King, Thomas George       6-5-1944
Wilkie, Charles           6-6-1934
Herod, Arthur Weimann    6-7-1943
McCarthy, Glenn          6-7-1943
Ducat, Bruce Chalmers    6-9-1941
Bartolf, Noel Michael    6-12-1942
Allison, Darrell Gene    6-12-1951
Shortall, Stephen A.     6-14-1945
Gebbie, Ronald Jackson   6-17-1948
DeFranco, James Clinton  6-18-1950
Brule Jr., Gordon Joseph  6-19-1948
Moore, Abraham L.        6-20-1945
Fellows, David Thomas    6-21-1946
Gioia, John Albert       6-21-1948
Boyd, Stephen Leslie     6-21-1951
Babey, David Paul       6-24-1949
Lamb, Theodore          6-26-1939
Caldwell III, Edward Clark  6-28-1946
Scott, James Guinan     6-29-1949
Hill, Richard Alfred    6-30-1942
Robena, Charles Edward  6-30-1947
Ekwell, Thomas James    6-30-1948
There are currently no new reports from the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), the National League of Families and the DOD of service men that have been recovered, returned and identified. The total number of Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War now is **1598**.

Recently while updating the status of the 280 men who are honored at our Memorial, I noticed that there were 4 more men who were listed as POW/MIA by the DPAA, the National League of Families as well as the DOD and whose bodies have not been recovered since their death while serving in and around Vietnam. They are all from our area and were never added to our original 12 POW/MIA’s. That has been corrected and they will now be honored and added to our missing from Chapter 20. They are as follows:


**Lt. Gary Douglas Hopps,** US Navy Reserve  
Body not recovered. Bollard # 22

**Maj. Theodore James Shorack,** US Air Force  
Body not recovered. Bollard # 31

**LCpl. Carl Arthur Smith,** US Marine Corps  
Reserve on board a helicopter loss May 1, 1967 off shore in South Vietnam. Body not recovered. Bollard # 67
The new number of missing for Chapter 20 is now 16 with seven having been accounted for and repatriated. You can check their official information casualty summaries at: 
http://www.rochestervietnammemorial.org/The-Remembered-Those-Commemorated.php

There has been reports of the recoveries and identifications of individuals from the following wars.

- Pfc. Clarence E. Drumheiser and Pfc. William F. Calvin US Marine Corps were lost November 20 and 22, 1944 in Tarawa. They was accounted for on April 6, and May 2, 2018.
- Pfc. John H. Walker, US Army was lost November 24, 1944 in Germany. He was accounted for on April 13, 2018.
- Seaman 2nd Class Joe M. Kelly, Aviation Machinist Mate 2nd Class Durell Wade, Water Tender 1st Class Stephen Pepe, Seaman 1st Class Natale I. Torti, Fireman 2nd Class George C. Ford, Shopfitter 3rd Class John M. Donald and Seaman 2nd Class William V. Campbell all members of the US Navy on board the USS Oklahoma were lost on December 7, 1941 at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. They were all accounted for in April and May 2018.
- Staff Sgt. Vincent L. Politte, US Army Air Corps was lost August 1, 1943 in Romania. He was accounted for April 16, 2018.
- SFC. Rufus L. Ketchum, US Army was lost December 6, 1950 in North Korea, He was accounted for on April 24, 2018.
- Cpl. Terell J. Fuller, US Army was lost February 12, 1951 in South Korea, He was accounted for on April 27, 2018.
- Pfc. Oscar E. Sappington, US Army was lost January 11, 1945 in Germany. He was accounted for on April 27, 2018.
- Sgt. Melvin C. Anderson, US Army was lost November 25, 1944 in Germany. He was accounted for on May 10, 2018.

With another Memorial Day passing, we will continue to remember our missing brothers and the sacrifices that they made for our freedom. God Bless them and their families.
Membership Update
Mike General Membership Chair

Chapter 20 Membership currently is at 622 members and AVVA is at 40 members as of 04/30/18. Membership has been growing (only 2 new members in the last month), **We need your help in recruiting new members.** Don’t forget to renew on time. Don’t let your membership expire. We had 5 members who did not renew this last month and 4 members who passed away..

