



ANDY SHARP / Staff

Marietta artist Lisa Gleim begins a rough sketch of what will become a portrait of New York firefighter Thomas Foley, who died Sept. 11 in the collapse of the twin towers. The portrait is part of a nationwide program for the families of the fallen firefighters.

Portrait of a fallen hero

Artist's work will go to N.Y. firefighter's family

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She gave money to charities for survivors of Sept. 11 victims, even traveled to ground zero, but Lisa Gleim needed to do more.

"I felt it just wasn't enough," said Gleim, a Marietta portrait artist. "I wanted to donate something that can be passed down to future generations."

Gleim's something more is an oil portrait of Thomas Foley, one of the 343 New York firefighters killed in the collapse of New York's World Trade Center towers. Gleim, 31, is donating her work as part of a nationwide project to provide portraits to the families of slain New York firefighters.

"I wanted to do something to say thank

you for what your brother or son has done," Gleim said. "The advantage of a portrait is that it captures more of a person's life than the instant in time that you have with a photograph."

Last week, Gleim flew to New York and met with Foley's family to learn more about the 32-year-old Brooklyn firefighter. The first thing sister Joanne Gross said was Tommy had to be wearing his cowboy hat.

"I was really surprised," Gleim said. "She said Tommy grew up listening to country music and rode bulls as a hobby. I never would have known that without meeting his family."

Gleim's way of commemorating Sept. 11 reflects the personal impact of the day international terrorism was fully driven home for Americans.

Throughout Cobb County, church services and community and school events are planned to remember the victims of terrorism and their families.

At St. James' Episcopal Church in Marietta, volunteers will read the names of every person killed in the attacks in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania, the Rev. Karen Evans said. The ringing of bells will accompany prayers for the continued recovery of survivors.

"One of our parishioners has a sister who is a survivor, and she asked that we pray for her sister, who was able to escape from the 80th floor of the north tower,"

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