

# The QUACKER

AUGUST 2024 ISSUE 495 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESSE CLUB



## Sugar Island Memorial Service Thursday, August 29 7:00pm

The Sugar Island Annual Memorial Service to honor our island residents who have passed during the last year will be held on Thursday, August 29 at 7:00pm. in the S I Community Center. This ceremony has been offered by the Sugar Island Lions Club since 1983 and it is a special service to remember each of our island neighbors that have passed and offer condolences to their family members. If you would like to attend the service and have your deceased loved one recognized, please call Denise Hillier at 248-736-0818 to ensure your loved one's name is on our list.

### *In Memoriam*

Sue Bean

Thomas Mason Clement

John W. "Jigs" LaCoy



- 3. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 3. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 4. St Luke's Community Church 10 am
- 4. Sweet Retreat Service 6:00pm
- 6. Primary Election 7:00am-8:00pm
- 7. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 7. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
- 8. Lion Meeting 5:30pm
- 9-11. SugarIslandFest.org
- 10. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 10. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 11. St Luke's Community Church 10 am
- 11. Sweet Retreat Service 6:00pm
- 13. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 17. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 17. Fire Fundraiser Fish Fry 4-7pm
- 17. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 18. Lions Brunch 8:30am – 11:00am
- 18. St Luke's Community Church 10 am
- 18. Sweet Retreat Service 6:00pm
- 21. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 21. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
- 24. QUACKER DEADLINE
- 29. Memorial Service 7:00pm
- 31. The Quacker is distributed
- 31. Farmer's Market 10:00am-12n
- 31. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm

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## LIONS DEN

We had a great breakfast with a large steady crowd. Next month we will have next year's raffle tickets on sale as August will be the last month for our current tickets. Each month we draw 3 winners of \$50 each. Cost for the ticket is \$25 which enters you in each month's drawing. Our 3 winners for July were Stephanie Roy, William Ross and Tam Velderman. Our 50-50 winner was Curt White.

We will be having our annual memorial service August 29<sup>th</sup> at the community center. This service allows us to get together to remember our friends and family who have passed away during the last year. Everyone is invited and it gives us a chance to share stories about our loved ones.

We joined together with the Historical Society to hold a Memorial Service for Julies Wilson. There was a moving tribute to her military service and since Julie wouldn't have had it any other way, a lot of laughter.

I show 2 birthdays on my perhaps incomplete list. Steve Gillis and Jerry Sandvig each get to enjoy another birthday. Make sure to give them greetings sometime or many times.

Lion Jim Handziak



## FIRE PLUGS

We continue taking advantage of the great summer we are having by doing as much outdoor training as possible. Our last training saw us driving to various buildings to determine how we would handle a fire at that location. There is a saying in the fire service that as goes the first line (hose) so goes the fire. Which means that if you start out wrong you will be trying to catch up for the rest of the fire. Practicing will help us avoid this, hopefully.

We had an intern this summer Jason Cossette a fire science student from Lake State. We actually shared him with Soo Fire and the college. He did a lot of jobs around the station for us helping with inventory and other maintenance. He is now done for the summer but we hope to see him again as he plans to continue his education.

And on the 17<sup>th</sup> of August we will be holding our fund raiser fish dinner. This will be from 4-7 and you can dine in or take out. We have been able to hold the price at \$15. One thing we can't hold the price on is our silent auction. People have donated such great items that we know you will spend more than last year. Money raised will be used to install a new recliner in our rescue trailer, well at least it would if I had my way. The Chief seems to have other plans.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire



SUGAR ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

**\$15**  
PER PERSON

*Includes fresh whitefish,  
french fries, cole slaw,  
and tartar sauce.*

*Dine-in or  
Take out*

**Sugar Island  
Community Center  
6401 East 1 1/2 Mile  
Sugar Island, MI 49783**

# FISH FRY

FUNDRAISER



AUGUST 17TH  
4:00 - 7:00



**A fundraising event for Sugar Island Volunteer Fire  
Department to purchase needed safety equipment.**

**We will also have a silent auction.**



# SI EMS News

My first question is why does the lovely summer go so quickly and then we must wade through the cold and snow? Maybe because we love to be outside and busy with flowers and gardens. Not fair! Lol

