

September 12, 2011

## **Jericho Walks To Remember September 11**

By Denise Nash

On September 11, 2011, the Jericho High School National Honor Society, along with the entire student body, sponsored a district-wide walkathon to honor the memory of those lost on September 11, 2001.

Event organizer and high school guidance counselor Mary Jo Moriarty spoke to those in attendance about the importance of September 11 being a day of service and remembrance.

“One of our former Jericho graduates Jay Winuk was instrumental in making this day become a day to help others and our school community has been inspired by the Good Deeds Foundation,” said Moriarty. “Our students made us very proud this week when each of them pledged to perform simple acts of compassion, such as performing good deeds, helping someone in need, volunteering or supporting a charity of personal choice.”

Moriarty noted that 3,000 good deed pledges were made by Jericho students and those pledge cards were displayed on boards around the track.

Jericho students also created and designed cards last spring for the families of the September 11 victims and those cards were delivered to Ground Zero and distributed to family members.

Also available at Sunday’s event was a history tent, which allowed participants to read articles, view memorabilia and see some of the samples of the artwork sent to the families. Arts and craft tables were also available to learn origami crane art, which has become a symbol of global peace.

Superintendent Hank Grishman spoke to the large crowd about how Jericho dealt with the events on September 11, 2001. “In Jericho, we came together as a school community – the board, administration, and the entire staff – to determine what we needed to do to protect and support all of our students and all of our staff. In unity we developed a plan, a plan that every adult in our school district volunteered to assist. Every student, every staff member was supported, every bus went home that afternoon with staff members on board to insure that all of our kids were met at home by a parent. Unity of purpose, and support for our community was the theme for us on September 11<sup>th</sup> and the days, weeks and months thereafter.”

Throughout opening week of school, lessons were coordinated at each grade level to teach students important lessons about the events surrounding September 11, 2001. “This past week many of our teachers had the difficult job of explaining and helping students make sense of the events that occurred ten years ago today,” said Dr. Eric Sundberg, Jericho’s Social Studies Curriculum Associate. “Students have been studying timelines, asking us questions, discussing the qualities of heroism, contrasting conflicting

assessments of our nation's response to the attacks and comparing the effects of September 11 to other challenges in our history.”

Over \$25,000 was raised from the event and donations are still being accepted for those that were unable to attend. Please visit [www.Jericho911walktoremember.org](http://www.Jericho911walktoremember.org) to make a donation.

Special thanks to all donors and participants, including students, parents, teachers, administration, the Board of Education as well as the entire Jericho staff, the National Honor Society and student council.

Platinum event sponsors include: The Milana Family Foundation and Zorn's Catering of Bethpage. Silver sponsors were Pliskin Realty and Development, Jeff Liebenthal, The Colaio Family, Salzman Chemists, DGA Pharmacy Corp., The Zhu Family, and 16 Handles. Gold sponsors were The Aaron - Fraser Family (In memory of Richard Fraser), Mark J. Friedman Foundation, The Jericho Teachers Association (JTA), and Whole Foods, Jericho. Bronze sponsors include Cafe Dolce Vita, Jericho Educational Administration Association, Heilig Family, Krieger Family, Buller Family, Gantman Family, Ginsberg Family, Ferro Family, Pearlman Family, Stein Family, Kenny Family, Siegel Family, Orbuch Family, Feibus Family, Spector Family, Kornberg Family, Saggar Family, Shanker Family, Garter Family, Berger Family, Schumer Family, Patcoff Family, Balko Family, Moriarty Family, Pearlman Family, Widom Family, Boral Family, Russo Family, Ferro Family, Fried Family, Spartan Plumbing & Heating, Rolando Mechanical Corp., Realty Executives Today, F & T Mechanical, Mortgage World Bankers, Karidis Trust, Skevas Aspion LLC, Infinite Manufacturing Group, 84 Realty, Del-Mir Caterers and Salon Entourage.

All proceeds from the event will go to MyGoodDeed, Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund, Peter Alderman Foundation, Tribute WTC Visitor Center and the Susan M. Clyne Fund.



**Event organizer and high school guidance counselor Mary Jo Moriarty gathers her Honor Society volunteers.**