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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Second Annual Fort2Fort Five Mile Challenge to be held May 11

MACKINAC ISLAND, MICH. — The second annual Fort2Fort Five Mile Challenge, presented by the Pink Pony Mackinac, will be held on Saturday, May 11, taking racers from Fort Mackinac up to Fort Holmes and back to Fort Mackinac, providing a challenging course full of stunning views and historic sites.

The race will begin with a 9:00 a.m. rifle salute fired by historic interpreters at Fort Mackinac. Runners will head out the North Sally Port and make their way to Arch Rock, following paved roads and trails, past the cemeteries, and up to Fort Holmes, Mackinac Island's highest point. The first runners will be greeted by a musket salute, fired by an interpreter dressed as a soldier from the War of 1812. Runners will then head toward the Governor's Summer Residence and finish on the rear parade ground behind Fort Mackinac, in front of the Scout Barracks. Aid stations and restrooms will be on the course.

The entry fee for this race is \$50. All participants will receive a t-shirt, medal, Fort2Fort bag, entry into Fort Mackinac and The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum and free photos posted online and available for download. Special awards will be available for overall and masters division male and female winners, as well as the top three finishers in each age division.

Refreshments will be available after the race for all participants on the rear Parade Ground under the tent near the historic Scout Barracks.

As stated above, all racers receive free entry into Fort Mackinac and The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum throughout the day. Family members will receive discounted

admission. The Tea Room, located inside Fort Mackinac, will be open for lunch from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. providing stunning views of Mackinac Island and the Straits of Mackinac.

Further information, such as registration, age divisions and information on ferry tickets and accommodations can be found at www.runmackinac.com or by calling 810.487.0954.

Mackinac State Historic Parks, a family of living history museums and parks in northern Michigan's Straits of Mackinac, is an agency within the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Its sites—which are accredited by the American Alliance of Museums—include Fort Mackinac, Historic Downtown Mackinac, The Richard and Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, and Historic Mill Creek Discovery Park in Mackinaw City. Mackinac State Historic Parks is governed by the Mackinac Island State Park Commission, established in 1895 to protect, preserve and present the parks' rich historic and natural resources for the education and recreation of future generations. Visitor information is available at (231) 436-4100 or on the web at www.mackinacparks.com.

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