



# PRESS RELEASE

City of Pompano Beach

100 West Atlantic Boulevard | Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Press Release Date: 8/18/17

**The Okinawa is Going Down!**  
**One Mile East of the Pompano Beach Fishing Pier**  
**Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 a.m.**

The newest addition to Shipwreck Park, the Okinawa, is poised to sink in the waters off Pompano Beach Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. She was towed from the Miami River to the Hillsboro Inlet Park early this morning where she will be on display until she is towed to her destination approximately one mile off the shore off Pompano Beach. The 107 foot tug boat was built for the U.S. government in 1953.

Shipwreck Park, Inc. commissioned renowned artist Dennis MacDonald to create a fun underwater art exhibit on the Okinawa. The "Dive Bar" theme is complete with a life size bar, a twelve foot 400 pound mermaid, starfish, sea serpents, seahorses and other whimsical public art.

The ship will be sunk 70 feet below the surface so the artwork on the top deck will be just 40 feet below the surface accessible to novice divers and even snorkelers to experience the beauty of the evolving artificial reef.

Shipwreck Park, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the creation of an underwater park system establishing artificial reefs, utilizing public art to raise awareness for the need to preserve and conserve our natural coral reef system.