

# The QUACKER

#### OCTOBER 2023 ISSUE 485 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESS CLUB



# Happy Halloween! COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- 3. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm
- 4. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 4. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
- 7. Farmer's Market 10:00am-1:00pm
- 7. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 8-14. Fire Prevention Week
- 9. Columbus Day
- 10. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 12. Lions Meeting 5:30pm
- 14. Farmer's Market 10:00am-1:00pm
- 14. Harold Mohr Celebration 1-6pm
- 14. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 15. Lions Brunch 8:30am 11:00am
- 18. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
- 18. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
- 21. Farmer's Market 10:00am-1:00pm
- 21. SI Youth Halloween Party 1:00-3:00pm
- 21. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- Deadline for Veterans Past & Present
- 21. Deadline for Cookbook Pages
- 22. QUACKER DEADLINE
- 28. The Quacker is distributed
- 28. Farmer's Market 10:00am-1:00pm
- 28. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
- 31. Trick or Treating Com Ctr 5-7pm

In Memoriam
Harold Mohr

## Sugar Island Veterans Monument

The Sugar Island Veterans Memorial located on South Brasser Road has been continuously desecrated over the last several years with both graffiti being painted on it and trash being purposely discarded in front of it. Lately, this disrespect has escalated to a level of someone needing to say, "Come on people, please grow up!" Word is the garbage is due to a personal vendetta against a local island resident, with the belief that the resident is the property owner upon which the monument sits. Nothing is farther from the truth. The veterans Memorial "aka Stoneman" was originally erected by the Jennette family and the caretaker of the property is their 89 year old cousin and lifelong island resident Harold Belanger. He is an Army veteran and is one of several people who have been cleaning up the debris thrown in front of the Stoneman over the years. Can anyone envision the personal embarrassment of seeing an almost 90 year old veteran down in the ditch cleaning up people's trash in front of a monument that was erected to honor him and all the other men and women of this island who have proudly worn a uniform in defense of our country? These actions are not only an insult, but a slap in the face to all who have ever defended this great nation. The Michigan State Police said they have no problem checking into this, because not only is it disrespecting our veterans, it is an offense that carries a \$500 fine and possible jail time. Yes! Littering is a crime. The State police talked about posting a camera to monitor the area, but do we really have to go to this level? Can't the issue be resolved by grown adults without local law enforcement having to get involved? If anyone witnesses any further dishonoring of this memorial, please contact the Michigan State Police post in Sault Ste Marie. There have been several people who have shared in the care and maintenance of the memorial over the years, and a well-deserved "Thank you" is need of being said.



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Want to thank everyone for attending our open house on September 7th. We had moved it from our normal August date as we had lot going on in August. We had put in a special order for nice weather and our wish was granted. Only miscue was our children's items for the door prizes had not arrived but we will be sure that the winners get their prizes when they arrived. People got to see us in action, even though some of us are timed by an hour glass, and to see the new equipment that the people have provided us. Fire prevention week is October 8th-14th and this year's theme is cooking safety. One good tip is the location of your fire extinguisher. An old fire fighter told me one mistake we all make is the put the extinguisher where the fire is most likely to be which makes it difficult

to get to in case of a fire. A better choice is a location where you can easily get to it even if you have a fire. In any case always call for the fire department. AN IMPORTANT REMINDER--When you call for help in an emergency if you are using a cell phone that is roaming to Canada your call will go to a Canadian call center. To avoid delay you can call the Central Dispatch number 906-495-3312 if 911 does not work for you. We got to use some of our new equipment on a recent propane emergency. Our new battery powered fan quickly proved its value. Our old fan is gas powered and rather heavy. Plus, you have a lot of noise after you get it started. Our new fan can be handled by one person and actually puts out more air than the old one. Worked like a charm. Our fire chief wants to remind you that when getting ready for winter to make sure your chimney and heating systems are in proper working order. Also, on the outside remove leaves and dry grass so you can be ready for spring. And finally (I'm getting a little long winded) we have a new firefighter coming on board, Cole Biron. We don't know the date when the fire fighting class will start but the last few years it has been through Zoom meeting for lecture and in person for the practical portions. This saves a lot of travel and time. It would be great to have several more people sign up.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire



