S-D HISTORY CENTER’S LAST 2017 “TUESDAY TALK” ON AUG. 29 REVIEWS SAUGATUCK CHAIN FERRY’S PAST AND FUTURE

AUG. 18, 2017 -- Saugatuck’s iconic Chain Ferry, its past and future, is the topic for Saugatuck-Douglas History Center's final 2017 “Tuesday Talk” on August 29, in the Old School House, 130 Center Street, Douglas. The one-hour program begins when the school bell rings at 11 a.m. Public attendance is invited and audience participation is welcomed to enrich the discussion.

Presenter Ken Kutzel, SDHC Board-member and volunteer art collection manager, will trace the history of the ferry back to when Singapore and Saugatuck were neighboring towns, including the reason the ferry was so necessary, while illustrating his talk with photos and artwork that the chain ferry has inspired over the years.

SDHC Board Vice President Bill Hess, speaking as a Saugatuck City Council member, will briefly comment on the operation of the Chain Ferry in 2017 and the challenges the City of Saugatuck faces with keeping its 160-year heritage alive in the future.

A summer tradition since 1996, weekly Tuesday Talks present entertaining and informative insights into local community life throughout July and August. This week’s Talk is sponsored by Star of Saugatuck along with SDHC members Renee Zita and the Bouchie family of Kalamazoo. SDHC also thanks Saugatuck-Douglas Antiques Market as the full-season sponsor for this summer's series.

Tuesday Talks’ increasing popularity puts limited seating on “first-come, first-served” basis. While admission is free for current SDHC members, non-member guests are encouraged to attend with a donation of five dollars, or to become new members at the Talk.

For more information about the Saugatuck-Douglas History Center, its Museum in Saugatuck and Old School House in Douglas, or its activities planned for 2017, visit www.MySDHistory.org.

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Saugatuck’s iconic Chain Ferry is the focus of SDHC’s last 2017 “Tuesday Talk” on August 29. An earlier Saugatuck chain ferry vessel is shown making the crossing in this rare color image.