

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jessica Follett, Public Affairs Manager
Phone: (979) 233-2667 ext. 4306
Email: follett@portfreeport.com

PORT FREEPORT HOSTS 21ST ANNUAL TAKE-A-CHILD FISHING TOURNAMENT

FREEPORT, TX (May 11, 2021) – On Saturday, May 8, Port Freeport hosted its 21st Annual Take-A-Child Fishing Tournament (TACFT) at Freeport Municipal Park. A total of 321 local young anglers with their families brought the total attendance close to 1,000 people. A total of 686 canned good items were collected as part of the entry fee for the event to help fill the pantry at the Brazoria County Dream Center. An additional 745 canned goods were donated by event sponsors, bringing the total number of cans donated to 1,431 to benefit members of the community.

“For 21 consecutive years, including via a virtual platform in 2020, the generosity of our sponsors and volunteers has allowed Port Freeport to host this wonderful, family-friendly event,” Port Freeport Executive Director/CEO Phyllis Saathoff said. “It is heartwarming and exhilarating to see our community outdoors again with their families spending time together on the banks of the Old Brazos River.”

Registrants were divided into two age groups, and first through third place prizes were awarded to both groups. First place winners were awarded a Microsoft Surface tablet, type cover, and other accessories. Second and third place received Visa gift cards. Each registrant received a t-shirt and backpack filled with goodies. They also had an opportunity to win one of over 135 door prizes.

“On behalf of the Port Commission, I would like to thank our 59 sponsors and the over 80 dedicated volunteers who make this event possible year-after-year,” Port Commission Chairman Shane Pirtle said. “We rely upon their generosity to put this event on for our community, and we delight in seeing the joy on our younger anglers’ faces as they reel in their catches.”

The youth anglers caught a variety of fish and presented a total of 476 fish at the weigh-in. Port Freeport would like to thank everyone who attended and congratulate this year's winners:

Blue Fins Category (Ages 3-8)

First Place – Emilie Escobedo, Second Place – Gunner Strother, Third Place – Alivia Galicia

Yellow Fins Category (Ages 9-14)

First Place – McKenzie Mouton, Second Place – Reid Dusek, Third Place – Mallory Varga

Port Freeport would like to extend a thank you to all the volunteers for their dedication and the following sponsors for their generosity: *Platinum* - AAA Asphalt Paving Inc.; Brazos Pilots Association; Freeport LNG; HDR, Inc.; International Longshoremen's Association; LJA Surveying; McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.; Moffatt & Nichol; Ports America, Inc.; Union Pacific Railroad; Vulcan Materials Company; *Gold* – Doyle & Wachstetter, Inc.; Sunstates Security LLC.; West Gulf Maritime Association; *Silver* – BASF Corporation; Bay – Houston Towing Co.; Birdsong Real Estate; Blueline Shop & Copy Center; Brandfire Texas; City of Freeport; Dole Fresh Fruit Company; Freese and Nichols; G&H Towing Company; J&S Contractors, Inc.; Leaf Engineers; Red Hook Terminals; Southern Moon Entertainment; Terracon; TJ's Lube Stop; Vernor Material & Equipment; Weighing Technologies, Inc.; *Sponsor* - BayStar Group/Proforma; BeAed; Bell Dental; Bracewell, LLP; Brazoria County Septic Service; Bridge Bait; Bridge Harbor Yacht Club; Chiquita Brands International; Cordoba Law Firm, P.L.L.C.; Dude Payne, Brazoria County Commissioner Pct. 1; First State Bank; Freeport Mooring & Marine, Inc.; Gulf Coast Engraving; Gulftex Vending & Coffee Services, Inc.; Jetco Delivery; KM & L, LLC; Magaly Malambri Photography; Masterson Advisors, LLC; Mejia Industrial Supply Company; Mulligan's Golf Center; Platt Insurance Agency; Port Commissioner Dan Croft; Port Commissioner Ravi Singhania; Rooster's Crow Guide Service; Sprint Waste Services; Southern Cool Shaved Ice; Superior Fabrication & Maintenance, Inc.; TDECU; Texas Port Ministry; The Brevard Company.

Port Freeport is a leading port in the export of crude oil and natural gas liquids and ranked 6th in chemicals, 15th in foreign waterborne tonnage, and 26th in containers. A 2019 Economic Impact Study by Texas A&M Transportation Institute revealed that, nationally, the Freeport

Harbor Channel generates 279,780 jobs and has a total economic output of \$149 billion. Port Freeport serves Atlantic Container Lines, AMPORTS, BASF, Chiquita Fresh N.A., CEMEX, CMA CGM, Dole Fresh Fruit, The Dow Chemical Company, Enterprise Products, Exxon Mobile, Freeport LNG, Glovis, Grimaldi Lines, Hoegh Autoliners, Kirby Marine, Liberty Global Logistics, Mammoet, MEGlobal, Phillips 66, Riviana Foods, Inc., Sallaum Lines, Tenaris, U.S Department of Energy, Wallenius Wilhelmsen, and Vulcan Materials Company.

Port Freeport is committed to keeping the local community informed of our operations and results. If you have questions or comments about this article, please email or call Jessica Follett, Public Affairs Manager.

-###-



PHOTO CUTLINE: Port Freeport Executive Director/CEO Phyllis Saathoff presents 1st place through 3rd place awards to tournament winners in blue fins and yellow fins divisions.