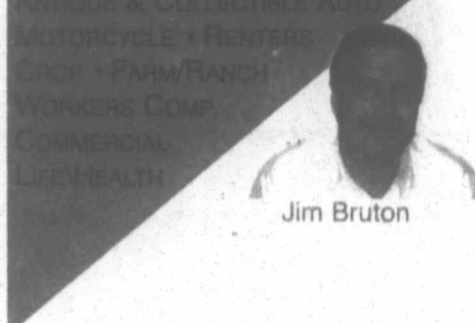


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Secretary of State predicts turnout to be 68 percent

AUSTIN — Texas Secretary of State Hope Andrade has projected 68 percent of the 13.5 million registered voters in Texas will cast a ballot in Tuesday's general election. If that prediction holds true, more than nine million Texans will vote in the election.

Secretary Andrade's prediction is 12 percentage points higher than voter turnout in the 2004 general election and follows heavy early voting turnout across Texas.

"There is a lot of energy across Texas regarding this election. We have seen it in early voting and I think it will translate into heavy voter turnout on Election Day," Andrade said. "Working with local election officials across the state, we are prepared to accommodate a large turnout. I urge all registered Texans that did not vote early to go to the polls Tuesday and cast a ballot for the candidates of their choice."

According to Gray County Elections Supervisor Linda Lewis, 33 percent of the voters have cast ballots in the early voting which ended Oct. 31.

The county has 14,305 registered voters, according to Lewis, with 4,117 early voting in person, 566 ballots returned by mail and another 79 ballots still unreturned.

The precincts with the highest number of early voters was Precinct 5 and 6, where 37 percent of the registered voters cast an early ballot.

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SS office relocates after 40 years

by Rachel Stennett
 rstennett@thepampanews.com

The new Social Security Administrative building is open for business on North Hobart Street.

The move approximately two weeks ago to the new location was mandated by the agency's regional office for enhanced security and privacy, said Manager Kit Grice.

"We have a new front end interview procedure, which gives everyone more security and privacy," Grice said.

In the old location (125 S. Gillespie), the agents conducted business at their desks, where information and files were potentially easy for the public to access. The front end procedure conducts all business at the front of the office. Agents and all files and information are kept in a secured, guarded area.

The move took about two years to complete from inception to relocation, Grice said. All of the equipment had to be moved over a holiday weekend so business could continue as usual.

"We had to make sure things were perfect at every level before we moved. The contracts, bidding, and everything else had to go



staff photo by Rachel Stennett
 The staff of the newly relocated Social Security Administrative office stands in the foyer of the building, where the new front-end procedure is conducted with the public. From left, back row, are Johnny Moore IV, Irene Moore, Diana Miller and Kit Grice (manager). Front row, from left, are Margaret Haverfield, Maria Davis and Paul Greendahl.

along with government protocol," the manager explained.

The public has adjusted well to the new procedures, according to Grice, because of efforts to inform people about the process months before the move actually took place.

"The public has been so understanding and reasonable. This is the best public you can possibly have. I've been here for 24 years and don't want to leave this area because of the public," Grice said.

The staff has also adjusted well to the new location.

"We love it," Grice said. "We really do."

Jr. High construction on board agenda

The Pampa Independent School District Board of Trustees will discuss construction on the new Pampa Junior High School when it meets in special session Thursday evening.

The board will also review construction at Pampa High School and also discuss the progress on utility easements and traffic concerns at the campuses.

A proposed double-sided electronic marquee sign, mascot and graphics for the gym walls at the new junior high school are on the board's agenda.

The board will discuss a layout for the outdoor play area at the new junior high as well as naming it.

Classroom doors for the new building will also be discussed as will a barbed wire fence extending on both sides of the main access road from Texas Highway 70 to the new building.

The board of trustees will also discuss the possible relocation of the Harvester Statue and engraved bricks at the high school and removing or relocating the concrete fence on the south side of the high school.

It will hear a report of comparable Amarillo elementary schools to Pampa elementary schools.

The board is expected to review and approve the school tax roll and discuss the superintendent's evaluation.

The board of trustees will meet beginning at 5:30 p.m., Thursday at the Carver Center Administrative Office, 321 W. Albert.

GMA1 to meet Thursday in Amarillo

AMARILLO — The members of Groundwater Management Area Number One will continue their consideration of the desired future condition of the Ogallala Aquifer as they convene here Thursday.

The desired future condition of various aquifers in the state are due to the Texas Water Development Board by 2010. GMA1 has been discussing the desired future condition of the Ogallala, the largest aquifer in North American, which feeds most of the Texas Panhandle. Thursday, they are expected to begin deliberations on the desired future condition of at least one other aquifer beneath the panhandle, the Dockum.

They will also discuss technical information provided by the Texas Water Development Board, including the latest Groundwater Availability Modeling.

GMA1 members will also discuss a contract for management services through the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission, review the group's bylaws concerning officers and the election of officers.

The groundwater management area includes the Panhandle Groundwater Conservation District where Pampa is located, Dumas-based North Plains Groundwater Conservation District, Lubbock-based High Plains Underground Water Conservation District and Canadian-based Hemphill County Underground Water Conservation District.

Their meeting will begin at 2 p.m., Thursday, at the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission boardroom, 415 W. Eighth Ave., in Amarillo.

White Deer man charged with assault

An altercation at The OCB tavern resulted in an assault charge for a White Deer man.

According to a report by the Gray County Sheriff's Department, deputies were dispatched to the tavern, located at 2302 West Alcock street, on Sunday evening in reference to an assault in progress. When they arrived on the scene, a man said that a knife had been pulled on him and he had been threatened with bodily harm.

Dana Lynn Daniels, 43, of White Deer was arrested at 7:36 p.m. He was charged with aggravated assault with a deadly weapon, and with two other municipal warrants for failure to appear in court and driving without a license.

