

SAUGATUCK-DOUGLAS HISTORY CENTER

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NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE AND CHALLENGES TO HIGHLIGHT SDHC's AUG. 20 "TUESDAY TALK"

AUG. 9, 2019 -- A discussion of Native American culture and current societal challenges highlights Saugatuck-Douglas History Center's next "Tuesday Talk" on August 20 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 Jefferson R. Ballew IV, a cultural and diversity speaker for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi will share his experience and knowledge of the history, traditions, and life ways of the indigenous peoples of the Great Lakes Basin.

Ballew, a Pokagon Potawatomi born in Mishawaka, IN, found his calling to be a Native American presenter at age 18, and in the ensuing 20-plus years has brought his message to thousands of young students, civic groups and college classes and panel discussions. He currently works with the Pokagon Band Language and Culture Department as a contract presenter, and with the Department of Diversity and Inclusion at University of Notre Dame to implement staff diversity training. He regularly participates in Native American cultural events such as Pow Wows, traditional-ways workshops, honoring ceremonies and tribal celebrations.

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 SDHC members Bill and Nancy Woods.

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 coming months, visit www.MySDHistory.org.

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