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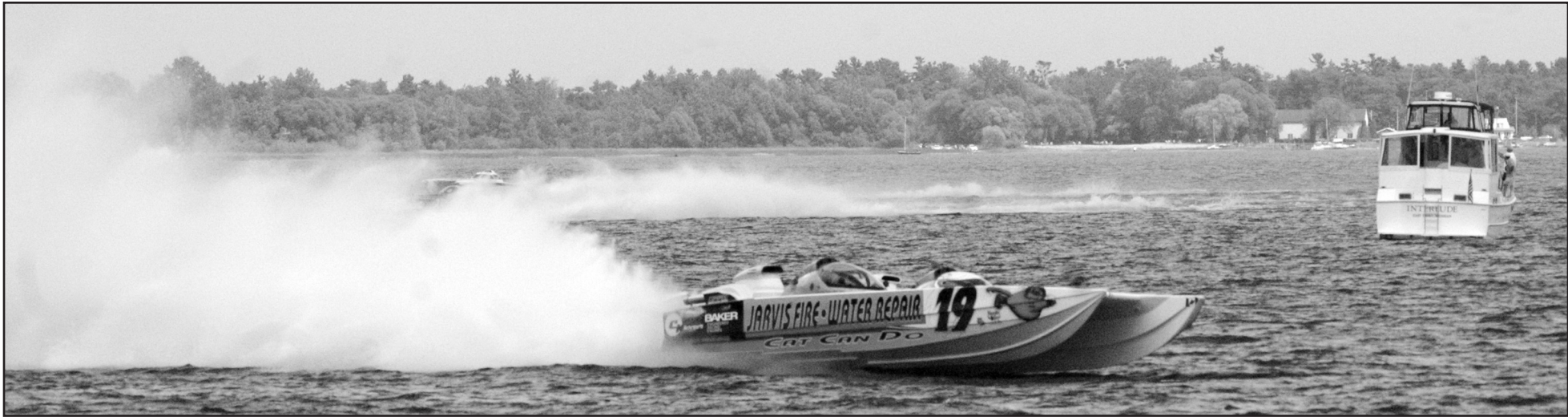


Photo by John Morris

SMOKE ON THE WATER – The Michigan boat *Cat Can Do* was by far the fastest boat on Sunday’s 5.5 mile course on Tawas Bay during the inaugural Heritage Coast Offshore Grand Prix. The boat raced in the Extreme class and according to its driver can hits speeds on courses of between 160 to 167 miles per hour.

Offshore powerboat racing to stay in Tawas four more years

by Jason Ogden
and John Morris

EAST TAWAS – Thousands of fans, curiosity seekers and spectators lined the shores of Tawas Bay from East Tawas to Tawas City Sunday for the inaugural Heritage Coast Offshore Grand Prix.

The event was put on by the Offshore Powerboat Association (OPA) and sponsored by the Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing Company.

And the best news is Heritage Coast Sailing and Rowing Co. President David Wentworth announced Monday morning that a letter of intent has been signed with OPA to keep the event on Tawas Bay for the next four years.

For Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce Director Mark Hitchcock, the first year event was a success. Hitchcock said what he was most impressed about was members of the area business community working to donate

sponsorship funding and get the event organized in such a short amount of time.

“They took an event that needed organized in six months and squeezed it down to six weeks,” he said. “We all pulled together and it’s really exciting to see the entire community pull together.”

The event was a weekend packed full of events that filled the streets of East Tawas with those curious about the races, the racers and their boats.

Sunday’s event featured nine classes of powerboat racing during three races Sunday on a 5.5-mile track around Tawas Bay.

Winning this year’s events were in the Extreme class, *Cat Can Do* (No. 19), first; in the Cat Lite class, *PhoenixParts.com* (No. 388), first, *AMSOIL* (No. 77), second, and *Infinity* (No. 8), third; in Class 1, *Cleveland Construction* (No. 129), first, and *Lightning*

See Powerboats, Page 11



Photo by John Morris

SIDE BY SIDE – The Class 3 boat *Bull on the Beach* and the Cat Lite *Phoenix Parts* are side by side during this view taken Sunday from the East Tawas State Dock. Both boats won their respective classes.

Ohio woman, grandson killed in Sunday crash

by Holly Nelson

OSCODA – Two people and a dog were killed Sunday morning in a one-vehicle crash on US-23 in AuSable Township.

