



#### **NOVEMBER 2015**

## VOL 15, ISSUE 4

## 9/11 DAY OF SERVICE & REMEMBRANCE CREATES SMILES

Chances are, you still remember the bike you had as a child – exactly what it looked like and how you felt when you rode it. Getting a new bike is a childhood rite of passage. On September 16th, more than 600 employees from companies that were directly impacted by 9/11 gathered together to assemble bikes for 550 children whose fathers are serving in the 75th Army Ranger Regiment.



Throughout the month of September, thousands of people take part in 9/11 Service and Remembrance activities in all 50 states. Hundreds of thousands of volunteers paint and refurbish homes, run food drives, spruce up schools, reclaim neighborhoods and engage in projects that support and honor veterans, soldiers, military families and first responders.

Tribute's seventh annual 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance is uniquely meaningful for the employees of companies that have worked to rebuild and sustain Lower Manhattan. BNY Mellon is the Major General Sponsor along with AON, Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft, Commodity Floor Brokers and Traders Association, CME Group, Con Edison, All Covered by Konica Minolta, Morgan Stanley, Sandler O'Neill & Partners, FJ Sciame Construction, Spirit Cruises, TWU Local 100, Keefe Bruyette & Woods, and Zurich. Volunteers came together to remember loved ones, friends and colleagues and to celebrate the spirit of community and generosity we witnessed in the wake of 9/11.

"So many of the remembrances around 9/11... can be pretty somber in dredging up the horrifying memories of that day", said TWU Local 100 bike build volunteer Jim Gannon. "But this is such an uplifting event, working with people from other corporations, other unions, and other companies, other New Yorkers, it was so much fun. And also knowing that these bikes are going to be used by the children of the 75th Army Ranger Division that's been deployed since 2001 is really special."

Working in teams of five, volunteers assembled each bike for a specific child between the ages of 5 and 14. After selecting the right bike size and type,

volunteer teams enthusiastically attached wheels, pedals, handlebars, seats and brakes. Bikes were then brought to a tire inflation station with a final quality control check to make sure they were ready to ride! Volunteers decorated each bike with ribbons and wrote a special, personal note to the child who'd be receiving it. At the end of the event, volunteers had assembled 550 bikes.



Jennifer Adams, Tribute's CEO, and Lee lelpi, Tribute's co-founder, traveled to Hunter Army Air Field base to help deliver the bikes to the kids. "Presenting the bikes on behalf of the 9/11 community to the children of the First Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment was incredibly special, especially since their fathers are currently deployed. Since the Ranger Battalions have been consistently deployed since 9/11, they miss being able to share many special occasions with their families. The children's smiles and excitement to ride their new bikes was so wonderful to see. Many kids jumped right on to ride as soon as they could, while some needed a little extra help to ride without training wheels. Every child came to us to personally say thank you for their bike. Their mothers were so touched that we would think of them and the sacrifices that their families make."





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## DONATE TODAY

Support the 9/11 Tribute Center volunteer and educational programs. Donate today. Go to 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

Citizens for the Extension of the James Zadroga Act http://www.renew911health.org

## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL AT THE 9/11 TRIBUTE CENTER**

This autumn the 9/11 Tribute Center is expanding its reach, bringing the personal stories of 9/11 directly to the hearts and minds of children. Most children have no awareness of the events of September 11th. Although they hear passing references to 9/11 in the media, the traumatic attacks and the extraordinary recovery efforts are not discussed at home or at school.

At the 9/11 Tribute Center we believe that the best way to bridge this generational gap is with a personal story. Stories shared by those that experienced 9/11 bring history to life and help our young people comprehend that the terrorist attacks are contemporary events that have changed the current world they live in.

Throughout the summer and fall we have been working with our guides to help them to craft their unique 9/11 stories so that they are appropriate for young audiences. In this training, we practice answering hard questions that we know our students will ask. We also conduct specialized training for our guides. Tribute education programs end with the mission of communicating that we are not defined by the things that happen to us but rather by how we respond to them. Students are inspired by our stories and motivated to reach out to help others in their time of need.

