

Letter to the Editor

December 1, 1969 holds a special place in the minds of many men of my age. It was the date of the first Vietnam War lottery draft. I remember sitting in my dorm nervously watching the event wondering which of my friend's birth dates would be drawn first. If I were a male, my draft number would have been 3 according to my birth date. Unfortunately, David Gunderson, Mike Schroeder, Rick Glaspey, and Danny Upton would see their birth dates drawn and their fate established. I say unfortunately because they lost their lives in the jungles of Vietnam. I think about them often and the contributions to our society we have lost because of their ultimate sacrifice and that of thousands of others. Many young men were able to avoid the draft legitimately with various deferments. These were usually, well educated, wealthy, and healthy young men. One, however, was a rich kid with an influential

father. Reportedly, he was able to arrange a deferment based on the fake disability of "bone spurs". Donald Trump said he has "made up" for not serving. How do you make up for forcing someone else to take your place in a war? Not by stealing \$158,000 from the very foundation you set up on the promise to aid veterans. And then, years later, you call them "losers" and "suckers." This is not only by The Atlantic magazine's account. Four other journalists including one, Jennifer Griffin, from Fox News have corroborated this description of facts. The Vietnam War may have been a misguided effort to say the least, but I do know that Mike, David, Rick, and Danny were not "losers" or "suckers". It leaves me to wonder which one of them may have taken your place, Mr. President.

*Diane Goodrich
Parkersburg*

Letter to the Editor

Leslie Groen has been a frequent candidate for office in Butler County. She ran for Auditor in 2012 against Liz Williams and ran for Supervisor in 2014 against Rusty Eddy and Mark Reiher, but was never elected. She ran again for Auditor in the Republican Primary this spring and is now running in the general election this fall.

Let's look at the public record. In spite of all her previous campaigning, Groen first filed a Statement of Organization with the Iowa Ethics & Campaign Disclosure Board on Sept. 4, 2020, but only after current Auditor Liz Williams had filed.

A political candidate is required to file if they receive more than \$1,000 in donations or expenses OR if less than \$1,000 and they use the Attribution Statement (paid for by) on any distributed campaign materials. All current and previous Butler County candidates

on the ethics website complied with the rules even if they spent only a small amount or only their own money, so why didn't Groen?

It would be astonishing if Leslie Groen neither spent over \$1,000 nor published any campaign material in all her many campaigns. Not complying with the rules of the Iowa Ethics & Campaign Disclosure is illegal; they are not legal technicalities. This is important because the office she seeks is full of legal requirements and technicalities.

Maybe Groen can explain the lack of previous filings and correct the deficiencies of her current filing by the next reporting date of Oct. 19, but this does not speak well for her abilities. We need the experience, training and competence of Liz Williams in the Auditor's office.

*Jane Close
New Hartford*

ECLIPSE NEWS-REVIEW | WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

Letter to the Editor

I have been a Democrat my entire adult life. I am also a retired art teacher, homeowner and active community volunteer. I support my church, UNI Panthers and our local high schools. I am a citizen and I am weary of the current volatile rhetoric that aims to attach extreme labels and further divide us. I am not a crazy leftist socialist any more than my Republican friends and neighbors are radical right wing facists. I should not be labeled a Trump hater simply because I disagree with his policies and style of governing.

I long for leadership that will guide our country back closer to a middle ground. My appeal is not only to moderate Democrats and Republicans and those who consider themselves no party. It is also to those citizens who choose not to vote because they feel their vote will not matter. If you want to see an America that is quieter, more efficient and more fair to all citizens then vote for change. Your vote in this election is more powerful and important than at any time in recent history.

*Bill Close
New Hartford*

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

My choice at the ballot box is always the fiscally conservative candidate. This usually leads me to vote for the Republican candidate. This year I am endorsing and will vote for Dennis Evans for Iowa House because he is the conservative's choice for our state.

Dennis spent his successful career in education as a teacher and as a Vice President Trust

Officer for a major bank. He understands good fiscal management, complex governmental issues and systems, societal systems and issues, and above all he listens carefully to all sides of an issue in search of the most reasonable solution.

Dennis will be a dedicated, thoughtful, hard working public servant in the Iowa House.

*Dan Robertson
Reinbeck*