Oscoda Township Police Department officers identified the victims as Mary Jane McRoberts, 52, of Batavia, Ohio and her grandson, Austin Eugene Wilson, 13, of Milford, Ohio.

Police said McRoberts has been staying in Mikado, but left recently to return to Ohio to pick up her grandson and bring him to Mikado, where relatives awaited.

She was less than a half hour from her destination when something caused her to lose control of the vehicle. Police speculate that she may have fallen asleep or suffered some type of medical emergency, but say this remains under investigation.

A witness told police the north-bound burgundy Toyota Corolla, being driven by McRoberts, gradually veered left of center into oncoming traffic, then went off the road at 8 a.m. The witness, a resident of Black River, said he had to take evasive action to avoid being struck.

This mirrored the findings of the OTPD accident reconstructionist, who determined the vehicle gradually left the roadway, then traveled 500 feet before colliding with a shallow tree stump. It then went 72 more feet and side-swiped a tree on the west side of the highway, spun into a mailbox and overturned onto its side. Prior to coming to a final stop 79 feet further, it struck a lawn mower which was for sale in front of 2825 N. US-23.

The teenager, who police say may have been sleeping in the back seat, was ejected. His grandmoth-

See Fatal, Page 3

BOC to make another effort to resolve ICCOA issues

by Holly Nelson

TAWAS CITY – The 30-day deadline for making changes in the operation of the Iosco County Commission on Aging (ICCOA) has passed without action.

Members of the Iosco County Board of Commissioners (BOC) struggled with this during their meeting on Wednesday, June 20, their expressed goal to effect change without putting senior citizens at risk.

In the end, after nearly an hour of discussion between themselves and impacted members of the audience, the commissioners agreed to stick to its ultimatum, but opened the door for modification – provided some type of progress can be measured.

The ultimatum, in the form of a resolution, was adopted May 16. It called for the immediate re-opening of the Sand Lake Senior Center; the reorganization of the ICCOA board; and review by the reorganized board of the termination of the Sand Lake center hostess. It was passed in response to the ICCOA board banning card playing at the Sand Lake center, then firing its hostess and closing the facility. Also considered by the

board were numerous complaints about food quality and availability at most of the senior centers, as well denial of in-home services to seniors and a host of other issues, including that the ICCOA bylaws had been suddenly changed to give its existing board members life terms.

This resolution contained consequences for failing to comply, those being loss of the county senior citizen services millage and revocation of the ICCOA’s status as the preferred provider of state and federally funded services.

Commissioner Bob Cudney noted the deadline had expired five days earlier and offered comments which set the tone for the discussion which followed.

The now former member of the ICCOA board, said he feels ICCOA is making progress, although not as much as desired. This was based on an ICCOA meeting both he and BOC Chairman Jeff Matthews had attended a day earlier.

“But the consequences of cutting off the funds to the seniors, at this time, I think, would be too drastic. And, I think, with the movement they’ve started, that we should give them another 30

days,” he said.

Cudney called it a Catch 22 as, withholding funds risks disruption to services to seniors but, on the other hand, the way things are going he does not believe even 30 more days would be enough.

Matthews said it was evident that the ICCOA board remains dysfunctional; has a hard time addressing the business at hand; and that new leadership is desperately needed.

On the other hand, the attorney hired by the organization is making a diligent effort to move forward and made six recommendations to ICCOA, he added.

These are: more turnover in board members; immediately re-open the Sand Lake Senior Center; reviewing program policies as some are more restrictive than need be; training board members on the various grant-funded programs; increasing transparency; and reviewing the agency fund balance (savings account) to determine what is appropriate.

“It was stated in yesterday’s meeting that they have a \$440,000 fund balance,” Matthews said. “I’m hearing from our treasurer

See ICCOA Page 6

INDEX

Church	8a
Classified	20-22a
Crossword	23a
Entertainment	5a
Horoscope.....	23a
Obituaries.....	19a
Outdoors.....	4,6b
Sports.....	9-10a
Weather.....	23a



8 0 4 8 7 9 1 1 2 0 3 7

LOCAL NEWS

Powerboats

Continued from Page 1

Jack's, (No. 105), second; in Super Vee, *Wazzup* (No. V1), first, and *Strictly Business* (No. V6), second; in Class 3, *Bull on the Beach* (No. 360), first; in Class 4, *Simmons Racing* (No. 401), first, *Velocity Racing* (No. 467), second, and *Twin Screws* (No. 419), third; in Super Vee Lite, *Pirate Racing* (No. 21), first, and *Octane* (No. 411), second; in Class 5 *Pushin-Tin* (No. 555), first; and in Class 6, *PFE* (No. 619), first, *Knot Guilty* (No. 644), second, *Country Service* (No. 623), third, *Hurricane Force* (No. 667), fourth, *Akula* (No. 607) and *BatBoat.com* (No. 602), fifth place tie, *Bad News* (No. 613), sixth, *Wazzup II* (No. 633), seventh, and *Maxed Out Motorsports* (No. 626), eighth.

