

HONORING AMERICA'S VETERANS

With Free Flights to Washington, DC to Visit and Reflect Together at Memorials Built in Their Honor

Rochester, New York March 30, 2022 Media Contact:

Publicity@HonorFlightRochester.org

Honor Flight Rochester Welcomes Home Mission 70 Veterans

Sunday, April 3rd at the Rochester International Airport

Honor Flight Rochester ("HFR") is very pleased to announce the resumption of flying operations with Mission 70 that will commence the weekend of April 2nd and 3rd. A total of six missions are planned for 2022 with three in the spring and three in the fall. As always, the safety of our veterans and volunteers is paramount. HFR is excited that the lengthy pause due to Covid is now over.

HFR Missions provide for our area veterans what has been described as "the trip of a lifetime." Veterans who were slated to fly pre-pandemic are at the top of the fly list and the notification process is underway. Mission 70 is comprised of fifty-seven veterans including: 3 WWII veterans, 5 Korean War veterans, 18 Cold War veterans and 31 Vietnam veterans. Their branches of service are Army (28), Navy (16), Air Force (8), Marines (3) and Coast Guard (2).

According to HFR President & CEO Rich Stewart: "I want to personally thank everyone for staying together with HFR during this unprecedented interruption. Our last mission flew two and a half years ago. This long pause was due to the Covid pandemic. Reactivation is an enormous task and our eight hundred person all-volunteer organization met every challenge. Thank you Veterans, thank you Volunteers and thank you Greater Rochester Community."

Since 2008 through Mission 70, HFR has flown 3,435 veterans funded through the generosity of our community including individuals, organizations, corporations and hundreds of volunteers.

DATE: Sunday, April 3rd, 2022

WELCOME CELEBRATION: Between 11:45 – 12:45 p.m., after the veterans have disembarked the plane

FLIGHT ARRIVAL TIME: Arrival 11:15 a.m. Sunday on Southwest Airlines Flight #1733

WHERE: Greater Rochester International Airport

EMCEE: Maureen McGuire – Award Winning Journalist

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Adam Bello – Monroe County Executive

NATIONAL ANTHEM: Abbie Riggins – Soloist, The Aquinas Institute of Rochester

BAND: Gates Keystone Club Police Pipes & Drums

COLOR GUARD: Webster Police 1000 Club

<u>DEPARTURE:</u> Saturday, April 2; Mission 70 departs the Greater Rochester International Airport at 5:35

a.m. The veterans and their guardians arrive at 3:30 a.m. sharp

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Honor Flight Rochester, Inc. PO Box 23581, Rochester, NY 14692 (585) 210-2115 www.HonorFlightRochester.org