

EDITORIAL

Countians show colors

Delaware County showed its red, white and blue over the weekend when it honored the local veterans of Operation Desert Storm and all other war veterans in an appropriate, patriotic fashion.

More than 1,000 gathered in the amphitheater at Rose Tree Park in Upper Providence and many hundreds more lined the route of the parade, which was sponsored by Delaware County's Vietnam War veterans.

The numbers were indeed impressive, however, what was said was more impressive and must never be forgotten.

Media Councilman Bob McMahon, who served in the Tet Offensive in Vietnam, reminded the soldiers that "becoming a veteran carries with it

the dual responsibilities of welcoming home all future service personnel and never allowing another generation of veterans to be forgotten."

U.S. Rep. Curt Weldon (R-7th District) called the day a "cleansing for Americans."

"This is not just for our Desert Storm troops," he said, but for all veterans, particularly the Vietnam vets.

"No longer will you be second-class citizens. Now America knows what we should have known all along. You are the heroes of this country. I applaud and thank each and everyone of you."

McMahon said the cleansing Weldon spoke of is just the beginning.

"Today was just the start. We're just a small group of Vietnam veterans from a small corner in Delaware County. We will feel that our cause has been righted when this is done nationwide so that we can be assured that what happened to us will never happen again."

Wouldn't it be great if the entire nation recognizes not only the Desert Storm troops but all veterans, particularly those who served in Vietnam as McMahon suggests.

If there is anything we can do to further the cause, there will be no holding us back. Hopefully, the effort will continue until the nation gives all veterans the recognition they so rightly deserve.