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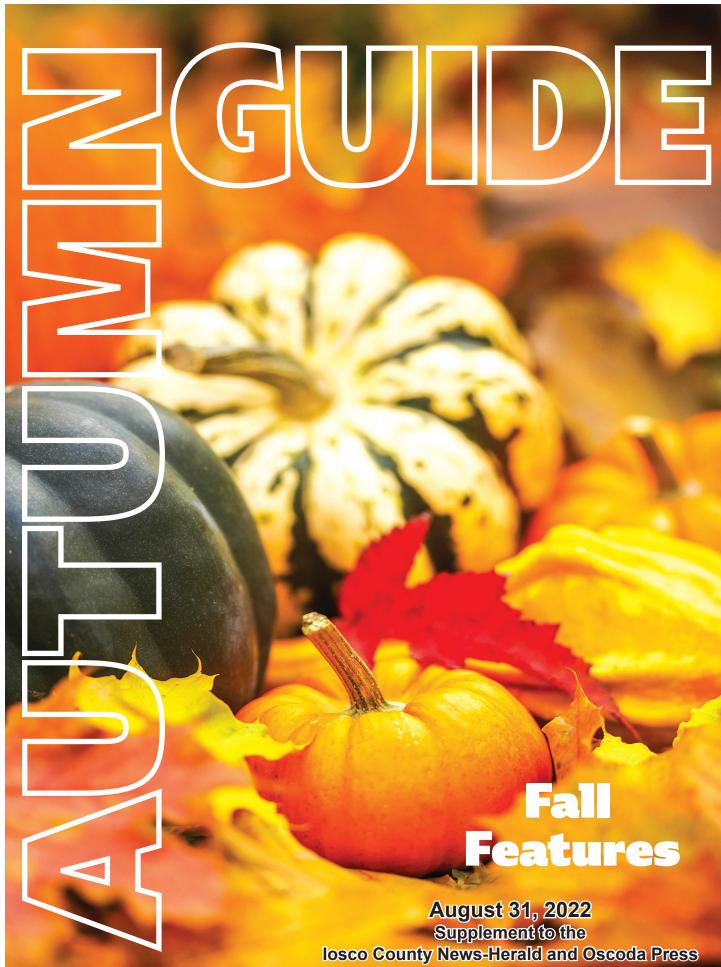
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File photos by John Morris

HIDDEN GEMS – Pictured above and below are two scenic vistas of the AuSable River Valley, one is more hidden than the other. Pictured above is this view of Cooke Pond behind Lumberman's Monument in Oscoda Township. Lumberman's Monument is located along the River Road National Scenic Byway at the Monument Road intersection. Pictured below is a panoramic view of one of the best hidden fall treasures around. This breath-taking 20-mile view of the AuSable River Valley in Alcona County can be found by traveling north on M-65 and turning west on F-30 (Bamfield Road) in Glennie. Go three miles to AuSable Road and turn right. The Huron-Manistee National Forest Scenic Overview is a little more than four miles north on AuSable Road.









beautiful sparkling Tawas Bay, where sailboats, fishing craft and jet skis enjoy nature's gift of Lake Huron.

It's home to Oscoda, where salmon and trout fishermen, canoeists and powerboaters take advantage of the local lakes and the famous majestic AuSable River:

And it's home to the western reaches of the county, which host the heart of the Huron National Forest with its pristine woods, rivers, lakes and streams.

Summer is short but sweet in Iosco County and its residents make the best of it. Here you'll find festivals, events and celebrations all summer long with restaurants, taverns, lodging, marinas, golf courses and shopping opportunities that you'll never find at home. So enjoy yourself. The

hospitality's on us.



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File photo by Patricia Alvord

QUICK CARVE COMPETITION - Four Chainsaw carvers participate in a quick carve event held on Furtaw Field during Paul Bunyan Days last year. Carvers left to right included, Mike Swagart, Corey James, Alonzo Montoya and Matayo Montoya.

Paul Bunyan Days return to Oscoda

by John Morris

OSCODA - The lore of Paul Bunyan continues to live on in Oscoda, the legend's official birthplace by state proclamation, as hundreds celebrate the traditions of the larger-than-life lumberjack at the annual festival bearing his name.

Paul Bunyan Days will be held Sept. 16-18 at Furtaw Field along US-23 in Oscoda, in the shadow of the statue bearing his resemblance.

The weekend festivities are set to include carnival rides, games and food, a beard competition, music, a corn hole tournament, arts and crafts, an opportunity to dress up your pet like Paul Bunyan, and much more.

Admission buttons will be sold at the entry gate for \$5. Children ages 16 and younger will receive free admission.

For more information about Paul Bunyan Days contact the Oscoda-AuSable sponsoring Chamber of Commerce at 989-739-7322.

