



**DAN ONORATO**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

# COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 11, 2009

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## **Onorato, Rea & Altmire Dedicate North Park Flag Retirement Plaza, Remember Victims of Sept. 11 Attacks**

**McCANDLESS TWP., Pa.** — Allegheny County Executive Dan Onorato and County Councilwoman Jan Rea were joined today by U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04), representatives of the National Flag Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, American Legion Post #980, and state and local officials to dedicate the North Park Flag Retirement Plaza.

“As we remember those who lost their lives during the tragic terrorist attacks eight years ago today, it is fitting to also honor the symbol of our great nation and all that it stands for,” said Onorato. “Allegheny County is proud to dedicate a second site for the proper retirement of our nation’s flag. We hope that residents will come here not only to retire flags with dignity and respect, but also to reflect on those who have given their lives to protect our freedom.”

The North Park Flag Retirement Plaza has been beautifully incorporated into the 80<sup>th</sup> Division Monument & Garden located at the intersection of Babcock Boulevard and Ingomar Road. The plaza adjoins the stone façade of the monument and features five flag poles and 10 benches surrounding a burn pit. If a U.S. flag is soiled, damaged or weathered, protocol calls for it to be buried or incinerated.

“On this solemn day, September 11, I am honored to partner with the County Executive to dedicate the Flag Retirement Plaza in North Park,” said Rea. “The beautiful area allows the flags that have flown in great service to our country to be retired properly, and it also honors the veterans and heroes of North Park and of Allegheny County.”

“The North Park Flag Retirement Plaza will be a place where western Pennsylvania families can honor the symbol of our country and proudly reflect upon our nation’s history,” said Altmire. “It is particularly significant that we are dedicating this new plaza on September 11, because on that day, as on many others, Americans showcased the best characteristics of our country: heroism, resilience, and a determination to serve.”

— more —

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Allegheny County dedicated its first flag retirement plaza in South Park in 2006. It is located behind the Children's Theatre. Anyone wishing to use the flag retirement plazas must apply for a permit from the Allegheny County Parks Department before conducting a ceremony.

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*For information on properly displaying and retiring the U.S. flag, visit the National Flag Foundation web site at [www.americanflags.org](http://www.americanflags.org).*

*Allegheny County operates nine public parks that span more than 12,000 acres and offer a wide array of sporting, leisure, cultural and entertainment opportunities. The Allegheny County Parks system serves to enhance the quality of life and well-being of citizens of Allegheny County and Southwestern Pennsylvania. Various seasonal and year-round programs, activities and amenities provide residents with educational and recreational opportunities, while also contributing to the economic vitality of the region. For additional information on Allegheny County Parks, visit [www.alleghenycounty.us/parks](http://www.alleghenycounty.us/parks).*