



magnolia potpourri - news

Magnolia remembers

By **AUDREY M. MARKS**

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United States Air Force Staff Sergeant Green was watching F-16 jet fighters take off for their daily missions.

For Pastor Scot Wall, he was getting up to begin celebrating his daughter's third birthday.

State Rep. Rob Eissler, R-The Woodlands, went to check on the television and Kevin Walters, assistant chief of the Magnolia Volunteer Fire Department, was busy calculating how a fire department would try and respond at the World Trade Center Towers.

But regardless of the experience, most people remember where they were and what they were doing the morning of Sept. 11, 2001 when they found out about the terrorist attacks in New York City, at the Pentagon and the hijacked United Flight 93 that crashed in western Pennsylvania.

In honor of the eighth anniversary of the attacks the city of Magnolia invited local officials, politicians and first responders to participate in the commemoration event held at Magnolia City Hall Friday.

Pastor Mike Colston, from Living Waters Church, said one of the responsibilities of residents is helping younger generations remember the horrific actions of the terrorist attacks.

There are kids that "don't know what Sept. 11 is unless we tell them," Colston said.

He focused not on the graphic details, but relating the tragedies and the triumphs that resulted after the ash and dust cleared.

"We need to remember we were not people separated by racial barriers or religious barriers," Colson said. "We became one nation under God, indivisible."

Montgomery County Precinct 5 Constable David Hill thanked all the service men and woman, in addition to Magnolia's own fire, police and emergency medical service providers for giving selflessly and helping complete strangers in their time of need.

"The heroes are not us speaking today, it's those young men and women who volunteer to protect us," Hill said. "I want to thank those heroes for standing up and being what America is proud of and what Magnolia is proud of."

The rain held off, if not relenting to a slight drizzle under gray skies, while the Magnolia Volunteer Fire Department Honor Guard executed the presentation of the flags and the last alarm ceremony.



Members of the Magnolia Volunteer Fire Department Honor Guard march in the presentation of the flags to begin the Sept. 11 commemorative event held at Magnolia City Hall.

The Honor Guard rang the bell to memorialize those that died in the line of duty.

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