

## FEBRUARY 26, 1993 REMEMBRANCE

February 26th marked the 23rd anniversary of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing. We honor the memory of John DiGiovanni, 45; Robert Kirkpatrick, 61; Stephen Knapp, 47; William Macko, 57; Wilfredo Mercado, 37 and Monica Rodriguez Smith, 35, and her unborn child who were killed. 1,042 people were injured when terrorists detonated a truck bomb in the basement-level garage of the North Tower.



Hundreds of first responders from the FDNY, NYPD and PAPD evacuated approximately 50,000 people from the complex in a rescue that took more than 11 hours. The bomb caused numerous fires and thick smoke that made the evacuation extremely difficult. "Chief Engineer Gene Fasullo, myself, 5 other engineers and 2 attorneys were in the elevator on our way down to lunch. We could see the soot and smoke falling from the ventilation fan. Forty minutes later the lights went out. We scored the walls of the shaft using a key and a nail clipper, and cut our way into the 58th floor bathroom." - Frank Lombardi, Assistant Chief Engineer, PANYNJ

A massive FBI investigation followed in coordination with the NY Joint Terrorism Task Force, with 700 FBI agents worldwide. Four men were tried, convicted, and sentenced to life. The mastermind of the bombing, Ramzi Yousef, was captured in Pakistan in 1995 and convicted along with the driver. It was later learned from Yousef that his Trade Center plot was to topple one tower, with the collapsing debris knocking down the second. The attack turned out to be something of a deadly dress rehearsal for 9/11; with the help of Yousef's uncle Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, al Qaeda would later return to realize Yousef's nightmarish vision. — Source fbi.gov.

In 1995 a granite memorial fountain was erected on the World Trade Center Plaza. The memorial contained the names of the six people who perished as well as an inscription that read: "On February 26, 1993, a bomb set by terrorists exploded below this site. This horrible act of violence killed innocent people, injured thousands, and made victims of us all." The memorial was destroyed by the attacks of September 11, 2001. However, the lessons learned from the 1993 bombing and improvements in the evacuation are credited with saving many lives on 9/11. Today the 1993 victims are listed on the North Tower 9/11 Memorial pool, a reminder that the events of September 11, 2001 and February 26, 1993 are forever linked.

We invite you to visit the 9/11 Tribute Center to view the online exhibit sharing the personal experiences of February 26, 1993 or [tributewtc.org](http://tributewtc.org).

## 9/11 HEALTH CONDITIONS EXHIBIT

A new exhibit about 9/11 health conditions opened on February 26, 2016 in the 9/11 Tribute Center's galleries. New York City's World Trade Center Health Registry considers that approximately 400,000 people were exposed to unknown toxins on 9/11 and in the days, weeks and months afterward. Through the reauthorization of the Zadroga Act by the U.S. Congress in late 2015, the World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment programs in NYC and NJ will continue serving survivors, first responders, area residents, area workers and passersby whose health issues are related to 9/11.

The exhibit points to two of the most common health conditions that have been attributed to 9/11 to date – pulmonary issues and post-traumatic stress disorder. In addition, more than 60 types of cancers have been identified with 9/11. The exhibit features quotes from individuals who were exposed to the smoke and dust at the World Trade Center site, and information from physicians who have provided specialized 9/11-related care. Epidemiologists at New York City's World Trade Center Health Registry continue to survey the exposed population so they can assess their specific health needs. People in the Registry can be found in all 50 states.



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## DONATE TODAY

Support the 9/11 Tribute Center volunteer and educational programs. Donate today. Go to [tributewtc.org/support](http://tributewtc.org/support)

### Mental Health and Substance Abuse Call 1-800-LIFENET

Free & multilingual. Available 24/7. Mental health professionals help find mental health and substance abuse services. Visit their website for details, clicking on LifeNet, <http://www.mhaofnyc.org>.

### American Psychological Association Call 1-800-964-2000

Referrals on everything from managing traumatic stress to coping with terrorism. Visit their website for details, <http://locator.apa.org>.

### Faithful Response

Free, faith-based mental health programs for Long Island residents. Visit their website for details, <http://www.faithfulresponse.org>.

### Mount Sinai Consortium Call 1-888-702-0630

Medical monitoring for workers and volunteers. Visit their website for details, <http://www.wtcexams.org>.

### FDNY

Call 212-570-1693

Service for all active and retired NYC firefighters and EMS workers.

### WTC Centers of Excellence

Visit their website for details, <http://www.nyc.gov>.

