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CITY OF TYBEE ISLAND

PRESS RELEASE:
For immediate release

Contact: Tybee Island City Hall
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Tybee Celebrates Independence Day on July 3rd

Tybee Island, Ga. – (June 29, 2010) Tybee Island's annual fireworks display will take place the Parker Pier and Pavilion to begin after dark, between about 9:00 to 9:30 PM, the evening of Friday, July 3rd. Visible from nearly any of Tybee's eastern beaches, the ocean provides a clear view to the Pier and the fireworks.

Visitors should be aware that the Independence Day Celebrations generate some of the largest crowds of the year on Tybee Island. Traffic in both directions on US Highway 80 – Victory Drive will be heavy, and parking spaces will be in high demand. It would be best to arrive early to make sure you have a place to park, but remember that parking fees are enforced from 8am to 8pm every day. Consider coming earlier, dropping groups off near the Pier and parking at north beach or elsewhere, and using a cab or car-pooling several drivers in one car back down to the south end.

Tybee Island authorities would like to remind visitors of several important points. First, personal fireworks use is forbidden both by State law and by local ordinance.

Second, visitors are welcome; that's the sole purpose of the event. However, trash left on the sands hurts the wildlife and damages the environment, even if DPW crews and hundreds of Tybee Beautification Association volunteers spend as much as six hours the morning after the event picking up trash off the beach. If you spend the night, early volunteers for the TBA event can leave with a TBA t-shirt! Please be considerate of others and of the environment – keep your trash contained and put it in the trash barrels when you leave! Any uncontained trash can result in a \$100 fine. Glass containers are also forbidden on the beach at all times.

Third, bear in mind that State law also requires vehicles to stop for pedestrians in any marked crosswalk and forbids other cars from even passing cars that are stopped at any crosswalk. There will be many people of all ages walking to and from the beaches for this event. Please drive cautiously and give pedestrians the right of way as required.

While on the beach, please do not disturb any marked nests of endangered sea turtle species! They hold fragile and precious cargo, and your extra care would be appreciated by the many volunteers who work many early mornings and late nights to find and protect them!

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(866) 786-4573 – FAX (866) 786-5737
www.cityoftybee.org



Please exercise patience, drive safely and courteously, and leave plenty of time both to arrive on the Island and to return home. Departures off the Island after the fireworks can take a long time, sometimes as much as three hours, so visitors are encouraged to think about staying at one of the hotels or overnight rentals on the Island, staying the night with friends, or, at the very least, car-pooling with a designated driver who gets plenty of rest to stay alert on the roads for the drive home! Local merchants offer special deals for weekend visitors.

Have a safe and enjoyable Fourth of July Holiday, wherever you choose to celebrate!

Useful Tybee Island links can be found on-line at

<http://www.cityoftybee.org/Links.aspx>

About Tybee Island, GA.: The City of Tybee Island, Georgia is on the outermost barrier island off the Savannah area coast. With a wild bird sanctuary, over three miles of ocean beaches, and salt marshes on the back river, outdoor recreation activities abound for visitors to the island. As a key defense point to the important Savannah port, Tybee's Fort Screven, Tybee Post Theater, Fort Pulaski, and the Tybee Island and Cockspur Lighthouses combine with the unique architectures of the island's raised cottages to form a rich backdrop for history buffs. Attracting a strong artistic community, there are several local supporting art galleries. Keeping the island interesting year round are several arts festivals, the Annual Pirate Fest, the Beach Bum Parade, St Patrick's Day celebrations, the Hot Rod Run, the Beach Bash, and the Christmas Parade, as well as fireworks displays on Independence and New Year's Days off the Walter W. Parker Pier and Pavilion. The Marine Science Center cooperates with Georgia's DNR to protect threatened sea turtle species by searching for nests, protecting their eggs, and making sure hatchlings make it to sea. For visitor information, stop by <http://www.tybeevisit.com/>, and to find more about the City of Tybee Island, visit our web site at <http://www.cityoftybee.org/>.

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