**Please Renew Your Membership!**

**All Life Memberships are $100.00**

If you a renewing as a “Life Member”, please remember to include a copy of your DD-214 with your application.

When you have an address change, please notify Mike General so we can keep our Roster up to date and notify National.

**Need your help in recruiting new members.**

Chapter 20 Membership is open to U.S. Veterans who served active duty (other than training purposes) in the Republic of Vietnam between February 28, 1961 and May 07, 1975, or any duty location between August 05, 1964 and May 07, 1975.

Membership includes a subscription to our award-winning newspaper The BTL, and The VVA Veteran, bringing you updates on issues and legislation affecting veterans, as well as unique articles on the people, places, and history of the Vietnam experience.

Associate Membership is open to anyone; you do not need to be a Veteran.

**WE Need New Members!** Membership Applications are available on our Website or by contacting me. (mwgeneral@aol.com)

We are offering an “Honorary Membership” to Chapter 20 to all spouses who husbands have passed away. If you know of someone who has lost their loved one, please contact Mike General.

Mike
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 20

Name: ____________________________________ Date of Birth: _________________ Sex ( )M ( )F
Address: ____________________________________
City: _____________________________________
Zip: ___________ County: ____________________

Home Phone: ( 555 )________________________
Work Phone: ( 555 )________________________
Email Address: ____________________________

I am not a Vietnam Veteran, but I want to help Vietnam Veterans and their families.
Please accept my donation: 
( ) $10 ( ) $20 ( ) $50 Other ($__________)

Payment Options: ( ) Check ( ) Money Order


Term: ( ) 1 Year $20 ( ) 3 Years $50 ( ) Life Membership $100

VVA is a non-profit veterans service organization. Programs and services are funded by member dues and public donations.

Return this application, along with a copy of your DD214 to:

Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 12580
Rochester, NY 14612

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Between the Lines is published monthly by Chapter 20, Vietnam Veterans of America. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of Chapter 20 or the Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., its Officers, Board of Directors, or the General Membership. Between the Lines can be viewed on the Chapter 20 website at www.vva20.org.

We welcome letters to the editor, poetry, original articles, and suggestions. Submissions should include name and phone number and can be sent to Between the Lines, P.O. Box 12580, Rochester, NY 14612 or emailed to felliott@rochester.rr.com. We reserve the right to edit for space and clarity and to not use materials we think inappropriate for the publication. Deadline for submissions for each issue is the 10th of the preceding month. Exceptions may be granting by contacting the Editor.
HEALTH AFFAIRS

Following articles/announcements are presented as informational only. You should always verify accuracy independently via trusted sources. Seek out third party advocates if using any information for filing claims or presuming any health-related matter. Note: Subject matter timing for BTL deadline, action on Blue Water Navy legislation could be affected in the future.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jerry McDermott, Chairman Health Affairs

VA Blue Water Claims Update 44 ➤ New Deal Could Mean Benefits for 90K Vets

Nearly 90,000 veterans who served in ships off the Vietnam coastline during that war may become eligible for disability benefits under a new congressional agreement unveiled 4 MAY. Members of the House Veterans’ Affairs Committee will vote the week of 7 MAY on a plan to cover benefits for so-called “blue water Navy veterans” from the war with a new fee on home loans through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Committee Chairman Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., called the deal long overdue. “We owe it to the brave veterans who served in the Vietnam War to provide benefits for conditions they may have developed because of exposure to Agent Orange,” he said in a statement.

The announcement comes the same day as a court hearing on the issue that could eventually force VA to award disability payouts to the veterans, many of whom have felt unfairly slighted by a policy change 16 years ago which stripped them of thousands of dollars a month. They are approaching the congressional news with cautious optimism. “While it’s been rumored we are going to get this legislation passed in a Memorial Day package, we have been told before we were close to victory, only to have our legislation held up as a political pawn,” said Mike Little, national executive director of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Association. “This kills the spirits of my members. This time, we have tried the best we can to make sure we have all the facts before we go let them down again.”

