HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFERS RESERVATIONS FOR FEB. 22 WATER STREET GALLERY DINNER

JAN. 31, 2014 -- The Saugatuck/Douglas Historical Society is inviting reservations for an unusual evening of art and fine dining at Water Street Gallery, 98 Center St. in Douglas, as the next event in the Historical Society's fifth annual "Dine Around The Village Table" series of dinner or cocktail party fundraisers.

Scheduled for Saturday, February 22, at 7pm, the event begins with cocktails, appetizers and a brief gallery talk explaining monotypes, presented by gallery director and event host Maryjo Lemanski, as an introduction to the artwork style prominent in Water Street's February-March exhibition titled "Little Boxes". The gallery will be closed to the public during this party.

Guests then will sit down to an "outside the box" dinner planned and catered by SDHS member and gallery assistant director Stephen Mottram, inspired by the exhibition, in which the food will be served in various rectangular formats: black bean and spicy sausage soup (in a square bowl); a salad "tower" of green beans and toasted goat cheese; individual Chicken Wellingtons with Madeira sauce; roasted carrots and parsnips; and for dessert a sticky-toffee pudding with vanilla ice cream.

Water Street's "Little Boxes" exhibit brings together around fifty of the gallery's established and emerging artists who responded to the familiar saying "good things come in little boxes" in imaginative ways. The resulting collection comprises small paintings, drawings, sculptures and other three-dimensional objects that transform materials, subject and message into "little gems of art".

Over coffee and dessert, as a special memento, guests will draw unseen gifts of artwork from a "Big Box" created for the event.

With all food and beverages donated by Water Street Gallery, this event's guest charge of $100 per person will fully support the Historical Society's volunteer-based programs and activities including exhibitions at its Pump House Museum in Saugatuck, Old School House History Center and "Back-In-Time Garden Pathway" in Douglas. For reservations, phone 269.857.5751 or e-mail info@sdhistoricalsociety.org. Seating is limited to sixteen guests, so early reservations are recommended.

The Saugatuck/Douglas Historical Society is a not-for-profit, volunteer-driven organization with membership open to all and a mission "to provide leadership in enabling the community to connect with and understand its past, to preserve the quality of community life and to use the area's history to shape its future." For more information about the Society, its Old School House History Center and Pump House Museum, and its upcoming activities, visit www.sdhistorical society.org.

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Douglas' Water Street Gallery to host SDHS "Dine Around" event Feb. 22