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SECOND ANNUAL NATIONAL HARBORMASTER APPRECIATION DAY WILL BE CELEBRATED ON OCTOBER 8^{TH} , 2020

Coastal Communities to Recognize the Dedication of the Stewards of the Nation's Harbors

Rockland, Maine – US Harbors, a free online resource for boaters and coastal communities, announced today the second annual National Harbormaster Appreciation Day will be celebrated on October 8th, 2020. The holiday, registered with the National Day Archive, is intended to bring recognition to the vital public servants in coastal communities that often are under appreciated.

Over 80,000 people participated in the inaugural event by posting photos, stories, videos of their harbormasters. In addition, communities held a number of local events to show appreciation for their harbormasters. This year's event will be similar: a day of local community celebration and giving thanks conducted in accordance with local social distancing regulations. Leading up to the event, US Harbors will offer weekly giveaways on its website and social channels, as well as providing tips for how to celebrate safely. Each contest includes prizes of waterproof bags, inflatable PFDs, caps, gift certificates and more. Winners will receive two prizes – one for themselves and one to gift to their local harbormaster.

The Harbormaster Appreciation Day website is being updated regularly with new video interviews with harbormasters around the country as well as other news and stories about how they play a vital role in the community. Members of coastal communities and harbormasters themselves are encouraged to submit their stories, videos and information directly to the website. On October 8th US Harbors will host a live <u>Facebook event</u> allowing local communities to show how they are celebrating. This social media event will culminate with the drawing for the winner of the final giveaway.

This event is sponsored by US Harbors, a website used by over 6 million people each year for tides, weather, and harbor-local boating and fishing information. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available. US Harbors provides coastal and marine weather conditions and forecasts for over 1,400 harbors from Maine to Hawaii, Alaska to Florida, and in the Great Lakes.

To learn how to get involved visit: <u>harbormasterday.com</u>. For more information on US Harbors, please visit <u>www.usharbors.com</u>.

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About US Harbors:

US Harbors (usharbors.com) provides tides, weather, and local information on over 1,300 harbors in the U.S. to over 4 million people. In addition to up-to-date conditions and forecasts, the site provides harbor-specific information, including marinas, boat ramps, charts, webcams, etc., to help boaters plan their time on the water. There are also details about interesting local events, navigation information from NOAA's Coastal Pilot, and ways for users to add photos and other specifics about harbors. The company sponsors two national events every year: National Harbormaster Appreciation Day (www.harbormasterday.com) – celebrated annually on October 8th – where communities come together to recognize the men and women who work tirelessly to keep our harbors safe, clean, and running smoothly; and the annual Best Harbor in the US campaign where users vote for their favorite harbor. US Harbors is committed to the vitality and sustainability of our coastal communities, both economically and environmentally.



Charlie Phippen, Harbormaster, Bar Harbor, Maine



For hi-res images, as well as additional editorial requests, please contact:

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