At issue is VA’s process regarding presumptive status for exposure to Agent Orange and other dangerous wartime chemicals. Under current department rules, troops who served on the ground in Vietnam or patrolled inland rivers are assumed to have been working with or near the chemical defoliant, and are given special status when filing disability benefits claims to speed up the process. But the blue water veterans — who served on ships off the coast of the country — still must prove they were directly exposed to Agent Orange for their illnesses to be labeled as service-connected. In many cases, collecting scientific evidence of the presence of the chemical on or near the ships is impossible, given the decades that have passed. Lawmakers in recent years have called the distinction an unfortunate oversight, but have also struggled with how to pay for the cost of extending presumptive status to the excluded veterans.

The new home loan fee — which has the backing of Little’s group and other veterans organizations — will cost the typical veteran homeowner about $350 over 10 years, and will generate about $1.1 billion over the same span to offset the extension costs. However, only about 60 percent of borrowers will pay that new fee. Most veterans with a disability rating who use the home loan program will be exempt. Committee ranking member Tim Walz (D-MN) said he will support the
plan, calling it “yet another example of the good we can accomplish when we work together on a bipartisan basis with veterans’ service organizations and reach across the aisle.” Committee members are expected to vote on the proposal next Tuesday. A ruling from the pending lawsuit is expected to take several more months. Little noted that many of the veterans who would benefit from the policy change are elderly or infirm, making every delay more upsetting. “Congress can’t put this off anymore,” he said. [Source: MarineCorpsTimes | Leo Shane III | May 5, 2018 ++]

ases, collecting scientific evidence of the presence of the chemical on or near the ships is impossible, given the decades that have passed. Lawmakers in recent years have called the distinction an unfortunate oversight, but have also struggled with how to pay for the cost of extending presumptive status to the excluded veterans.

**VA MOVE! Program Update 03  ➤  Weight Management Assistance**

Nearly 80 percent of Veterans who receive care in Veterans Health Administration (VHA) facilities are overweight or obese. Being obese or overweight is associated with many chronic health conditions, including heart disease, diabetes and cancer. These conditions are common in Veterans and the nation in general. “Preventing further increases in the rates and impacts of obesity among Veterans is our greatest public health challenge,” said Dr. Carolyn Clancy, executive-in-charge at VHA.

To help manage this epidemic, VA offers Veterans the comprehensive and integrated MOVE! Weight Management Program. MOVE! is VHA’s evidence-based, population-focused weight management program available to Veterans at every VA medical facility across the country. Since national implementation in 2006, the MOVE! Program has helped close to 800,000 Veterans better manage their weight, improve their health, and reduce their risk of chronic disease. Veterans who have participated in MOVE! speak to the program’s effectiveness and impact on their health and well-being. Before he lost 90 pounds with MOVE!, “I was struggling to perform daily activities,” said Veteran Ricardo Colón of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Colón credits his success to information, support and motivation from his San Juan VA MOVE! team, noting that walking and eating wisely help him keep the weight off.
Highlights of the May Membership Meeting
107 People Attended

New Member Marc Parker, Army '69 - '71

New Member Andy Restivo, Army '65 - '67

Flag drawing winner Denis Lepel

50/50 winner Andy Restivo, not bad for a first night new Member!

Vito Scarpetta (yours truly), accepted with honor and appreciation, the Chapter 20 Veterans Service Award from Val and the Certificate of Merit from the Monroe County Executive, Cheryl Dinolfo.
Fred Elliott accepted the VA Volunteer Award for exceptional service for the many years as the Audiology volunteer at the ROPC. His supervisor, Kristen Savage nominated Fred and acting Director of the Canandaigua VA, Kenneth Piazza presented Fred with the award. Great Job Fred!!

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**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

We are still in need of volunteers to spend 3 to 4 hours on a Saturday or Sunday At the Rochester Car Museum Downtown. It is a great experience to see these beautiful cars from the early 70’s And to hear the stories behind each and every one of them given by the owner Bob Bartosiewicz. It is especially important to meet incoming visitors to the Museum and to show the memorial wall of our 280 fallen soldiers from our area.

