September 11th
Families'
Association

Tribute



Volume 9, Issue 2

June 2010

Free Educational Classroom Resources



As the tenth anniversary approaches, many teachers are challenged by how to teach lessons about the events of September 11th. Educators recognize that September 11th is part of our history, and want to talk

about its relevance to our lives today, but are not sure how to accomplish this. The Tribute Center is delighted to announce the release of a free new, online classroom resource. September 11th Personal Stories of Transformation provides middle school and high school students with a deeper understanding of September 11th by exploring the stories of individuals who were deeply impacted and who responded by creating projects to better their communities. This toolkit includes eight multimedia narratives, each enriched with critical thinking questions and historical context, research resource links and community service projects. It's available for free at www.tributewtc.org/programs/toolkit.html.

Video stories include a principal who led her students to safety amidst falling debris; recovery workers who spent months at the World Trade Center site; a Pakistani man who became the voice for his community during a period of confusion; and two brothers who lost siblings and dedicated their lives to building memorials at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, PA.

A temporary related exhibition is on display at the Tribute Center featuring the writing and projects of students who have interacted with these classroom materials. Comments from students who have utilized the resources:

"This is our history. This story made me think about being a 'history maker'."

-12th grader, Phillipsburg High School, Phillipsburg, Kansas

"It's made me realize that attacks and other events throughout history have always caused prejudice and discrimination and showed how my own ways of viewing different cultures has been affected."

-10th grader, Stuyvesant High School, Lower Manhattan, New York

Zadroga Bill Passes House Committee

On March 25, 2010, the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health voted, 25 to 8, in favor of H.R. 847, the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2009, a bill that would spend \$5.1 billion on health care over the next 10 years for people who are ill from their work or proximity to the World Trade Center site. NYC would be liable for 10% of the cost.

The bill would re-open the 9/11 Victims Compensation Fund, and would establish an emergency council responsible for coordinating care and compensation of the sick.

James Zadroga, for whom the bill is named, was an NYPD detective who died in 2006 of pulmonary fibrosis due to his work at the site. Hundreds of workers from the site have died from a variety of illnesses, and thousands more are sick from the toxins that burned at the World Trade Center site for more than six months. Respiratory, digestive, thyroid, kidney, skin and nerve problems are rampant among recovery workers, first responders, local residents and workers and students from the surrounding area.

The Zadroga bill is controversial, as it does not cover many of the cancers recovery workers are experiencing. Some feel it doesn't go far enough; others feel it is a start toward treating those diagnosed in connection to the World Trade Center operations.

To learn more about bill, please click here: http://www.opencongress.org/bill/111-h847/show.

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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)

American Psychological Assoc.

1-800-964-2000 Referrals on everything from managing traumatic stress to coping with terrorism www.apa.org/

Faithful Response

516-679-0080

Free, faith-based mental health programs for Long Island residents.

www.faithfulresponse.org

Trauma & Wellness Center St. Vincent's Health Hospital 212-346-2582

Mental health counseling, healing services and stress management

Columbia University & NY State Psychiatric Insitute

212-543-5367

Does the grief over the death of a loved one on September 11th still interfere with your life? Free treatment for those eligible.

NYC DOHMH Benefit Program

1-877-737-1164

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is offering an insurance-like benefit to help cover mental health and substance use treatment for New York City residents affected by September 11th. www.nyc.gov/html/doh/wtc

Mount Sinai Medical Center 1-888-702-0630

Medical monitoring for workers and volunteers.

www.wtcexams.org

Origami Crane Dedication

On May 3, 2010, the Tribute WTC Visitor Center had the great honor of dedicating one of Sadako Sasaki's original paper cranes, donated by her brother, Masahiro Sasaki. Sadako folded over 1,000 cranes as a call for world peace while she was critically ill from the long-term effects of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. Sadly, Sadako passed away in 1955, but her wish for peace lives on with everyone who hears her story.

The surviving Sasaki family kept five of Sadako's cranes until 2007, when they decided to donate the five cranes, one to each of the five continents. Mr. Sasaki felt that the Tribute WTC Visitor Center would be an appropriate choice for North America, since paper cranes from Japan reflect the ongoing empathy and hope for peace that international visitors express when they visit the Tribute Center.





Masahiro Sasaki and his son, Yugi, were the guests of honor at this dedication. The ceremony was attended by Speaker Christine Quinn, three Hibakusha (survivors) from Hiroshima who were in New York to speak at the Non Proliferation Treaty Review Conference at the UN, Ambassador Shinichi Nishimiya, the Consul General of Japan in New York City, and Eleanor Coerr, the author of the beloved American children's classic, *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*.

The next day, Tribute Center docents Gerry Bogacz, Nancy Cimei and Bob Nussberger were panelists at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice's Wisdom of the Survivor Conference. They spoke alongside Hibakusha from Japan about the positive steps survivors can take in making the world a better place.

Performing Tribute

On March 5 and 6, 2010, *Performing Tribute* creator and director, Donna Kaz, arranged for fellow Tribute Center volunteers Ann Van Hine, Gail Langsner, Desiree Bouchat, Gerry Bogacz, Fred Sager, and Paul McFadden to present *Performing Tribute* at Bay Shore and Amityville High Schools.

