



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Contact:**

Karen Sphar  
910/457-5578 or 800/457-6964

**NEW EVENT PLANNED FOR NC 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY FESTIVAL**  
*Inaugural Freedom Flotilla Seeking Entrants*

**Southport, NC** – Visitors to the official North Carolina Fourth of July Festival will have a new event to enjoy this year. Boats of all shapes and sizes will parade past the waterfront from the Southport Marina on July 4<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

The event, organized by the Cape Fear Yacht Club, is seeking participants.

“Adding a flotilla to the event schedule this year is an exciting change,” said Karen Sphar, executive vice president of the Southport Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce. “The flotilla presents an opportunity for more people from the community to get involved in the festival and show off their boats and patriotism in the process.”

Boats of all sizes and types are invited to join the flotilla. Participants are encouraged to decorate their boats in red, white and blue to reflect their patriotic spirit.

There is no fee to enter, however there is a mandatory Captain’s meeting on July 4 at 10 a.m. at the Southport Marina.

For more information about this event or to register, go to [www.nc4thofjuly.com/events-calendar/freedom-flotilla/](http://www.nc4thofjuly.com/events-calendar/freedom-flotilla/) or call Woody Wilson at 910-454-4327.

All registrations for this event are due by July 3, 2019.

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For more than 200 years the city of Southport, N.C. has celebrated the nation’s independence. Annually more than 50,000 people visit during the festival. With events ranging from arts and crafts in the park, vendor booths, street dances, gallery walks and of course a parade. The Fourth of July Festival is known as the official celebration for the State of North Carolina. For more details regarding the Festival visit the Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce’s website <http://www.southport-oakisland.com> or official Fourth of July Festival website [www.nc4thofjuly.com](http://www.nc4thofjuly.com).