

The Society has invited Constable David Lim of the Port Authority Police of New York and New Jersey to participate in the unveiling ceremony. Constable Lim's canine partner, Sirius, was one of the fallen heroes of that tragic day in New York. The dog was killed in the collapse of the World Trade Center Building Two. He was waiting in his kennel for the return of Constable Lim, who had rushed into Building One to help with the evacuation.

"After the attacks, I think we felt what so many people were feeling—a tremendous sense of suffering and loss, and we wanted to do something," says Michael Biggins, Chairman of the Beautiful Joe Heritage Society.

A Canadian organization devoted to recognizing the contributions of animals and their unique relationships with humans, the Society decided to honour Sirius and all of the search and rescue units with a tribute in Beautiful Joe Park. After the attacks, dogs were brought in from all over the United States, as well as from Canada and Mexico, to help search for survivors.

"I was very surprised when they contacted me," says Constable Lim. "The human loss was so significant that



Welcome to the Home of

*Beautiful Joe*

the life of one dog kind of gets lost in the shuffle. It is a great honour to have Sirius recognized by an organization in another country."

The monument consists of two large plinths of local ledgerrock on a single base. One side of the monuments honours the work of all the canine units involved in the search and rescue following the attacks. The other is a memorial to Sirius.

Members of the Ontario Provincial Police and their canine units, Municipal canine units from across the province of Ontario, members of the Canadian Armed Forces, Federal, Provincial and Municipal representatives, Inspector Gene Ceccarelli of the New York/New Jersey Port Authority Police Department and a representative of the U.S. Consulate General in Toronto will join Constable

Lim for the ceremony on Saturday May 11 – nine months after the attacks.

There will be a large gathering of police and armed forces units at the Market Square in Meaford beginning at noon. Together with canine units, an Honour Guard and the Commissioner's Pipe and Drum Band, the procession will then march to Beautiful Joe Park. At approximately 1:00, the official ceremony will commence, culminating in the unveiling of the monument. Following the ceremony, OPP canine units will give demonstrations in the park.

"This event will be a gesture of caring and empathy for our neighbours to the south," says Michael Biggins. "It's a chance for Canadians to pay tribute to Constable Lim and Sirius as well as the thousands of others affected by this tragedy."