

SOUTH WINDSOR VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASE SWFD 9-11 DEDICATION CEREMONY OTHER 9-11 EVENTS

On <u>Sunday, September 11th at 1900 hours (7:00pm</u>) the South *Windsor Fire Department (SWFD)* will be hosting a ceremony <u>DEDICATING a NEW 9-11 MEMORIAL</u> at Fire Headquarters, 1175 Ellington Road. All Members are encouraged to attend – Class "A" Uniform. This is not just for us, but for our Families and the Community as well. Refreshments to follow...

This new 9-11 Memorial is Thanks to the extra ordinary efforts of **ERIC HOFMANN** – a member of the *SWFD Explorer Post 838* and a member of *BSA South Windsor Troop 880*. As Eric watched his brother, Andrew, enhance the SWFD Memorial as his **Eagle Scout Project**, he knew he wanted to continue in that same direction and add a new 9-11 Memorial to the existing SWFD Memorial. He started this Eagle Scout Project in July of 2014 writing letters to the NY/NJ Port Authority requesting an artifact from the World Trade Towers – knowing that there were only a few limited amounts of material left, he was not surprise that nearly a year went by with no answer. Then in June of 2015 he received word that a piece of steel artifact as available for this project. He spent the next few months communicating back and forth, gathering the support from not only the SWFD, but the Community of South Windsor – and all the associated requirements. Eric's leadership, direction and passion all came together in August of 2015 when a small group of us traveled to NY to bring this amazing piece of history to South Windsor…many of you may recall as we shared that day.

Now, after months of Eric's efforts and fund raising, supported by his family, the SWFD, and the local Community –the new 9-11 Memorial is nearly complete!

Please join us on Sunday, September 11th at 1900 hours (7:00pm) as we host a Ceremony unveil and dedicate the new 9-11 Memorial. All are welcome...

Let us Never Forget that day...15 years ago...09-11-01

In addition to the New SW 9-11 Dedication Ceremony, please join us at other Ceremonies, Masses and Remembrances of the 15th Anniversary of 9-11.

- Manchester Fire-Rescue-EMS and IAFF Local 1579 hosting their Annual 9-11 Ceremony at the Manchester Firefighters Memorial Garden, Station 5, 331 Tolland Turnpike, Manchester at 0900 hours (9:00am). This is an incredible Memorial Garden dedicated to both 9-11 and many Fallen Firefighters that died in the Line of Duty. This year, in addition to the Annual 9-11 Remembrances, they are also dedicating a new piece in Honor of Chief KEN JEFFERY of the Windsor Locks and US Sub Base FD's.
- <u>2016 BLUE MASS</u> In Honor of all active and retired Police, Fire, EMS and DOC personnel. ALL FAITHS Welcome! <u>Cathedral of Saint Joseph, 140 Farmington</u> <u>Ave., Hartford, CT.</u> Uniform Personnel formation/procession at 1030 hours (10:30am) with Celebration of Mass at <u>1100 hours (11:00 am)</u> by the Most Reverend Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford.
- <u>Saint Francis of Assis Church</u> Green, 673 <u>Ellington Road, South Windsor</u>, CT at <u>2000 hours, (8:00pm)</u> In order to remember, honor and pray for all those who died on September 11, 2001, luminaries, one for every victim, arranged in the shape of a cross on the Church Green. Luminaries will be lighted at dusk. ALL WELCOME!

Please contact me for questions / further information needed.

Kevin E. Cooney, Fire Chief

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