



NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Volunteers Needed for the 2019 Tall Ship Celebration Maritime Festival

[Bay City, MI] When the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® fleet arrives in Bay City on July 18th, volunteers will spring into action catching lines, carefully maneuvering ships into their pre-assigned docking spaces and working with crew to make sure the vessels are secure and ready to receive guests the following morning. These volunteers provide an important service, but represent just one of many different positions filled by volunteers. Help is needed for positions ranging from distributing wristbands to managing parking lots, and from assisting guests on ships to helping children with craft activities. Registering to be a festival volunteer is easier than ever through the festival's website www.tallshipcelebration.com. Click on the 'Get Involved' tab at the top of the screen.

"We've been extremely fortunate to have the support of approximately 500 volunteers for each festival. We value their time and their commitment to the event and want to make it as easy as possible for each volunteer to register for a particular role and a particular schedule," explained Volunteer Chair Mary Herlache.

Tall Ship Celebration is pleased to announce that Farm Bureau Insurance of Michigan has returned as the Volunteer Sponsor in 2019. "Our agents, employees and clients are active volunteers in communities throughout Michigan," explained Rich Garcia, Farm Bureau Insurance, Bay-Thumb Managing Partner. We jumped at the opportunity to support the hundreds of volunteers who work to make Tall Ship Celebration a world class event." Farm Bureau Insurance volunteer sponsorship is supported by agents Barb Engelhardt-Carter, Mike Hayes, Bryan Otto, Scott Pease, Rudy Schlatter and Shannon Childs of Bay City; Paul Cockerel of Auburn; Adam Sutor and Jennifer Millbauer of Midland; Tim Fritz of Bad Axe; Harrison Gunden of Elkton; Denny Roy of Frankenmuth; and John Aird and Matt Moreno of Saginaw.

The TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® is a series of races and rallies produced annually by TALL SHIPS AMERICA, a non-profit membership organization based in Newport, Rhode Island. The event rotates among the east and Gulf coasts of the United States and the Great Lakes. Tall Ship Celebration: Bay City hosts the fleet when it visits the Great Lakes. Bay City has been the only official host port in the state of Michigan since 2006 and has won the coveted "Port of the Year" award from Tall Ships America more than any other host community in all of North America. The fleet returns to Bay City on July 18th – 21st, 2019.

Tall Ship Celebration 2019 is presented by the Michigan Sugar Company and sponsored by Consumers Energy, D.H.T., Wildfire Credit Union, Chemical Bank/Amerilodge Group, Ascension St. Mary's, Huntington Bank, McLaren Bay Region, and Independent Bank.

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For more information about Tall Ship Celebration or Bay Sail, contact Shirley Roberts by phone at 989-895-5193, by email at shirleyr@baysailbaycity.org or visit the following websites: www.tallshipcelebration.com or www.baysailbaycity.org. For more information about Tall Ship Celebration volunteer opportunities or to submit a volunteer application, please visit www.tallshipcelebration.com.

TALL SHIPS AMERICA is the hub for tall ships activity, information, and expertise in North America, and is commended by the United States Congress as the national sail training organization representing the United States. As a national membership organization, TALL SHIPS AMERICA supports the people, ships and programs of sail training and tall ships through professional development grants, sail training scholarships, conferences, education, publications, regulatory and licensing information, public events and advocacy.

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