Family House at WTC Site

Lee Ielpi
9/11 Widows and Victims’ Families Association

In early September, the LMDC will complete refurbishing of the former FDNY/NYPD recovery command center on the South side of the WTC site off Liberty Street and East of the bridge road ramp leading down into the site. Renovations are being made to create a “Family House” at the site that will designate a private enclosed area for our families. Large windows will overlook the “bathtub” area (the interior of the lower 7 floors of the Trade Center complex). The building will have air conditioning and heat and will be wheelchair accessible. The room will easily accommodate twenty family members at a time and will have a refrigerator stocked with water. Outside the family house, families will be able to walk up to the South edge of the bathtub wall.

We have worked carefully in cooperation with the LMDC to ensure the family house is private from the public area surrounding the WTC site. We have asked in particular for a visual barrier from the public for our time of remembrance and reflection at the site. We welcome you to visit the site at this private area as many of our families find the experience healing. The current family viewing room on the 20th floor of One Liberty Plaza will remain open for families. Families who wish to visit the family room or the new family house need to bring their case number beginning with A or T and a photo identification for access. Both the family house and family room are private spaces specifically designated for our families.

Vote For Your WTC Memorial

Uniting to create a beautiful memorial at the WTC site

Thank you for voting on the WTC memorial. As a tribute to our loved ones, our families should have a significant voice in the development process of the WTC memorial. By uniting, we will collectively develop a memorial that represents the heroes America lost on September 11. The Coalition of 9/11 Families is committed to providing all 9/11 families the opportunity to voice your opinions on the WTC memorial. We encourage you to share the Coalition's newsletter with additional immediate family who lost a loved one including, siblings, children and parents.

Commemoration Ceremonies

Julie Boryczewski
Give Your Voice

A pipe and drum corps procession of Sunrise Bagpipers (FDNY, NYPD, PAPD, Correction and Sanitation departments) from each of the five boroughs will be arriving simultaneously at the World Trade Center site at 8:46 a.m. Upon arrival, a moment of silence will be observed followed by various readings by NY Governor Pataki and NJ Governor McGreevey. Former Mayor Giuliani will begin reading our loved ones names; the reading will then be continued.

Bridging the Gap With Residents

Felicia Morton
September’s Mission

In a new spirit of cooperation, residents of Lower Manhattan and 9/11 family groups are working together on the future of the WTC site. Shortly after September 11th when emotions were running high, these disparate groups struggled to find common ground regarding the 16 acres, which family groups deemed “sacred” and residents called “their backyard.” Today, both groups are finding their interests are more similar than originally thought. “Residents have felt their concerns are not being heard, and the families have felt that their needs are not being met, so why not use our collective voices so we have a better chance of being heard?” said Paul Sipos, member of Community Board 1. “We are all one community now. The people who died here have become a permanent part of Lower Manhattan.” Bruce DeCello, a family member, agrees that the residents and family members are now.
Commemoration Ceremonies

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Together, we will ensure the WTC Memorial will be a place of reverence, honor and peace for future generations.

by family members and followed by the playing of taps. There will be four moments of silence in the ceremony to observe the impact and collapse of both towers. At 10:29 a.m. the morning’s service will conclude with a moment of silence followed by the tolling of bells. Families will be invited to descend the ramp seven stories into the sacred footprint of the Twin Towers. Family members will receive a rose to be placed at the site.

President Bush will visit the WTC site and attend a citywide candlelight vigil and light an eternal flame at Battery Park. Mayor Bloomberg will read the Four Freedoms. Candlelight vigils will be held at parks throughout the city and in each borough for about 90 minutes. Events are scheduled to conclude at 9:00 p.m.

WTC Commemoration Ceremonies
- Family members should arrive at the WTC site at 8:00 a.m.
- There are no restrictions on the number of family members who wish to attend
- For entrance bring a photo ID and your P or T case number
- The service will be handicapped accessible
- Young children are welcome
- Cameras will be permitted
- Check NYC web site for updates/changes
- www.nyc.gov click the 9/11 NYC Services Center

Free transportation via ferry boat from Liberty State Park in NJ is available RSVP (609) 341-2965.

American Red Cross Travel Assistance Program will assist families traveling to memorial ceremonies in certain areas. Call (877) 746-4987 for information.