One of the major aspects of the event was shutting down Tawas Bay so the high-horsepower crafts could conduct their races on Sunday and their test runs on Saturday.

According to Iosco County Sheriff Allan MacGregor the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Coast Guard and other agencies assisted in closing off the bay from the Tawas Point Lighthouse to the mouth of the Tawas River. For a large portion of the day Sunday no boat traffic went in or out of the area, except racers and officials.

On the water, spectators were allowed to assemble at the sand-bar near Tawas Point.

West Branch Michigan Police Post Commander Melvin Matthews said extra troopers were brought in from other posts and as many as 15 additional officers from his department were on hand for crowd control.

MacGregor said despite the vast amount of people in the community for the event, there were relatively few skirmishes requiring people to be arrested or detained by police.

“They have been well-behaved over this weekend,” he said.

Many who came to the races were serious fans of horsepower and motor sports in general, including East Tawas resident Mike Meng.

Meng said part of the reason that he was going to the races, other than the fact that he lives so close, was that he has followed

races for years and would travel to areas around the state to see them, including the races in Bay City.

“I really think they are cool, and I love high-performance engines,” he said.

Many fans could get up-close and personal with the machines. A dry dock area was set up at “The Yards” next to Walmart in Tawas City for fans to mingle with the boat drivers and actually see the boats a mere foot or two away.

Racers could be seen around town too, like Howard and Marie Richardson of Franklinville, N.J.

The pair were at the East Tawas Fire Hall using a water hose provided for racers to clean their equipment.

As Howard Richardson scrubbed his R and S Racing boat *Twin Screws*, Marie Richardson spoke of the life of a boat racing driver.

She said they’re on the road a lot, traveling around the country running in many races. They have a specially equipped hauling vehicle that has a built in camper so they don’t have to stay at motels.

The pair said they were excited at the prospects of racing on Tawas Bay adding that they loved the area.

Richardson said that his boat, a Class 4 racer, is better suited to race in rough weather conditions and does well because it’s so large.

Keith Holmes of Spring Lake, driver and team manager of the 40-foot Extreme class boat *Cat Can Do*, has been in the offshore powerboat racing sport for 20 years. It’s his 14th year driving *Cat Can Do*, which has a 1998 hull and is powered by twin 572 cubic inch, 1,200 horsepower racing engines.

On a typical offshore course, Holmes said the boat can run at top speeds of between 160 to 167 miles per hour and on a straight line, its top speed is 180 mph. The boats takes a two-person crew to operate it while racing – a driver and another crewman on the throttle.

For Holmes, racing is a full-time job as he heads CK Motorsports in Nunica.

Another location to see the racers up close was at the East Tawas Michigan Department of Natural

Resources boat launch. According to race officials, a 115-foot, 90-ton crane had to be brought in to handle loading many of the massive powerboats into the water.

Race fans Tina Steward and Tim Steward rode a motorcycle from Sterling to scope out the race and see what all the action was about, Sunday.

According to Tim Steward, he prefers watching boat racing over many other motor sports. He said the reason is that the course – often the open ocean – continually changes so that racers never know what condition they have to drive in from lap to lap.

“A racer at the front of the race is going to have a lot different water conditions than a racer at the back of the race,” he said.

At the East Tawas State Dock Ernie Pacsai and his family watched the races Saturday and Sunday.

Pacsai, who is a Farmington Hills resident with property in the area, has been coming to East Tawas for years. Pacsai said he hoped that the races would be something that could draw more tourism and real estate sales to the county.

He gestured toward a nearly filled marina and boats docked off shore.

“This harbor has been dead for nearly 15 years,” he said, adding that the way the bay looked Saturday made him remember the old days of the Sunrise Side, where an empty boat slip was hard to come by.

Pacsai said he hoped that the influx of people into the area would show many who were here for the first time what it really has to offer.

Ernie’s son, Ernie Pacsai Jr., said he was heartened by the backstory of how the races came to East Tawas in the first place.

