2011 Whaling City Festival



by Michael Silvia

The New Bedford Festival season is in full swing. Last weekend (2-3 July) Summer Festival took over downtown New Bedford with dozens of musicians and hundreds of street vendors. August will bring the world famous Feast of The Blessed Sacrament (Portuguese Feast/Madeira Feast) and the amazing Chowder Festival. This weekend (8-10 July, 9 AM — 8 PM daily) is the Whaling City Festival located at Buttonwood Park.

The Whaling City Festival has been running for an amazing 42 years and attendance is FREE of charge. The organizers claim that over 150,000 people visit each year. The festival offers over 200 retail vendors and 26 food vendors. The main attractions are the local bands, radio stations, vintage car shows and of course carnival rides. If you are looking for a great event outside this weekend, the Whaling City Festival is perfect for all ages.

Live music will include Beatles, Santana, Johnny Cash and Led Zeppelin tribute bands with some amazing local music to include Neal McCarthy Problem and Abby Normal. Other entertainment includes Top Rope Wrestling, Rosie's Racing Pigs, Poppytown Puppets, BINGO with Linda Morad, Whaling City Food Drive and much more. A full schedule of events can be found here.

The Whaling City Festival Custom Car and Truck show will be held Sunday from 8 AM to 3 PM. Admission is FREE, but it costs

\$15 per car entry. The trophy presentation will be at 3 PM. Don't miss yet another amazing festival that only hits New Bedford once a year!