



The QUACKER

JULY 2026 ISSUE 518 FOUNDED BY THE SUGAR ISLAND LIONESS CLUB



Independence Day #250!

In Memoriam

Michael Allard
Georgia Kay Davidson

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

1. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
1. Fire Station Meeting North 7:00pm
2. Sugar Island Bible Study 4:30-6:00pm
4. Farmer's Market 10:00am - 12 Noon
4. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
4. Sweetest Fourth Parade 6:15pm
5. St Luke's Community Church 10:00am
8. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
9. Lions Meeting 5:30pm
10. Lions Pavilion Fundraiser 4pm-7pm
- 11-12. Island Clean-up Dumpsters
11. Farmer's Market 10:00am - 12 Noon
11. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
12. St Luke's Community Church 10:00am
14. Township Board Meeting 7:00pm
15. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
15. SIHPS Meeting 1:00pm Finn Hall
15. Fire Station Meeting South 7:00pm
16. Sugar Island Bible Study 4:30-6:00pm
18. Farmer's Market 10:00am - 12 Noon
18. McCoy BBQ noon - 4:00pm
18. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
19. Lions Brunch 8:30am - 11:00am
19. St Luke's Community Church 10:00am
19. QUACKER DEADLINE
22. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
22. Lions Club Membership Drive 6:30pm
23. Sugar Island Bible Study 4:30-6:00pm
25. The Quacker is distributed
- 25-26. Island Clean-up Dumpsters
- 25-8/2. August 4 Election Early Voting is available 8:00am-4:00pm
25. Farmer's Market 10:00am - 12 Noon
25. Sacred Heart Service 6:15pm
26. St Luke's Community Church 10:00am
29. Ferry Fueling Day 9:30am
30. Sugar Island Bible Study 4:30-6:00pm

Sweetest FOURTH IN THE

NORTH

PARADE

★ CELEBRATE ★ HONOR ★ COMMUNITY



★ ★ SATURDAY, JULY 4, 2026 ★ ★

★ LINE UP
★ 6:15PM



★ PARADE SEND OFF
★ 6:30PM

PARADE ★ MUSIC ★ FLOATS ★ FOOD ★ FAMILY FUN

Ice Cream Scooped immediately after the parade
at 12493 South Homestead Road

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
TAM VELDERMAN AT 616 218 7225



LIONS DEN

We had an amazing turnout for our June Breakfast with 125 meals served. And this did not even include what I ate. This number is not a record, but we are getting close. Winners of our monthly raffle were Keeley Melwing, Denise Hillier and Lisa Rutledge. Each received \$50. Our 50/50 winner was Joni Massad. New tickets for our monthly raffle will be out soon.

Construction is getting started on the new picnic shelter at the Community Center. I was told to call it a gazebo but not sure I know how to spell that. When finished it will be available for the farmers' market, weddings, family gathering and maybe even picnics. This building will belong to the township, but the Lions hope to keep this as an ongoing project. We thank everyone who has donated funds and are still accepting donations to fund this project.

What do the Lions do? Well in our community a lot but we don't do a good job of promoting it. So on July 22nd at 6:30 we will be having an ice cream social to highlight what we do. Stop in for free ice cream and learn about the club you support.

Birthday greeting go out this month to Ron Bertram, Tom Brunet, and Andy Raber. Happy Birthday!

Lion Jim Handziak



FIRE PLUGS

We just took delivery of our new side by side utility vehicle. This will replace our 4x4 to respond to brush fires and emergencies in remote areas. The new vehicle will carry more people and equipment. Plans are to outfit the vehicle with a water tank and pump. We were able to purchase this using a combination of funds from the tribal governments and tax money. Personally, I plan to install a few more cup holders and maybe a small microwave.

Speaking of the new side by side we plan to have it in the 4th of July parade. Also, a couple of our trucks in the parade will have a wet zone where people can get sprayed by the truck. We encourage retaliation.

With the 4th there are fireworks. While everyone intends to be safe it may be a good idea to take a page from highway safety and have a designated fireworks supervisor who will refrain from alcohol while fireworks are being used. I often volunteer for this job, but normally it is too late. Fireworks also can cause fires so have a hose or bucket of water available to help with any emergencies.

Jim Handziak, S I Fire

For Sale

3point Hitch Back Hoe
For 25+HP Tractor
Power take-off pump, thumb
\$1,000 Call 906-440-3588

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



Sugar Island Township News

Summer is here and we welcome our seasonal residents. It is also the time for property owners to make improvements to their yards, docks, dwellings and garages. Property owners are reminded that Sugar Island Township has ordinances that cover the placement of new structures, building additional structures, and making modifications to existing structures. If you are planning to add a structure (including storage containers) or modify an existing structure, you must ensure you follow the local ordinances. There is a significant fee for failing to receive a permit before you build or add a new structure. If you have questions regarding potential property improvements, please don't hesitate to contact the Township's Building Inspector, Michael Kujat at (906) 430-8553.

