

Rara Avis Leads Pack in Regatta

A Tawas Bay boat beat 15 competitors in this year's Around-the-Island Regatta, sponsored by the Mackinac Island Yacht Club. *Rara Avis*, skippered by Gregg Whipple, led the pack in one hour, 45 minutes in a slow race that eliminated all but six contenders. Crew members were Frank Fitus, Greg Smith, and Larry Whetsone.

Fifteen boats began at the East Breakwall and sailed a full circle around the Island to the finish, but when the boats reached the halfway mark, on the north side of the Island near British Landing, the wind failed to cooperate.

"We had sailed to the north end of the Island and then, all of a sudden, the winds went down

and up," said David Rowe, who sailed in the event and helped to coordinate it.

Owing to the lack of wind, a three-hour time limit was imposed on all boats, and although everyone eventually made it back home, only six boats were able to complete the race in time.

The award for second place went to Sam Kovalac's *Saint Barbara*, which crossed the finish in one hour, 53 minutes. The boat is named after Mr. Kovalac's wife, Barbara. Third and fourth prizes went to more Tawas Bay participants. Paul Hurst's boat, *Esmeralda*, garnered the third place prize while Larry Flood's *Do A Kahlua* took home fourth. The final placing

went to Pete Sulfridge of Saginaw, with his boat, *Arcadia*, and the final boat to finish was *Legend*, piloted by Jerry Archer.

Nine of the 15 boats entered in the race were from Mackinac Island, the other six hailed from areas ranging from Tawas Bay to Saginaw.

"This was probably the best race ever, with the turnout and the type of day we had," said Mr. Rowe. "We had representation from a lot of local boats, and a lot traveled up from outside areas as well."

The race was followed by an awards ceremony at the Pink Pony, which was the sponsor of the race. Plaques were awarded to all participants and awards went to the top five finishers.

Biker Unhurt, Damages Grand Avenue Lamp Post

As spectators flocked to the school grounds to watch the fireworks on the Fourth of July, police and the ambulance crew responded to a bicycle accident on Grand Avenue.

A man suffered minor injuries in the accident, which police said was lucky, given the damage caused to a light pole.

At approximately 10:30 p.m., the man was riding a bicycle down Grand Hill on Cadotte Avenue when, according to policeman John Burns, he looked back to see if his family was behind him and hit a curb.

The man was thrown into a lamp post, bending the pole 45 degrees, knocking it off the cement base, and shattering the glass, said John Hulett, general manager at Grand Hotel.

The cyclist was transported to the Mackinac Island Medical Center and released with minor injuries.

Both Mr. Hulett and Officer Burns said that the man was extremely lucky that he escaped the accident nearly injury free.

Mr. Hulett said that it will take several weeks to order parts and get the lamp fixed.

Street Committee Tackles Sidewalk Permits

By Jessica Delaney

New ideas and applications were the primary focus when the City Council Street Committee met Thursday, June 30. Primary concerns for the committee were dealing with trailers, snow plowing equipment, and sidewalk permits.

Discussion ensued regarding an application for a tractor by Gary Urman. The vehicle would be used for snow removal and some maintenance, but did not fit into any of the city's categories for motor vehicles. Mr. Urman's tractor is too large to be considered a lawn and garden tractor, and under current city law, there can not be contracted vehicles parked in residential areas. Because the tractor in question would be used for snow removal, it would be considered a contracted vehicle.

The city has made exceptions in the past when it came to snow plow vehicles, because of a dedication to keeping roads clear in the winter. The committee decided to consider adding a new category to the city's licensing for snow removal vehicles. In the meantime, the request from Mr. Urman has been denied.

The committee also discussed allowing trailers on the Island. Currently, there is no uniformity of requirements for trailer permits; each permit is treated on a case by case basis. Trailers are typically pulled by horse-drawn drays. The recent ordinance governing the use of luggage carts, which also are pulled by drays, outlines several general health and safety concerns, which the city feels may be applicable to trailers.

The committee discussed the possibility of creating an application for trailer permits, which could possibly include restrictions on weight, bulk, length, and width, as well as requiring the applicant to explain the purpose of the trailer, and why articles contained within the trailer

cannot be transported on a dray.

There was an agreement among committee members that, at times, trailers can be necessary. Said city engineer Dennis Dombroski, "We give special consideration to very fragile things, which may need to be transported in a trailer."

Alderman Mike Hart argued that "trailers are offensive to the spirit of this place. Applications for a motor vehicle require that it be necessary, not just convenient, and we need to apply that same criteria to trailers."

Mayor Margaret Doud suggested that the committee continue to consider creating an application for trailers, but that it is an issue which does not necessarily need to be immediately addressed.

Another problem before the committee is sidewalk permits. In many instances, two footers, drays with two-foot sidewalls which are used to transport construction debris, trash, and other such materials, will sit on streets and sidewalks for long periods of time. The committee discussed the necessity of giving out sidewalk permits, and discussed the best way to issue such

permits. An agreement was reached that there will need to be a joint signature between the property owner and the dray company to make certain that the two footers be removed within a specified period of time. The issue will be discussed further at a later time.

The final issue on the city agenda was the Mackinac Island Bicycle Shop, which has been displaying bikes for sale on the

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