Daniels remains incarcerated on a \$6,000 bond in connection with the incident.

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Viewpoints

Today in History

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov 4, the 309th day of 2008. There are 57 days left in the year. This is Election Day. Today's Highlight in History:

On Nov. 4, 1979, the Iran hostage crisis began as militants stormed the United States Embassy in Tehran, seizing its occupants. For some of the hostages, it was the start of 444 days of captivity.

On this date:

In 1884, Democrat Grover Cleveland was elected to his first term as president, defeating Republican James G. Blaine.

In 1922, the entrance to King Tutankhamen's tomb was discovered in Egypt.

In 1924, Nellie T. Ross of Wyoming was elected the nation's first female governor to serve out the remain-

ing term of her late husband, William B. Ross.

In 1942, during World War II, Axis forces retreated from El Alamein in North Africa in a major victory for British forces commanded by Field Marshal Bernard Montgomery.

In 1952, Dwight D. Eisenhower was elected president, defeating Democrat Adlai Stevenson.

'I know nothing grander, better exercise, better digestion, more positive proof of the past, the triumphant result of faith in human kind, than a well-contested American national election.'

— Walt Whitman
American poet
(1819-1892)

In 1956, Soviet troops moved in to crush the Hungarian Revolution.

In 1980, Ronald Reagan won the White House as he defeated President Carter by a strong margin.

In 1988, in a ceremony at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, President Reagan signed a measure providing for U.S. participation in an anti-genocide treaty signed by President Truman in 1948.

In 1991, Ronald Reagan opened his presidential library in Simi Valley, Calif., with a dedication attended by President Bush and former Presidents Carter, Ford and Nixon — the first-ever gathering of five past and present U.S. chief executives.

In 1995, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a right-wing Israeli minutes after attending a festive peace rally.

Ten years ago: In the wake of disappointing election results in which House Republicans saw their majority trimmed, GOP lawmakers talked of quickly wrapping up impeachment proceedings against President Clinton and raised the prospect of challenges to Speaker Newt Gingrich or other party leaders.

Five years ago: Firefighters in San Diego County contained the biggest and deadliest of Southern California's wildfires.

The fundamentals of wackonomics

For the U.S. Congress, news media, pundits and much of the American public, a lot of economic phenomena can be explained by what people want, human greed and what seems plausible. I'm going to name this branch of economic "science" wackonomics and apply it to some of today's observations and issues.

Since July this year, crude oil prices have fallen from \$147 to \$64 a barrel. Similarly, average gasoline prices have fallen from over \$4 to a national average of \$2.69 a gallon. When crude oil and gasoline were reaching their historical highs, Congress and other wackonomists blamed it on greedy oil company CEOs in their lust for obscene profits. But what explains today's lower prices?

The only answer, consistent with wackonomic theory, is easy: Oil company CEOs have lost their lust for obscene profits. Or, maybe, since many of these CEOs are getting up in years, they might have begun to heed Matthew's warning (19:24), "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God."

Speaking of CEOs, there's

the "unconscionable," "obscene" salaries they receive, in some cases over \$10 million a year. Wackonomics has an easy answer for these high salaries: It's greed. However, CEOs don't have the corner on greed. There are other greedy people we don't scorn but hold in high esteem.

According to Forbes' Celebrity 100 list, Oprah Winfrey receives \$275 million, Steven Spielberg gets \$130 million, Tiger Woods \$115 million, Jay Leno \$32 million and Dr. Phil \$40 million. I need to talk to these people and learn their strategy. I've been making every effort to get that kind of money. I go to bed greedy, dream greedy dreams, awaken greedy and proceed through the day greedy. Despite my heroic efforts, it's all been for naught; I earn a pittance by comparison.

Wackonomics can help us understand what some people call the income distribution. The logical extension of wackonomic thought is

that the unequal or unfair distribution of income is the handiwork of a dollar dealer who distributes dollars. The dollar dealer might deal one person a million dollars a year while dealing most others a mere pittance like \$10,

\$20 or \$30 thousand a year. Thus, the reason why some people are wealthy while others are poor is

because the dollar dealer is a racist, sexist, a multi-nationalist, or just plain mean.

Economic justice requires a re-dealing of the dollars, income redistribution or spreading the wealth, where the government takes the ill-gotten gains of the few and returns them to their rightful owners. Wackonomics might have a greed-based explanation for income inequality. There is a pile of money called income and greedy people got there first and took their unfair share. Similarly, economic justice requires a redistribution of income.

Wackonomics isn't just practiced by the uninitiated. This year's Nobel Laureate, Princeton University