Medical Examiner's Memorial Park

Michael Cartier
Give Your Voice

With each day that passes time may remove us from the day terror took so many innocent lives, but the memories of September 11, 2001 will remain etched in our hearts forever. Even now, almost one year later, our families are still receiving word that their loved ones are being identified. Our prayers are with those who still await that call and the chance to lay their loved ones to rest. Family members who wish to pay their respects to loved ones can do so by visiting Memorial Park. Memorial Park, located off Third Avenue and 30th Street in Manhattan, is adjacent to the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner and is the temporary resting place for our loved ones lost on 9/11. The Medical Examiner’s Office considers Memorial Park “hallowed space where dignity reigns and a grieving nation honors its heroes.”

Housed inside Memorial Park (a large white tent) are a series of refrigerated units holding the remains of all of those lost in the attacks. The remains are kept here until they are identified and returned to the family. The remains are cooled to preserve DNA for identification. All of the remains are kept separate with their own unique identification number. Memorial Park is maintained by the Medical Examiner’s office and will be in place until the identification process is complete. You will not see any remains while at Memorial Park. Families and their invited guests can visit Memorial Park – it is not open to the general public. To schedule a visit, please call (212) 447-7884 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Memorial Park will be open for hourly visitation from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on September 11th. Families should call the Medical Examiner’s office to schedule a time. As always, families can bring flowers or mementos with them to leave at Memorial Park.

Families' Counseling and Support Groups

Anthony Gardner
WTC United Family Group

In the nearly eleven months since the Sept 11 attacks, through unspeakable grief, we’ve come together and built a community, a community comprised of people each changed forever. Many of the members of our community are having trouble coping with the grief, and accepting that it’s been almost a year since our loved ones were killed. As you face each day, please remember that there is help and that you are never alone in your grief. Though forever changed, there is support and hope that we can help each other, as we continue to honor our heroes. As family members we’ve also developed a network of self-help support groups and an internet connection service to accent professional treatment. The member connection gives you the ability to speak with other members of our community through Yahoo! chat rooms. The no-cost membership gives you access to chat rooms for parents, children, siblings, spouses, partners, extended family and friends.

www.WTCUnitedFamilyGroup.org

Tell The Nation

Carry the word from this place
Sing it loud and clear
To those evil men who came
They have no victory here

We bear our pain and sorrow
And weep for our heroes slain
They went out that day and never knew
Crucifixion would come, in Towers One and Two

Now we face the task, to place another there to rest
Along side all the Brave
Sons and Daughters, Brothers and Sisters,
Mothers and Fathers and those we knew as Friends
Who perished on that day
Go out and make it clear
To those who spread their evil
They have no victory here

Peace will come
And Bless us all again
Long after terror breathes no more
America will live on

As we place our Son in his place of rest
Go out and tell the Nation
People forever free
That those who serve the darkness
Will never know, a day of victory

Patrick L. Cartier
Father of James Marcel Cartier, WTC 2

St. Luke’s Roosevelt Hospital, NYC
2nd Tuesday of each month
7:00 – 8:30 PM

Church of the Redeemer, NJ
2nd and 4th Monday of each month
8:00 – 9:30 PM

Project Liberty
800-LIFE-NET
Vote For Your WTC Memorial
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The goal of the Coalition is to share information and provide representation for our families’ voices. Coalition families felt the need to provide a broader representation of family views in addition to the 24 family members represented on the LMDC’s Family Advisory Council. The larger our representation, the more influence we will have in the tribute to our loved ones.

We need to convey to the LMDC your support of the Coalition’s memorial recommendations or opinion on development of the WTC memorial before plans progress further. The Coalition maintains an open door policy for all families who lost a loved one on 9/11 to contribute their thoughts on the WTC memorial. Together, we can ensure that the WTC Memorial will be a place of reverence, honor and peace. The Coalition’s guiding principals define what we feel should now be built on the former WTC site. It is our hope that these recommendations are consistent with your wishes. We need your voice to form a fitting tribute to our loved ones. Enclosed is an additional reply card for immediate family members to include their voice on the memorial position. We will need their complete contact and relationship information to include their vote. We look forward to uniting to create a beautiful memorial in remembrance of our loved ones.

Bridging the Gap With Residents
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working together, but he admits that the spirit of cooperation has taken time to develop. “In the beginning, when I went to some of the LMDC meetings, I heard the residents complaining that they had lost their neighborhood and I didn’t have much sympathy for them.” In the following months, after emotions had calmed and he had met many of the residents, DeCello said he changed his mind. “I realized that the residents also experienced a lot of pain. They saw all that devastation, right there in their faces.”

Residents strongly support preserving the footprint area for the memorial. “I know now that we have a lot of common interests. Like us, many of the residents think that the memorial should be considered first when determining the future of the WTC site.”

