



## Controversy Over Memorial Plans

Construction on the World Trade Center memorial "Reflecting Absence," began on March 13, 2006. The memorial plans include three levels- Plaza level, Memorial Hall Level and the Bedrock Level.

Families are protesting elements of the current memorial plans. The primary issue is organization of their loved ones names. The current plan groups the names randomly. Families are advocating for organization of the names with their age on the memorial listed by company, alphabetically or in rank order.

Another issue among advocates is an above ground marker for visitors to recognize the reverence of the place. The memorial and museum are both below street level.

On April 11, 2006 the New York Times published new changes regarding the WTC memorial plans: *The contemplative centerpiece-one level below the galleries in which the victims' names are to be inscribed-will be a room at the center of the north tower footprint, almost at bedrock level but open to the sky, with a symbolic mortuary vessel at its center. Behind the east wall of this room will be a repository for unidentified remains. Surrounding both rooms will be remnants of the tower's original perimeter columns. Both features were conceived as part of the memorial, which will be free. The public will now be able to reach this area only through the museum because of the architectural layout. If the museum charges admission, the public will have to pay to visit the contemplation room.*

For information, visit:  
Renewnyc.com  
Takebackthememorial.org  
Projectrebirth.org

*Stories of Courage.  
Stories of Loss.  
Stories of Heroism.  
Stories of Grief.*



*Photograph of the model of the Tribute Center offers a view from the front doors into Gallery One where visitors will be introduced to a model of the WTC with images and sounds that evoke the vitality of the WTC neighborhood.*

## Gallery Designs Set for Tribute Center

**W**alking through the galleries that will soon be part of the Tribute Center, visitors will learn stories of tremendous loss and enormous outpouring of compassion and support. "The center will provide a unique opportunity for visitors to find meaning in the many stories of those deeply affected by the events of 9/11," says Wendy Aibel-Weiss, Director of Programs.

The stories visitors will learn by traveling through the center reflect the diversity of people who experienced deep loss and share voices not often heard in other media. "Putting a "human face" on the

events increases visitors' understanding of the humanity and community that was both lost and found," says Aibel-Weiss.

The Tribute Center is composed of five galleries; four on the main floor and one of the lower level. Each serves a unique purpose in the overall exhibit.

**Gallery One:** Remembering the World Trade Center Community- Visitors will be introduced to a model of the WTC, along with images, sounds and written quotes that evoke the vitality of the WTC neighborhood.

**Gallery Two:** 1993 and 2001 Attacks- Using audio clips and some video, this gallery includes a series of timeline units that invite visitors to travel along a 70-

foot long hallway and actually "walk through" the events of February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001. As people walk through the timeline units, a diversity of first hand perspectives will be conveyed through images, quotes, audio and video. Visitors will be able to relate and learn about the experiences of survivors, family members, residents, volunteers and rescue personnel. **Gallery Three:** Rescue and Recovery- This area pays tribute to the individuals and organizations that rushed to the site and worked tirelessly for months in often dangerous conditions. Using artifacts and film, this area will help visitors comprehend the profoundly spiritual nature

*Tribute Center.....Continued on page 2*

## America's Camp Summer Enrollment Begins



*Enjoying outdoor sports!*

"I will never forget picking Aidan up at camp," recalls Marian Fontana, about her then eight-year-old son. "He ran across the lawn, into my arms, and said, 'Mom, it was the best week of my life.' "

It was August, 2004, and Aidan had just finished his first experience at America's Camp, a one-week sleep-away camp in Lenox, Massachusetts. He spent a week on the playing fields, in the shops, and in and out of the pool and lake. He had also

shared a cabin for a week with a group of boys his age. But age wasn't the only thing they had in common. First, like Aidan, all of his bunkmates had either lost a parent in the 9/11 attacks or had lost a parent in the line of duty at another time. Second, they were all there to have fun and be kids.

The camp is currently enrolling boys and girls, ages 7-15. The 2006 session begins on August 16. The camp is funded by the America's Camp Foundation, and is provided free of charge to eligible families.

*Camp.....Continued on page 3*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Tribute Gallery Designs
- 1 America's Camp
- 1 Memorial Plans
- 2 Flight 93 Memorial Plans
- 2 Pentagon Memorial
- 2 Resource Corner
- 3 9/11 Movies
- 3 Staff News
- 4 Calendar of Events



## RESOURCE CORNER

**September 11th Assistance Guide**  
www.sept11help.org

**9/11 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program**  
1-800-LIFENET  
www.9-11mentalhealth.org

**Safe Horizon**  
September 11th Support Hotline  
1-866-689-HELP (4357)  
Free counseling for individuals, couples, families and support groups.  
Ellen Fader (212) 729-5516

**Hispanic Children and Families**  
Vanessa Ramos  
(212) 206-1090 x348  
www.chcfinc.org  
Case management & mental health support

**Faithful Response**  
1294 Bellmore Ave.  
North Bellmore, NY 11710  
(516) 679-0080 www.LDRNY.org  
Free counseling services for individuals, families, children and adolescent. Support Groups.