Businessman Brian Bishop, owner of the Pronto Pup food stand at the East Tawas Harbor Park, has connections in the powerboat racing community.

Bishop said he thought the bay would make a good race venue and got the ball rolling on races. Much of it was to boost sales and tourism to the area. Pacsai said he really liked that angle.

“I love the underdog story, it

shows that one person in a small community can really make a difference,” he said. “And it’s a really creative way to get stuff going in the community.”

Ron Polli, OPA vice president, said the group had no idea where Tawas Bay was and many members had to do a Google search to find it.

“We had no idea where we were going and what to expect,” he said. “But the teams that arrived were blown away by the people and their hospitality. And you have that beautiful blue bay.”

Polli said the association also enjoys coming to the small venues such as Tawas.

“When we go to a place like Miami, we get lost in the shuffle,”

he said. “But when we come to small venues like Tawas, this is the biggest thing there.”

Polli said the best part of the event that no boats flipped over and no one got hurt.

“We’re coming back,” Ed “Smitty” Smith, OPA president and driver of *Wazzup*, said at Sunday’s after race awards party held at Mr. Jack’s in East Tawas.

Asked Sunday if a multi-year agreement could be reached to keep the race on Tawas Bay, Smith answered, “we’ll get it done.”

Then both sides inked the new four-year agreement on Monday morning.

More information about the races can be found by visiting www.oparacing.org.



Photo by Jason Ogden

FRESH AIR – The Wazzup II, Class 6, boat gets a little fresh air during a parade lap during Sunday’s Class 6 race.

For more weekend of racing photos, see Pages 12 and 13A

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF TAWAS CITY
ARRA CDBG GRANT CLOSEOUT

The City of Tawas City will hold a public hearing on Monday, July 16, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at the Tawas City Hall, 550 W. Lake Street to receive comments on the results of the ARRA CDBG Water Main Replacement project. Grant # MSC 209605-R Water Main Replacement Project will be the subject of the hearing. Comments of the closeout hearing may be made in person or writing to the Tawas City Council, 550 W. Lake Street, P.O. Box 568, Tawas City, MI 48764-0568.

Michelle Westcott
City Clerk

Public Notice
REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Tawas Bay Players (TBP) are soliciting a sealed bid proposal for the construction of an approximately 772 SF stick-built addition to the existing TBP theater building at 401 Newman Street in East Tawas that will serve as an orchestra gallery off the stage, and itself be served by a new corridor system, all in accordance with a bid form and five sheets of drawings and specs prepared by Russo Engineering. The building addition will match the existing in appearance. Bid bonds are required as well as Payment/Performance bonds. There will be an organized site visit. Bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m. July 13, 2012, at the East Tawas Park Office of Keith Frank (representing the TBP), 407 W. Bay, East Tawas, MI 48730. The bid proposals will be opened at that time, with award to be announced at a later time, when the TBP board has had an opportunity to convene. Bid documents including engineered drawings and specifications are available from the office of Russo Engineering, 225 6th Ave., P.O. Box 187, Tawas City, MI 48764, phone 989-362-7735. The TBP reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids, any decisions deemed to be in their best interest. The TBP support businesses that support them either through membership or program ads. Toward that end, the TBP will give preference to such businesses when they are bidding or providing price quotes on goods or services for the TBP. Businesses that are owned by current members of the TBP or businesses that pay for ads in TBP programs that bid no more than 5% over the lowest qualified, responsive, responsible non-member bidder will be given the opportunity to reduce their bid to match the lower bid. Beyond that, the business must meet all other threshold requirements with respect to service, reliability and other purchase criteria.

LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale
THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN. PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Mark W. Zilliox, a single man, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., Mortgagee, dated October 26, 2006, and recorded on October 27, 2006, in Liber 904 on Page 226, and assigned by said Mortgagee to MidFirst Bank as assignee as documented by an assignment, in Iosco County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Eighty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Forty-One and 10/100 Dollars (\$86,441.10).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Iosco County, at 10:00 AM, on July 25, 2012.

