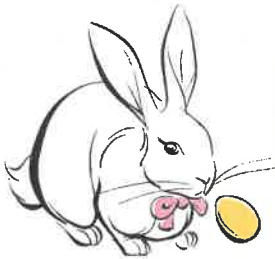




The QUACKER

APRIL 2025 ISSUE 503 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESS CLUB



**Happy
Easter!**



**Happy
Earth Day!
Arbor Day!**



LIONS DEN

It is great to see the optimism that the young have. The Youth Group have already scheduled their road cleanup for April 26th. This may be a clever ploy on their part as there is a chance some of the trash may still be covered with snow. Us older and perhaps not wiser Lions will be doing ours in May. Of course, we like to wait for our snow birds to return so they can enjoy the event. So, if your group have a road section you tend to remember the Lions have pickup tools and safety vests.

Other people who have optimism are the winners of our monthly raffle. Buying tickets to support Lion activities and winning \$50 each were Kathy Fox, Kathy Holland and Jim Melwing. Julie Venous was our 50-50 winner. Thank you to everyone who came to our breakfast. Hope to see you next month.

We will be serving two breakfasts in April. Our regular one on April 20th and a special one for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Council of Firefighters in the evening of the 24th. Our Sugar Island Fire Department is hosting their quarterly meeting and asked us to prepare dinner. They were happy, or at least OK, with having breakfast for dinner.

Birthday greeting go out this month to Nicole Brunet, and Jim Gort.

Lion Jim Handziak

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1. April Fool's Day
2. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
2. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
3. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm
5. Farendy Farms Food
5. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
8. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
10. Lions Meeting 5:30pm
12. Farendy Farms Food
12. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
15. Income Tax Deadline
16. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
16. SIHPS 1:00pm
16. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
17. Sugar Island Bible Study 6:00-7:30pm
19. Farendy Farms Food
19. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
20. Easter
20. Lions Brunch 8:30am – 11:00am
20. QUACKER DEADLINE
22. Earth Day
24. EUP Fire 7:00pm
25. Arbor Day
26. SI Youth Group Road Clean-up 10:45am
26. Farendy Farms Food
26. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
26. The Quacker is distributed
30. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am

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

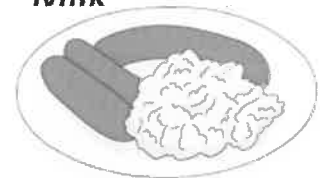
*Eggs * Sausage * Bacon * Hash Browns * American Fries
French Toast * Pancakes * Toast * Fruit * Juice * Coffee * Milk*

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

We had a call on the first day of spring which coincided with the final winter storm of the year, we hope. With the call coming shortly before 6am, the roads were not all plowed and our driveways certainly weren't. When our first people responding saw the problem that could arise, we called Soo Township for mutual aid. About that time the power went out. Fortunately, the generator kicked in but, unfortunately the ice that slid off the roof had damaged the switch for the fire hall and our guys had to get ready in the dark. They overcame this but our mutual aid from Soo Township was on the ferry and the dock on the island side do not work without power. After several attempts to get off the boat the ferry crew came up with a plan – 'take a run at it'. It worked and they arrived in time to assist the island department. In the end all turned out well, no injuries and only minor damage. By the time we were cleaning up the snow had stopped and we actually had sunshine and electricity. Our thanks to Soo Township Fire and the ferry crew. In my next article we'll probably complain about the heat and dry weather. While thanking people let's not forget everyone who turned out for our ice rescue training. We had the Sheriff's Department and the Coast Guard with their hovercraft and air boat and members from Sault Fire and other departments. And we have to thank the Lions for the food and beverages. As usual we had a good time and as always, we learned different ways that the same problem can be approached. Remember we will be in wildfire season at some point so now would be a good time to plan on making your home fire safe. Remove dead grass and brush from around your home. Find your hose and shovel and rake and shovel and never hesitate to call the fire department with any sign of trouble.

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
April 2nd*

*WEDNESDAY
April 16th*

*WEDNESDAY
April 30th*

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

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Sugar Island Township News

As we know, the calendar tells us that Spring is here. As the weather changes, and the snow melts, we need to be careful as that moisture will freeze causing ice, both in your driveways and area roads. Black ice is a real problem, especially since you may not see it until it is too late. Please be careful.

In our haste to move past this winter, please take the necessary steps to prepare your snow removal equipment before you put it away. This preparation won't eliminate the challenges you might experience next fall when trying to start your equipment after it sat dormant all summer, but it might limit the damage. Simply put, you should not forget to prepare the equipment before you put it away.

The Township will be closing out the 2024-2025 fiscal year on March 31st. The Board will approve a new budget at the Special Meeting held on March 25, 2025. The budget looks a lot like the previous budget with a few notable exceptions. We continue to adjust to the new emergency medical service agreement with Soo Fire and the ongoing challenges with solid waste.

Regarding solid waste, residents should be aware that the Bay Mills Indian Community (BMIC) has received a grant to dispose of used rubber tires. Anybody looking to dispose of used tires should contact them to receive a voucher. They are available at wastecollection@baymills.org or call (906) 248-8655, until funds run out. This program is for individual families, not businesses.

As a reminder, Sugar Island Township contracts with GFL for solid waste services. Our compactor service is available year-round at the North Transfer Station on 1 ½ Mile Road. The South Transfer Station also provides a compactor service on Homestead Road from May to October. We pay GFL based on the weight of material in the compactor. That means every piece of trash that goes in the compactor costs us. That includes all the glass, plastic, cardboard, and metal cans that could be recycled. Items that go into the recycling trailer do not cost us anything. We could save tons of money (pun intended) if we use the recycling trailer to dispose of glass, plastics, cardboard and metal cans. Plus, please don't put any kind of liquid in the compactor.

