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## Jefferson High School Prepares Students for Days Like Tuesday

By BOB PALMER, Jimplecute Editor

When Supreme Court Justices Sonia Sotomayor and Neil Gorsuch told a national television audience Sunday American high school students no longer take civics, Jefferson High School administrators and teachers must have thought the same thing, "What?"

"Government is a requirement for graduation in Texas," Aimee Daniel, who teaches the one-semester class at JHS, said.

With Tuesday's general election capturing the nation's attention, the importance of the Government class goes beyond multiple choice and fill-in the blank.

JHS Principal Mike Walker said his students were ready.

"The kids should have a pretty good idea what is going on," Walker said.

The class helped prepare many of the teens for their first vote.

"Just based on the Principles of Government class," Walker said, students "should have a pretty good grasp how it operates the history behind it."

Daniel agreed.

"I cover the basics like understanding the Constitution," Daniel said. "We read through the articles of the Constitution."

The roles and powers of each branch of government are discussed along with political parties and third parties.

"I try to give them a good understanding about the role political parties play in our country," Daniel said. "I stay away from my personal political beliefs."

Students also learn the requirements to be elected.

"My job is to give them that knowledge, so they can make informed political decisions," Daniel said. "I try to give them information, but not indoctrinate them. Prepare them to think for themselves."

Daniel also noted Marion County Registrar Karen Jones visited the JHS campus twice to register those students who had turned 18.

On the CBS program Sotomayor said, "It's been well documented that the partisan discord in our country followed very closely on the heels of schools stopping to teach civic education. One must remember why. It wasn't for an unimportant reason; there was a change of emphasis in the educational system in the country where they wanted to pay more attention to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math)."

"Only about 25% of Americans can name the three branches of government," said Gorsuch. "A third of them can't name any branch of government. And 10 percent believe that Judge Judy is one of our colleagues. With no disrespect to Judge Judy, she is not a member of the Supreme Court!"

Sotomayor and Gorsuch are echoing the sentiments of former Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who led the drive to return civics to the classroom.

During a 2012 Senate hearing, O'Connor said, "I well remember having a lot of civics classes, and I got pretty sick and tired of it, to tell you the truth. I thought it was miserable." So, she started iCivics.org, a more engaging online curriculum which helps teach civics through video games.

The most popular games include "Win the White House," in which players campaign for the Oval Office; and "Do I Have a Right?," in which lawyers fight to protect their clients' rights under the Constitution.

"That's a tough game!" said Gorsuch of the clients' rights game.

"Very, very tough!" Sotomayor agreed.



Judith Clay, from Precinct 10, delivers the last set of ballots for Marion County to Pat George while Republican County Chairman James Parsons and County Judge Leward LaFleur observe the elections return process.

## Republicans Dominate Marion Co. As GOP Sweeps Statewide Posts

By BOB PALMER, Jimplecute Editor

With more than half of Tuesday's voters in Marion County casting straight Republican ballots, GOP candidates piled up huge margins.

The local trend contributed to Republican congressional victories and a sweep of all statewide offices.

According to Marion County Clerk Vickie Smith, 3,566 votes were cast in the "mid-term" election. This amounted to about 48 percent of the county's 7,359 registered voters, Registrar Karen Jones said.

Smith reported a quiet election day.

"We had some bumps and kinks early in the morning, but everything got worked out after that," Smith said.

The election officer praised the efforts of the election team.

"We could not do this election without my employees in the office and the poll workers," Smith said. "We thank them so much."

According to complete, but unofficial, election returns, 1,784 voters cast straight Republican tickets. Another 734 voted straight Democrat. Twelve voted straight Libertarian.

The one-bubble voters buoyed Republican candidates across the ballot.

U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz with 2,443 votes amassed 70.08 percent of the votes cast in the race against Democratic challenger U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke. As of 8 a.m. Wednesday Cruz had been declared the winner with 4.2 million votes and 50.89 percent, according to the Texas Secretary of State.

Cruz spoke Tuesday at his victory party shortly after clinching his second term in a race that was closely watched nationally.

