

# OPINION

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**GUEST VIEW | MICHAEL J. SWARTZ**

## Let's vow to never forget

On Veterans Day, Americans come together to recognize and honor those who have served our Nation. It is a day for remembrance, gratitude and inspiration. It instills in us a sense of pride to know that we are blessed that men and women have selflessly sacrificed on our behalf.

It has been said that how a nation remembers its defenders reflects its true character and conscience. President Calvin Coolidge put it more directly when he said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will be itself forgotten."

For employees at the Department of Veterans Affairs, we are privileged to serve America's heroes and, for us, every day is Veterans Day. We are proud to fulfill the solemn pledge set forth by President Abraham Lincoln - "to care for him who shall have borne the battle,

and for his widow, and his orphan."

From our World War II and Korean War Veterans reaching their twilight years; to our Vietnam Veterans entering retirement age; our younger Gulf War Veterans and those returning from the global war on terror; and to those who have served during other time periods; thank you for your service.

Veterans are members of our families, fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, friends and colleagues, but most importantly to us and to our country, they are extraordinary people who answered our Nation's call to service.

So as we reflect this Veterans Day, let's ensure we are honoring all those who have served and are currently serving. We will never forget.

—**Michael J. Swartz**, FACHE  
 Medical Center Director  
 Bath VA Medical Center

**WEEKLY COLUMN | SEN. TOM O'MARA**

## Never tire in honoring their heroism

This week, during ceremonies at local cemeteries, and at the monuments and memorials which so many area communities have seen fit to build to honor our veterans, we will carry on the essential observance of Veterans Day.

On November 11, 1919, when Veterans Day (then known as Armistice Day) was observed for the first time, then-President Woodrow Wilson said that the day should be "filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory."

Across the generations since, our Presidents have spoken so eloquently on the importance of this day and other days saluting America's veterans.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower, a legendary general, saying, "In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose."



**TOM O'MARA**

On November 11, 1961, at Arlington National Cemetery, which was created 97 years earlier to bury the soldiers of the Civil War, President Kennedy said, "It was a crucial moment in our Nation's history, but these memories, sad and proud, these quiet grounds, this Cemetery and others like it all around the world, remind us with pride of our obligation and our opportunity."

President Ronald Reagan, offering words to commemorate the 40th anniversary of D-Day on June 6, 1984, said, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we may always be free."

And President George

SEE O'MARA, A5

**GUEST COLUMN | KRISTIN A. SWAIN**

## Rockwell marks Founder's Day with eye on future

When The Rockwell Museum was established in November of 1976, our founders intended The Rockwell to be a vibrant and dynamic institution. Not only has our collection grown over the past four decades, but our mission has evolved as well.

Today, November 8, we celebrate Founder's Day -- the birthday of our founding collector, Bob Rockwell.

Bob's desire to make the collection accessible to as many people as possible remains a guiding principle. This month kicks off an important milestone in our institutional history as we prepare to celebrate our 40th anniversary in 2016 by presenting new programming and exhibitions. Strategic growth of our collections, programming, educational outreach and audience is at the core of our institutional plan.

As we approach our 40th anniversary, we have been exploring ways to expand our collection, enhance our visitor experience, and enable The Rockwell to become a greater local and national resource.

You may have already noticed some of the updates we've recently made like the streamlining of our name to The Rockwell Museum, modernizing our logo and our website, reimagining galleries like the Southwest Lodge, Museum Store renovations and the opening of the Family Exploration Studio. Just last month we launched our Rockwell Roadhouse event series. Visitors have already told us that they love the changes we have started to make, and we look forward to

sharing more with you in the near future.

The Rockwell is home to a significant collection of art and we strive to be a culturally engaging place to see and experience stories that challenge perspectives about America through our exhibitions and programs. Our programs and exhibits are dedicated to education and art appreciation, inspired by American popular culture, social issues, nature, cultural heritage and traditional art history. We think of The Rockwell as a site for civic dialogues about community interest and the social issues that face our global world. And we also believe we can be powerful agents in helping all children understand the world they live in by offering authentic cultural experiences.