If you are interested, please contact Joe Peck jpeck2@rochester.rr.com For available dates. You will also receive $10 to cover your parking in the Downtown area.
In line with the Memorial Day remembrance....

“Thomas Urban Way was from a working-class family and a normal student at St John Fisher, but his family worked hard to raise the funds needed for the statue of Tom so he wouldn’t be forgotten. Good People and a Good Guy.” - Dave, a friend who remembered Tom.

The following story was re-printed from The Post (11/25/2015) honoring one of our 280 fallen heroes from the Rochester area.

St. John Fisher College honored a special alumnus and member of the United States Armed Forces, Thomas Urban Way ’66, on Veterans Day by unveiling a statue commissioned in his memory.

Way, who was drafted into the U. S. Army in 1967, shortly after graduating from Fisher, died in combat while serving in the Vietnam War, just three weeks into his tour of duty.

The college, joined by fellow alumni and friends of Way, commissioned sculptor Timothy P. Schmalz to create a bronze statue to honor Way and capture his love of soccer, which he was known to have played with children in the streets of Vietnam.

More than 80 members of Way’s family, classmates and friends helped the college formally unveil the Thomas Urban Way ’66 Memorial Statue, which is situated adjacent to Founders Hall and the Polisseni Track and Field Complex, near the statue of the Rev. John Cavanaugh C.S.B.

“The Thomas Urban Way Memorial is a tribute to Tom’s life and his sacrifice,” said President Gerard Rooney. “Tom will forever be remembered on this campus as a special member of our Fisher family.”

Way, who was born in Spring Lake, New Jersey, and raised in Rochester, was a graduate of McQuaid Jesuit High School. While studying sociology at Fisher, he also was a member of the college’s soccer team.

Way was hired by Eastman Kodak Company shortly after earning his degree from Fisher and completed a sales training program before he was drafted into the U.S. Army. He completed basic training at Fort Gordon in Georgia in 1967 in preparation for infantry duty in Vietnam.

He celebrated his 23rd birthday Oct. 4, 1967.

The next day, he wrote his final letter home, confirming that he would be relocated for an anticipated long siege with intense fighting. Five days later, Oct. 9, 1967, Way was killed by small arms fire during action against the Viet Cong in the infamous Mekong Delta. He was recognized for his honorable service by the U.S. Army, receiving the Military Merit Medal and the Gallantry Cross with Palm, both awarded by the government of the Republic of Vietnam. He also was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Heroism by U.S. President Lyndon Johnson.
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it’s off to work we go...
Wow, lots of work here....

I got to find Val.

I don’t know, I think I need help..

Okay, we're here to help.
All done, good as new. Working together, team work, works!
Great turnout to clean Vietnam Veterans Memorial for DOC. Thank you:
Harris Corp.
Thermo-Fisher
MVP
Paychex
Chapter 20
Uniland Corp.
And now the parade....

Pictures by Glenn Peck
We also marched & presented at the War Memorial
### MARCHING UNITS 2018
### TENTATIVE DATES

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<td>HAMLIN FD</td>
<td>PARK @ FAIR GROUND</td>
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<td>5:30 PM</td>
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<td>WEDSTER FD</td>
<td>BUS FROM FAIR GROUND</td>
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**Churchville-Chili School Visit**

Chapter 20 attends a day at Churchville Chili High school. Kenny Allocco, Joe Peck, Chuck Macaluso, Jerry McDermott, Ron Trovato and Mike Sanfilippo (not in pic)

We had a good day answering all the students’ questions about our time in the military and in Vietnam. This is our 8th year going to this school. If anyone would like to join us for future school visits please call me at, 585-392-9424 or email, kbud920@yahoo.com
Buffalo Soldiers Presentation Team

Monday, June 11, 2018

12:00 noon - 2:00 pm

KATE GLEASON AUDITORIUM, 1st Floor, Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County. (library building across the street from Rundel Library Building) 115 South Ave.