Charter Communications/Spectrum and associated contractors are now on the Island running fiber optic cable. The orange conduit you see being buried serves as protection for the fiber cable that will ultimately reside within it. Property owners should soon expect to see small boxes mounted to their dwellings. These mountings serve as the connection point for services should residents be interested. If you are interested in utilizing the services offered by Spectrum, we recommend that you call or contact customer support at (833) 949-0036 or www.spectrum.com immediately. We have been told that a Spectrum representative will be contacting you when the fiber goes by your property.

The annual Township cleanup effort is ongoing. The intent of this program is to support the efforts of Sugar Islanders to clean up their property. Please be aware this activity does not include fluids of any kind, construction materials, bricks or blocks, yard waste, vehicle tires or anything else that might be considered hazardous (e.g., car batteries and Styrofoam). Additionally, the Township is working with A&L Iron & Metal Company from Kinross to provide an opportunity for metal recycling. The Township receives a financial benefit from this bulk metal recycling so if you have some metal debris on your property, please consider this option.

Ongoing 2026 Open-Top, Summer Cleanup Schedule:

July	August	September
11-12	8-9	5-6
25-26	22-23	19-20

As a gentle reminder, residents are reminded that GFL charges us by the pound for everything placed in the trash compactors. We routinely encounter incidents where garbage bags placed in the compactor contain plastic and glass bottles and jars with fluids inside. Not only do we have to pay for those plastic and glass containers, but we must pay for the fluids too. Please take an extra minute or two to drain the liquids, rinse the containers and then recycle them. Every pound of glass containers, tin cans, cardboard, and plastic jugs we recycle is a pound that we don't have to pay for. And finally, other communities in our area have experienced fires from the inadequate and improper storage of lithium batteries. If you have a need to dispose of them, please be careful and do so appropriately. They are dangerous. Thank you.

Mark Eitrem, Supervisor

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 at (906) 440-1159 or sugarislandassessor@gmail.com

Payment Types Accepted:

Check: Checks will be considered conditional payment only until after clearing the bank. Please mail early as it may take the US Postal Service 2 to 3 weeks to deliver your check. **Postmark is not considered as payment date.**

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

Credit Card: Processed through BSA. Contact info is on the website www.sugarislandtownship.org (BSA will charge a Convenience Fee for this service.)

Cash: Must be hand delivered to Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer only.

<u>Summer Tax Collection:</u>	<u>Office Hours:</u>	<u>Additional Hours:</u>
July, Aug., Sep. 2026	Mon, Wed, Thursday, Friday 9am-2pm Tues 5:30 to 7:00 pm Sat July 18, Aug 15, Sep 12 9am -2pm	09/14/26 9am to 5pm

Summer Delinquent Tax Interest Rates:

9/15/26 thru 9/30/26 = 1% Thereafter, 1% will be charged for each month or any part of a month until taxes are paid in full. Property Tax Payment must be made at the Chippewa County Treasurer's office starting 03/01/27 at 319 Court Street, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783. Phone # (906) 635-6308 or www.chippewacountymi.gov/treasurer

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: (906) 253-9353

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

Visit our website at www.sugarislandtownship.org



SI First Responder News

Summer officially began on June 21... we have waited so long! Welcome to all the returning snowbirds and summer visitors. We are hoping for sun-filled days and enjoyable hours sitting by the water on the dock. Same is hoped for all Sugar Islanders.

Of course, in July is the 4th and the wonderful South End 4th parade with decorated bikes, wagons, SxS, 4 wheelers and the SIFD trucks! It is very enjoyable and gives us the opportunity to visit with many islanders.

The island has been quiet for EMS which means our residents and visitors are safe. SIFD-EMS is paged out when needed by SSMFD. The ambulance is in working order and the state inspection was in June. Thank you for your support of the island first responders!

Any Sugar Island residents 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. Anyone who has always wanted to be involved with an emergency agency to help others, should 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 is completed and available for purchasing. The cost is \$8.00 and contains updated content of addresses, phone numbers and now email addresses. There are local business ads for your discovery and use. We are arranging for local businesses to have the books and Lions Club members will have them at the monthly Lions breakfast on the 3rd Sunday of the month. This information will be placed on the I Love Me Some Sugar Island fb page.

