



MPBN's Tom Porter *Maine Things Considered's Host*

Let's start at the beginning of your career... Broadcasting was Plan A, Plan B, or something else?

Plan A-and-a-half, if that's allowed. My original goal was to get into the journalism, which I did when I got taken on by the Bloomberg News wire service. The move to broadcast occurred after a few months there when the TV stations at Bloomberg were expanding, and I saw a good opportunity to get into something fun.

How did you become the host of Maine Things Considered?

I was living in Virginia in 2007, freelancing for public radio, and I applied for the job – simple as that. Although when I first got taken on, it was as more of a general news producer than specifically as a host.

Best moment on air if that's possible to identify?

There are too many great moments. I can't pick one out.

Worst moment?

I think I've blanked it out of my mind. I'm sure some listeners will have some suggestions.

Rumor has it you do sit-ups and push-ups between segments... true?

Yes. Push-ups mainly – it's a good way of letting off steam after a day's work. Contrary to some suggestions, I do actually work from 9:00 in the morning, not just from 5:30 until 6:00!

When you aren't behind the broadcast mic... what are you up to?

Trying to control my two crazy boys, 4 and 7; playing jazz piano or listening to music; or trying to find European rugby matches on the Internet/cable television. I'm a big fan of the sport.

What are your goals for Maine Things Considered down the line?

I think it would be valuable to build up our online audience in addition to our over-the-air listeners. With so many people now possessing iPhone-type devices, you no longer have to be sitting at a desk to listen online, and this could be a way of reaching all those potential mobile out-of-state listeners who love Maine, but aren't fortunate enough to be here all the time. ■