The Central Library is accessible to people with disabilities. To request specific accommodations, call 585-428-8304 ten days prior to the program.

www.facebook.com/RocCentralLibrary

RocCityLibrary.org

You, your family and friends are invited to see and hear The Buffalo Soldiers Presentation Team, The team, featuring Chapter 20’s own Bing Reaves, Sr., is part of the Pennington-Moye Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 925.

The team will give a FREE program, that will give an overview of the history of African-American soldiers after the Civil War. The name “Buffalo Soldiers” was given by Native Americans on the Western Plains. The Team will talk about the uniforms worn, and equipment used by the soldiers and will also discuss & show how the Soldiers communicated in the 1800’s. They will bring various artifacts for the presentation. Light refreshments will be served. Photo courtesy of 55 Plus Magazine (Roc55.com) For more information, please call the Central Library's Science and History Division: 585-428-8110.
Join us for
10th Annual
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway of Valor*
“Tribute Ride”

Saturday, July 14,

The 100 mile ride is free and open to the public - motorcycles, cars, trucks, planes and helicopters welcome

• **Ride will Begin @:** 11:00 am ...
  • **@ Owego Free Academy, Sheldon Guile Blvd. Owego, NY**  
    (Register to ride between 8:00 & 10:00 AM on day of ride)  (Police Escorted Ride)

• **Ride Ends: @ American Legion**  
  Village of Hannibal, NY

Itinerary:
• Ride Route 38 to the American Legion Post 800, Groton, NY  
  (stop for gas and food), and then on to the American Legion in Hannibal

Groton, Home of Medal of Honor Recipient:  
2LT TERRENCE GRAVES, USMC

Throop, Home of Medal of Honor Recipient:  
SP4 ROBERT F. STRYKER, US ARMY
The 10th Annual Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway of Valor Tribute Ride

The 10th Annual Vietnam Veterans Tribute Ride forms up at the Owego Free Academy in Owego, NY, and departs at 11 am North on State Route 38 for the 100 mile ride. The first stop is in Groton, NY for food and gas before departing at 1 pm again North on Route 38, The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Highway of Valor. The ride ends at the American Legion in Hannibal, NY.. Ride is free and open to the public. For more Info: Call Harvey @ (607) 898-3507

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TIME OUT....

The first time I heard about paraprosdokians, I liked them.

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

In filling out an application, where it says, "In case of emergency, notify...." I answered, "a doctor."

Women will never be equal to men until they can walk down the street with a bald head and a beer gut, and still think they are sexy.

~ ~ ~

Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore.
Can't remember if I'm 72 or 85.
Have lost all my friends. But, thank God, I still have my driver's license.

~ ~ ~

Know how to prevent sagging?
Just eat till the wrinkles fill out.
Board Meetings | Membership Meetings
---|---
June 5, 2018 | June 14, 2018
July 3, 2018 | July 12, 2018
August 7, 2018 | August 9, 2018

Monthly Membership Meetings start at 6:30 pm

At the Italian American Sports Club, 1250 Buffalo Road, Rochester

Driving Directions to the Italian American Sports Club:

The Club is located at 1250 Buffalo Road close to the intersection of Howard Road, directly across from the stone quarry, next to the Eagles Club and the Catholic Diocese of Rochester.

From the East: Heading west on 490, exit Mt. Read Blvd. and turn left; south on Mt. Read to Buffalo Road circle, turn right, west on Buffalo Road, 1.4 miles, the Italian-American Sports Club is on the right side.

From the West: Heading east on 490, exit 33 east, Buffalo Road (Gates Center); head east on Buffalo Road; continue past Howard Road; the Italian-American Sports Club will be on the left side in about .5 mile.
Your business card could be here. Contact Chapter Treasurer, Alan Frisa (afrisa@rochester.rr.com), for details.
In Memory Donations