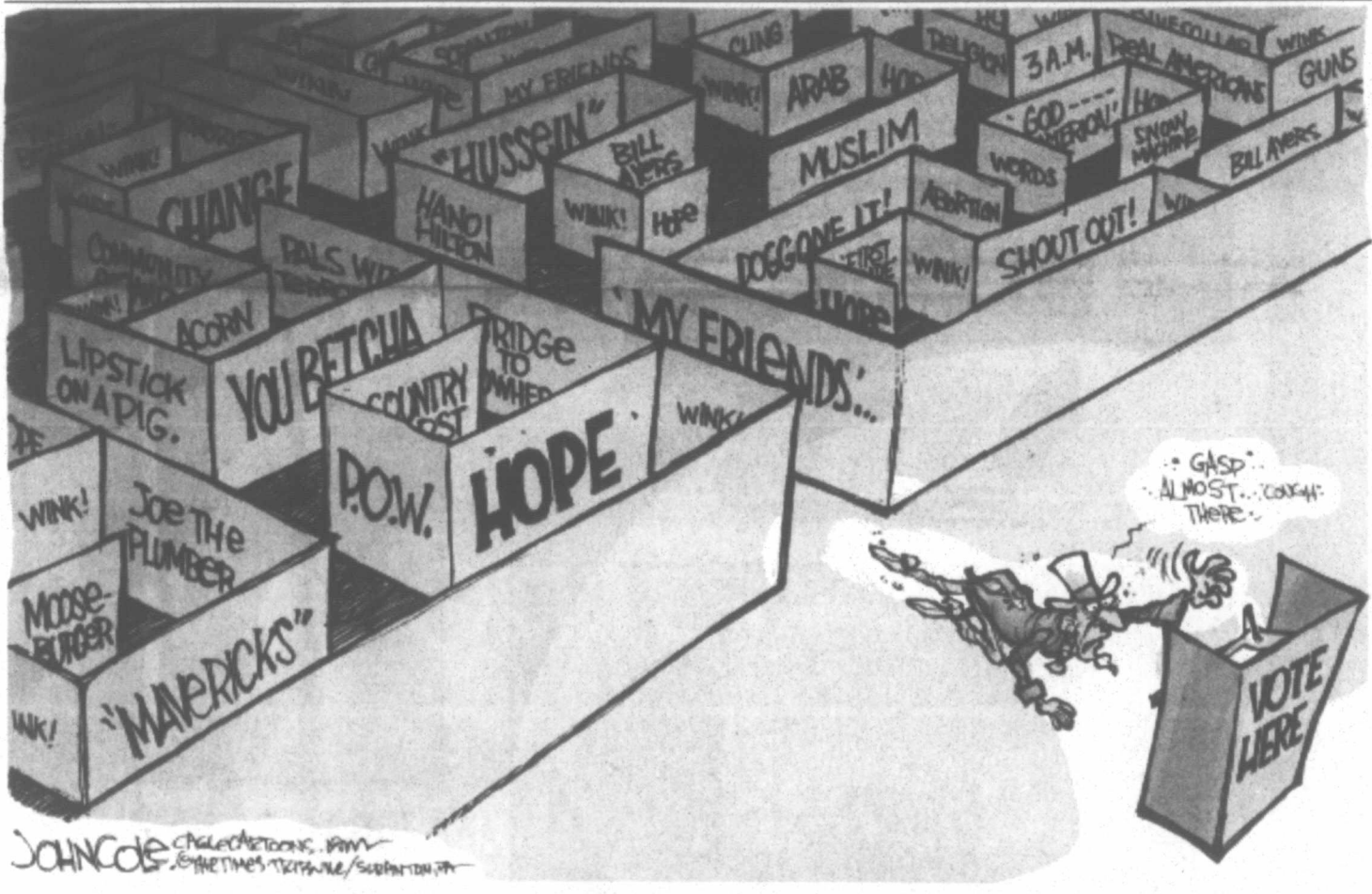
Professor Paul Krugman, after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center, gave one rendition of wackonomics in his column "After the Horror," New York Times (9/14/01). Krugman wrote, "Ghastly as it may seem to say this, the terror attack — like the original day of infamy, which brought an end to the Great Depression — could do some economic good."

He went on to point out how rebuilding the destruction in New York and Washington, D.C., would stimulate the economy through business investment and job creation. For practitioners of non-wackonomics, this reasoning doesn't even pass the smell test. If Professor Krugman's vision is correct, and extending his logic, the terrorists would have made an even larger contribution to our economic well-being had they been able to fly a plane into the White House and destroyed buildings in other cities.

Wackonomics isn't all bad. There's an upside to it. It spares people the bother of having to understand the complexities of the world.

—Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University.

Walter Williams
Columnist



Our readers write

Take in 'the Wall,' think upon our gentle heroes

Dear Editor,
Jan Scruggs, the founder of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., once stated, "America has other great and inspiring national memorials. But the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, with nearly 60,000 names engraved on its black granite wall, is unlike any other. No other memorial so occupies a place in the heart and soul of the nation as does this simple, reflective wall."
Thanks to the hard work of VWF Post 1657, Pampa is honored to have a replica of the wall on display Nov. 6-11. Please visit this tribute to the courage, sacrifice and devotion to duty and country of all those who answered the call to serve during the longest war in U.S. history.

While reflecting on those faceless names, go to East Panel 48, Row 43. There you will find Rickey Joe Marson from Pampa. Rickey was a friend of mine and, although I didn't know it at the time, he and I enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps at about the same time in 1967.

Rickey had a beautiful show calf that he raised in a lot next to mine on Tignor Street. He and I were given scrap tin for Cabot, and together we built sheds for our calves and nurse cows. Our

pens were made of wood from packing crates obtained from the newly-opened Hom's Grocery (now the Family Dollar store).

I used to see Rickey at the Teen-A-Go-Go, a popular teen hangout in Pampa that featured live local bands. I remember seeing Rickey dance with his broken arm in a sling, having a blast.

The last time I saw Rickey Marson was ironically in Okinawa. Okinawa was the staging point for Marines on the way to Vietnam. It was January 1968. I was in the chow hall, and lo and behold, there sat Rickey! I didn't even know he had joined the Corps. We talked, reminisced about Pampa High and tried to calm each others nerves about going to Vietnam. We both arrived in Vietnam just in time for the Tet Offensive.

I learned that Rickey was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 26th Marines in the Khe Sanh Valley. The siege of the Khe Sanh combat base had begun on Jan. 21 and would last 77 days.

In April 1968, Rickey's unit was holding Hills 558 and 861A west of the Khe Sanh combat base. On April 6, Rickey's company was patrolling a ridge line about 2 kilometers west of Hill 558. The company departed the Hill 558 position and approached the crest at about 11 a.m.

Before reaching the crest of the

ridge, Rickey and his fellow Marines came under heavy enemy fire and were held in place through the afternoon. They were withdrawn to Hill 558 before sundown. Air and artillery strikes were called in to cover the Marines' withdrawal.

