



VILLAGE OF GLENDALE HEIGHTS

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Glendale Heights Veterans Memorial Park

Glendale Heights, Illinois (September 23, 2014) – Veterans Memorial Park began as a vision with the local VFW Post 2377 membership, who desired a location to hold formal memorial ceremonies and a place to honor the service of our nation’s veterans – past, present and future, through reflection and education. Built in 2004, Veterans Memorial Park takes visitors on “A Soldier’s Journey” as they progress through the site. Educational signage and inscriptions of quotes engraved on the walls and walks educate the visitors on military events in history and people’s thoughts on war. As visitors make the transition from the pathway to the memorial space, the surrounding landscaping and stone seat walls welcome visitors into the space. Two rows of rock outcroppings surround the space, providing aesthetic value and additional seating during formal ceremonies. Within the memorial space, seat walls engraved with quotes that inspire thoughtful reflection on peace, freedom, war, honor and the ultimate sacrifice many veterans made. At the center of the space is a rotating granite ball fountain with the globe etched on it. On the base is inscribed: “We shall meanly lose or nobly save the last hope of the earth.” Rich paving surrounding the fountain was customized with engraved granite paving. The brick pavers in the space were also engraved with personal messages as part of fundraising efforts by the Village and the VFW.

Five Pillars of Freedom stand as sentries around the globe, marking each branch of our Nation’s military – Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard. Each granite pillar has cast bronze plaques of the military branch insignia, official hymn lyrics and the year of the inception. In 2013, VFW Post 2377 raised funds to purchase a digital device that now plays the instrumental TAPS each and every sunset throughout the year at Veterans Memorial Park.

The next event to be held at Veterans Memorial Park is the Veterans Day Ceremony on Tuesday, November 11th at 11:00 am that includes a flag and color guard presentation along with rifle salute and a tribute to our fallen warriors. Mayor Linda Jackson, the Glendale Heights Village Board of Trustees, the Glendale Heights VFW Post 2377, Glendale Heights Police Department and Glenside Fire Protection District will be present.

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