



NEWS From
Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society
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FREE HISTORY & ARCHITECTURE WALKING TOUR
HIGHLIGHTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S JUNE 14 MEETING

SAUGATUCK, MAY 31, 2006 -- A free, docent-led walking tour reviewing Saugatuck's history and notable examples of early architectural styles will highlight Saugatuck-Douglas Historical Society's June 14 meeting. The tour will depart at 7pm from the new Culver Street parking lot next to the Saugatuck Center For The Arts and will conclude there around 8:30pm. Starting with comments on the town's founding and growth, the tour features more than two dozen homes, churches and commercial buildings extending from the waterfront to "Captain's Row" along the hill overlooking the town. A free trolley will be available to accommodate those who anticipate difficulty walking.

This special tour also will visit the historic Hoffman Street childhood home of Daniel Ludwig, who became a shipping magnate reputed to have been "richest man in the world" during the 1970s, and will pause for free refreshments at All Saints Episcopal Church on Hoffman and Grand, recognized as a prime example of Carpenter Gothic architecture standing since 1879.

(more)

A popular summertime mid-afternoon attraction since 2001, conducted by Historical Society volunteers under the tutelage of Harold Thieda, the tours are normally offered for a \$5 fundraising contribution during July and August, on Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday of each week.

Another public event coming soon is the Historical Society's Town Meeting on July 12 (7:00pm, Saugatuck High School auditorium theater) slated as an update on the Society's campaign to buy the Old School House in Douglas and to preserve and rededicate the building as a unique new Discovery Center. This campaign -- a cooperative effort with the area's District Library and Public Schools known as "The Old School House Project" -- envisions a community resource where children and adults alike can explore the area's history, culture, ecology and architecture through recreational activities, educational programs, special events and access to a unique archive of objects, photos and records.

For more information about the June 14 free tour, contact Ms. Jane Underwood at 857-2268. For information about other Historical Society programs and events, visit www.sdhistory.com or call Ms. Kristin Gebben, S/DHS Development Director at (269) 857-5751.

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