

# A TRAGEDY REMEMBERED

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

**9/11**  
TEN YEARS

**DAILY GLOBE**

yourdailyglobe.com

IRONWOOD, MICHIGAN — VOLUME 92, EDITION 205

75 CENTS

## 9/11 anniversary met with terror threat

By EILEEN SULLIVAN and LOLITA C. BALDOR  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Undaunted by talk of a new terror threat, New Yorkers and Washingtonians wove among police armed with assault rifles and waited with varying degrees of patience at security checkpoints Friday while intelligence officials scrambled to nail down information on a possible al-Qaida strike timed to coincide with the 10th anniversary of 9/11.

Counterterrorism officials have been working around the clock to determine whether the threat is accurate, and extra security was put in place to protect the people in the two cities that took the brunt of the jetliner attacks that killed nearly 3,000 people at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon a decade ago. It was the worst terror assault in the nation's history, and al-Qaida has long dreamed of striking again to mark the anniversary. But it could be weeks before the intelligence community can say

whether this particular threat is real.

Security worker Eric Martinez wore a pin depicting the twin towers on his lapel as he headed to work in lower Manhattan on Friday where he also worked 10 years ago when the towers came down. "If you're going to be afraid, you're just going to stay home," he said.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg, too, made a point of taking the subway to City Hall.

Briefed on the threat Friday morning, President

Barack Obama instructed his security team to take "all necessary precautions," the White House said. Obama still plans to travel to New York on Sunday to mark the 10th anniversary with stops that day at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pa.

Washington commuters were well aware of the terror talk.

Cheryl Francis, of Chantilly, Va., said she travels

(See THREAT — Page 9)



David Sim/Daily Globe

Transportation Security Administration officer Aaron Johnson inspects an identification card of a passenger before she boards a Frontier Airlines flight on Thursday afternoon at the Gogebic-Iron County Airport in Ironwood Township.

## Airport security much different than before terrorists' attacks

By DAVID SIM  
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IRONWOOD TOWNSHIP — Duane DuRay was unloading roofing at the Gogebic-Iron County Airport and listening to the radio on a morning like any other.

Without warning, an announcer broke in and gave a report of details that changed the world. A plane had crashed into one of the World Trade Center buildings. Details were unclear.

"I heard there was an accident," DuRay recalled Tuesday. "Nobody really knew what it was."

That would soon change, though, as



Duane DuRay  
Airport manager

the events on Sept. 11, 2001, continued to unfold.

"My first thought was that it might have been a training pilot that had crashed into the building, but once the second plane hit, that's when we knew something was really going on."

At the time DuRay did a variety of work around the airport. "You name it, we did it," he said. "Small airports like this do everything, from cutting grass, security, any-

thing. I was just on the general employee side, but I can tell you after 9/11, the operation changed dramatically."

DuRay, now manager of the airport and an employee of 18 years, continues to feel the effects of that day in an industry that was impacted more than any other.

### INTENTIONAL GROUNDING

At 8:46 a.m. EDT on Sept. 11, 2001, American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the north face of the North Tower of the World Trade Center, the first of four crashes that morning.

Within an hour, the South Tower and

(See AIRPORT — Page 2)

## World changed for young students

By PAT KRAUSE  
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Each generation of Americans seems to have an event from our national history that is seared into its memory.

For our grandparents and great-grandparents, it was the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 that led to "the greatest generation" helping win World War II and saving the world from Nazism.

For the baby boom generation, it was the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963. You can still ask people about that awful day that happened almost 48 years ago and they remember many details as clear as a bell.

For our country's youngest generation, they will almost certainly remember the events of Sept. 11, 2001, as the day terrorists used jet

airplanes as weapons of mass destruction to kill nearly 3,000 people.

The Daily Globe sought out eight seniors (two from each of the area schools) to describe what it was like being 7-year-old second graders watching the horrible event unfold before their own eyes.

"That was a huge day in history," Hurley senior John Walesewicz said. "It changed a lot in our country."

