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PRESS RELEASE

COME CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY AT BATTLESHIP MEMORIAL PARK

Mobile, Alabama, June 8, 2016 - Come celebrate Independence Day with us. Enjoy an evening of patriotic music, picnicking and fireworks at Battleship Memorial Park, 2703 Battleship Parkway. Gates will open for on-field parking at 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$5 per car.

This year we welcome back The Mobile Symphonic Pops Band who will present a traditional patriotic concert on the field stage beginning at 7:00 p.m. This year's musical selections will include *Liberty Fanfare*, a narrative piece entitled *A Nation's Strength*, military marches, and *Stars and Stripes Forever*. The concert will end at 9:00 p.m. with the magnificent *1812 Overture*, complete with cannon fire.

Pyrotecnico, the fireworks company contracted by the City of Mobile, will begin the fireworks show at 9:00 p.m. This year's show will include 14 minutes of breathtaking fireworks shot from a barge stationed near the USS ALABAMA in Mobile Bay. Expect to see beautiful red, white and blue explosions as we celebrate the Fourth of July.

"The USS ALABAMA fireworks display has been an integral part of Mobile's tradition in honoring veterans, not only in our city, but nationwide. For over half a century, the USS ALABAMA has served as a representation of our city's unbroken patriotism and presently stands as a symbol of our commitment to honoring those who have served and those who continue to protect our families and our

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Fourth of July Celebration

freedom,” stated Mobile Mayor Sandy Stimpson.

Pack your picnic baskets, lawn chairs and blankets. This year we will have a special area reserved for tents. No grills, alcoholic beverages and personal fireworks are allowed inside Battleship Memorial Park, so please leave them at home. No chairs or tents will be allowed to set up in the paved parking lot of Battleship Memorial Park. This rule will be strictly enforced by the Mobile Police Department. The Galley, our snack bar, will have concessions for sale on the grounds, including hamburgers and hot dogs, ice cream and cold drinks.

The USS ALABAMA will be closed to visitors during the Fourth of July Celebration.

If you are viewing the fireworks show from the water, the City of Mobile is asking that you stay 750 feet away from the USS ALABAMA and the fireworks barge. Marine Police and the Mobile Fire Department will be strictly enforcing the safety zone.

“July 4th at Battleship Memorial Park is a tradition,” said Janet Cobb, executive director. “Our staff has been coordinating with William Amos, Jr. and Greg Cyprian with the City of Mobile Special Events Department, and we are proud to work together in partnership to make Independence Day successful here. The Mobile Police Department is a huge part of this effort as the traffic in and out is heavy. We all want the logistics to be seamless so our visitors can concentrate on family fun and spectacular fireworks.”

The Park’s American flag display, Flags of Glory, will line the entrance to the Park again this year, compliments of the South Alabama Veterans Council.

Life South Community Blood Services will be holding their July 4th Blood Drive at the Park from 10:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Please consider coming early to give blood as part of your July 4th observance.

USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park will be open for tours on July 4th from 8:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. with our last ticket sold at 5:00 p.m. Admission is free of charge for children up to 5 years of age, \$6 for children 6 to 11 years of age, and \$15 for children 12 years of age to adults.

The Fourth of July Celebration is presented by the City of Mobile and USS ALABAMA Battleship Memorial Park. For more information contact the City of Mobile Office of Special Events, 251-208-1550.

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PHOTO CREDIT: John David Mercer

