



The QUACKER

SEPTEMBER 2025 ISSUE 496 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESSE CLUB



Happy Labor Day!

A Word From
St. Luke's Community Church



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- 2. Labor Day
- 4. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 4. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
- 7. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 7. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 8. St Luke's Community Church 10 am
- 10. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 11. Patriots Day
- 11-15. SooFilmFestival.org
- 12. Lion Meeting 5:30pm
- 14. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 14. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 15. Lions Brunch 8:30am – 11:00am
- 15. St Luke's Community Church 10 am
- 17. Bible Study 6:30pm
- 18. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 18. SIHPS Meeting & Raffle 1:00pm
- 18. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
- 21. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 21. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 22. St Luke's Community Church 10 am
Thanksgiving Buffet to follow service
- 22. QUACKER DEADLINE
- 24. Bible Study 6:30pm
- 27. Music Jamboree 7:00-10:00pm
- 28. The Quacker is distributed
- 28. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 28. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm

There is a distinct coolness in the air as we head towards our fall season on Sugar Island. On Sunday, September 1, we will welcome Gary Miller to provide our message from God's word and music will be provided by Johnny & Leyah Buiskool as they lead in familiar hymns and choruses on guitar & violin.

We have enjoyed a wonderful summer of church services, and thank those who have officiated the services, brought the messages, supplied music, served the fellowship coffee after the service, ushered, lit the candles, and so many other things that the church family just handles as we all worship together and care for this sweet northwoods chapel set in the trees on the southern tip of the island.

We are about to conclude our schedule on September 22, 2024. This concluding service will be featuring the music of George Snider with a Thanksgiving buffet following.

We will look forward to seeing you these remaining September Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on the trail at **11240 South Homestead Road.**

In Memoriam

Gary Fox



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LIONS DEN

The big news is our raffle tickets for next year are here. New drawings start at our breakfast in September. Only 175 tickets are sold and each month 3 tickets are pulled and each winner receives \$50 plus your name goes back into the drum for next month's drawing. Each ticket costs \$25 and can be obtained from your favorite Lion. These make nice thank you or birthday gifts, but from experience not so much as an anniversary gift. The final winners on last year's tickets were Theresa Mohr, Brent Belanger and Gary Blair. Brian Mastaw won the 50-50.

More good news we have made another order for the Sugar Island Flag. While the flags will be larger, 3x5, the price will remain the same at \$30. Should be available at September breakfast or thru any Lion.

And keep the date open. October 12th is the date for our annual Chili Cook Off. Details will be available in next month's Quacker but it is never too early to start gathering up your herbs, spices, secret ingredients and road kill. Bragging rights are on the line.

And why do we do all this fund raising? So, we can spend it. While at the Township Park for Julie Wilson's Memorial Service it was noted some of the tables were in poor shape. We made plans to do repairs but decided new tables were the answer. We have ordered some and will be doing some more fund raising to replace the rest. We are commercial grade tables which will last for years without any repairs. Cost for the one we bought at about \$900 so if your group or family would like to sponsor a table let us know so the project can be completed sooner.

I show four Lions with a birthday in September. Carol Gillians, Art Leighton, Teresa Mohr and Jeri Sherry We wish them all the best.

Lion Jim Handziak



SI EMS News

Welcome to more fall weather even though not officially here until September 22 at 8:44 EST according to Google....don't we all go there to find out anything we are searching? The cool weather mixed with warm summer sunshine has already started. And the leaves in my yard are turning red and orange. So sad to see our short summer go away. And many snowbirds are already planning their trips away from Sugar Island.

I will be at the Saturday Farmers Market 10a-12n with the SI phonebooks, Life Saver Magnets, and the File of Life for sale. I am also collecting the information for additions to the phonebook. No definite date for redoing the phonebook is Planned so far. But I would encourage all who are interested in having their phone numbers listed to call me with your information at 906-440-1769 or email me at abeckham@issu.edu. I do appreciate hearing from the SI residents, even those without a change just to make sure their information is correct and included.