Said premises are situated in Township of Tawas, Iosco County, Michigan, and are described as: Part of the North 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 23, Township 22 North, Range 7 East, described as commencing at the Southeast corner of said 80 acres, thence West along the East-West 1/8 line 225 feet, thence North 135 feet, thence East 225 feet, thence South 135 feet to the point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with

MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Dated: June 27, 2012
For more information, please call:
FC F (248) 593-1313
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525
File #402915F01
(06-27)(07-18)

Notice Of Mortgage Foreclosure Sale
THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN. PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Jerry Malone, an unmarried man, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender’s successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated January 10, 2006, and recorded on January 13, 2006, in Liber 875 on Page 251, in Iosco County Records, Michigan, and assigned by mesne assignments to U.S. BANK, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE HOLDERS OF THE SPECIALTY UNDERWRITING AND RESIDENTIAL

FINANCE TRUST, MORTGAGE LOAN ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2006-BC2 as assignee, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Seven Thousand Three Hundred Eighty-Eight and 37/100 Dollars (\$97,388.37).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Iosco County, at 10:00 AM, on July 11, 2012.

Said premises are situated in Township of Tawas, Iosco County, Michigan, and are described as: Section 25, Town 22 North, Range 7 East, Commencing 66 feet North of Southwest Corner of East 1/2 of West 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of Northeast 1/4; thence East 220 Feet; thence North 132 feet; thence West 220 feet; thence South 132 feet to point of beginning.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.
Dated: June 6, 2012
For more information, please call:
FC X (248) 593-1302
Trott & Trott, P.C.
Attorneys For Servicer
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525
File #337880F02
(06-06)(06-27)

Racing was fast, furious during Heritage Coast Offshore Grand Prix



Photo by John Morris

SECOND PLACE FINISHER – The Cat Lite boat *AMSOIL* finished in second place in its class on Sunday during the inaugural offshore powerboat races in Tawas Bay.



Photo by John Morris

CLASS WINNER – Super Vee winner *WAZZUP* passes in front of the historic Tawas Point Lighthouse in this view during Sunday’s race from the East Tawas State Dock.



Photo by John Morris

AT THE POINT – The Super Vee boat *Strictly Business* races past Tawas Point on the 5.5-mile course set up on Tawas Bay Sunday.



Photo by John Morris

LIKE A STARSHIP – This unusual view of the Class 1 boat *Lightning Jack's* was offered by its crew Saturday’s evening when the offshore racing boats were displayed in a packed downtown East Tawas.



Photo by John Morris

ROOSTER TAIL – First place finisher in Class 1 *Cleveland Construction* puts up a wall of water on its way past the East Tawas State Dock following Sunday’s race soaking the spectators.



Photo by John Morris

RESCUE HELICOPTER – A race photographer and one of the two emergency divers waves to the crowd on the East Tawas State Dock in between the three races Sunday. The safety helicopter followed the action during each of the three races Sunday.



Photo by Jason Ogden

LAW ENFORCEMENT – Iosco County Sheriff Department recreational Deputy Pete Malette patrols Tawas Bay before the start of the races Sunday. The law enforcement agency was one of many that shut down Tawas Bay to boat traffic for the duration of the race.



Photo by John Morris

ORGANIZERS RECOGNIZED – The sponsoring Offshore Powerboat Association recognized three local men for their efforts in bringing the group to Tawas Bay. They are, from left, David Wentworth and Joe Czaika of Heritage Sailing and Rowing Co., and Brian Bishop, East Tawas businessman.

LOCAL NEWS

Thousands gather along Tawas Bay for inaugural powerboat races



Photo by Jason Ogden

CLASS SIX WINNER – Winning this year’s inaugural Heritage Coast Offshore Grand Prix Class Six race was the *PFE Racing* boat. The craft is piloted by Rick Kotecki of Chesterfield, left, and throttled by Gary Cook of Chesterfield.



Photo by Jason Ogden

FINISHING TOUCH – Racer Howard Richardson of Franklinville, N.J. gives his boat a final scrub down at the East Tawas Fire Station. Richardson is one of many racers who travels around the country to participate in events.



Photo by Jason Ogden

HEAVY LIFTING – A large crane is used to lower the *Bull on the Beach* boat into the waters of Tawas Bay, Saturday, at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Boat Launch in East Tawas. Many of the boats involved in the races had to be lowered into the water via crane because of their massive size.



Photo by Jason Ogden

FUEL UP – Anthony Smith, right, and Ryan Garuer, left, of Brick, N.J., gas up the *PhoenixParts.com* boat at the Tawas City Shell Station before a test run on Tawas Bay.



Photo by John Morris

PACKED DOCK – The East Tawas State Dock was the packed Sunday for the inaugural Heritage Coast Offshore Grand Prix.

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Location: The AuSable Inn, Oscoda
Time: 7:00 p.m.

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