



The COMMUNITY
is invited to Amherst's Annual 9/11 Ceremony of Remembrance at

AMHERST MEMORIAL GROVE

A Grove of 120 Trees on Ellicott Trailway In Memory of the Victims of September 11th and the Courageous Efforts of So Many

Wednesday, September 8, 2010

11:30am Assembly at North Forest and Maple Entrance to the Ellicott Creek Trailway
Group walk (7/10 mile) to the Amherst Memorial Grove
(Limited Transportation available for those in need)

11:55 AM 9/11 Ceremony of Remembrance:

Don Postles, WIVB-TV anchor, Master of Ceremony
Invocations by Community Leaders
Amherst Police Department Honor Guard
Recognition of all Amherst Servicemen and Servicewomen Serving our Country
Reading of the Names of Local Victims
Amherst Senior Singers & Sandy DeGlopper, Vocalist
Military Honors Rifle Squad

There will be some bleachers available, but you may provide your own lawn chair
Rain or Shine

For more information contact:
Deborah Bruch Bucki, Amherst Town Clerk and Committee Chair at 631-7021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 26, 2010

For more information, contact Deborah Bruch Bucki, Amherst Town Clerk, at (716) 688-0697 (home) or (716) 631-7010 (work), or via e-mail at dbucki@amherst.ny.us

AMHERST PLANS 9/11 CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE AT MEMORIAL HILL GROVE

Ceremony Chairperson and Amherst Town Clerk Deborah Bruch Bucki announced that the Town of Amherst shall conduct its annual "9/11 Ceremony of Remembrance" on Wednesday, September 8, 2010, at the Amherst Memorial Hill Grove, located along the Ellicott Creek Trailway, 7/10 of one mile from the entrance at North Forest Road (between West Klein Road and Maple Road). Assembly will begin at 11:30 AM. for a group walk processing to the Grove for a 11:55 AM ceremony, which has been planned by a committee that includes Amherst department heads and employees, police officers, veterans, and residents.

A living memorial to the victims of the 9/11 attacks, the grove consists of an American flag, a monument, and 120 trees surrounding a memorial bench. Two pathways that traverse the grove form a memorial ribbon. A stone wall offers seating that faces the monument and the trees, and thereby permits visitors an opportunity to stop and reflect upon the lives of those who perished.

Describing the importance of the 9/11 Ceremony of Remembrance, Town Clerk Bucki commented, "This year, America marks the ninth anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Americans must not only remember the police officers, firefighters, and civilians who died on that horrific day, but also recall its role in galvanizing the fight that our troops currently wage abroad against the evils of terrorism."

The Master of Ceremonies will be Don Postles, news anchor for WIVB-TV Channel 4. Personal Reflections will be offered by Jodi Johnston, news anchor for WGRZ-TV Channel 2. The Ceremony of Remembrance will include musical performances by the Amherst Senior Center Singers, vocalist Sandy DeGlopper, and the Army Brass Quintet. The Town of Amherst Police Department Honor Guard and members of Amherst's uniformed services will also participate, and the names of the 9/11 victims from Western New York will be read by members of their families, by representatives of American Airlines and United Airlines, and by local first responders. Participating in an Ecumenical Benediction will be: Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein, of Temple Sinai, Dr. Surjit Singh, a Trustee of the Niagara Sikh Association, Rev. Richard R. George, from The Chapel at Crosspoint and Shepherding Pastor, Amherst Police Department, Father Francis Xavier "Butch" Mazur, the Ecumenical Officer of the Diocese of Buffalo, and Dr. Khalid J. Qazi, of the Muslim Public Affairs Council.

For those who need it, the Town of Amherst will provide limited transportation to the grove from the Ellicott Creek Trailway parking lot, located on North Forest Road. Participants may bring lawn chairs for seating if they wish, but bleacher seating will also be available. The ceremony is open to the public, will last approximately one hour, and will take place rain or shine.

Another event being coordinated by the Town of Amherst 9-11 Commemoration Committee is "Flag Staking" on Friday, September 3 from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon by volunteers from the Youth Engaged in Service Program, under the direction of Antonella Covelli, Amherst Youth Board Director of Volunteers. American flags will be positioned on the lawn in front of the Amherst Municipal Building on Main Street to reflect the number of lives lost on September 11, 2001,