



## Commemorating The 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

On February 26, 2008 at St. Peter's Church a memorial Mass was held observing the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WTC bombing. At 12:18 pm, family members observed a moment of silence at the World Trade Center site.

The Tribute Center observed the anniversary with an exhibit and public program where survivors spoke about their experiences. Mike Hurley, Gerry Bogacz and Mel Wasserman described the differences between 1993 and 2001. Mr. Wasserman remembered descending the stairs. *"My office was located on the 19<sup>th</sup> floor. We were able to descend the staircase, but the most frightening moment was when I heard that the door on the mezzanine was locked. We had to go back up against 100 floors of people. We went back up, left the stairs at the 13<sup>th</sup> floor and waited for help."*

Joseph Daniels, president of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the WTC said. *"The families will never forget what happened, but this date becomes increasingly forgotten as time passes. If we remember the innocent victims and unite in hope and understanding, we will defeat terrorism's purpose."* Mr. Daniels also stated, *"The Museum will imbue visitors with the essential truth that the victims could have been any one of us. In doing so, we hope to reinforce the universal human connections that make it harder for attacks like this to happen again."* The new memorial complex will include a dedication to all who died on February 26, 1993.

## Inside The Fence - New Exhibit

Of the over 400,000 national and international visitors to the Tribute Center, some will only view our galleries once, while others return multiple times. For those visitors we offer changing exhibits that reveal additional stories. Following the success of our first exhibit, *Coming Together: Kids Respond to 9/11 with Hope for the Future*, our second exhibit opened in January, 2008 and will remain until June.

We hope you will visit this touching exhibit in Gallery 5 on the lower level. The new exhibition, **Inside the Fence** is a tribute to the dedicated people in transportation, sanitation and construction trades who played a major role in the recovery at the World Trade Center site. Additionally, the exhibit provides a glimpse into current projects in development in construction, sanitation and transit that are based upon increased awareness and innovative technologies developed after the attacks. Artfully designed, **Inside the Fence** recounts



the stories of transit workers who safely evacuated thousands of Lower Manhattan passengers, provided manpower and vital equipment at the site for months, transported other first responders round the clock, and helped rebuild damaged subway lines in record time. It features accounts of Sanitation workers

who brought lights, fuel and heavy equipment to the site and who cleared streets so that utility workers, police and firefighters could have easier access. It highlights the reflections of construction workers who had helped build the World Trade Center and were

stunned that, 30 years later, they were now carrying its pieces away. **Inside the Fence** portrays the cooperation of various entities as they approached their heartbreaking and unprecedented tasks. It features photographs by Sam Hollenshead, presented courtesy of the NY Transit Museum, as well as personal photo albums and journals from people who worked .....continued on page 3

## USS New York (LPD 21) Christening

On March 1, 2008, the USS *New York* (LPD 21) was christened at Northrop Grumman Avondale Shipyard in New Orleans, LA. With 7.5 tons of steel from the World Trade Center in her bow, this amphibious transport dock ship carries the motto, "Strength, Forged Through Sacrifice. Never Forget."

The ship crest includes the mountains, lake and sun rays that highlight the State of New York Seal. The seven rays represent the Statue of Liberty's crown, symbolizing the seven seas and continents. The gray chevron and two vertical bars

represent the bow of LPD 21 and the Twin Towers. The phoenix rising personifies the hope and determination of this nation to rebuild and regroup to fight terrorism. The shield on the phoenix's breast honors the FDNY, NYPD & PAPD. The stars commemorate the three battle stars the USS *New York* battleship earned in World War II. The ship will be



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## RESOURCE CORNER

### Mental Health and Substance Abuse

1-800-LIFENET  
Free & Multilingual. Available 24/7.  
Mental health professionals help  
find mental health and substance  
abuse services.  
<http://www.mhaofnyc.org>  
(click on LifeNet)

### 9/11 Service Guide

List of non-profit agencies with  
services for those affected by  
September 11<sup>th</sup>.  
[www.redcross.org/september11/help](http://www.redcross.org/september11/help)  
(under Resources click 9/11 guide)

### Committee for Hispanic Children and Families

Vanessa Ramos  
212-206-1090 x 303  
Case management & mental health  
support.  
[www.chcfinc.org](http://www.chcfinc.org)  
(click on Family Health Education)

### Faithful Response

516-679-0080  
Free, faith-based mental health  
programs for Long Island  
residents.  
[www.faithfulresponse.org](http://www.faithfulresponse.org)

### St. Vincent's Health Center

212-346-2582  
Free, mental health counseling,  
healing services and stress  
management.

