



WEATHER

Chances of
thunderstorms
+ High 103°
Low 84°

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'Spy Kids 2'

can't spot a plot
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Dow rebounds after 3-day drop

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Goodbye to the old standby sandwich



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Thoughts shared on Sept. 11 art piece

By Judi Villa
The Arizona Republic

CENTRAL PHOENIX — There isn't much to it really, just a photograph of the World Trade Center with a cross between the twin towers and thousands of signatures.

But the banner, which is making its way across the country, has become a place for people to share their thoughts and feelings about the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and to remember the strength and resilience that brought a nation together.

The banner made a brief stop on Tuesday at the Phoenix Fire Department headquarters, its 19th stop since Michael Joseph, a Florida artist, hit the road with it on July 4. Joseph said he conceived the "patriotic journey" after realizing the emotions people felt in the wake of Sept. 11 were beginning to fade.

"Slowly we started to go back to our daily routines and our ways of life," Joseph said. "Without question, we just don't want people to forget the compassion, the love and the peace that we all felt toward each other."

The banner is made of 4-by-16-foot panels. Five have been filled. The completed "love letter from America" will measure about 40 by 60 feet. Joseph plans to donate it to the Smithsonian Institution in Washington.

"Never forget," Phoenix firefighter Keith Rohr wrote on the banner Tuesday. "Freedom for all."

The banner now moves to Los Angeles, then up the West Coast and across the Midwest. Joseph hopes to end his journey in New York in time for the anniversary of the attacks.