



ROCK ISLAND
ILLINOIS

Mayor Dennis E. Pauley

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the national organization of Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc., is based in Washington D.C.; and
- WHEREAS,** our local Chapter 299 was incorporated in the City of Rock Island on January 1st, 1987. Long time Rock Island residents Larry Tschappat and James Kerr, Jr. were among the founding members and current president, Dan Carothers became a life member in July, 1987; and
- WHEREAS,** Chapter 299 has a terrific volunteer base in their membership, allowing them to provide numerous services to veterans, other nonprofit organizations, and the general public such as visiting Veteran hospitals and retirement homes, giving out food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas, and in April, 2013, they initiated their own scholarship program; and
- WHEREAS,** the many initiatives they have spearheaded in the past include: working with both Illinois and Iowa legislators to rename the I-280 bridge the John F. Baker Memorial Bridge in honor of chapter member and Medal of Honor recipient John Baker, working with Jumer's and local trade organizations to fund, build and dedicate a monument to honor veterans and current military personnel, hosting the annual Welcome Home Vets Dance, now in its eighth year, and partnering with the NAACP for the 2012 Illinois state convention to bring chapter member and Super Bowl Champion Rocky Bleier as keynote speaker; and
- WHEREAS,** as a result of their outstanding service to the community, the quality of life for our area veterans and the citizens of Rock Island has been enhanced and an outstanding example has been given to both current and future generations of what Civic Service is all about and, as such, the members of Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 299 are richly deserving of the Mayor's Civic Service Award for Outstanding Service to the City of Rock Island.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dennis E. Pauley, Mayor of the City of Rock Island, Illinois, do hereby proclaim Monday, July 22nd, 2013 to be

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 299 Day

in Rock Island. A day dedicated to unity and justice in the City of Rock Island for all residents of our community.

July 17, 2013

Date



Dennis E. Pauley
Dennis E. Pauley, Mayor