### Columbia University & NY State Psychiatric Institute

Does the grief over the death of a  
loved one on September 11<sup>th</sup> still  
interfere with your life?  
Free treatment for those eligible.  
For more information or an  
appointment call the Anxiety  
Disorders Clinic 212-543-5367

### Mount Sinai Medical Center

1-888-702-0630  
Free, confidential medical  
monitoring examinations for  
workers and volunteers.  
[www.wtcexams.org](http://www.wtcexams.org)

## Sadako's Origami Crane

On September 12, 2007, Masahiro Sasaki presented an extraordinary gift to the Tribute Center – one of the family's 5 remaining paper cranes folded by his sister, 12-year-old Sadako, in 1955. Sadako, who died as a result of illness from the bombing of Hiroshima, made the tiny red crane from a medicine bottle wrapper. She was following the Japanese tradition that says if you fold 1,000 cranes, your wish will come true. Origami cranes have become a symbol of peace. Each year thousands of cranes are offered to the Children's Peace Monument in Hiroshima. Many people left chains of origami cranes on fences around the World Trade Center site after 9/11. Mr. Sasaki is donating one historic crane to each of 5



Photo: Meri Lobel

continents. He decided to donate the crane for North America to the Tribute Center after reading about the 10,000 cranes at the Center that are folded by Japanese family members, employees of Fuji Bank and five schools in Hiroshima. In presenting the crane to Tribute, Mr. Sasaki said: *"I decided to present Sadako's origami crane in the hope it will help people overcome differences, such as race and religion. Nothing meaningful will be born from the chain of hatred and retaliation. I strongly condemn terrorist attacks who take precious lives of innocent people mercilessly. Our hearts go out to those who lost their loved ones."* Sadako's crane will be on display at the Tribute Center later this year.

## USS New York (LPD 21) Christening .....continued from page 1

based in Norfolk, VA and led by Commander F. Curtis Jones, a native New Yorker. Over 1,200 crew members will serve our country through humanitarian efforts and by maintaining national security. Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding took great pride in building the *New York*. At the christening, President Mike Petters stated, *"Each ship built by the hands of our workforce holds a special place for all of us. This one, however, is truly special – not just for our shipbuilders, but for all Americans. This ship holds the memory of the heroes who died on September 11, 2001."* Four ship builders visited the Tribute Center in January 2008. Rochelle Gaines said on her visit, *"I work around steel every day and to see it twisted up as it was is unbelievable that something like that could happen."* Mr. Petters also spoke of what a privilege the shipbuilders felt. *"Shipbuilding is hard work under extreme conditions. It's about being part of something greater than our individual selves. It's about personal pride in workmanship and service to one's country. It's personal. It's personal for me and it's personal to each man and woman who laid his or her hands on this ship to build her in honor of those heroes of that day in our country's history."*

On September 9, 2004, then-Secretary of the Navy Gordon England named the eighth and ninth ships of the San Antonio class of ships the *USS Arlington* (LPD 24) and the *USS Somerset* (LPD 25). *"The future*



*USS Arlington and USS Somerset will join USS New York as living tributes to those who suffered in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and to the nation."* The *USS Arlington* will be commissioned in 2011. The *USS Somerset* will honor the courageous crew and passengers of Flight 93 who stormed the cockpit. England stated, *"Their actions prevented the airplane from reaching its destination and inflicting further casualties. Their heroic sacrifice rallied and inspired the nation."* The *USS Somerset* will be commissioned in 2012.

In the fall of 2009, the *USS New York* will be commissioned in New York City where the ship will officially become part of the US Navy's fleet.

