

Banks Council must wait longer before appointing a new Mayor

Mayor Teri Branstitre asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance at the start of the Banks City Council meeting. She then presented a Veterans Day Proclamation to American Legion Post Commander Randy Rau, setting November 11 as Banks Veterans Day and recognizing the long tradition of Banks residents serving in the Armed Forces.

Rau also presented information about programs that the veterans' group offers because, according to Rau, they feel that supporting the community and offering youth-oriented programs helps build a strong sense of patriotism and loyalty. In various areas nation-wide, the American Legion offers the use of their halls for community events, including Boys State/Boys Nation and high school public speaking contests. They also provide or sponsor Scouting, Flag education, scholarship information, junior shooting sports, patriotic holiday observances, and American Legion Baseball.

In conclusion Rau said, "A lot of people say 'thank a Veteran', but we have to remember to thank the families, too", which is why the 1917 Blue Star Program was established by Captain Robert L Queissner

in World War I. Blue Star service banners are displayed by families who have loved ones serving in the Armed Forces. Blue stars stand for hope and pride for the troops, Yellow Stars for wounds sustained overseas; Gold Stars for sacrifice of life.

Branstitre extended the city's appreciation to the Banks Tree Board with a proclamation extolling the board's superior service to the City and citizens of Banks. City Manager Jim Hough accepted the proclamation on behalf of the board. The mayor also declared Saturday, November 15, to be the City of Banks second Annual Fall Tree Planting Day, and called upon the citizens of Banks to support the effort by attending the 10:00 a.m. ceremony at the Banks Welcome sign, at the intersection of Hwy. 6 and Hwy. 47.

The open Banks mayoral position received 173 write-in votes in the November election. Washington County Elections has supplied the names of the write-in candidates; the city now must contact those individuals to ascertain their qualifications and desire to serve as mayor. More information will be provided at the December 9 city council meeting.

Christy Greagor was sworn

in as Banks newest city councilor.

Rich Weitzel, of Swatco Sanitary Service Inc., briefed

council on the new comingled recycling program, saying that there is a 16-ton increase in Banks and, plus a 24 percent

increase in yard debris now that it is picked up on the same day as garbage. Because of

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