



The Brooklyn Paper

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"To build may have to be the slow and laborious task of years.
To destroy can be the thoughtless act of a single day."

— *Winston Churchill*

9-11 — ONE YEAR LATER



Squad 1 firehouse on Union Street at Seventh Avenue was flooded with tributes in the days following Sept. 11. *By Patrick Gallahue*

Relationships built from sorrow

Around Brooklyn firehouses, camaraderie's born out of shared tragedy

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

Last Sept. 14, thousands of Park Slope residents gathered outside Squad 1 on Union Street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, in a show of support for the beleaguered firehouse.

A dozen men had been lost at the World Trade Center three days prior, and personal grief and communal sympathy seemed to merge outside the firehouse that day.

At Squad 1 last September, people seeking to make sense of what had happened — some of whom had not even lost someone personally — wept openly at the doorway of the building, where the silent march and vigil concluded. A year later, the community has maintained its devotion but has turned to subtler displays of affection, said Squad 1 firefighter Joe O'Donnell.

"It's in a smile, it's in a

wave — people still wave," O'Donnell said. "It's in someone who stops by to ask how we're doing."

The World Trade Center attacks redefined the role of firefighters in the community and the institution stood as a beacon of heroism in an otherwise despicable tragedy.

Of the 343 firefighters who died on Sept. 11, 95 were from Brooklyn, and more than 40 were from the brownstone belt of Brooklyn Heights, Downtown, Cobble Hill and Park Slope, in addition to Red Hook.

The proximity of those areas to the Brooklyn and Manhattan bridges, and the Battery Tunnel, made them some of the earliest responders to the attacks on the World Trade Center and some of the hardest hit by the buildings' eventual collapses.

In the weeks following Sept. 11, many firefighters placed their concentration on the wreckage at Ground Zero, re-

fusing to term any man "lost" or any wife a "widow." As time chipped away at the hope of a rescue, the mission turned to recovery. All the while, digging through "the pile" remained the focus.

"I don't think hope ever gave out," O'Donnell said. "But what you were hoping for changed. First, you hoped for all of the guys back, and then you hoped to rescue a couple of the guys. And then you hoped for the recovery of the guys."

While externally, the community's bond with its firehouse was established on or shortly after Sept. 11, internally, the firehouse itself is still being rebuilt.

In a profession where men work, sleep, eat and live together — the loss of any single member is akin to a death in the family.

Between the men that were lost on 9-11, retirements and promotions, some local firehouses

are receiving close to a dozen new members. One firefighter described it as feeling "like a stranger in your own firehouse."

Engine Company 205 and Ladder 118 on Midknight Street, between Henry and Hicks streets in Brooklyn Heights, lost eight men, and now has nine new probationary firefighters, known as "probies."

"It's a very big learning process," said Engine 205 firefighter John Sorrentino. "Usually you might get one or two new guys over the course of a year."

And Squad 1, which lost 12 of its men, now has three new officers in addition to 11 new firefighters. Engine 279 and Ladder 131 on Loraine Street between Court and Smith streets in Red Hook, which lost five men, has taken on a half-dozen "probies."

For the firefighters who survived 9-11, creating new bonds while still grieving for lost brothers is a challenge, said

Ladder 131's Lt. Tom Coleman. (The bond) hasn't been re-established and it's taken a long time," he said. "I don't think we'll ever get back to where we were before Sept. 11."

"We've all had to live with ghosts in the past, of people who've passed away," he said. "Now the ghosts are more current."

Added to that are new stresses of the job. "The way we look at ourselves and the way the public looks at us when we go out the door [is different]," said Coleman. "We never thought of terrorism when we went out the door. It was just a fire before and now there's so many things we have to be aware of."

"I think our job description has changed dramatically," Sorrentino agreed.

In the meantime, however, the resources of the firehouse have been restored, and the brothers is a challenge, said

using borrowed rigs, are fully functional once again.

New engines have arrived at Squad 1 and Ladder 118 after the originals were destroyed at the World Trade Center.

The probies that arrive also enter a friendly neighborhood and are greeted with a warmth from the local residents, O'Donnell said.

Their arrival is greeted more noticeably, and warmly than the men who came before Sept. 11.

Approaching the one-year anniversary, many Brooklyn firefighters will spend the day in prayer and memorial services, at Ground Zero or gathering with the families of lost brethren. While the day will be a social observance of pause and reflection, the memories of their loss and sacrifice will not be far off, nor will the public's reflections be without reciprocity.

"We could never repay the kindness we've received," O'Donnell said.

Vigils, marches & prayer in Brownstone Brooklyn

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

On Sept. 11, crowds gathered in honor as the attacks on the World Trade Center filled the Twin Towers.

People seemed unable to remain in their houses and gathered in churches, synagogues or public places such as the Brooklyn Heights promenade, which offered an unobstructed view of the fractured skyline.

Now, as then, those institutions and spaces will play host to a public seeking solace, consolation or simply a vantage point to remember what was lost a year ago.

Congregation B'nai Abraham will hold its regular morning prayer service on the promenade at the Pierpont Street entrance. The service will start at 7:45 am and proceed by a blowing of the shofar, a

bugle-like instrument made from a ram's horn and sounded during the Jewish High Holy Day season, and then a minute of silence at 8:46 am, the exact time that the North Tower was hit. Then there will be a communal reading of psalms, followed by a second shofar blowing and another minute of silence at 9:02 am, the time the second plane hit the South Tower.

An interfaith service hosted by the Brooklyn Heights Clergy Association will begin at noon at the Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims at 75 Hicks St.

The multi-faith service will end with a silent march to the promenade stretching roughly between Remsen and Cranberry streets along the waterfront. A wreath will be laid in honor of the nearly 3,000 victims of the terrorist attacks.

Later that night, the Arab American

Family Support Center will march at 6 pm from Court Street at Atlantic Avenue to the promenade, followed by a candlelight vigil from 7 pm to 9 pm. Organizers describe the event as an occasion for mourning, void of political objectives.

The event recalls the days after Sept. 11, when members of the Arab-American community and the Brooklyn Heights Clergy Association (BHCA), gathered at Court Street and Atlantic Avenue for a similar procession to the promenade.

They will doubtless be joined by spontaneous gatherings such as those that took place on Sept. 11, and the days and weeks after, and on March 11 for the six-month commemoration that featured the lighting of the "Towers of Light" memorial.

"Because of the view it has of the See **VIGILS, MARCHES** on page 4

Hard-hit Ridge pays tribute

Street for Moira Smith; Xaverian HS to light eternal flame

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

Bay Ridge, which lost 32 residents on Sept. 11, will mark the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks with a number of ceremonies and candlelight vigils.

Neighboring Dyker Heights lost about 10, and Bensonhurst and Bath Beach lost nearly 20 residents, according to statistics released by the city medical examiner's office on Aug. 19.

The tributes will begin Saturday, Sept. 7, with the unofficial renaming of 74th Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues after Police Officer Moira Smith.

Smith, who lived on that block for more than 18 years, was the only female police officer to die in the World Trade Center attacks.

In May, residents submitted a petition

to Community Board 10, which approved it and formally asked Councilman Marty Golden to introduce legislation to rename the street in Smith's honor.

Since passage of the renaming legislation is all but assured, according to a Golden aide, when the City Council meets on Sept. 9 and since Sept. 7 is the date of the annual block party on that street, police officials led by Police Commissioner Ray Kelly, Golden, the Smith family and civic leaders will gather at the corner of Sixth Avenue and 74th Street for a small ceremony to unveil the street sign proclaiming "PO Moira Smith Way."

Smith was last assigned to the 13th Precinct in Manhattan's Kips Bay section. She was the only woman among the 23 NYPD officers — 72 officers in total including the Port Authority, federal agents and court officers — lost in the terrorist at-

tacks. The 38-year-old officer was last seen evacuating people from the South Tower.

Smith attended the Our Lady of Angels elementary school and Our Lady of Perpetual Help High School, and married her husband, James, in St. Patrick's Church on Fourth Avenue at 95th Street. She left behind a 2-year-old daughter, Patricia Mary.

The NY Waterway ferry line named a vessel after Smith in February. The vessel bearing her name is one of four new ferries to travel the East River. Smith has also been named a Women of Distinction as part of the state's Women's History Month observance, which was inducted in May.

Smith received the NYPD's Distinguished Duty Medal in 1991 for saving lives after a subway crash, and was named Woman of the Year in 2001 by the Policewoman's Endowment Association. Also on Sept. 7, Xaverian High School, See **HARD-HIT** on page 4

F N W Q Q

Service Changes in Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens

Sunday, September 8, 2002 - Spring 2004

During the reconstruction of the Stillwell Avenue Terminal in Coney Island, subway service near the terminal will be affected. Late night and weekend service into Manhattan and Queens will also be affected.

- The Neptune Avenue, West 8 Street, and Ocean Parkway stations will be closed.
- The W, the only train serving Stillwell Avenue, will run at all times between Coney Island in Brooklyn and Astoria, Queens.
- The W will replace the N nights and weekends, making all local stops between 36 St., Brooklyn and Ditmars Blvd., Queens.
- Shuttle buses and extra local bus service will take customers from closed subway stations to the nearest open stations. Ask for a free transfer, even if you use MetroCard. (Save your MetroCard transfer for a regular ride.)

For additional information, pick up a brochure at your station.

Every week, look for our Weekend Service Changes posters located near the station booth.

This work is part of New York City Transit's ongoing effort to upgrade and maintain the subway system. We're sorry for any inconvenience.



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Vote On Primary Day, September 10

866-VOTE-NYC or visit www.vote.nyc.nyu TTY: 212-487-5496 (hearing impaired)

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9-11 — ONE YEAR LATER

Squad 1 hero's memory alive

By Patrick Gallahue
The Brooklyn Papers

As the story of Lt. David Fontana, a firefighter with Park Slope's Squad 1 was told, it seemed too big to end on Sept. 11. It needed to hear some work of art, a book or a chapter in history — each passion in his life, as were his wife, Marian, and their 5-year-old son, Aidan. Fontana was an elite firefighter with the rescue unit on Union Street between Sixth and Seventh avenues in Park Slope. He and Marian and Aidan lived together on Fourth Street and he proposed to Marian in Prospect Park.

A sculptor and amateur historian, Fontana spent his entire career near his Park Slope home, first at Ladder 122 on 11th Street, between Seventh and Eighth avenues, and then at Squad 1. He was among 12 men lost on Sept. 11. His remains were recovered last December, although a memorial service was held for him on Oct. 17, on what would have been his 38th birthday.

The past year has seen his legacy take many forms. Fontana's sculptures are currently on tour after being displayed at the Municipal Art Society in Manhattan. One was also featured at the Snag Harbor



Firefighter David Fontana with his son Aidan before the events of Sept 11 took him away. The Brooklyn Papers / File photo

Cultural Center on Staten Island in November and December. And Marian Fontana has emerged as one of the leading advocates for the families of 9-11 victims, in her role as president of the September 11th Widows and Victims Families' Association (WVFA).

Marian founded the organization, now nearing a membership of 1,000, with Martha Butler, the wife of another Squad 1 hero, Firefighter Tom Butler, as well as surviving Squad 1 firefighters Joe Miccio and Mike Stackpole, to represent the victims' families in both the recovery process and in the planning for the future of Ground Zero.