"Texas saw something this year that we've never seen before," Cruz told supporters.

Ultimately, he says, Texans came together behind "a common-sense agenda of low taxes, low regulations, and lots and lots of jobs."

U.S. Rep. John Ratcliffe also carried Marion County by more than 70 percent on his way to an easy victory over Democrat Catherine Krantz with 75.69 percent of the district-wide vote.

Local voters also favored Gov. Greg Abbott, Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick and the other Republican incumbents in state-wide offices.

Abbott received more than 70 percent of the Marion County vote, while Patrick, Ken Paxton, Sid Miller, and George P. Bush slipped a point to 69 percent.

With 4.6 million votes statewide, Abbott easily outdistanced former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez who received 42.5 percent of the ballots cast.

In the only contested local race, incumbent Pct. 2 Justice of the Peace Joann Nutt defeated Democratic challenger Tosha Yvette Moore 444 to 356. Nutt had previously been elected as a Democrat but switched parties prior to this election. Request for comment from the Jimplecute to Nutt were not returned.

In other local elections, voters confirmed earlier primary results.

District Judge Robert Rolston was re-elected. Dean Fowler was chosen to replace District Judge Lauren Parish.

Marion County Judge Leward LaFleur, appointed to fill the unexpired term of Judge Lex Jones after winning the Republican Primary, was officially elected.

Also elected were District Clerk Susan Anderson, County Clerk Vickie Smith, County Treasurer Terrie S. Neuville, Commissioner Joe McKnight, Commissioner Charles W. Treadwell and Pct. 1 Justice of the Peace Lena Pope.

## Veterans Day to Mark 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of End Of War to End All Wars

By BOB PALMER, Jimplecute Editor

Negotiators in a rail car hidden in a French forest looked at the calendar and opted for a poetic end to the costliest war in human history, to that point.

At the 11th hour on the 11th day in the 11th month of 1918, the guns fell silent on the Western Front.

World War I lasted more than four years and cost almost 20 million civilian and military lives. WWI ended with an armistice many credit as the underlying cause of World War II.

Marion County, population slightly more than 10,000 in the 1910 Census, played its part sending many of its young men to the front once the United States entered the war in 1917.

Friends called Newton LaPrade Rogers, "Cap." His service to his country would carry a high price.

"He was the oldest brother in my mother's family," John Kelsey recalled. "Cap was born in the Mimms Chapel area. He served in France and was gassed with chlorine gas."

Cap survived the attack but suffered with lung ailments the rest of his life.

### EVENTS PLANNED

Several observances are planned to remember veterans of World War I as well as veterans of the other wars the United States has fought.

At 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 11, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10373 Commander John Cooper will lay a wreath at the Memorial on Austin Street.

On Saturday, a free lunch for all veterans and their families is planned at the American Legion post, sponsored by local American Legion and VFW posts. Reservations are requested by calling (903) 601-3508.

The Martha McCraw Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in association with the Excelsior Foundation will honor veterans also on Saturday Nov 10 at 2 p.m. at the Jefferson Playhouse.

The program will include a presentation on the military service of Jeffersonian, H. R. Brantley.

The public is invited. Coffee and cookies will be served afterwards in the Ruth Lester Memorial House.

### UNCLE CAP

Kelsey has compelling memories of his "Uncle Cap."

"Cap" Rogers was born February 10, 1890 as the first child of Bennett Bogges Rogers and Nephra Whitworth Rogers on a 240-acre farm near Mimms Chapel in Marion County.

His nickname was given to him as a small boy by the laborers who worked at his father's sawmill in the Cypress River bottoms near Mimms Chapel.

According to family folklore, Cap'n got his nickname because he was large for his age, inclined to pitch in with work at the sawmill at an early age and was said to be always "in charge."

"Cap registered for the draft in June 1917 then immediately volunteered for military service. Again, according to family folklore, his basic training took place at a hastily constructed facility, Camp Bowie National Guard Camp near Ft Worth, Texas," Kelsey said.