2022 Summer



File photo by Patricia Alvord

TRIBUTE TO ED - To kick off Paul Bunyan Days festivities last year, a tribute presentation took place to honor the late Edward Brison Glotfelty, better known as Oscoda's Paul Bunyan, who passed away on Jan. 23, 2017. Glotfelty's wife Jolene, left, was in attendance, his daughter Tamara Baubie, right, and members of the AuSable-Oscoda Historical Society.











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Tourist Guide Editor - John Morris A publication of the Iosco County News-Herald and Oscoda Press Editor's note: This is

Tawas to host 15th annual Sunrise Side Triathlon Sept. 10

by John Morris

EAST TAWAS – Back for its 15th year, the 3 Disciplines Sunrise Side Triathlon is set for Saturday, Sept. 10 in East Tawas.

The athletes will compete in one of seven distance events Olympic and Sprint triathlons, Sprint Duathlon Olympic and Sprint Aquabikes, Super Sprint and a Sprint KayaTri, according to Kenny Krell owner of the sponsoring Burton-based 3 Disciplines Racing.

The event begins at 8 a.m. Sept. 10 at East Tawas Harbor Park along the Tawas Bay shoreline. That's when the Olympic athletes will enter Tawas Bay for a 1,500-kilometer swim. They will be followed by the Sprint distance athletes at 8:30 for a 500-meter swim and at 8:50 by Super Sprint distance athletes for a 200-meter swim.

That's if Mother Natural cooperates this year. Winds and waves may have led to potentially dangerous rip currents in Tawas Bay and last year's planned triathlon became a duathlon for the athletes who registered for the event. Last year marked the second time in the 14 years that the swim portion of the trialthlons have been cancelled due to unsafe conditions on Tawas Bay.

The swims will be in the shallow water area of Tawas Bay parallel to the beach at the East Tawas City Park. The athletes will each start at the same point and will eventually head toward the East Tawas State Dock.

After the swim, Olympic distance athletes will then bike 40 kilometers and finish with a 10-k run, while Sprint distance athletes will bike 20 kilometers before ending with a 5-k run. Super Sprint distance athletes will bike 10 kilometers and finish with a one mile run.

"This is one of our favorite courses we have, if not the best one," Krell said of the bike course through the Huron National Forest. "If you count 20 cars past the 2-mile mark on the course it will be very rare.

"This is smooth sailing the entire route, nothing rough out there. Pine tree-lined course just about the entire way."

The transition area between the swim and bike legs as well as between the bike and run portions of the triathlons is in the parking lot





File photo by John Morris WINS SPRINT – Connor Evans, 26, of Canton, won last year's Sprint Distance Triathlon in 1:03:18.

along Westover and Main streets. The running course is through the residential streets of East Tawas. Last year, a 47-year-old Essexville man, Jason Hatton, won the Olympic duathlon distance in a 5-k run, followed by a 40-k bike



course and ending with a 10-k run in a time of 2:11:53. Normally, the Olympic distance athletes will first swim for 1,500-meters.

Matt Albin, 50, of South Branch was second in 2:12:50 and Jason Pfetcher, 48, of Chicago, Ill. of Lake Orion was third in 2:17:36.

For the women, Miranda Anderson-Kenny, 24, of Canton was first in 2:24:50. She finished eighth overall. Ashley Decker, 38, of Toledo, Ohio of was second in 2:46:21 and Lisa McManaman, 56, of Bad Axe was third in 2:47:51.

Local athlete Thomas Mc-Guire, 35, of National City finished ninth overall in 2:24.57. A total of 37 athletes finished the Olympic-distance course.

In the Sprint duathlon distance, 1.5-mile run, 20-k on a bike and a 5-k run, Connor Evans, 26, of Canton was first in 1:03:18, Jason Henry, 52, of Midland was second in 1:05:07 and Jason Fischer, 33, of Essexille was third in 1:6:45. For the women, Amanda Mehl, 37, of Rockford, Ill. was first in 1:20:28 and finished 15th overall, Deborah Sanford, 57 of Saginaw was second in 1:20:27 and Moroe

See Athletes, Page 5



File photo by John Morris ALL SMILES – This athlete is all smiles as she leaves the transition area last year to take on the run leg of her event.

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File photo by John Morris INTO THE BAY – Men in the Olympic distance triathlon head into Tawas Bay for the start of their 1,500-meter swim, during a past triathlon, followed by a 40 kilometers on a bicycle and a 10-k run.

Athletes

Continued from Page 4

Phoebe. 50. of Caro was third in 1:24:01. In a triathlon, the Sprint distance athletes normally first swim 500 meters.

