

**WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL
PRESS RELEASE**



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VOICES FROM THE PORT PROGRAMS TO AIR ON WBSM RADIO (1420 AM)

New Bedford, MA, June 5, 2009—Beginning on June 10th tune into WBSM (1420 AM) to hear VOICES FROM THE PORT, a series of short radio pieces based on oral histories collected as part of the Working Waterfront Documentation Project. The segments will air on Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. and again on Saturdays at Selected programs will also be posted on the Working Waterfront Festival web site as well as those of various area organizations. If you are interested in posting a program, please contact the festival office at 508-993-8894.

The four minute programs are designed to provide another window into the history and culture of the working port, and encourage listeners to visit New Bedford, America's #1 Port to learn more. Topics include: *Storms at Sea*, *Women in the Industry*, *Changes in Technology* and more. The project was made possible with funding from the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities.

The Working Waterfront Festival is an award winning, family friendly event celebrating the history and culture of New England's commercial fishing industry. The free festival presents all that goes into bringing seafood from the ocean to the table in a way that is hands-on, educational and fun and features: live music, children's activities, cooking demonstrations, vessel and harbor tours, fisherman's contests, author readings, film screenings, local seafood, festival bookstore, maritime artisans marketplace & more. While continuing to focus on commercial fishing and other port industries, the 2009 *Working Waterfront Festival* will consider connections between fishing and farming communities. Plans for this special program include an open air market featuring local produce and fresh seafood and cooking demonstrations highlighting traditional community recipes; panel discussions, author readings and film screenings which explore common issues; and occupational demonstrations of fishing and farming skills. This year's Festival dates are September 26th & 27th.