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Madison County Seeks Local Stories to Preserve the History of September 11

Wampsville, NY – As the nation approaches the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Madison County Historian's Office and Madison County Public Information Office are asking local residents to help preserve an important part of our community's history.

The offices are collecting **firsthand accounts from Madison County residents about September 11** and the days, weeks, and months that followed. Whether you watched the events unfold from a classroom or workplace, traveled to New York City to assist in the recovery efforts, lost a loved one, or were impacted in another way, your story is an important part of the historical record.

Today, there are two generations of young people who were not yet born when those attacks occurred. Preserving firsthand accounts ensures that future generations can learn not only what happened, but how it affected the lives of people in their own communities.

"We often remember the images we saw on television that day, but every community has its own stories," said Madison County Historian Matthew Urtz. "The experiences of our neighbors, family members, first responders, military personnel, elected officials, volunteers, and everyday citizens are part of Madison County's history. We want to preserve those stories before they are lost."

Stories may include where you were when you heard the news, maybe you waited that day to hear from a loved one, or you were a teacher who had to explain the events to your students, or were you involved in the response and recovery efforts. Every memory helps paint a more complete picture of how September 11 impacted our community and changed us.

Residents are invited to submit their own stories (not those of someone else unless you have the right to do so) in writing or by recording a video of themselves sharing their memories. Stories can be submitted through the [county's online form](#) on the County's website www.madisoncounty.ny.gov or by emailing pio@madisoncounty.ny.gov. Also, feel free to share your own photos or even journal entries with those stories.

By preserving these firsthand accounts, Madison County hopes to create a lasting historical record that honors those who were lost, recognizes those who served and responded, and ensures the lessons and memories of September 11 continue to be shared for generations to come.

Our Community. Our Stories. September 11 through Madison County Voices.

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