



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PortSide NewYork contact: Carolina Salguero, 917-414-0565,
carolina@portsidenewyork.org

PortSide NewYork summer attractions! Reasons to visit Red Hook on the NYC Ferry! Attend programs aboard our ship, and tour Red Hook with our e-museum and community guide Red Hook WaterStories.

Summer 2017, the waterfront non-profit PortSide NewYork offers many reasons to come down to the Red Hook waterfront, by bus, by Citibike, or on the new NYC ferry which starts its Red Hook service on June 1! All events are on the 79-year old tanker MARY A. WHALEN, Pier 11, in historic Atlantic Basin, Red Hook, Brooklyn, next to the new NYC Ferry dock.

PortSide NewYork schedule in brief:

- TankerTours, Sat 6/3, 10:00am-5:00pm, tours of ship MARY A. WHALEN
- TankerTime:
 - M-F, 10am-6pm, enjoy the main deck set hammocks, chairs, tables.
 - Second Sundays (6/11, 7/9, 8/13, 9/10) sunset TankerTime: 5:00pm-Midnight, with "WaterStories of the Wine Dark Sea" musicians jam 9pm to midnight.
- TankerTalk, Thurs 6/15, 9:02pm-9:44pm, "Existential Navigational Math" lecture
- Always open: e-museum and community guide Red Hook WaterStories at www.redhookwaterstories.org

In addition to public programs below, PortSide has summer vocational CTE internships, a training program with the union District Council 9, is developing education programs; and we are working on our own Sandy recovery. After years of negotiations, we are approved for a FEMA Sandy Alternate Project - but it's reimbursement money. We have until November to raise \$322,000, put out a bid, select vendors, finish shipyard work to make the MARY A. WHALEN more resilient, and get reimbursed.

Full program info at <http://portsidenewyork.org/summer-2017/>

Come enjoy and learn from PortSide's home, the historic ship MARY A. WHALEN. The ship is a retired oil tanker, so all events aboard the MARY have "Tanker" in the name. TankerTime, TankerTours and a TankerTalk are on the roster this summer.

PortSide NewYork opens its historic ship for TankerTours, hosts weekday TankerTime and Second Sundays TankerTime, including a Mediterranean-themed music jam, and presents a TankerTalk on “Existential Navigational Math.”

TankerTours of ship MARY A. WHALEN, FREE, Sat, June 3, 10am to 5pm,

The ship MARY A. WHALEN is open in honor of her 79th birthday and the first weekend of NYC Ferry service in Red Hook right next to us! Around noon, we will pause tours while Congresswoman Nydia Velazquez presents PortSide NewYork with a Congressional Record outlining the significance of the ship.

For this event, PortSide launches the first free historic ship smartphone tours in NYC, a compliment to our e-museum Red Hook WaterStories. Visit the ship, an important artifact of Red Hook and New York harbor history, noteworthy for her role in a major 1975 Supreme Court legal decision and as the last of her kind in the USA. Learn about a bell boat, speaking tubes, cooking on a diesel stove and other aspects of life and work on a coastal oil tanker. Great for all ages; kids are allowed to touch things. Flat, rubber-soled shoes a must! Learn knot tying and harbor lore from maritime impresario Frank Hanavan. Take fun souvenir photos with our „Salty Selfies“ collection of props. Follow up by touring Red Hook via our e-museum and community guide Red Hook WaterStories which explains local history and lists all the restaurants, bars, shops and more.

TankerTime on MARY A. WHALEN, FREE. Enjoy the main deck set with hammocks, tables and chairs. Make like you own a retired oil tanker.

Weekdays 10am-6pm this is a great place to have a lunch meeting, bring the kids instead of the same old playground, read selected books from our maritime library, wait for the ferry, sketch, watch the working waterfront all around us, count wild ducks and geese.

Second Sundays, 5pm-midnight, the appeal switches to watching the sunset, bringing dinner and BYOB, snuggling with your honey in a hammock, listening to “WaterStories of the Wine Dark Sea” Mediterranean music jam that starts at 9pm. If you are a musician of that type, come join!

TankerTalk “Existential Navigational Math” Thursday 6/15/17 during nautical twilight 9:02 pm - 9:44 pm. FREE lecture with projections:

Laurent Derobert’s existential mathematics lead to existential navigation, where drift is passion and wanderings are the destination. Musing through the relationship between navigation, astronomy, mathematics and poetry, the audience will deviate with him as he repurposes equations into haikus and formulas into metaphors of our own odysseys. Derobert has presented at the Palais de Tokyo, MOMA PS1 and FIAC

Red Hook WaterStories:

If you're visiting Red Hook this summer for Formula E, Red Hook Flicks, to try the new NYC Ferry, or enjoy PortSide New York's [events](#), check WaterStories on your smart phone to find food, drink and fascinating historical information about your route or current location. WaterStories has up-to-date information on MTA buses and CitiBike stations.

Red Hook WaterStories is a digital deep dive into 400+ years of Red Hook maritime past and present. It's NYC's maritime story in microcosm. Discover forgotten stories from this evocative neighborhood, and explore today's restaurants, bars, shops, galleries and community resources.

