



2006 Commemoration Events

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In memoriam

Loretta W. Kowal

This year's commemoration events at the State House are available for viewing online at <http://www.massfundmedia.org/>. Please feel free to share this link with families and friends in your community.

We welcome feedback about this year's program – if you have a comment, question or suggestion, contact either Diane Nealon or Erica Cabag at the Fund. Also, anyone who is interested in helping plan future commemoration ceremonies is encouraged to let us know.

Thank you to all the family members, volunteers and partners in the "Community of Care" who helped make this year's program run smoothly.

Battleship Cove 9/11 Memorial Dedication **Sunday, October 8, 2006**

Family members should have received an invitation in the mail to the dedication of a 9/11 memorial at Battleship Cove in Fall River, MA on at 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 8, 2006. **Please be sure to send in your RSVP card before October 1st so we have enough time to plan for catering and staffing of this event.** If you are unfamiliar with the exhibits and memorials at Battleship Cove, feel free to visit their web page at www.battleshipcove.org.

Events presently scheduled for the dedication ceremony include light refreshments, a private walk through of the memorial for family members only, and free carousel rides for family members. If you have any specific questions about the event, you may contact us at the Fund or call Paula Hague or Nicole Thibeault at Battleship Cove at 800-533-3194.

| Table of Contents: | Page |
|--|-------------|
| Congratulations to the 2006 Sweeney Award Winners. | 2 |
| African American Homicide Bereavement Study | 3 |
| Family Input Sought for Fund Fall Programs and Newsletter Articles. | 3 |
| Update on Executive Director Search. | 3 |
| Garden of Reflection Dedication in Pennsylvania | 4 |
| Important Program and Benefit Reminders. | 5 |



Upcoming Events

*Battleship Cove Memorial
Unveiling
October 8, 2006
Fall River, MA*

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Congratulations to the 2006 Sweeney Award Winners

The Fund extends a heartfelt congratulations to the following recipients of this year's Madeline "Amy" Sweeney award winners:

**Greg Deighan
Henry Garvey
Jerry Morkeski
Adam Speed**

As most of you know, this award was created by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in honor of Amy Sweeney, an Acton, Mass., resident and flight attendant for American Airlines. While working on Flight 11, Amy Sweeney was able to contact ground crews to relay vital information about the hijackers before the plane's devastating crash into the World Trade Center. The information Amy relayed later helped authorities identify the terrorists.

Greg, Henry, Jerry and Adam were honored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts during this year's commemoration ceremonies at the State House for their heroic efforts during a house fire in Newburyport, Massachusetts last summer. Greg, Henry, Jerry and Adam demonstrated the true brave spirit of Amy Sweeney when, in complete disregard for their own safety, they rushed into a neighbor's home after an explosion and rescued two men who had been trapped.

As part of the Sweeney Award Nominations Committee, the Fund was honored to be able to recognize the efforts of these remarkable men along with Michael Sweeney, the Executive Office of Public Safety and the Lt. Governor of the Commonwealth.

African American Homicide Bereavement Study

From time to time, the Fund is contacted by researchers and graduate students who are studying the different aspects of the effects of 9/11 on family members. Boston College Graduate School of Social Work doctoral candidate Tanya Sharpe is surveying the coping strategies of African American family members who are surviving the homicide of a loved one and has expressed an interest in speaking to those in our community who lost someone on 9/11. The online survey (available at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=323282082722>) takes approximately twenty to twenty-five minutes to complete and the results are confidential. If you are an African American family member (including bi-racial or multi-racial) aged eighteen or older, you are invited to take the online survey. If you would like more information about participating in this study, please contact Tanya at (617)552-0775 Ext #5 or e-mail her at sharpeta@bc.edu.

Family Input Sought for Fund Fall Programs and Newsletter Articles



The Fund is putting together its calendar of fall program events. Currently, the staff and Family Advisory Committee are considering hosting a holiday party, a mental health workshop and possibly a “Day of Relaxation” as family members unwind after the intense media focus on the fifth commemoration of 9/11. If you have a suggestion or particular request for a fall event, or if you are interested in contributing an article to one of our fall newsletters, please contact Diane Nealon at the Fund.