Primarily the organization fought for the dignified recovery of all those lost at the World Trade Center. She stood up to then-Mayor Rudy Giuliani last November when he wanted to drastically reduce the number of Fire Department personnel working at Ground Zero, and won.

Now, as the dreadful anniversary approaches, the subtle and gradual changes in the group's mission have become apparent.

From an organizational standpoint, there is a new city administration and relationships that had existed with Giuliani had to be re-established with Mayor Michael Bloomberg. The recovery has gone from Ground Zero to the

city medical examiner's office and the myriad interests invested in the World Trade Center site are already coming together with designs of what should rise in place of the Twin Towers.

Marian Fontana said her relationship with the Bloomberg administration is progressing. She had glowing words for the medical examiner's office and she holds a seat on the Families Advisory Council of the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation.

WVFA is also helping organize a fundraiser for Sept. 20 at Madison Square Garden, in an event called "Stars, Stripes and Skates" to benefit a fund to assist victims of crime and future terrorist attacks.

The passage of time, however, does little to heal the emotional wounds of Sept. 11, 2001. "It's been the shortest and the longest year of my life," Fontana said this week. "I'm surprised at how fresh the wounds still feel and how deeply in grief everyone still is."

For Marian Fontana, the one-year observance of Sept. 11 holds an added fragility, for it is also her wedding anniversary.

On the morning of Sept. 11, David Fontana was 10 minutes away from finishing his shift and Marian was waiting for the Connecticut Muffin coffee shop on Seventh Avenue. She had planned for them to cele-

brate their eighth wedding anniversary that day with a trip to the Guggenheim Museum. After waiting for half an hour, she returned home, vaguely annoyed that work had somehow impeded their anniversary, unaware of the gravity of the disaster.

"I went home and turned on the TV," Marian told The Papers last September. Then she saw the towers crumble. "I just collapsed. Because I knew that would probably be the end."

She has opted to retreat from the frenzy that will most likely ensue this Wednesday and observe the day privately, spreading her husband's ashes at Jones Beach.

Fontana was a lifeguard on the Long Island beach for 12 years. "I want to pull back from the event and think about his life," she said. "Not the way he died."

While she will remain active with the WVFA, she is planning a pay raise for firefighters among other objectives for the organization, Marian looks to the next year hoping to reanimate a creative life that has been dormant since 9-11.

Marian is also planning on writing a book, she said, remembering her life with Dave. She hopes to use the book as a therapeutic process, she said, "To exorcise all the things that have happened this year."

Closer looks

Channel 13-WNET will air a series of 9-11-related programs this week, including "Heroes of Ground Zero" (Sept. 9 at 8 pm), which examines the aftermath of the attacks and the loss of 343 firefighters on two companies, including Ladder 118 and Engine 205 of Brooklyn Heights. Pictured above is Ladder 118 on its final run. Also airing is "Lessons of September: One School Remembers 9/11" (Sept. 12 at 10 pm) focusing on Bay Ridge and Park Slope's Poly Prep, which lost 11 alumni on 9/11. The program is narrated by actor and Park Sloper John Turturro.



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Maimonides paramedics on 9-11 and the road back

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

Maimonides Medical Center paramedic Peter Cuzzolino can no longer lift a gurney. He did for 15 years, but that was before something heavy and solid fell from the sky as he was running from the collapse of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11.

To put it bluntly, his left arm is a mess. From Cuzzolino's elbow down, he is missing muscle and bone, and skin grafts could not fill in what that unidentified object took out. But Cuzzolino, 44, is grateful. Talking along with three other Maimonides paramedics to The Brooklyn Papers this week, he said he was grateful to have only lost his glasses, wedding ring and fragments of his arm when the blast of steel, glass and ash hit him and his supervisor, Alan Simon.

Maimonides, at 10th Avenue and 48th Street in Borough Park, is just a mile from the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel connecting Brooklyn to Lower Manhattan, and the hospital was prepared to offer a convenient source of skilled personnel and blood supplies as well as a reception center for less seriously injured patients.

Cuzzolino, a Dyker Heights resident, and Simon, who lives in Manhattan, arrived at Ground Zero at 9:20 am with three other paramedics and parked their ambulance near the south pedestrian bridge, which connected 1 World Financial Center to Liberty Street. It was not a good parking spot, Simon remembers thinking. But with their helmets on, the men exited the vehicle and once outside, just stared.

"It was all we could do," Cuzzolino said. "We were right there." About 15 minutes later, the South Tower, right across Liberty Street, began to crumble to the ground.

"It was like you were in a movie, in that shock wave you see," said Simon, 36. "And it was over in 15 seconds. I felt blood trickling down my head, but I saw that I could move," Cuzzolino said. "And then I saw my arm and it was all over the place."

It was at that moment, with the world seemingly crumbling around them that the two paramedics lost track of each other. Simon was taken by ambulance to Lutheran Medical Center in Sunset Park, for treatment of his back injuries. He was in the hospital for two days. Cuzzolino was put on a stretcher and taken to Rockman Downtown Hospital in

Manhattan, where he remained for 21 days. Neither could aid in the rescue-turned-recovery effort, a source of some measure of relief to Simon's fiancée and Cuzzolino's wife, both men said.

"I cannot lift anything," Cuzzolino said. "I attend occupational therapy three times a week. But I was out for eight months. I came back on July 1." Simon said he has healed physically, but like so many others, he is still suffering from flashbacks. He holds off, for some time, on coming back to work.

Paramedic Philip Poullada pushed him to get back on his feet again. Simon said, reminding him that he was needed back at the ambulance dispatch center on 39th Street between Fifth Avenue and Sixth avenues. And it was paramedic Paul Ferguson who put the Maimonides ambulance crews back together, said Simon, even if it meant pulling six straight days and nights away from his wife and three children, including a three-month-old.

Putting the team back together, Ferguson said, began with a lot of phone calls. "I was in the Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970, vowed to fight the Aug. 3 ticketing of his business, Neighborhood Carpet and Flooring, on 86th Street at the 10th Avenue.

Colecci, 51, who bought the store last March, said he did not know he needed a permit and defended his sidewalk decor with more than one argument, including the fact that the former owner of the business had allowed the holes to be drilled and flags to be installed when American Legion Post No. 791 asked the merchant to participate in their "Show Your Colors America" campaign in June 2001.

That campaign placed American flags along the shopping corridors of Bay Ridge and encouraged business owners to allow the local American Legion post to drill a hole in the sidewalk in order to display a flag, for a small fee (a donation to the American Legion).

Finance Officer Howard Dunn, of Legion Post 791, even sent a thank you letter and certificate of appreciation to former owner Chris Razzino, noting his display of the flag, "as an inspiration to all."

At the time, Colecci said, he was not aware of the permit, but he thought it was a patriotic thing, but if someone gets hurt without a proper permit, we become liable."

A revocable consent, Katz said, is the grant of a right to an individual or organization to construct and maintain certain structures on city streets and sidewalks. Those structures include flagpoles. "Revocable" refers to the city being able to

withdraw the permit as they see fit. Katz said there is an annual charge for all revocable consents and filing fees range from \$100 to \$750, depending on the type of proposed structure. Since Colecci has been ticketed, the total cost of his permit would be "of course, more," Katz said.

In most cases a permit application must be accompanied by a plan drawn by a professional engineer or registered architect licensed by the state. Upon receiving a complete application for a revocable consent, the Transportation Department immediately distributes it to the appropriate city agencies for their review. If an agency objects to a proposed revocable consent structure, the plans may have to be modified.

After all necessary approvals are received, Katz said, the Transportation Department must hold a public hearing and then a city council meeting. A notice of the hearing is published at the expense of the applicant, in one daily newspaper and one community newspaper. The combined cost of these advertisements is usually under \$250, he added.

If no issues arise at the hearing or during the subsequent 10-day comment period, a revocable consent agreement is drawn up and sent to the city Law Department for review. Upon approval, copies of the final agreement are sent to the applicant to be signed and the agreement is then subject to the approval of the mayor.

Colecci and DeCorso said they laughed when told about the permit process. The couple have been operating the store for less than one month, and with all the organizing and money it takes to keep moving forward, both see the whole issue as particularly untimely.

"I am supposed to defend my flags on Sept. 11?" Colecci said. "That is ridiculous. That is sick. I am a veteran and these flags mean something right now. We are at war, and we have men dying in this war. They can forget that?" Well, I can't."



Maimonides Medical Center paramedics Paul Ferguson, Philip Poullada and Peter Cuzzolino, who was hit by WTC debris, were all working on Sept. 11. The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mangro

Americans split over holiday on 9-11

By The Associated Press

Americans are divided about whether Sept. 11 should be a national holiday like Veterans Day or Memorial Day. Forty-four percent favor a national holiday on the date terrorists attacked the World Trade Center and the Pentagon

while 51 percent opposed it, according to a CNN-Time poll released Sunday.

The telephone poll of 1,004 adults was conducted Wednesday and Thursday and has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

The poll also found that:

•A third said they feel less safe in public places, and slightly more said they feel less safe traveling since Sept. 11.

•Almost a third said they are worried that a terrorist attack will occur on the anniversary of Sept. 11.

•People were most likely to say an at-

tack in the next 12 months would be carried out with a bomb in a crowded place or with biological or chemical weapons.

•Two-thirds said the nation's intelligence gathering agencies failed in their responsibility to obtain information about the attacks.

Carpet store patriot fined for his flags

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

Vito Colucci and his fiancée, Linda DeCorso, believed running his Bensonhurst carpet store together would only bring them closer.

But since the business has been ticketed by the city Department of Sanitation for posting three American flags on poles in the sidewalk in front of the store, Colucci and DeCorso have found a fight that will do the same, a fight to protect their right to show their patriotism.

And on a fitting day, he adds. Colucci is scheduled for an 8:30 am hearing on Wednesday, Sept. 11, before the Environmental Control Board (an administrative agency that provides hearings on notices of violations issued by other city agencies for various infractions of city laws) in Downtown Brooklyn.

Colecci, a Vietnam veteran who served in the Marine Corps from 1968 to 1970, vowed to fight the Aug. 3 ticketing of his business, Neighborhood Carpet and Flooring, on 86th Street at the 10th Avenue.

Colecci, 51, who bought the store last March, said he did not know he needed a permit and defended his sidewalk decor with more than one argument, including the fact that the former owner of the business had allowed the holes to be drilled and flags to be installed when American Legion Post No. 791 asked the merchant to participate in their "Show Your Colors America" campaign in June 2001.

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Linda DeCorso and Vito Colucci among the flagpoles in front of Colucci's store at 1864 86th St. The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Mangro

"Safety is our No. 1 concern and if people are just drilling holes, that's a problem," Katz said. "I know a flag is a patriotic thing, but if someone gets hurt without a proper permit, we become liable."

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Prayers

Associated Press / Tina Fineberg

A Jewish prayer book lays open as memorial candles are lit in a synagogue on Sept. 1 to mark the Hebrew calendar's one-year anniversary of the death of 16 Russian Jews in the Sept. 11 attacks. Several hundred people paid tribute to the Russian Jewish victims with a balloon release, street procession and memorial service in Brighton Beach.

