



The QUACKER

JANUARY 2025 ISSUE 500 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESS CLUB



Happy New Year!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1. New Year's Day
1. Fire Station Mtg North **CANCELLED**
2. Sugar Island Bible Study **6:00-7:30pm**
4. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
7. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm
8. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
9. Lion Meeting 5:30pm
11. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
14. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
16. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm
15. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
17. Ferry Schedule Changes – 12m-5am
18. Township Special Board Meeting Noon
19. Lions Brunch 8:30am – 11:00am
19. QUACKER DEADLINE
20. Martin Luther King, Jr Day-No Mail
22. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
23. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm
25. The Quacker is distributed
25. First Responders CPR and AED Noon
25. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
30. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm

In Memoriam

Jennie Holland
Brian Smith

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
January 8th

WEDNESDAY
January 22nd

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

Ferry Schedule has changed

Effective January 17-April 30, 2025

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 3rd Sunday of every month for breakfast extraordinaire!
8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. * Sugar Island Community Center

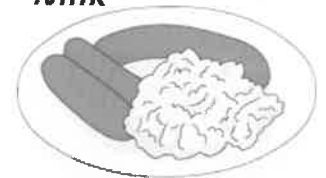
*Eggs * Sausage * Bacon * Hash Browns * American Fries
French Toast * Pancakes * Toast * Fruit * Juice * Coffee * Milk*

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

541 Library Drive

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 through Thursday

Menu for Month Available

at The Community Center

\$3.00 - 60 and Over

\$6.00 - Under 60



FIRE PLUGS

Like everyone the amount of snow and quickness with which it arrived was a wonderful experience for the fire department. At least it left us wondering what happened. Fortunately, we had no emergencies during this time but it did encourage us quickly get our winter gear ready.

One of our concerns was getting our snowmobile trailer ready. Actually, our first concern was finding it under the snow. Thanks to Dale Miller and his dad for finding it and moving the snow around it and thanks to Mike Campeau for pulling it out. Could have done it myself but then no one would have seen me until late March.

Usually sometime in January the realization that cabin fever is setting in. A good sign of this is when the person with you is reading a lot of books about the Donner Party. Well on January 25th you can get out of the house and learn a useful skill. Adriene Beckham will be teaching a basic CPR course and how to use an AED. Course is scheduled to run from 12-2pm and the Lions will provide some snacks. If you have any questions, you can contact Adriene or myself.

And if you are wondering what to do with the gift card you received for Christmas or still need a gift for someone why not consider some ice safety gear if you are on the ice for recreation. A set of ice picks, a throw rope or a flotation device can be vital in an emergency.

And Happy and safe New Year.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire



LIONS DEN

As normal December was a pretty quiet month for the Lions Breakfast. This may have been helped along when I forgot to put out the signs. Actually, did not forget, just kept putting it off when looking at snow banks. Breakfast is always the 3rd Sunday of the month. Signs will reappear in the Spring.

The lower turnout did not prevent us holding our monthly raffle. Winning \$50 each in extra Christmas shopping funds were Anna Bonacci Slater, Nicole Brunet and Andy Raber. William Carley was our 50-50 winner.

We had an abbreviated meeting in December. Our only business, other than eating a great meal prepared by Ronnie Teresinski, was to make our Christmas donations. Donations totaling \$5700 were made to Hospice, American Legion, Soo Locks Children's Museum, Leader Dogs, Soo Theater Project, Diane Pepler Shelter, Road to Recovery, Red Cross, Midwest Eye Bank, Bay Cliff Health Care Camp, Salvation Army, Special Olympics, Meridian Heights, Alberta House, Beacon House and Munson Manor. But these are not the only donations we make during the year. We support many island events with both time and funding. That's why our motto is "WE SERVE".

And finally, Birthday greetings go out to those who will start out the New Year by getting older. Chet Bosworth, Nicole Brunett and Holly Hutchinson all continue their quest towards middle age. Happy New Year.

Lion Jim Handziak

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DRUMMOND ISLAND



Sugar Island Township News

As we know, unanticipated snow levels so far this year have led to enormous challenges. If you haven't prepared your homes and your vehicles for the really cold weather, please do so immediately. And while the snow has created a nuisance for some and a real hardship for many, the situation gets much worse if you lose the heat in your home. Please don't wait until it is too late.

Congratulations to the Sugar Island Youth Group for its wonderful Christmas program. The children involved seemed to enjoy themselves as did the friends and relatives watching the performances. We are glad to see that the famous big guy in red made a timely visit. Thank you to everybody that volunteered to make the program a success.

The St. Mary's River Keepers, a Harbor Safety Committee has announced that it is close to signing a 25-year lease with the Corps of Engineers for the property locally known as Island #1. This is the small island located on the south side of 1 ½ Mile Road between the ferry dock and the causeway. This space will be used to create a non-motorized trail system, a small, non-motorized watercraft launching site, and a picnic area. The trails will be used for hiking, birdwatching, skiing, and similar activities. The Island is a historic part of a Corps project which limits the types of activities that may take place there. For example, hunting and trapping are prohibited activities and so is overnight camping. Appropriate signage will be posted in the spring.

