

# The QUACKER

FEBRUARY 2024 ISSUE 489 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESS CLUB



## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- 2. Groundhog Day
- 3. I-500 Race Day 8:00am
- 3. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 6. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm
- 7. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 7. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
- 8. Lion Meeting 5:30pm
- 10. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 13. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 14. Valentine's Day
- 17. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
- 18. Lions Brunch 8:30am – 11:00am
- 18. QUACKER DEADLINE
- 20. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm
- 21. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 24. The Quacker is distributed
- 24. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 27. Primary Election 7:00am-8:00pm
- 29. Property Taxes Due to Treasurer  
In the office 9:00am-5:00pm
- March 1 Constitution Alive 6:00pm-8:00pm

### *In Memoriam*

Shirley Jahr

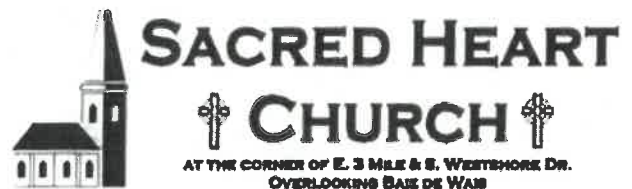
Ralph LaCoursiere

Jeanna Myers

## *Thank you*

I want to thank the island residents for their support and kindness in the final arrangements for a lifetime resident on the island. Harold Belanger passed away Dec 1st and the people surrounding him on the island need a personal thank you for making all of food, drinks, place to go, and making many more memories happen in the honor of Harold.

Thanks, April Rousseau



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.

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## LIONS DEN

The January breakfast had one of its lower turnouts. This may have been partially due to another event going on the same day and people not wanting to attend both and overeat, I had no such restrictions. But more likely due to people being tired of the cold. In any event we had a great time and thank the people who could attend.

We thanked 3 people by sending them checks for \$50 each. Winners of our monthly raffle were Jerrod Willis, Michael Johns and Steve Gillis. Our 50/50 winner Amy Shisler donated her winning to the Meyers family fundraiser and the Lions donated our share also. You also may have seen the new sign the Lions purchased to advertise community events. You may have missed it as it spent some time laying down due to the wind. Fortunately, the Lions have several engineers and people with experience in many matters. After a study was done it was determined that we needed weights to hold it down. After I refused to stand by the sign, a more permanent solution is in the works.

Only 2 birthdays in the Lions this month. Lions Connie Smithling and Jim Handziak will again be facing yet another year. Please help them through this trauma by giving plenty of hugs.

Lion Jim Handziak



## FIRE PLUGS

Normally sometime in December or even earlier we put skis on the rescue sled and make sure ice rescue gear is in good shape. This year we did this at our last meeting in January because of our "mild" winter. We look forward to the year we don't have to do this but the cost of shipping the equipment to Florida would be cost prohibitive.

So, we ask everyone to be careful while enjoying winter activities. When on the ice carry some type of equipment in case you or a partner end up in the water. Even ice grips on your boots can be helpful and ice picks are easy to carry and use. A rope with some type of float is great to have and like one person told me you can always use a rope even if you don't have an emergency. Even on land emergencies can occur so extra clothing, some fire starters, snacks and a cell phone are handy to have around. Remember if your cell phone is using a Canadian Tower your 911 call will go to Canada. If your phone is roaming, we suggest you use 906-495-3312 which connects you to the Central Dispatch Center in Kincheloe.

And remember we are always looking for new members. Also, it is the time of year to keep your furnace pipes clear of snow. This backup can cause Carbon Monoxide poisoning. One final thing to put on your chore list is to check on your address sign. Some become blocked in winter. On your mailbox it is nice to have your address on both sides.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire



## Autore Oil & Propane

### We love hearing from satisfied customers:

"We have been customers of Autore since 2004. Always excellent service and in a couple of instances, this company went way beyond their usual great service to make sure our needs were met. Our appreciation and thanks go out to the office, sales and delivery personnel."

- *Karen Putnam*

"We just started using propane last Fall. The staff at Autore Oil and Propane are friendly and professional. We highly recommend them!"

- *Lori Miller*

"They have served us and our community for many years, and we are happy with the reliable service we have received for gas and recently the addition of propane service. Your service representatives are the best!"

- *Les & Karen Richwine*

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# Sugar Island Township News

As was mentioned last month, snow and ice continue to cover our roads thereby making driving more difficult and potentially dangerous. Our recycling trailer was involved in an accident in early January that resulted in some debris being spread along the roadside. We fully expect to pick up the spilled debris when it is safe to do so. More importantly, we are thankful that nobody was seriously hurt.

As we have mentioned many times, townships across Michigan are having difficulty recruiting and retaining volunteers. Unfortunately, Sugar Island is no exception. This current situation places an unusual burden on the existing volunteers, the employees, and the elected board members. We are eternally grateful that we have residents willing to volunteer. If you have the time and energy to volunteer, please speak to one of our Township Board members. We will be conducting a **joint board** meeting at 6:00pm on February 13, 2024 at the Community Center. If you have any interest in participating in one or more of our boards, please be there to express your thoughts.