### WTC Environmental Health Center Call 877-982-0107

### 9/11 Health Watch

<http://www.911healthwatch.org>

## 2016 ANNUAL TRIBUTE TEACHER AWARDS

If you ever worry that our American classrooms have a cookie-cutter approach to history, attend Tribute's Teacher Award ceremony. At this event we are always amazed by the creativity, passion and sense of civic engagement that both history and language arts teachers have brought to their students' exploration of September 11th. Shockingly, many of their students have no prior knowledge about 9/11, but these teachers have raised the consciousness of their entire school communities. We applaud the diverse approaches that these teachers have taken to connect and memorialize 9/11 to the contemporary lives of children.

On Feb. 26, (commemorating the first attack that took place in 1993), nine teachers received a Certificate of Merit and gift to their school for having created exemplary educational projects that help students to understand the impact of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Three of the teachers are from New York, three from New Jersey, others from Iowa, Maryland and a global online school headquartered in Washington. The awards were presented by Regent Kathleen Cashin of the New York State Education Department.



### Teacher: Marilyn Byrd, Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom High School, Bronx, New York

In collaboration with Stony Brook WTC Wellness Program, Ms. Byrd created ten lesson plans asking students to research, analyze and evaluate their own ideas.

### Teacher: James Burns and Scott Cotton Global Online Academy, Seattle, Washington

These teachers created a fourteen-week online course that put 9/11 into a global context, exploring causes, events, and outcomes. Students from different states created online dialogues.

### Teacher: James Fagen Manasquan High School, Manasquan, New Jersey

Students debated methods of combating terrorism and cybersecurity. Students were asked to define terrorism and compare 9/11 to other historical events that shaped our nation.

### Teacher: Richard Feldman C.S. 211, Bronx, New York

Students over ten sessions conducted a project of memorialization/remembrance. They researched local heroes and created a memorial bench dedicated to community members.

### Teacher: Kevin Johnson

**Lynnville-Sully Community School District, Sully, Iowa**  
Led by a language arts teacher, students collected first-hand accounts through Skype to make their own connections to 9/11.

### Teacher: Kimberley Madalena, Amy Morillo, and Sharon Catrambone, Washington Middle School, Harrison, New Jersey

Students researched and wrote to those who helped in 9/11 recovery. They created a Hallway of Heroes; inviting their heroes to their school, creating an all-day, school-wide presentation.

### Teacher: Christopher C. Murray IV

**Walter Johnson High School, Bethesda, Maryland**  
In this class on world religions, students focus on Islam the religion, Islamophobia, and Islamic extremism. Students explored the roots of al Qaeda and extremist groups today.

### Teacher: Ms. Preciado and Mrs. Mallay

**Our Lady of the Snows School, Floral Park, New York**  
In an afterschool program, students researched the attacks of 9/11, including outcomes for first responders. Completed projects were shared with the entire school in the school's library.

### Teacher: Mrs. Stefanie Woods

**Bayonne High School, Bayonne, New Jersey**  
Students created poems using words from 50 newspaper headlines, having to make connections between personal experiences on 9/11 to headlines in the press.



The awards have been made possible by contributions from the following family foundations—The Brooke Jackman Foundation; The Christopher Slattery 9/11 Memorial Foundation; The Greg Richards, Larry Polatsch, Scott Weingard Memorial Fund (GLS Memorial Fund); The family of Firefighter Michael D. Mullan; The Terence D. Gazzani 9/11 Scholarship Fund; The Terry Farrell Firefighters Fund; and The Welles Remy Crowther Charitable Trust.



## STORIES FROM THE HEART



Please share your thoughts with us: Share your September 11<sup>th</sup> story. How have you been changed by the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>, or what action can you take in the spirit of Tribute to help or educate another?

This is a wonderful tribute to:  
those who died  
their families  
the brave New Yorkers  
the human spirit  
We are all one race  
The Human Race.

Proud to visit from Manchester England.

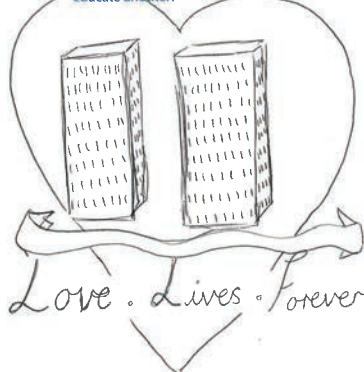
On the holiday weekend that included Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day, February 13 – February 15, seven of Tribute volunteer guides spread love through the Stories from the Heart program's at the Tribute Center. Volunteer guides who regularly share their stories took extra time during the midday hours to share fifteen-minute tales that revealed how the love of family and friends creates resilience and strength.

