



DUEY STROEBEL

STATE SENATOR • 20TH DISTRICT

Column: A Pledge to Honor Our Veterans

As Americans, we must thank and celebrate our living veterans. Every November 11, we have such an opportunity. Veterans Day began in 1919 to commemorate the end of World War I and for citizens across the country to say “thank you” to the men and women who fought to preserve the freedoms we cherish.

This week I urge you to thank a veteran. Each year, the Department of Veteran Affairs hosts a ceremony in our Capitol, a ceremony I am honored to attend. As a nation, we are truly blessed to have brave soldiers fight to ensure our safety, both domestically and around the world.

This Veterans Day will mark the 50th anniversary of our country’s participation in the Vietnam War. Many of our aging Vietnam veterans deserve the welcome home they deserved several decades ago.

I am proud to represent the 20th senate district. Our district is home to many patriotic initiatives. Waubeka is the birthplace of Flag Day. Port Washington is the home of the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight, and Kewaskum is the resting place for a piece of steel from the World Trade Center. Each of these projects commemorates the founding of our country, honor our veterans, and remember lives lost on September 11.

We live in the greatest country on earth. The United States has the best military in the world. We must ensure our veterans are treated with the utmost respect. One day is not enough to thank those who serve.

Every floor session in the legislature begins with the Pledge of Allegiance. Each day, Wisconsin students are required to be offered the ability to say the Pledge of Allegiance or national anthem. It is important for our students to honor our country and recognize the importance of thanking those who wear the uniform. I encourage parents to inquire with their schools to ensure time for the pledge is offered to your student every day, as duly required by state law.

Our veterans feel welcomed home from the battlefield and live a country appreciative of their service. Together, we can ensure our future generations understand the importance of their service. Saying the pledge daily and educating them on the importance of Veterans Day is just the first step.

*Senator Duey Stroebel (R-Cedarburg) represents the 20th Senate District.
He lives in Cedarburg with his wife and eight children.*