Our hope is to enrich your lives by being a place that is relevant emotionally and culturally to the greater Corning community. We are well-positioned to become the premier leader in Upstate New York for displaying art and telling stories about the ever-changing American experience. We want to be a sought-after professional resource for educators, recognized for educational contributions toward student achievement. These goals are good for the museum and also good for the community.

Over 40 weeks, beginning in February 2016, The Rockwell will feature a series of programs and exhibitions, a family festival, guest artists, a nationally recognized guest lecturer (stay tuned - details are

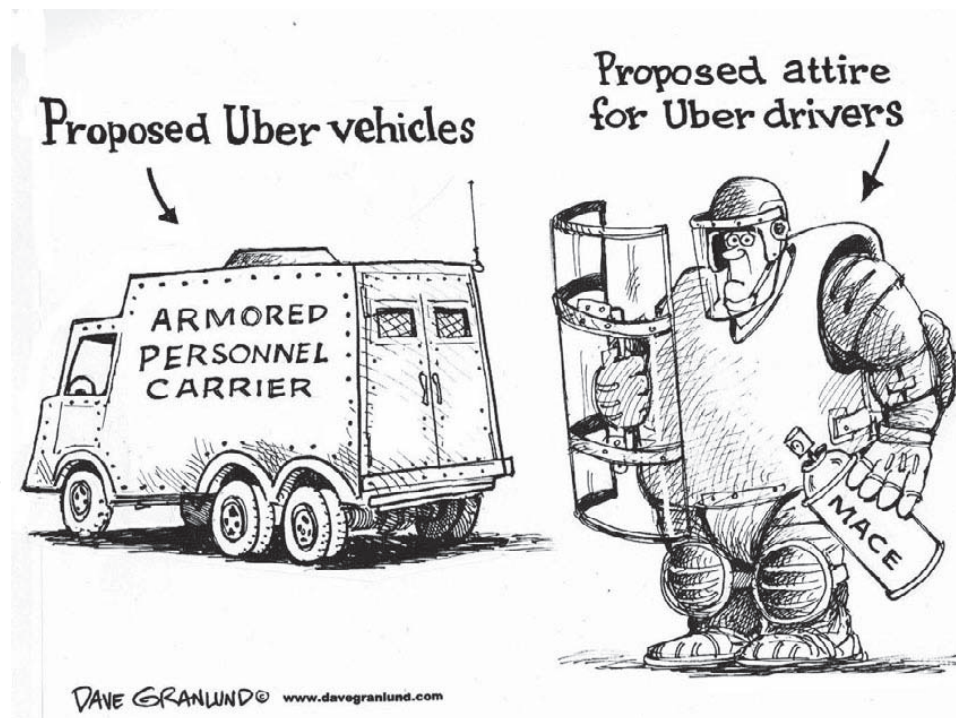
forthcoming), a community open house and many special activities. Additionally, from a dedicated gallery of American Southwestern art to a reimagined Visions of America gallery, the transformations we are already making have put wind in our sails as we move ahead toward the next 40 years.

There's an exciting time ahead for The Rockwell, but our daily mission remains the same: to continue to serve the Corning community, to care for the collections and our historic building, and to grow the arts education programs that the community has put into our trust.

We look forward to seeing you often at The Rockwell!

—*Kristin A. Swain is executive director of The Rockwell Museum.*

## ANOTHER VIEW



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Honor veterans this holiday

**TO THE EDITOR |** With the Veterans Day holiday coming up soon, I wanted to remind people about the history and the importance of the day. A cease-fire between the Allies and Germany went into effect on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, ending the "war to end all wars."

President Wilson gave us Armistice Day in November 1919 to honor the veterans of the Great War. It became a legal holiday in 1938 and in 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor American veterans of all wars.

This Veterans Day, I hope people all over America will celebrate the meaning of the holiday and honor all veterans for their sacrifices for our freedom. I thank all of you for your service.

—**Nick Stead**  
 Corning

### Vets deserve exemption

**TO THE EDITOR |** I am writing this to bring attention to the New York State Alternative Veterans Exemption, which is available but not offered in my local school district, Campbell-Savona Central School District.

Beginning in 2014, school districts have

the option to offer the Alternative Veterans Exemption on school taxes. This exemption is available to all veterans if you have served during a designated time of declared war; which means you are eligible to receive a reduced rate exemption on your property taxes comparable to the one for county, town and villages now in effect.

