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News Release

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EXHIBIT CHANGES HAPPENING AT THE DOSSIN GREAT LAKES MUSEUM

DETROIT- *Guardians of the Great Lakes*, a new exhibit celebrating 100 years of service on our inland seas, opens in the **Robert M. Dossin Gallery** at the **Dossin Great Lakes Museum** on **Saturday, June 13**. A new selection of ship models will also debut that weekend to the **Richard and Jane Manoogian Ship Model Showplace**.

Guardians of the Great Lakes tells the stories of the ships and sailors who have navigated the Great Lakes. Whether involved in military action or making the waterways safer for other mariners, the men and women of the sea services have played a vital role in the maritime history of the region.

2016 will be a special year for the sea services. Detroit will be the site of commissioning celebrations for the United States Navy's latest high-tech vessel, the USS *Detroit*. In recognition, a portion of this exhibition will highlight Navy vessels that have carried the names of Detroit and Michigan. The United States Coast Guard, US Light House Service, the Army Corps of (Topographical) Engineers and related US Lake Survey Office, US Life-Saving Service, US Revenue Cutter Service, US Customs and Border Protection, US Merchant Marine, US Post Office as well as municipal and scientific marine units will also be featured. A nod will be made to Canadian services also patrolling and protecting our precious fresh waters.

This project is the result of a partnership with the **Metropolitan Detroit Council of the Navy League of the United States**, whose slogan is "Citizens in Support of the Sea Services."

Visitors to the Museum can also see a new selection of ship models on display. Most significant to this installation is the artifact representing the ships *Greater Detroit* and *Greater Buffalo*. Created as a builder's model prior to construction, this piece is one of the most magnificent Great Lakes ship models in a public collection. Cut-away sections open the vessel's cabins to viewing... and the details are amazing!

The **Dossin Great Lakes Museum** is located at 100 Strand Drive on Belle Isle. Admission is free for all, all the time. Permanent exhibits include Built by the River in the John A. and Marlene L. Boll Foundation Gallery, the Miss Pepsi vintage 1950s championship hydroplane, the Gothic Room from the City of Detroit III in the Polk Family Hall, a bow anchor from the S.S. Edmund Fitzgerald, the pilothouse from the Great Lakes freighter S.S. William

Clay Ford in the Wayne and Joan Webber Foundation Gallery, and one of the largest known collections of scale model ships in the world. Recreation Passports are now being enforced for every vehicle entering Belle Isle Park. If you are planning to visit the Dossin Great Lakes Museum or attend an event and do not have a Passport, you can purchase one on the island. More information on the Recreation Passport can be found online at www.michigan.gov/recreationpassport.

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