

Auburn to host three-day event for 9/11 anniversary

[Nate Robson / The Citizen](#) AuburnPub.com | Posted: Monday, April 25, 2011 3:00 am | [\(0\) Comments](#)

Auburn will host a three-day community remembrance to honor those killed during the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

The remembrance, which will be held on Sept. 9, 10 and 11, will mark the 10-year anniversary of the terrorist attack, which claimed almost 3,000 lives in Pennsylvania, New York City and the Pentagon.

“I think this is one of those events where everyone old enough remembers where they were,” said Terry Winslow, chairman of the committee charged with organizing the remembrance ceremony. “This is something everyone who is old enough too, will remember. I am afraid the next generation doesn’t remember, doesn’t know.

“The story needs to be told, it needs to be remembered. It doesn’t have a political meaning, it doesn’t have a religious meaning — it’s just as Americans, remembering who we lost.”

The ceremony will start at 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 9, with a re-enactment and the opening of the healing field at East Middle School in Auburn. This year’s healing field will be similar to the one displayed at Hoopes Park last year.

The healing field, which is expected to have close to 1,200 flags in it, will remain open until 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11.

A wall of honor and a video screen portraying scenes from the terrorist attack will also be displayed near the fields.

Starting at 8:30 a.m. the next day, city officials will hold a dedication ceremony at city hall. The event will include guest speakers and the unveiling of a memorial stone that will have a significant tie to the terrorist attacks in New York City, Winslow said.

Winslow declined to say how the stone will be tied to New York City other than to say it will hold a special meaning.

After the healing fields close Sunday, Sept. 11, a ceremony will be held in Holland Stadium at East Middle School to pay tribute to the firefighters, law enforcement officers, military personnel and civilians involved in the attack.

Winslow said some details about the weekend-long event are still being ironed out, and that further details will be released as the event approaches.

More than 76 law enforcement, fire and emergency service organizations are expected to participate in addition to countless other groups.

Every aspect of the remembrance ceremony is open to the public, Winslow said.

The city has already donated \$10,000 to the ceremony, and almost as much has been donated by the community, Winslow said.

“I would just like to mention how cooperative everyone has been, no one has told us no,” Winslow said. “Even if they couldn’t make the whole cost, they still contributed. I think it’s because its one of those events everyone remembers and is affected by in some way.”

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