I think it's time for the veterans to speak with one voice on this issue and tell our elected representatives that it is time for the people to give back to our brothers and sisters in arms. This is such a tiny way to show appreciation and respect to the men and women who have protected our freedoms and continue to do so by sacrificing today.

In conclusion I would hope more people will get on board and move this action forward by contacting your local Board of Education and let them know you support this.

—**Thomas L. DeWolf**,  
 Army SFC, retired,  
 Campbell

### SSCL Friends the best

**TO THE EDITOR |** On behalf of the Southeast Steuben County Library's Board of Trustees, I extend a heartfelt thank you to the best Friends of the Library group there is!

Our Friends of the

Library recently completed their Fall Book Sale. This fall's sale was, as usual, extremely successful, raising about \$22,000 after expenses (such as renting the fire hall, renting tables). The proceeds of these book sales are donated back to the library and support programming for residents of all ages. The sales take thousands of hours of sorting donations, boxing up the books, transporting them to the East Corning Fire Hall, setting up the sale, manning the sale, and finally, cleaning up at the end of the sale.

I'd like to thank the members of the Church of the Latter Day Saints for volunteering again to clean up after the sale. The help is very appreciated, and contributes greatly to closing up the sale in a timely manner.

The Spring 2016 book sale is scheduled for April 30 through May 7. Mark your calendars! If you have books you would like to donate, please see the list of acceptable items at [http://ssclibrary.org/Friends\\_of\\_Library.html](http://ssclibrary.org/Friends_of_Library.html). Your donations help make a great sale.

Thanks you again to the Friends of the Southeast Steuben County Library. Your support of the library is incredible.

—**Sarah Collins**, President  
 Southeast Steuben County Library  
 Board of Trustees

### Retired police against Tarantino

**TO THE EDITOR |** Days after a New York City Police officer was gunned down in the street movie producer Quentin Tarantino led a march in the streets of that city. In a vial and despicable speech he labeled our nations law enforcement officers as murderers.

The Retired Corning Police Officers Association join numerous other police unions and law enforcement organizations in condemning his actions and calling for a boycott of his movies and productions that he is involved with. We would also encourage the public not to patronize any theater showing any Tarantino productions. The rhetoric spewed by him is indicative of many of the Hollywood elite and those on the Liberal left.

Members of the law enforcement community go to work each day placing the safety and lives of the public above their own. Their selfless dedication to duty is exemplified by the number of fatalities suffered each year by the men and women of law enforcement. They deserve our respect for a thankless job certainly not the condemnation so prevalent today by the likes of losers like Tarantino and miscreants in our society.

—**Thomas P. Greven**  
 Retired Police Association  
 Corning

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# OBITUARIES/NEWS

## OBITUARIES

### Judy Ann Kinter Wardell

WARDELL, JUDY ANN KINTER, age 76 of Big Flats, NY, died on Wednesday October 28, 2015.

She was born on January 17, 1939 in State College, PA, the daughter of the late Earl Byrne and Dorris Ryan Kinter.

Judy was a graduate of Notre Dame High School and attended George Washington University in Washington D.C. where she met her husband at the Newman Center.

She was an Administrative Assistant to the Director of the Alumni Association for Trinity Washington University in Washington, D.C.

She married her loving husband Richard N. Wardell on June 4, 1960, He pre-deceased her on February 22, 2015.

Judy loved traveling with her husband and friends. In 1964 her interest in Hospice came when her aunt asked her to help care for her paternal grandfather. Later, she helped her father and maternal grandmother on their Final Journeys. These experiences led to her volunteer work for Hospice. For almost 30 years Judy volunteered as a Hospice Volunteer. She was one of the founding members of the Partners in Caring at the Arnot Medical Center, which was a predecessor to Southern Tier Hospice for patients who were seriously ill and dying. She cared for patients and the families helping reunite many families.

Judy helped establish Meals on Wheels in Corning where she volunteered for 28-30 years and took delight in helping people, providing food, clothing and nurturing their souls.

She and Dick had a deep appreciation for Tanglewood Nature Center. Nature and Birding were significant in her life. As a result she made trips across country, to Costa Rica, Central America, England, Scotland, and King Ranch in Texas. She was also a great supporter of the Southern Tier Food Bank.

She was a wonderful gourmet cook and baker. Judy loved collecting antiques, and was an excellent refurnisher of furniture. She had a green thumb in the garden. She had a love of music which included Jazz, Opera, and

Classical Music.

Judy was also pre-deceased by her brother, Rev. Father John P. Kinter on April 9, 2015, and her brother Dan, her Godparents Virginia Kinter Lauver and Robert F. Kinter and grandmother Granny Ryan.

Judith is survived by her sister and brother-in-law: Martha and Clyde Ward of Washington, D.C.; sister-in-law: Dorren (Mrs. Robert) Wardell of Chicago, IL; other god-daughter Becky Pappano and daughter Lily, niece Chris Pappano Echevarria, nephew Steve (Kathy) Wardell; and nephews and many caring friends.

A special Thank you to her caregivers: Madelyn, Michelle, Mesina, Carla and caregiver /house-keeper Sue. Judy and her caregivers became a "Band of Sisters" during Judy's illness.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend her Memorial Mass on Saturday November 14, 2015 at 11 AM at the Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Elmira, NY.

Inurnment will be in at St. Rose of Lima Cemetery in Gaithersburg, Maryland.

In Lieu of Flowers those wishing may remember Judy through Corning Meals on Wheels 144 Cedar Street Corning, NY 14830.

### Doris C. Heinemann



Doris C. Heinemann, 100, formerly of Twin Palms Mobile Home Park, 13 Stephens Ave., Lakeland, Florida, passed away peacefully Sunday morning (October 25, 2015) at Highlands Lake Center in Lakeland, Florida.

Born in Springville, PA on April 14, 1915, she was the daughter of the late Ralph C. and Janet Fisher Prichard. On February 23, 1946 she was married to Wilber "Bill" Heinemann, who predeceased her on January 19, 2001 after 55 years of marriage.

Besides her parents and husband she was

also predeceased by her brother and sister-in-law, Orrin and Dorothy Prichard; her brother-in-law, Mike Heinemann; her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Edward and Ruth McLaughlin.

For many years Doris was a beautician and a home-maker. She also worked many years and retired from Victory Markets as a cashier in the Binghamton Tri-Cities area.

Doris loved cooking and baking, crocheting and knitting right up to the last year of her life. She loved playing golf and bowling. When she couldn't do them anymore, she would always watch those sports on television.

Her loving family includes her son and daughter-in-law, Doug and Terry Heinemann and her grand-dog, Roxie of Avoca, New York; her sister-in-law, Teresa Heinemann of Bixby, Oklahoma, and many nieces and nephews; also her extended family of friends from Twin Palms Mobile Home Park, especially Leroy and Jill Worthington.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Highland Lake Center for all the loving care she received for the past nine months.

A memorial service will be held in the spring of 2016 at the Hope Lutheran Church in Plant City, Florida. She will be interned with her husband at Vestal Hills Memorial Park, Vestal, New York.

In lieu of flowers, those wishing man contribute in Doris' memory to the Hope Lutheran Church, 201 N. Park Rd., Plant City, Florida 33563.

The Avoca Funeral Home is honored to assist the family of Doris C. Heinemann.

Online condolences or remembrances of Doris are welcomed at [www.bishop-andjohnsonfuneralhome.com](http://www.bishop-andjohnsonfuneralhome.com).

### Clyde W. Sullivan

Avoca | Clyde W. Sullivan, age 84, died peacefully, November 5, 2015 in Elmira, surrounded by his loving family.

Family & friends may call from 4-6 pm, Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2015, at the Bath VFW Post #1470, 7230 St. Rte 54, Bath, NY 14810 where a Memorial Service will follow at 6 pm.

A complete obituary is online at [www.bairdfuneralhomes.com](http://www.bairdfuneralhomes.com).

at home following a lengthy illness.

Private graveside services will be held at Elmwood Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Arrangements are with Phillips Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Corning.

Peter and Paul's Cemetery. Arrangements are with Kalec Funeral Home, Elmira.

### Sterling L. Walck Jr.

Sterling L. "Skip" Walck Jr., 60, of Painted Post, died Friday, Nov. 6, 2015

world's great democracy.

