

aboard the tanker MARY A. WHALEN P.O. Box 195, Red Hook Station, Brooklyn, NY 11231 917-414-0565, portsidenewyork@gmail.com portsidenewyork.org @PortSideNewYork

For Immediate Release

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Light Up the Shore - Sandy Anniversary harborwide event including NY & NJ

PortSide NewYork invites friends and neighbors from in and out of Red Hook to light up the shore as part of a harborwide event on the anniversary of superstorm Sandy.

Bring your candles, flashlights and headlamps and join people throughout the five boroughs and New Jersey who will assemble at the time Sandy's surge hit our most seaward locations one year ago.

Light Up the Shore - Sandy Anniversary

Date: Tuesday October 29, 2013

Time of illumination: 7:45pm, 6:30 arrival time recommended

Red Hook site: IKEA Erie Basin Park, 1 Beard Street.

PortSide Facebook event link to share https://www.facebook.com/events/553161614755252/

Map of Brooklyn locations https://www.zeemaps.com/map?group=701389

IKEA Brooklyn has invited the community to their waterfront park and is donating 200 candles.

Spend more time in Red Hook and join people in a Coffey Park vigil which begins at 6:45pm and walk down to IKEA's waterfront led by some members of the jubilant and feisty <u>Hungry March Band</u>, here again to support Red Hook. They played in front of the Visitation Church aid center in the early days of November.

PortSide Director Carolina Salguero says "To all of you outside of Red Hook, who came and volunteered and/or donated over the year, we would love to see you again so that we could thank you and embrace you. Thanks for all you did for our community!"

PortSide NewYork has supported Light Up the Shore since we first learned that the Staten Island Community and Interfaith Long-Term Recovery Organization proposed "a chain of lights across the shoreline -- extending into the other boroughs, as well as New Jersey." The <u>Brooklyn Long Term Recovery Group</u> is organizing this event in <u>multiple Brooklyn locations</u> along **with the**

Office of the Brooklyn Borough President, the Brooklyn Community Foundation, the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce and other organizations.

PortSide NewYork loves "Light Up the Shore" for the way it connects the region, because people everywhere were affected by Sandy, and because resiliency is a group effort.

Two mental health professionals, identified by blue vests, will be present at IKEA to support those who need it.

About PortSide NewYork

Our mission is to create change on the waterfront: more and better use of NYC's <u>Sixth Borough</u>, the waterfront BlueSpace. This effort represents the second phase of NYC's waterfront revitalization (the first phase was "access," just getting people to the edge). PortSide leads in creating educational, cultural and economic activity once you get there.

PortSide works with the community ashore and the community afloat; our goal is to bring the two closer together, to foster their mutual understanding and to create synergies between the two. PortSide programs are diverse—they include maritime preservation, visiting vessels, arts and educational programs, community service and advocacy. What unites them is the focus on water and waterfront issues.

PortSide has its offices aboard a historic ship, the <u>MARY A. WHALEN</u>, and with her, PortSide has created the world's only oil tanker cultural center. We run our waterfront-themed programs on and off the MARY.

We are devoted to our home neighborhood <u>Red Hook</u>, and many of our programs are designed to aid Red Hook's revitalization (while showing how water-themed programs can boost all waterfront neighborhoods in NYC).

In 2013, PortSide NewYork won a White House "Champions of Change" award for Sandy recovery work and was also honored by the New York State Senate. Our Sandy work came in two parts: first, protecting our home, the tanker MARY A. WHALEN, from being damaged by the storm and from breaking free and damaging the property of others; and second, a year of recovery work which included creating and running a pop-up aid station in a donated storefront, then a virtual aid station, and Red Hook's monthly Sandy survivor meetings. PortSide is currently involved in creating flood preparedness programs for Red Hook and developing resiliency suggestions for Red Hook and NYC.