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SEPTEMBER 11TH HERO'S FOUNDATION COORDINATING **"TEA ACROSS AMERICA, 2005"**

On the weekend for September 11th, special tea parties will be taking place across the United States. From New Hampshire to Washington State, from Wisconsin to Florida, an event called "*Tea Across America, 2005*," will attempt to bring tea parties into nursing homes in each of the 50 states on the weekend following the fourth anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks. During past *Tea Across America* events private citizens brought tea, food, and elegance to more than 1,500 seniors through 30 tea parties in 22 states. *Tea Across America, 2005* is being coordinated by The Shelley A. Marshall Foundation, established in honor of Shelley Marshall, who was killed at the Pentagon on September 11th. Shelley loved tea and tea parties, so, as part of its regular programs, the Foundation has hosted 50+ intergenerational tea parties at 6 nursing homes, in 3 states, for more than 2,500 seniors and high school students. According to Donn Marshall, who established the Shelley A. Marshall Foundation to honor his wife, "The seniors line up half an hour before the Foundation's tea parties, and talk about them for weeks after they're over." *Tea Across America, 2005* will offer other Americans the opportunity to confront the evil of September 11th the same way the Shelley A. Marshall Foundation has: with compassion, companionship, and a cup of tea. Marshall believes that *Tea Across America, 2005* will inspire and enrich the spirit of all who participate. "September 11, 2001, was a day when evil reared its ugly head; through *Tea Across America*, we answer evil's challenge with compassion, we give the victims of September 11th the last word. In their honor, we give a senior a day of elegance and dignity they will never forget." Individuals, organizations, and businesses interested in participating are encouraged to contact Donn Marshall at (703) 231-3607, or at shelsfoundation@aol.com.

The Shelley A. Marshall Foundation had its beginnings on September 15th, 2001, the day after authorities confirmed that Shelley had perished in the terrorist attack on the Pentagon. On that day a grief counselor told Donn Marshall four words that changed his life: "Give your sorrow meaning." Within days he established the Shelley A. Marshall Foundation, placing Shelley's retirement savings and the donations of well-wishers in an irrevocable trust to fund activities that mirror her interests in reading to her children, creative writing, and tea. To date, the Foundation has sponsored more than 150 children's story hours at public libraries and schools in three states and the District of Columbia, reaching more than 25,000 children and parents; endowed 26 creative writing contests at 3 colleges and 6 high schools, sparking the creativity of more than 600 young people; hosted 50+ intergenerational tea parties at nursing homes, touching more than 2,500 seniors and high school students; and sponsored three summer art workshop series that bring promising high school artists in contact with professional artists. The Shelley A. Marshall Foundation's activities currently take place in the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia. For more information on the Foundation and its activities, please visit www.shelleysfoundation.org.