\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 05/08/2024\*\*

**Michigan Maritime Museum Announces Annual Blessing of the Fleet & Fish Fry**

**South Haven, MI –** The Michigan Maritime Museum is excited to announce their annual Blessing of the Fleet & Fish Fry event to be held on May 24, 2024, from 5 pm to 7:30 pm. Start the 2024 season off right from the most picturesque location in the heart of South Haven's Maritime District.

The Blessing of the Fleet is the kick-off event of the season where tall ship *Friends Good Will*, Museum fleet, and other participating maritime organization vessels are part of a ceremony for a safe and successful season for all. Following the ceremony the celebration begins with a delicious perch fish fry catered by our neighbors Captain Lou’s including a 50/50 raffle and a cash bar. Event attendees will also be able to enjoy live music on our newly expanded boardwalk from renowned Great Lakes folk singer Lee Murdock.

Lee Murdock has a boundless body of music and stories about his home region combining traditional songs alongside some of his own musical compositions—all depicting some aspect of history and life on the Great Lakes. Murdock’s songs create an unforgettable image of commerce and recreation as they coexist on the Great Lakes today and make for an excellent new addition to this annual event.

“We are honored to host the Blessing of the Fleet and the ceremony celebrating the start of the 2024 season especially with this being the 20th anniversary of the *Friends Good Will* and the 50th Anniversary of the Museum” said Patti Montgomery-Reinert, executive director of the Michigan Maritime Museum. “We are extremely grateful for the generous support from Gull Lake Marine, our 50th Anniversary sponsoring partner, for making events like Blessing of the Fleet possible”.

Tickets are $20 for Museum members and $25 for Not-Yet members and can be purchased online or at the door. The Blessing of the Fleet also marks the start of the Museum’s sailing season with on-water excursions available starting the following day. For more information, visit www.michiganmaritimemuseum.org.

**Event Details**

**Blessing of the Fleet & Summer Kick-Off**

**Date:** Friday, May 24, 2024

**Time:** 5:00 – 7:30 pm

**Location:** Michigan Maritime Museum (260 Dyckman Avenue, South Haven, MI 49090)

**Cost:** $20 for Museum Members/ $25 for Not-Yet Members

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