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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATES ANNOUNCED FOR THE
FIFTH ANNUAL NEWBURYPORT LITERARY FESTIVAL**

Festival to take place April 23-24, 2010

NEWBURYPORT, Mass. – The Newburyport Literary Festival (NLF) is pleased to announce the dates for the fifth annual festival on April 23-24, 2010 in downtown Newburyport, Massachusetts.

On Friday April 23, 2010, the NLF opening ceremony will be held at the Firehouse Centre for the Arts. Following the opening ceremony, the annual Dinner with the Authors will be held at Nicholson Hall where NLF attendees and authors can enjoy dinner, conversation and a silent auction to benefit the festival.

On Saturday April, 24, 2010, the NLF continues with a full day of activities for readers of every genre beginning with Coffee with the Poets and ending with the Closing Ceremony honoring participating authors and their work.

As part of the NLF in 2010, Anita Shreve, author of such works as *The Weight of Water*, *The Pilot's Wife*, *The Last Time They Met*, *A Wedding in December*, and *Body Surfing*, will be the recipient of the first Marquand Prize in American Literature.

The NLF is made possible through the generosity of our founding sponsors who are the Institution for Savings and the Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank.

Additional support is provided by the Provident Bank, the Massachusetts Cultural Councils and the Newburyport, Newbury, West Newbury, Amesbury, and Merrimac Cultural Councils and the Newburyport Rotary Club.

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The Newburyport Literary Festival (NLF), organized by the Newburyport Literary Association, annually celebrates reading, and the love of books. The NLF in 2010 features more than 40 writers of distinguished fiction and non-fiction – including short story writers, children's authors, biographers, nature writers, critics, screenwriters, poets, novelists, and journalists – who will read and discuss their work in venues throughout Newburyport's historic downtown

For more information on the NLF, including authors and their work, please visit
www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org