



Stearns Wharf to Celebrate 150th Birthday

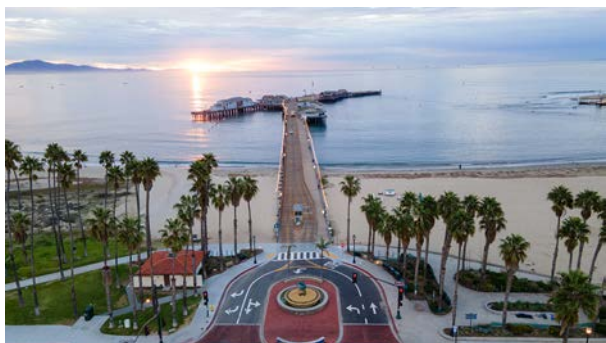
by Chris Bell, Waterfront Public Information Officer

To celebrate Stearns Wharf turning 150 years old, a grand birthday bash is planned for Saturday, October 8 from 11:00 am to 7:15 pm. This iconic structure, which has served as Santa Barbara's front door, the birthplace of an industry, and the community's plank park, will be honored by cannon battles with a tall ship, an opera performance, live music, a little history, and a lot of fun.

Festivities begin on a high note at 11:00 am with a stirring performance of operatic favorites by Opera Santa Barbara. The tall ship Mystic Whaler will be prowling the waters off the wharf from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm and word is there may be an exchange of gunfire with the wharf cannon.

At 2:00 pm the sea will be filled with a flotilla of sail boats as the Santa Barbara Yacht Club honors the wharf with a ceremonial regatta. Also at 2:00 pm at the end of the wharf, local band Tequila Mockingbird will dish up their signature interpretation of the best classic and modern rock, blues, funk and groove.

The birthday celebration will offer a variety of family fun with free face painting for kids, a scavenger hunt with prizes, and free boat rides for kids 12 and under, when accompanied by an adult, on Lil' Toot.



From noon to 4:00 pm, wharf restaurants will hold a friendly competition to see who serves the best clam chowder with free tastings. Participants in the tastings will be eligible to win coupons provided by the restaurants.

At 4:30 pm the Doublewide Kings take over the bandstand with their uniquely tweaked blend of original music and cover tunes of roots-rock, Americana, country-blues, and the glory days of 70s FM radio.

At 5:30 pm Santa Barbara's favorite historian, Neal Graffy will emcee the birthday ceremony while regaling the crowd with tales of the wharf's colorful past. There will be a brief convocation by local dignitaries followed by cake and a toast.

The day will be capped at 7:00 pm with a brilliant 5-minute fireworks show.

All activities are free and open to the public thanks in part to generous sponsors: Visit Santa Barbara, Jordano's and Condor Express.

For more information go to: stearnswharf.org or call Chris Bell at 805-897-1962.



Harbor & Seafood Festival Returns!

After a two-year hiatus, it's time to celebrate Santa Barbara Channel's bounty and the fishermen who harvest it at the 19th Annual Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival on Saturday, October 15th. This free event runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., luring seafood lovers to Santa Barbara Harbor for one of our community's most cherished events.

Timed to celebrate the opening of lobster season, the Festival showcases fresh, regional seafood in addition to live music, maritime education, free boat rides, children's activities, vessel tours, and more. There's fun to be had for all ages.

The Harbor & Seafood Festival offers an interactive day for visitors and locals alike, reminding us that Santa Barbara Harbor is a working harbor where more than 100 fishermen land millions of pounds of seafood each year, adding \$30 million to the local economy and beyond.

Come enjoy an abundance of sustainably harvested, high-quality seafood. Meet fishermen face-to-face. Select local fresh-caught lobster, crab, and sea urchin "uni" and have them prepared on the spot. Visit specialty food booths for fish tacos, oysters, mussels, barbequed albacore, clam chowder, and seafood paella.

While Juan Dolor, Spencer the Gardner, and Cornerstone play live on the main stage, peruse special festival memorabilia, shop for a variety of art, clothing, and other unique gifts, and enjoy free harbor boat rides aboard the Double Dolphin and Kelpie.

The Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival is presented by the City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department, Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara, Inc., and the Santa Barbara Harbor Merchants' Association, along with various community partners and volunteers.

