



# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

## WE'RE OPEN!

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center and Museum at Mount Baldhead are now both officially open for the season!



**History Center**  
Monday & Thursday,  
Friday, & Saturday  
11 am - 3:00 pm

**Museum at Mount  
Baldhead**  
Wednesday-Sunday  
11 am - 3:00 pm

## SEASON OPENER

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our 2025 Season Opener!



## EVENTS THIS MONTH

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

### Community Pride Reception

4:00 - 5:30 pm

Join us for a reception before a lecture on **“Archiving Lesbian History: From Sports to Music”** at the Saugatuck-Douglas District Library, presented by Dr. Bonnie J. Morris. Beer and wine will be available for purchase. The reception prior to the event will be held at the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center. More details [here](#).

THURSDAY, JUNE 19

### Here Comes the Sun: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Summer Solstice Social

5:30 - 8:30 pm

You're invited to a night at the Museum at Mt. Baldhead! This ticketed special event includes music, beer from Saugatuck Brewing Company, wine, and refreshments, all included for \$25 per person. Purchase your tickets [here](#).

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25

### Shockwaves from Stonewall: Gay Liberation in Michigan

6:00 - 7:00 pm

We hope to see you at this talk presented by historian Tim Retzloff as he explores the multiple queer organizations that sprang up in Metro Detroit and elsewhere in the mid 1970's. More details [here](#).





## DIRECTOR'S CORNER

It's been anything but a quiet season on the shores of Lake Michigan. Fortunately I can report the state of the Lakeshore and our History Center remains strong as we head into summer, thanks to the generous support of our members and community. This is a challenging time for many cultural organizations across the country, but we remain committed to sharing our community's unique stories and treasures. It's the history, arts, and culture that makes the Art Coast of Michigan and its villages (cities, in fact) of Saugatuck and Douglas so distinctive.

You'll read about some of the exciting and timely programs we have coming up this month. Our museum campuses are open and ready to welcome thousands of visitors again this season, some experiencing our community for the first time, others returning as part of a seasonal migration extending back generations. We're glad you're here, come and see us! And of course, join in and volunteer! You can read more in this newsletter and on our website.

A quick note of introduction for the author behind most of this new newsletter: Halle Oczepek. Halle is the newest staff member on the History Center team and serves as our Communications and Community Events Coordinator. She is a recent graduate of Grand Valley State University's Seidman College of Business in Marketing. She is looking forward to bringing her marketing expertise to the SDHC and supporting volunteers to bring their events and ideas to life!

Eric Gollanek  
Executive Director

## SAVE DUTCHER LODGE

On May 21, 35 members of the community gathered at the History Center to discuss the history and preservation of Dutcher Lodge. Just two doors away from the History Center itself, the 150 year old site has been listed for sale as the City of Douglas prepares to move its administrative center from Dutcher Lodge to the former Community Hospital site at Wiley Road and Blue Star Highway.



Eric Gollanek, our Executive Director, led a talk and facilitated a discussion on the importance of Dutcher Lodge to the community and ideas for its preservation before buyers' proposals are reviewed at the next City Hall meeting on June 2.

For more details on the preservation of Dutcher Lodge, read the full story [here](#).





## NEW MERCHANDISE

On Thursday, May 22, members of both the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center and the Saugatuck-Douglas Art Club gathered for the season opener of the Museum at Mount Baldhead. Guests had the opportunity to browse the gift shop's new merchandise in the gift shop created by local artists from the Saugatuck-Douglas Art Club. The SDHC is excited for future partnership opportunities with the Art Club, as well as continuing to provide a space to showcase local artistry. The gift shop is located inside the Museum at Mount Baldhead and is open Wednesday - Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. Stop by to support the History Center and the local art community!

Stay tuned for weekly artist features on our social media coming soon! Read the full story [here](#).



## CHARLES LORENZ AWARD 2024

We would like to congratulate the 2024 recipient of the Charles Lorenz Award, **Peg Sanford**! This award is given to acknowledge distinguished leadership in service to the History Center toward fulfilling its spirit and mission.

Read the full story [here](#).



## ON LOCATION WRAPS UP

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center wrapped up an incredible sequence of events as part of their spring **On Location** series, Thursday, May 8. With over 35 in attendance, members gathered on a beautiful spring evening at the final location of the series, the Peachbelt Studio and Gallery in Fennville.

Read the full story [here](#).





## SAUGATUCK ANTIQUE PAVILLION

Looking for a treasure for your vintage cottage?

Check out the SDHC display case at the Saugatuck Antique Pavilion. In addition to items curated by Mary Voss, the case is a year-round place to purchase SDHC publications. All purchases benefit the SDHC.



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## VISIT OUR ARCHIVES

Open every Monday from 1 pm to 5 pm.

### Calling all eBay experts!

Our Archives Committee is in search of someone to assist with listing some items for sale on eBay. This person would list, sell and earn commission off each item sold. If you or someone you may know is interested, contact Sally Winthers ([sally@mysdhistory.org](mailto:sally@mysdhistory.org)).

## MEMBERSHIP

We are a vibrant organization that preserves artifacts, buildings, and voices from the past. We have nearly 700 members who reside in nearby communities, around Lake Michigan, and in 26 states across the country.

We learn about the history and culture of our area in order to better understand how we came to be what we are today.

Our Membership Plans include:

*Individual: \$40*

*Household: \$60*

*Business Partner: \$250*

*Lifetime Member: \$1,000*

Please get in touch with our office for more information at (269) 857- 5751.

Purchase your membership [here](#).

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## BECOME A VOLUNTEER

The Saugatuck-Douglas History Center is a volunteer-driven organization. For nearly 40 years, hundreds of volunteers have helped shape the History Center in all aspects of its operations. Volunteers from many walks of life bring expertise, experience, and enthusiasm to the Center and its programs.

To get in touch with us regarding ways to volunteer your time, visit our website or email our executive director, Eric Gollanek ([director@mysdhistory.org](mailto:director@mysdhistory.org)). For more information, visit our [Volunteer Information](#) page, found on our website.