9-11 — THE FEAR LATER

Memorial of Hope September 11, 2002

Our doors are open! We are offering the Park Slope neighborhood a place of refuge, hope and strength. On September 11, 2002 our church will be open all day for those that desire prayer, someone to talk to or are just looking for a quiet place.

All are welcome!



Pastors Alex & Lori Rivera

Memorial Service @ 7:30 pm

- A time of Worship
- A time of Prayer
- Honoring our neighborhood Heroes...
- Candlelight Service

Park Slope Christian Center • 269 Prospect Park West
Brooklyn, NY 11215 • 718-788-2273

Remembering September 11, 2001

A Community Interfaith Service sponsored by the Brooklyn Heights Clergy Association

September 11, 2002 - 12 noon
Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims

- Ending with a silent march to the Promenade
to present a memorial wreath in honor of those who died.

The BHCA comprises leaders from every house of worship in Downtown Brooklyn and Brooklyn Heights. Representatives of all faiths will take part in the service. For more information call: 718-852-2453 (Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church)

INTERFAITH SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE

**Tuesday
September 10
2002
7pm**
at the
**Old First
Reformed
Church**
57th Ave
at Carroll St.
Park Slope

Old First
Reformed Church
Congregation
Beth Elohim
The Berkeley
Carroll School
invite the community to
join us for music,
prayer & readings
message to the
central fire station when pulled.
The message included a loca-
tion code that identified the call
box.

**FREE ENTRANCE
LIMITED SEATING
NO TICKETS**

Instant relief for families Ridge's O'Keefe sprang to action creating family aid centers

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

Rosemarie O'Keefe will tell you. Her knuckles still turn white when she drives over the Brooklyn Bridge into Manhattan.

It was the bridge that held O'Keefe in traffic long enough to take a few deep breaths, collect her thoughts and finally decide that she could, in fact, act as Mayor Rudy Giuliani and asked her to in a phone call just minutes after the North Tower was hit as the chief organizer of the city's relief effort.

O'Keefe, a Bay Ridge resident, does not hesitate when she gives her account of Sept. 11. She begins talking about it as if she had rehearsed it in her head a million times.

In fact, she said, "remembering it like it was yesterday" does not even begin to describe the feeling.

"I was on the Brooklyn Bridge and the mayor's chief of staff called me and said, 'Where are you?' I told him I was on my way. He told me a plane had crashed into the World Trade Center and there would be families needing some assistance," O'Keefe told The Brooklyn Papers this week. "He said, 'I want you to go there.'"

"At that moment we did not know what was really going on. I was driving to work for a regular day, and it was a beautiful, clear, blue day," she said.

Getting as close as she could to the now smoldering North Tower in her car, O'Keefe parked outside a block away from the World Trade Center and began to walk. Just a few steps from her car, O'Keefe recalled, she was stepping over pocketbooks, coffee cups, shoes.

"Like people had just run out of their clothes," she said.

She then watched in horror as the South Tower exploded with the impact of the second plane. Now, she began to direct thousands of people over the Brooklyn Bridge. She recalled the irony of her outfit of a



Rosemarie O'Keefe

BP / Greg Mangro

normal day's heels and a suit, embellished with an official mayor's office jacket.

"They saw the jacket," O'Keefe said. "They thought we knew what we were doing. But we didn't know what we were doing."

In retrospect, O'Keefe admits she may have known a bit more than she did at the time. When that day, Giuliani appointed O'Keefe as the first woman commissioner of the Community Assistance Unit, a branch of the mayor's office, in 1996. The position made her the official liaison between City Hall and community groups and, under Giuliani, the mayor's point person during times of crisis.

Before Sept. 11, O'Keefe had already been through

plane crashes, child abuse cases, the Abner Louima police abuse case and the police shooting of Amadou Diallo. She had picked out coffins for distraught family members, shielded crime victims from the press and "had the aspirin before you said you needed one," she said.

"We did all things to help devastated families get through devastating things in their lives."

But neither Giuliani nor O'Keefe could ever have envisioned the type of massive relief and community liaison effort that would be needed following the World Trade Center attacks.

O'Keefe laughs when recalling how her "special unit" was designed to manage the implications of the word "crisis," as it was understood in New York City before Sept. 11. O'Keefe's years of community service in Bay Ridge would come in handy in the coming months.

O'Keefe, a former Bay Ridge Community Council delegate, was an advocate for senior citizens' housing in Bay Ridge in the late-1980s, was a co-founder of the Alliance of Bay Ridge Block Associations, and president of her own block association. Before Giuliani tapped her to head his Community Assistance Unit, she worked as deputy commissioner of the Department of Parks and Recreation, where she developed programs for under-served communities.

Suddenly, on Sept. 11, the biggest city in the world, where O'Keefe had lived and worked all of her life, became an unfamiliar and very dark place, she said.

Without a blueprint or a consultant, O'Keefe was left to act on instinct. She quickly set up a disaster relief station inside the New York State Armory on Lexington Avenue at 28th Street on Sept. 12.

The armory had been housing more than 600 Army Reserve personnel. She simply walked in and asked that they find somewhere else to sleep.

"I said, 'Hello, I guess you know what happened

See **O'KEEFE** on page 8

Victims names on fire boxes

By Heather J. Wilson
The Brooklyn Papers

Fire alarm boxes throughout Bay Ridge and Bensonhurst may see some extra attention in coming months if Community Board 10 member Greg Ahl and state Sen. Vincent Gentile have their way.

The two are working together to establish a block-by-block program that would make at least one resident responsible for their nearby box, to keep it graffiti-free, bright red and most importantly, to make sure its gold name plate, memorializing one of the more than 40 Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights victims of Sept. 11, is polished and shining.

Ahl and Gentile also hope their plan helps revitalize and salvage the remaining antique fire alarm boxes throughout the area. But the plan, Gentile said, will not be explored until much after Sept. 11, because city agencies and the state senator himself will be busy for the next few weeks with events memorializing those lost in the terrorist attacks.

"We will be exploring it," Gentile said. "It would have to come with some kind of Fire Department approval."

"If they do it for park benches why can't they do it for fire boxes?" Gentile reasoned about putting the plaques on the boxes.

According to Engine 201 firefighter Mike Burke, the plan should be accepted by local firehouses who — like his own — lost men on Sept. 11. Engine 201 is on Fourth Avenue at 51st Street.

Burke, 30, said he was scheduled to be on duty Sept. 11, but had to travel to play golf at the Silver Lake Golf Course on Staten Island. Around the third hole, Burke got a phone call telling him about the first plane crashing into the North Tower. He responded right away.

Engine 201's Lt. Paul Martini, firefighter John Schardt, firefighter Greg Buck and firefighter Chris Pickford all lost their lives at the World Trade Center site.

"I think it's a good idea. Those are important," Burke said of the boxes. "They are a mode of response for us. Having a name on them would be nice."

Over the past two months, Ahl has talked with local fire officials regarding the removal of the red boxes that once or still do cover street-side fire alarms, many of which date back to the mid-1800s.

"They are an important piece of history around here," Ahl said. "By naming them as a victim, it is a way to make sure they are taken care of."

According to Fire Department officials, the "call box" was developed in the mid-1800s. In its early design, it sent a telegraphed message to the central fire station when pulled. The message included a location code that identified the call

box.

Fire officials said the call

boxes still work, although some operate in a manner that is as antiquated as their coverings.

"The older fire alarms have a winding mechanism, so when one pulls the handle they send out an electric signal to the dispatcher, who then sends a message to the nearest fire station," Chief William VanWart explained in June. He said the call box system is still a vital component of the department's public safety network.

"They were installed on the premise that not everyone has a working phone, and we can't assume even now that everyone can get to a phone quickly if there is a fire," he said.

Greg Ahl with a fire call box on 68th Street. BP / Greg Mangro

HARD-HIT RIDGE...

Continued from page 2

at 7100 Shore Road, will honor 23 alumni the school lost with the unveiling of an eternal flame memorial. The ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. in the school's sanctuary and then continue in front of the school where the eternal flame will be lit.

Xavierian President Sal Ferrera said about 160 alumni from the boys' Catholic school worked at the Trade Center. The 23 who died, he said, ranged in age from 1968 graduate to a 1995 grad.

The average age of the deceased alumni was 33. Ferrera said 11 worked for Cantor Fitzgerald, four were firemen, one was a host for the Windows on the World restaurant, and the others worked for various financial companies in the two towers.

The 23 alumni are: Gregory Buck, class of '82; Engine 201; Howard Gelling, '91, who had been working with the school to set up a scholarship to sponsor minority students; Richard Caggiano, '94; Cantor Fitzgerald; Liam Colthoun, '84; Bank of America; Clark Flickinger, '81; Cantor Fitzgerald; Joseph Howard, '68; J.P. Morgan Chase; Vincent Kane, '82; Engine 22; Joseph Mascali, '74; FDNY's Rescue 5; Michael Massaroli, '81; Cantor Fitzgerald; Charles Mauro, '81, a chef at Windows on the World; Robert Murach, '74; Cantor Fitzgerald; Patrick Mulvaney, '87; Euro Brokers; Dennis O'Brig, '94; Ladder 105; James O'Brien, '86; Cantor Fitzgerald; James Quinn, '95; Cantor Fitzgerald; Gregory Reda, '85; Marsh and McLennan; Jude Saffi, '94; Cantor Fitzgerald; Paul Slavov, '92; Carr Futures; John Shabroth, '74; Cantor Fitzgerald; Patrick Sullivan, '87; Cantor Fitzgerald; James Suzzano, '72; Cantor Fitzgerald; Robert Tipaldi, '94; Cantor Fitzgerald; and Thomas Wise, '75; Marsh & McLennan.

On Sept. 8, a memorial march hosted by state Sen. Vincent Gentile will proceed down Third Avenue from 86th Street to Cannonball Plaza at 101st Street, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Around 7:30 p.m., a candlelight service will begin and clergy throughout the community will be invited to participate. Several relatives of Sept. 11 victims will also speak.

At nearby Cadman Plaza Park, on Sept. 10, Brooklyn Parents for Peace, Brooklyn Heights Peace Action, Arab American Family Support Center, Prospect-Lefferts Gardens Voices for Peace and Justice and the Kings County Green Party will sponsor a rally and candlelight vigil for peace starting at 5 p.m.

The Cadman Plaza rally will be followed at 6 p.m. with a march across the Brooklyn Bridge to Washington Square Park in Manhattan.

Brooklyn's cultural institutions will also be hosting events to commemorate and remember 9-11.

On Sept. 8, at 4 p.m., the Brooklyn Tabernacle, at 17 Smith St., will hold a memorial concert to honor the New York City Police Department, and the Brooklyn Children's Museum, at 145 Brooklyn Ave., will offer free admission from Sept. 7 through Sept. 15.

The first of a pair of special events at the Children's Museum will take place on Sept. 7 at 2:30 p.m.

In conjunction with the MusArt Youth Mentorship Program, the MusArt steel quartet and steel ensemble will perform a concert celebrating the continuation of life and the empowerment of youth.

Visitors to the museum on Sept. 11 will be invited to visit the museum's herb garden to plant a flower bulb in honor of the victims of 9-11.