The Association is compiling a small book of letters for the crew from family members about your loved ones and the meaning of this living memorial. Letters may include thoughts to the crew about how much their service on the *USS New York* means to you as a family member, survivor, recovery worker, volunteer or Lower Manhattan resident. If you would like to send a letter to be bound in the book for the crew, please send it to our offices at 22 Cortlandt Street #801, NY NY 10007 or e-mail [kgrieger@911families.org](mailto:kgrieger@911families.org) with the subject "Letters to the *USS New York*." We encourage all ages to write, keeping in mind this book will accompany the ship on deployments for long periods of time.

Due to military and safety regulations gifts for the ship are not being accepted. The *USS New York* Foundation will support in perpetuity morale, welfare, emergency and recreation programs for the crew not funded by the Navy.

For more information visit:  
[www.ss.northropgrumman.com/christenings/  
New\\_York/index.html](http://www.ss.northropgrumman.com/christenings/New_York/index.html).

### St. Nicholas Church Presents Gift To Tribute Center

Every year the congregation of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church which stood in the shadow of the World Trade Center celebrate St. Nicholas day on December 6<sup>th</sup>. A temporary church is set up just east of 90 West Street, close to the location where the St. Nicholas Church stood from its founding in 1916 until it was destroyed by the collapsing South Tower. In this year's ceremony, the leaders of the Board of Directors, Joan Dimonekas and Peter Drakoulis, acknowledged the Tribute Center with the formal presentation of a copy of the cherished last photograph taken of St. Nicholas Church. *"We present you with this gift, a sign of our love."* Hundreds of congregants from the



Photo: Meri Lobel

metropolitan region came to Lower Manhattan for the annual ceremony and service. Father John Romas spoke of his hope that the church would be rebuilt to serve an even wider public across from the World Trade Center site. His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios eloquently described the increased awareness of our common humanity after September 11<sup>th</sup>.



Photo: Meri Lobel

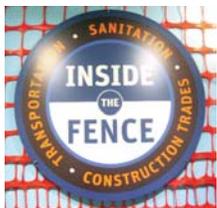
I. to r.: Lee Ielpi; Father Romas; Joan Dimonekas; Peter Drakoulis

### 400,000<sup>th</sup> Visitor Tribute WTC Visitor Center

On February 25, 2008 the Tribute WTC Visitor Center had the privilege of welcoming Christopher Lee and Judith Lee of Kent, England as our 400,000<sup>th</sup> visitors to the center. Reaching this milestone less than a year and a half after opening to the public in September of 2006 emphasizes the importance to national and international visitors to understand the events and see the World Trade Center site. As expressed by Mr. Lee, *"9/11 for me was seen on TV. I have watched documentaries and until today thought I had an understanding of it all, but on February 25, 2008 my wife and I wanted to pay tribute and come to the site"*. His comment embodies our mission which is to connect visitors to the site, the community and the events of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993.

### Inside The Fence - New Exhibit .....continued from page 1

at the WTC recovery effort. Six oral histories detail the daunting challenges and unique collaborations during the nine months of recovery. Some of the voices and stories you will hear in the exhibit are: *"For those of us who were down here, it's a special feeling we have for each other, a camaraderie that few people understand. We developed a bond that won't ever be broken...Its something you can't forget, and don't want to forget. Whether we like it or not, this is a part of history."* Anthony Palmeri, Sanitation Worker (retired) Department of Sanitation, City of New York. *"I started thinking what can I do psychologically to keep these*



*customers calm? So I went to each car and I told everyone, 'Please stay in your car, you are in the best car.'"* Renee Banks, Train Operator, Metropolitan Transit Authority. *"Me and an ironworker were down in a hole, he put his arm around me and said, 'Manny, I put this building up and now we're here picking up the pieces,' He hugged me and we both cried."* - Manuel Rodriguez, Teamster, High Rise Foreman, Local 282. **Inside The Fence** will be on exhibit through late June.