September saw the first winners on the new tickets for our annual raffle. Quickly recouping their investment, or at least \$50 of it. They were: Brenda Ball, Karen Corbiere and Bernadine Postlewaite. Our 50-50 winner was Julie Venious. We still have a few tickets left if you want to get in on the action, ask any Lion to obtain one. We have our raffle, breakfast and other fundraisers to allow us to make donations to various groups both on and off the island. We make contributions thorough out the year. Last month we purchased the refreshments for the fire department open house. Next month we will be planning what we call our annual donations. This includes groups such as Hospice, Road to Recovery Bay Cliff Health Camp and many more. Right now, we are struggling with the cost of our breakfast. The last few months we have been seeing if we need to increase our price so we can continue to meet our donations. If it does need to be raised, we will try to keep it to a minimum. The Farmers Market at the Community Center has been a great success this year. New vendors come on board weekly but some have started to retire for the year. The Market runs from 10-noon on Saturdays and will until the weather becomes uncooperative. Busy month for Lions Birthdays. We may be forced to ration birthday hugs. I for one will forgo hugging president Doug Davidson. Adriene Becham, Jodi Pifer, Luanne Rutt and Amy Shisler are fair game. Birthday greetings to all. Be sure to wish them the best.

Lion Jim Handziak



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# Sugar Island Township News

Fall is here and the colors of heaven's majesty surround us. Many of our seasonal residents have already headed home or will be doing that soon and we wish them a safe trip. The colder temperatures, along with a variety of other seasonal occurrences such as fog and frost will make driving more dangerous, so please plan ahead and slow down. You are reminded that the speed limits around our Island are limited to 55 miles per hour, but that doesn't mean we are required to drive that fast. Please drive for the conditions. To improve safety, the Township has requested the installation of five new streetlights on the Island. Two will be installed on the causeway, one will be installed at the intersection of 6 Mile and Brasser, another one will be installed at the intersection of Brasser, Northshore and Westshore Drive.

The Chippewa County Road Commission's (CCRC's) continues to work on Village Road. If progress is achieved according to the plan, this road work will be completed by Thanksgiving. Between now and then, if you happen to be traveling in that direction, please drive carefully. Thus far, work on that road has been extraordinary, so please don't get in their way.

As you prepare for winter, please consider testing your snow removal equipment, leveling your driveways, and ordering/stockpiling some sand and/or salt. Drivers should also make sure the vehicles are prepared with appropriate tires and adequate levels of anti-freeze and windshield washer fluid. Veterans of travel in the Upper Peninsula might also suggest packing a safety kit including a pair of winter gloves, a pair of winter boots, a blanket, a shovel, a set of jumper cables, along with a spare snow brush/scraper and a small, sealable bag of nutritional bars or similar items. Some of this stuff may take up some space in your backseat but you won't ever regret having those things available if you get stuck in a snowbank or worse yet, in a ditch.

For residents, please be aware there will be an election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. This ballot has questions regarding three very critical Township service areas (Fire, Ambulance & Roads). It should be noted that none of these initiatives increases the previously approved millage rates. The Township funds the Fire and Ambulance Departments almost exclusively from these millages and grants. Failure to support these ballot questions will place the Fire and Ambulance Departments at risk. Aside from the occasional grant, the Road millage is used to fund the Township's 50/50 share of costs associated with major roadwork completed by the CCRC. Absent this millage, the Township's ability to fund our 50/50 share to lift, widen and pave existing roads will end.

And finally, the Township continues to look for a couple skilled community planners to join our Township Planning Commission. Additionally, Melissa Gilhooley has resigned from our Zoning Board of Appeals. We thank her for her service. Unfortunately, the current version of our zoning document is in serious need of updating and modernizing these types of documents properly is difficult and time-consuming work. If you have time, are a qualified elector, have some measure of computer literacy, and are willing to put forth the effort, we will be spending a serious energy in the next four or five years updating our zoning ordinances and similar documents. We need citizen input and participating in these committees is an excellent method to share your opinions. If interested, please send an email or letter of interest to our clerk (SITwpClerk@gmail.com).

Mark Eitrem, Supervisor

## LIONS' BRUNCH



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** 

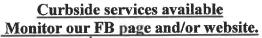
Children (5-12): \$3.00

# 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 <a href="mailto:siquacker@gmail.com">siquacker@gmail.com</a>
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





**PUBLIC LIBRARY** 

Affiliate of Superior District Library 541 Library Drive

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

906-632-9331 <u>bayliss.ploud.net</u>
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

## The Sugar Island Youth Group

has been actively discussing the upcoming events. First up we have the Halloween party happening on October 21st from 1pm till 3pm at the Community Center.

There will be kid's costume judging from ages 0-17 and a special prize for the group/family portion of the event. We are also invited to the Yon farm to select our own pumpkins. This is a self-transport event for our Sugar Island families, so keep an eye on our Facebook page and the I love me some Sugar Island for dates and times for this event. That being said, we will have donuts, cider, water, and candy bags at the party but no pumpkins.

Next up is, we are planning to be a part of the Christmas parade in Town again this year. We are doing a "parade of trees" theme and asking those whom would like to be involved, make your own tree costume with your own creativity. Lots of lights, decorations, and don't forget the tree topper. If you would like to donate candy or battery powered lights, please contact one of the Youth Group Ladies. This event is the day after Thanksgiving, so November 24th.