The next day, April 7, Rickey Marson and the rest of his company departed Hill 558 well before first light in hopes of distracting the enemy and to position for an assault from the east side of the ridge.

The attack commenced into the enemy's line and the northern two-thirds of the enemy position was captured, with the NVA (North Vietnamese Army) withdrawing toward the southern end of the ridge.

Rickey was killed in the battle, just a little over one month short of his 20th birthday.

As you look at Rickey's name on that black wall, think of him,

his life and his sacrifice for his country. And, as written by Michael Davis O'Donnell was killed in action:

"If you are able, save for them a place inside of you and save one backward glance when you are leaving for the places they can no longer go.

"Be not ashamed to say you loved them, though you may or may not have always. Take what they have left you for their dying and keep it with your own.

"And in that time when men decide and feel safe to call the war insane, take one moment to embrace those gentle heroes you left behind."

Floyd A. Killough
Waco

(Editor's Note: Mr. Killough grew up in Pampa. His mother, Ruby Killough, is a lifelong Pampa resident. Floyd is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran who served in the Vietnam Conflict.)

We welcome your letters.

They should be brief and to the point. All correspondence will be edited for length and clarity. Avoid defamatory statements. Endorsements are considered advertising, but opinions about the candidates' stance or actions on issues will be accepted. All letters must be signed and include a telephone number for verification. Political issue letters will not be accepted after Monday, Oct. 27 due to the proximity of the Nov. 4 election and the chance for those of opposing views to respond.

The views expressed on this page are not necessarily those of The Pampa News.

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12 PACK LONG NECKS Bud, Bud Light, & Bud Select	\$9.99
18 PACK CANS Busch, Busch Light	\$9.59
6oz CANS Budweiser, Bud Light	\$3.19

Dear Abby...



By Pauline & Jeanne Phillips

NEW MOTHER'S BOREDOM MAY BE SIGN OF A SERIOUS ISSUE

DEAR ABBY: I am 28 years old, married for four years and have an 8-month-old son. For years I knew I wanted children and that I wanted to be a stay-at-home mother for as long as possible. I am taking a year or two off from work as a teacher to stay home with my son. My problem is, I find playing with my son tedious, boring and frustrating. I don't mind caring for his needs, such as cleaning and feeding, but the actual playtime -- the part that is supposed to be fun, stimulating and so important to his emotional, physical and social growth -- bores me out of my mind. I spend each day waiting for my son to nap so I can read, go online or watch TV, and I count the hours until my husband gets home so I can hand him the baby. I am seriously concerned that something is wrong with me as a mother, especially because I have suffered from depression in the past. Is this a dirty little secret that many mothers keep? - **NEW MOM IN LAS VEGAS**

DEAR NEW MOM: No, it is not, and you are right to be concerned. For your sake as well as your son's, it is important that you discuss your feelings with your OB-GYN to make sure you are not suffering from postpartum depression, which is treatable. You should also consider joining a playgroup, so you will have the company of other mothers. It will give you a healthier perspective than escaping by reading, watching TV or going online.

DEAR ABBY: Have you heard of middle child syndrome? You know, when you are the middle child and your parents seem to spoil and love your older and younger siblings but not you? I'm a 16-year-old girl who has this problem. I have an older brother and younger sister. My parents love and spoil them but not me. Please don't tell

me it's my age or because I'm a girl, because this has been going on ever since I can remember. -- **MIDDLE CHILD IN HACKENSACK, N.J.**

DEAR MIDDLE CHILD: Yes, I have heard of middle child syndrome. And there are cases where the oldest child -- or the baby -- is favored, but it does not happen in every family. However, I do not think the phenomenon of parents playing favorites is as common as you would like to believe. Each child is loved for different reasons, but all are valued because every child is unique. Because you feel you have been overlooked, perhaps it's time to turn your frustration into an effort to excel at something. That way, you will find recognition and validation from both your family and from sources outside it.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 12-year-old boy who is friends with a girl I'll call "Jenny." She is beautiful, and I want to ask her to the school dance, but there's a problem. My best friend, "Matthew," also likes her. Truthfully, I think I have a better shot at getting her to go with me because I know she doesn't like Matthew. But if she goes to the dance with me, my friendship with Matthew will be wrecked. What do I do? - **J.D. IN FLORIDA**

DEAR J.D.: It's a school dance -- why not go stag? That way you can ask anyone you want to dance, and if Jenny likes you better than Matthew, she may choose to spend more time with you than with him.

DEAR READERS: Today is Election Day (11-4), finally. I hope to be the last person to remind you to get out there and cast your ballots!

For Better Or Worse



Zits



Garfield



Beetle Bailey



Marvin



B.C.



Haggar The Horrible



Peanuts



Blondie



Crossword Puzzle

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Fancy ties
 - 7 Lacking
 - 11 "Get lost!"
 - 12 Surrounded by
 - 13 Rancher's activity
 - 15 Fighting
 - 16 Hound's hands
 - 18 Anthropologist
 - 21 Tibetan monk
 - 22 Shirt part
 - 24 Boxing great
 - 25 Weather map icon
 - 26 Bikini half
 - 27 Threaten
 - 29 Crooking
 - 30 Luke's teacher
 - 31 Borders
 - 32 Pond growth
 - 34 PC part
 - 40 "No Sunshine"
 - 41 Helen of "The Queen"
 - 42 Golf pegs
 - 43 Drenched
- DOWN**
- 1 "Lost" network
 - 2 Poseidon's place
 - 3 Mouse chaser
 - 4 Canada's capital
 - 5 Inclines
 - 6 Hearty dish
 - 7 Oil unit
 - 8 Paris pal
 - 9 Tyler of "Armageddon"
 - 10 JFK's predecessor
 - 14 "The Bourne Identity"
 - 16 CBS star
 - 17 Acid type
 - 19 Photo book
 - 20 Is bold
 - 21 Hightail it
 - 22 Pool sites
 - 23 Scoundrel
 - 25 Sell at a big markup
 - 28 Conforms
 - 29 Western range
 - 31 Ham's formation
 - 33 Workout
 - 34 Diet no-no
 - 35 Golf position
 - 36 Start of a count
 - 37 Annoy
 - 38 Goose formation
 - 39 Last part

