

Not an Enemy of the People

As I am sitting at my computer, writing my weekly Veterans Corner column, I am still upset about being called an enemy of the people. I've been writing this column for almost three years and that makes me a member of the media.

I don't care what he says, I am not an enemy of the people.

After finishing a year of college, I enlisted in the Air Force, I wasn't drafted, I enlisted. While at basic training, he received his first deferment. While stationed in Indiana, he received his second deferment. While stationed in Japan, he received his third and fourth deferment. While stationed at Ft. Meade, MD, he convinced a doctor to sign a letter declaring him medically unfit for military service. I don't care what he says, I am not an enemy of the people.

This week I will chair the meeting of the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon, our first order of business is the Pledge of Allegiance. My Vietnam Veterans of American, American Legion and VFW posts do the same. I stand at attention for the National Anthem. I've read the US Constitution more than once and am a very strong believer in the five rights of the First Amendment. I am as strong a believer in the First as any NRA member is of the Second. I very strongly support all freedoms listed, including the freedom to not stand. Remember Forced Respect is the Same as No Respect! I don't care what he says, I am not an enemy of the people.

During the three years, I've met several people working in the media and have developed a deep respect for their commitment to their profession. They have helped me become a better member, writing this column.

Speaking of a group of people I respect, for the past six years, I've been tech support for the League of Women Voters of the Red River Valley. The League is committed to our democracy and educating voters. The League's next event will be a candidates' forum at 6:30 pm, Thursday 9 August at our Moorhead library. Candidates for Clay County Commission Al Gordon, Mari Dailey and Kevin Campbell and Clay County Sheriff Mark Hendrickson, Jason Hicks, Scott Steffes and Mark Empting will be there to present their plans for the position, if elected. The primary election will be held on 14 August. On the primary ballot will also be candidates for Federal and State for the two parties in Minnesota. You do not have to register by party in MN, but you can't vote for candidates of more than one party. Please attend the forum, become informed and vote. The League and the Library will be sponsoring candidates' forum in October, prior to the general election.