There are still 2020-2024 phonebooks available to purchase. If interested in purchasing this phonebook for \$7.00 contact me, 906 440 1769 or one of the Lions club members and we will get it to you.

Have a wonderful July and see you at the 4th of July celebration at the South end of the island.

Adrienne Beckham SIFD Medical Captain

FUTURE SITE OF THE SUGAR ISLAND COMMUNITY PAVILION



Sponsored by Sugar Island Lions Club



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MARKET**



WEDDINGS



MEETINGS



GRADUATIONS



PARTIES



**COOK OUTS
& MORE!**

*A Community
Gathering Place*

**for any event,
all are welcome!**

Let's build a space where *memories* are made and our *community* comes together!



**PLEASE CONSIDER
DONATING**
TO MAKE THIS PROJECT
A REALITY!

SEND CHECK TO:
Sugar Island Lions Club
318 S Westshore Dr
Sault Ste Marie MI 49783

Your support will help
provide a beautiful,
versatile pavilion that will
benefit everyone for
generations to come.
*Thank you for investing
in our community!*



For more info contact Carol Williams @ 906-235-9016



Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society
If you love Sugar Island, come join us!

Hello everyone. SIHPS hopes that you can get out and enjoy the haps and beauty on Sugar Island. We held our third meeting for this season and have one main project in mind for this year...opening your Sugar Island Historical Museum! Please, if you have spare hour or two and would like to help with getting your museum open contact Connie Pim, Sharon Mustonen, Kim Gravelle or any SHIPS member.

Unfortunately, due to time needed to clean, move items, and set things up for opening your Sugar Island Historical Museum, we made the difficult decision not to hold our annual garage sale this year. Tentative date set for grand opening of museum is set for Saturday, August 8, 2026! Keep an eye open for postings in Quacker and I Love Me Some Sugar Island face book page.

Thanks to our SIHPS member dedication and time, Dave Bean, there was a total of 150 pictures submitted to Sugar Island Post Card project with 6 different photos chosen for print. Winners of the Sugar Island Post Card to be announced soon. Once postcards are complete they will be made available for purchase cost will be \$2 each or 6 for \$10.

Here are a few July dates to mark on your calendar for SIHPS activities: meet at 1 pm, on Wednesday, July 15th, at Finn Hall. The Annual Joyce McCoy BBQ, noon – 4pm, Saturday, July 18th, at Sugar Island Community Center. By donation there will be boneless chicken thighs, hot dogs, burgers and salads served. Also, there will be raffle baskets and a 50/50 draw with ALL MONIES going to SIHPS to help with future projects.

Let's not forget to fly Old Glory for our nation's 250th birthday, Saturday, July 4th! God Bless America! Land of the Free because of the Brave!

Our next meeting scheduled will be 1 pm, Wednesday, July 15th, at Finn Hall. If you are wondering what we are about and what we do come see...it's free!

Anita McKerchie
Secretary

INDIAN TACO

Fundraiser

— FOR THE —
 **LIONS CLUB**

SPONSORED COMMUNITY PAVILION

— *to be built* —

AT

SUGAR ISLAND

— COMMUNITY CENTER —

COME OUT
AND SUPPORT
YOUR COMMUNITY!



JULY 10,
2026



4:00 PM
TO
7:00 PM

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**BAKE
SALE**



**50/50
DRAWING**



St. Luke's Community Church

Celebrating 40 Years on the Trail

1986-2026

St. Luke's Community Church opened the doors wide on May 24 for the 2026 Season for a sweet time of reunion and worship. To worship together again this season has been a blessing to so many already in the six weeks we've met; it is just so good to be in each other's company and to praise and pray and sing and share and listen all in the name of our Lord! Sometimes it has been upwards of 30 in attendance, sometimes it has been just 10; please do make a trip down to the Southern End to join with other islanders and visitors of all denominations in traditional worship that brings praise to God. We look forward each Sunday to the message that the guest speakers bring and we pray that our hearts will be open to the words God has given them to share.

On Father's Day, a family from Ohio, who had again made their yearly trip back to Sugar Island to reminisce and fish, joined in the worship at St. Luke's. They joined in during a time of reminiscing of fathers and the generations that have gone before, where many shared memories of their earthly fathers and thanked our Heavenly Father for all He is. We've also welcomed a family from the East Coast that are frequent visitors to Sugar Island and look forward to the next months and just who will be joining in on the praise!



Barbara Goodheart - St. Luke's Scholarship

Scholarships on behalf of the Barbara Goodheart ~ St. Luke's Community Church Scholarship Fund will again be awarded to recipients who have recently graduated high school, or are currently in their college years. We look forward to welcoming them in July for a service and present the students with a check to help them with their educational expenses.



