## The Harbor, Ocean Drive, Cliff Walk ... Friends of the Waterfront Has It Covered

## **32nd ANNUAL** Waterfront Inspection Cruise

Sunday Night, Sept. 8th Be on Time 4:45-7:00 PM Bowen's Wharf... Tickets in Advance ... See Inside Page.

### Friends of the Waterfront's **NEWPORT WATERFRONT WATCHER**

**President:** Jim Perrier Treasurer: Linda Hammer Secretary: Liz Mathinos Board members: Vic Farmer, Ruth Kiker, Johanna Vietry, Charles Weishar, Dave Wixted

Friends of the Waterfront. Inc. PO Box 932, Newport, RI 02840

This FOW Newsletter is written by Jim Perrier, President, with assistance from the FOW board and others.

> CliffWalk.com NewportHarborWalk.com OceanDriveNewport.com NewportWaterfront.org

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## or current resident

## New map features Harbor Walk

A collaborative process to document and promote public access in Newport Harbor has resulted in a pocket map that visitors and residents alike can use to explore Newport's waterfront. The map, "Public Access Walk: A ramble through Newport's Harbor front," is an 11x17" paper map that can also be scanned via QR Code to your smart phone for paper-free access to the highlights of Newport Harbor.

The maps will be offered free to the public and distributed at several key locations, including the Newport Visitor's Center, the Harbor Master Building at Perrotti Park, the Newport Maritime Center, Seamen's Church Institute, the Newport Harbor Shuttle, and Fort Adams, to name a few. Friends of the Waterfront will also offer the maps to walkers who join in on their monthly Harbor Walk tours, held on the 3rd Saturday of each month from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The monthly walking tours

leave from Mary Ferrazzoli Park at the corner of Long Wharf and Washington Streets.

The map promotes key attractions and publicly accessible spaces along the waterfront including Storer Park, Louis Jagschitz Pier, Mary Ferrazzoli Park, the Newport Maritime Center, the International Yacht Restoration School, and King Park, among others. The Fort Adams Bay Walk is also featured on the map, highlighting the opportunity to stroll along Newport's coastline via a short water shuttle/ferry ride across the harbor. Activities such as geocaching and the new zip line at Fort Adams are featured to encourage new discoveries within the waterfront.

Friends of the Waterfront is deeply grateful to the van Beuren Charitable Foundation, the Prince Charitable Trusts, and Rhode Island Sea Grant, all of which provided funding for the map.

Citimaps produced the map and it is available on their website: www.citimaps.com/newport/newportharborwalk.html



# Harbor Status Report

Brown and Howard Wharf: Early last year, the old eyesore on Brown and Howard Wharf was razed and construction of a multi-purpose three-story commercial building was begun with a parking garage built into the basement. The right-of-way was not encroached upon.



In April, Jim Perrier and Linda Hammer presented a framed copy of the Harbor Walk Map to Newport Harbormaster, Tim Mills. The map will be displayed in the Newport Maritime Center as a guide for locals and visitors alike. FOW worked long and hard to develop this pocket map with Teresa Crean of the URI Coastal Resources Center. Free copies of the map are available (see article "New map features Harbor Walk", page 4).

FOW Annual Meeting

June 20 at Newport Public Library - Mark Your Calendars!

The FOW Annual Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2013 starting at 6:00 PM in the Program Room (Spring Street Level) at the Newport Public Library. Following an update on FOW activities, this year we will have a featured speaker. Paul F. Miller, Curator, The Preservation Society of Newport County, will give a presentation on the historical development and changes in Newport's harbor front, a subject of prime interest to the FOW and one of the very reasons for its founding.

Your participation is vital and much appreciated Please make a note of it on your calendar.

West Howard Wharf: The Pier restaurant has a problem with its support and pier structure on the south side of the building. Both are in need of repair. The restaurant was issued a citation by the city's Building Inspector stating that it could not be opened for business until a plan of action to correct the encroaching structure's location is submitted to the city.

Lee's Wharf: Most of the damage to the building and support bulkhead resulting from Storm Sandy has been repaired. During the storm, several of the docks broke loose and damaged other gear stored in the area. The FOW must maintain vigilance on the Lee's Wharf marina piers especially now that the property is on the market.

