By Jan Rahn
Managing Editor

The 53rd annual observance of Veterans Day is set for Wednesday, Nov. 11, hosted by the American Legion Post 206 of Elsie.

A parade down Central Avenue in Grant will begin the observance followed by a program at Perkins County High School.

The program includes advancement and posting of colors by the color guard, invocation by Rev. Ron Krause of the Zion Lutheran Church and the National Anthem by the Perkins County High School band under the direction of Sheila Johnson.

Welcoming remarks will be made by Commander Glen Stanek who will introduce the county's post commanders.

Auxiliary president Julie Johnson will make an introduction of the 2009 Boys and Girls Staters.

Guest speaker for the morning's observance is Glen Thomas Stanek, warrant officer, U.S. Army.

A free ham and bean feed will take place at the Legion Hall sponsored by the Elsie, Madrid, Grant and Venango American Legion Posts and the Perkins County Veterans of Foreign Wars with beans donated by Trinidad Bean Company.

Biography of Speaker

Glen Thomas Stanek, warrant officer in fuel logistics, from Edwardsville, Kan., is the morning's speaker.

Stanek, the son of Glen and Paula Stanek, was raised on his parents' farm south of Elsie.

During his junior year at Wheatland High School in Madrid, he was selected to attend Cornhusker Boys State in Lincoln.

Just prior to graduating from high school in 1988, Stanek joined the U.S. Army on their delayed entrance program.

He left for basic training at Fort Dix, N.J., in October 1988, graduating from basic training in December of that year. He then moved on to Fort Eustis, Va.

Stanek served his country in Operation Desert Storm as a chief mechanic on the Apache helicopter and during Iraqi Freedom as a fuel supply coordinator. He achieved the rank of E8.

During the summer of 2009 he attended officer candidate school at Fort Rucker, Ala., which took him on a new path of the service. He graduated as a W1 warrant officer in fuel logistics.

Stanek is credited with 21 years of service to his country and is currently preparing for the strong probability of deployment to Afghanistan sometime after the first of the year.

This will be his fourth deployment to the Middle East, the former three being to Iraq, in addition to several other overseas assignments such as Mogadishu in Somalia and Honduras, Central America.

Program in Wallace

A Veterans Day program is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 11 at the Wallace School at 8:30 a.m. CST.

Veterans are invited to stay for rolls and coffee following the program.

If you go

—Grant—
When: November 11
Parade 10 a.m. MDT
Program: Perkins County High School
Free bean feed at
Legion Hall--- in Grant

—Wallace—
When: November 11
Program: Wallace School at 8:30 a.m. CT
Rolls and coffee to honor Veterans after program