Visit HarborFestival.org for more details.

If you would like to volunteer for the event, please contact Chris Bell at 805-897-1962.





Diving Statue Coming to Harbor

A 10-foot-tall diver will soon be greeting visitors to the harbor. The bronze sculpture is to be a monument that confirms Santa Barbara Harbor’s place in history as the birthplace of international deep water ocean exploration.

The planned location for the monument is on the sidewalk leading into the harbor near the Breakwater Restaurant and Santa Barbara Maritime Museum.

Very few people know it but Santa Barbara is recognized by most international diving historians as the birthplace of deepwater diving technology. It all began in the 1960s when local abalone divers discovered they could safely dive to greater depths using a mixture of oxygen and helium gas as opposed to compressed air which becomes narcotic at depth.



The equipment, technology, support, and training infrastructures developed by the pioneering divers in Santa Barbara rapidly spread worldwide and revolutionized the trade of both the commercial and military diver.

2022 marks the 60th anniversary of the record-breaking dive by Hugh 'Dan' Wilson, a local abalone diver. Wilson cast off from Santa Barbara harbor for his historic dive in relative secrecy on the fishing vessel 'Rio Janeiro' on November 3, 1962. He took a support crew of abalone divers and some Brooks Institute photography students, who served as safety divers and documented his successful record attempt. Wilson dove to over 400 feet off the east end of Santa Cruz Island, using oxy-helium mixed gas (Heliox) as his breathing gas.

The Santa Barbara Deepwater Diving Monument Committee was formed by local historian and co-founder of the Historical Diving Society USA, Leslie Leaney and Professor Emeritus Don Barthelmess of Santa Barbara City College’s Marine Diving Technology Program. The committee is comprised of local residents, historians, stakeholders and City officials. To donate to the project, go to deepwaterdivingmonument.com.



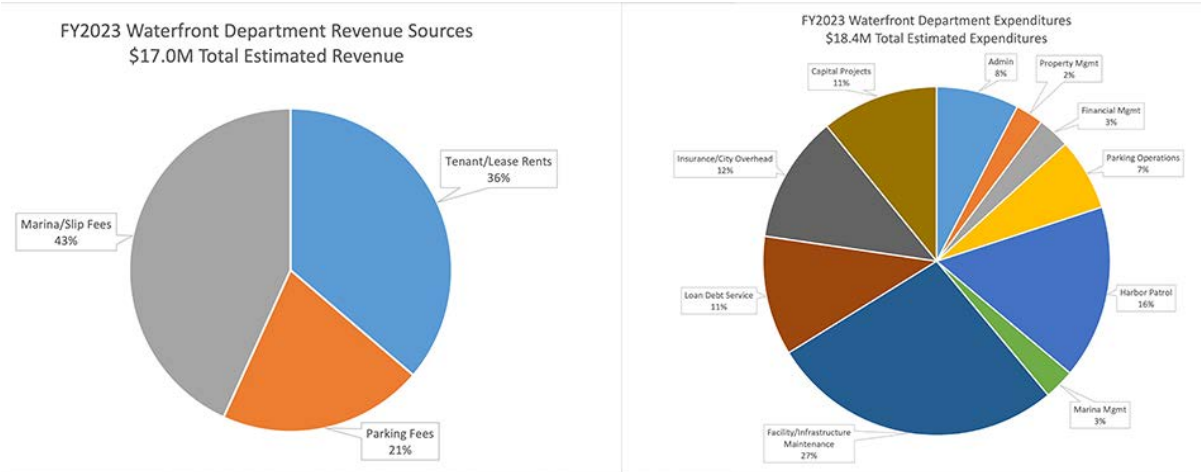


What's an Enterprise Fund?

