

# Councilwoman Bonner Attends Fundraiser for 9-11 Rescue Dog Statue and USS Michael Murphy Commissioning Committee Ceremony

posted on 7/12/2012 12:31:07 PM

July 12, 2012



*Pictured with Councilwoman Jane Bonner (fifth from left) are Town of Brookhaven Director of Veterans Affairs John Rago (left), local members of the Armed Services, Peggy McKenna (fifth from left), John and Maureen Murphy, Michael Murphy's brother and mother and Joe Cognitore and Rich Acritelli from VFW Post 6249 in Rocky Point.*

**Farmingville, NY** - On May 23rd Councilwoman Bonner attended a fund-raising event in support of VFW Post 6249 in Rocky Point and their efforts to add a bronze statue of a German Shepherd dog to the 9/11 memorial located at the Town's Diamond in the Pines Park in Coram. The statue will serve to honor the animals that played a vital part in the rescue and recovery effort following the attacks, as well as those that provide assistance and companionship to both our soldiers overseas and veterans here at home. The fundraiser also raised money for the USS Michael Murphy Commissioning Committee Ceremony to be held on October 6, 2012 in New York City.

Councilwoman Bonner said, "I am proud to work with Rich Acritelli, Joe Cognitore and the Rocky Point VFW to honor the rescue and recovery dogs that worked under such hazardous conditions after 9-11. The memorial at Diamond in the Pines is a great tribute to all those who died, and I look forward to the dedication of the new statue on the 11th anniversary of that fateful day."

The fund-raiser, which was held at Ruvo's restaurant in Port Jefferson, was organized by Rich Acritelli of the VFW Post 6249. The September 11th memorial at Diamond in the Pines Park was unveiled in September of 2011 in honor of the tenth anniversary of the attacks on the World Trade Center. It includes tributes to the rescue workers, the veterans of the War on Terror, and those from Brookhaven who lost their lives in the attacks. The new German Shepherd statue will be funded by private donations and is expected to be completed by late August 2012 with the unveiling to occur during a ceremony in commemoration of the eleventh anniversary of 9-11. The Rocky Point Veterans of Foreign Wars Fischer-Hewins Post 6249 is seeking donations to help with the cost of the addition to the memorial. For more information, visit [www.vfw6249.org](http://www.vfw6249.org).