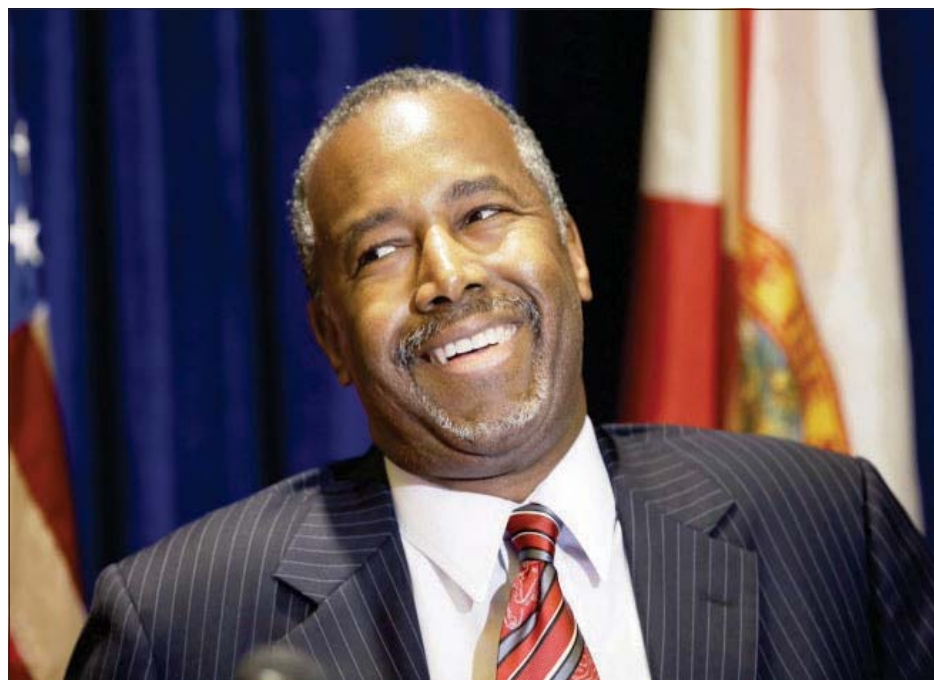
But perhaps most powerfully of all, on Veterans Day observances every year we are drawn to the cemeteries, monuments and memorials in our midst that still, and hopefully always will, rise up to honor those who have served and sacrificed – together with those who still do. We gather together throughout the Southern Tier and Finger Lakes regions to honor the sacrifices and the victories of our soldiers – past, present, and future.

By doing so, we reaffirm our pride in this nation's servicemen and women and, of course, we turn our thoughts and prayers

to all of the young soldiers whom we've lost from here at home.

Since the tragic unfolding of September 11, 2001 this generation has realized, all too painfully, that our homeland's freedom and peace can be threatened at any moment. We realize, as well, that our troops always stand ready to protect freedom again and again. The freedoms we cherish have been hard-won by the soldiers of previous generations and by those of this generation who have continued to serve. They are true American heroes, and we are grateful to each and every one of them. Sacrifice is the fundamental truth that's recalled on Veterans

## ON THE REPUBLICAN TRAIL



Republican presidential hopeful Ben Carson speaks during a news conference before attending a Black Republican Caucus of South Florida event benefiting the group's scholarship fund Friday in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. ALAN DIAZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Now a front-runner, Carson faces scrutiny

By Bill Barrow and Sergio Busto  
The Associated Press

PALM BEACH GARDENS, Fla. | Ben Carson rose to top the Republican ranks of White House hopefuls as the wise outsider — a candidate without any experience in office, but one who offers a compelling personal narrative, speaks openly of his deep Christian faith and issues calm-but-tough indictments of the nation's leaders.

Now, just as he finishes a triumphant, monthlong book tour, Carson finds that persona threatened by a series of inquiries that cast doubt on the veracity of his biography.

While Carson may be an unorthodox candidate running an unorthodox campaign, scrutiny of his past is par for the course for would-be presidents. But in a race in which an angry electorate has scrambled the established order in the Republican Party, the retired neurosurgeon predicts what he calls a "witch hunt" will only help him with voters.

"There's got to be a scandal. There's got (to be) some nurse he's had an affair with," a defiant Carson said Friday night of the hopes of those looking into his past. "They are getting desperate. Next week, it will be my kindergarten teacher who said I peed in my pants. It's ridiculous."

