Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo paid tribute to local Vietnam Veterans during Monroe County’s annual “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.” The ceremony featured members of Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 20 of Rochester and was held to offer recognition and appreciation for all veterans who served during the Vietnam War.

“Monroe County is very fortunate to have so many outstanding veterans here in our community,” said Dinolfo. “Today is a celebration of their service, which has continued long after war’s end. To all of our Vietnam Veterans, on behalf of every Monroe County resident, I want to say ‘thank you’ and ‘job well done.’”

Nearly 27,000 veterans live in the six-county, greater-Rochester area, and many of them have joined Chapter 20 Vietnam Veterans of America. Serving as the largest, most active and longest standing local chapters of the National Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., the organization maintains a strong, united voice for resolving issues of importance to all Vietnam-era veterans.

Monroe County contains one of the country’s most moving dedication memorials for Vietnam Veterans: the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Highland Park. The two-acre memorial was opened to the public on September 8, 1996. Comprised of five components, the Walk of Honor, Medal of Honor Grove, Veterans Garden, Learning Center, and the Garden of Reflection, the memorial is dedicated to the 280 men from the Greater Rochester Region who were killed or went missing in the Vietnam War.

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