As you may know, the Sugar Island Lion's Club purchased beautiful new metal tables for the North Westshore Park pavilion. During the December Board Meeting, the Township turned over disposition of the old, wooden picnic tables from the North Westshore Park to the Lion's Club. If you are interested in purchasing one of these tables, please contact the leadership of the Lion's Club.

And finally, the Township Board will be conducting a Special Meeting starting at noon on Saturday, January 18, 2025, for the purposes of creating a document that reflects the duties and responsibilities of elected Township Board members. As you might imagine, some duties are legislatively mandated, but most are not. The Board will work to identify tasks, assign supervisory responsibilities, and address any procedural issues or hurdles. All work done during this session will be recorded and then approved at the regularly scheduled February Board meeting.

Mark Eitrem, Supervisor

Sugar Island Township Employment Opportunities: Maintenance Person, 2 plow truck drivers. Hourly rate \$16-20 per hour depending on experience. Contact Sugar Island Township office at 906-253-9353 if interested.

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 (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 02/28/2025 will be considered late and be returned to sender. **Postmark is not considered as payment date.**

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

Cash: Must be hand delivered to Treasurer or her representative (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 02/28/2025. Property Tax Payment must be made at the 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

Winter Tax Collection: Office Hours: Additional Hours:

Dec./2024, Jan. & Feb./2025	See January Quacker or visit website	12/30/2024 9 to 5
	Feb 28 - 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

Phone: 1-906-253-9353 EXT 2

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

Visit our website at www.sugarislandtownship.org



SI EMS News

Happy New Year Sugar Island residents and visitors. Winter is fully upon us and it reminds me of so many past winters. The last two have been unusual and very mild which led me astray thinking “Global Warning” really is here. And now our thinking is “Nope not true”, as we are shoveling and plowing daily. But this snowfall is what I remember from the past many years. Today we seem to have this snow removal under control, but I wouldn’t make a bet on that!

My warning for myself and other islanders is to take it easy shoveling and moving this lovely white stuff that we have a ton of! Use the sand and snow salt to keep you and others safe. Luckily, we do know how to do this in spite of our occasional doubts. Stay safe if you go to the roof to remove the snow and utilize younger versions of ourselves to do this chore. Dress in layers for protection from the cold. Stay in when you can and dress appropriately when needed. Don’t forget we are Yoopers and know how to take care of ourselves in the cold weather.

The Sugar Island FD First Responders are continuing to work with SSMFD to provide emergency medical care to the island. We are hoping anyone who has always wanted to be involved with an emergency agency to help others will apply to the SIFD to become a member. We will support them and assist in attaining the training required. It is a great group of people so come find out. Contact Josh Horner or Jim Handziak for more information.

I am continuing to collect 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 email me or call me with your information. My email is: 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.

I have given the Quacker the phonebook additions for 2025 so you can make sure your phonebook has the updated listings for your use.

Adrienne Beckham SIEMS Co-Captain

Eric McKerchie
(906)632-9515

6793 E. McKerchie Tr.
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 sishomeworks@yahoo.com

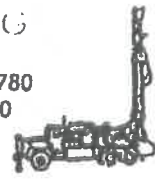
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ADVERTISING RATES
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 \$35.00 for full page
 \$15.00 to attach a customer's page(s)
 "Thank You" messages
 are printed at no charge

2024 Additions for SI Phone book-January-December

Armstrong, Luanna 660 S. Westshore Dr.	906-440-5905	Pine, Mike & Becky 5523 S. Brassler Rd.	906 440 9255
Belcher, Jim & Deb 4698 S. Westshore Dr.	616-802-2914	Sabourin, Paul & Margo 5042 S. Oak Point Lane	(906)632-4084 (906)203-2351 (906)630-7858
Bosworth, Chet Bosworth, Gail MacArthur 6840 E. 1 ½ Mile Rd	802-282-5168 906-253-3732	Wilson, Dave & Jan 5826 E. Nicolet Rd	713-294-4327 713-447-9278
Chynoweth, Jack & Kris 830 S. Westshore Dr.	248-568-0244 248-496-4865	Yoder, AJ & Karen 5218 S. Oak Point Lane	989-390-5938
Ernst, Johnny & Linda 10422 E. Bradshaw Lane	231-340-0006 616-802-4406		
Gilbert, Fran & Teresa 10269 E. Northshore Dr.	906-632-9637 810-919-0738		
Grudziecki, Jackie & Gary 6568 S. Leading Light Lane	734-718-2470 (J) 734-793-7898 (G)		
Haag, Ken & Lori 6548 E. 3 Mile Rd	231-433-9277		
Jones, Amy 9966 E. Northshore	989-391-5077		
Kuck, Carrol 8608 S. Shingle Bay	614-579-4505		
Langendorf, James 606 S. Westshore Dr.	906-440-1136		
McLeod, Paulette 11649 E. Village Rd	906-253-3251		
Mohr, Teresa 4720 S Westshore Drive	517 348 2680		
Myers, Michael & Lori 5960 E. Sandpiper Lane	832-771-9865		