The Youth Group is working hard on our cookbook and we have placed a container at Westshore Convenience store for recipe drop offs. You can also email them to sugarislandyouthgroup@gmail.com. We have extended the deadline to allow more recipes to be added. The deadline for recipes, memorial pages, or if you would like to add your business card is October 21st. (There is a cost for adding your business card and memorial pages so please email those requests.)

We will have information on the Christmas program and any other events in the November edition of the Quacker.

Sugar Island Youth Group

#### HOLY ANGELS CHURCH

This year Baraga Days were held in the Sault. As part of the celebration many people attended an open house at Holy Angels on the island. Many were from out of state and a hardy few made the trek to the cemetery. One interesting group was from Petoskey where there is the Church of St Francis of Solans which was also built by Bishop Baraga. They have replicas of the original benches that would have been in Holy Angels. We plan to visit and make a sample.

Last month Marv and Mary Ann Dick moved from the island. Mary Ann was our treasurer and secretary and historian and other duties as assigned person. We have a steering committee of which she was a big part. If you might be interested in being a part, please contact us. As you can see several jobs just opened up.

And our thanks to the family of Ann Marie Frisbie nee Lewis for naming Holy Angles if people wanted to make a donation in her memory. She was born on Sugar Island and at one time there were many Lewis's on the island.

Our open houses are over with for the year but if anyone does want a tour of the church contact us and arrangements can be made.

Jim Handziak



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.

# **Ferry Fueling**

#### SUGAR ISLAND FFRRY 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 October 4th

WEDNESDAY October 18<sup>th</sup>

Fueling takes about an Hour

# A Chance to Remember

Harold David Mohr was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. He left this world on September 9, 2023 at home peacefully surrounded by family and his dog Lance. Born on October 26, 1929 in Grand Rapids, MI. He was a very accomplished man. He joined the Army, achieved sharpshooter status and managed the books for the officers. Shortly after his honorable discharge he met his first wife Lorriane and had six children. Later in life he married Wanda Lou, who he spent many loving years with. His other achievements included an accounting degree from Davenport College, retiring from Graybar Electric after 33 years and serving Sugar Island as Township Supervisor and Treasurer. He enjoyed collecting antique fans, hunting, fishing, wood working and playing pool. His family and friends loved his quick wit and huge heart. Please join his family to celebrate Harold's life on October 14, 2023 at the Soo American Legion Post 3 from 1:00-6:00pm. We will have some light fare as well.

The Mohr Family

# MARINE TRAFFIC/FERRY INFO

Active GPS locations of Boat Traffic including our Ferry at: www.marinetraffic.com

Audio of Sault Control: USCG

www.broardcastify.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



I did get my wish for a beautiful Fall with warm weather and colorful leaves! October is a fall special with the reds and golds of the trees. As I drove around the island yesterday the lovely colors made me so glad to be a part of this wonderful island.

So far in September we have had 2 ambulance runs. We did participate in the USCG Tabletop exercise on 9/14 that had as the topic "Active shooter on the Sugar Island Ferry". The emergency response was to the SI Ferry. Many Chippewa County EMS agencies, including the SIEMS crew, USCG and Police agencies were involved. And according to Jim Handziak, an attendee, great ideas were tossed about, formulating a plan for this imaginary event. Preparations for disasters of any type keep responding agencies sharp and prepared.

I have been advised that there may be an EMT course available through Bay Mills Community College. If you are interested, please call the BMCC Admissions office for further information. If you need assistance call either Adrienne Beckham or Jim Handziak and we can help you.

Halloween is about a month away and kids will be excited about gathering their costumes and activities at their schools. The SI Youth Group will be having a party for trick or treaters up to age 17. A few years ago, I was able to see all the kids & families in their costumes. They were having a great time and I enjoyed watching. Make sure your driving is careful and be aware of the possibility of ghouls and goblins dashing into the street without thinking of the danger.

I am still gathering new phone listings for the Sugar Island Phonebook. If you are interested in adding your Sugar Island information, send your name, address & phone number(s) for the Sugar Island Phonebook to me at abeckham@lssu.edu or give me a call 906-440-1769. This will also be published monthly in the Quacker for you to add to your phonebook. The phone directories are available at the SI Westshore Store, the Hilltop Bar and Grill and the Island Books & Crafts on Portage Street in the Soo for \$7.00 each.

Adrienne Beckham SIEMS Co-Captain



We will again be honoring all our Sugar Island Veterans, past and present, in our November issue. We would like to gather all the names of any serviceman or servicewoman from Sugar Island, permanent or seasonal. So please help us gather those names by calling Sue at 906-632-9739, or email <a href="mailto:siquacker@gmail.com">siquacker@gmail.com</a>
By October 21st.