**Financial Planning Assoc.**  
Claude Collins  
(800) 322-4237 ext. 7138  
www.fpanet.org/public  
Workshops & education

**TARGET - Center for Trauma Response, Recovery & Preparedness**  
www.ctrp.org  
www.ptsdfreedom.org  
Community and self-support, training and consultation

**The Resiliency Program**  
Columbia University,  
Dr. Paula A. Madrid  
(212) 781-1046 or  
Pam2109@columbia.edu  
Counseling for adults & children and support groups. Drama therapy, art therapy with specialization in PTSD. English and Spanish available.

**WTC Bereavement Support Group Jewish Health & Healing Network**  
850 Seventh Ave, Suite 1201  
New York, NY 10019  
(212) 399-2685 or info@jhnm.org

**The World Trade Center Permanency Project**  
(212) 473-0222  
jamesb@coac.org  
Counseling in English, Spanish, French and Creole

## Flight 93 National Memorial Plans Unveiled



*Flight 93 Memorial Design*

On April 10, 2006, family members and the National Park Service who are working together to build the Flight 93 Memorial in Shanksville, PA visited the September 11th Families' Association. Plans for the memorial in Shanksville were shared in conjunction with representation of the events within the Tribute Center. The Families of Flight 93 formed a nonprofit organization and have a tight support network. They unveiled new plans for the Flight 93 National Memorial, a national park dedicated to the forty passengers and crew members who lost their lives in the crash of United Airlines Flight 93. It will honor these individuals for thwarting the hijackers from their planned attack on a landmark of Washington D.C. on September 11, 2001.

The design, created by Paul Murdoch Architects and Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, will offer visi-

### Pentagon Memorial Design Progressing

Designers continue to refine plans for the September 11th memorial park soon to be constructed at the Pentagon site. The memorial will pay tribute to the 184 individuals who lost their lives at the Pentagon and on American Airlines Flight 77 as a result of the September 11th attacks.

The park will feature 184 cantilevered benches erected above glowing reflective pools. Each bench will be dedicated to a victim, engraved with his or her name and etched with an image of the Pentagon - or, if the victim was on AA Flight 77, an image of the sky. The benches will be grouped according to the ages of the deceased. The



*Pentagon Memorial Design*

tors a natural setting where they can reflect upon the impact of September 11. At the memorial's heart is the "Sacred Ground" - the crash site and final resting place of the passengers and crew. This area will remain untouched. It will be encircled by a large natural landform called the "Bowl." The Bowl's perimeter will be lined by forty groves of maple trees - one for each victim lost in the crash. An integral element of the design is the visitors' center, which planners conceive of as the "educational and interpretive" hub of the memorial.

When completed, the memorial will encompass 2,200 acres. The Families of Flight 93 projects the park will be open to the public by the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks. Until then, visitors can access a temporary Flight 93 memorial near Shanksville, PA.

For more information, visit the memorial's official Web site: <http://www.flight93memorialproject.org/>.

### Pentagon & Shanksville Will be Part of Tribute Center

*The Tribute Center includes the events from both the Pentagon and Shanksville, PA. The names of victims from the Pentagon, American Airlines Flight 77 and United Airlines Flight 93 will also be represented in the Tribute Gallery.*

benches memorializing passengers of AA Flight 77 will face in the opposite direction of the benches erected for the Pentagon's victims. The park will be interspersed with clusters of maples, providing ample shade for visitors.

The Pentagon Memorial will be built through the efforts of victims' families and friends, foreign countries, international corporations, charitable foundations, and private contributions. For more information, visit the official Web site: <http://memorial.pentagon.mil/>.

### Tribute Center ..... from page 1

of the recovery operations. **Gallery Four:** Paying Tribute- This spiritual environment will offer a place for reflection as the names of victims will be projected on a wall, adjoining an area that shares photos of those who were lost. **Gallery Five:** World Tribute- Objects and images that reflect the outpouring support throughout the nation and the world will be exhibited in the lower level.

