewhat routine rescues for Harbor Patrol, they underscore a mantra we often repeat: PFDs save lives. As vivid example, consider this: In 2012, out of over 400 persons drowned in boating accidents in California, 84% were not wearing life jackets. There are so many brands on the market these days, including lightweight, comfortable models, there's really little excuse not to wear one.

Great Pacific Ice Cream Company Burglarized, Vandalized

On August 3rd, Harbor Patrol Officers responded to Great Pacific Ice Cream Company on Stearns Wharf, on a report that it was burglarized sometime the previous night. The burglars apparently cut a screen and entered through a window, where they proceeded to plug a sink with paper towels and turn the water on, flooding the store. In addition, they contaminated several gallons of ice cream and toppings by spraying them with Windex and other cleansers, and stole \$1,000 from the facility. City police continue to investigate this crime.

Harbor Festival October 12th

The 12th annual Harbor and Seafood Festival will take place Saturday, October 12th 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, 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 or the City's website at www.santabarbaraca.gov.

Prepared by: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager