

# Our Towns

WAYNE

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DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE

## Wayne couple has designs on 9/11 flag

■ They want to see their memorial pattern become a national symbol.

BY STAFF WRITER  
BENNETT J. LOUDON

HURON — Shortly after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Stephen Galvin heard radio commentators compare the event to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, but they couldn't remember the date of Dec. 7, 1941.

As the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks approached, Galvin and his wife, Joanne wanted to make sure that date is never forgotten, and to help the relatives of the victims.

The Galvins have designed a flag to memorialize the day, and they are planning to sell copies and contribute the proceeds to charities benefit-

ing the victims' families.

They have not determined the exact charities that will benefit, but the Galvins say they hope to sell enough flags to make a donation by the end of the year.

"Right after Sept. 11, we, like thousands of other people, wanted to know what we could do to help all of these victims' families," said Joanne Galvin at their home on Ridge Road.

"We knew that ... sending a donation would be great, but we wanted to do something more," she said.

Galvin, 47, is a materials coordinator at Xerox Corp. Stephen Galvin, 52, is an engineer at Elderlee Inc., in Oaks Corners, Ontario Coun-

### The flag

The Sept. 11 remembrance flag designed by Joanne and Stephen Galvin can be ordered by calling (315) 594-9274, or by visiting their Web site:

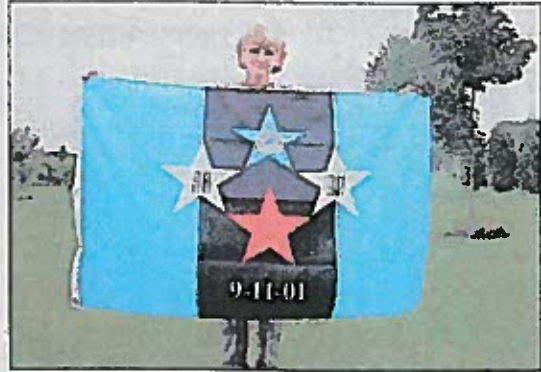
[www.911remembranceflag.com](http://www.911remembranceflag.com)

The 3-by-5-foot flags are \$40. The 4-by-6-inch flags are \$5. And 4-by-7-inch stickers are \$2.50.

The flags also will be on sale at the Flag Store, 455 South Ave. The telephone number for the store is (585) 546-5324.

ty, which makes guard rails and highway signs.

The Galvins' flag includes four stars representing the four planes that crashed Sept. 11. There are two white stars for each of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center. Those two



BENNETT J. LOUDON staff photographer

Joanne Galvin holds a remembrance flag that she and her husband, Stephen, designed to commemorate the Sept. 11 attacks at the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

stars contain images of the two towers.

A blue star represents the plane that crashed into the Pentagon, and an image of

the Pentagon building is placed inside that star.

A red star represents the

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## Flag

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plane that may have been destined for another Washington, D.C., landmark before crashing into the Pennsylvania countryside. It contains the words "Flight 93."

The red, white and blue star colors are used as a nod to the American flag.

The middle third of the background of the flag is black. The remaining background is blue.

The blue was selected because it is a common color in the flags of New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C., where the attacks occurred. The black represents the sorrow the Galvins felt.

"I like the design. It's (simple) enough, but it gets the message across," said Patrice Corletta, manager of the Flag Store at 455 South Ave.

Customers have seen the flag design on decals at the store, and she expects sales to be brisk. A shipment of 500 3-by-5-

foot flags was expected to arrive last Friday.

"A lot of people have seen that and asked us to call them when the flag comes in. So we have a stack of orders here already," Corletta said.

The Flag Store is a project of the Veterans' Outreach Center, and the proceeds of other sales there benefit the center.

The Galvins have created a Web site where they plan to take orders for the flag on the Internet.

"We are trying to make this an official flag for Sept. 11. If somewhere down the road they decide there should be an official flag, we would like this to be considered the official flag," said Joanne Galvin.

In support of that effort, the Galvins have hundreds of signatures on petitions gathered at parades, shopping malls and public events.

And they hope that someday, the flag will be flown at the sites where the planes crashed. □

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