BLACK BALKS
ROMAN URIAH
AWARE SEEYA
DEBS NOD
OILCLOTH
ASIA BOATER
FLOSS PRATE
SENECA DROP
SOUPCANS
BAR OKRA
EXALT ISAAC
ALFIE MECCA
METER ASTER

Yesterday's answer

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.75 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

Answers to Yesterdays

Sudoku

4	3	9	1	8	5	7	2	6
2	1	7	6	9	4	5	8	3
6	5	8	3	2	7	9	1	4
1	7	4	8	3	9	2	6	5
3	2	5	4	6	1	8	7	9
8	9	6	7	5	2	3	4	1
7	6	2	5	4	3	1	9	8
9	4	3	2	1	8	6	5	7
5	8	1	9	7	6	4	3	2

Sudoku

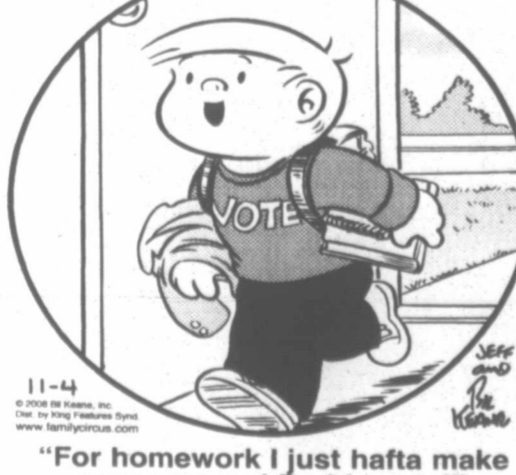
	9			5				7
5				6				
			9	4	3			
4	2							8
		5			8			
		1				3		6
				6				1
							2	7
9			1	8				

Level: Intermediate

The Family Circus

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



"For homework I just hafta make sure you and Daddy vote!"

Flo & Friends



P
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Muni Court week observed

Kurt Curfman and his staff are walking a little taller this week.

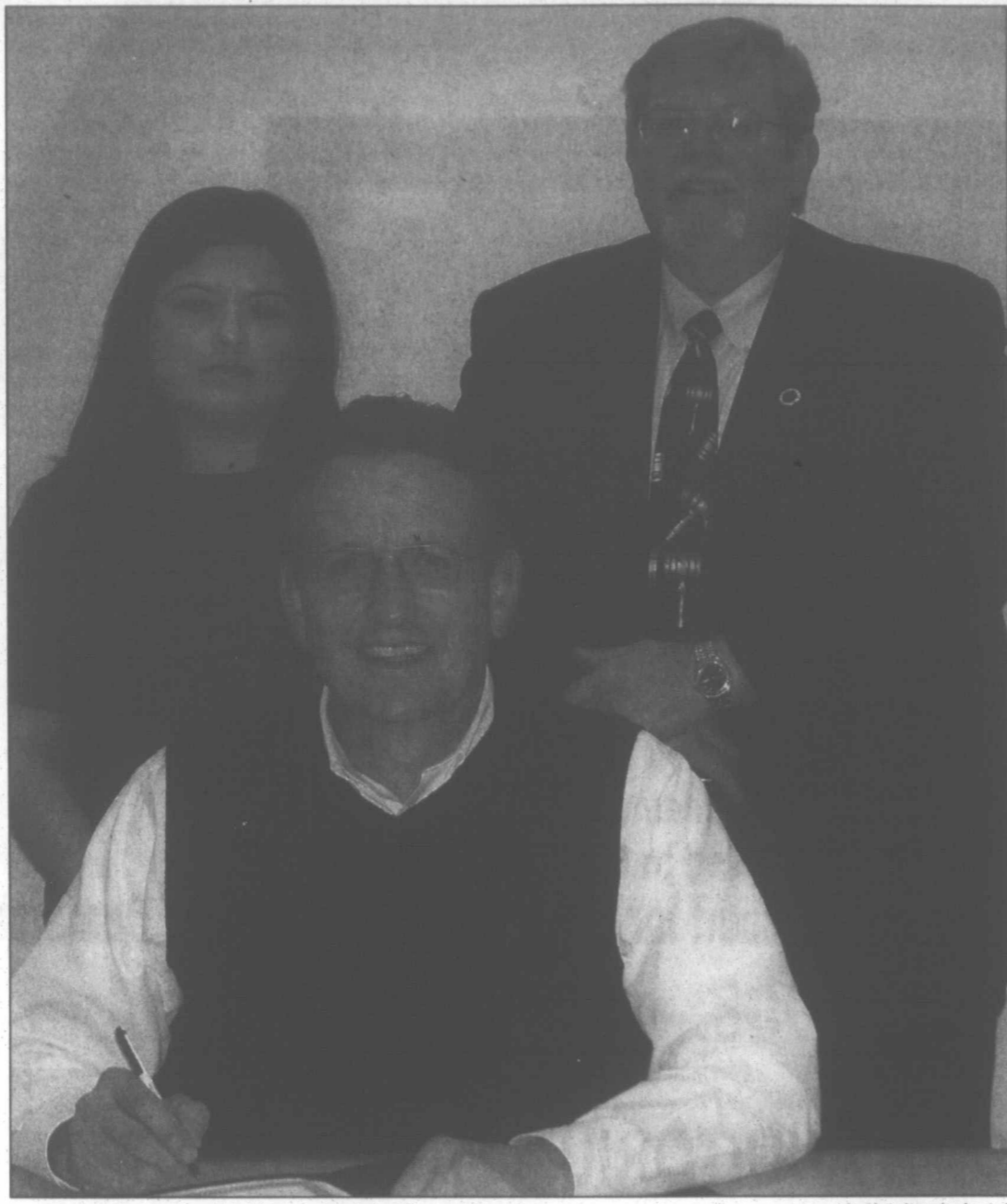
Curfman is the Pampa municipal judge and this week is Municipal Court Week, as designated in a proclamation by Mayor Lonny Robbins. Curfman's staff includes clerks Jennifer Kidd and Cindy Silva.

