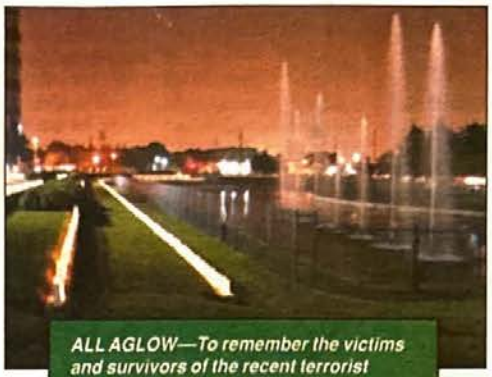
ShortTakes



SOFT TOUCH—Despite technological advances, unintentional injury is still the number one killer of America's children. In recognition of National Baby Safety Month, Shriners Hospitals for Children-Houston hosted the recent "Safe Baby Day." The SafeKids Coalition demonstrated how to check for crib safety when using or buying a crib, and other participants such as the Houston Police and Fire Departments and the Poison Control Center distributed free information and advice on topics such as infant CPR, child fingerprinting, and bike safety for toddlers. Coloring books and stickers were among the goodies available for the kids. Young Jacob Sunderland, above left, shares his Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., stickers with Michelle Kloesel of Shriners Hospital.



HABLA ESPANOL?—Health care professionals at Shriners Hospital for Children are becoming bilingual, thanks to Spanish classes offered at the hospital. "Spanish for the Physician's Office" is taught by Houston Community College instructors, and is offered to facilities throughout the Texas Medical Center. Shriners employees "brushing up" on their Spanish are, from left, M'Rique Probst, Dr. Melanie Lux, HCC instructor Sonya Chawdhwri, Sheryl Bujnoch and Laura Wilcox.



ALL AGLOW—To remember the victims and survivors of the recent terrorist attacks on New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania, the Houston VA Medical Center held a candlelight vigil. More than 2,300 luminaries were lit (shown here), and the evening's events included a prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, a chorus of voices singing "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "God Bless America," a unity reading, and silent reflection while participants lit candles of their own.



RELIEF SPELLED F-E-M-A—Dan S. Wilford, president, Memorial Hermann Healthcare System (left), and James Eastham, senior vice president and CEO, Memorial Hermann Hospital, accept a check representing the first obligation of funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for requested disaster assistance. Reinforcing their commitment to help Houston recover from the aftermath of Tropical Storm Allison, officials from FEMA and the Division of Emergency Management, Texas Department of Public Safety presented Memorial Hermann administrators with the check Sept. 26 at Memorial Hermann Hospital.



COMMEMORATING SIX DECADES—To commemorate The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center's 60th anniversary, Rep. Ken Bentsen (right) inserted into the Congressional Record congratulatory remarks honoring the institution for its contributions to cancer research and care. He recently presented a copy of the remarks to M.D. Anderson Cancer Center President Dr. John Mendelsohn.

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