

Thank you in advance to you and all members of the City Council for your kind consideration! Please let me know if there are any questions I can address.

All the best to you,

Jim Dreyer

www.JimTheSharkDreyer.com

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From: Ryan Cummins <rcummins@saugatuckcity.com>

Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 7:01 AM

To: eventmarketing@comcast.net <eventmarketing@comcast.net>

Cc: Holly Anderson <Holly@saugatuckcity.com>

Subject: RE: America's 250th Swim & Memorial

Hi Jim,

Thank you for thinking of us and reaching out with your idea. Your planned swim is very admirable.

The City Council sets priorities each year and we review the status of them each quarter. Our next review is in early April and that would be the time for Council to advise staff if this is something they would like to add. We have a very large list of significant projects right now and don't have capacity for more, so Council will have to weigh whether this rises above others.

If there is interest, we will circle back.

Thank you again,

Ryan Cummins

City Manager

City of Saugatuck

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From: [eventmarketing](mailto:eventmarketing@comcast.net) <[eventmarketing](mailto:eventmarketing@comcast.net)>

Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 3:18 AM

To: Holly Anderson <Holly@saugatuckcity.com>; Joe Clark <jclark@saugatuckcity.com>; Lauren Stanton

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Cc: eventmarketing <eventmarketing@>
Subject: America's 250th Swim & Memorial

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Greetings!

This is [Jim Dreyer](#), West Michigan's world record open water swimmer.

In August I will swim 22 miles while pulling 250 cannonballs that will be used to build **America's 250th Combat Veterans Memorial**.

How would you like this unique and meaningful memorial built in Saugatuck? I will swim to your location, deliver the cannonballs, and deliver the press.

The memorial will mark America's semi quincentennial and will forever honor those who fought to win and preserve the freedom of this great nation for 250 years.

The distance of 22 miles symbolizes the estimated number of Veterans who die by suicide daily due to post-traumatic stress.

It is believed that the public sale of cannonballs to honor loved ones will cover all or most of the costs associated with erecting the memorial.

My team and I just need to know who would like to be considered as a memorial host site. This could be a county, municipality, or private Veterans organization. The memorial could be displayed on public or private property, in a park or in front of a building.

Ideally, I would like the memorial to find its home here in West Michigan along the Lake Michigan coast where I call home. We are reaching out to prospective coastal host sites from Montague to South Haven.

Please take a look at the short 10-slide presentation attached and reply if interested in discussing an opportunity to host *America's 250th Combat Veterans Memorial* in your space.

There is no hurry to break ground on the memorial, but we need to know where these cannonballs are headed sooner versus later. Please reply with your interest by **April 15, 2026**, and we will talk!

Much thanks ... and all the best to you,

Jim Dreyer

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