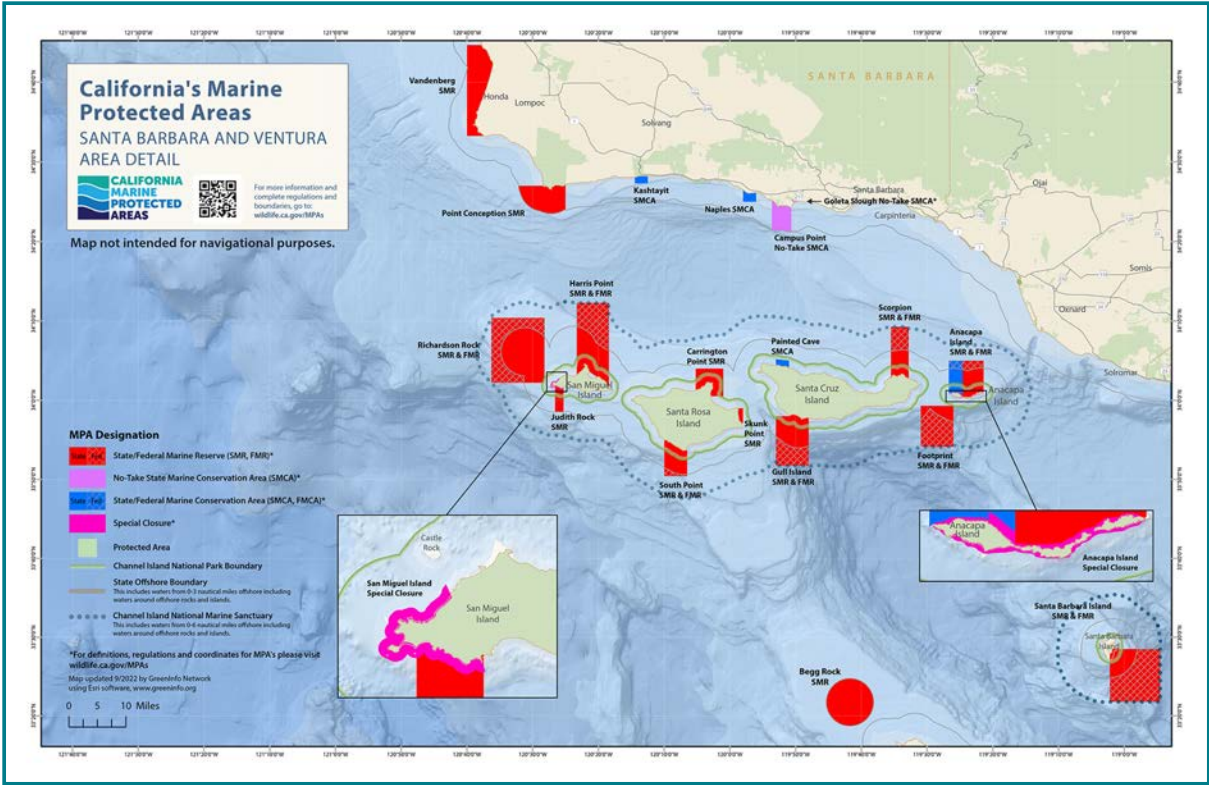
by Mike Wiltshire, Waterfront Director

You may have heard the Waterfront Department referred to as an “Enterprise Fund”. What does this mean?

The Waterfront Department is one of 14 departments within the City of Santa Barbara. Unlike most other departments, the Waterfront Department receives no taxpayer or General Fund dollars. As an “Enterprise Fund” the Waterfront must fully fund its operations using revenues generated right here within the waterfront district. This means the Waterfront Department must generate enough revenue each year to cover all annual costs including maintenance, capital projects, insurance, staffing, Harbor Patrol, emergency reserves, loan payments, and parking infrastructure.



The Waterfront Department’s main sources of revenue are slip fees, tenant rents, and parking fees. In any given year the cost to operate the Waterfront Department is roughly \$16M to \$18M, which means at minimum, this amount of revenue must be generated to cover costs and remain fiscally sustainable. The Waterfront Department is essentially a non-profit operation where 100% of revenues generated are reinvested in operations and future planning to ensure the waterfront remains a vital and vibrant place to recreate, conduct business, and visit.