Locally, James King, 44, of East Tawas, was 19th overall in 1:21:36, Mark Ortlieb, 64, of East Tawas, was 38th overall in 1:27:52, Robert Wood, 39, of Tawas City was 39th in 1:28:03, Katelyn Anderson, 26, of Oscoda, was 43rd overall and sixth for the women, in 1:29:01, Vince Fedel, 57, of Hale was 45th overall in 1:59:38, Mike Russell, 67, of Tawas City. was 58th in 1:36:16, Amy Peterson, 56, of Tawas City, was 63rd in 142:40 and won her age division, Daniel Peterson, 23, of Tawas City, was 64th in 1:42:40. A total of 81 athletes were listed in the full Sprint results.

In the Super Sprint duathlon results – half-mile run (replacing a 200-meter swim), 10-k on a bike and one-mile run - the top three finishers are Drew Fries, 32, of Clarkston, in 32:40, Dunae Amato, 71, of Suttons Bay, in 33:17 and the top female finisher, Stephanie McMall, 30, of Saginaw in 37:11. There were 22 finishers listed in the Super Sprint distance. Iosco County athletes were Mary Miller, 51, of East Tawas, eighth in 40:06. Aven King, 10, of East Tawas, 15th in 47:46, William Stoll, 62, of East Tawas, 20th in 55:20. Thatcher King, 10, of East Tawas, 21st in 55:24.







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Tawas Bay: A four-season fishery

by John Morris

EAST TAWAS - With a diverse list of species to catch, Tawas Bay is truly a four-season fishery.

And the good news is most of the species can be caught from shore - depending on the season. Some of the best fishing on Tawas Bay can be had in the fall and winter.

Here's a short list of how to catch Tawas Bay game fish in the upcoming fall and winter seasons. Fall

Like spring, fall brings a host of game fish close to shore. As the temperatures begin to cool down, fishing from shore starts to heat back up. October marks the return of walleye, perch and the salmonoids to more shallow water seeking bait fish to fatten up for the harsh winter months.

My favorite spot to fish Tawas Bay in the fall, and again in the spring, is the East Tawas State Dock. Although a few Chinooks can still be caught, the collapse of the species due to the demise of alewives opened the door for walleye to flourish in the bay. And Tawas Bay has truly become an excellent walleye fishery.

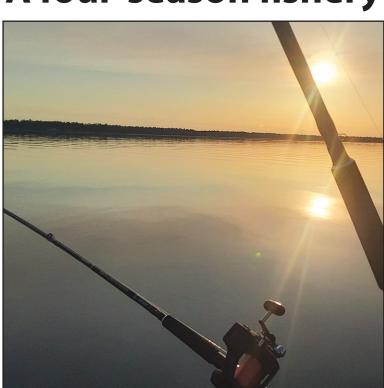
But the one big key to catching fall (and spring) walleye close to shore is to first look for the return of bait fish. One old-timer gave me sage advice I've never forgotten: 'No minnow, no fishy.'

There are two schools of thought to catching walleye on the state dock in the fall. One is staying stationary and casting crank baits or jigs and the other, and my favorite, is a technique called "walk-trolling." I use crank baits for this technique walking only fast enough to feel the "wobble" of the lure. The technique is deadly as on some nights walleye hits will nearly yank the rod right out of your hands.

While perch is in a bit of a decline from past glory years in Tawas Bay, fall brings them back in close to shore. One popular technique is using small minnows and a perch rig. This can be done while seated in a chair on the state dock. And while small perch will need to be sorted and returned to the bay to grow bigger, a nice meal of freshly caught perch can be had for that evening's tasty dinner.

Chinooks can also be caught in the fall along the Tawas River at Gateway Park while casting spoons and body baits. Fall also brings the occasional lake trout, steelhead, coho and Atlantic salmon back near shore and can be caught at the state dock and along the Tawas River.





Courtesy photo by Brad Potts EARLY MORNING ON THE BAY - Early mornings bring their own scenic vistas and memories on Tawas Bay, not to mention an excellent time to be out on the water fishing.

Winter

While technically not winter, Nov. 15 marks not only the forearm deer season opener, but the return of spawning whitefish. Use either wax worms or minnows hooked to small teardrop jigs to catch whitefish off the state dock. The bait is then fished at a depth of eight to nine feet, depending on conditions and water levels, and is held at the right depth – about 18 inches off the bottom – by a pencil bobber.

Although the ice fishing season has seemingly been getting shorter and shorter lately, it doesn't get too much better than sitting in a heated shanty on Tawas Bay. A

popular spot to access the frozen Tawas Bay is the public access road near Jerry's Marina. Perch, walleye and northern pike are the species of choice when it comes to Tawas Bay ice fishing.