Most of Curfman's work in municipal court, he said, deals with traffic violations in Pampa, although he also has jurisdiction over code violations.

Curfman said that he works closely with local police agencies to enforce the law. It's a matter of cooperation, he said, to ensure that the citizenry is safe.

The proclamation signed by the mayor states that the municipal court plays a significant role in preserving the quality of life through adjudication of traffic offenses, ensuring a high level of traffic safety for the citizens.

As a municipal judge, Curfman deals with misdemeanor cases that involve fines, but he is also a Gray County Justice of the Peace, an office that entails another level of cases. Curfman is also the municipal judge for Lefors.



Pampa Mayor Lonny Robbins, center, is flanked by Municipal Court Clerk Cindy Silva, left, and Municipal Judge Kurt Curfman, right, during proclamation ceremonies at City Hall. (submitted photo)

Barack Obama and John McCain head toward voters' verdict after historic 2-year campaign

CHICAGO (AP) — Democrat Barack Obama's bid to become the first black president faced the final test of his remarkable two-year journey Tuesday, while Republican John McCain pressed for an Election Day upset.

The contest pitted the 47-year-old Obama, a first-term Illinois senator who rocketed to stardom on the power of his oratory and a call for change, against the 72-year-old McCain, a 26-year lawmaker known whose mettle was tested during 5 1/2 years as a prisoner of war in Vietnam.

"I'm feeling kind of fired up. I'm feeling like I'm ready to go," Obama told nearly 100,000 people gathered for his final rally Monday night in Virginia.

"At this defining moment in history, Virginia, you can give this country the change it needs," Obama said to voters in a state that hasn't voted for a Democratic presidential nominee in 44 years.

The Illinois senator's final day of campaigning was bittersweet: he was mourning the loss of his grandmother, Madelyn Dunham, who helped raise him but died of cancer Sunday night and never got to see the results of the historic election.

Voting records fall in red states where McCain leads, countering early push for Obama

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — Even in reliably red states where Barack Obama has little chance of winning on Tuesday, unprecedented numbers of registrations and early votes have been tallied, and elections officials are predicting a record turnout in places where neither candidate even bothered to campaign.

An aggressive and well-financed get-out-the-vote campaign helped Obama's campaign mobilize unprecedented numbers of African-American and new voters who could help decide the presidential election by swinging states like North Carolina and Virginia to the Democrat.

But even in states like Alabama, Utah, Nebraska and Oklahoma, Republican strongholds where John McCain could post double-digit wins, Obama's candidacy helped boost registration numbers, particularly in urban areas. Republicans countered by mobilizing their own base, a process aided by McCain's vice presidential pick, Sarah Palin, who's popular among conservatives.

"It may not shift Alabama from red to blue, or shift Tennessee from red to blue," Ferrel Guillory, an expert in Southern politics at the University of North Carolina, said of the turnout projections. "But it could have an effect over the long term."

And while these states have been comfortably in McCain's column for months, a record turnout could benefit candidates further down the ballot. As in swing states, the consensus among experts is that the trend favors Democrats.

Europe's markets edge higher, awaiting outcome of US election, rate decisions later in week

LONDON (AP) — European markets edged higher Tuesday following mixed trading in Asia overnight with activity subdued ahead of the U.S. presidential election and Thursday's interest rate decisions from the European Central Bank and the Bank of England.

The FTSE 100 index was 0.49 points, or 0.01 percent, higher at 4,443.77, while Germany's DAX was up 21.59 points, or 0.4 percent, at 5,048.43. France's CAC-40 was 23.82 points, or 0.7 percent, higher at 3,551.79.

Notable movers Tuesday include Marks & Spencer PLC, Britain's largest clothing retailer, which saw its share price rise 8 percent as third-quarter net profit came in ahead of expectations despite falling 43 percent from a year ago.

And carmaker BMW AG saw its share price fall 5 percent after it reported a 63 percent slump in third quarter net profit as the global economic turmoil made consumers more reluctant to shell out for its sports and luxury cars and credit costs made it difficult for consumers and the company to borrow.

Overnight, most Asian stock indexes were more or less flat, apart from Japan's Nikkei, which surged 537.62 points, or 6.3 percent, at 9,114.60 as the market played catch-up after being closed Monday, when most of Asia firmed.

Barack Obama wins as NH town is nation's 1st to vote

DIXVILLE NOTCH, N.H. (AP) — Barack Obama came up a big winner in the presidential race in Dixville Notch and Hart's Location, N.H., where tradition of having the first Election Day ballots tallied lives on.

Democrat Obama defeated Republican John McCain by a count of 15 to 6 in Dixville Notch, where a loud whoop accompanied the announcement in Tuesday's first minutes. The town of Hart's Location reported 17 votes for Obama, 10 for McCain and two for write-in Ron Paul. Independent Ralph Nader was on both towns' ballots but got no votes.

"I'm not going to say I wasn't surprised," said Obama supporter Tanner Nelson Tillotson, whose name was drawn from a bowl to make him Dixville Notch's first voter.

With 115 residents between them, Dixville Notch and Hart's Location get every eligible voter to the polls beginning at midnight on Election Day. Between them, the towns have been enjoying their first-vote status since 1948.

