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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Experience 'Fire at Night' at Colonial Michilimackinac July 3

MACKINAW CITY, MICH. — Join Mackinac State Historic Parks at Colonial Michilimackinac for fireworks of a different kind as the interpretive staff dressed as British soldiers will fire all of Michilimackinac's artillery at sunset, including muskets, the wall gun, and mortar, topped off with a blast of the cannon in near total darkness.

"This event allows us to share some new and exciting elements of Michilimackinac with our visitors that they don't usually get to experience," said Craig Wilson, Chief Curator for Mackinac State Historic Parks.

Entrance to the event is located on Straits Avenue, west of the Mackinac Bridge, opposite the Fort Fudge Shop. Gates open at 9:00 p.m., and a banner will mark the entrance with staff on hand to assist. While the event is free, donations are welcomed. In the event of inclement weather, Fire at Night may be canceled.

Support for many Mackinac State Historic Parks programs comes from Mackinac Associates, friends preserving and sharing Mackinac's heritage.

For more information visit mackinacparks.com. A <u>downloadable version of this release</u> <u>can be found here</u>. Additional pictures available upon request. This event will also take place on September 1.

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, the Biddle House, featuring the Mackinac Island Native American Museum, The Richard & Jane Manoogian Mackinac Art Museum, Historic Benjamin Blacksmith Shop, American Fur Co. Store & Dr. Beaumont Museum, McGulpin House, and Mackinac Island State Park on Mackinac Island, and Colonial Michilimackinac, Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, Historic Mill Creek, and Michilimackinac State 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 online at www.mackinacparks.com.