Most success is seen around dawn until mid-morning and again from late afternoon until sundown. This is especially true for walleye. Some species, such as pike, can be more aggressive at other times during the day. It's also important to note that fish are more sluggish during the winter and move around less, especially during the middle of winter when ice thickness and snow cover is

See Fish, Page 8







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Courtesy photo by Jerry Noble **PIKE AT DUSK – John Morris** is pictured with a nice northern pike caught on a tip-up at dusk on a frozen Tawas Bay.

<u>Sept. 16-18</u> - Annual Paul Bunyan Days & Carnival

Sept. 23 - OHS Hall of Fame Inductions Oct. 1 - 18th Annua Annual Lions Club Fall Festival Arts & Crafts Show

Oct. 22 - Fall Harvest Block Party

Dec. 3 - Annual Kids Party & 14th Annual **Northern Lights Christmas Parade**

> OscodaChamber.com Information 989-739-7322





File photo by John Morris **OPEN FOR BUSINESS – Northeast Michigan Regional Farm** Markets in Tawas City, pictured above, and AuSable/Oscoda are completing their 23rd year. The markets opened in May and will continue through October. The farm market are open on Saturdays, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Gateway Park in Tawas City and on Wednesdays, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Shoreline Park in AuSable-Oscoda. For more information, visit www.getitfresh.org.



Labor Day Arts and Crafts Show is set

TAWAS CITY – The Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Labor Day Arts and Crafts Show Saturday, Sept. 3 and Sunday, Sept. 4 at Shoreline Park in Tawas City.

Now in its 31st year, the show traditionally holds more than 100 booths of handmade arts and crafts.

Whatever your interests - from paintings, photography, leather goods, and home décor items to jewelry, clothing, furniture and delicious food items such as salsa, fudge, spices, nuts and kettle corn,

you are certain to find it at this year's show in Tawas City.

Show hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 3 and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 4.

Women's Softball tournament is Sept. 10-11

48th annual Tawas Women's Slowpitch Tournament will be held Sept. 10-11, the weekend after Labor Day.

Also known as the Bill Walsh Memorial tourna-

EAST TAWAS – The ment, it will be held at the only Michigan, but the Great Dewey Durant fields in East Lakes area and Canada. Tawas.

> The event is an Amateur Softball Association, openclass tournament and has attracted teams from not

Proceeds from the concessions go toward Special Olympics.



Haunted Lighthouse takes place Oct. 7-8 at state park

by John Morris

EAST TAWAS - Staff of Tawas Point State Park and Friends of Tawas Point Lighthouse and State Park will host their annual Haunted Lighthouse event.

The event will begin Friday, Oct. 7 with lighthouse tours from 2 to 8 p.m. and hayrides from 5 to 9 p.m.

Hay rides, kids games and activities, pumpkin painting and lighthouse tours will be held from noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 8. Trick-or-treating for campers only will be held from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and will be followed with a Mon-

ster Mash Dance from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The event is open to the public with the exception of the trick-ortreating, which is only available to registered campers and their visitors. This year state park officials encourage campers to go all out with their site decorations, so other visitors can enjoy the sights as they stroll by.

A Michigan Recreation Passport is required to enter the state park.

state park at 989-362-5041.

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the heaviest. The more holes anglers cut and try, the better their chances are for locating aggressive fish.

File photo by John Morris

DECORATIONS – This giant ship's mast, decorated with debris from a shipwreck, is only

one of the decorations at the Ta-

was Point State Park during the Haunted Lighthouse weekend.

Continued from Page 6

Fish

I like to ice fish in 15 to 22 feet of water over structure such as weed beds or near drop-offs. Minnows are the bait of choice, and it never hurts to have a few wax worms on hand just in case.

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Fall in the Tawawes

Fall Events

Sunrise Side Triathlon, Sept. 10th Tawas Vintage Market, Sept. 10th Tawas City Library Book Sale, Sept. 10th Tawas-Whittemore-Hale United Fund Kick Off, Sept. 30th Tawas Area High School Homecoming, Sept. 30th East Tawas Customer Appreciation Days, Oct. 7th-8th Harvest Festival at Tawas Point State Park, Oct. 7th-8th Tawas Vintage Market, Oct. 8th Tawas Bay Players Presents: Disaster Oct. 14th, 15th, 16th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd Tawas Community Band Concert, Oct. 24th Tawas Bay Art Gallery Empty Bowls, Oct. 29th Halloween Parade, Oct. 31st Tawas Band Boosters Craft Bazaar, Nov. 12th East Tawas Christmas Parade & Tree Lighting, Dec. 3rd Tawas Community Concert Band, Dec. 5th

31st Annual Labor Day Arts & Craft Show

Shoreline Park, Tawas City Saturday, Sept. 3rd 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 4th 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

> **Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Golf Outing Red Hawk Golf Club** Thursday Sept. 29th



Area Chamber of Commerce