Know Your Local Marine Protected Areas

by Aubrie Fowler, MPA Collaborative Network

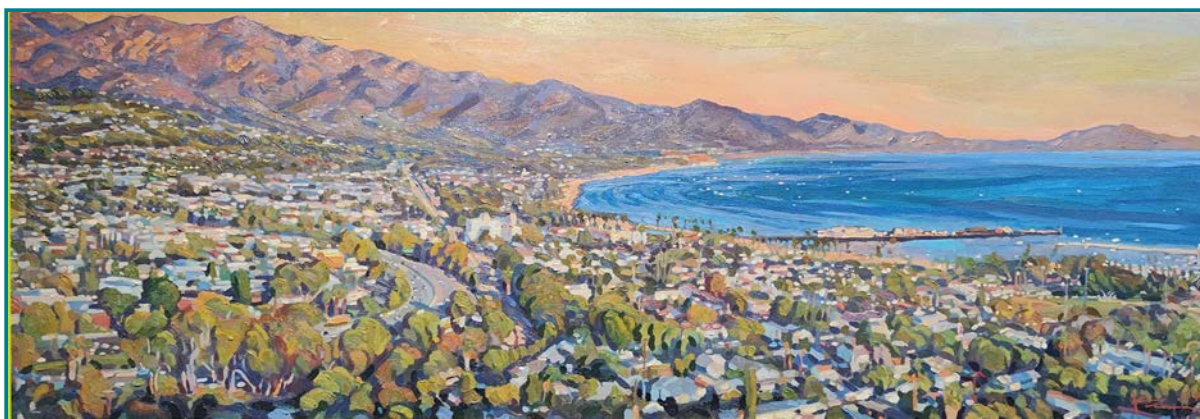
A statewide network of MPAs safeguards California’s rich coastal resources while using different levels of protection that may allow for some fishing activities, in accordance with other fishing regulations.

Offshore of Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, there are five mainland MPAs, 14 Channel Islands MPAs, and two island Special Closures. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife, which manages the statewide network of MPAs, has an ocean sport fishing and MPA map designed for use on mobile devices. Learn more at: wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs.



Scan here for the mobile MPA app:

Get involved at the community level through the MPA Collaborative Network. The local collaborative, Santa Barbara Channel MPA Collaborative, has lots of great ways to engage! Visit mpacollaborative.org/santabarbara to learn more!



Renowned Local Artist on Exhibit at Maritime Museum

Continuing its celebration of coastal living, the Santa Barbara Maritime Museum (SBMM) is now exhibiting *The Peaceful Sea: Paintings by Kevin A. Short*. The exhibition features more than 30 seascapes and ocean-themed landscapes by the renowned contemporary painter and Santa Barbara native. The presentation will be on view to the public from August 11 through December 31, 2022.

Short began his art training with a toy watercolor set and a pile of crayons, drawing on leftover butcher paper in the middle of the kitchen floor. He went on to formally study oil painting at the University of New Mexico, Pepperdine University, and the Art Center College of Design.

Now internationally recognized for his contemporary landscapes of the Pacific Coast, Short is considered a particularly intelligent observer of the ocean who paints the surfing and coastal subcultures using his signature heavy, impressionist brushstrokes and rich, saturated color palettes.

Short grew up along California's coast. Born in San Diego and raised in Santa Barbara, he developed his love of the ocean through sailing, fishing, and spending long days in the surf. *The Peaceful Sea: Paintings by Kevin A. Short* presents a selection of the artist's paintings that capture this lifelong passion. It conjures specific moments in time, both imagined and remembered, and celebrates all the living colors of the sea.



Emily Falke, Director of Collections and Curator at SBMM, says, "Short's paintings are imbued with narrative and emotion. They chronicle our experiences as a coastal community, depicting all the outdoor joys available to us--paddling, boating, surfing, swimming, just being at the beach—and pay tribute to the beauty of the ocean and the culture that has helped form this part of the world."

SBMM is located at 113 Harbor Way, Suite 190, Santa Barbara, CA 93109.

Visit sbmm.org or call (805) 962-8404 for details.

Meet with Mike

Waterfront Director, Mike Wiltshire would love to meet with you and chat about anything and everything Waterfront. Mike holds an open office hour every Wednesday from noon to 1pm in the Harbormaster's Office Conference Room.

When: Every Wednesday, Noon – 1 pm

Where: Harbormaster's Office Conference Room (132 Harbor Way, Suite A)

How: Setup a 15-minute meeting by emailing [Angela Rodriguez](mailto:Angela.Rodriguez@waterfrontsb.org) or calling 805-564-5519

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City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department

805-564-5531

132-A Harbor Way, Santa Barbara, CA 93109

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