

Vietnam War Veterans Day

By Michael Ortoski

STROUDSBURG - "It was humbling to join many of our veterans, active service members and families at Courthouse Square in Stroudsburg this week to commemorate National Vietnam War Veterans Day. Thank you to all who served for we owe you a debt of gratitude. "Welcome home" said Senator Scavello.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is a commemorative holiday in the United States which recognizes the sacrifices that veterans and their families made during the Vietnam War. It is also a day to give proper recognition to the men and women who returned home from that war and didn't receive a proper welcome home. It's a holiday that's been celebrated since 1973 on either March 29th or March 30th of each year through a patchwork of state resolutions. However, in 2017, the date of the holiday was set as March 29th by U.S President Donald Trump. This day is now officially known as National National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

Also known as the Second Indochina War, the Vietnam War was a conflict where the U.S – as well as other members of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO)–joined with the South Vietnamese forces to contest communist forces in North Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos. The war featured U.S and South Vietnamese regular and guerrilla forces pitted against the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) and

North Vietnamese guerrillas known as Viet Cong (VC). The United States had the largest foreign military presence and directed the war from 1965 to 1973, which is why this war is widely considered to be an American War, although other parties were involved. In 1975, South Vietnam collapsed and was replaced with a communist regime. On July 2, 1976, the entire country would become the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

According to the U.S Department of Defense, over 8 million U.S troops served all over the world during Vietnam. Of these 8 million soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines, over 58,000 of them died in-theater.

The Vietnam War was the longest war in United States history. The war was also a very divisive time in the United States, as well as through much of Europe and Australia. Many veterans who returned home either didn't receive any recognition for their service, didn't receive the proper amount of recognition for their service or were outright protested against. These veterans would come home to a country divided over the debate about the war and many veterans had trouble readjusting to civilian life in the U.S.

As time passed, however, public sentiment about Vietnam veterans began to soften. While many people still viewed the war as wrong, they now felt that veterans of that war were only doing their duty to their county. Nowadays, many Vietnam veterans are finally receiving recognition for their service.



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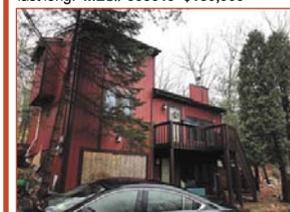
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SBRP Chief Mettin

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L-R Chief Mettin with his family at the recognition event. Daughter Victoria, Wife Jenny, Sons Alec and Tyler

Chief Mettin received a plaque with a photo from the Special Olympics on it from the Slate Belt Regional Police Board



Career Day at Wind Gap Middle School



By Michael Ortoski

WIND GAP - Career Day at Wind Gap Middle School was held last week with presenters in many different professions. The day is a chance to have the students get a first hand look at carriers they might be interested in, given by people in the business.

Adriane Forrs from Waste Management, one of the presenters talked about different jobs at the Land Fill in Pen Argyl and how the biggest part of Waste Management workers job is RECYCLING, and the correct way to do it.

Forrs brought items that employees wear for safety that students got a chance to wear like helmets, gloves and bright green vests.

One of the other presentations was about civil war memorabilia. Items were brought in for students to dress up in period time and to learn about how life was very different than it is today.