Update on Executive Director Search

Board Member Jim Fisher is heading the search committee for the vacant Executive Director position at the Fund. Jim is developing a job description which will be consistent with helping the Board and the staff of the Fund toward fulfilling its strategic planning mission. You may recall that the Fund completed its strategic planning mission this summer resulting in a decision to maintain a 9/11 focus on Fund programs and strengths and to transition these programs and strengths into the family community over the next months. If you would like to provide input to the Board of Directors during this process, please contact the Interim Executive Director, John Curtis.

Invitation to Garden of Reflection Dedication Memorial Park, Pennsylvania

Below please find an invitation to all 9/11 family members from the Garden of Reflection Committee which was passed along to us by Bill Doyle. For more information, please see www.9-11MemorialGarden.org.

*The Garden of Reflection Committee
requests the honor of your presence*

*At the Dedication of the Garden of Reflection
Pennsylvania September eleventh two thousand and one Memorial*

*Saturday, the thirtieth of September
two thousand and six
four o'clock in the afternoon*

*Memorial Park
1950 Woodside Road
Lower Makefield, Pennsylvania, 19067*

The Garden of Reflection www.9-11MemorialGarden.org will honor all 2973 loved ones we lost on September 11, 2001. Along the Remembrance Walk you will read each name etched in glass which will then lead to the center pool with twin fountains and our local dedication to the seventeen Bucks County residents we lost.

The event will be rain or shine. Seating is limited and your best chance is to rsvp asap with name and number of attending to adrienne@lmt.org <<mailto:adrienne@lmt.org>>

The Hampton Inn Hotel has given a discounted rate to the Garden of Reflection for its Dedication on September 30, 2006. The rate will apply to Friday September 29, 2006 and Saturday September 30, 2006. Regular room rates for \$189.00 per night are discounted to \$119.00. There are also suites available with two double plus double sleeper or King plus pull out regular price of \$225 discounted to \$159.00. The hotel is already half booked up so if you have an interest in the rooms please call and reserve your rooms early. Their phone number is 215.860.1700 or 1.800.Hampton, or you can book online at www.hampton-inn.com/hi/newtown and put in date and group code of GOR. The address of the Hampton Inn is 1000 Stony Hill Rd, Yardley, PA 19067 and is located about 1 mile away from the Garden of Reflection. If you require a rate other than just those two days, please call Mark Auman directly at 215.504.9752 and he will give you the rate for the additional days.

Directions to the dedication from Hampton Inn:

Exit right from Main Entrance of Hampton Inn onto Stony Hill Road. Proceed to traffic light and turn left onto Route 332. Proceed to traffic light and turn right onto Lindenhurst Road. Go to the third traffic light and make a right onto Woodside Road. Go 1/4 mile on left will be the Garden of Reflection at Memorial Park. 1950 Woodside Road, Lower Makefield, Pa. 19067.

Important Program & Benefit Reminders

Register with Scholarship America

Register eligible dependents in one of the following ways: phone toll-free 1-877-862-0136, email to scholarships911@scholarshipamerica.org or visit their website www.scholarships911.org. If you experience any difficulty at all with the registration process, or have questions after contacting Scholarship America - please get in touch with us as soon as you can.

\$5,000 in Uninsured Health Costs Assistance from Twin Towers Orphans Fund

Twin Towers Orphans Fund provides up to \$5,000/year for uninsured physical health costs and uninsured mental health costs incurred by children who lost one or both parents on September 11th. Contact the Twin Towers Orphan Fund at (661) 633-9076 or at <http://www.ttof.org/>.

Red Cross Reimbursement for Mental Health Care Scheduled for Closeout

The Red Cross has announced that it intends to close out its 9/11 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program (known to many as "LIFENET") in 2007. A complete description of program is available at www.9-11MentalHealth.org or by telephone at 1-800-LIFENET (1-800-543-3638). The deadline to **enroll** in this program is **January 2, 2007** (enrollment is completed by calling the 1-800-LIFENET number). The last date of service which will be reimbursed by this program is **December 31, 2007** and the last date to file a claim for reimbursable services is **March 31, 2008**.

Please note – this program does allow you to claim eligible uninsured mental health treatment costs retroactively back to 9/11/01. If you or anyone in your family is or was incurring out of pocket costs for mental health treatment since 9/11, we strongly encourage you to take advantage of this program before it ends. Family members will not be allowed to "carry" any unused portion of the benefit.

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www.massfund.org



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PLEASE FORWARD IF NECESSARY