During the week of Sept. 7 through Sept. 12, visitors are invited to paint a story, poem or wish on the museum's Compassion Mural be-

fore Sept. 11 and remember the lives lost, Golden said last month.

Golden's office and local merchants will distribute red, white and blue remembrance ribbons. Red, Golden said, will symbolize individuals who have lost members of their immediate family, blue will symbolize individuals who lost friends, co-workers and acquaintances.

A large mailbox set up on the pier will allow people to share their thoughts concerning Sept. 11. Thoughts collected will then be sent to President George Bush.

On Sept. 11, the 69th Street Pier in Bay Ridge, which will house photos, periodicals and other items related to Sept. 11, 2001. The reading room, donated by AMICO, will be located at the AMICO Senior Center on Third Avenue at 29th Street, Gentile said.

On Sept. 11, Councilman Golden will host a memorial event at 7 p.m. at the 69th Street Pier in Bay Ridge, which will house photos, periodicals and other items related to Sept. 11, 2001.

The setting — across the harbor from Lower Manhattan — will offer attendees the chance to reflect on the events

of Sept. 11 and remember the lives lost, Golden said last month.

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VanWart said the city has been casually replacing the mechanics of the call boxes, although not necessarily the antique covers, with fire alarms that not only contact a Fire Department dispatcher, but also the police.

The more modern version of the call box alarm operates much like a phone, connecting a caller directly to a dispatcher, VanWart said.

According to Dave Rosenzweig, president of the Uniform Fire Alarm Dispatchers Benevolent Association, the city removed 4,000 call box alarms in 1995 in then-Mayors Rudolph Giuliani's attempt to take the boxes out altogether.

"But we were successful in a federal lawsuit to save the boxes," Rosenzweig said in June. "By that time, 4,000 of the 16,833 boxes had been removed."

Rosenzweig said 2,000 of the removed alarms were then replaced with an alarm that contacted the police rather than the Fire Department — a move one federal judge ruled as unsafe before the other 2,000 could be replaced.

A good portion of the empty call boxes are in Bay Ridge, said Ahl, and they are susceptible to trash.

"I'll be meeting with the Alliance of Bay Ridge Block Associations on Sept. 26," Ahl said. "I would like to see each block association adopt their closest fire call box and if it needs to be reactivated or repaired, they would do so and if anybody graffiti's it, they'll repaint it."

On Sept. 11, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, at 1000 Washington Ave., will also be free to the public between Sept. 10 and Sept. 14.

The garden will set up reflection stations at the Liberty Oaks Memorial, a row of 20 newly planted scurlet oak trees dedicated to the victims of Sept. 11.

"For the next century, these trees will stand as a living tribute to those who lost their lives on Sept. 11, and our ability to rise up and move forward in the wake of tragedy," said Judith Zuk, president of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden at their dedication in April.

On Sept. 11, the Brooklyn Academy of Music, at 30 Lafayette Ave., will offer free screenings of Woody Allen's "Manhattan" at 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m. and 9:10 p.m.

"It's a valentine to the city of New York," said Karen Brooks Hopkins about BAM's choice for the film.

At 6 p.m. on Sept. 11, at the plaza in front of the Brooklyn Public Library's Central Branch at Grand Army Plaza, novelists Paula Fox, Rick Moody and Francisco Goldman; poets Galway Kinnell, Sharon Olds and Harvey Shapiro; historian Ron Chernow; essayist Andre Aciman; and critics Marge Jefferson and Edward Rothstein will reflect on Sept. 11 in a program moderated by WNYC radio's Leonard Lopate.

The Prospect Park band shell has been named as an official New York City site for candlelight vigils in Brooklyn. The evening will commence at 7 p.m., at which time the lighting of an eternal flame in Battery Park will be broadcast live, followed by live performances by the Brooklyn Philharmonic and Brooklyn Youth Chorus.



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Great Irish Fair begins Saturday

ART

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Photographs of Ground Zero at BMA

BROOKLYN EVENTS CALENDAR: 7

The Brooklyn Papers' essential guide to the Borough of Kings

(718) 834-9350 • September 9, 2002

TATTOO RESCUE

Filmmaker casts lens on heroic 9-11 efforts of NYC Transit workers

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

While Brooklynites have heard about the heroes lost in the World Trade Center attack on Sept. 11, and about the heroic firemen, police officers and emergency services personnel that gave their time and energy in the recovery efforts, rarely have the stories of New York's transit workers been told.

Producer-director Winston Mitchell is hoping to bring attention to both the Herculean rescue efforts and rebuilding efforts of Transit employees with his new documentary, "Above & Below: NYC Transit Responds to 9/11."

The one-hour documentary, which premiered at the Brooklyn Museum of Art on Wednesday, includes footage that has never been seen before, explained Mitchell, including collapsed subways and interviews with bus drivers and train conductors.

Mitchell is the producer of MTA NYC Transit's television newsmagazine "Transit Transit" which profiles transit workers and features excursions New Yorkers can take on public transportation. Mitchell was in the wrong place at the right time to document the transit workers' many roles, beginning on Sept. 11, when the first plane flew right over his car and into the World Trade Center as he was driving by Greenwich Street and Park Place. The documentary includes the live WAAC-TV newscast of Mitchell's voice, conveying audible terror, as he reported that an airplane had hit the World Trade Center. "People are running up the streets. Everybody is panicking," yelled Mitchell.

The one-hour documentary captures emotional reunions between passengers, such as Theresa Betancourt, who were blinded and choking on debris, and the bus drivers, such as Anthony Gallo, who pulled them to safety. "When they started hanging on my windows [to get in]," said Gallo, "they gave me a purpose. Now I knew I wasn't dead."

One bus driver recounted how his scared passengers urged him to leave the scene and the other victims not yet on the bus, saying, "We're going to die!" But he stood firm, not leaving until he pulled as many passengers as possible, some who had "passed out," to safety. Train conductors bonked their horns as they came through the stations so passengers could follow the sound through the smoke and board.

"There were a lot of people on the platform. I made an announcement that there was an emergency and everyone stayed on the train — only one tried to get off. There was no way we could leave them there," said one train conductor.

There were a lot of people and seven train stations in the World Trade Center area, and the MTA reports that there were no serious injuries among MTA workers and not one train or bus was lost. Three hundred buses provided support for the firefighters, city Emergency Management personnel and police. The MTA also estimates 4,000 of its employees were looking for victims and working to restore service, beginning on Sept. 11.

Mitchell told GO Brooklyn that the MTA "got a half-million people out of the Downtown area. We had less than an hour to get the people out."

He says the MTA's twice-yearly disaster drills — although they never could have predicted the scope of this disaster — helped the employees go into reflex mode. "The employees go into reflex mode."

YOGA: Eastern Athletic cancels regular classes for the day, and offers a program of yoga, meditation and healing exercises, 9:30 am to 9 pm. Locations in Brooklyn Heights, MetroTech and Prospect Park. (718) 625-0500. Free.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: Brooklyn Heights Clergy Association offers a community interfaith service. Noon. Service ends with a silent march to the promenade, Plymouth Church, 75 Hicks St. (718) 852-2453.

MASS: St. Philip's Episcopal Church will hold a Sept. 11 mass. Eleventh Avenue between 80th and 81st streets. Noon. (718) 745-2505.



Token of affection: Winston Mitchell's documentary "Above & Below: NYC Transit Responds to 9/11," produced by MTA NYC Transit's television news magazine "Transit Transit" recounts the heroic untold stories of transit employees.

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TV

"Above & Below: NYC Transit Responds to 9/11" airs on channel 25, WNYW-TV, Sept. 11, 12, 18 and 20 at 9 pm and on iCAT Cablevision Ch. 67 and Time Warner Ch. 341 every Thursday at 6 pm. For more information, call (718) 694-3418.

workers laying track and rebuilding the subway box of the 1/9 line below Chambers street from both ends, meeting in the middle ahead of schedule.

While many passengers are familiar with train conductors, token booth clerks and bus drivers, the MTA also employs a wide array of specialists — such as ironworkers and heavy machine operators — who put their lives on the line "standing shoulder to shoulder" with emergency workers to cut through steel beams and allow medical personnel to get to and save the lives of victims on Sept. 11, including a firefighter trapped in his truck.

Many of the men and women interviewed on camera were unable to stop themselves from crying when they recalled their experiences.

"The video made us relive things you thought you forgot about," MTA Chairman Peter Kalikow said after the screening. "That day was the proudest moment of my life, although I lost three close friends. The spirits of all our people as well as the police made me proud to be a New Yorker and an American, and part of this organization."

The documentary is narrated by actor, director and writer Oscar Davis, who volunteered his talent and time, said Mitchell, reading the script in the "90-degree heat of the pit [at Ground Zero]. He was a real professional. He didn't even complain." The score, photographs and television footage used in the documentary were also donated, he said.

Mitchell has captured for the history books the transit workers' stories that might have otherwise been lost, but he certainly wasn't looking for the job.

"Transit Transit" used to be a happy-go-lucky show," said Mitchell. "But all of that changed in September. Hopefully this will be the last time we'll have to do a video like this."

"Above & Below" also has footage of the remarkably fast cleanup and rebuilding efforts at Ground Zero, with the

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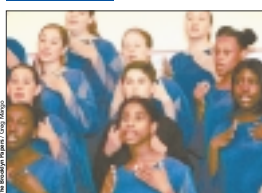
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MUSIC



'Amazing' kids

On Sept. 11 at 7 pm, Mayor Michael Bloomberg will commemorate the anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks by lighting an eternal flame at the Sphere memorial in Battery Park, and the event will be broadcast live to a location in each of the five boroughs. Brooklynites are invited to watch the broadcast live at the Prospect Park band shell.

The event will continue with live performances at the band shell by the Brooklyn Philharmonic Orchestra, the Brooklyn Youth Chorus (pictured) and other artists.

City Cultural Affairs Commissioner Kate Levin said at Tuesday's opening of the new Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy on Pacific Street, that she has been hearing about the Brooklyn Youth Chorus for 10 years and the chorus was chosen to perform at the important event in part because "their new CD's recording of 'Amazing Grace' brought tears to the eyes of the battle-hardened staff" who are programming the concerts in the five boroughs.

Bring a candle and a chair or blanket. Enter the park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street. The concert will conclude at 9 pm. The event is free.

MUSIC



In remembrance: Organist and choirmaster of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Thomas Lee Bailey, will lead a memorial concert in Carroll Gardens on Sept. 11. BP / Greg Mango

In concert

Community members fill the silence with music on Sept. 11

By Kevin Filipski
For The Brooklyn Papers

After Sept. 11, music became a great balm for the psychological wounds of many Brooklynites, so it comes as no surprise that the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks will also be an occasion for the healing power of music.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Carroll Gardens will be the site of a commemorative concert at 4 pm on Sept. 11. After its title, "Musical Triptych," the concert will be divided into three thematic sections, each telling a story through music about that fateful day.

"The triptych was my idea," said St. Paul's organist and choirmaster Thomas Lee Bailey. "I saw I was thinking in three parts. First, honoring the heroes. And I knew we wanted to do requiem things to put it in that context; they had died and [represent that] with traditional forms. And the third part represents hope and the future. We have to have hope, or we couldn't go on."