The themes of *Performing Tribute*, which include resiliency, love, and support, were in perfect harmony with the message of "Awareness Weekend." One student wrote it was "a wonderful opening for a weekend filled with overcoming adversity, bonding and healing." Jim McGowan of Bay Shore HS wrote that the performance had a significant impact on the students and changed their lives.

After the performance at Bay Shore High School, President of the September 11th Families' Association and co-founder of the Tribute WTC Visitor Center, Lee lelpi, spoke

to the students urging them to think positively about the future. Lee encouraged the students to apply the message of *Performing Tribute* to their own lives, and to come together as a community to support each other, while finding ways to take their personal challenges and transform them into positive actions.



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Fleet Week Salute



On May 26, sailors from the USS NEW YORK visited the Tribute Center for a day of Community Service. Commander Curt Jones led an informational discussion between USS NEW YORK crew members and students from Chestnut Hill Academy in Philadelphia. The eighth graders were fascinated to hear about the ship's radar systems and advanced technology, although they were very disappointed to learn that the crew can't access facebook from the ship's network. Each crew member gave descriptions of their responsibilities on the ship and places they had been stationed while in the US Navy.

On May 4, a flag flown over the WTC site was the centerpiece of a ceremony that began its journey to the Warrior Games in Colorado Springs. The Warrior Games are designed to provide rehabilitation for disabled service members and veterans. During the World Trade Center ceremony, Representatives from the USO, Marine Corps, Army, FDNY, NYPD, Port Authority, and the Tribute Center passed the flag to one another, ending with 9/11 family members, and sent it on its way.



After a journey with stops at the Pentagon and Shanksville, the flag opened the inaugural Warrior Games where 200 wounded veterans competed in games hosted by the U.S. Olympic Committee. "Our goal is to showcase the value of sports and athletic competition in the rehabilitation of our Wounded Marines" said Col. Greg Boyle, Wounded Warrior Regiment.

Above: USS NEW YORK sailors speaking with students at the Tribute Center.

Below: Ceremony for opening the Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, CO.

America's Camp 2010

America's Camp celebrated its 8th anniversary last summer and is still going strong, hosting campers who lost a parent or sibling in the attacks on September 11th or in the line of duty at any time. There are activities such as the annual Carnival with giant inflatable rides, dunk tank, cotton candy and carnival food, games and prizes. Another favorite is *MTV* night, a bunk lip-sync contest.

Summer Number 9 will be held once again at Camp Danbee in the Berkshire hills from August 17- 24, 2010. Enrollments are being accepted for new families.

America's Camp is completely free of charge. Visit www.americascamp.org or contact, Beth Griffin, at beth@americascamp.org or call 800-548-6295 for details.



Mosque Planned Near WTC

On May 25, 2010, Lower Manhattan's Community Board 1 approved the building of Cordoba House at 45 Park Place (the former Burlington Coat Factory) near the site of the World Trade Center. The building was damaged on September 11, 2001 and was vacant since the attacks until September 2009.

The plans for Cordoba House are to be a mosque where roughly 1,000 to 2,000 people would come to worship on Fridays. The 13-story building would also contain a library, a 500-seat performing arts center, a banquet hall, a gym and other features. Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf, his wife Daisy Khan, and Sharif El-Gamal, chairman and chief executive of Soho Properties, a real estate investment firm, the people behind the project, call it "a place for Interfaith activity".

Currently, there is a firestorm of opinion on this issue, with September 11th families coming out strongly on both sides.

To read more about Cordoba House, click here: www.cordobainitiative.org.

To read the opinions of some of those opposed, click here: www.911familiesforamerica.org.

For a variety of articles on the subject, please visit our website at www.911families.org.

What is your opinion? Write to Kimberly at our address on the bottom of the front page or email kgrieger@911families.org.

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Summer Calendar - Dates to Remember

Morty Frank Memorial Golf Outing

Monday, July 12, 2010; shotgun start 10:30am

Port Washington, NY

Contact Phyllis at 212-772-3265 for more information.

www.mortyfrank.com

Ninth Annual
Mark Bavis Leadership Foundation
Golf Tournament and Celebrity Event

Monday, July 19, 2010, Mashpee, MA www.markbavisleadershipfoundation.org

For tickets and information, contact Merilyn Sullivan at either 781-928-1700 or 888-449-GOLF or via e-mail at msullivan04@comcast.net. Ninth Annual Stephen "The Coach" Hoffman Memorial Golf & Tennis Classic

Monday, July 26, 2010

Muttontown Country Club, East Norwich, New York

www.queensfalcons.net/golf.htm

Psychotrauma, Healing and Reconciliation: The Third Regional Conference/Training on Psychotrauma

Presented by the Africa Mental Health Foundation and the Peter C. Alderman Foundation

> July 4, 2010 – July 10, 2010 Nairobi, Kenya

E-mail psychotrauma@amhf.or.ke or visit www.africamentalhealthfoundation.org http://petercaldermanfoundation.org Donations in Memoriam

Frank De Martini Howard Kane FF Robert King, Jr. FF Michael D. Mullan FF Kevin O'Rourke Lt. Michael Thomas Russo, Sr. Robert J. Shay Jr. Arkady Zaltsman www.911families.org www.tributewtc.org

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Lee lelpi's Blog

http://shapingourfuturelee.blogspot.com

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