

Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf Celebrates 181 Years with a Special Free Wharf Birthday Party

Sunday, October 11, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

July 30, 2026. Monterey, CA. Save the date! Fisherman's Wharf Association invites the community to celebrate the **181st Wharf Birthday Party** at Monterey's historic Old Fisherman's Wharf on **Sunday, October 11, 2026, from 10:00 am to 5:00 p.m.** This free, family-friendly event with new activities this year will feature live entertainment, activities for all ages including new ones, historic boats and beautiful scenic views of Monterey Bay.

Event Details:

What: Old Fisherman's Wharf 181st Wharf Birthday Party

Date: Sunday, October 11, 2026

Time: 10:00 am – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf (GPS to 201 Washington Street, Monterey, CA)

More Information: For more details, visit www.montereywharf.com or call (831) 238-0777.

Event Activity Highlights:

Live Entertainment: The award-winning **Money Band** will perform from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Photo Ops with lots of colorful and festive decorations.

Master of Ceremonies: Local award-winning radio personality David Marzetti will host the festivities.

Free Birthday Cake: A sealife-themed cake will be served at 3:30 p.m. at the Wharf Tent in front of Abalonetti Bar & Grill (while supplies last).

Wharf Walks: Maritime Historian Tim Thomas will give free Wharf Walks at 10:00 am and 11:30 am.

Western Flyer: A special highlight of the Wharf Birthday Party on Sunday, October 11, 2026, will be the opportunity to visit the historic **Western Flyer boat**. Best known for carrying author John Steinbeck and marine biologist Ed Ricketts on their legendary 1940 Sea of Cortez expedition, this iconic vessel now serves as a platform for education and research. The Western Flyer will be docked at the California Dock (just to the left of Rockfish Harbor Grill), where visitors can enjoy free public docked tours from 11:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and visit an information table nearby to learn about its fascinating history, restoration, and educational mission. For more information, visit www.westernflyer.org.

The General Pershing historic boat will also have an information table near the Glsss Bottom Boat Trips office at the Finger Pier at the Wharf and will also be available for photo ops right off of the Finger Pier. Between 1901-1903, Angelo, his brothers, and father immigrated to America from Sicily with the knowledge of generations of fishing boat builders. In 1920 Angelo at the age of 32 built the Siino Boat Works on Wave Street in Monterey and began repairing and building wooden fishing boats. By 1924 he moved the Siino Boatworks next to Hovden Cannery. In 1930, Angelo Siino, already with a growing reputation as a Maestro boatbuilder, was commissioned by Neno DiMaggio (Joe DiMaggio's first cousin) to design and build the largest fishing boat he ever attempted. Angelo recruited his two brothers and his father from Pittsburg to help build the General Pershing. The General Pershing has been returned to the third generation Siinos who are restoring it to his former glory and dedicating her use as a Classroom on the Bay 501c3 to the youth of Monterey Bay teaching about her maritime history, Siino and Monterey Boat Works history and especially the urgent need to keep our oceans clean from pollution.

New this year! The Wharf History Photo Collection Short Essay Contest! Celebrate our Wharf history! Participate in the Wharf History Photo Collection Short Essay Contest by reviewing the photos on the History page on MontereyWharf.com and then select one photo and write a short essay about it under 100 words. (One contest entry only per person). Submit the essay by October 13th at Midnight to info@montereywharf.com with the subject line Photo Essay Contest. Contest details on MontereyWharf.com.

New this year! Face Painting: Enjoy Face Painting during the Wharf Birthday Party from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm.

Zeana of Whimsical Wonders Face Painting creates colorful, imaginative face painting for children and families using professional-quality, skin-safe paints. Her whimsical designs range from superheroes and animals to fantasy favorites, helping make every celebration a little more magical.

Wharf Walks: Maritime Historian Tim Thomas will offer two free one hour Wharf Walks to attendees meeting in front of the pink Harbor House Gifts at 10:00 am and 11:30 am.

Alzheimers Association Information Table: There will be an information table and giveaways for the "**Walk to End Alzheimer's**" which will be held a week later on October 17, 2026 at the adjacent Custom House Plaza and Rec Trail.

Pirate Selfies: Guests can commemorate Monterey's history by dressing as pirates or sailors and taking photos with the pirate statues at Pirate's Cove.

About The Money Band

The Money Band has entertained audiences across California and beyond for over 15 years, performing an eclectic mix of top 40 hits spanning multiple genres, including rock, pop, country, and funk. Voted Best Band on the Monterey Peninsula by The Carmel Pine Cone, The Monterey Herald, and Monterey County Weekly, their high-energy performances continue to draw crowds of all ages. Fronted by lead vocalist and harmonica player Zoe Alexander, the band keeps the dance floor packed with hits from artists like The Beatles, Rolling Stones, Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Bruno Mars, and more.

About David Marzetti, Master of Ceremonies

David Marzetti is a veteran radio personality with over 48 years in broadcasting. He hosts multiple shows on KMBY 1240 AM/95.9 FM, including The ShagBag Show and Sundays with Sinatra: Live from Old Fisherman's Wharf. He is well known for emceeding major events in Monterey County, including Festa Italia, the City of Monterey's Fourth of July Celebration, and the Wharf's annual birthday party. A three-time PGA Media Person of the Year Award recipient and winner of the Monterey Herald's Best TV/Radio Personality award, Marzetti is widely recognized as "The Voice of Monterey."

About Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf

Monterey's Old Fisherman's Wharf is a must-visit destination open year-round. Originally established in 1845 as a hub for maritime trade, it has since evolved into a vibrant attraction featuring award-winning restaurants, unique shopping, and world-class ocean activities.

Recognized as the "Monterey Bay Whale Watching Capital of the World™," the Wharf offers a variety of marine experiences, including whale-watching tours, bay cruises, and fishing excursions. Dining options range from locally sourced seafood to international cuisine, with iconic clam chowder and fresh calamari among the highlights. Visitors can also explore boutique shops, enjoy panoramic views of Monterey Bay, and observe wildlife such as sea otters, harbor seals, and dolphins.

Conveniently located near downtown Monterey, the Wharf is accessible via the Monterey Bay Recreation Trail, with ample parking available in the nearby Waterfront Parking Lot.

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