Upon completion of basic training he was immediately shipped to a demarcation point on the East Coast. He arrived with the American Expeditionary Forces in France in early January 1918 with some of the earliest of the Doughboys to engage in combat.

At some point he was exposed to poison gas, probably chlorine. The damage inflicted on his lungs by that gas severely impaired his health for the remainder of his life. He suffered from severely damaged lungs and eventually contracted tuberculosis.

"Like many thousands of World War I veterans who were gassed in combat, my Uncle Cap spent many years in and out of tuberculosis treatment centers in Shreveport and Pineville Louisiana as well as Tyler, Texas," Kelsey said. "I recall visiting him with my family at the facility in Tyler. I was only six or seven years old and was not allowed direct contact with tuberculosis patients."

"We would visit in a room that separated visitors from the patients by a large glass wall. My PAGE 1 cousin, Beverly Rogers Simmank, recalls visiting him under similar circumstances. She and her brother Joe and their dog Ladybug were taken to visit Cap in a similar isolation room. Ladybug was persuaded to do some tricks as entertainment for Cap behind the glass."

### VETERANS LISTED

The Feb. 14, 1918 issue of the *Jefferson News* printed a list of Marion County men serving in World War I.

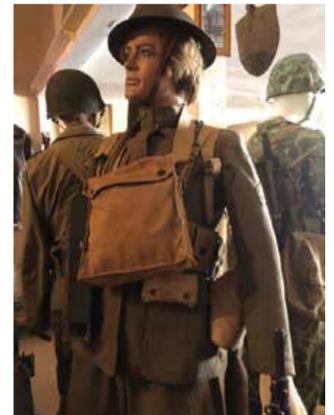
#### The list included:

Sublette Moseley, B.F. Morrison, Bene Oppenheim, Roy R. Taylor, Victor Meyer, Sgt. John R. Collins, Eugene Meyer, Will Sullivan, Willie Gray, Richard Tribble, Edward Proctor, Lt. W.C. DeWare, Lt. Kistenmacher, Capt. C.C. Braden, Barrelle Fitzgerald, Sgt. S.J. Atkin, Sgt. D.D. Sullivan, Sgt. M.J. Bennefied, Harry Jones, W.B. Stallcup, Cpl. James F. Woods, Dan Hayes Zachry.

A survey of Oakwood Cemetery by John Nance revealed World War I markers for the following:

Ellis Irvin, C. Sims, M.W. Lynn, O. McCasland Ortelle, Lee Calcute, Hen. Leroy Mardy, R. Martin, Will. Hood,

More on WWI, see page 3



A mannequin dressed as a World War I American soldier is part of Tom Moss' collection at the Mason Dixon Line on Lafayette Street in Jefferson. Moss prepared the soldier, complete with Springfield '03 rifle, as part of the 100th anniversary of Armistice Day, Nov. 11.

## NEWSbriefs

THE UNDER THE LIGHT MINISTRIES Women's Auxiliary are hosting a Women's Conference Saturday, November 10, 2018 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at 151 MCR 3612, Jefferson, TX 75657. For more information Call Adrienne Trammell 903-665-4925 or Ander Graham 903-407-9800.

JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL will celebrate Veterans Day Nov. 8 with a reception that will begin at 2:15 p.m. in the commons area and will be catered by the JHS Culinary Art Students along with their teacher Mrs. Terry Moore. At approximately 2:55 p.m., the program will begin in the JHS gym. All veterans are invited to attend. Call Tracey Powell to RSVP

by Tuesday, November 6th. 903.665.2461, ext. 3021.

THE JEFFERSON PLAYHOUSE will have a Veterans Day event Saturday, Nov. 10 at 2p.m. sponsored by the Martha McCraw Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution. All veterans will be honored. The program will include a presentation on the military service of Jeffersonian, H. R. Brantley. The public is invited.

VFW POST 10373 will be placing a wreath at the Memorial Wall at 102 W. Austin St, Nov 11 at 2 P.M. Refreshments served at the VFW Post on Hwy 59S until 4 P.M. for all military, veterans their families.



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