**Active and retired members of DSNY, MTA and NYC Construction Trades are invited to visit the Tribute Center at no charge during the Inside The Fence exhibit. Please bring proper ID.**

### Deutsche Bank Dedicates Wall Street Fountain

On November 16, 2007 the ribbon was cut on a new ornamental fountain located at the corner of Wall street and Front street in Lower Manhattan. The Wall Street Fountain is a gift to the City of New York from the Deutsche Bank in recognition of the bank's employees who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as well as a testament to the enduring spirit of the citizens of New York.



I.to r.: Julie Menin, Community Board 1 Chairperson; Gary Hattem, President of the Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation; Adrian Benepe, NY Parks & Recreation Commissioner; Seth Waugh, Deutsche Bank Americas CEO; Francesca & Emma Bourdier. Photo: Business Wire

*Remembering  
April 19th 1995*

*Our thoughts and prayers  
are with the people of  
Oklahoma City on the 13<sup>th</sup>  
anniversary of the bombing  
of the Alfred P. Murrah  
Federal Building*

**Dates to Remember**

**Seventh Annual  
Brian Novotny Golf Outing**

Friday, June 13, 2008,  
two starts: 8:00am and 1:00pm

New York Country Club  
103 Brick Church Road  
New Hempstead, NY 10977

Call Robert Novotny (914) 262-2700  
or visit [www.briannovotny.com](http://www.briannovotny.com)

**The 7th Annual  
FF Michael J. Cawley Memorial Fund party**

Saturday, April 5, 2008  
3pm-8pm at Mulcahy's  
3232 Railroad Avenue, Wantagh, NY  
(by the LIRR station)  
[www.mulcahys.com](http://www.mulcahys.com)

\$25 recommended donation at the door.  
Proceeds go to the FF Michael J. Cawley  
Memorial Scholarship Archbishop Molloy  
High School.

For more information contact:  
[www.ffmichaeljcaawley.org](http://www.ffmichaeljcaawley.org) or 718-359-8430

Did you participate in **RESCUE**,  
**RECOVERY** or **CLEANUP** after  
the World Trade Center collapse?

9/11 Workers and Volunteers!  
Register Now to Protect  
Your Right to Workers'  
Compensation Benefits  
Go to [WWW.NYCOSH.ORG](http://WWW.NYCOSH.ORG)

If you did paid or unpaid rescue,  
recovery or cleanup work in Lower  
Manhattan during the year after  
9/11, you may be eligible for medical  
and wage replacement benefits —  
but only if you register first with the  
New York State Workers'  
Compensation Board!

**Registering now**  
will preserve your right to file  
a workers' compensation claim  
for a 9/11-related disorder - no  
matter when it develops in the  
future.



**Act soon!**

**Registration  
ends  
August 2008**

For more info:

[www.nycosh.org/911info/instructions\\_english.html](http://www.nycosh.org/911info/instructions_english.html)

1-866-  
WTC-2556

**Donations in Memoriam**

Terence E. Adderley, Jr.	FF Jonathan L. Ielpi	Lt. Kevin Pfeifer
David G. Arie	Sarah Khan	Joseph Oswald Pick
Craig M. Blass	Alan Charles LaFrance	FF Michael E. Roberts
FF Michael Boyle	FF Neil Leavy	FF Stephen P. Russell
Richard Caproni	Darya Lin	Jason Elazar Sabbag
FF Dennis M. Carey	FF Bob Linnane	FF Thomas E. Sabella
Mark S. Carney	FF John K. McAvoy	Samuel Robert Salvo, Jr.
Francis Albert De Martini	FF Robert W. McPadden	Anthony Segarra
D.C. Raymond M. Downey	Ronald Magnuson	Richard J. Stadelberger
FF Robert Evans	Brian E. Martineau	Erica H. Van Acker
Paul J. Friedman	Michael Miller	Donna Wilson
Lt. David Halderman	Dean & Joan Montzingo	Sandra Lee Wright
Lt. Vincent G. Halloran	FF Dennis M. Mulligan	Joseph J. Zuccala
Sara Manley Harvey	Lt. Raymond E. Murphy	
Joseph A. Ianelli	Patrick J. O'Shea	

September 11<sup>th</sup> Families' Association  
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