To purchase the current SI phonebook, you can also go to the SI Westshore Store and the Island Books & Craft on Portage Street in the Soo for \$7.00 each. SIEMS is now paired with SIFD with Josh Nolan as the Fire Chief. We do get paged out to go to the scene of an emergency and assist Sault Ste. Marie Fire-EMS when needed for the call. It is a wonderful partnership that will continue to benefit islanders and visitors. Thank you for your support. My grateful thoughts to all Sugar Island residents for being safe and enjoying our lovely island.

Enjoy the last breezes of summer.

Adrienne Beckham SIEMS Co-Captain

LIONS' BRUNCH

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

Join us the 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast extraordinaire!

8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. * Sugar Island Community Center

*Eggs * Sausage * Bacon * Hash Browns * American Fries
French Toast * Pancakes * Toast * Fruit * Juice * Coffee * Milk*

Adults: \$8.00

Children (5-12): \$3.00

COME HUNGRY, LEAVE FULL

ENJOY VISITING WITH FELLOW ISLANDERS!



You've Got Mail!

Get the Quacker via email!! So, no matter where life takes you away from Sugar Island, you can have The Quacker delivered to you via email. It will come to you as a .pdf document. Send your name and email address to us at siquacker@gmail.com
So you don't have email . . . send self-addressed envelopes with 2 first class stamps to: 888 S Westshore, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783 and we will mail you a printed copy or Send us your address and a check payable to: The Quacker for \$15 to: 888 S Westshore, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783 and we'll do the rest. You can also find copies on Facebook page: I love me some Sugar Island!

Local locations for printed copies:
Bayliss Library, Island Book and Craft,
Woody's 1 Stop, Hilltop Bar & Grill,
The Community Center, Sweet Retreat and
Westshore Convenience Store

Curbside services available
Monitor our FB page and/or website.



BAYLISS PUBLIC LIBRARY
Affiliate of Superior District Library
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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
906-632-9331 **bayliss.ploud.net**
Facebook Page: Bayliss Public Library



Curbside Pick-up
Call 906-635-9786
Before 11:00am

Dine-In Senior Lunch Available
Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday
Menu for Month Available at
The Community Center
\$3.00 - 60 and Over
\$6.00 - Under 60



FIRE PLUGS

A big thank you to everyone who participated in our annual fish fry fundraiser. We raised about \$4,700 towards the completion of our rescue trailer. Always amazed at how generous Island people are and the generosity of Island and local businesses. A special thanks to the members of the Youth Group and the Lions Club who helped with the preparation and serving of the meals and to Kathy Dickey for donating her 50-50 winnings. And thank you to my wife who helped increase the take from the silent auction by telling me to come home with the chair or don't come home at all. She was joking, maybe.

We have one of our new pumps in action at the ferry dock. We have purchased two pumps to replace the aging ones we were using to refill the trucks. Our firefighter/carpenter Doug Davidson has rebuilt the pump houses and the new pump at the ferry can refill the tanker in just under seven minutes where the old pump took almost twenty. Another plus is they are easier to use and can be kept running between trucks. Both pumps were purchased with grants. One from the DNR and one from the Sault Tribe.

While we were training on the new pump a call was received about smoke in the Duck Lake area. Two people were sent to check out the report and they advised us to head to the South End and then advised us to head there in a hurry. There was about 10 acres of fire on the island made more difficult as we had to carry our equipment about 10 miles, well maybe not that far but it seemed like it to me. We had assistance from Sault Township Fire Department and the DNR. After being sure the fire was contained for the night, we cleared the scene as it was too dark to effectively fight the fire. The next day part of our crew and the DNR continued to control the fire and cut down trees that were still



FIRE PLUGS

continued ...

burning. The DNR put in several more days to be sure the fire was extinguished. The cause of the fire seems to have been human in origin but the investigator could not determine if it was intentional. In any case this is a good reminder to be careful when in the woods as any spark can start a fire.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire

Ferry Fueling

SUGAR ISLAND FERRY SCHEDULE



Sugar Islander II

Ferry leaves Sugar Island on the hour and half-hour.

