



MEDIA RELEASE

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Spirit of the Bay: Tuckerton Seaport

A Special NJN Production about the maritime history of Barnegat Bay, New Jersey

NJN and APT are delighted to present *Spirit of the Bay: Tuckerton Seaport*. New Jersey's maritime traditions, those age-old traditions of the sea that were the bulwark of our seafaring ancestors lives, are explored with a visit to Tuckerton Seaport in *Spirit of the Bay*, NJN's most recent documentary. Tuckerton Seaport is a working seaport village that brings to life the rich traditions and heritage of the Barnegat Bay region with a look at the people whose livelihood depends on the sea, the bays, the rivers and the marshes. Tuckerton Seaport preserves the bygone lifestyle of the bay people for the many visitors who visit and tour the site. This half-hour program documentary has been awarded the prestigious CINE Golden Eagle Awards in the History Category

The Barnegat Bay area is a patchwork of tidal creeks, marshes, and coastal inlets. For centuries this environment has provided fish, shellfish and migrating waterfowl with a great habitat for spawning and feeding. The plentiful resources first drew the native Lenape here, and Europeans began settling along the Bay in the late 1600s. By the 1800s, improved boat construction and harvesting methods helped spur thriving commercial harvest industries – clamming, oystering, water fowling and fishing –which, in turn, built towns like Tuckerton. That way of life – the workaday life of the bayman – is the root of Tuckerton's maritime heritage.

Spirit of the Bay is a half-hour documentary produced by NJN's Emmy Award winning team of Lou Presti, senior producer/director; Jeff Reisly, editor and cameraman; and Bob Szuter, writer and audio. The narrator is Liz Chang; the original music was created by Robert Sands.

The Garden State is a state of unpredictability. Residents and visitors alike are frequently and charmingly surprised by the unexpectedness of the varied natural environment and diverse culture and history.

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For thirty years, Lou Presti has been chronicling that history and filming the forests, mountains, coastlines, rivers, bays and ocean, producing engaging films about New Jersey's beautiful natural landscapes, resources and culture rich communities that comprise the state. Presti, Reisly and Szuter have documented New Jersey like few others before them, exploring New Jersey's remote regions from the mountains of the northwest to the alternating bustle and serenity of the Delaware Bay. Together and individually, they have earned numerous awards and recognition for NJN. *Spirit of the Bay* is the latest documentary produced by this hardworking and talented team.

Another production by Lou Presti and his team, *The Thunderbolts of Millville*, will premiere on NJN on June 6, 2004. *The Thunderbolts of Millville* is an original production that tells the story of the Millville Army Air Field and the impact of the Second World War on the civilians of Millville, New Jersey. The half-hour documentary was produced by NJN's Emmy award-winning team of Lou Presti, producer; Jeff Reisly, video editor; and Bob Szuter, screen writer. Guy Robbins, executive director of Millville Army Air Field Museum, is the co-producer. The narrator is Barrett Clark; the original music was created by Robert Sands.

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