"I thought about those European altar pieces in three parts that tell a story. I thought it would be like a musical scene poem."

The first part, "Heroes," opens with "Glorious Hero," a selection from Handel's oratorio "Samson" followed by Cesar Franck's organ work "Piece Heroique," played by Bailey. "Requiem Aeternam" ("Eternal Rest") excerpts the "Pie Jesu" ("Blessed Jesus") sections from three Requiem Masses — Gabriel Faure's, with soprano Anna Fike, Maurice Durufle's, with mezzo-soprano Desire Baxter, and Andrew Lloyd Webber's, with sopranos Jennifer Morris and Taria Stark. It also includes Franz Schubert's lied "Litane" (sung by baritone John Cummings) and Johann Jakob Froberger's "Le Teuile Monseur Blanchonche," played by organist Anthony Barone.

The final section, "Hope," begins with Handel's stirring "The Trumpet Shall Sound" from his "Messiah," sung by a chorus of 100 voices, a selection from Bach's Cantata 31 "The Heavens Laugh, The Earth Rejoices," sung by Jennifer Morris; and concludes with the spiritual "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," sung by soprano Andrea Morris.

Bailey said that all of the instrumentalists and singers are donating their services for this program.

"I find many people with talents in my field who are looking for a way to show how much they care," said Bailey. "Many of us feel we want to do it right. Future generations will look on the way we honor these people and what happened last year and it's important to show respect and honor those who died — all the heroes — the many kinds of heroes that include just ordinary people too. I was looking for a way to reflect on that, and look to the future and hope, and what our faith and religions give us. It encompasses all of those areas."

The church has a St. Francis altar with a book of remembrance in which members of the congregation recorded their thoughts in the days after Sept. 11, said Bailey. Visitors are invited to visit the book and write their own thoughts during the day and following the concert.

At Bargemusic

Also on Sept. 11, Bargemusic founder Olga Bloom will perform on the famed musical barge at the foot of Old Fulton Street, along with several other musicians, at 9 am in a program of "music for all who wish to come." A retired violinist, Bloom founded Bargemusic in 1977, and has a personal connection to the events of last year, not least of which is that they have forever altered the barge's Manhattan skyline backdrop.

"I'm sad to say I saw the whole [attack]," Bloom said in an interview last October. "I'm filled with sadness to this day, and I think the sadness will remain for the rest of my life."

Bloom told GO Brooklyn that she believes "beauty will help restore wounds." She said that when the event happened she was practicing on the barge as she does every morning, and it seemed "only proper to continue doing what we have been doing all along."

"This is my retreat I think," said Bloom. "Playing and listening to chamber music — probably a lot of people feel this — is a safe haven. The concert will be spontaneous but profound."

"Musical Triptych" will be performed at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 199 Carroll St. at Clinton Street in Carroll Gardens at 4 pm on Sept. 11. For more information, call (718) 625-4126. The Bargemusic concert will be performed at Bargemusic at the Fulton Ferry Landing in Brooklyn Heights, at 9 am on Sept. 11. For more information, call (718) 624-2083.

Both concerts are free.

Additional reporting by Lisa J. Curtis.



Leonard Lopate



Olga Bloom

9-11 Commemorations

MUSIC: Bargemusic hosts a tribute to Sept. 11. Music for all who wish to come. 9 am. Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-4061. Free.

DAY OF PRAYER: St. Francis Xavier Church offers a day of continuous, silent prayer in commemoration of the World Trade Center. 9:30 am to 9 pm. Sixth Avenue at Carroll Street. (718) 638-1880.

YOGA: Eastern Athletic cancels regular classes for the day, and offers a program of yoga, meditation and healing exercises, 9:30 am to 9 pm. Locations in Brooklyn Heights, MetroTech and Prospect Park. (718) 625-0500. Free.

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE: Brooklyn Heights Clergy Association offers a community interfaith service. Noon. Service ends with a silent march to the promenade, Plymouth Church, 75 Hicks St. (718) 852-2453.

MASS: St. Philip's Episcopal Church will hold a Sept. 11 mass. Eleventh Avenue between 80th and 81st streets. Noon. (718) 745-2505.

ORGAN CONCERT: 9-11 memorial concert at St. Ann's Church. 1 pm. Montague and Henry streets. (718) 675-6960.

MEMORIAL SERVICE: St. Joseph's College offers a service for the victims of 9-11. 1 pm. Mall in Carroll Street. (718) 399-2602.

MEMORIAL CONCERT: St. Paul's Episcopal Church presents a concert titled "Musical Triptych" on the anniversary of 9-11. Musical story focuses on three themes: heroes, eternal rest and hope. 4 pm. 199 Carroll St. (718) 625-4126. Free.

BANQUET/MATE: To celebrate the spirit of NYC, BAM presents Woody Allen's film, "Manhattan." 2, 4:30, 6:50 and 9:10 pm. 30 Lafayette Ave. (718) 636-4111. Free.

WRITERS AND POETS: Brooklyn Public Library, Central Library, hosts a meeting of Writers and Poets, hosted by WNYC radio host Leonard Lopate. Group reflects on 9-11. 6 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 802-3832.

COUNSELING: To help the community cope with the first anniversary of Sept. 11, The Neighborhood Counseling Center offers group counseling, 6 to 7 pm for teens, 7 to 8 pm for adults. 7701 13th Ave. (718) 232-1351. Free.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL: Arab-American Family Support Center offers a walk to the Brooklyn Heights promenade from Atlantic Avenue at Court Street. 6 pm. (718) 802-3832.

PRAYER SERVICE: South Brooklyn Catholics host a night of remembrance and reflection commemorating the one-year anniversary of 9-11. 7:30 pm. Sacred Hearts and St. Stephen Church, corner of Summit and Hicks streets. (718) 956-7750.

VIGIL: Prospect Park band shell is official Brooklyn site of a citywide vigil. Performances by the Brooklyn Philharmonic and Brooklyn Youth Chorus. Bring a candle and blanket or chair. 7 pm. Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street. (718) 802-3832.

COMMEMORATIVE SERVICE: at Temple Beth Ahavah. Shalom. 7:30 pm. 2166 Benson Ave. (718) 372-6193.

JEWISH PRAYER: Congregation B'nai Avraham will hold its regular morning service on the Brooklyn Heights promenade at the Pierpoint entrance at 7:45 am. Volunteers will offer spiritual guidance and distribute shabbat and holiday candles. Shofar blowing and minute of silence at 8:46 am. Communal reading of Tehilim (Psalms) followed by second shofar blowing at 9:02 am. (718) 596-4840. Free.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART: New exhibit: "Photographs of Ground Zero." Photos taken by Gary Miller at the site of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 and 12, 2001. In addition, the museum marks the first anniversary of Sept. 11 by waiving admissions for the day. Throughout the month of September, visitors are invited to share feelings about last year's attacks by making entries in notebooks. 10 am to 5 pm. 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 638-5000. Free.

WRITERS AND POETS: Brooklyn Public Library, Central Library, hosts a meeting of Writers and Poets, hosted by WNYC radio host Leonard Lopate. Group reflects on 9-11. 6 pm. Grand Army Plaza. (718) 802-3832.

VIGIL: Prospect Park band shell is official Brooklyn site of a citywide vigil. Performances by the Brooklyn Philharmonic and Brooklyn Youth Chorus. Bring a candle and blanket or chair. 7 pm. Enter park at Prospect Park West and Ninth Street. (718) 802-3832.

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A Fair to remember

2002 Great Irish Fair honors 9-11 heroes with a weekend of reflection and revelry

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

The tug of emotions was written all over the face of Tara Stackpole as she sat in the ceremonial courtroom of Borough Hall at a press conference for the 22nd annual Great Irish Fair. The widow of hero 9-11 firefighter Capt. Timothy Stackpole was on hand when her daughter Kaitlyn, 15, draped in a striped sash embroidered with gold letters, pronouncing her the fair's "Colleen Queen."

Tara, sitting next to her youngest son, Terence, 7, watched her daughter and silently wept. Bravely smiling while dabbing away the tears, she was almost certainly weeping for the proud moment in Kaitlyn's life that she could not share with her husband.

Borough President Marty Markowitz addressed Kaitlyn from the podium saying, "Captain Stackpole's dedication and bravery will never be forgotten, and I know your father would be extremely proud of all you have accomplished."

In a year of heroes, Stackpole's story is one that stands out from the pack. The Midwood resident was first recognized for his heroism after surviving an East New York inferno in 1998 that killed two firefighters.

He and four other firefighters had raced into the building, mistakenly believing that an elderly woman was trapped when the floor gave away, killing two of his fellow firefighters. Stackpole was left critically injured.

Stackpole underwent a heroic recovery and, according to Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, "one of the most exceptional human beings I've ever met," the firefighter joked from his hospital bed that because of the injury he'd have to retire after 40 years on the job instead of 50. This despite the fact that Stackpole's severe injuries would have qualified him to retire with a full pension.

Stackpole underwent months of rehabilitation, dozens of surgeries and painful skin grafts and made it back to active duty, promoted to captain at Division 11 in Downtown Brooklyn just before he died. When he was honored at the 2001 Great Irish Fair, Stackpole said, "I always wanted to come back."

On Sept. 11, Stackpole formed a company that rushed into the South Tower shortly before it collapsed.

As Brooklyn approaches the anniversary of Sept. 11, events like the Great Irish Fair reinforce the importance of remembering and paying tribute to those we have lost, and



Irish VIPs: Irish Bard Award winner Michael Daly, of the Daily News, with the 2002 Colleen Queen Kaitlyn Stackpole at the Great Irish Fair's kick-off at Borough Hall on Aug. 22. Stackpole is the daughter of slain FDNY Capt. Timothy Stackpole (at left).
The Brooklyn Papers / Greg Margolis

of not losing sight of our future or our grasp on hope.

The Fair, organized by the Ancient Order of Hibernians, benefits the century-old Catholic Charities, which offers services to the most vulnerable citizens of Brooklyn and Queens.

This year's fair is dedicated to "all the victims of 9-11 with sincere appreciation to Rudy Giuliani." In addition to remembering Capt. Stackpole, the fair will remember Fire Department chaplain Father Michael Judge. "They were two men of incredible faith put into action every day and especially on Sept. 11," said Father Kevin Sweeney, coordinator of the Irish Apostolate for the Diocese of Brooklyn.

Chief Brehon of this year's fair is New York Police Department Deputy Chief

Michael Collins who will preside over the fair with Kaitlyn Stackpole, who attends Bishop Kearney High School. Collins is no stranger to Brehon duties, having been Grand Marshall of the Bay Ridge Saint Patrick's Day Parade in 1997 and Marshall of this year's 27th Annual Irish American Parade in Park Slope.

Like her father, Kaitlyn is already making a difference in Marine Park; she is an active member of Good Shepherd

are measured by the size of their hearts, but Irish women's hearts are just a little bit bigger."

This year's Irishman of the Year Award is Father Patrick West, pastor of Our Lady of Solace in Coney Island.

Fair chairman Al O'Hagan promises that this year's fair, although a tribute to those lost "will not be an Irish wake ... but I guess that wouldn't be such a bad thing." This year's fair will certainly have an Irish wake's mixture of gaiety and sadness, again featuring entertainment, food and shopping in addition to Catholic masses.