Wakefield-Marenisco's Tommi Saari stressed how important Sept. 11 has become to young people today. "Our generation will remember 9/11 for the rest of our lives," she said.

After the second plane — United Airlines Flight 175 — crashed into the south tower of the World Trade Center at 9:03 a.m., many of the

(See STUDENTS — Page 10)

## IPSD plans open house as part of observance

IRONWOOD — The Ironwood Public Safety Department will join the nation on Sunday in remembering the terrorists' attacks on America 10 years ago.

Area residents may attend an open house Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the public safety department building. The IPSD will also sound sirens for one minute at noon on Sunday.

The U.S. Senate unanimously approved a resolution calling for Americans to participate in the moment of remembrance on Sunday. For that one minute, churches, towns and anyone gathering at an event will observe a moment of silence, or sound sirens and bells for a national moment of remembrance.

The IPSD open house will provide the opportunity for the public

to come out and meet the people who provide law enforcement, fire and first responder services to the community.

Fire trucks, police cars and ambulances will be on display at the public safety department building on McLeod Avenue.

"Together, as a community, we can take part in this memorable event," IPSD Director Andrew DiGiorgio said.

Also participating will be the Gogebic County Sheriff's Department, Beacon Ambulance and the Ironwood Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Gogebic Range residents will also pause to remember 9/11 during opening ceremonies at 10 a.m. today the Gogebic-Iron County Airport fly-in in Ironwood Township.

## Emergency response capabilities increase since 2001

By JON HAWLEY  
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The attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, were a clear and bitter lesson for first responders across the nation: Emergency service agencies must be prepared for anything at any time.

Gogebic County Emergency Services Director and 9-11 Coordinator Jim Loeper said the changes to emergency responses have changed so much since the attacks that he has trouble imagining how first responders would work without them.

The 9/11 attacks gave birth to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security — today one of the largest federal cabinet agencies with a fiscal year

2012 budget request of \$57 billion and more than 230,000 employees. It consolidated 22 agencies with a re-focused purpose: "To secure the nation from the many threats we face." It includes not only emergency response, but aviation and border security, cybersecurity, chemical facility inspections and more.

Loeper said Gogebic County has received about \$1 million in grants for improved emergency services, most of the money from DHS, and much of it aimed at improved, interoperable communication equipment.

"A lot was focused on a unified incident command system for any type of emergency," Loeper said, to insure

that police, firefighters, paramedics and others quickly know what to do and who is in charge during incidents.

The DHS focus on improved communication was not coincidental; reports on the emergency response at the World Trade Center from the federal 9/11 Commission have found police and firefighters were on different radio channels, got erroneous or unclear information on the WTC towers before their collapse, and public address systems failed. A consequence of the confusion was orders to evacuate the towers were delayed.

According to Michigan State Police First Lt. Christine Grabowski, com-

mander of the MSP post in Wakefield, the problem was not unique to New York pre-9/11.

"Before 9/11, we were all on different frequencies, which created havoc," Grabowski said.

Beyond communication, Loeper said federal money, as well as mandates, spurred Gogebic County to overhaul its emergency response plans.

"This was basically a very part-time position," Loeper said, adding Gogebic County hired him in 2002 as emergency services director and 911 coordinator, which together make a

(See EMERGENCY — Page 2)

### INDEX

Church . . . . . 8  
Classifieds . 15-17  
Comics . . . . . 18  
Community . . . . . 5  
Obituaries . . . . . 3  
Opinion . . . . . 4  
Outdoors . . . . . 13  
Sports . . . . . 11-12



### WEATHER

**Friday**  
High . . . . . 80  
Low . . . . . 51  
**Year ago today**  
High . . . . . 63  
Low . . . . . 37  
**Records**  
High . . . . . 96 (1931)  
Low . . . . . 32 (1976)  
**Precipitation**  
To 7 a.m. Friday: none

—DETAILS, PAGE 2

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