

NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY

WHEREAS, September 17th is a time to remember the brave service people who were prisoners of war (POW) and those who remain missing in action (MIA), as well as their families who hope for fate of their loved ones; and

WHEREAS, at present, nearly 82,000 Americans remain missing from conflicts dating back to World War II; and

WHEREAS, about seventy-five percent of those missing Americans are somewhere in the Asia-Pacific and more than 41,000 have been presumed lost at sea; and

WHEREAS, 2,330 POW/MIA still unaccounted for called New Jersey home; and

WHEREAS, efforts to find those missing Americans, identify them and bring them home to their loved ones are constant; and

WHEREAS, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) is an agency within the United States Department of Defense whose mission is to recover military personnel who are listed as prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA) from past conflicts; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, World War II pilot Newt Heisley designed the POW/MIA flag, which was made in black and white to represent sorrow, anxiety, and hope symbolized by the image of the gaunt man featured on it; and

WHEREAS, since 1982, the flag has flown just below the American Flag at the White House and is the only flag ever to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Collette J. Kennedy, Mayor of the Borough of Keyport, do hereby Proclaim September 17, 2021 National POW/MIA Recognition Day. As the Mayor of the Borough of Keyport, I also call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools in the Borough of Keyport to faithfully honor all Prisoners of War (POW) and those who remain missing in action (MIA), as well as their families and friends by taking a pause to acknowledge these brave Americans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I SET MY HAND AND SEAL ON THIS 17th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021

COLLETTE J. KENNEDY, MAYOR BOROUGH OF KEYPORT