



## Thank You to David Hastings

The Board of Directors and the Staff of the MA 9/11 Fund would like to offer its heartfelt thanks to David Hastings as he leaves his position as Executive Director of the Fund. We are pleased David will continue to work with the Fund in planning this year's commemoration events.

The Fund also extends a warm welcome and thank you to **John Curtis**, a board member since November, 2003 who will be acting as **Interim Executive Director** for the organization over the next few weeks. John is pleased to continue his dedication to the Fund's mission in the important role of Interim Executive Director and welcomes any questions or comments from family members. John can be reached at 617-482-8150 or by email at [executive.director@massfund.org](mailto:executive.director@massfund.org).

## 2006 Commemoration

Invitations to the 2006 Commemoration of September 11 were mailed out in early July. Please be sure to return your RSVP card to us **no later than August 11<sup>th</sup>** so we may have enough time to plan appropriately. ***We will only be able to guarantee reserved luncheon seating for those who respond by that day.***

### Volunteer Readers Invited

If you would like to take an active part in the commemoration this year, please contact the Fund as soon as possible either by email: [info@massfund.org](mailto:info@massfund.org), or by phone 1-866-386-3911.

### Commemoration Fully Accessible for All Mobility Levels

If you or another family member has particular mobility needs, please contact the Fund so we can make special arrangements to make sure you can comfortably participate in all commemoration events.

## Battleship Cove 9/11 Memorial Dedication – Oct. 8

Battleship Cove in Fall River, MA has been designated as the state's official 9/11 memorial site. The staff and members of the Fund's Family Advisory Committee have been in touch with Battleship Cove to help plan the design and unveiling ceremony on Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. Please watch your mail for an invitation to this special event.

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#### In memoriam

Loretta W. Kowal

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Upcoming Events

*Moussaoui Trial  
Follow Up Meeting  
with Prosecutorial Team  
August 3, 2006  
U. S. Attorney's Office  
Federal Courthouse  
Boston, MA*

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*Fifth Anniversary  
Commemoration  
September 11, 2006  
State House  
Boston, MA  
Park Plaza Imperial  
Ballroom, Boston, MA*

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

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## Message from Board President Faith Arter MA 9/11 Fund Strategic Planning Decision Reached

At the Annual Meeting of the MA 9/11 Fund, Inc. Board of Directors held July 17, 2006, the Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by Dan England, presented its final report for discussion and Board vote. As you know, the Committee had issued two reports previously, each of which was vetted in paper and electronic formats with the entire constituency of the Fund, including all family members, board members, funding and partner organizations and individuals.

The Board voted unanimously to support a strategy that ensures the continuity of the Massachusetts 9/11 Fund so that it will remain a source of support, strength and renewal for the family members, as the donors intended. This strategy provides for a transition to a structure which provides for increased participation and leadership for family members who wish to be involved. The responsibilities of the existing staff may eventually be taken on by organizations, family members, and/or institutions with whom the Board will partner. These groups will be receiving specific contracts and associated funding to exercise designated functions on behalf of the organization. These functions will include, but not limited to the maintenance and preservation of the Public Garden Memorial, provision of an annual commemoration, and specific support programs to be designated for the benefit of families.

Over the coming six to twelve months, the Board of Directors, Family Advisory Committee and staff will work to identify the funding priorities for the future and the duration of those priorities.

We ask that you join with us as we reaffirm the organization's commitment to our mission – strengthening the resolve and the resiliency of the families and offer tools for growth.

## **StoryCorps Coming to Boston**

StoryCorps, a national project to instruct and inspire people to record each others' stories in sound, will be recording interviews during their month-long Mobile StoryBooth Tour in Boston. This oral history project records a 40-minute interview between two people, conducted in one of two traveling recording studios, called MobileBooths. Two copies of the interview will be made, one for you and the other for the collection at the Library of Congress, with your permission, of course. StoryCorps has been generous enough to hold a small number of reservations for MA 9/11 Fund family members who are interested in participating in this project. If you are interested in reserving an appointment, please feel free to contact Erica Cabag. For more information about StoryCorps, or to view sample questions and hear sample interview segments, please visit their website at [www.storycorps.net](http://www.storycorps.net).

