



Thirty-three volunteers have served the Les Cheneaux Antique Wooden Boat Show and Festival of Arts for 20 years or more, and most of them were recognized here Saturday morning, August 12, at the start of the show. The rest were probably working, said Boat Show coordinator Barb Smith, who said, "we may not have all of them up here at the moment because some are still on station today assisting in their particular area."

This Year's Les Cheneaux Boat Show Honors Longtime Volunteers

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Mrs. Smith said.

Mike Zane of Hill Island, who taxis pilots from the airport to the boat show, made the connection with the biplane pilots and told them how much the crowd enjoyed

the show. He also collected \$250 in donations from pilots, which will be given to the Hessel airport's winter snow-plowing fund.

Mrs. Smith said Mr. Zane offers the service every year as a volunteer.

Thirty-three volunteers were

recognized Saturday morning, when Mrs. Smith called them to the pavilion at the Hessel Marina during opening ceremonies.

"The success of this show takes months and months of planning, and many hours of volunteer service," she said. "A few of our guests

have chaired the show for many years. Others have worked on registration, gates, docking, parking, T-shirt sales, grounds, and the Festival of Arts. They have gone above and beyond in their dedication of bringing the show to you for many years."

Authorities Find No Evidence Linking Mackinac Bridge to Arrests

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uses. Lithium batteries in the phones can be used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, and the cards inside the phones, when combined, can be used to place international calls at no additional expense than a domestic call

made by the caller.

The men say they only planned to resell the telephones in Texas.

Photographs of the Mackinac Bridge found in a camera possessed by the men were examined by the FBI, Homeland Security, and State Police intelligence per-

sonal and were found to have no more value than those taken by a tourist, he said.

While no extra precautions are being taken on the bridge as a result of the arrests, Mr. Sweeney said, travelers should be alert and contact police if they see something suspicious. Drivers can also alert bridge toll takers.

"The MBA will continue to be vigilant and watch for any suspicious activities involving the bridge," Mr. Sweeney said. "The MBA has a very comprehensive security plan and we coordinate the plan procedures with the Michigan State Police and the U.S. Coast Guard."

He said bridge traffic totals did not drop Sunday following Saturday's new reports. Bridge traffic is down in general this year, however, he noted. July traffic dropped eight percent or about 50,000 vehicles from last

year, and is down in August, too. He attributed the drop in traffic to increased gas prices.

"They definitely have had a major impact in traffic," he said.

The three Texas men, Maruan Awad Muhareb, 18, and Louai Abdelhamied Othman, 23 of Mesquite, and Adham Abdelhamid Othman, 21, of Dallas, were each charged with two terrorist acts, including collecting or providing material support and surveillance of a vulnerable target. Each charge carries a maximum penalty of a \$20,000 fine and up to 20 years in prison, according to Mackinac County Prosecuting Attorney Clayton Graham.

Tuscola County Prosecutor Mark E. Reene would not comment on the matter Monday, except to issue a written statement that an investigation continues.

The defendants were arraigned August 12 in 71-B District Court, with bond set for each man at \$750,000. Pre-preliminary examinations have been scheduled for August 16 and a preliminary examination has been scheduled for August 24.



At left: State and federal authorities report the Mackinac Bridge is not thought to be the target of a terrorist plot by three Texas men. The bridge links the Upper and Lower Peninsulas at St. Ignace and Mackinaw City.

Nightlinger To Swim Straits To Raise Funds for Children

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Volunteers will help run the programs, but most activities will be led by Miss Nightlinger. She will emphasize working in teams and "teach them that they are capable of more than they may realize," she said.

This year, she has dedicated her time to developing a camp facility on a 10-acre piece of land on Lake Michigan. The camp includes separate bunkhouses for boys and girls and a studio-style building complete with a kitchen, bathroom, and recreation area. So far, Miss Nightlinger has funded the project herself, but she plans to apply for nonprofit status next year, she said.

The reason the camp will focus on the children of public servants with dangerous occupations is because such families must live with the constant awareness that they could lose a loved one at any time, she said. Many perish in acts of violence, crashes, rescue operations, or when equipment malfunctions, she added.

Miss Nightlinger is no stranger to personal tragedy. The idea for her camp came to her last summer when she cared for Sydney Young of Chelsea, who lost her mother in an act of violence in 2000. The child also lost her father to illness, in 2004.

Several of Miss Nightlinger's friends have been killed over the

years in accidents and acts of violence related to their occupations. In particular, the death of her best friend, Riley Scott Sumner, had a major impact on her. Mr. Sumner was serving as the chief of police in Chelsea when he was killed in a helicopter crash. He was chasing a fleeing suspect in a traffic-related crime. He had two young boys and he once told Miss Nightlinger that he was proud of her for taking care of Sydney Young.


Matt Puttle, captain of the Chelsea Fire Department, was also a friend of Miss Nightlinger and was killed in the line of duty.

Children of public servants are left to carry on, she said, and sometimes they have difficulty remembering their parents years later. Miss Nightlinger's camp will serve as a place for children to "feel normal for awhile," she said, because they will be surrounded by peers who understand their circumstances.

"I just realized how short life is," she said, "and this is my way to give back."

Monetary contributions to the youth camp can be made by contacting Miss Nightlinger at (906) 430-0547 or (906) 595-7336. Donations will also be accepted at the reception following her swim across the Straits. Potential volunteers and anyone who knows a child who may benefit from the camp are encouraged to contact her as well.

Thank You Luce/Mackinac Voters



I would like to thank the voters of Luce and Mackinac Counties for their tremendous support in the Primary Election for Probate Judge. Thanks to all our friends and family who continue to work so hard on the campaign. I am looking forward to continuing the campaign through the November General Election.

Congratulations to the primary winners and hats off to ALL CANDIDATES who were willing to run for public office in the district.

Clayton Graham for Probate Judge Candidate
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PTO Treasurer Faces Charge of Embezzlement

Patricia Paquin, 46, of St. Ignace and three-year treasurer of the St. Ignace Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), who also is an Early Fives teacher at the elementary school, was arrested on a three-count felony warrant for embezzlement Wednesday, August 9.

The arrest stems from an investigation into missing funds of more than \$7,500 and dates back to April 2005. An investigation was conducted by the Michigan State Police St. Ignace Post, and came following a request from the PTO board after they noticed discrepancies in accounts.

Mrs. Paquin was arraigned in 92nd District Court before Judge Beth Gibson August 9 and released on her own recognizance.

A preliminary exam will be held in the court, though no date has been set yet.

Gravel at School Lot Is for County Road Projects

Gravel piles in the St. Ignace Area Schools parking lot were stockpiled for Mackinac County Road Commission projects, said Rosemary Adams, road commission secretary. The projects included chip and seal overlays on Portage Road and the west end of Boulevard Drive, at Pointe LaBarbe Road. Both projects are now complete.

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