June and July have been quiet months with only 2 EMS calls. Islanders have been asking if we still have an ambulance service on Sugar Island. I am glad to answer this question and support our association with the Sault Ste. Marie Fire-EMS agency. Working with an experienced, professional paramedic crew is great and we appreciate them. As has been said, calling for emergency services and having SSMFD arrive is like having the ER show up at your door with their advanced level of service and experience.

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. This week I did have a new islander stop by with information for the phonebook and to purchase a phonebook. As usual the monthly additions will be included in the Quacker for you to print off and put into your phonebook or just print into your phonebook like I do.

There is no definite date for redoing the phonebook so far. But I would encourage all who are interested in having their phone numbers listed to email me or call me with your information. My email is: [abeckham@lssu.edu](mailto:abeckham@lssu.edu) or give me a call 906-440-1769. 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 go to the SI Westshore Store and the Island Books & Crafts on Portage Street in the Soo for \$7.00 each. Please stop by or contact me.

Thank you to the Sugar Island community who have supported the Sugar Island EMS. My thanks to all Sugar Island residents for being safe while enjoying our lovely island.

Adrienne Beckham SIEMS Co-Captain



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# Sugar Island Township News

Summer is here and so are our visitors. Unfortunately, that means more traffic and higher roadway speeds. As you may surmise, more traffic and higher speeds eventually lead to more accidents. Please slow down and reduce the risk of injury and property damage. Plus, please be courteous when passing slow-moving farm tractors on the roadways as they are also doing the best they can to avoid conflict.

For those that might be affected, you should be aware that Soo Tribe has just passed a Nuisance Code (July 2, 2024) that prohibits the use of burn barrels. If that prohibition affects you, please comply. Interested individuals can visit the Soo Tribe's website for further information.

Recently, some residents have inquired why we are now enforcing code compliance. The fact is, we have been enforcing all along. We do not have a full-time compliance force and the rules and priorities change frequently. The state of Michigan and Chippewa County also has a set of rules that we are obligated to follow. We are not funded by the collection of fines so there is no ulterior motive.

And, as it relates to code compliance, please know that large sheds, steel shipping containers, and similar structures require permits before they are put in place. As a reminder, property owners are responsible to ensure permits are properly acquired. The structures commonly referred to as "Little Houses" are also generally prohibited on Sugar Island. The Township Board has been asked to revisit this prohibition and we intend to do so. Please contact our Code Administrator before you purchase a movable structure for relocation to Sugar Island and put yourself in an unnecessary, legal quandary.

The Township Board does not want to pit neighbors against neighbors. We encourage every Sugar Island resident, regardless of their status, to be good neighbors. Unfortunately, we are often compelled to field complaints because a resident (or group of residents) doesn't like the behavior of a neighbor. We ask that neighbors work together in a spirit of cooperation. If a resident is uncooperative, the Township Board may be compelled to create or modify an ordinance to address the issue, but that process is arduous and time consuming. We would prefer to avoid that process because of one uncooperative resident. Plus, the Township will not ask local law enforcement to intervene unless they have a legal standing to do so per a law, code, or ordinance.

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 similar items. Moving forward, these containers will be available for the **FIRST TWO WEEKENDS** in August and 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.

The Township continues to work with the Chippewa County Road Commission to improve roads across the Island to include paving/grading, filling potholes, cutting grass, and replacing culverts. However, we should be mindful that support to Sugar Island Township is just a small portion of the work the Commission is responsible for, and we aren't always on top of the priority list. We are lucky to have two residents that are employees of the Road Commission, and they do the best they can.

