



News Release

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For Immediate Release

PORT OF GALVESTON RECOGNIZES \$13.7 MILLION IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

100,000th Passenger Sails on Carnival's *Celebration*

Shrimp Fleet Returns to New Home at Pier 19

Galveston, Texas...July 12, 2001...Today, the Port of Galveston celebrates the 100,000th passenger to sail on Carnival Cruise Lines's *Celebration* and the completion of two major projects that will benefit the tourist industry on Galveston Island.

At 11:30 a.m. the plaques denoting those individuals instrumental in the construction, renovation, refurbishment and transformation of the Pier 27 warehouse into a cruise ship terminal will be set into stone on the front veranda of The Texas Cruise Ship Terminal on Galveston Island. The event recognizes those individuals responsible for the original construction of the warehouse in 1927. The City Council, the Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves, and the three cruise ship committees that were charged with the original renovation in 1989 and 1990 will also be acknowledged. The 1999-2000 City Council, Board of Trustees of the Galveston Wharves and Cruise Ship Committee will be recognized for their efforts in the 2000 transformation of The Texas Cruise Ship Terminal on Galveston Island®.

At 1:30 p.m., the 100,000th passenger to sail from Galveston Island on Carnival Cruise Line's *Celebration* will be recognized by the Port of Galveston, Carnival Cruise Lines, and Galveston tourism interests. Carnival will provide a complimentary cruise on a future trip from Galveston Island, the Historic Wyndham Properties will provide accommodations at the Hotel Galvez and the Galveston Island Convention and Visitors Bureau will present a VIP package from area restaurants and attractions.

At 4:00 p.m., the Galveston commercial shrimping and fishing fleet, known as the Historic Mosquito Fleet, returns to its newly refurbished boat slips at Pier 19 completing a \$3.1 million capital improvement project. The event will be marked with ribbon cutting ceremonies.

The site, home to the shrimp boats since the 1880s, was extensively refurbished to include repairs and improvements to the docks and the vehicle parking areas. The main pier was reconstructed as were the finger piers and bulkheads. New lighting was installed and parking lots for customers were restored.

Father Joseph Rigali, OFM, of the Newman Center will officiate at the official Blessing of the Shrimp Fleet after ribbon cutting ceremonies.

Designated a port in 1825 while Texas still belonged to Mexico, the Port of Galveston is a wholly owned utility of the City of Galveston. The port is located on the upper Texas coast at the mouth of Galveston Bay, just 30 minutes steaming time from the open sea and provides facilities to handle containers, dry and liquid bulk, break bulk, Ro-Ro, refrigerated and project cargoes and cruise passengers.

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