

## Veterans Day Observed in Darien With Brief Town Hall Ceremony

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Veterans Day was marked Saturday with the laying of flowers and a wreath in the veterans memorial area in front of Darien Town Hall, where about 50 people gathered.

Phil Kraft of Darien again acted as master of ceremonies, and asked veterans of various conflicts, and veterans of no conflicts, to raise their hands.

A small number of World War II-era veterans raised their hands, a similar number who served in the Korean War and wars in the Persian Iraq and Afghanistan, and perhaps half a dozen from the Vietnam War.

Kraft, also a veteran of the Vietnam War, asked people who aren't veterans to turn to veterans standing nearby and thank them for their service, then and there. They did.

He mentioned that a veteran acquaintance of his recently said he would like it much more if people told him, "Thank you for serving" rather than "Thank you for your service."

In Darien, red, white and blue flowers and a sprig of green are traditionally placed by a wreath and monument honoring veterans.

Various veterans as well as newly elected Selectman Pamela Sparkman placed them this year. First

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Selectman Jayme Stevenson read a national proclamation praising veterans.