Wall Street shrugs off weak economic news

WASHINGTON (AP) — After months rife with uncertainty and unprecedented events that have roiled and reshaped Wall Street, at least one major unknown should be cleared up Tuesday — who will be the country's next president.

Investors took a weak economic report from the Commerce Department in stride as the prospect of a resolution to the nearly two-year campaign for the White House sent the Dow Jones industrial average up about 300 points in midday trading. The other major indexes rose well over 3 percent.

Still, September factory orders fell 2.5 percent from August, the department said, more than three times the drop analysts expected. Excluding autos and aircraft, orders fell 3.7 percent, the steepest drop since 1992, when the department began tracking sector-specific changes.

The weakness was led by a heavy drop in nondurable goods orders, which fell 5.5 percent. That includes a 17 percent drop in the value of petroleum and coal products, reflecting the decline in oil prices in September. Oil has fallen by more than half from its record level of \$147 a barrel in July.

David Resler, chief econo-

mist for Nomura Securities, said the Commerce Department report "is a bit less alarming" than the overall number indicates given that much of the decline is due to the oil price drop.

But orders for non-defense capital goods excluding aircraft, considered a good indication of business investment plans, fell by 1.5 percent. That follows a 2.3 percent drop in August and indicates companies are cutting back on investments, likely due to the economic downturn and difficulty getting credit.

The factory orders report comes a day after the widely watched Institute of Supply Management gauge of manufacturing activity plunged in October to its lowest level since the country's last deep recession, the 1981-82 downturn.

And automakers reported terrible October sales figures on Monday. Sales sank 45 percent at General Motors Corp., 30 percent at Ford Motor Co., 25 percent at Honda Motor Co. and 23 percent at Toyota Motor Corp.

"We are now deep in the belly of the recession beast," said Bernard Baumohl, managing director of the Economic Outlook Group.

The government reported last week that the overall economy, as measured by the

gross domestic product, shrank at an annual rate of 0.3 percent in the July-September quarter. Two straight quarters of lower GDP generally mean a recession, and many economists expect the fourth quarter to be worse than the third.

Separately, the government, raising cash to pay for the array of financial rescue packages, said Monday it plans to borrow \$550 billion in the last three months of this year. Treasury Department officials also projected the government would need to borrow \$368 billion more in the first quarter of 2009, meaning the next president will confront an ocean of red ink.

The nonpartisan Committee for a Responsible Budget estimates all the government economic and rescue initiatives, starting with the \$168 billion in stimulus checks issued earlier this year, total even more — an eye-popping \$2.6 trillion.

Besides the borrowing numbers, Treasury released estimates by major Wall Street bond firms projecting that total borrowing for this budget year, which began Oct. 1, will total \$1.4 trillion, nearly double the previous record.

Major Wall Street firms were equally pessimistic

about the size of the federal deficit this year. They projected it will hit \$988 billion for the current budget year, more than twice the record. In July, the administration projected a deficit for this year of \$482 billion, but that was before the financial crisis erupted in September.

Supporters of the government rescue packages argue that the ultimate cost to taxpayers should end up being a lot smaller, partly because the Federal Reserve is extending loans to banks that should be paid back.

And in the case of the \$700 billion rescue package, the government is buying assets — either bank stock or distressed mortgage-backed assets — that it hopes will rebound in value once the crisis has passed.

But the government still needs to borrow massive amounts to buy the assets, an effort that has driven up borrowing costs to levels never before contemplated.

A separate report Monday from the Fed showed banks tightened standards on all sorts of loans, from home mortgages to credit cards and business loans in early October, compared with three months ago, showing the credit squeeze had yet to let up.

Fla. board keeps Klan leader's name at high school

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A Florida school board voted late Monday night to keep the name of a Confederate general and early Ku Klux Klan leader at a majority black high school, despite opposition from a black board member who said the school's namesake was a "terrorist and racist."

After hearing about three hours of public comments, Duval County School Board members voted 5-2 to retain the name of Nathan Bedford Forrest High School. The board's two black members cast the only votes to change the name.

"(Forrest) was a terrorist and a racist," argued board member Brenda Priestly Jackson, who is black.

Betty Burney, the board chairman and the board's other black member, also voted against retaining the name.

"It is time to turn the page and get beyond where we are," she said.

Board member Tommy Hazouri voted to keep the name and said it is difficult to know "who the real Forrest is."

The board listened to pas-

sonate arguments from those on both sides. More than 140 people crowded into the meeting room, with another 20 watching the meeting on a television in the lobby.

Many urged a name change, saying the Forrest name was an insult.

"Nathan Bedford Forrest was part of the Ku Klux Klan, no matter how you put it. Nathan Bedford Forrest needs to be changed," said Stanley Scott, who is black.

But several spoke favorably of the general, saying the perceptions that Forrest was an evil man who ordered the massacre of Union troops were incorrect.

June Cooper, who graduated from Forrest in 1970, said some people wanted to wipe out Southern history.

"He was a good man," said Cooper, who is White. "He was a military genius."

Despite her opposition, the board's chairwoman noted that the intensely debated issue could distract from students' education and had even prompted one person to receive death threats for wanting the name changed.

"The naming of a school should not take precedence over someone's life," she said.

Some had suggested naming the school after the street it sits on, or honoring a graduate whose plane was shot down in 1991 over Iraq on the first night of Operation Desert Storm.

Forrest High School, which has received two consecutive "F" grades on state assessment tests, opened as an all-white school in the 1950s. Its name was suggested by the Daughters of the Confederacy, who saw it as a protest to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that eventually integrated the nation's public schools.

But now more than half Forrest High's students are black.

The issue has come up several times during the past half-century, but the School Board has never changed the name. Jacksonville has three other schools named after Confederate generals, but it also has schools named after civil rights icons.