On Saturday, retired Firefighter Al Schwartz described his commitment to helping people, a key mission for everyone who works on the job. North Tower survivor Gerry Bogacz talked about the deep empathy he has felt from friends and strangers since telling his story every week over the past 14 years. On Sunday, Port Authority employee Maria Malone-Hodges, a survivor of the attacks, talked about her determination to keep working after losing 84 colleagues, and the buildings that housed the headquarters of her agency. Kimberly Grieger, who volunteered with the Red Cross and Salvation Army during the recovery, talked about the dedication of the recovery workers working at the site. On Monday, neighborhood resident Eileen Green described how she supported the recovery workers while helping to keep her own neighborhood alive in the aftermath. Port Authority technical advisor Vic Guarnera talked about educating the next generation and explained that the reason he does so is to remember his lost friends. Marianne Pellegrino, who is a retired Port Authority executive, recalled she was out of the country on September 11, 2001, but she was desperate to get home to be part of the community that she loved. Nothing meant more to her than to be back in New York with the people she had worked with for years.

It was wonderful that in the midst of the coldest days of winter, our volunteers touched the hearts of our visitors and inspired the humanity in the people who heard their stories.



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## ZADROGA



On December 18, 2015, the US Congress reauthorized the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation bill as part of the government funding and tax-break bill that it passed on the last day of its work last year.

The bill provides \$8.1 billion to extend the World Trade Center Health Program Fund for 75 years.

The funding will cover:

- a quality assurance program for services delivered by health care providers,
- the WTC Program annual report,
- WTC Health Program Steering Committees, and
- contracts with Clinical Centers of Excellence.

The Clinical Centers of Excellence include the WTC Health Programs at Mount Sinai Hospital, Bellevue Hospital, the FDNY, Stony Brook University and other health centers in the metropolitan region that provide regular monitoring and treatment to first responders and survivors.

The bill amends the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act to make individuals (or relatives of deceased individuals) who were injured or killed in the rescue and recovery efforts after the aircraft crashes of September 11, 2001, eligible for compensation under the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001. It allows individuals to file claims for compensation under the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 any time after regulations are updated based on the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010. Furthermore, it removes the cap on payments under the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, and adds the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund and World Trade Center Health Program Fund to the list of accounts that are not subject to budget sequestration.

## 9/11 MEMORIAL 5K RUN/WALK & COMMUNITY DAY

**Sunday, April 24, 2016**

Now through February 29, 2016, September 11th Families' Association members can use the promotional code **911FAMILIESASSOC** to receive an additional \$5 discount on adult registration (which is discounted to \$35 through January 31, and \$40, Feb 1-March 31).

The event begins at Pier 26 in Tribeca and takes participants through scenic Battery Park along the waterfront esplanade before finishing near the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. The Community Day is a family-friendly festival open to the public with food, entertainment, and activities for all ages.

Participants can also enjoy the post-race Bib n' Brunch, which offers a special discount at many lower Manhattan restaurants.

September 11th Families' Association  
22 Cortlandt Street, Suite 801  
New York, NY 10007

## DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

Paul Acquaviva, Esq.  
Michael J. Armstrong  
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Naomi Solomon  
Derek Ogilvie Sword  
Scott Jeffrey Weingard  
Brothers of Battalion 57, FDNY

**In Honor Of**  
Mary Lee Hannell  
Joan Mastropaolo  
Steve Russell



## DATES TO REMEMBER

Visit [www.911families.org](http://www.911families.org) and select "Events" for a full list of upcoming events.

### FF Michael J. Cawley Memorial Foundation Annual Benefit

Saturday, April 9, 2016, 3:00pm - 8:00pm  
Mulcahy's  
3232 Railroad Ave. Wantagh, NY  
[tinyurl.com/mjcawley](http://tinyurl.com/mjcawley)

### Empty Sky Memorial Walkathon

April 17, 2016, 8:30am - 4:00pm  
Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ  
[tinyurl.com/emptyskymemorial](http://tinyurl.com/emptyskymemorial)

### Michael J. Armstrong Memorial Foundation Golf Outing

Friday, May 13, 2016  
Details soon!  
[facebook.com/The-Michael-J-Armstrong-Memorial-Foundation-118501058242645](https://www.facebook.com/The-Michael-J-Armstrong-Memorial-Foundation-118501058242645)

### Lt. Joe Gullickson Memorial Picnic

Saturday, June 25, 2016, 12:00pm - 6:00pm  
Nansen Park  
3465 Victory Blvd. Staten Island, NY

### Events at the 9/11 Tribute Center

An Architecture of Healing  
Tuesday, March 22, 2016 | 6:30 PM

Poem in Your Pocket Day  
Thursday, April 21, 2016

Maritime Response on 9/11  
Wednesday, May 25, 2016 | 6:00 PM

120 Liberty Street, New York, NY

9/11 TRIBUTE CENTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM  
May 13th - 14th, July 15th - 16th

