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## BREAKING NEWS Streaming video from New York, stories, photos

### New Whitman police station dedicated on 9/11

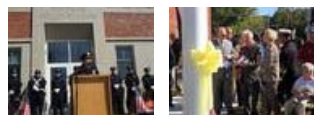
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Allan Stein photo

Whitman Police Chief Christine May-Stafford addresses more than 75 people at Sunday's dedication of the new police station.



By Allan Stein  
**ENTERPRISE CORRESPONDENT**  
Posted Sep 12, 2011 @ 06:00 AM

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WHITMAN — Some people thought the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks was not a good day to dedicate a new police station.

Too much sadness. Too many bad memories. Too many lives destroyed.

But at Sunday's official dedication of the new \$7.8 million police station, town officials said 9/11 was appropriate in every way.

Town Administrator Frank J. Lynam said 9/11 changed everything — the way people live, the way first responders do their jobs. The new facility reflects the new reality for police, he said.

"We survived. And we resolved we would not be so vulnerable in the future," Lynam said.

Sunday's dedication ceremony was held under a perfect blue sky outside on the sidewalk rotunda in front of the two-story police station, a 16,000-square foot facility built to handle crime and terrorism in the 21st century.

More than 75 people gathered to hear keynote speakers address the anniversary of 9/11 and the tools police now have to do their jobs better.

"I think today is a very fitting day to commemorate this facility. The American spirit is renewed today by those who fell 10 years ago," said state Rep. Geoff Diehl, adding that the facility is designed "to get the job done."

"Ten years ago the nature of policing changed forever," said Police Chief Christine May-Stafford. "This facility was designed to meet the needs of the town in a post-9/11 era. Whitman now has a police station it can be proud of."

The project was part of a \$10 million projects package that included repairs, renovations and a new roof at Town Hall, and repairs at the fire station.

The new police station replaces a 7,500-square-foot station at Town Hall that had outlived its usefulness years ago.

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