



The QUACKER

MARCH 2026 ISSUE 514 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESS CLUB



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2. Property Taxes Due 9am-5pm
4. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
4. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
5. Sugar Island Bible Study 5:30pm
7. Family Movie Night 6:00pm
7. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
8. Daylight Savings-Spring Forward
9. Board of Review 3:00pm-9:00pm
10. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
12. Board of Review 9:00am-3:00pm
12. Lions Meeting CANCELLED
12. Sugar Island Bible Study 5:30pm
14. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
15. Lions Brunch 8:30am – 11:00am
15. QUACKER DEADLINE
17. St. Patrick's Day
18. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
18. SIHPS Meeting 1:00pm
18. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
19. Sugar Island Bible Study 5:30pm
20. Spring Equinox
21. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
26. Sugar Island Bible Study 5:30pm
28. The Quacker is distributed
28. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm

In Memoriam

Paul Juhala



LIONS DEN

Our February Breakfast had a great turnout with 79 guests. While this is an increase over past years the winners of our monthly raffle have held steady at 3. Ending February \$50 richer were Rick Hillier, Dave Young and Andrew Raber. The winner of the 50-50 drawing was John Sherry. Thanks to everyone for supporting us.

Apparently other than our breakfast we have been taking it easy this winter preparing for spring. Plans to be a busy year with the final plans on the picnic shelter and our continued farmer's market. No firm date on construction yet but we do hope to be done this year.

And since it is possible that some of our members will be back in March remember we will not be having a meeting until April.

Birthday greeting go out this month to Pam Gillis, Patricia Newhouse, Brandi Rich and Barb Swoffer. All of which are proof that you don't need to be old to be a Lion. Happy Birthday ladies!

Lion Jim Handziak

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

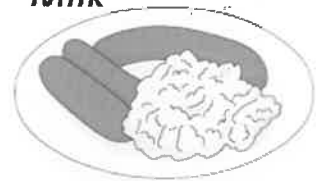
*Eggs * Sausage * Bacon * Hash Browns * American Fries
French Toast * Pancakes * Toast * Fruit * Juice * Coffee * Milk*

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 12 Noon

Senior Lunch

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
Menu for Month Available at

The Community Center

\$4.00 - 60 and Over

\$6.00 - Under 60



FIRE PLUGS

Just a reminder that after a season of heating with wood it might be a good time to check your chimney. Even with the best wood and stove there will be some buildup of creosote. You can take advantage of one of the warm days (or as my wife says less cold) coming up to let your fire burn down and clean your chimney. We have tools to loan and many can be cleaned from the inside.

Along with spring we can look forward to ice problems causing ferry delays. We have already had some this year and March is often one of the worse months. We have already put our emergency plan on alert this year but fortunately did not need to use it.

You can have your own emergency plan. If you have medications or other supplies you cannot do without, have some extras on hand. Keep your heating fuels filled up and keeps your phones charged. In the event of bad weather or ferry delays check on your neighbors. We are fortunate that in our area people look out for one another. If you have a problem that may not be classed as an emergency but could develop into one you can call 911 and they can connect you with someone who can help.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire



SACRED HEART

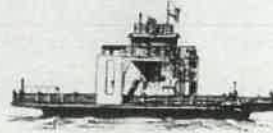
CHURCH
AT THE CORNER OF E. 3 MILE & S. WESTSHORE DR.
OVERLOOKING LAKE DE WAAS

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 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
March 4th

WEDNESDAY
March 18th

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

Spring is on the way, and we should be reminded of what comes next. The melting snow and ice will make the roads dangerous, not only because of the slippery roads but the potholes that will ultimately be left behind. The crew from the County Road Commission does a really good job of clearing our roads but Sugar Island has over 70 miles of county road and ice buildup and thawing doesn't always happen according to any plan so please be careful.

The Township Board will be looking to create a new annual budget for this coming year in the next couple of months and will be presenting it to the public on Thursday, March 26th at 6:00pm during a Special Meeting called exclusively for this purpose.

The Township Board has approved the initiation of a process to install security cameras at the Community Center. We are pleased to announce that one of our residents has volunteered to help us design and install the system. The Township will purchase the necessary equipment and supplies. A special shoutout goes to David Rich as he has volunteered to take the lead on this initiative.

Additionally, the Township Board would also like to thank Jesse Knoll for his donation of a used floor buffer. This donation will help us replace our existing buffer that has seen better decades.

The Board is considering the addition of new lighting at the 6 Mile/Brasser Road intersection and upgrading the existing lighting at the intersection of 1 ½ Mile Road and Brasser Road. We are currently waiting for information from Cloverland Electric before a final decision is made.

As one of the Township Representatives on the EUP Materials Management Planning Committee I can speak directly to representatives of the State that address issues like recycling, trash and refuse disposal. In recent meetings, issues such as the remediation of abandoned and uninhabitable mobile homes have come to the forefront. Unfortunately, Sugar Island has more than our share of these structures. These inhabitable structures are not only unsafe, but some of these older buildings contain hazardous materials and are currently homes to a wide variety of unwelcomed pests. In the upcoming months the Township will be considering a wide variety of options to assist with the remediation of these structures all over the Island.

