

AROUND THE BAY IN AUGUST

International Culinary Summit Sets Table in San Francisco

Gastronomy by the Bay is coming to the Historic San Francisco Ferry Building and Hotel Vitale over Labor Day Weekend. This is the first international gourmet food festival where European and local chefs have the opportunity to come together to explore current and future culinary trends. The festival's three full days of culinary events run from Saturday through Monday and include round-table discussions with European and local chefs, gourmet food demonstrations, exclusive receptions, chef book signings, and an all-star gala dinner. Cooking demonstrations will be held during the Farmers Market on Saturday, September 1st. For information and ticket packages call 415-551-5190 or visit us online at www.gastronomyfestivals.com.

USS Hornet Museum Honors First Responders

The *USS Hornet* Museum honors Bay Area's first responders during their annual Patriots and Heroes Week. Firefighters, rescuers, law enforcement staff and military personnel will receive complimentary admission to the *USS Hornet* Museum in Alameda during the week of September 11-16. September 11th was established by Congress in December of 2001 as a day of remembrance for all the brave firefighters, police officers, office workers, rescue workers, airline employees, and passengers who perished in the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks. The day will be commemorated onboard the *USS Hornet* Museum from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, September 15 as part of the museum's monthly Living Ship Day. For more information, visit www.uss-hornet.org or call (510) 521-8448.



Tugboat Festival Celebrates the 100th Birthday of the Steam Tug Hercules

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park celebrates the centennial birthday of the steam tug *Hercules*, the only surviving steam-powered ocean tug in the United States. *Hercules* represents the height of early 20th century marine technology. Programs will include ranger-led tours aboard *Hercules*, accessible presentations on Hyde Street Pier, as well as self-guided tours aboard *Hercules*. Enjoy learning what it was like to crew on a long ocean voyage aboard a steam-powered tug as a sailor on the open decks and as a crew member deep down in the boiler and engine rooms. Special exhibits and films illustrating *Hercules'* history and modern tugboats will be available in the park's Visitor Center. Special ranger-led tours, music, films, kids' activities, and exhibits are scheduled for Saturday, September 22 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. at San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park and all activities, including admission to the park's historic ships, will be free on that day. For more information about the park and its public programs, please call 415-447-5000 or visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/safr.

Gourmet Wine Cruise To Set Sail On Presidential Yacht

Held aboard the historic *USS Potomac*, which once served as the "floating White House" during Franklin Delano Roosevelt's presidency, the Foggy Bridge Wine Cruise will begin to set sail on September 7, 2007. The cruises will cater to connoisseurs of fine wine and dining and will feature wines from many of the best grape-growing regions throughout California. The wines will be served with foods that accentuate the flavor pairings. There will be three pairing stations on board serving 10 different dishes created by French Brasserie Left Bank especially for the cruise. Dishes will be paired with wine flights (two-ounce servings) of three different reds, three whites and three dessert wines, so passengers will be given the opportunity to sample nine different wines (tasting is unlimited). The initial cruise schedule is for Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday brunches, which will be held on most weekends between September 7 and November 25. Profits from the cruise will be donated to the Association for the Preservation of the Presidential Yacht *Potomac*. The cruises depart from Pier E at the San Francisco Ferry Building and tickets are available at www.foggybridgewinecruise.com.

Local Art Auction Features Over 100 Artists

Arts Benicia's 15th Annual Art Auction and Gala is expected to draw hundreds of artists, art lovers, and curious citizens to the Historic Benicia Arsenal District. The auction is a fantastic party, but it's also one of the best local exhibitions of over 200 works from over 100 regional artists, emblematic of the energetic and diverse community to which Arts Benicia belongs. The gala attracts new and experienced art collectors from all over Northern California. All art to be auctioned can be previewed for free from September 15 & 16, 22 & 23, 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. On Saturday, September 29th, the silent auction runs from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and the live auction from 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Refreshments, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts will be available throughout the evening. After the auctions close, guests can stay and dance the night away to live music from a top-notch jazz band. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$30 at the event. For more details visit www.artsbenicia.org, or call (707) 747-0131.

To have your event or announcement considered for the Bay Crossings Around the Bay listings, please send information or a press release to: joel@baycrossings.com.