

# REMEMBERING 9/11 FOR THE KIDS

For children who know them only from the accounts of parents and the history books, horrendous national tragedies and the anguish of remembering them offer a teaching moment.

So it was on Sept. 11 for children in the Marvell-Elaine School District. They did not experience the spectacle of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, which killed 2,996 people, injured more than 6,000 others and forever altered Americans' sense of safety.

On the 17th anniversary of the aerial attacks, the school district, in collaboration with the Boys, Girls, Adults Community Development Center, hosted a day of service and remembrance - a tribute to all the first responders from local, state, and national governments who were affected by what has come to be known simply as "9/11."



*Marvell Chief Adrian Smith, Officer, Lionell Moss, and Trooper Justin Williams-Monroe County*

The children, joined by local officials, gathered around the school district's flag pole at Marvell for reflections about the historic tragedy and for accounts of the heroic efforts and personal tragedies of first responders in New York and Washington, D.C., on Sept. 11 and others in the long effort to recover from the carnage.



Many school organizations participated in the event, including seventh-grade and high-school art classes, which provided posters and banners. Junior and senior high school cheerleaders assisted first responders from the community and local government officials. Jennifer Williams and Carline Lawrence represented the mayor of Marvell, Clark Hall, and State Representative Chris Richey was in attendance. Laverne Sims, a VISTA volunteer, and Ruth Brown, a history instructor, planned and facilitated the event.