And finally, as you may know, every Township Board position (Supervisor, Clerk, Treasurer and two Trustees) will be subject to election this November. The current Supervisor, Clerk and Treasurer are running for reelection, while the two current Trustees are not. If you are eligible, please consider running for local office. The Township benefits when talented people serve in these positions.

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](mailto: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](http://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

<b><u>Summer Tax Collection:</u></b>	<b><u>Office Hours:</u></b>	<b><u>Additional Hours:</u></b>
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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.sugarislandtownship.org)**



# St. Luke's Community Church



The worship services at 10 AM each Sunday morning on the southern end of Sugar Island have been well-attended by both summer visitors and residents alike. Praise and worship fills the sanctuary that was designed and crafted with skill and love; the floor-to-ceiling windows behind the pulpit area show the beautiful forest behind the cross that reminds of our Creator and of our Savior. Each week brings a different glimpse as the seasons turn one to another.

The singing of familiar hymns and choruses and the reading of the Bible, along with the messages brought by local and visiting speakers, have been especially beautiful and meaningful this year. We are so grateful for those willing to serve whether by tending the building and grounds, playing the organ and keyboard, leading the worship, bringing the message, lighting the candles, handling the funds and the giving, and so much more. Speaking of giving, scholarships for the 2024-2025 academic year will be presented on Sunday, July 28 to:

Gabrielle Gorsuch	LSSU School of Nursing
Cass Peabody	LSSU
Reagan Walsh	LSSU

on behalf of the Barbara Goodheart ~ St. Luke's Community Church Scholarship Fund. We will hear of their future plans and pray blessings on their endeavors during the 10 AM Service and celebrate their successes with a reception following.



All are Welcome to a  
Non-denominational Service  
by the Campfire with  
Interactive Questions,  
Testimonies and Prayer  
Sunday evening 6:00pm  
12427 S Homestead Road  
Sault Ste Marie MI 49783  
Bring your chair and  
Come worship and study with us.



Whether you are a year-round islander or a weekender, know that you are most welcome to join us at Sacred Heart for our weekly Mass on Saturdays at 6:15 p.m.

We are a small congregation and welcome everyone to worship with us. It's so warm to praise the Lord with your family, friends and neighbors.

# LIONS' BRUNCH

## ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT

Join us the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month for breakfast extraordinaire!  
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. \* Sugar Island Community Center

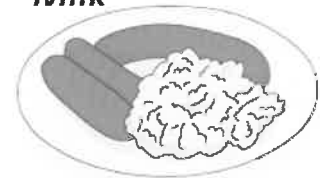
*Eggs \* Sausage \* Bacon \* Hash Browns \* American Fries  
French Toast \* Pancakes \* Toast \* Fruit \* Juice \* Coffee \* Milk*

**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](mailto: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

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**Facebook Page: Bayliss Public Library**



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**Dine-In Senior Lunch Available**  
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# FUNDRAISER FOR SUGAR ISLAND STUDENTS

A Go Fund Me account is now in place to help fund the Barbara Goodheart-St. Luke's Community Church Scholarship Fund.

This fund is used solely for Sugar Island residents to assist with higher education such as college or trade school.

We have been granting scholarships each summer for many years now and have helped around 100 students and want to continue the tradition of assisting Sugar Island students with high hopes to even expand the program.

Please go to the GoFundMe site and look for Barbara Goodheart St. Lukes Scholarship Fund

[www.gofundme.com/f/barbara-goodheart-st-lukes-scholarship-fund](http://www.gofundme.com/f/barbara-goodheart-st-lukes-scholarship-fund).

If you'd like to give in another way other than the Go Fund Me account, please contact Mike Goodheart at [mjgoodheart@gmail.com](mailto:mjgoodheart@gmail.com)

## June-July 2024

Belcher, Jim & Deb                      616-802-2914  
2498 S. Westshore Dr.