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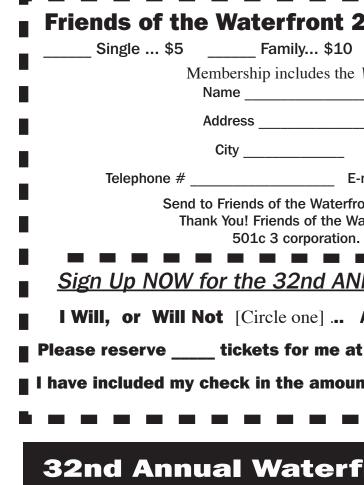
**Perry Mill Wharf:** The totally rebuilt Salas's restaurant at the corner of Perry Mill and Thames Street is another pleasant site on the Harbor Walk tour. FOW must keep an eye on the wharf's vacant land that has been on the market for several years.

Waite's Wharf: The owners of The Deck restaurant have approached the FOW board concerning a project to enhance the public access walkway leading to Waite's Wharf. The major problem of the dock master shack that is in the right-of-way is presently in litigation by the CRMC. The owners are willing to put in writing on the deed the following: "If the area is redeveloped by the owners or new owners or the dock master shack is destroyed by weather related or mancaused events, the new dock master shack will be re-located out of the right-of-way."

Harbor Walk Tour: The FOW will conduct monthly tours of the Newport Harbor on the 3rd Saturday of each month, April through September. The tours start at 10 AM from Mary Ferrazzoli park at the corner of Washington Street and Long Wharf. There will also be a Harbor Walk tour in October scheduled for the Saturday of Coast Weekend (date to be determined).

Washington Street Extension: The City of Newport won its case against the abutters in this long-contested matter. Later, city authorities met with the abutters and came to a mutual agreement for limited use of the area. The city installed three granite 3-foot markers defining the East curb of what had been the old Washington Street. The flagpole erected by one of the owners may remain in place because it is not in the area that had been part of the city street. Public access to the water is maintained along the sidewalk that remained in place throughout the legal process.

Ann Street Pier: The renewal of the Ann Street pier was begun about a month ago and is well underway. The Reagan Construction Company is doing the work and the refurbished pier will be a definite asset along with the new Maritime Center at the Armory. The legal case for extension of the pier is still in the courts.



**RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED** 

### Sunday, Sept. 8th ~ 4:45-7:00 P

Boarding Time: 4:45 Majestic at Bowen's Wh Last year's cruise was a sell-out event.

Earth Day!

Image courtesy of Discovery Education's Clip Art Gallery as illustrated by Mark A. Hicks

## Earth Day Cleanup

Friends of the Waterfront celebrated Earth Day, Saturday April 13, with the annual clean up at Kings Park. The weather was atrocious! In addition to the clouds and cold, there was a frigid breeze off the bay. Nevertheless, we did have a good turnout. Representing FOW were Jim Perrier, Don and Linda Hammer, Winkle Kelley, Pat Bestoso and Bill Flynn. We were joined by Jerry Morse, Peter Harty and Jim Theiler from Clean Ocean

Access, as well as neighborhood volunteer Pat Shea. The shoreline, park and the Stone Pier areas got a good cleaning. Kristen Littlefield's staff people joined the other volunteers to shovel and sweep 4-6 inches of sand, shells, and stones from the whole pavilion which had been inundated with winter storms. A surprise volunteer was our friend Mike Rubin, who came down from Providence and took a bag to pick up debris!

# CRMC Ruling on Ann Street Pier

The CRMC ruled in favor of the extending the Ann Street pier. The city may be allowed to extend the pier to 333 feet instead of the 393 feet requested although this is again threatened with litigation. The CRMC further stipulated that boats are limited to stays of 48 hours and the size of the boats will be limited to a length of

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40 feet with a15-foot beam. The abutters have also filed a lawsuit claim concerning the water boundaries. They claim the boundaries should be established through historic uses of the waterways between the two abutters. The city claims that neither of the abutters owns any of the shoreline property.