The process for developing the exhibition has been in the works since 2004 when family members, survivors, rescue and recovery workers, volunteers, residents as well as educators and museum specialists met to review the plans for the exhibition. A planning council contributed to developing broad concepts for each area. To further develop the ideas, an exhibit team composed of museum professionals and designers was

hired. "The designer has been hard at work to create welcoming spaces that express the mission and enhance the content," says Aibel-Weiss.

Objects and images to be included in the exhibit will be those that family members, survivors and recovery workers share with us. Objects are also being borrowed from the collections of the New York State Museum, the Municipal Archives, and the Museum of the City of New York. Images are being borrowed from a variety of collections. "The decision of what to include in each gallery goes back to the mission," says Aibel-Weiss. "We are trying to tell the story from a variety of

perspectives, allowing the visitor to relate."

The Tribute Center will open in August of 2006.

### Help Us Create a Beautiful Tribute

*A mailing was sent to each family including the opportunity to contribute a photo. If you are unable to meet the April 30, 2006 deadline you can still contribute. The Tribute Center will continue collecting over the next year and will be rotating the installation with new photos on a regular basis to represent each person killed on February 26, 1993 and September 11, 2001. Those who are able to return the submission forms that were mailed by April 30, 2006 will be included in the first installation. If your family did not receive the mailing and would like to submit a photo to represent your loved one please complete the registration form on our Web site [www.911families.org](http://www.911families.org) and we will send you a submission package.*

In the next year, three movies focusing on different aspects of the events of September 11, 2001 will hit theaters, beginning with "United 93" on April 28, 2006. World Trade Center will be in theaters in August 2006 and "Reign O'er Me" will be released in 2007. As these movies are released, controversial issues will arise along with opinions and mixed feelings about the films among family members of those lost, survivors, and anyone who was personally affected by the attacks.

Each plot addresses the attacks on September 11, 2001 in different ways. "Reign O'er Me" is about a man who lost his family in the September 11 attack on NYC. He is reacquainted with his old college roommate who is a psychiatrist and is determined to help him cope with his loss. Rekindling the friendship is the one thing that appears able to help the man recover from his grief. "World Trade Center" tells the story of the heroic survival and rescue of two Port Authority policemen—John McLoughlin and Will Jimeno—who were trapped in the rubble of the WTC on September 11, 2001, after they went in to help people escape. Their story shows how the best in people rose above the tragic events of that day. "United 93" focuses on the passengers and crew, their families on the ground and the flight controllers who watched as United Airlines Flight 93 became the fourth hijacked plane on 9/11. The film attempts to understand the abject fear and courageous decisions of those who, over the course of just 90 minutes, transformed from a random assembly of disconnected strangers into bonded allies who confronted an unthinkable situation.

Whether or not to see these films may be a difficult decision for anyone, but even more so for those who have been personally affected by the events of 9/11. "I will most likely not go see any of these films because it will be too painful," says Clair Dawson, who lost her brother. Linda Pohlmann, who lost her husband, says she will not be heading to the theaters to see these films. "I have my own memories of that day and do not need any film to rekindle them," she says. "They are forever embedded in my mind and will be with me until the day I die."

Wanting to learn as much as possible after losing her sister on 9/11, Eleni Kousoulis says she will probably see all three movies. "Ever since 9/11 I have had a need to learn as much as I can about what happened that day and about what the victims of this tragedy went through," she says. "I'm not sure where this need stems from, other than maybe from the fact that nothing of my sister was ever found and I have never really had closure." After losing a close friend on 9/11, John Quinn says he is interested in seeing all three movies, although "Reign O'er Me" appeals to him most. "The fact that the main character is able to deal with his grief because of a rekindled friendship is something very similar to what I went through," he says. "The loss of my friend brought many people I had not seen in years back into my life and restarted a number of friendships. If the film is handles thoughtfully, I think it could be a very valuable film for the public."

Some family members are concerned the movies will exploit the events of 9/11. "In today's world, I wonder how "human" or "sympathetic" they will portray the terrorists," says Pohlmann. Susan Carroll, who lost her son, agrees. "The only people who will benefit are those who make the movies and the box offices," she says.

Others feel it's a difficult situation because they do not want the events of 9/11 exploited, but also don't want the public to forget about the largest terrorist attack in American history. Kousoulis feels the films could be beneficial depending on how the stories are told and the tone of the movies. "Hollywood sometimes has the tendency to "over-tell" stories and exaggerate things. If the movies stay down to Earth and realistic, then I think they will be beneficial," she says. Paulie Srinuan, who also lost his sister, believes it is important that the rest of the world know what happened that day, but is also concerned with how the story of the "World Trade Center" movie is told. "Sometimes I am scared that they are just going to make a movie to make a buck and exploit the events of that day," he says. "It's almost a "catch-22" where it might be beneficial for the public to know the events of that day and always remember." Dawson says the movies can be beneficial for the public. "For people that did not lose a family member or close friend, the movies may show some insight into the time surrounding 9/11," she says. "It wasn't just planes hitting the buildings."