Looking for a great Red Hook burger, free kayaking or wondering what kind of ship is passing the shore? Red Hook WaterStories answers all those questions and ones you never thought of such as "why was there a barnacle library?" and "what goes on in the Red Hook Container Terminal?" Learn why Abraham Lincoln made a point of having the slave ship ERIE sold, right here in Red Hook, and its captain hanged. Ever hear of Mrs. Commodore Hamilton, who was the equal of men as a barge captain in the 1890s? Looking to better understand marine weather and prepare better for the next flood? Discover that renewable energy, in the form of mills powered by the tide, was big in Red Hook for 200 years. Want to know how many Red Hook trees were damaged by Sandy? We have the real story on why Buttermilk Channel has that name. Did you know that Red Hook was the Plymouth Rock of the Puerto Rican community in NYC because ships from the island docked here? Learn about Louis Heineman, the "Patriarch of Red Hook," and his epic showdown against developer William Beard. And, yes, we have cat WaterStories!

The map combines a street map with nautical charts and real-time ship tracking. Toggle the map's layers to focus on entertainment, history, transit options or visitor information,

By design, the site has content for locals, visitors from within and from outside NYC, history buffs and educators. The site includes:

- Extensive historical research with vintage articles, maps and illustrations. Original sources plus essays written by our team.
- Contemporary maritime info such as:
 - A seamless blend of a NOAA mariners chart with a land map, plus an [intro to reading a chart](#) for non-maritime users
 - Info on where to get on boats, see boats and access the waterfront.
 - Descriptions of [all current maritime businesses](#) with vessels here
 - Real time data on those vessels (donated by [Marine Traffic](#))
- Oral histories by the PortSide team and others
- All Red Hook retail, arts, non-profits, schools, parks
- Transit info (Citibike docks, bus stops) updated in real time
- Art & literature inspired by our waterfront

- Resiliency and flood prep info
- Info on PortSide's flagship MARY A. WHALEN and her Red Hook pedigree.

Red Hook WaterStories covers Red Hook's devastation and recovery from Hurricane Sandy, and features an extensive Resiliency section at <https://redhookwaterstories.org/tours/show/9> with an overview of all the major Red Hook resiliency plans, maps about sewers, buried streams, Sandy flooding and more.

Red Hook WaterStories Version 1.0 had a soft launch October, 2016, and has been refined and updated and is receiving accolades from locals and from around the country and overseas.

QUOTES

Polyhistor- Historian Dana Brown writes: "I must tell you, this is such an unbelievable project--actually, a dream project and I am not too proud to admit that I am inspired and jealous at the same time. I am not sure I have any feedback except praise. The history is accessible, the stories are interesting, and leave you wandering away from the site (for just a moment) to book a trip to come and experience it all firsthand. What a way to make history relevant and connect community. Bravo!"

PortSide NewYork's President Carolina Salguero says, "Red Hook WaterStories is a guide to the fascinating neighborhood of Red Hook, Brooklyn AND uses this peninsula to cover larger issues. Red Hook is a powerful vehicle for telling NYC's maritime story since the mile-square peninsula has 400+ years of maritime history and a very active working waterfront," said Carolina Salguero, President of PortSide NewYork. "This project also puts coastal history into resiliency - that has been a missing piece - as PortSide continues continue to use new media to educate diverse audiences about waterfronts past and present, with an eye to shaping NYC's future. We are particularly grateful for the pivotal seed money from Councilman Carlos Menchaca that took our years of work on Red Hook WaterStories to new levels and supported the creation of this unique community guide and resource."

Councilman Carlos Menchaca says, "Red Hook's deep history and vivid present are well represented by Red Hook WaterStories. Local cultural treasure, PortSide NewYork, has created an innovative program that residents and visitors can use to understand our neighborhood. Are you curious about our maritime history or how public housing replaced wretched shantytowns? Would you like to plan a day trip or find a Red Hook venue or artisan? Are you studying New York's planning for long-term resilience and Red Hook's relationship to the water? Use Red Hook WaterStories' innovative Web site, attend an event, or contribute your own stories and help write Red Hook's next chapters."

Jamin Wells, Public Historian, Department of History University of West Florida said: "PortSide's site really influenced our students" on the work on their project "Escambia County Coastal Heritage Survey".

The Norwegian Immigration Association, Inc. (NIA): “This website contains revealing details of the lives of Norwegians in Red Hook- a dominant population group in the area from the 1870's to 1920,” niahistory.org

Lee Gruzen, Director, New York Ship Lore & Model Club: “Cheers to PortSide NewYork’s fresh, practical and gorgeous new resource for discovering the 400-year continuum that’s living, dynamic Red Hook.”

About PortSide NewYork www.portsidenewyork.org

PortSide NewYork is a living lab for better urban waterways. PortSide brings WaterStories to life. PortSide shows how to combine the working waterfront, public access and community development. We bring the communities that are ashore and afloat closer together to the benefit of both.

PortSide is creating a maritime center with inclusive programs and services for the general public and the working waterfront. PortSide NewYork currently delivers water, waterfront and maritime-themed programs, services and advocacy, on and off a historic ship, the tanker MARY A. WHALEN.

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