Look for Irish restaurants — such as Downtown Brooklyn restaurant Eamon Doran's — as well arts and crafts, vendors, step dancers, war pipe bands and rides and games for children. There will be seven stages of continuous live entertainment on both days with Sunday featuring the Emerald Society pipe bands from the Police, Fire, Transit, Sanitation and Corrections departments, as well as "out-of-town" pipers The Clann Eim.

On Sept. 7 at 11 a.m. a mass led by Bishop Thomas Daily will be held in memory of the victims of 9-11 in the tent located in the northeast corner of the park.

parish and served as president of Good Shepherd's Student Council.

Acknowledging Tara and Kaitlyn Stackpole, Daily News columnist Michael Daly, upon accepting the Irish Bard award, said, "Irish men

FAIR
The Great Irish Fair takes place Sept. 7 and Sept. 8 from 10 am to 7 pm at Dwyer-Offerman Meadows in Greenwald. Masses will be held in the tent located in the northeast corner of the park on Sept. 7 at 11 am in memory of the victims of 9-11, and on Sept. 8 at 9 am and 11 am.

Dwyer-Offerman Park is located off Shore Parkway between Coney Avenue and Bay 44th Street. Admission is \$10. Free for children age 12 and younger. For more information about the Catholic Charities of Brooklyn & Queens call (718) 337-6800 or visit the Web site at www.cbq.org.

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First in the scene

News photographer's shots capture Ground Zero

By Lisa J. Curtis
The Brooklyn Papers

News photographers are a special breed. While most people run away from the scene of a disaster, they're running towards it. A photographer who risks life and limb—and manages to come away not only with images that convey information but also the beauty and humanity that binds us all together—is an artist.

G.N. Miller has been snapping for the New York Times since 1994. On Sept. 11, he had dropped his daughter off at school, gone home and then "saw what I saw on television."

"Before the second plane hit, I got on the FDR," said Miller. "But when I first looked at the explosion, I stood in awe."

I didn't know what to do. I was about to see my daughter, Genna Noel. But I'm a retired detective from the police department and started getting into my offensive mode. I did what I had to do as a journalist."

The black-and-white photographs that Miller took on Sept. 11 and Sept. 12, caught the eye of many editors. They have been published in the New Yorker and on the cover

of the new book "How Did This Happen? Terrorism and the New War," edited by James Hoge and Gideon Rose.

Brooklyn Museum of Art photography curator Barbara Head Milstein was so impressed by Miller's photographs that she purchased 15 for the museum's collection and has hung seven of them for a special exhibit commemorating the anniversary of Sept. 11. Miller, who was a Brooklyn South narcotics detective, said he took more than 300 photographs on Sept. 11 and Sept. 12 at Ground Zero, but "some didn't come out because of the elements and dust."

Milstein said that his photographs, shot with a digital camera, are the best she has seen, in part because of that grit and



The agony: G.N. Miller's photographs (above and left), taken at Ground Zero on Sept. 11 and Sept. 12, 2001, will be on display at the Brooklyn Museum of Art through Oct. 14.

had something special as he was not time bringing them to the museum.

"He arrived on our doorstep almost immediately," said Milstein. "He was pretty tired. I thought they were the most powerful of the photographs' works I was shown."

Milstein said Miller's work "taught what that day was all about for us. America suffered a terrible invasion, a rape."

She said she was offered color photographs by other photographers, which emphasized the big blue sky on that morning.

"They don't come as close

to the coldness and shock that black-and-white conveys," said Milstein. "Color makes it into a movie." Milstein said that her work's "power lies in the gritty, a good street photographer can capture."

"My photographs are not graphic," said Miller. "Most people tell me they like the artwork. There's nothing wrong with showing graphic elements and total disaster, but these photographs don't show that in the explicit sense but in a subtle, artistic way."

Among Miller's photographs is a portrait of one firefighter, shot from behind, col-

lapsed on his knees in the rubble. Another shot shows a group of firefighters, seeing the wreckage for the first time, with tears streaming down their faces. Another shows the enormity of the disaster: the shards of buildings dwarfing the comparatively small men. Another work captures these scrawled words in the dusty wreckage: "America the Beautiful."

(Visitors to the museum are invited to write their thoughts about Sept. 11 in books on a table across from the photography display.)

Miller's photos document the living people who were struggling to make sense of the destruction and murder and to make a difference.

"A lot of people got down there. But I took photos that were pleasing to my eye without looking at the disaster—like a body here and body there. That was being documented [by others]."

"When I was walking around, I felt I was on hallowed ground," said Miller. "As an ex-police officer I asked myself, 'Am I doing something wrong? But I had to document these generations, so they could see what I saw.'"

Miller, 44, was born in Brooklyn and grew up in the Gowanus Houses, but credits his time out of the borough, visiting Florida and South Carolina, with scenery that included "wheat and tobacco fields and animals," as his inspiration to take photos.

"That photographer is totally fearless," said Milstein. "He went where angels fear to tread."

phill discusses her book "NYC's Best Public Elementary Schools," 7:30 p.m., 267 Seventh Ave. (718) 852-6062. Free.

WORKSMITH: Holyday Cafe presents a reading of "The Book of the Dead," 7:30 p.m., 227 Smith St. (718) 260-4444. Free.

GALAPAGOS: Ecstatic music for savage souls. \$10. 8 p.m., No. 100, 70 North 5th St. (718) 762-5188.

IMPACT THEATER: "The Solid Gold Cadillac." \$15. 8 p.m., 190 Bedford Ave. (718) 961-1111. Free.

BROOKLYN ULCIUM: Shakespeare's "Richard II." 8 p.m., 200 Broadway. (718) 624-2083.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: Workshop on September 11. 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 624-2083.

Fri, Sept 13
ARTS ON THE COMMONS: Lunchtime concert series at Metrotech Center. Today: Ronald Alexander Quinter. Noon to 2 p.m., Commons at Metrotech. (718) 688-6000. Free.

RECEPTION: Kenler International Drawing Space presents new drawings by Janelle O'Rourke. 6 to 9 p.m., 353 Van Brunt St. (718) 875-2998. Free.

BROOKLYN AQUARIUM: presents a talk on successful reef gardening. Also, auction featuring coral. \$5 donation. 6 p.m., NY Aquarium, West Eighth Avenue and Surf Avenue. (718) 637-4455.

BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program includes Beethoven's "Serenade for Violin, Viola and Cello." 8 p.m., 730 Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

ONE YEAR LATER: Park Slope Food Coop offers a talk "The World Trade Center Disaster: One Year Later." 7:30 p.m., 782 Union St. (718) 622-0560. Free.

ROOFTOP FILMS: presents "Rooftop Show." \$4. 9 p.m., 265 McKinnon St. (718) 766-1912.

GALAPAGOS: Gorge Magazine hosts a night of music. \$7. 9:30 p.m., No. 100, 70 North 5th St. (718) 762-5188.

DINNER THEATER: Bread and Vine Productions presents "The Last Supper," dinner for 12 people in the playwright's kitchen. Suggested donation: \$25. 7 p.m., 1410 16th St. (718) 499-7578.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "The Most Happy Fella." 8 p.m., See Sat.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "The Most Happy Fella." 8 p.m., See Sat.

BROOKLYN ULCIUM: Shakespeare's "Richard II." 8 p.m., See Sat.

BARNES AND NOBLE: Clara Hem-

WHERE TO GO

compiled by
Susan Rosenthal

Fri, Sept 6
Jerish New Year
begins at sundown

ARTS ON THE COMMONS: Lunchtime concert series at Metrotech Center. Today: Gerald Hayes Quarter. Noon to 2 p.m., Commons at Metrotech. (718) 688-6000. Free.

RECEPTION: Moments Art presents "TCH Paradoxes." 6 to 8 p.m., 72 Berry St. (718) 218-8058. Free.

MONTAUK CLUB: presents its monthly Brooklyn Authors' series and community open house. Julia Weiss speaks on the subject "The Spaces of Inspiration Art." 7 p.m., Light refreshments, 25 Eighth Ave. (718) 638-0800. Free.

BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program of Piano Trio in E-flat Major. 5:30 p.m., Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM OF ART: Opening of new exhibit. "Opposition to the Modern Nude," an exhibit to chart the moral and aesthetic controversies about the nude body in English visual culture during the reign of Queen Victoria. 5:30 to 5 p.m., 200 Eastern Parkway. (718) 624-2083.

ROOFTOP FILMS: "George Jackson: Rites from the African Diaspora." \$4. 9 p.m., 265 McKinnon St. (718) 766-1912.

MODA CAFE: DJ Joshua Gabriel spins electro pop, nuwave and random hits. 9 p.m., No. 204, 204 Fifth Ave. (718) 833-8977.

ACQUATIC MUSIC: Stephen Clark performs. 5:30 p.m., 186 Fifth Ave. (718) 622-3072.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "Anatomy of a Murder." 8 p.m., See Sat.

BROOKLYN ULCIUM: Shakespeare's "Richard II." 8 p.m., See Sat.

AUDITION: Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy holds tryouts for youngsters for the 2002-2003 year. Call for an appointment. 179 Pacific St. (718) 243-9447.

Sat, Sept 7
Jerish New Year
outdoors and TOURS

IRISH FAIR: 22nd annual Great Irish Fair. Music, dance, Irish food, arts and crafts, vendors, Irish play music and more. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Dreier Offshore Mall, 338 South Ave. (718) 965-3391.

BIRD CLUB: Brooklyn club hosts a program on Long Island bird conservation. 7 p.m., Prospect Park Audubon Center, Prospect Park. (718) 675-1151. Free.

PERFORMANCES: BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program of Piano Trio in G Major. 5:30 p.m., Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: presents courtroom drama "Anatomy of a Murder." \$10. \$18 students and seniors. 8 p.m., 26 Willow Park. (718) 237-2572.

BROOKLYN ULCIUM: Shakespeare's "Richard II." \$15. 8 p.m., 207 Fourth Ave. (718) 961-8116.

GALLERY PLAYERS: presents the musical "The Most Happy Fella." \$15. \$12 students and seniors. 8 p.m., 199 14th St. (718) 295-0547.

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a walk through the park-like grounds of the Victorian city of the dead. John Cushman leads tour. \$6. 1 p.m., Meet inside main entrance, Fifth Avenue and 25th Street. (718) 469-5277.

IRISH FAIR: 22nd annual Great Irish Fair. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., See Sat.

PERFORMANCES: GARDEN CONCERT: Brooklyn Botanic Garden hosts an outdoor concert of chamber music. 5:30 p.m., 1000 Washington Ave. (718) 623-7220.

JAZZ VESPER: "Praising God in a New Key." Featured percussionist a Natalie Cushman. 4 p.m., St. Luke's Episcopal Lutheran Church, 259 Washington Ave. (718) 624-2083.

RECTORIAL: Music and Art Ministry of St. Joseph's Lutheran Church presents Rebecca Pechelky. She performs on harpsichord. 4 p.m., 346 Fourth Ave. (718) 624-2083.

MEMORIAL CONCERT: NYPO is honored in this Sept. 11 concert. 4 p.m., Brooklyn Tabernacle, 17 Smith St. (718) 802-3032.

BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program of Piano Trio in G Major. 5:30 p.m., Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "The Most Happy Fella." 8 p.m., See Sat.

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GALLERY PLAYERS: presents the musical "The Most Happy Fella." \$15. \$12 students and seniors. 8 p.m., 199 14th St. (718) 295-0547.

PERFORMANCES: BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program of Piano Trio in G Major. 5:30 p.m., Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

GALAPAGOS: Benefit concert for the 2003 Improvised and Otherwise Festival. Music, dance and videos. \$15. 8 p.m., No. 100, 70 North 5th St. (718) 762-5188.

STRESS REDUCTION: Spoke the Hub Re-Creation Center presents Maria Hamilton, stress reduction teacher and author. She teaches a weekly class in meditation and stress management. 8:00 to 9:00 p.m., 744 8 Union St. (718) 624-2083.

JAZZ WORKSHOP: Circumference Jazz begins instruction for fall semester. Call for program. 30 Flatbush Ave. (718) 624-2083.

RECTORIAL: Music and Art Ministry of St. Joseph's Lutheran Church presents Rebecca Pechelky. She performs on harpsichord. 4 p.m., 346 Fourth Ave. (718) 624-2083.

MEMORIAL CONCERT: NYPO is honored in this Sept. 11 concert. 4 p.m., Brooklyn Tabernacle, 17 Smith St. (718) 802-3032.

BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program of Piano Trio in G Major. 5:30 p.m., Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "The Most Happy Fella." 8 p.m., See Sat.

GALLERY PLAYERS: "Anatomy of a Murder." 8 p.m., See Sat.

BROOKLYN ULCIUM: Shakespeare's "Richard II." 8 p.m., See Sat.

ROOFTOP FILMS: "George Jackson: Rites from the African Diaspora." \$4. 9 p.m., 265 McKinnon St. (718) 766-1912.

MODA CAFE: DJ Joshua Gabriel spins electro pop, nuwave and random hits. 9 p.m., No. 204, 204 Fifth Ave. (718) 833-8977.

ACQUATIC MUSIC: Stephen Clark performs. 5:30 p.m., 186 Fifth Ave. (718) 622-3072.

HEIGHTS PLAYERS: "Anatomy of a Murder." 8 p.m., See Sat.

BROOKLYN ULCIUM: Shakespeare's "Richard II." 8 p.m., See Sat.

AUDITION: Brooklyn Youth Chorus Academy holds tryouts for youngsters for the 2002-2003 year. Call for an appointment. 179 Pacific St. (718) 243-9447.

PERFORMANCES: BARGEUMUS: Chamber music program of Piano Trio in G Major. 5:30 p.m., Fulton Ferry Landing. (718) 624-2083.

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ART
Photographs of Ground Zero by G.N. Miller are on display in the new exhibit at the Brooklyn Museum of Art (200 Eastern Parkway, 718-638-5000) now through Oct. 14, 2002.

On Sept. 11, the BMA will be displaying. Throughout the month of September, visitors are invited to share their feelings about Sept. 11 by making entries in notebooks available by the rear entrance.

dust. "In the hands of a great artist with a good eye," the digital photos are as museum-worthy as prints made from film, and Milstein said that the Miller must have known he

Windsor Terrace artist Nanyang is one of 75 artists participating in DOGNY, the American Kennel Club's public art program that is placing art to 300 life-

size dog statues on the streets and public spaces of New York City through November in honor of the search-and-rescue dogs who came to the nation's attention working at Ground Zero.

Carney's black Labrador retriever (pictured), painted on the standard blank German Shepherd statue, is a rendering of Elvis, a NYPD search-and-rescue dog needed to help them continue their efforts."

Look for DOGNY sculptures in these locations: Hoyt

Ridin' the Cyclones

with Gersh Kuntzman

The envelope please...

I was not supposed to end with a whimper, but a big bang. The Brooklyn Cyclones are not supposed to lose 11 of their last 14 games — including nine in a row! — when a playoff bid is on the line. The Brooklyn Cyclones are not supposed to hit a whopping 133 during those games, not supposed to give up score 14 runs while giving up 49. They're not supposed to go 17-19 at home.

No, they're not supposed to do any of those things. The Brooklyn Cyclones are supposed to sweep a late-in-the-season three-game series against the Staten Island Yankees instead of getting swept. They're supposed to win the 12-game season series against the hated Stankies, rather than dropping eight and winning only four.

The Brooklyn Cyclones are supposed to make the playoffs and win the New York-Penn. League championship every year. Didn't everyone get that memo? Clearly, last year's championship team — which was 30-8 at home — has spoiled a lot of Cyclones faithful, who became convinced that the team would just always win. So when the team collapsed down the stretch, there were even some boo heard at Keyspan Park.

But those frustrated cats sometimes obscure the fact that the typical Cyclones "fan" is not the diehard who goes to 30 games a year, but the casual Brooklynite who goes to Keyspan Park three or four times a season to see baseball "like it oughta be" — up close, personal and indescribably magical. In fact, in a random poll of 10 fans at Tuesday night's game, only one knew that the Cyclones were out of playoff contention. The other nine were just excited to be at the game. So what if the team didn't win, a season with the Mets Class A farm team is as fun as a ride on the roller-coaster that lent its name to the squad. Baseball in Brooklyn is still an unqualified success.

And now, following a time-honored Brooklyn Papers tradition, it's time to give out the second annual Cyclones award. Here, by the way, there is no more covered area in the sports world than The Clinic.

And the winners are:

Best Recovery from a Pie Right in the Kisser

And the winner is... John Toner. Picture this: The Cyclones — still in the thick of the playoff drive — have just won a big game, thanks to a home run by Toner.

Just as the hero is being introduced for a post-game interview on Fox Sports Net, a mystery man comes up from behind him and hits him with a shaving cream pie in the face. But Toner kept his cool, wiping the shaving cream out of his mouth and eyes to finish the interview, a true hero to all the fans watching at home.

The mystery man was none other than prankster Brandon Kentner.



John Toner. BP/Guy Thomas

Most Compelling Argument for More Male Nudity

Elvin Andujar. Listen, sportswriters aren't supposed to look, but every once in a while, a player comes along whose physique so completely resembles a piece of Greek sculpture that it would be wrong NOT to notice. Andujar — a walking ideal of beef — brings to mind Dick Egnon's famous line, "I had the distinct pleasure and privilege to have seen Johnny Unitas naked and, oh, my, what a physique on that man." Well, if Egnon said that about Unitas, I'll say it about Andujar.

One look at this slagger convinced me he has all the tools to make it to the big leagues.

The Brett Kay Memorial Award for Best Moment of the Year

Miguel Pinaño. Sure, other players had better years, but there was no greater moment this season than Miguel Pinaño's near no-hitter. For 2 2/3 innings, Pinaño did not allow the Lowell Spinners a hit. And then, with only one pitch remaining on his masterpiece, a guy named Eric West knocked a single to right. On the next pitch, Pinaño got the last out of the game. OK, so maybe it wasn't a no-hitter, but it was still a gutsy performance that remains the only complete game in Cyclones history.

The Luz Portobanco Award for Most Obnoxious Cyclone

Albany "Tom Hanks" Turay. When it comes to this spoiled bonus baby, more ink has been spilled than tears (as it should be). But the Turay brothers keep repeating: A second-round draft pick by the Mets in 2001, Turay was the Cyclones' best hitter — but an immature kid on and off the field. Turay earned the fan ire for signing false names — like actor Tom Hanks — on baseballs, begging off pre-game talk by saying, "I don't speak English!" and rushing from the clubhouse to his BMW X5 after games without so much as acknowledging the fans. He also pissed off reporters by refusing to grant interviews and not giving a reason. But Turay got in the biggest trouble by angering his teammates and the Cyclones front office by not working hard enough and, in the last straw, attacking a water cooler after a game in Aberdeen. So even though he has the talent to make it to the big leagues, the team suspended him and sent him home to suburban Seattle — in the midst of a playoff drive. If he does rejoin the Mets organization, it won't be in Brooklyn. Good riddance.

The Cyclone Most Likely to Make You Tell Your Grandkids You Saw His First Pro Season

Scott Kazmir. What more can be said about the Mets' No. 1 draft pick? In his 18 innings for the Cyclones, the \$2.2-million man struck out 34 while walking only seven. He ended his Cyclone career with a stunning 0.50 ERA. Most likely, he'll start next season in Double-A ball and we won't see him again until he's pitching at Shea.

Scott Kazmir. BP/Hip photo

The Blake McGinley Memorial Award for Possible Future Major Leaguers

Every year, fans of minor-league baseball predict which of their favorite players will make it to the majors. And every year, none of them do. The odds are just not in these guys' favor, no matter how talented. But this year, a couple of Cyclones seem to have a genuine shot at greatness. How can you not love Kevin Deaton (7-1, 88 Ks and only 15 walks in 76 2/3 innings)? Deaton was masterful all year. And he has a great attitude. Among position players, Blake Whealy (289, plus a team-leading 10 HRs and 34 RBIs) emerged as a genuine prospect, but his future will depend on next season at the Mets' full-season Class A affiliate in Columbia, South Carolina.

Gersh Kuntzman is also a columnist for Newsweek online and The New York Post. His Web site is at www.gkweb.net.

Relishing his chance for victory

By Gersh Kuntzman

for The Brooklyn Papers

It came down to the final race of the season. Would Relish — the ADD-afflicted hot dog who had lost all 37 races —

Miller, who was attending the game, was appalled by the Relish collapse. "Clearly we need to look into this situation," the speaker — and future mayor — told The Brooklyn Papers.

Miller was also appalled at the quality of the judging of that night's "Frozen T-Shirt" contest, but did not believe that the travesty rose to the level of council involvement.

But at Wednesday night's season finale, it did.

As his two rivals sprinted home, the outfield video screen showed Relish fast asleep, dreaming of victory.

When Mustard crossed the finish line first, the batty beef was still saving word. The crowd of 8,000 chanted "Relish! Relish! Relish!" to no avail.

Later, though, a revived Relish bounded onto the field and showed off his speed in an ultimately losing battle against a six-year-old fan.

After the race, Relish refused to answer this reporter's questions.

"He told me he was very appreciative of the love the fans showed him," said Howie Wolfpoof, a Cyclones spokesman. "It was very tearful. Then again, it may have been condensation from the steam, but I think it was a tear."

But Ed Shakespeare, whose hotly anticipated book, "When Baseball Returned to Brooklyn," comes out this fall, believes that Relish was coming on strong in the end.

"As a famous football coach from Sheepshead Bay once said, 'he didn't lose the season series — he just ran out of time,'" he said.

Holo to go?

For now, they're just rumors, but the buzz in the stands is that Howard Johnson will not return as Cyclones manager and that former Met Tim

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Teufel (rhymes with muffle) will get the top job.

Teufel — a sure-handed infielder who played with the Mets from 1986 to 1991 — remains in the Mets organization as a roving infield coach.

The Cyclones front office wasn't talking about the possible Teufel shuffle, but there was plenty of chatter around the batting cage.

"You heard it from me: Bobby Ojeda will be the next Cyclones manager," said hitting coach Donovan Mitchell, denying the Teufel rumor.