Additionally, our current Fire Chief (Dave Pine) has just resigned with an effective date of January 31, 2024. He will remain a volunteer firefighter, but his new job won't allow him to spend the necessary time required of the Chief job. We thank him for his dedicated service. So, we want to solicit interest in anybody that wishes to be considered for the position. Please come to the February 2024 Joint Board Meeting which starts at 6:00pm and be prepared to express your interest.

And finally, to remain transparent, the Treasurer (Jaci Brown) and I will be representing the Township in negotiations with Soo Fire to ensure we can maintain quality emergency medical services moving forward. The purpose of these negotiations is to establish a new relationship with Soo Fire that reduces the burden on our volunteers, and wherever possible, increases the overall quality of emergency medical services to our residents.

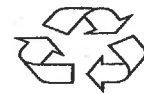
Mark Eitrem, Supervisor

Eric McKerchie  
(906)632-9515

6793 E. McKerchie Tr.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

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**Eric McKerchie Contracting**



**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: Closed for the Season**

**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 you tax bill. If you qualify, it should read 100% in the PRE box. For any questions concerning PRE, please contact Kathy Loup, township assessor (1-906-440-1159)**

### **Payment Types:**

**Check:** (as conditional payment only, until the check has cleared the bank) Please mail early- it may take the postal service 2 to 3 weeks to deliver your check. Any check not received by 02/29/2024 will be considered late and be returned to sender. Postmark is not considered a payment date.

**Credit Card:** (with a convenience fee) (1-888-604-7888 or (AllPaid) [www.GovPayNow.com](http://www.GovPayNow.com) (Acct#a001h7)

**Cash:** Must be hand delivered to **Treasurer** in person only (DO NOT LEAVE IN DROP BOX)

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

No property tax payment will be taken at the township level (except for buildings on leased land and personal property taxes) after 02/29/2024. Property Tax Payment must be made at the County Treasurer's office starting 03/01/24 at 319 Court Street, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783 phone # 906-635-6308 or [www.chippewacountymi.gov/treasurer](http://www.chippewacountymi.gov/treasurer)

### **Winter Tax Collection:**

### **Office Hours:**

### **Additional Hours:**

Dec./2023, Jan. & Feb./2024

Saturday 9am-4pm

1 day between 12/26-12/31 2023  
Feb 29, 2024 - 9 am to 5pm

### **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: 1-906-253-9353

Fax: 1-906-635-9886

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)**



# SI EMS News

Hello to the shortest month of the year! Now this year, 2024, is Leap Year which means there is an extra day at the end on, February 29. This equalizes the year and gives us 366 days in 2024. I won't go into the astrological explanations, but it means that a person born on the 2/29 date would only have ¼ of the birthdays for that date. I would be a lot younger if it was my birthday. Lol

In January we have had 4 runs so far. In 2023 we had 37 runs total, lower than normal but everyone was staying safe which we are happy about. The weather has changed to very cold and snow has fallen, making it a more normal January. To my way of thinking we are 2/3 through winter and Spring is on the way! Always have a positive attitude in life.

Our roads are snow and ice covered now which makes them slick even with 4W drive so take it easy and slow down. I love the new sign that the Lions club has put up "Slow down and drive like your kids live here!" Good advice for all of us and fits for our wonderful caring and giving community.

I am going to repeat this posting about the Sugar Island Phone Book and this month we will be posting all of the names and phone numbers collected in the last 3 years. There is no definite date for redoing the phone book 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.

It does take some time to compile the phonebook and I will put a notice out when I begin to put it together. I also put the new phone entries in the monthly in the Quacker for you to add to your phonebook. The phone directories are available at the Westshore Store, the Hilltop Bar & Grill and Island Books & Crafts on Portage Street in the Soo for \$7.00 each.

Be safe and enjoy winter!

Adrienne Beckham SI EMS Co-Captain



**Ask what the CSB Family  
can do for you!**

*Talk to CSB's very own Islander.*

**Erin Albrecht**

CALL  
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EMAIL  
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VISIT  
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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

  MLO 920844 



# CONSTITUTION ALIVE!

Join our local Constitution Host and others from your community as we watch, study, & discuss this powerful video series with Rick Green & David Barton.



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CONSTITUTION  
COACH  
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- ★ Learn Tangible Action Steps for Preserving Liberty!
- ★ Entertaining! Inspiring! Educational!
- ★ Learn the Biblical, Historical, and Constitutional Foundation of Freedom!



