



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CONSERVATION

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Edward A. Diana
County Executive

Richard L. Rose, Jr.
Commissioner

NEWS

September 6, 2011

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Orange County to Host September 11 Remembrance Ceremony *Patriot Day Recognition to be held at Arboretum*

Montgomery -- Orange County Executive Edward A. Diana and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation Commissioner Richard Rose invite the community to attend the September 11 Patriot Day ceremony to be held at the Orange County Arboretum in Montgomery on Sunday, September 11 at 5 p.m.

The ceremony, which is open to the public, will honor the memory of the 44 Orange County residents who lost their lives on that tragic day and pay tribute to the brave military personnel who have so valiantly served our nation. Families and survivors of September 11 and families of local military personnel are invited to participate in the remembrance ceremony and join the procession assembling at the Arboretum's Ottaway Education Center at 4:30 p.m.

"From our nation's earliest days, men and women from Orange County have made sacrifices in the name of freedom for our country," said County Executive Diana. "On September 11, we remember the 44 Orange County residents – our friends, neighbors, and loved ones - who made the ultimate sacrifice when our nation was struck by tragedy ten years ago. It is our honor to pay tribute to them on Patriot Day, as well as to those lost in Pennsylvania, at the Pentagon, and in Afghanistan and Iraq," said Mr. Diana.

Honored guests, elected officials, military personnel, and family and friends will be welcomed by County Executive Diana and NY State Senator William J. Larkin Jr.

Orange County Sheriff Carl E. DuBois will lead the procession along the Remembrance Walkway followed by honor guards from throughout the County and the Ancient Order of Hibernians as they guide the families and survivors to their seats by the County's

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beautiful September 11 memorial and military tribute. A Garrison American flag donated by Goshen Ladder Company will be hoisted by Goshen and Coldenham fire apparatus to serve as a backdrop to the ceremonies while local fire companies, law enforcement, veterans groups, and emergency responders line the way.

Guitarist Richard Pell will perform and the Song of the Valley Chorus, Sweet Adelines International will sing the National Anthem and a medley of patriotic songs. Chaplain, Major John L. Torres Jr., USAF/NYANG will give the Invocation; Rev. William Scafidi, Sacred Heart Church, Newburgh, will offer the Prayer of Remembrance, and Rabbi Joel Schwab, Temple Sinai, Middletown, will provide the Benediction.

Community supporter and memorial benefactor James W. Taylor Jr. and William J. Bratton Jr., representing the families, will read the names of those who perished on September 11, as well as the names of our local servicemen who have made the ultimate sacrifice since that day.

William Moore, Battalion Chief, NYFD Retired will toll the bell on loan from Castle Point VA Hospital Fire Department, followed by a 21 gun salute by Maybrook VFW Post 2064, and echoing taps played by Eric Parks, SGM Ret and Brittany German. Bagpipe Major Tom Fleming will perform Amazing Grace.

Following the ceremony a Peace Through Music concert will be held in the Raised Gardens of the Arboretum.

The beautiful and uniquely moving September 11 Memorial features a 10-foot granite globe that rotates as it hydroplanes in a pool of water. The names of the 44 local heroes are identified on bronze plaques around the pool. The Military Tribute monument is dedicated to those who have served, are serving, and will be serving our Country.

The Orange County Arboretum is operated in cooperation with the Friends of the Orange County Arboretum, Inc. and the Department of Parks and is located at 41 Grove Street within the Thomas Bull Memorial Park Memorial Park, State Route 416, Montgomery, NY. For additional information, please call 845.615.3824 or visit www.orangecountygov.com or www.orangecountyarboretum.org.

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