

**VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR, INC.
& THE VETERANS COALITION**

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All Veterans – All Military Welcome

19th September, 2013

SUPPORT OUR TROOPS

To: Times Leader/Sunday Pittston Dispatch

Subject: Letter to the Editor

Devastated at the Selfishness:

When we all came back from Vietnam and were rejected, spurned, spit on and abused most of us made a commitment to never allow another Veteran to come home rejected or abused. Yes, we see the Veterans coming home to cheers and accolades, however, that dies down quickly and they are soon forgotten.

Well, here we are in 2013 and hundreds of thousands of Veterans have and are returning home with PTSD, Traumatic Brain Injury and other Horrors of War. Many do not have a civilian career path as they entered the military at a young age and now are seeking their countryman's help to give them a Hand Up - that chance to become a good and meaningful civilian. After all they have served their country proudly.

Pittston Township and now Pittston City do not want Veterans living within their Community. Put them in an Industrial Park - that is what we are being told. If this is not rejection and abuse I do not know what is!

We did have one World War II Veteran call us up and he said the last **real** war was World War II, none since have been **real** wars. I would like him to tell the families of the fallen that. We must have all had garden parties.

There are only a couple of blowhards out there that are Veterans that don't want Veterans in their community and remember, the empty can makes the most noise. Rinaldi and Moratto are the two empty cans that come to mind. Those little people who are so selfish that they not only served but reject their brother and sister Veterans. You guys must be so proud of yourselves.

People come into our Office and tell us how terrible it is the way that Pittston Township have treated us in the purchase of the Veterinary Hospital on the Pittston Bypass and I ask what have you done about it other than tell us? No response. I suggest to them they get off their butts and go and have a go at the Supervisors instead of just letting things slide. Memories surface reminding us of the return by Vietnam Veterans, people taking it out on Veterans instead of the People and Politicians sending us to fight their wars.

From the history I have been able to glean about the Pittston Township Supervisors they are not the pillars of society they would have you believe and what most people know. I would ask them to tell me "What have YOU done for Veterans" during your political or non-political career?

We have John Bonita, the Pittston Township administrator telling the Pittston Dispatch that the Veterans Culinary School was an approved use, then when we change our plans to suit the township the Zoning Officer comes back and states that Bonita spoke out of turn, he is not a supervisor, he doesn't

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make the decisions! Then why did he speak on the record? I have to say he is one of the rudist people I have heard. Each time we try and accommodate the township Supervisors they change the rules.

Then we had Father Joseph Sibilano suggest to us that St. Rocco's convent, rectory and school would be ideal to house Veterans. We spent a great deal of time visiting with him and planning out the facilities as they already housed Priests and Nuns for many years so they were very suitable. Father also stated "it isn't what you know but who you know in this area". He is right. Thank God I am unrelated to any of them.

We called the Pittston City Zoning Officer and we asked if this plan was something the City would approve. The Zoning Officer stated, We are in the process of cleaning up the city, getting rid of boarding/flop houses and abandoned buildings - no absentee landlords and no more than two unrelated people to be housed. We tried to explain we were not a Boarding house or a flop house and these would be Veterans. No matter, same response as Pittston Township.

Now we have a quinella: Wilkes-Barre, Plains, Forest City, Pittston Township and Pittston City.

So the Wyoming Valley has shown its true colors for Our Veterans, that is a Black Heart for our Veterans.

All have short memories, praise and support for Veterans when you need your Freedoms protected then condemnation and rejection and a last resort to homelessness and hopelessness when they return slightly soiled.

All we Veterans want is a Fair Deal, an Honest Deal and to Give Veterans the Chance they have earned.

If You believe Veterans should get a better deal in Pittston Township, call into the Big Flag Office and Sign the petition NOW.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Forbes
U.S National Commander