Ernst, Johnny & Linda                      231-340-0006  
6290 S. Laramie Lane                      616-802-4406

Haag, Ken & Lori                              231-433-9277  
6548 E. 3 Mile Rd

Myers, Michael & Lori                      832-771-9865  
5960 E. Sandpiper Lane

Wilson, Dave & Jan                          713-294-4327  
5826 E. Nicolet Rd                          713-447-9278

Yoder, AJ & Karen                              989-390-5938  
5218 S. Oak Point Lane

## MARINE TRAFFIC/FERRY INFO

Active GPS locations of Boat Traffic including our Ferry at:  
[www.marinetraffic.com](http://www.marinetraffic.com)

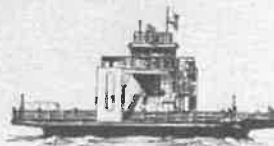
Audio of Sault Control: USCG  
[www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/9644/web](http://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/9644/web)

Ferry schedule information on the Sugar Island Ferry Facebook Page

The E.U.P.T.A. Ferry Hotline:  
906-632-1516, Option #1

## 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  
August 7<sup>th</sup>*

*WEDNESDAY  
August 21<sup>st</sup>*

Fueling takes about an Hour



## OPEN LETTER TO SUGAR ISLAND ELECTORS.

As we near the 2024 election cycle I'd like to remind our Sugar Island voters that our elected Township government runs for election/re-election every four years. This year, registered voters will be asked to select a Supervisor, a Treasurer, a Clerk, and two Trustees. In this upcoming election, you will be asked to vote for two new Trustees as neither of the current Trustees (Repa & Noble) are running for re-election. Three of us will be running for re-election, including me (Supervisor), our current Clerk (Brittany Behm) and the current Treasurer (Jaci Brown). All three of us are running as Republicans.

Unlike larger Townships, the elected officials on the Sugar Island Township Board must do the work required to manage the detailed, day-to-day activities of Township. These activities require some significant knowledge, skills and abilities that are not common across an electorate. Furthermore, it is even more uncommon to find a group of elected officials willing to do the right thing without agendas, even when it is diametrically opposed to the past practices or the good ole boy network. Brittany, Jaci and I are dedicated to doing the right thing by setting up systems and processes that work to establish and maintain a government that is consistent, equitable, efficient and effective. While we don't always agree, we still get the job done.

As you might imagine, it is difficult to find five people elected by the public that are willing and able to work together as a team. We have such a team now and I hope the new Trustees will be just as cooperative. It would be my preference that we re-elect the whole team but we've been unable to convince Ben and Kathy to run again. I don't blame them because these jobs can be thankless. However, moving forward I'm thankful that Brittany and Jaci are running. The Clerk and Treasurer positions are the most technically difficult jobs to learn and to perform properly. The Supervisor position can be difficult too if the job is done properly. It is my understanding that I will be running against my predecessor, so you will have a choice. As you consider your vote for Supervisor, ask yourself if the candidate you select is capable of the following tasks:

1. Facilitate Board meetings and draft the agenda for each meeting.
2. Perform the function of parliamentarian following Robert's Rules of Order during each meeting.
3. Possess an operational understanding of state and federal laws as they relate to Township functions and operations.
4. Create and manage the \$1.5M budget, to include creating resolutions and amendments.
5. Interview and recommend volunteer board members for standing committees in accordance with the law.
6. Create and maintain a wide variety of public policy procedures involving everything from purchase orders, creating resolutions, updating Board administrative policies and standard operating procedures.
7. Advocate for and represent Sugar Island Township with a reputation that reflects competence, integrity and respect.

And finally, when I campaigned four years ago, I told you that I wasn't a politician. If you voted for me because you were hoping I would change, I'm sorry. However, if you want somebody who'll continue to get things done, I hope you'll consider voting for me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mark S. Eitrem

PS. This is a political advertisement paid for with donations from private funds.

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 louieswelldrilling@yahoo.com



**MAYER PUMP SERVICE**  
 JIM MAYER  
 PO Box 129 West Street  
 Rudyard MI 49780  
 906-478-4606



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