

Highlights of Bay Fest 2001

Pulsating live music, a merchant sidewalk sale, special activities and attractions – and more – drew mom, dad and the kids to Bayfest 2000.

For the ninth year in a row the waterfront spectacular wowed festive frolickers with a program of special marine-related events, ranging from rowboat races and fireboat displays to a diving exhibition and a blessing of the fleet ceremony.

Among other extravaganza crowd-pleasers -- presented by the Bay Improvement Group (BIG) at Emmons Avenue and East 27th Street – were live musical acts singing sea chanteys, an arts and crafts show and plenty of fun for pint-sized revelers, including clowns, magicians and a puppet show.

Visitors also had the opportunity of entering a giant raffle where first prize was a 2001 Nissan Xterra.

Bayfest 2001 is sponsored by Sunrise Assisted Living, Astoria Federal Savings, Arizona Iced Tea, Kings Auto Group and Courier-Life Publications.



Live music serenaded merrymakers throughout the festival.

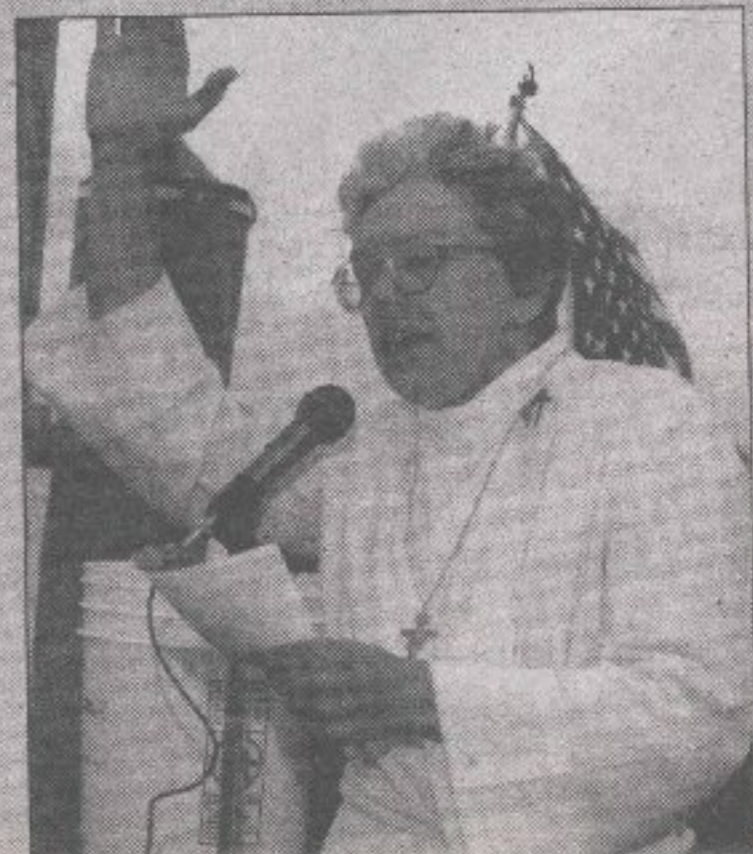
Below: Bayfest 2001 received a woof of approval from topping golden retriever Zack.



Below: A boat makes its way towards the harbor for the marine benediction.



Commercial diver Gene Ritter presented diving demonstrations during the marine festival.





United Methodist Church pastor Rev. Mary Crump administers the blessing of the fleet.

Snapped with youngsters, local activist Ed Eisenberg cuts a striking figure as "King Neptune."

Young revelers Kevin Gordon (left) and Mitchell Guest each came away with a bag load of freebies.

Photos by Bob Hacken



S'head Bay Turns Out In Support of Nation's War Vets

Despite the clouds Brooklynites took to the streets to pay jubilant tribute to fallen war heroes with a Memorial Day Parade presented by the Sheephead Bay/Plumb Beach Civic Association.

Marching bands, banner groups and local veteran organizations assembled for the strolling salute on the north side of Bragg Street, at Emmons Avenue.

The contingent continued down Nostrand Avenue before returning along Emmons Avenue to the park on Haring Street for a wreath presentation and memorial service.

In addition, Vietnam veterans were hailed with a special tribute as flag-waving patriots, young and old, paused to remember the brave men and women who have served the United States of America in the Armed Forces.

The pomp-filled occasion was dedicated to the memory of the late community activist Kay Hemendinger, a "devoted parishioner" of St. Mark's Church, whose volunteer work goes back to World War II, during which she sold war bonds, excelling to the point that she was honored for her efforts.

Continued on page 43



Senator Carl Kruger delivers a eulogy.



A banner group from the Plumb Beach Civic Association marches along Emmons Avenue.

Photos by Steve Solomonson