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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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### ***“Up and Down the River” Lecture Series Continues in June With Hudson River Fund, Freight System Speakers, and Action-Packed Family Fun Day***

*Show Marking the Quadricentennial of Henry Hudson’s Discovery and  
Bicentennial of Robert Fulton’s Steamboat Launch Continues Through Year’s End*

**Hoboken, N.J.** – June 3, 2009 – As the Hoboken Historical Museum’s latest exhibition, ***Up and Down the River: A History of the Hudson, 1609 – 2009***, continues, we welcome Dr. Dennis Suszkowski from the Hudson River Fund this Sunday, June 7, at 4 p.m. for a talk on the efforts to clean up the river. On Sunday, June 14, artist Frank Hanavan joins education director Sherrard Bostwick to lead an action-packed Family Fun Day from 1 – 4 p.m. At the end of June, Sunday, June 28, at 4 p.m., historian Tom Flagg visits for a talk about the “lighterage system” of freight transport across the New York Harbor.

Dr. Suszkowski is Science Director for the Hudson River Fund, an independent institution that sponsors scientific research and education programs that contribute to the development of sound public policy concerning the river’s ecological system. Its mission is to make science integral to decision-making with regard to the Hudson River and its watershed.

Tom Flagg is an instructor at the State University of New York and past director of the Society for Industrial Archaeology. His talk, “New York, Port of Many Ports: Hoboken’s Piece of the Pie,” will describe the way the New York Harbor’s archipelago form shaped the multiple waterfronts along some 500 miles of shoreline. Consequently, there has always been heavy use of local water transport for freight, including the railroads’ “lighterage system” or “water belt line.”

### **Family Fun Day with a Nautical Theme**

The Museum invites family members of all ages to join in a slew of nautical-themed activities on Sunday, June 14, from 1 – 4 p.m. in the breezeway outside the Museum. Artist Frank Hanavan will demonstrate nautical knot-tying and sidewalk chalk murals, and Sherrard Bostwick has brought in talent to lead everyone in singing sea chanties, orienteering, map-making, mini-boat races, ship-in-a-bottle demonstrations and more. Don’t miss the parade of winning entries in our “Design a Hoboken Flag” contest.

The exhibit is part of a full-year celebration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Henry Hudson’s voyage up the river that now bears his name. A hundred years ago this fall, New York City threw a two-weeklong public celebration of a double anniversary: Hudson’s tricentennial and the centennial (plus two years) of Robert Fulton’s first successful steamboat crossing in 1807. One of the largest public anniversaries in the country’s history, offices and factories closed and crowds streamed in for banquets, parades, historical floats, theatrical performances, lectures, fireworks and an airplane flight by Wilbur Wright around the Statue of Liberty.

The Museum’s exhibit, made possible through a special project grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, will extend through the end of the year with a full agenda of talks, events, educational programs and art celebrating our city’s relationship with the river. The river has shaped our city, from providing food and commerce to its first inhabitants, the Lenni Lenape Indians, to hosting prize-winning yachts and the great passenger ships from Europe and maritime research at Stevens Institute of Technology.

For the exhibition, the Museum commissioned an original mural of the outline of Hoboken’s waterfront along the length of the main wall, painted by local artist Ray Guzman. Items on display include a scale model of a Hudson River tugboat by John Marinovich and memorabilia from the 1909 Hudson-Fulton celebration.

### **About the Hoboken Historical Museum**

Founded 1986, the Museum’s mission is to educate the public about Hoboken’s history, diverse culture, architecture and historic landmarks. In 2001, the Museum moved into one of the oldest buildings on the waterfront, in the former Bethlehem Steel shipyard, at 1301 Hudson St., Hoboken, where it maintains a series of rotating exhibits. The Museum is open six days a week, 2 – 7 pm on Tues. – Thurs., 1 – 5 pm on Fridays, and noon – 5 pm on weekends. It offers special exhibits, tours, events and lectures, as well as educational programs for adults and children on a weekly basis. An updated schedule of events and an online catalog of many items in its collections are available at [www.hobokenmuseum.org](http://www.hobokenmuseum.org). The Museum is a not-for-profit tax-exempt 501(c) entity.

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*Note to editors: Photos are available; please call 201-683-6935.*