The 9/11 Tribute Center reaches out to students in a number of ways: a group can visit Tribute, or we will travel to their classroom or school auditorium. For schools that are very far away, we have been expanding our reach through video conferencing technology reaching from eastern Long Island to Georgia and even across the Atlantic.

## http://tributewtc.org/education/resources



Students in Germany "visit" through technology to learn more about 9/11 and its place in global history.



Students in rural West Virginia have never seen a building taller than six stories. They got a chance to speak with guides that experienced 9/11, and see the construction of the new World Trade Center outside our window.



Two Tribute Center Guides talk to high school students in Livingston, NJ about their 9/11 experiences. They shared their powerful stories, and emphasized the role of service in the aftermath.



Tribute guide and award-winning teacher Gail Frydkowski speaks at the Teacher Open House that took place this October and emphasized the importance of teaching 9/11, and the story of a defining moment in a student's life that occurred as a result of her 9/11 project. During the Open House, Tribute provided suggestions on the many ways teachers can connect 9/11 to a variety of subject areas and how 9/11 can be taught throughout the school year.

Please let us know if a school in your community would like to have a Tribute guide speak with students, in person or through Distance Learning. We are ready to share this history and provide inspiration for the future decisions they will make. Email education@tributewtc. org to explore ways you can support or share resources.

#### **INTERNSHIPS AT TRIBUTE**



Every year the 9/11 Tribute Center is gifted with extraordinary interns. Meet Sara Moriarty, a senior at Pace University. Sara's internship began in the summer and continues this fall semester. Sara works on social media outreach, writing bios for volunteer guides, and interviewing visitors about their experiences at Tribute. Sara reflected on her experience, saying, "I've experienced how important person-to-person history is, and I am happy to have the opportunity to assist with the practice of recording and sharing history... my experiences at Tribute have led me to appreciate life more."

#### **REAUTHORIZE ZADROGA 9/11 HEALTH COMPENSATION**



In 2010, after delaying for years, Congress passed the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act to provide those sick from the toxins at the World Trade Center site with health care. Congress allowed the Zadroga Act to expire on October 1, 2015, leaving bereft the more than 30,000 rescue and recovery workers, survivors of the attacks and Lower Manhattan residents who are battling site-related illnesses.

There are currently more than 72,000 people in the medical monitoring program who were exposed to the myriad chemicals released by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. More than 1,700 recovery workers have already died of site-related illness. At least 16 more have died since the expiration of the Zadroga Act.

The healthcare program has sufficient funding to continue for a few more months, though sick recovery workers have already seen an increase in delays in treatment. Once the funding runs out, these people, some of them very ill and many of them fighting more than one kind of illness, will have to find new doctors, many of whom will be completely unfamiliar with how site-related illnesses interact; all of whom will be unfamiliar with their new patients.

A number of studies have shown that those exposed to the toxins at the site of the Twin Towers have greatly increased rates of a variety of illnesses, from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) to cancer. A recent 20-year study of NYPD officers shows that rates of both malignant brain tumors and kidney cancer have tripled among cops since 2001. The non-Hodgkin's lymphoma rate has increased by about 50%, while rates of thyroid cancer have doubled.

Known carcinogens were everywhere at the pile – to name only a few, fluorescent light fixtures contain mercury, phenol, naphthalene and styrene. Jet fuel contains benzene. Computer monitors are made with cadmium, mercury and lead. The fires at the site burned for more than six months – burning everything in those towers from automobiles in the garage to plastic desks, from chemicals in the janitors' closets to equipment in the television studios, and everything in all the business establishments that filled the Towers. The medical personnel funded by the Zadroga Act have studied this population and are familiar with the illnesses that arise from these exposures. Doctors without this experience will lack expertise their patients desperately need.