From 5:00 a.m. till 2:00 a.m.
3:00 a.m. 4:00 a.m.

Ferry leaves Sault Ste. Marie on the quarter-after and quarter-before the hour.

From 5:15 a.m. till 2:15 a.m.
3:15 a.m. 4:15 a.m.

Eastern Upper Peninsula Transportation Authority

Fueling Dates:
Last Island Ferry before fueling is at 9:30am

*WEDNESDAY
September 4th*

*WEDNESDAY
September 18th*

Fueling takes about an Hour

MARINE TRAFFIC/FERRY INFO

Active GPS locations of Boat Traffic including our Ferry at:

www.marinetraffic.com

Audio of Sault Control: USCG

www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/9644/web

Ferry schedule information on the Sugar Island Ferry Facebook Page

The E.U.P.T.A. Ferry Hotline:

906-632-1516, Option #1



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Sugar Island Township News

Summer is almost over and our children and grandchildren will be heading back to school. Please be careful when driving behind and around school buses, especially when inclement weather limits visibility and vehicle traction.

The Township voted a couple of months ago to allow the Community Action Agency to extend their senior meal service to four days a week using the Community Center's kitchen. If you are eligible and aren't taking advantage of that service, you should consider doing so. Meals are served at lunchtime, Mondays through Thursday at the Community Center.

The Township Election Committee has successfully completed a seamless and orderly primary election for this year. They did a great job, and we owe them a debt of gratitude. Our representative democracy does not work unless we have honest, dedicated and competent citizens running our elections. If you are planning to use absentee voting options for the November election, please contact the Clerk expeditiously.

The Township has contracted with GFL to provide "open top" dumpsters for Island residents. These 30-yard containers should be used just for **household debris**. These containers should not be used for construction materials, hazardous materials, yard waste, tires, and doing so could put the whole program at risk. GFL has every right to terminate our agreement if tires, vehicle fluids, liquid paint and similar items are disposed of in these containers. Moving forward, these containers will be available for the **FIRST TWO WEEKENDS** in September. Residents with a large quantity (more than a 5X8 trailer load) should bring their items early on those specific Saturday mornings to ensure there is ample room for your stuff. After September, we will not have open top containers available to the public until next year.

The Township continues to work with the Chippewa County Road Commission (CCRC) to improve roads across the Island to include paving/grading, filling potholes, cutting grass, and replacing culverts. The CCRC will be working on culverts and cutting grass in August and will be patching asphalt cuts in the roads in the next 45 days. We are fortunate to have the support of the CCRC in replacing these smaller and deteriorating culverts.

And finally, we wish to thank the leadership of the Fire Department, the Lions Club, the Youth Group and everybody else that contributes to fundraising for our community. These efforts go a long way toward lifting a financial burden from the Township and allowing us to improve the services available to our residents. The Fire Department's fish fry in August was a huge success. The Youth Group's recent purchase of a new playground set located at the North Westshore Park is magnificent. This Lions Club has asked and received permission to replace a number (up to ten) picnic tables located at the North Westshore Park. The Township Board has agreed to sell the tables being replaced. More information regarding the sale will be provided once it becomes available.

Mark Eitrem, Supervisor

Notice: The legal responsibility is on the property owner for paying on the correct parcel of property. The property owner must be responsible for payment on the correct descriptions. The sum stated is for taxes assessed upon the described property.

