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**HISTORICAL SOCIETY OFFERS RESERVATIONS
FOR JUNE 30 LAKESHORE HOME-TOUR PARTY**

DOUGLAS (MI.), JUNE 7, 2013 -- An afternoon lakeshore "Celebration Of The Arts" party and home tour, further extending the Saugatuck/Douglas Historical Society's "Dining Around the Village Table" fund-raising series begun last fall, is accepting reservations for Sunday, June 30, 1-5pm.

This event opens the eclectic Fennville home, gardens and grounds of theatrical personality B.J. Silverstone, nestled in a wooded 5 acres on a bluff overlooking Lake Michigan at 2450 Lake Shore Drive (north of M-89). The house, hers since the 1960s, has been extended to include a two story studio, rambling rooms and decks, with a rustic interior decorated in barnwood, stone and shingles, wood carvings, ceramics, metalwork, art and curious artifacts.

Colorfully costumed docents will greet and direct guests, while a variety of appetizers and sweets will be provided by Clearbrook Restaurant, Coral Gables Restaurant, Mermaid Bar & Grill and Zing Eat/Drink. Beer, wine and spirits also will be available, highlighting craft hard cider from Fennville's newly established Virtue Cider.

In the studio, two cabaret shows (2pm and 3:30pm) will present music, magic and drama performed by area theatre guild members, with B.J. as Master of Ceremonies. Silverstone's theatrical calling emerged in her teen years at Chicago's American Conservatory of Music, leading to a career that progressed through singing in Chicago nightclubs to major roles in stage presentations such as "7-Year Itch", "Chicago", "How To Succeed In Business...", "Ahmal and the Night Visitors", and a slate of classical musicals. She performed locally for 25 years with a traveling West Michigan troupe called "The Showstoppers", and for several years was a co-owner of Saugatuck's Red Barn Theater.

Roaming the grounds, guests will discover a badminton court, wildflower garden with a gazebo and frog pond, plus a 100-year-old log cabin "playhouse" and guest room, with some of its original furnishings. Throughout the area, twelve plein-air artists will be working, and guests will have an opportunity to bid for their works in an auction at 4:30pm, with the proceeds donated to the Historical Society. A deck at the bluff's edge offers a panorama of lake and beach below. An electric taxi will be available for those needing help moving around the property.

Along the bluff adjacent to the Silverstone property, the home/studio complex of the late artist Bill Olendorf will be open to party guests, with his wife Mary Olendorf on hand to exhibit a selection of his last paintings. On the central deck of the complex, a six-piece student jazz band from South Haven High School will provide a musical ambiance for the event.

With all food and beverages donated, this event's guest charge of \$40 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.

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 future "Dine Around" events, the Society, its Old School House History Center, Pump House Museum and volunteer opportunities, visit www.sdhistoricalsociety.org.

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B.J. Silverstone's lakefront Fennville home to open for June 30 "Celebration Of The Arts"