

# ***BRONX VOICE***

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## **WTC Steel Honors 9/11 Victims at Metro Center**

(Photos by Aracelis Batista Photography)

**REAL ESTATE**— A memorial dedicated to those lost on **9/11**, **composed of WTC steel**, **was unveiled at the sprawling new Hutchinson Metro Center in the Pelham Bay.**

The new memorial, “Freedom is Not Free,” consists of an eagle with a six-foot wingspan holding the steel that was once part of the Twin Towers. It is surrounded by a plaza and plantings. Pictured at the dedication ceremony are Bronx Borough President Rubén Díaz Jr. and Joseph Kelleher, president of Simone Metro Properties at Hutchinson Metro Center.

According to Kelleher, president of Simone Metro Properties at Hutchinson Metro Center, Simone Development had wanted to create a 9/11 memorial for some time. Recently the owners were able to secure a piece of original steel from the ruins of [the World Trade Center](#).

“First and foremost we feel very strongly about never forgetting about what happened on September 11th,” said Kelleher. “This memorial will be open to the public all of the time for

people to reflect and to remember, particularly on the September 11th anniversary every year.”



The new monument is located next to the [Marriott](#) Residence Inn in the complex at 1776 Eastchester Road, and will be a short walk from the Metro North train station that will be built nearby, said Kelleher. Many people visiting the Marriott, currently the only class A hotel in the borough, are coming to New York to visit the September 11th Memorial and Museum in Manhattan, said Kelleher.

“This is just another way of reminding people of what occurred,” he said.