#### **Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society**

First would like to apologize for not submitting for August and September Quacker due to technical issues but tried to keep everyone informed about SHIPS activities via Sugar Island Facebook page. Well enough of the boohoo story and on to the more interesting news.

Happy Fall everyone! The warm days are still here and how about those Northern Lights...outstanding! By this this time some of our snowbirds are starting to pack up and head south or are already back to their winter homes.

Once again, because of your generosity and caring the Joyce McCoy Annual BBQ, Garage Sale, and 2023 Raffle were all successful. Please know 100 percent of all monies raised or donated are used to purchase items necessary to complete projects. A big *Miigwetch*, *Merci and Kiitos* to so many that helped make this year's activities a success through their caring and dedication: Joyce McCoy Annual BBQ kids and grandkids hard work with setup, cooking, raffle items and cleanup, George Snider and musical chums for the toe tapping music. Carol and Dave Gillian, Brenda Flemal, Sharon Mustonen for all the sorting and prepping for Annual Garage Sale. For the 2023 Raffle items Doug and Diane McCoy sanding/painting Adirondack chairs and table donated by John Nolan. Those that donated for the S. I. Good Basket: Nikki Barrow, handmade ornament; Sharon Morley, hand painted red wren picture; Myah McKerchie, pint of KBM honey, Diane McCoy, 906 mug, homemade dish cloth, Steve Morley, Plummers Plumbing Shirt; Kim Gravelle, S. I. wine glasses, coffee mug, koozie, coaster; Brenda Flemal, bottle of Sugar Island syrup; Sue Dahl, homemade soaps and scrubbies; Luanne Rutt miscellaneous S. I. items; Nevilles for gift certificate and EUPTA for 10 trip ferry ticket. Whew! That was one full Goody Basket! Nick Poliski and Family for beautiful Sugar Island Mirror.

Please, take a ride and check out how much has been done this year with the Brassar School. We think you will be surprised. On this note we must give a huge shout out to Dave Brunett and his crew for all the hard work they have done and continue to do with the school and setting up awning for annual BBQ.

We would like to wish all trick or treaters a safe and Happy Halloween.

Our next scheduled meeting is 1pm, Wednesday, November 15, 2023, at SICC.

Anita McKerchie, Secretary

If you love Sugar Island, come join us!





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South End: Monday & Friday 7am-3pm



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

With only a few of us congregants still on the island, St. Luke's was set to close up on Sunday, September 24. But when neighbors and guests drove up the trail on Sunday morning at 10am ready to worship, we gladly joined together for one more impromptu service. We sang favorite hymns (How Great Thou Art, Because He Lives, In the Garden, Victory in Jesus, Great is Thy Faithfulness, and Dear St. Luke's on the Trail), prayed and read Romans 8:35-39.

"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:38–39

And then we enjoyed coffee and breakfast and time together. Archie Freeland was able to recount stories and details of St. Luke's founding and construction from the 1980's. We're so grateful for their vision and craftsmanship that we still enjoy all these years later.

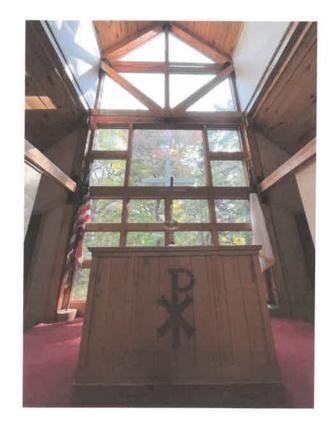
Although we are a seasonal congregation, we would like to stay in touch with our friends who attend wherever they may spend the winter. Thanks to those who make the Quacker a way we can provide some spiritual guidance and encouragement during the months we don't meet in person.

As we begin making preparations to enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday, we would like to provide some thoughts from God's word.

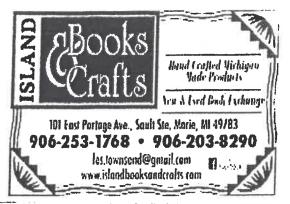
Psalm 106:1 says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love endures forever."

Our response to this great pursuit of love should be thankfulness. It is a human tendency to become inwardly focused and selfish, which is not good for our relationships with others. Gratitude helps us look beyond ourselves and gain a better perspective on life.

Even when our circumstances are difficult, harmful, and demoralizing, thankfulness can help. Seeking to be thankful for what we have instead of complaining about what we don't have is a powerful antidote for the funk we sometimes find ourselves in. Finding ways to thank others for what they mean to us and saying how much you love them is a pathway to personal joy and peace for our hearts.



Blessings to all!





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