

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - open now Fleet Week in Red Hook at Brooklyn Cruise Terminal

### **Fleet Week in Red Hook Thurs 5/26 through Mon 5/30 2016**

#### **3 Fleet Week ships will be at the Brooklyn Cruise Terminal for the 1<sup>st</sup> time**

2 Navy destroyers & 1 Coast Guard cutter

Open to public Thurs 5/26 thru Mon 5/30, 8am-5pm

Full details <http://portsidenewyork.org/portsidetanke/fleet-week-plus-tanker-tours>

Great opportunity to visit ships and historic Red Hook.

Info about Red Hook at <http://portsidenewyork.org/red-hook/>

#### **AND**

#### **Sat 5/28 PortSide NewYork TankerTours of MARY A. WHALEN**

**10am – 5pm (closed for lunch 1:00-1:30pm)**

**in honor of her 78<sup>th</sup> birthday**

We are on pier next to Fleet Week ships, on Pier 11 Atlantic Basin

sign up on site for tours that start every 15 minutes. Groups of 20 will be taken every 15 minutes.

Directions <http://portsidenewyork.org/visitor-info/>

The oil tanker [MARY A. WHALEN](#) was launched May 21, 1938. The ship is PortSide NewYork's ambassador to the [BLUESpace](#) and site of our offices and many programs. She is the last of her kind in the USA. She is the only oil tanker cultural center in the world. She is on the National Register of Historic Places for many reasons. She is significant for her role in the 1975 Supreme Court legal decision [U.S. vs Reliable Transfer](#) a major case in US maritime law. The MARY is a symbol of post-Sandy resiliency in NYC because the PortSide crew rode out Sandy on the ship, and then we brought our office equipment ashore to set up and run a hurricane [Sandy pop-up aid station](#). PortSide won a White House award and honors from the NYS Senate for our Sandy recovery work.

The MARY is also part of PortSide's [Red Hook WaterStories](#) project because the ship has a long Red Hook pedigree. She is an artifact of Ira S. Bushey & Sons, a Red Hook business that ran an innovative shipyard and fuel terminal. She was built for and operated by Bushey's for decades. For a few decades she was based in Staten Island and operated by Eklof and then K-Sea. She returned to Red Hook in 1994 as the office for Hughes Marine in Erie Basin. In 2006, she became the flagship of PortSide NewYork.

**About PortSide NewYork [www.portsidenewyork.org](http://www.portsidenewyork.org)**

PortSide NewYork is a living lab for better urban waterways. PortSide NewYork brings WaterStories to life. PortSide shows how to combine the working waterfront, public access and community development. We bring the communities afloat (maritime) and ashore closer together to the benefit of both. PortSide NewYork works to activate NYC's waterfront, especially the BLUEspace or water part of it.

###