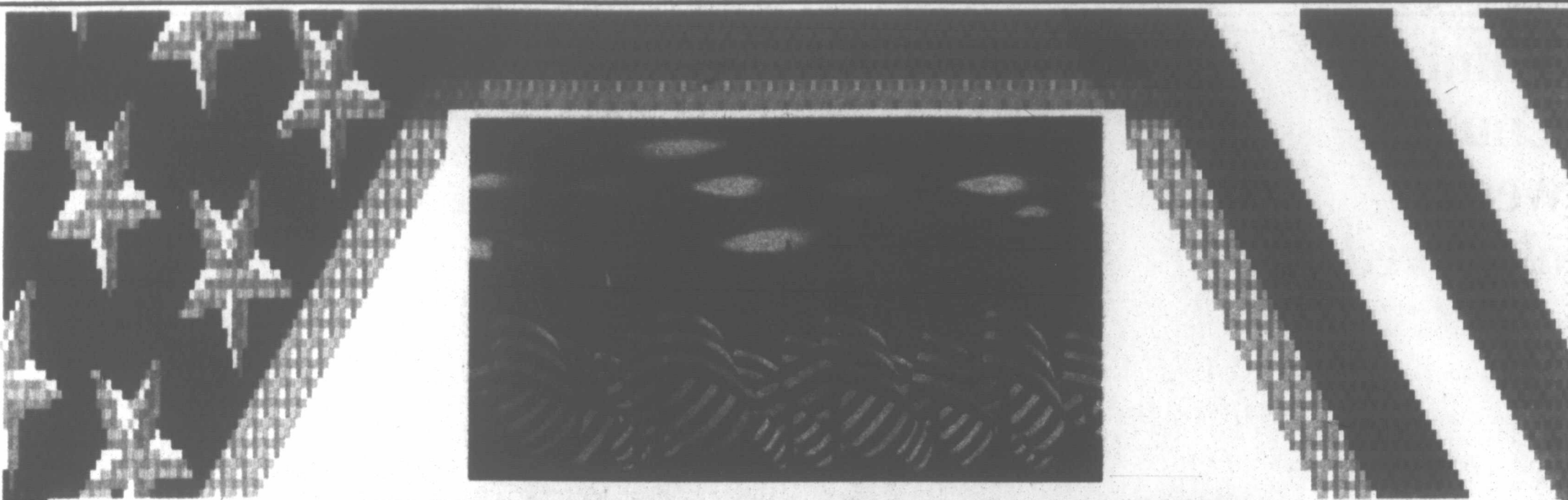
Born poor in Chapel Hill, Tenn., in 1821, Forrest amassed a fortune as a plantation owner

and slave trader, importing Africans long after the practice had been made illegal. At 40, he enlisted as a private in the Confederate army at the outset of the Civil War, rising to a cavalry general in a year.

Some accounts accused Forrest of ordering black prisoners to be massacred after a victory at Tennessee's Fort Pillow in 1864, though historians question the validity of the claims.

In 1867, the newly formed Klan elected Forrest its honorary Grand Wizard or national leader, but he publicly denied being involved. In 1869, he ordered the Klan to disband because of the members' increasing violence. Two years later, a congressional investigation concluded his involvement had been limited to his attempt to disband it.

After his death in 1877, memorials to him sprung up throughout the South, particularly in Tennessee. A mounted statue of Forrest and the graves of the general and his wife are in a Memphis park bearing his name.



The VFW # 1657 & the Community of Pampa are proud to sponsor

American Veterans Traveling Tribute

Replica of Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington DC

(Scaled to 80%)

Wednesday, Nov 5, 2:00 P.M. Motorcycle escort for Wall from Elk City Honda Dealership to Pampa

Thursday, November 6, 2008 – Tuesday, November 11, 2008

M. K. BROWN AUDITORIUM PARKING LOT

Wall open continuously for viewing

Posting & Retrieval of Colors each day by branches of the Military, Boy Scout Troop 404, American Legion Riders Ft. Sill Post 193, VFW Post 1657, Hoover Volunteer Fire Department

Key Note Speakers:

Mayor Lonnie Robbins, City Manager Trevlyn Pitner, VFW Area 1 State Coordinator Bill Frazier, District 9 Commander Clayton Hoffman, Command Sergeant Major Joseph D. Smith, AVTT Speaker Don Allen, City Commissioner Brad Pingel, Patriot Guard Johnny Harper, VFW Post 1657 Commander Danny Martin, Purple Heart Recipient Vietnam Veteran Danny Miller

Ceremonies Include:

Nov. 6 – Nov. 12
Scheduled events
each day

Reveille at sunrise; Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, Benediction, and Taps.
Musical Entertainment 6:00 P.M. till 8:00 P.M.

Thursday, Nov 6,
4:35 PM

Proclamation to honor AVTT and our fallen soldiers
Laying of POW/MIA & Gold Star/Blue Star Mothers' Wreath

Friday, Nov 7
12:35 P.M.

Proclamation for Law Enforcement & Fire Fighters Day
School Children from Pampa and area towns attend
Austin Elementary Grade 4 and Lamar Elementary Students entertain

Saturday, Nov. 8
10:00 A.M.
12:25 P.M.
2:00 – 4:00

PARADE
Pampa High School Band, concert
Motorcycle Tribute to Wall

Sunday, Nov. 9
10:00A.M.
1:00 P.M.

Church Service-Open to all, Minister Paul Nachtigall
Keynote Speaker: District 9 Commander Clayton Hoffman

Monday, Nov. 10

Musical Entertainment by Larry Stucker

Tuesday Nov 11
1:30
4:15 P.M.

Travis School 10th Annual Veterans Day Celebration
POW/MIA Table Ceremony
Release of Balloons/ Names Read
Retirement of Colors and 21 gun salute

5:30 P.M.