

# Brittany Pointe Estates Veterans Affairs Committee



BPE Pointer Article

## Veterans' Corner by Bob Berger

Your Veterans Affairs Committee has been working very hard since January planning the Thirteen Annual Brittany Pointe Veterans Day Ceremony. Part of this effort required us to review, in detail, the timing and delivery of all the various parts of the November 2017 ceremony. By analyzing its video, posted on our website, I listened to Eric's welcoming remarks. What a wonderful message he provided to all of us. I was so moved by his well-chosen words, that I asked him for a copy of his speech. Please savor these words as a reminder about what our freedom means.

**Freedom is a Privilege**, by Eric Tatlonghari, November 2017.

“Good Afternoon, I am Eric Tatlonghari and I am the Executive Director here at Brittany Pointe Estates:

I would like to welcome all of you to our veteran's day celebration and especially those who are visiting our community for the first time.

To our veterans, I would like to personally thank all of you who served or continue to serve in the Armed Forces of our country. I would also like to recognize the family members of these veterans and acknowledge the sacrifices you have had to endure during the time your loved ones served.

Last week, I attended a function where a young lady was being honored for the work she was doing with immigrants coming to the United States. The young lady was born in a war-torn area of Africa and came to this country as an immigrant herself. Her story was one of great success, attending school in the US and eventually obtaining her law degree.

She made a statement that resonated with me. She stated that “freedom is a privilege, and we have a moral obligation to help others toward the goal of obtaining this privilege. “ As I look at the veterans in this room and those represented on our “Wall of Honor” I think of the sacrifices that were made to ensure this great privilege we call “freedom” is available to all of us today. The individuals who served in the past and those who serve today, fulfill an “obligation” -- the obligation not only to preserve the freedom that we, as citizens of this great country enjoy, but also the obligation to help others around the world obtain this same privilege.

In conclusion. I want to again thank all our veterans for their service to our country and acknowledge the sacrifices you made. Your service allows all of us to experience this great privilege we call Freedom and also continues to give millions of people around the world hope that one day they, too, can experience this great privilege.”