And finally, the Township will be discussing the millages for solid waste, ambulance and fire departments which expired this year. Taxpayers with an opinion about these programs should contact your Township Board members. These millages will require a public vote later this year if these programs are to be continued.

Mark Eitrem, Supervisor

Bay Mills Indian Community will be holding free household hazardous waste collection events this spring. BMIC has contracted with ERG Environmental Services and they are trained to handle spills that may occur related to these events.

Participants will be required to sign up for a time slot as they are planning for 10 cars every 15 minutes to roll through the event. Each event is on a weekday from 2pm – 6pm.

Time slots will be available to be reserved in April-May 2025 to drop off household hazardous waste for free.

Locations and Dates:

Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 2pm - 6pm
Pentland Township Hall
15474 M-28, Newberry, MI 49868

Thursday, May 29, 2025, 2pm - 6pm
Rudyard Twp Park and Pavilion
18725 S Mackinac Trail, Rudyard, MI 49780

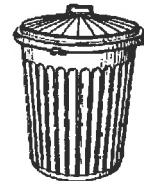
Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 2pm - 6pm
Clark Township Community Center
133 M-134, Cedarville, MI 49719

Wednesday, June 25, 2025, 2pm - 6pm
Bay Mills Farmer's Market Pavilion
11644 West Plantation Road Brimley, MI 49715

Additional information can be found at <https://www.baymills.org/wastecollections>



**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



SI First Responder News

April will bring the desired signs of Spring but at the end of March out like a lamb was not present. Again a big snowstorm and more shoveling.....Lol! But there are signs of warmer weather. The geese are back, raccoons and skunks are roaming about and some little birds are tweeting early morning. April Fool's Day on the 1st and Easter on the 20th are the holidays to look forward to and best of all the melting of snow and the return of green grass and daffodils.

The ice rescue training March 8, was a success. Even the weather was cooperative. Sunny and no wind for most of the time. The SI Lions Club put on lunch and my job was to help with that and take pictures. Again.... I did not go in the water though conditions were very inviting, but I will have one more chance this month. The pictures were a hit as many sets were put on Facebook, with rave reviews!

Again, I will encourage Sugar Island residents to contact Josh Horner or Jim Handziak about becoming a member of the SIFD First Responders. We 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.

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 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.

Stay safe and warm ☺

Adrienne Beckham SIFD Medical Captain



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Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society

Preserving and protecting the history and cultural heritage of Sugar Island

Greetings! Yes, it has been a while since you have heard from us because we don't meet during late fall or winter months. So, I guess this must be one of the signs of Spring!

For those that may be new to Sugar Island or have been here awhile, please, come join us. We (SIHPS) meet on the third Wednesday of every month at 1 pm, either at S.I. Community Center or Finn Hall. All meeting dates and times are posted in the Quacker and on I Love Me Some Sugar Island face book page. We look forward to seeing you.

Just some items on priority list for Brassar School this year are to have all priming, painting of ceiling, walls, windows and door trim and sealer put on wainscoting.

Here are a few save the date for this year's activities: Saturday, July 19th, Annual Joyce McCoy Family BBQ; Saturday, August 9th, Annual Garage Sale will both be held at Finn Hall. On Friday, September 26th, Annual Old Time Music Jamboree to be held at S.I.C.C.

Our first meeting for this year will be held at 1pm, Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at S.I.C.C.

We wish you all a Happy Easter.

Anita McKerchie
Secretary

If you love Sugar Island, please, come join us!

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A Word from St. Luke's Community Church



The arrival of the Easter holiday is now within sight after a challenging winter season. Spring is a time of renewal and rebirth along with a more favorable weather forecast. There will be the usual flurry of activity on the island as the snow birds return and seasonal islanders make ready their cabins for summer use. Expectations for another beautiful summer on the island are building. We hope that a part of your summer expectations will be the worship and sweet fellowship that is part of our services each Sunday at 10:00am beginning May 25th. We wish for you a special blessing for today and every day.

"May God grant you always, a sunbeam to warm you, a moonbeam to charm you, a sheltering angel, so nothing can harm you. Laughter to cheer you, Faithful friends near you, and whenever you pray, Heaven to hear you."

-An Irish Blessing



**SACRED HEART
CHURCH**

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OVERLOOKING BAY DE WAIR

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.

**Michael
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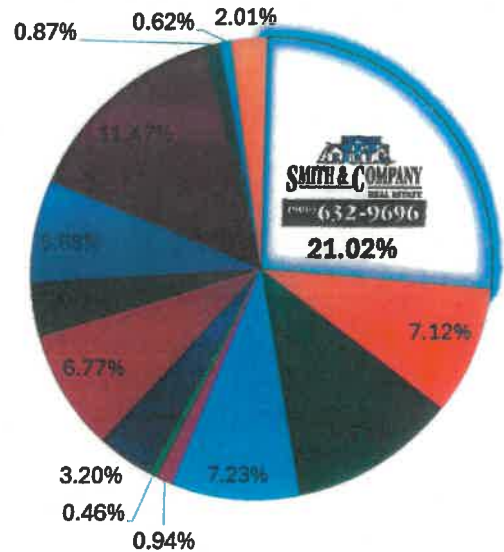
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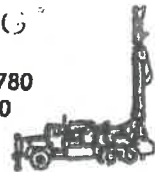
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