

SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS
HISTORY
CENTER

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EVOLUTION OF LOCAL PUBLIC EDUCATION TRACED
IN S-D HISTORY CENTER'S JULY 25 "TUESDAY TALK"

JULY 14, 2017 -- A deep dive into the origins of local public schools, from one-room to present-day, will highlight the next Saugatuck-Douglas History Center "Tuesday Talk" on July 25, 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.

Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Douglas Union School, Michigan's oldest extant multi-classroom school building, SDHC Executive Director Nathan Nietering will trace our area's educational history, including nearby communities and townships, and explore other places where students learned "reading, writing and 'rithmetic." Documents and photographs from the SDHC collection will showcase the buildings and their students. Many of these buildings survive today, with some serving very different purposes than for which they were built.

A summer tradition since 1996, weekly Tuesday Talks present entertaining and informative insights into our community life throughout July and August. This week's Tuesday Talk is sponsored by SDHC member John Thomas.

While Tuesday Talk 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 all, the series' increasing popularity puts limited seating on "first-come, first-served" basis.

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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Among the schools highlighted in the July 25 SDHC "Tuesday Talk" is the former Saugatuck High School building, here pictured around 1910, which was noted to be "well lit, heated with hot air and steam, and furnished with single desks to accommodate 300 students."