



Good Bye to Summer and Hurricane Harvey

of the day.

As students go back to school and Fall activities such as football soon begin, Labor day marks the unofficial end to summer. While many of us view the holiday as a welcomed Monday off work we tend to forget the origin

On September 5, 1882, 10,000 citizens marched down the streets of Manhattan to protest the horrendous labor conditions in our country. During this time, the average American worked 12 hours a day, six days a week. It wasn't until the Adamson Act passed on September 3, 1916 that our modern eight-hour work day was established.

A contemporary tradition of this holiday are the Labor Day sales, which is ironic considering the long hours retailers are working on a day set aside to recognize labor appreciation. And gratefully, law enforcement, firefighters and nurses (among others) do not take time off to bask in the holiday.

Of course, this Labor Day weekend will not be like any other for South Texas. The BBQs and shopping of last year will be a distant memory as they come together as a community to recover from the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. The weekend will provide time for strangers to help strangers, law enforcement from around the great State of Texas will travel to Houston and surrounding cities, and thousands of volunteers are organizing to help the displaced. Our hearts and prayers go out to everyone impacted by this disaster. Those of us fortunate enough not to be caught in the line of destruction can use this time off to support our fellow Americans with a call to action. There are many ways to help, whether you donate money to the relief efforts, donate nonperishable goods, or donate blood at your local blood bank.

Let us keep South Texas in our minds as we go into this holiday weekend and let it remind us how strong we are as a nation when we stand together.

Lisa Selman-Holman, JD, BSN, RN, HCS-D, COS-C, HCS-O, HCS-H