On September 24, family members, residents, architects and urban planners will have the opportunity to put their ideas regarding the memorial on paper. Monica Iken noted that “Our families have been active in encouraging residents to get involved in the memorial process and we look forward to continuing to work with all the organizations and residents to keep the dialogue open and productive.”

Senator Clinton Pledges Her Support

Sally Regenhard
Skyscraper Safety Campaign

On the evening of August 15, the Coalition held an intimate meeting with Senator Clinton who pledged her support of our families. We discussed the need for a proper, reverent Memorial that respects the lives of our loved ones. We also expressed the need for Federal funding to create a Unified Command System for Emergency Management in NY as well as FDNY radios that work properly. We encouraged support of Building Code reform in NY as well as the outlawing of construction at the WTC site that does not conform to NY Building and Fire Codes. Finally, we urged adoption of the “International Code” for NYC, which was recently adopted for NY State. Overall the meeting was extremely valuable and Senator Clinton pledged her continuing support for the wishes of the families.

The Skyscraper Safety Campaign team also testified for reform at the Department of Buildings NYC Building Code Task Force Meeting. The overwhelming message was for reform, and that no building should ever again be immune from Building and Fire Codes, such as was the case with the WTC.
9/11 Family Resources

**Health Care Policy & Benefits**
Family member Bill Doyle is compiling information on a health care benefits package for 9/11 families who:
- Can not afford a policy
- Are in jeopardy of losing Health Care
- Are not eligible for Cobra coverage
- Can not afford Cobra coverage

For details call (718) 948-6284 or email WDoyle5615@aol.com

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**Saudi Lawsuit**
Ness Motley PA will be filing a lawsuit on behalf of families against the assets of terrorist funding entities. Any family member (spouses, children, parents and siblings) who wish to join the lawsuit may call Jodi Flowers for details.

(800) 768-4026

www.NessMotley.com

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Stars, Stripes & Skates
Please join us on Sept. 20 for a wonderful event. Stars, Stripes & Skates was organized by our families as a thank you to America for the generosity bestowed upon us from the nation in the aftermath of 9/11. Proceeds will fund scholarships for low income families who are affected by future acts of crime or terrorism.

Children are welcome to audition at 5:00 p.m. on Sept 4 at Chelsea Piers to join the ice during the performance.

For information call (800) 307-3307

www.StarsStripesAndSkates.org

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The Coalition of 9/11 Families would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the Lutheran Disaster Response of New York for their assistance in distributing the enclosed information to our families.

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Download Tribute, share with family and friends. Immediate family members are welcome to vote in support of the Coalition or express their voice on the WTC Memorial at:

www.Memorialfor911.com

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**COALITION OF 9/11 FAMILIES**

**WE REMEMBER**

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**9/11 WIDOWS AND VICTIMS’ FAMILIES ASSOCIATION:** www.911WVFA.org

**GIVE YOUR VOICE:** www.GiveYourVoice.com

**SEPTEMBER’S MISSION:** www.SeptembersMission.org

**ST. CLARE’S WTC OUTREACH COMMITTEE** Email: mckeond@att.com

**SKYSCRAPER SAFETY CAMPAIGN:** www.SkyscraperSafety.org

**VOICES OF SEPTEMBER 11TH:** www.VoicesofSept11.org

**WTC UNITED FAMILY GROUP:** www.WTCUnitedFamilyGroup.org

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**Families’ Calendar**

September 11, 2002

Let Freedom Ring For Our Heroes

Bells Towed Throughout America

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September 1, 2:00 PM

We Remember Walk

From Iwo Jima Memorial to Pentagon

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September 10, 10:00 AM

Bronx Memorial Ceremony

Bronx Botanical Gardens, RSVP

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September 14

Sail For America Tribute

New York Mercantile Exchange

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September 20, 8:00 PM

Stars, Stripes & Skates

Madison Square Garden

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September 29, 2:00 PM

We Remember Walk

Battery Park, NYC

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September 29, 10:00 AM

Tunnel to Towers Run

Brooklyn Battery Tunnel

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Open for all 9/11 Families

Bring Case # and Photo ID

NYC ME Memorial Park

Call (212) 447-7884 for appointment

Family House at WTC Site

Washington & Liberty Street

Family Room at WTC Site

One Liberty Plaza

Further details of the events listed are available on family group web sites.

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**Families WTC Memorial Information**

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COALITION OF 9/11 FAMILIES

548 Broadway, 3rd Floor

New York, NY 10012