



City of New Bedford  
Jon Mitchell, Mayor

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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### ***Mayor, Delegation, Committee Announce Sponsors of the Charles W. Morgan New Bedford Homecoming***

**New Bedford, MA**—At an event at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, Mayor Jon Mitchell, Senator Mark C.W. Montigny, and the *Charles W. Morgan* Homecoming Committee today announced the sponsors and donors for the nine days of activities in celebration of the *Morgan* Homecoming, taking place between June 28 and July 6, 2014 in and around New Bedford Harbor.

The three largest private sector sponsors—BayCoast Bank, Bristol County Savings Bank, and Nye Lubricants—each presented checks to Mayor Mitchell and Committee representatives. Recognized as “Mainsail Sponsors,” these three New Bedford area businesses are each supporting the event to the tune of \$50,000. Mayor Mitchell also acknowledged the \$50,000 of seed funding provided by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism through the efforts of the New Bedford state legislative delegation, particularly Senator Mark Montigny and Representative Antonio Cabral.

“These four sponsors—three private sector and one public—came in very early on with their support, helped to put the effort on solid financial footing from the get-go, and enabled the Committee to leverage an additional quarter of a million-plus in private and public support,” said Mayor Mitchell. “I couldn’t be more pleased with how the community has stepped up to make this event happen.”

Mayor Mitchell also announced that Dr. Irwin M. Jacobs, New Bedford native, co-founder of Qualcomm, Inc, and philanthropist, will serve as a ceremonial co-chair for the *Morgan* Homecoming.

“I am pleased and honored to serve along with Mayor Mitchell as ceremonial co-chair of *Charles W. Morgan* Homecoming Steering Committee,” said Dr. Jacobs. “The *Morgan* Homecoming is a signal moment for New Bedford, and the nine days of events our steering committee has planned to welcome her demonstrate that Greater New Bedford values its history, and that its leaders are determined to take advantage of opportunities when they arise. The community and the committee have recognized the *Morgan* Homecoming as a chance to let New Bedford shine, to engender a positive impression of the city for years to come. I applaud Mayor Mitchell for thinking big for the Homecoming, for having the vision to seize this opportunity, and for putting together a team that can create a celebration worthy of the occasion. I look forward to the moment the *Charles W. Morgan* passes through the hurricane barrier gates into New Bedford Harbor.”

Built in 1841 at Hillman Brothers shipyard in New Bedford, the *Charles W. Morgan*, America’s oldest commercial ship and the last wooden whale ship in the world, will once more sail up the Acushnet River for a 9-day homecoming visit from June 28 through July 6. During *her* visit, the *Charles W. Morgan* will be docked at State Pier and will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The *Charles W. Morgan* Homecoming Steering Committee has planned a spectacular schedule of events for this once-in-a-lifetime event. The program will include public tours of the *Charles W. Morgan*, concerts, exhibits, regattas, whaleboat races and parades, a whaling history symposium, public ceremonies and much more! For the full schedule of events, visit <http://www.whalingmuseum.org/programs/charles-w-morgan/new-bedford-homecoming>.

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