



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UPDATE:

Port of Palm Beach is excited to announce [Palm Beach Maritime Museum](#) has joined the roster of Harbor of Hope festival participants and will give its first 100 booth visitors FREE ferry and tour passes to the Kennedy Bunker and U.S. Coastguard Museum on Peanut Island. Free pass holders will be able to board the Riviera Beach Marina water taxi between 1:00 and 3:00 pm, Saturday April 11. Palm Beach Maritime Museum is working with the Port of Palm Beach to restore and revitalize the south side of the island, refueling tourism interest and ensuring the longevity of its historic sites.

“We look forward to joining the Port of Palm Beach and other participants at Saturday’s festival, and are excited to offer families information and a first-hand look at a piece of history, states PBMM spokesperson Lily Dillon. “The Maritime Museum, the Academy and the Kennedy Bunker are wonderful landmarks to have in Palm Beach County and it is an honor to be able to share the site with the guests of this weekend’s maritime festival. ”

The Harbor of Hope Port Centennial Festival & Blessing of the Fleet is free to the public and will take place Saturday, April 11, 2015, from 10:00am until 3:00 pm.

Port of Palm Beach Hosts 2015 Centennial Celebration & Harbor of Hope’s Blessing of the Fleet

What: Harbor of Hope Centennial Port Festival & Blessing of the Fleet

When: Saturday, April 11, 2015, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Where: Port of Palm Beach, Riviera Beach

April 1, 2015 (Riviera Beach, FL) – On April 11, 2015, the Port of Palm Beach will host the Centennial Port Festival and Blessing of the Fleet, a celebration of the maritime industry and the local community

surrounding the Port. 2015 marks a special year for this seventh annual event, as it represents the 100 Year Anniversary of the Port of Palm Beach. It also celebrates a 100 year old tradition, the blessing of seafaring vessels, and aims to raise awareness and funds for a Seafarers' House – an establishment that will support Port visitors for the next 100 years.

On Saturday, April 11, from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm, the Harbor of Hope festival will offer waterfront entertainment and a view of the working Port and its maritime partners that the public rarely has access to. Participants in the blessing and the festival will include, among others:

- Palm Beach Harbor Pilots procession;
- Tropical Shipping vessels;
- U.S. Bernard Webber Fast Response Cutter tours;
- the Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Volunteer Marine Unit;
- Palm Beach Sea Cadets presentations and demonstrations;
- Palm Beach Maritime Academy display;
- U.S. Customs & Border Protection information and demonstrations;
- Marine Industries Association display and activity center, and
- Food Trucks: DR Smokehouse, CheezeZilla and Sweet Cravings

This family friendly event is FREE to the public, with all raffle and profit proceeds going directly to Harbor of Hope. To view the Harbor of Hope Blessing of the Fleet Event online, please visit the [Port of Palm Beach Facebook Page](#).

This event is being sponsored by the Port of Palm Beach District, Palm Beach Marine Industries Association, Tropical Shipping, Bahamas Paradise Cruises, and Majestic Princess.

About the Port of Palm Beach

The Port of Palm Beach is a 162-acre, full-service, diversified port, handling a full range of cargoes and moving \$4 billion worth of commodities, two million tons of diversified cargoes and more than 340,000 passengers annually. The Port is committed to the highest levels of service and to fiscal and environmental responsibility while ensuring the utmost safety and security. For more information on the Port of Palm Beach, please visit www.portofpalmbeach.com.

About Harbor of Hope

Harbor of Hope is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to the welcoming and caring of mariners coming from countries all over the world. The Port of Palm Beach is the 18th busiest container port in the U.S. and sees thousands of seafarers every year. These mariners are responsible for transporting 80% of all the products used within the United States; and they spend months and sometimes years, away from home. Harbor of Hope is the welcoming organization for the Port of Palm Beach and is

dedicated to providing a unique blend of services to improve the lives of seafarers through hospitality, personal and material support and hospital visits.