SACRED HEART

CHURCH

AT THE CORNER OF E. 3 MILE & S. WESTSHORE DR.
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.



LIONS CLUB SPONSORED



MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Meet & Greet

★ ICE CREAM SOCIAL ★



WEDNESDAY
JULY 22,
2026



6:30 PM



SUGAR ISLAND
COMMUNITY
CENTER

WE'RE INVITING

★ **ALL AGES, SEASONAL, RETIRED,
WORKING FOLKS** ★

ABLE TO GIVE A LITTLE TIME TO MAKE OUR
COMMUNITY A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE!



HELP YOUR
COMMUNITY



MAKE NEW
FRIENDS



Together, We Can Make a Difference!



BE A LION.



CHANGE LIVES.

JOIN US!

YOUR COMMUNITY. YOUR CLUB. YOUR IMPACT.



August 4, 2026 Elections Early Voting Dates are:

Saturday 7/25/26 to Sunday, 8/02/26

SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP PUBLIC NOTICE

ESTABLISHMENT OF EARLY VOTING SITE

To All Qualified Electors in Sugar Island Township

Notice is hereby given by resolution of the Sugar Island Township Board under authority granted in Public Act 81 of 2023, that the location of the early voting site for all federal and statewide election dates will be the following:

KINROSS CHARTER TOWNSHIP
4884 W CURTIS STREET
KINCHELOE, MI 49788

All qualified electors in Sugar Island Township have the right to mark a ballot and deposit the ballot in a tabulator beginning the second Saturday before an election and ending the Sunday before the election. Early voting will be available at the early voting site for the following hours:

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the SUGAR ISLAND TOWNSHIP Clerk's Office
(906)-253-9353 EXT 101 SITOWNSHIPCLERK@GMAIL.COM

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Sugar Island Memorial Service Thursday, August 27 at 7:00pm

The Sugar Island Annual Memorial Service to honor our island residents who have passed during the last year will be held on Thursday, August 27 at 7:00pm. in the Sugar Island Community Center. This ceremony has been offered by the Sugar Island Lions Club since 1983 and it is a special service to remember each of our island neighbors that have passed and offer condolences to their family members. If you would like to attend the service and have your deceased loved one recognized, please call Denise Hillier at 248-736-0818 to ensure your loved one's name is on our list.



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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

*EVERY
WEDNESDAY*

*July 1st,
July 8th,
July 15th,
July 22nd, and
July 29th*

Fueling takes
about an
Hour



**Recycling Station at the
North End Transfer Station
Available only during operating hours.**



TRANSFER STATION SCHEDULE

**North End: Sundays, Tuesdays,
Thursdays, & Saturdays 7am-3pm**

**South End: Mondays, Wednesdays,
& Fridays 7am -3pm**

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

QUACKER STAFF

Advertisement/Circulation *Pat Whyte* 322-2137

Editor/Circulation *Sue Davidson* 632-9739

5870 E. Sandpiper Lane

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

siquacker@gmail.com

ADVERTISING RATES

\$1.00 per line

\$6.00 Business card size

\$12.50 for a quarter page

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\$35.00 for full page

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

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a home or vacant land

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

With over 30 years of experience in real estate and proud to call the island home, I bring deep local knowledge and a genuine love for the community to every client I serve. Living here gives me a unique perspective on the market, the lifestyle, and what makes island living so special...**my service continues well beyond the sale. Whether you need a contractor, market advice, or just have a question—I'm just a call away.**

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New Price!

List Price: \$495,000

- Total SqFt: 3,966
- Turnkey Business
- Includes: Building, Equipment, and 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.

2537 S Niskanen Ln, Sugar Island, MI 49783



List Price: \$399,000

- Total SqFt: 1,833
- Bedrooms: 4
- Bathrooms: 2
- Detached Garage

Waterfront Home!

Experience island living in this immaculate 4-bedroom, 2-bathroom home on Sugar Island., accessible by ferry year round! This home offers 1,833 sq. ft. of thoughtfully designed living space with many upgrades. Set on a spectacular waterfront lot, this property has 367 feet of frontage on beautiful Lake George. Peaceful and secluded on 13 acres, it's the perfect space for those seeking serenity and natural beauty. Inside, you'll find a well-insulated home featuring a bright and inviting four-season room that captures stunning views. The spacious layout provides comfort for both everyday living and entertaining. A woodsy sauna adds a unique retreat, while the 32 x 40 detached garage, built in 2019, provides modern convenience and ample storage. Whether you're looking for a home or a seasonal escape, this property offers comfort, privacy, and breathtaking surroundings. Don't miss this opportunity, call for your showing today!