

# City remembers 9/11

## Looking back a decade later

By Dave Schafer

**F**or 60 seconds, Houston fell silent. It was noon Sunday, Sept. 11 – 10 years after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon – and the city joined a national moment of silence.

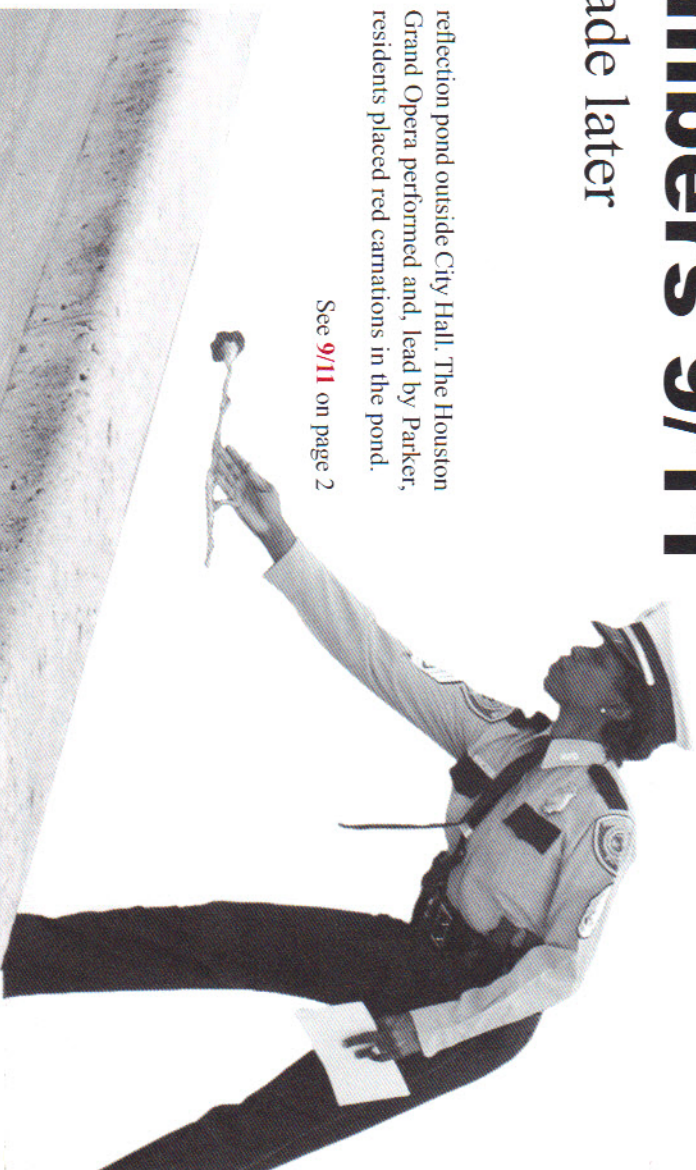
Then, residents returned to building a better future through volunteering with programs set up to commemorate the victims of the attacks.

“Many of us will take this opportunity to quietly reflect and offer our own prayers. But collectively, we will focus on positive actions so we can show the world that we are strong and united,” Mayor Annise Parker said.

The city teamed with nonprofit Compassionate Houston, which had a network of more than 120 local organizations with volunteer and activities, and honored the nearly 3,000 victims with a sedate 60-minute ceremony around the

reflection pond outside City Hall. The Houston Grand Opera performed and, lead by Parker, residents placed red carnations in the pond.

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Police Sgt. Cynthia Miller tosses a carnation into the City Hall reflection pool in honor of the victims of 9/11. Miller also sang the National Anthem during the commemoration.

### Ten years ago...

“Some days we weren’t able to use dogs, but we learned to watch the flies. If you were patient enough, they would show you where the body parts were.” Firefighters recall their time at Ground Zero.