Because Congress has allowed Zadroga to expire, many of the sick feel forgotten. NYPD Lt. William Dement wrote the 2011 book, *Delay, Deny Hope They Die: World Trade Center First Responders - The Battle for Health Care and Compensation,* based on his experiences. Dement died of his illness in 2014 at the age of 52.

To find out if your politicians supported the Zadroga Act, please visit: www.renew911health.org/take-action/take-action-contact-your-members-of-congress/

#### SUPPORT TRIBUTE #GIVING TUESDAY



Get Ready to Give! Most people know about Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Just as Black Friday kicks off the holiday shopping season, #GivingTuesday is the opening day of the giving season.

This year, all of us at the 9/11 Tribute Center hope you will join us for #GivingTuesday – a day to give back and make a difference. We have two days that are good for the economy. Now we have a day that is good for the community too. You can help us make a difference by making a donation to the 9/11 Tribute Center at tributewtc.org/support.

Help raise awareness by sharing with friends and family the Tribute Facebook, Twitter and Instragram @TributeWTC pages using #GivingTuesday and #911TributeGiving.

#### **TRIBUTE PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

In recognition of Veterans Day, we will present our annual program *Stories from the Front: Veterans Share their Experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan,* on Monday, November 9 at 6:30 pm. This is the 6th year Tribute is hosting this event in collaboration with the Veterans' Writing Workshop at NYU.

Thousands of military personnel visit the 9/11 Tribute Center every year. Our volunteers have shared their 9/11 stories with the veterans – now we have an opportunity to hear their stories.

On Monday, December 7, at 6:30 pm hear an update on the rebuilding of St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church into a beautiful national shrine at the corner of Liberty and Greenwich Streets. Jerry Dimitriou of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America will share the plans for this historical, spiritual space overlooking the 9/11 Memorial.



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

## DONATIONS IN MEMORIAM

Paul A. Acquaviva, Esq. Mary Catherine Murphy Boffa FF Michael Boyle Terence D. Gazzani Lt. Vincent F. Giammona Ida Gutierrez FF Jonathan Ielpi Ronald Magnuson Lt. Paul Mitchell FF Michael D. Mullan BC Orio Palmer Derek Ogilvie Sword FF Louis Valentino FF Bruce Van Hine

# #GI≫INGTUESDAY

# DECEMBER 1

## In honor of

Craig Anders Captain Bruce Barvels (FDNY ret.) In honor of the children survivors of the 3/11/11 disaster in Japan Stephen Kern Joan Mastropaolo

#### Join the Giving Movement. Make a Difference.

Donate to the 9/11 Tribute Center and help spread the word to your family and friends.

#GivingTuesday #911TributeGiving

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Visit www.911families.org and select "Events" for a full list of upcoming events.

#### Marc S. Zeplin Foundation Benefit Concert

Saturday, November 21, 2015 Irving Plaza 17 Irving Place, New York, NY http://www.marczeplin.com

#### Posse's Fall Gathering

Saturday, November 21, 2015 Park Avenue Tavern 99 Park Avenue, New York, NY michaelarmstrongfoundation@gmail.com

#### **Blood Cancer Conference**

Saturday, November 21, 2015 Teaneck Marriott at Glenpointe 100 Frank W. Burr Boulevard, Teaneck, NJ http://tinyurl.com/bloodcancer-conference

## Jingle Bell Bus Trip for Secret Smiles of Dayton

Sunday, November 22, 2015 The Greene Town Center 4428 Glengarry Drive, Beavercreek, OH http://www.secretsmilesdayton.org/?p=141.

9/11 TRIBUTE CENTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING PROGRAM December 4th and 5th

#### Stories from the Front: Veterans Share Their Experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan

Monday, November 9, 2015 6:30 PM 9/11 Tribute Center 120 Liberty Street, New York, NY

St. Nicholas National Shrine – Mission & Design

Monday, December 7, 2015 6:30 PM 9/11 Tribute Center 120 Liberty Street, New York, NY

Visit http://tributewtc.org/events for more information

