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10th Commemoration Issue



National 9/11 Flag Damaged at the World Trade Center

9/11 to be Remembered Across the Commonwealth

The Mass 9/11 Fund has worked through the years to provide its families with a respectful day of commemorative events. This year for the 10th Anniversary, we are fortunate, as in previous years, to have tremendous support from the offices of Governor Deval Patrick and Mayor Tom Menino. In addition to the wreath laying with the Mayor at the Public Garden Memorial and the State House Commemoration with the Governor and Lt. Governor, cities and towns across the Commonwealth are planning events and ways to acknowledge the day.

Please Note: The Commemoration at the House Chambers and the Reception are by invitation only.

7:30 am, Wreath Laying Ceremony, Boston Public Garden, 9/11 Garden of Remembrance, Taxi cab service, for those needing assistance will be available from the Memorial Garden to the State House

8:30 am, Flag Lowering, Moment of Silence and Reading of Names, Front Steps of Mass. State House

9:30 am, Commemoration Observance & Sweeney Award for Civilian Bravery, Mass. State House Chambers of the House of Representatives. *RSVP required.*

Reception Luncheon, Ritz Carlton Hotel, Boston. *RSVP required.* Trolley service, for those needing assistance will be available from the State House.

1:00 pm, City and State will participate in a *nationwide bell-ringing*

Please see list of Mass 9/11 Fund 10th Commemoration events online at www.massfund.org/calendar-of-events

Family Advisory Committee

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In memoriam

Senator Edward M.
 Kennedy
 Loretta W. Kowal

Last Chance to RSVP

Invitations to the 2011 Boston Commemoration of September 11 were mailed out several weeks ago to the families on our mailing list. **If you have not responded yet, please do so at your earliest convenience so that we can plan appropriately. We will only be able to guarantee reserved luncheon seating for those who respond no later than September 2. Because of the overwhelming response to this year's event, we may have to hold the luncheon in two separate rooms. While we would prefer to be together in one room, this is the only solution to our capacity constraints.**

Regarding family members with mobility issues, please note that we can only accommodate those who have specifically requested this service in advance.

Please send your 10th Commemoration invitation RSVP to our event planner at:

Michael P. Wasserman, Inc.
Attn: Nancy Petkunas
 349 Newbury Street, Suite 300
 Boston, MA 02115
npetkunas@mpwi.org
 617-262-3424

If you are a family member and you did not receive your invitation please contact Nancy Petkunas . Send her your name, home address and relationship to the loved one you lost. Also, please send your updated address to teresa.mathai@massfund.org

Events**Lawmakers and Family Members
 Kick-off of 9/11 Day of Service Campaign**

Several 9/11 family members gathered with members of Congress at the Capitol Building in Washington, DC last month to help kick off the official **9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance** project. Republicans and Democrats, including US House of Representatives Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi and Senator Scott Brown (R-Ma) joined family members, survivors, first responders and recovery workers to inspire Americans to volunteer in service and good deeds in observance of the 10th Anniversary.

My Good Deed leaders (the non-profit formed in 2002 to encourage volunteers in recognition of 9/11) and representatives from other service-oriented non-profits spoke at the event. Attendees helped stitch the National 9/11 Flag that was damaged after the World Trade Center collapsed. The flag has been making its way across the country, stopping in every state before the 10th anniversary of 9/11. A stitching ceremony was held in Danvers, MA last winter.

My Good Deed introduced the **"I Will" Campaign**, which encourages Americans to state on their website www.911dayofservice.org how they will commemorate 9/11 this year, and who they will honor. Good Deed's goal is to mobilize thousands of volunteers across the nation to partner with other non-profit organizations resulting in a total of one million volunteers doing an act of service in memory of those killed on 9/11.

Boston Garden of Remembrance 9/11 Memorial Gets a Facelift for the 10th Commemoration

The Mass 9/11 Fund contracted with Daedalus Art to freshen the memorial which will include a complete cleaning and reapplication of ink to the engraved names, words and patterns on the stone. Joshua Craine, the representative of the company, thought it would be a good idea to invite the 9/11 families to participate in the application of the colorant to the names of their loved ones. Brushes will be provided to all interested family members. The handle of the brushes will be engraved with "We Remember" and could be taken home as a keepsake.

Over 50 family members have signed up to spend time at the Boston Garden of Remembrance during the 3-day renovation (August 23rd, 24th or 25th). The Parks and Recreation Department will also be undertaking special maintenance of the memorial, including power washing and landscaping. We are grateful to our former Board President and current Chair of the Memorial Committee, John Curtis, for his ongoing leadership and dedication to maintaining our beautiful memorial.

Community Event with Boston Cares and Sidewalk Sam

We have partnered with two service organizations for a two-phase community event of sidewalk art. On Saturday, September 10th, Mass 9/11 families and their friends will join professional artists and Sidewalk Sam in painting a giant Mass9/11 Fund logo containing 206 symbolic doves at City Hall Plaza. The public will be invited on Sunday, September 11th, to help complete the project. If you are interested in participating in this event on Saturday, please RSVP to teresa.mathai@massfund.org

Red Cross, MMHF Provide Service Opportunities on 9/11

Families in Boston have several opportunities to participate in service activities on 9/11, including the **American Red Cross Blood Drive at Fenway Park**, and the **Mass Military Heroes' Fund's care package drive on the Rose Kennedy Greenway**.

For the 9th year, the **Red Cross** will host one of its largest blood drives of the year from 7 am to 5 pm. Called **The Drive to Remember**, the blood drive is held in the Club level of Fenway Park. Donors are treated to traditional Fenway Franks, chicken fingers, and Legal Seafood New England Clam Chowder. 9/11 family members need no appointment, but should notify the Red Cross at check-in that you are a family member so your wait time will be minimal. Transportation to and from the city to Fenway Park may be provided by the Red Cross. Contact Christie at mccombs@comcast.net if you plan to donate blood and you need transportation information.

The **Massachusetts Military Heroes' Fund**, a non-profit that advocates for families of post-9/11 fallen service members from Massachusetts, is organizing its **3rd Annual Care Package Drive on the Rose Kennedy Greenway** on the afternoon of 9/11. Volunteers will be assembling 1000 care packages to be sent to troops serving overseas. Families are encouraged to stop by, write a note to a service member or help assemble the packages. The drive, located on the Greenway near the Aquarium, begins at 11 am and will likely end around 2 or 3 pm. If you know of a school group, business, church or civic group that may be interested in donating items or funds to the project, please contact Christie at mccoomb@comcast.net for details on items and quantities needed.

Other service projects and events are being organized by various groups across the Commonwealth. Refer to the Massfund website www.massfund.org for complete listing. Our website will be updated as we become aware of more events.