

**WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL
PRESS RELEASE**



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**MOLLY O'NEILL TO SPEAK AT 2008 WORKING WATERFRONT FESTIVAL
Former NY Times food writer will talk about her latest project**

New Bedford, MA, August 25, 2008— The 2008 Working Waterfront Festival, an annual celebration of commercial fishing culture will feature a talk by nationally acclaimed food writer Molly O'Neill. The free festival takes place in New Bedford, America's largest commercial fishing port, on Saturday and Sunday, September 27th & 28th.

For ten years, Molly O'Neill was a reporter with the New York Times and the food columnist for its Sunday magazine. She is the author of three cookbooks, including the best-selling, *New York Cookbook*, *A Well Seasoned Appetite*, and *The Pleasure of Your Company*, and hosted the PBS series *Great Food*. O'Neill won the Julia Child/IACP Award for cookbooks and was awarded three James Beard citations for books, journalism and television as well as the society's Lifetime Achievement Award. She has twice been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize and over the past quarter century has become one of the most recognized and respected food writers in America.

Born in Columbus, Ohio, O'Neill graduated from Denison University and attended La Varenne in Paris. *Mostly True*, her memoir of growing up in a major league baseball family was published by Scribner in May 2007 and critics have called it "a magical tale of growing up in the middle of the American dream." Her work has appeared in magazines ranging from *The New Yorker* and the *New York Times* to *Readers Digest* and *Life Magazine*.

Her forthcoming book, *One Big Table*, a portrait of America at the table, will be published by Simon and Schuster in 2009. She has been traveling the country for ten years collecting recipes and people's stories. At the Working Waterfront Festival, Ms. O'Neill will be discussing the fish stories and recipes she has gathered from traveling the perimeter of the country in a talk entitled: *When the fishing gets tough: how radical shifts in nation's fisheries affect the menu, the spirit, the economy, the culture and life in seaside towns all around America*. The talk will be followed by a book signing.

The **Working Waterfront Festival** is a project of the **Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern MA**, a non-profit organization. The FREE festival, a family friendly, educational celebration of New England's commercial fishing industry, features live maritime and ethnic music, fishermen's contests, fresh seafood, vessel tours, author readings, cooking demonstrations, kid's activities and more. It all takes place in New Bedford, MA, America's #1 fishing port, on the fourth full weekend of September. Navigate to us at www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org.