## **Memorial Quilt Display in NYC**

On Saturday, September 9, 2006, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, America's 9-11 Memorial Quilts Organization will be dedicating America's 9-11 Memorial Quilts in memory of the heroes of 9-11. They will begin to be displayed on September 8, from 4:00 pm – 9:00 pm for families who cannot attend the dedication ceremony. Several quilts will be dedicated in honor of the New York State Courts, Port Authority Civilian, EMS, FDNY, and America's 9-11 Victims. The MA 9/11 Fund would like to organize a trip to New York for the dedication if a large number of family members are interested in attending. Please contact Erica Cabag if you would like to attend this dedication. For more information about America's 9-11 Memorial Quilts, please visit their website at [www.911memorialquilts.com](http://www.911memorialquilts.com).

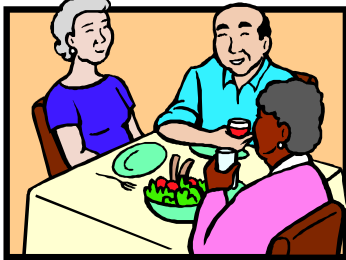
## **World Trade Center - Movie Advisory**

The staff at the Fund had a chance to preview Oliver Stone's World Trade Center movie. As many of you know, the movie is a graphic "docudrama" depiction of the rescue of two Port Authority officers who were trapped in the debris of the fallen towers. Please think carefully about your goals for seeing this movie – for those looking for factual insights into 9/11, remember that this film is a writer's interpretation of two individuals' recollections of their specific experiences on 9/11. We experienced the visuals and thundering "surround sound" effects of the destructive events of September 11<sup>th</sup> as very intense, overwhelming and potentially retraumatizing. We imagine these sound and image recreations will be incredibly upsetting, particularly for children. We strongly recommend that family members considering seeing this movie plan to do so safely – in fact, prior to viewing you may wish to consult with a mental health professional for an individualized plan about how to cope with the effects of this movie. If you are not currently working with a mental health professional, please contact Diane Nealon at the Fund for assistance.

## The CIRCLE/The Good Grief Program of Boston Medical Center Upcoming Group Events

As the 5<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of September 11, 2001 approaches, The CIRCLE/Good Grief Program invites you for an opportunity to meet and talk with other family members who had a loved one die to share thoughts and remembrances. We invite you to bring a photo and a memory of your loved one to share.

**Place: Jumbo Seafood Restaurant, 10 Langley Road, Newton Center, 617 – 332-3600**



For Parents Who Lost A Child

Date: Wednesday, August 30th, 2006

Time: Lunch 11:30 – 1:30

For Spouses, Fiancés and Partners

Date: Tuesday, August 29th, 2006

Time: Lunch 11:30 – 1:30

For Adult Children Who Lost A Parent(s)

Date: Tuesday, August 29th, 2006

Time: Dinner 6:30 – 8:30

For Siblings

Date: Monday, August 28th, 2006

Time: Dinner 6:30 – 8:30

Please R.S.V.P by August 18<sup>th</sup> to Deborah Rivlin  
Phone: 617-414-3616 Email: [Deborah.Rivlin@bmc.org](mailto:Deborah.Rivlin@bmc.org)

Projected Supported by September 11 Recovery Grant American Red Cross Liberty Disaster Relief Fund

## **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](mailto:scholarships911@scholarshipamerica.org) or visit their website [www.scholarships911.org](http://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](http://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.

# August 2006 Family Newsletter

[www.massfund.org](http://www.massfund.org)



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PLEASE FORWARD IF NECESSARY