And finally, permanent residents know that our large, furry friends will be coming out of their winter naps in the upcoming weeks. They will be hungry and the depth of snow will impede their urgent search for nourishment. The snow cover limits their grazing options which means they are more likely to seek other options, including kitchen garbage placed on porches, decks, sheds and garages. They are also likely to raid bird feeders, especially those that can be easily accessed. They will make a mess so please don't leave your trash outside and please wait until mid-June to fill your bird feeders unless you are willing to accept the risk of having these beautiful but dangerous animals wandering around your yard at night. Plus, these not-so-dainty creatures are large and heavy, which means they can break things without much intentional effort. And unfortunately, unless I have a fundamental misunderstanding of their place in our environment, they don't have any compulsion to treat your property with any measure of respect.

Mark Eitrem, Supervisor



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About Us:

Since 1955, Autore Oil & Propane has proudly served the home and commercial heating needs of the Eastern Upper Peninsula (EUP), including Sugar Island, with products like propane, fuel oil, gasoline, lubricants, and Traeger grills. Our commitment to exceptional service is matched by our dedication to the community. From annual Customer Appreciation Days to supporting local schools, 4-H programs, sportsman clubs, and events like the EUP Walk for Warmth and St. Ignace Pond Hockey, we are proud to be part of what makes the EUP a great place to call home.



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Cedarville, MI 49719



906-484-2233



SI First Responders News

February was snowy with some rain and ice! Not the best but the shortest month. I hope everyone got nice Valentines wishes and kisses. One of my favorite holidays, with sending cute heart shaped cards to my grandchildren.

Island EMS runs are still very quiet which is great! That means Sugar Islanders are well and safe! The EMS crew does get paged out for the Soo Fire runs to assist when needed so we are always there for the island.

For Sugar Island residents who are interested in providing emergency fire and medical services for the island please 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.

The SI Lions club phone book committee continues with completion of the directory. A Spring 2026 publishing date is planned. There will be a notice on the SI fb pages when done and available for sale. The cost has been raised to \$8.00 with updated content of addresses, phone numbers and now email addresses. Lots of local business ads for your discovery and use.

There are still 2020-2024 phonebooks available to purchase. If interested in purchasing the current phonebook for \$7.00 contact me or one of the Lions members and we will get it to you.

There are 2 holidays in March that are celebrated. March 17, St Patty's Day, brings a celebration for the Irish and the want-a-be Irish. Green is the color to wear when celebrating. St Urho's Day is March 16, for the Finnish islanders, and you should wear purple (for grapes) and green (for grasshoppers) for this day. It is a celebration of when St. Urho chased grasshoppers out of Finland to save the grape crop. I am fortunate, that in my heritage, I have both Irish and Finnish so I love both days!

Enjoy March and look forward to the arrival of Spring, soon we hope!

Adrienne Beckham SIFD Medical Captain



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List Price: \$45,000

- 18 Acres
- Private
- Access to Wilmer Creek

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2015 S Westshore DR, Sugar Island, MI 49783



List Price: \$549,000

- 3,966 SqFt
- Turnkey Business
- Includes: Building, Equipment, Liquor License

Rare Business Opportunity on Sugar Island! Own the only fully operational convenience store and gas station on the island, serving locals and visitors year-round. This turnkey business includes the building, equipment, and liquor license—everything you need to continue operations seamlessly. Inventory (excluding liquor, cigarettes, and lottery) is also included in the sale. Prime location with steady traffic and no direct competition. Whether you're looking to expand your portfolio or live and work in a beautiful, tight-knit community, this opportunity offers incredible value and potential.

We Would Love Your
GOOGLE REVIEW



Thinking about Buying or Selling? Call us Today!



FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT



Featuring *Zootopia 2*



FREE Admission & Snacks!



Hosted by the **Sugar Island Youth Group**

When: Saturday, March 7, 2026 at 6:00 PM

Where: Sugar Island Community Center

Join us for an evening of family fun and laughter!

Wear your pajamas and bring a chair, beanbag, blanket, or any cozy comfort items to relax and enjoy the movie.



Children must be accompanied by an adult.

We hope to see you there!



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QUACKER STAFF

Advertisement/Circulation *Pat Whyte* 322-2137

Editor/Circulation *Sue Davidson* 632-9739

5870 E. Sandpiper Lane

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siquacker@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

\$1.00 per line

\$6.00 Business card size

\$12.50 for a quarter page

\$20.00 for half page

\$35.00 for full page

\$15.00 to attach a customer's page(s)

"Thank You" messages

are printed at no charge

SHOW US WHAT YOU'VE GOT!

S.I.H.P.S. Postcard Photo Contest

Help us capture the spirit of Sugar Island! We are looking for photos to feature on official postcards.
(Winning photographers will have credits printed on the cards)

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

☀️ Seasons: Winter sunsets, Summer sunsets, Fall colors.

🏰 Places: Historic buildings, churches, cemeteries, stores, and landings.

🎉 Events: Powwows, music fests, parades, and picnics.

🕒 Then & Now: Old Times and New!

HOW TO ENTER

DEADLINE: MAY 20, 2026

Go to the address below, fill out the registration form, and follow the directions to upload your pictures. (Limit: 5 photos per photographer)

Scan to Enter:

Or visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5bun5fft>

Scan this QR Code to visit the site



<https://sites.google.com/view/sihpspostcardcontest>

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South End: Closed for the Season

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