When the simple act of placing flowers on a casket or placing stones on a headstone does not seem to be enough to honor the memory of a special someone who has passed away, one may choose to make a donation in his or her honor to commemorate the values and beliefs of the deceased. Chapter 20 VVA is committed to recognizing the sacrifices made by all military personnel in every branch of the armed forces. The memory of the deceased veteran is honored in the continuous work and service carried out by the dedicated Chapter members and associates. The monetary donations sent by individuals help make it possible to continue serving veterans and their families. The combined efforts of donors, lawmakers, members, and associates have far-reaching effects on the quality of all our lives.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 20 offers several ways of commemorating a special person. One of those ways is the Memorial Walk at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park. The Vietnam Veterans Memorial Walk is a pathway of bricks inscribed with the names of individuals who have served their country with valor. Their names will forever remain a reminder of the dedication and tenacity demonstrated by the thousands of men and women who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

If you wish to make a monetary donation directly to Chapter 20 in support of all the functions and services they provide to veterans and their families, send your check or money order payable to Chapter 20, VVA:

Vietnam Veterans of America
Chapter 20
P.O. Box 12580
Rochester, NY 14612

Could someone you know be in crisis?
The VA’s National Suicide Crisis Line
1-800-273-TALK or 1-800-273-8255
24/7 365 days/year
Provides professional counseling to veterans, their family members or friends.

Do you know a veteran who is homeless?
The VA’s National Homeless Veterans Hotline
The Hotline is staffed by trained VA Medical Center care managers in conjunction with the National Call Center Homeless Services. Studies show a huge correlation between mental illness and homelessness.
1-877-424-3838
24/7 365 days/year
VA Health Care Benefits
Contacts and References

E-Benefits Portal Site
https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits-portal/ebenefits.portal

Enrollment/Eligibility
http://www.va.gov/healtheligibility
Health Resource Center 1-877-222-8387 (VETS)

OEF / OIF
http://www.oefoif.va.gov
Women Veterans
http://www.va.gov/womenvet
Benefits Line 1-855-829-6636

Dental Care
Copays
http://www1.va.gov/CBO/brochures.asp
Health Resource Center 1-877-222-8387

Suicide Prevention Hotline
1-800-273-8255 (TALK)

Prosthetics
http://www.prosthetics.va.gov

My HealtheVet
http://www.myhealth.va.gov

Homeless Veterans Hotline
1-877-424-3838
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 Vet Benefits – Stan Patykiewicz SNMPATYK@rochester.rr.com 247-4830 h
 Veterans Walk – C. Macaluso chuckmac66@yahoo.com 225-8288 h
 Women’s Affairs – Rosemary Rossi-Williams pefrose@gmail.com 738-6138 c

VVA Chapter 20 585-482-7396
P.O. Box 12580 www.vva20.org
Rochester, NY 14612

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Nancy Rekowski nrekowski@avva.org

NYS AVVA PRESIDENT
Cherie Steers csvva@optonline.net 516-822-5938

VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS AND INFORMATION
Greater Rochester Vietnam Veterans Memorial 753-7275
(enter 9; enter 2 to leave a message)
VA Outpatient Clinic 465 Westfall Rd 463-2600
Veterans Outreach Center 459 South Avenue 546-1081
VA Vet Center 232-5040
Veterans Administration 800-827-1000
Monroe County Veterans Service Agency 753-6040
e-mail: serviceofficer@yahoo.com
VA Veterans Benefits Hotline 800-827-1000
Women Veterans Call Center 888-829-6636
VA Medical Center in Batavia 297-1000
VA Hospital in Buffalo 716-834-9200
VA Medical Center in Canandaigua 394-2000
VA Medical Center in Bath 607-664-4000
Vietnam Veterans of America National Office 800-882-1316
Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund 202-393-0090
National League of Families
POW/MIA Updates 202-223-6846
Richards House at VOC 506-9060
The Resource Center at VOC 546-4250
Stars & Stripes – The Flag Store 546-3524
National Caregivers Support Line 855-260-3274
Homeless Hotline
Veterans Benefits Hotline 800-273-8255

WEB SITES / EMAIL ADDRESSES
Vietnam Veterans Memorial at Highland Park
www.rochestervietnammemorial.org/The_Memorial
VVA New York State Council
www.nyyvietnemvets.org
Honor Flight
www.HonorFlightRochester.org