Constitution Alive  
Sugar Island Township Hall  
Friday March 1st  
6pm to 8pm

For more Information  
Please go to  
Constitution Information  
On Facebook

If interested in Registering  
Call: Rich Brown; Constitution Coach  
(906) 298-2080  
Please Leave a Message  
If I'm not able to answer



## A Word from St. Luke's Community Church

Our family recently returned from a trip to our cabin on Sugar Island. We were searching for snow and we were happy to find it. The snow machines received a real workout from the grands and their parents (thank you to Larry Rutt). When the machines are not running it is amazing how much better you can enjoy the quiet. Standing in the woods, not moving, or making any sound, one can hear themselves think.

A passage of Scripture came to my mind as I was standing alone in the woods is Psalm 46. It is a nice piece of Scripture to savor and take comfort from. In verses 1-3 we see that God is our ever available "help in time of trouble". We are not to fear but rather approach life with confidence that "the Lord Almighty is with us" and we are safe as in a fortress, according to verse 7.

However, it is in verses, 10-11 that I find real encouragement and advice from God in times of struggle or suffering. He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." Our heavenly Father tells us to be quiet and listen. Just like we sometimes must tell our earthly children. Be quiet, settle down I have something important to tell you. God wants to tell you "I got this". I am greater than anything this world can throw you. Let me encourage you to find that special place where you can be still and listen to your heavenly Father.

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

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

Fueling takes  
about an  
Hour

### 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 Schedule has changed Effective January 17-April 30, 2024

Sunday – Thursday

Only Once an hour 12:00am-4:00am

Only Once an hour 12:15am-4:15am

Friday-Saturday

Only Once an hour 1:00am-4:00am

Only Once an hour 1:15am-4:15am

# 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

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



**BAYLISS PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
Affiliate of Superior District Library  
541 Library Drive  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
**906-632-9331**     [bayliss.ploud.net](http://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**

Sugar Island Lions Club  
Charitable Donations for 2023

American Legion Soo Post Veterans Assistance  
American Red Cross  
Bay Cliff Health Camp  
Diane Pepler Woman's Shelter  
EUP Special Olympics  
Hospice of the EUP  
Leader Dogs for the Blind  
Mariucci Family Beacon House, Marquette, MI  
Midwest Eye Bank  
Munson Manor, Traverse City  
My Michigan Health – Road to Recovery Program  
Salvation Army  
Soo Locks Children's Museum  
Soo Theater Project  
Sugar Island Ambulance Service Support  
Sugar Island Fire Department Service Support  
Sugar Island Memorial Service and Support  
Superior Healthcare Support Systems -Merlin House

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 906-635-7070



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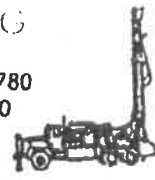
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- \$35.00 for full page
- \$15.00 to attach a customer's page(s)
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**QUACKER STAFF**

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 5870 E. Sandpiper Lane  
 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
 siquacker@gmail.com

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**2021 ADDITIONS**

Garlitz-Shisler, Amy 937-231-9566  
11346 E. Bradshaw Ln

Hillier, Richard & Denise 248-736-0818  
6220 S. Laramie Ln

Neuroth, Don & Pam 517-260-2095  
10814 E. Bradshaw Ln 517-260-0688

Prescott, Jennifer 313-236-1539  
8810 S. Shingle Bay Rd

Stewart, Keith 203-300-2227  
4552 S. Westshore Dr.

**2022 ADDITIONS**

Carey, Mike & Tricia 260-350-8956  
7832 E Northshore Dr.

Hendrickson, Dan & Charlotte 906-647-2408  
2826 S. Westshore Dr.

Modelski, Judy 313-408-2354  
3232 S. Westshore Dr.

Jim & Karen Montero Jr. 906-635-1147  
39 N. Westshore Dr.

Pollack, Bob & Terri 517-927-7333  
11035 E. Clyde Dr. (No Land Line)

Slowinski, Wayne & Debbie 920-810-5148  
5170 S. Oak Point Lane

**2023 ADDITIONS**

Belanger, Brent 301-787-1045  
7128 S. Whitehawk Trail

Davis, Glenn & Amy 303-717-7286  
Clayton Ellis 906-440-7484  
7644 South Pointe Rd.

Grosset, Jaime & Linda 906-440-1470  
6877 E. Seppi Rd

Johns, Michael & Jean 231-493-8807  
12469 S. Homestead Rd.

Larry's Service & Repair 386-222-9170  
10789 E. Village Rd. 906-379-0303

Miller, David L 937-825-2719  
11441 E. Village Rd.

Ogorek, Wally & Kathy 734-718-7989  
11007 Clyde Rd 734-646-5171

Ogorek, Michael 562-682-3614  
11007 Clyde Rd

Ross, William 810-360-3516  
4028 S. Westshore Dr.

Rutt, Larry & Luanne 386-216-4483  
10789 E. Village Rd 906-379-0303

Sherry, John & Jeri Ann 906-440-0039  
4676 S. Westshore Dr. 906-440-8850

Swantek, John & Loretta 231-262-3146  
7398 South Pointe Rd