It is very important that you review your tax bill to be positive you are receiving a PRE exemption, if you qualify. This was formally known as "Homestead Exemption". It is located on the bottom half of the left side of your tax bill. If you qualify, it should read 100% in the PRE box. For any questions concerning PRE, please contact Kathy Loup, Township Assessor at (906) 440-1159 or sugarislandassessor@gmail.com

Payment Types Accepted:

Check: Checks will be considered conditional payment only until after clearing the bank. Please mail early as it may take the US Postal Service 2 to 3 weeks to deliver your check. **Postmark is not considered as payment date.**

A large blue drop box is available on the west side of the Community Center for your convenience

Credit Card: Processed through AllPaid. Call (888) 604-7888 or online at www.GovPayNow.com (Pay Location Code: a001h7). AllPaid will charge a Convenience Fee for this service.

Cash: Must be hand delivered to Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer

<u>Summer Tax Collection:</u>	<u>Office Hours:</u>	<u>Additional Hours:</u>
July, Aug., Sep. 2024	Mon, Tues, Friday 9am-2pm Wed, Thurs, Sat 9am-4pm	09/16/24 9am to 5pm

Summer Delinquent Tax Interest Rates:

9/17/24 thru 9/30/24 = 1% Thereafter, 1% will be charged for each month or any part of a month until taxes are paid in full. Property Tax Payment must be made at the Chippewa County Treasurer's office starting 03/01/25 at 319 Court Street, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783. Phone # (906) 635-6308 or www.chippewacountymi.gov/treasurer

Have You Moved?

For any changes in description, address or ownership, please notify our office by one of the following:

Email: SITwpTreasurer@gmail.com Phone: (906) 253-9353 Fax: (906) 635-9886

Mail: Sugar Island Township, 6401 E. 1 ½ Mile Rd., Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783

Visit our website at www.sugarislandtownship.org

Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society

Well, folk it has been a few since we have submitted the haps with SIHPS activities, so here is the Readers Digest version. We continue to work on restoration of Brassar School. The third annual Joyce McCoy BBQ was once again a success, as well as annual garage sale. Neither one of these functions would not be a success without your generous donations. Every dollar raised from our fund raisers go towards projects being worked on.

“ Thank You” from the heart must be acknowledged to Wayne Corbiere for donation of ramp for Brassar School, and we cannot forget Carol Gillian, Brenda Flemal, Sharon Mustonen and all the others for all their hard work and dedication with annual garage sale.

May your Labor Day, Monday, September 2nd be one of relaxation spent with family and friends. Please let us all take a moment to remember all those on Patriot Day, September 11th.

Contact a SIHPS committee member to purchase your raffle ticket(s) \$1.00 each or 6 tickets for \$5.00. This year's prizes are 1ST prize: Sugar Island Goody Basket; 2nd prize: Quilt Set (58x48) and 3rd prize Metal Laser Cut Sign.

Our annual Music Jamboree will be held 7 - 10pm, Friday, September 27th at the community center. Questions, please contact George Snider.

Our next scheduled meeting will be 1pm, Wednesday, September 18th at community center. We will be doing raffle drawing at end of meeting. Good luck!

Submitted,
Anita McKerchie, Secretary

**Recycling Station at the
North End Transfer Station
Available only during operating hours.**



TRANSFER STATIONS

**North End: Sundays, Tuesdays,
Thursdays & Saturdays 7am-3pm**

**South End: Mondays & Wednesdays
7am-3pm**

An advertisement for Eric McKerchie Contracting. It features a white septic pumping truck with a large tank. The text on the truck includes "Eric McKerchie (906)632-9515" in the top left, "6793 E. McKerchie Tr. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783" in the top right, and "Septic Pumping" in large letters across the tank. Below that, it lists services: "Residential Builder * Pole Barn * Septic Systems", "Landscaping * Sand * Gravel * Snow Removal", and "Permits * Dredging * Seawalls * Docks". At the bottom of the advertisement, it says "Eric McKerchie Contracting".

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FOR

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S.I. SUPERVISOR

NOVEMBER 5TH 2024

VOTE

FOR

ACCOUNTABILITY

VOTE FOR

JESSE KNOLL

SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP

TRUSTEE

NOVEMBER 5TH 2024