

Veterans Day recognized

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

The meaning and symbolism of Veterans Day was shared Tuesday with students at Falls Elementary School by members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2948 color guard auxiliary. Veterans Day is a day set aside to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Students Tuesday took part in the Pledge of Allegiance, led by veteran Wayne Sampson, and heard songs performed by Margarete Kostiuk on harmonica. Auxiliary member Linda Chezick told the students Veterans Day recognizes all veterans, while Memorial Day is set aside to honor veterans who have died in the service to their country. Members of the VFW showed the students how to fold the flag properly, while two students read aloud in-

formation about the symbolism of the flag folding procedure. The day was first called Armistice Day and was scheduled to be held on "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" when fighting in World War I ceased in an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany and was regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars." In 1954, after World War II had required the greatest mobilization of soldiers, sailors, Marines and airmen in the Nation's history; after American forces had fought aggression in Korea, the 83rd Congress, at the urging of the veterans service organizations, amended the Act of 1938 by striking out the word "Armistice" and inserting in its place the word "Veterans." With the approval of this legislation on June 1, 1954, Nov. 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars, said the VA website.



Members of the VFW, wearing uniforms representing their branch of service, folded a flag Tuesday.



Student readers described the symbolism involved in the proper folding of the American flag while VFW members performed the procedure.



Margarete Kostiuk performs songs on the harmonica, as veteran Wayne Sampson stands next to her.



Young Falls Elementary students watched as VFW members folded the American flag.



VFW members salute the flag during a performance by students of "Taps" Tuesday during the Veterans Day program.



Choir students performed during Tuesday's Veterans Day program.

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