"You heard it from me: Believe half of what you hear and none of what you see," countered Ojeda. "Bobby Ojeda will not be the next Cyclones manager."

Whatever happens, infielder Corey Ragsdale said future Cyclones would benefit from Teufel's instruction. "I don't know anything about him coming in as manager, but he's a guy who knows how to get the most out of players. He doesn't mess around with you. He'd be a great manager."

For his part, Teufel only said that he'd love to manage someday and Cyclones general manager Steve Cohen reminded reporters that minor

league managers have to move up the ranks just like their players if they want a shot at the big leagues.

Borscht Belt Blake

Maybe there's something in the Brooklyn water, but Blake Whealy seems to have picked up a bit of that old Borscht Belt sense of humor.

The other day, Whealy was talking excitedly about how the team was spending the last week of the season at the New York Marriott Brooklyn Downtown, after being kicked out of the dorms at Polytechnic University.

"It's a really nice hotel," Whealy told a reporter. When the reporter told Whealy that the Marriott is considered the best hotel in Brooklyn, the infielder didn't miss a beat:

"Isn't it the ONLY hotel in Brooklyn?"

Bad-a-bing.

Record numbers

The Cyclones set a couple of records during the last week of the season, one not so nice.

The team's nine-game losing streak officially ended with a win on Tuesday night — is the longest in the club's two-year history.

But during the same agonizing home-stand, the team's season attendance passed the 30,000 mark, making the Cyclones the first short-season team to draw such crowds. The team is averaging more than 8,500 fans per night.

How good is that? Well, think of it this way: On Tuesday, Sept. 3, the minor-league Cyclones drew 8,252 fans. On the same night, the major league Montreal Expos drew 3,879.

And to think that former Borough President Howard Golden thought minor-league baseball was a bad idea for Brooklyn.

Clones collapse in home stretch

Staten Island 1 Cyclones 0

Fri., Aug. 29, at Brooklyn (10 innings)

The Cyclones bats remained silent — when they needed them most — as they were shut out by their cross-Narrows rivals the Staten Island Yankees. The win gave the first-place Yanks a three-game sweep of the last series between the two teams this year.

Cardinals 8 Cyclones 1

Fri., Aug. 30, at New Jersey (Game 1)

The Cyclones managed just two hits, and starter Kevin Deaton was hit hard for the first time in more than a month. Chase Lambin and Ender Chavez had Brooklyn's only hits, and Deaton surrendered six runs in five innings, as the Cardinals won the first game 8-1.

Cardinals 4 Cyclones 0

Fri., Aug. 30, at New Jersey (Game 2)

The Cyclones' bats stayed cold, and had just three hits. Lambin hit safely again, as did Elvin Andujar and Brett Harper. Starter Tanner Ochsner pitched just one inning, and gave up two runs. New Jersey added two more runs in their last at-bat, to make the final score 4-0.

The loss brought Brooklyn's losing streak to six games. It also officially eliminated the Cyclones from playoff contention, dropping them seven games out of the Wild Card spot with five games to go.

Cardinals 2 Cyclones 1

Sat., Aug. 31, at New Jersey

The Cyclones' losing streak reached 7 games on Saturday, as they dropped a 2-1 game to the New Jersey Cardinals, leaving Brooklyn (37-35) tied with New Jersey for third place in the McNamara Division.

The Cyclones' hitters continued to struggle, as they scored just one run on four hits. Brooklyn has now scored a total of three runs over their last six games. Aaron Baldiris had two hits for the Cyclones on Saturday, while Brett Harper and Derran Watts picked up the team's other survivors. They did not score until the top of the ninth inning, but the comeback fell a run short.

Omar Acevedo pitched well in his start, but surrendered 2 runs in the sixth inning that proved to be the difference, as he took his third loss of the season.

Newcomer Ryan Dandy made his Cyclones debut in relief, and pitched 2 1/2 hitless innings.

Cardinals 2 Cyclones 1

Sun., Sept. 1, at Brooklyn

The Cyclones' (37-36) slid hit eight games on Sunday, as they lost again to the New Jersey Cardinals (38-35) by a score of 7-0, and dropped into fourth place in the McNamara Division.

Jason Scobie got off to a tough start on his 23rd birthday, giving up six runs in the top of the first, before being lifted with two outs.

That proved to be the whole story of the game, as the Cyclones continued their offensive woes, and were shut out once again. They have now scored just three runs in their last seven games.

Crosscutters 5 Cyclones 2

Mon., Sept. 2, at Brooklyn

The Cyclones lost again on Monday night, bringing their losing streak to nine games. Brooklyn (37-37) took the lead early, but the Williamsport Crosscutters (47-27) took the lead right back, and eventually got the win, 5-2.

When Brooklyn put together two doubles by Blake Whealy and Aaron Baldiris in the fourth inning, it gave the team a 1-0 lead — the first lead they've had in 72 innings. In the top of the next inning, though, Williamsport came back to tie the game, and scored two runs off of Brooklyn starter Miguel

Pinaño. They added two more runs in the sixth and a fifth run in the eighth.

Brooklyn got a run back in the bottom of the eighth, though, when shortstop Corey Ragsdale blasted his second home run of the season, and his hit at Keyspan Park.

In another bright spot for the Cyclones, their attendance of 8,004 put them in the 300,000 mark for the first time in the club's brief history.

Cyclones 6 Crosscutters 4

Tue., Sept. 3, at Brooklyn

For almost three hours, it looked as though the Cyclones would remain quiet and the team would drop its 10th straight. Although the Clones got three runs on three hits in the first inning, Crosscutters starter Roberto Novoa retired 22 Clones in a row from the second through the eighth inning.

The Mets' No. 1 draft choice struck out Jimmy Crosscutters in his three innings of work. With Kazmir gone, the Crosscutters scored single runs in the fourth and fifth and then added two in the sixth (thanks to a Cyclone error).

But with Nova gone, Jimmy Anderson laced a two-out, bottom-of-the-ninth single to tie the game at 4 and sent it into extra in-

nings. In the 11th, Elvin Andujar crushed a two-out, walk-off homer into deep left field, the first walk-off homer in Keyspan history. Brooking third, Brett Harper was smiling like a little kid.

"We haven't won in a while," Harper explained later.

The Cyclones finally broke their losing streak, and did it in style. Elvin Andujar crushed a two-run walk-off home run in the bottom 11th inning to win the game, and gave the Cyclones their first victory in 10 games.

Kazmir ran into trouble for the first time, and even so, he pitched three scoreless, one-hit innings with six strikeouts. He did allow three walks, though, and left after the third inning due to a high pitch count.

The Cyclones took an early lead with three runs in the first inning, thanks to a leadoff double by Chase Lambin, an infield single by Aaron Baldiris, an RBI single by Brett Harper, and an RBI groundout by Jimmy Anderson.

But the Crosscutters chipped away, and came back to take a 4-3 lead. Char Lyle and Michael Cockrell both had RBIs for Williamsport, and Travis Chapman drove in two. Robert Bank entered the game in the ninth, with the Cyclones down by a run, but he pitched three scoreless innings to get his third win of the year.

In the bottom of the ninth, Jimmy Anderson came through with another RBI, and sent the game to extra innings. With two outs in the 11th, Brett Harper singled, then made a jump to the plate, setting up the first ever walk-off home run at Keyspan Park.

Crosscutters 13 Cyclones 10

Wed., Sept. 4, at Brooklyn (10 innings)

The Cyclones appeared to be crumbling, up 9-0 with their ace pitcher, Kevin Deaton (7-1) on the hill, but after a masterful five innings, Deaton tired, giving up two singles and three consecutive walks before being pulled.

The Crosscutters ended up scoring nine runs — including a three-run homer by Brooklyn-born Anthony Bocchino — to tie the game.

The Crosscutters pushed across a run in the ninth, the Clones came back to life. Brett Harper, who led off with a single and later scored on new catcher Darrin Reynoso's single. But the play-by-play-bound Crosscutters scored three in the top of the 10th to win it.

The Cyclones had built their early lead on a wild pitch in the first, two runs in the third, and a six-run fourth inning. They had a Chase Lambin three-run dinger and, later, an Andujar two-run shot.

The Cyclones finished the season at 38-38.

WHO'S HOT!

The Papers' Pick for Cyclones Player of the YEAR

For lack of a better analogy, it's been a long, short season.

Coming off last year's championship run, who would have thought that this year's Cyclones would barely contend for a playoff spot. And, alas, that was the case.

This, of course, makes things a lot tougher on us here at WAB. A 500 season leaves us with few-and-far-between highlights to help us choose our "Player of the Year."

Sure, we could simply hand the award to

the player who earned the most of the coveted "Who's a Bum?" awards over the course of the season, but that would require us to look back through The Papers over the last 12 weeks, and do some math — which is something we avoid like the plague.

Instead, we're simply going to fall back on our rock solid mid-season. The guy who racked up seven wins in a row including his first, on July 24 over the hated Staten Island Yankees. Kevin Deaton, you're our Who's a Bum player of the year.

Kevin Deaton, who tallied seven wins in a row during the course of the season, is our Cyclones player of the year.

O'KEEFE...

Continued from page 4

today, and I am just so confused and delicious as the rest of you but the governor and the mayor sent me here and I have to do you have any tabloids, any food I can give you, and they said, "O'Keefe recalled, laughing."

"They mopped for me, they set up furniture for me, and set up the most wonderful home," she said. "We opened up the next morning and thousands of people came. Thousands and thousands."

O'Keefe said she slept on a ship docked in the river, and oversaw the completion of the center in history and was viewed and toured by every country," O'Keefe said.

She took family members of the deceased to Grand Zero to help them understand why their

loved one might not ever be found or even identified. She organized a Grand Zero memorial service that brought 9,200 people together for one hour. And around Christmas, O'Keefe transformed Pier 94 into a Christmas mall, complete with boutiques filled with products that could be bought with paper snowflakes carried by those who had lost family members to the Sept. 11 attacks — two snowflakes for a Tonka truck, one for a make-up kit.

O'Keefe remembers the tally of victims, of those who have lost loved ones, of missing persons reports filed, and of teddy bears handed out like they were discount make-up for her Social Security number. She said 240,984 people visited the Pier 94 family relief center over its four months of operation.

It closed in January and on 16th Street, O'Keefe retired from her position.

She remembers that metal slab of a pier as an oasis that helped her find a sense of peace and the best in human nature, and although many of her former staff members do her honor, O'Keefe said she does not have nightmares.

That time in her life, she said, has not scarred her. O'Keefe is proud of what she's done, she said, and feels about how the recovery effort was handled. She's also proud that a man like Rudy Giuliani, who so many across the city and across the nation came to see as a pillar of strength, saw her in such a way.

O'Keefe's husband, Bill, sees his wife, post-9-11, as the same person he has always known to be dedicated to making things better in the community. The Bay Ridge Community Council recognized her relief work with their Civic Award in June.

And at 9 a.m. on Sept. 11, O'Keefe will read the names of victims at the memorial ceremony with Mayor Michael Bloomberg at Grand Zero. And afterward, she will meet with her former Community Assistant Unit team, to catch up, remember, and most importantly, she said, "Just embrace."