*" I will see "Reign O'er Me" to see what I could get from that story to help with the healing process. "*  
-Andrew David Arias, lost brother on 9/11

*" I have to wonder, how much money is being made from exploiting the worst attack in American history? "*  
-Megan McCourt, lost fiance on 9/11

*" These movies, I know, will not answer the question but I go hoping for more insight. "*  
-Herbert Ouida, lost son on 9/11

*" I have mixed feelings about seeing these movies. It has been almost five years and with every few steps you take forward to heal, you find situations that take you 10 steps back. "*  
-Michele Miller, lost brother on 9/11



## Staff News

There have been a few changes around our office including saying goodbye to familiar faces and welcoming new staff. Sally Yerkovich, former president of the Tribute Center accepted the position as President for the Fund for Arts and Culture in Central and Eastern Europe. Michael Kuo, former project manager for Tribute, has accepted a similar position with Colgate Development, LLC. Michael's dad, Frederick Kuo, Jr., was killed in the September 11 attacks. Sally and Michael played a critical role in the formation of the Center. We appreciate their hard work and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

We would like to welcome Tribute's new President Lynn Tierney. Prior to accepting the

position, she was the Deputy Commissioner of the New York City Fire Department where she lead the development of the FDNY FireZone in Rockefeller Center, a similar educational visitor center. Tierney also served as a spokesperson for the World Trade Center with the Port Authority for thirteen years.

Wendy Aibel-Weiss is the new Director of Programs for the Tribute Center. She has a distinguished career in museum interpretation. She served as the VP for Exhibitions and Education at the Brooklyn Historical Society and over eight years at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History.



Lynn Tierney

## Camp ..... from page 1

During this week of sun, and fun, campers can participate in a wide range of activities such as sailing, canoeing, windsurfing and water-skiing on the lake; swimming in a heated pool; and many sports.



Having fun in the sun!

"My girls talked all the way home (until they fell asleep in the car) about their adventures," says Christie Coombs, whose two daughters have attended America's Camp. "There is no other situation -- ever -- that makes them feel as special, yet so normal, as America's Camp does."

For more information, please contact Andy Cole at 1-800-548-6295 or visit [www.americascamp.org](http://www.americascamp.org).

# Tribute

Tribute  
Needs YOUR  
Help!

## April 25-May 7

► **Tribeca Film Festival**  
Information: [www.tribecafilmfestival.com](http://www.tribecafilmfestival.com)

## May 6

► **The Heart of Steel-Tribeca Film Festival**  
A documentary about an extraordinary group of ordinary citizens who volunteered.

**Time:** 3:00pm  
**Location:** Tribeca Performing Arts Center  
199 Chambers Street  
**Tickets:** [www.tribecafilmfestival.com](http://www.tribecafilmfestival.com)

## May 8

► **The Joe Rivero Memorial Gold Outing**  
Joe was an avid golfer who enjoyed spending time on the course. The outing is a continued remembrance of who he was and how he lived his life. Proceeds will go toward scholarships.

**Time:** 11:30am  
**Location:** Canyon Club  
568 Bedford Road  
Armonk, NY  
**Information:** (914) 403-8061

# Spring Calendar

## May 18

► **The Michael C. Rothberg  
September 11th Memorial Scholarship  
Annual Dinner and Silent Auction**

**Location:**  
Saphire Manor  
Decatur Avenue  
Sharon, Massachusetts  
**Information:**  
[www.michaelrothbergscholarship.com](http://www.michaelrothbergscholarship.com)

*Interested in making a difference in the lives of thousands of people? By volunteering your time as a guide at the Tribute Center you will have the opportunity to share your personal story with visitors to the World Trade Center site. All volunteers are individuals deeply affected by September 11th – family members, survivors of the attacks, lower Manhattan residents and workers, rescue workers, police and firefighters.*

*For more information, call (212) 422-3520 or email: [volunteer@tributenyc.org](mailto:volunteer@tributenyc.org).*

## Donations in Memoriam

Terence E. Adderley, Jr.  
Joseph Amatuccio  
Peter Paul Apollo  
Ezra Aviles  
Carl John Bedigian  
Joseph J. Berry  
Michael Boyle  
David Otey Campbell  
Michael Scott Carlo  
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Paul A. Skrzpek  
Richard James Stadelberger  
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Madeline "Amy" Sweeney  
Harry Taback  
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