Lancaster Intelligencer Journal/New Era - June 13, 2012



Cut spending

Gov. Tom Corbett says "We have to spend less because we have less to spend." No, Gov. Corbett, we have to spend less -- period.

We have to spend less because we should not have spent in the first place. You just don't get it and neither do most politicians who are bankrupting this state and country.

Robert P. Fischer, Manor Township

Identifying 3 political species

Field observations of the political species commonly called "elected legislators" suggest three major sub-species: Those in the pockets of labor bosses, those in the pockets of business bosses and those in the pockets of the people.

Families driven into poverty by taxes and public takings may have even less money than families driven into poverty by other circumstances. Making more people poor in the name of helping the poor is not really helping the poor.

Elected legislators too busy playing politics to mind the pockets of the people serve poorly. Elected legislators who become part of the government instead of staying as people who oversee government operations become part of a growing problem.

Elected legislators are the designated ombudsmen of the people; when they take the side of government agents against the people, the people suffer.

Elections are coming. Please observe your legislators carefully and vote well.

Joe Heller, New Holland

Pitts and Congress out of touch

After reading Rep. Joe Pitts' response to the Intell ("Is Pitts losing touch?" May 18), I feel a further response to Rep. Pitts is warranted and necessary.

Rep. Pitts obviously doesn't have as thick a skin as he professes to have. His response rings of a whining congressman and an attempt to justify an honest mistake by his office. Mistakes happen and a simple response of being sorry for the mistake would have been appropriate and sufficient.

Now I would like to suggest that Rep. Pitts and Congress are out of touch.

When the debt-ceiling crisis was going full bore last summer, I called Rep. Pitts' office at least six times to implore him and his fellow members of Congress to put partisanship aside and raise the debt ceiling. I never received a return phone call or correspondence from Rep. Pitts acknowledging my concern, even though I left my phone number each time I called. I must be constituent No. 38,001 on the constituents list or not worthy enough to receive a response from Rep. Pitts.

Rep. Pitts and his colleagues in Congress seem to be more intent on advancing their own agenda and not the agenda of the American people. Time and again, polls show constituents like me want Congress to get things done in Washington.

But he ignores us and stonewalls the president and the whole process. Can't he compromise

and do the American people's wishes and will? Maybe since he has a significant pension to look forward to (paid by our tax dollars) he feels he can ignore us. If that's not out of touch, I don't know what is.

Being a good congressman/congresswoman is listening to and then doing the people's wishes, and then working with the president and each other to get the job done. Learning how to compromise with each other is part of that process.

Maybe it's time for the people of this county to send him home. He was once an advocate for term limits. Where did that belief go?

Now, it's obvious Pitts or one of his surrogates read the Intell/New Era so maybe I'll receive a phone call or a correspondence letter (not a form letter, please).

Ambrose A. White Jr., Manor Township