Carson has every reason to expect that what for almost any other candidate would be considered negative attention will help him. While he's long used extreme examples to make his case, including repeated references to such third-rails as Nazi Germany and slavery, he's emerged as one of the GOP field's best fundraisers and sits atop numerous preference polls.

**"They are getting desperate. Next week, it will be my kindergarten teacher who said I peed in my pants. It's ridiculous."**

— Republican presidential hopeful Ben Carson

"We've obviously had a variety of controversial statements," admitted Doug Watts, Carson's campaign spokesman. "Sometimes you just flip a coin as to how people will react to them."

That is the obvious question to the latest development in Carson's rise — a whirlwind week in which one new question about Carson's background was followed by another.

CNN reported it could not find friends or confidants to corroborate his story, told as part of his widely read autobiography, "Gifted Hands," of unsuccessfully stabbing a close friend when he was a teenager. A story published by Politico examined his claim of having received a scholarship offer to attend the U.S. Military Academy. The Wall Street Journal said it could not confirm Carson anecdotes from his high school and college years.

There are others. Last month, police in Baltimore said they didn't have enough information to verify Carson's account of being held at gunpoint at a fast-food restaurant in the city. In the third GOP debate, Carson said it was "absolutely absurd" to say he had a formal relationship with the company Mannatech. He is featured in the company's videos, including one from last year in which he credits the firm's supplements with helping people restore a healthy diet.

Carson and his campaign forcefully reject any suggestion he has been less than completely truthful.

Indeed, Friday's news conference may have been the first instance of the 2016 campaign in which the notably even-tempered Carson showed open signs of anger.

During a combative 20 minutes, Carson said the media hadn't subjected President Barack Obama to the same level of scrutiny he now faces and demanded the reporters present explain why. He said he would think about revealing the name of the person he has said he tried to stab, but only if reporters would sign an affidavit promising to "sing my praises" for doing so.

"Will you do that? Yes?" Carson asked. "My job is to call you out when you're unfair, and I'm going to continue to do that."

Carson's advisers say they are determined to keep their attention focused on the campaign as he shifts from his recent book tour — an ostensibly noncampaign exercise paid for mostly by his publisher — to more traditional voter outreach in Iowa and other early voting states.

The campaign has attracted more than 4.5 million followers on Facebook, with separate social media efforts by volunteers bringing together smaller groups of supporters for everything from canvassing to prayer groups. The campaign has paid staff in six states, with 32 total workers in the field. Watts says the campaign is on track to qualify for the ballot in all 50 states and six other jurisdictions with delegates.

## O'MARA

From Page A4

W. Bush once said, "We will not tire. We will not falter. We will not fail."

Travel throughout this region's communities and it's striking to reflect on the common landmarks that stand as everyday reminders of the guiding principles and underlying strengths of our nation: city, town and village halls; county courthouses; churches; elementary schools; and local public libraries. These fundamental American places still speak to the very reasons for our nation's founding and her endurance as the

Day, especially today when sacrifice can too often seem an on-the-decline virtue in American life.

One way that New York government seeks to constantly honor the service of veterans has been through the creation of state agencies and legislative committees devoted to the development and administration of programs and services that seek to address the many challenges facing today's veterans in areas such as health care, employment and education.

The state Division of Veterans Affairs was established in 1945 to assist veterans, members of the armed forces, their families and their dependents.

Since then, the Division -- in concert with its offices in counties locally and across New York -- has strongly advocated for veteran's issues at the local, state and national levels. It's a proud history of service.

In addition to the Division, each house of the state Legislature has established a veterans committee dedicated to these affairs. In the Senate, the Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs Committee concentrates each and every legislative session to identify and formulate legislative responses to the many issues confronting our veterans.

The echoes of former

Presidents remain so very fitting – and poignant – to hear again on this Veterans Day, when we indeed live in a time of great obligation and opportunity, as we continue to gather in common purpose to always remember, as we continue to salute the contributions and the sacrifices of our military men and women, living and deceased, past and present, and as we never tire in honoring their heroism.

— State Sen. Tom O'Mara represents New York's 53rd Senate District, which includes Steuben, Chemung, Schuyler and Yates counties, and a portion of Tompkins County.