

WHEREAS, on Memorial Day, our Nation takes on the solemn duty to remember the sacred list of brave Americans who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of freedom and security of our nation. Although we are prosperous and free, real dangers and problems still exist in the world, we pray for peace; and

WHEREAS, the blessings we enjoy today are not just accidents of history; they are an acumination of promises kept by generations of Americans, and paid for by their courage and sacrifice;

WHEREAS, the promise of freedom articulated in our Declaration of Independence was made real by the ragtag army of brave Americans who were prepared to die for their convictions. The promise of unity was kept during the Civil War by thousands of Americans, of all races and creeds, who were willing to preserve our Union;

WHEREAS, the promise of Democracy has been kept by the hundreds of thousands of Americans who fought and died in all wars on home soil and in foreign lands, our young men and women in uniform gave their lives to keep their promise to America: to defend our freedom, to preserve our values, and to advance ideals of Democracy.

WHEREAS, we too have promises to keep, we remember and honor all those gallant Americans who have served our country for the well being of our Nation and their fellow citizens. We express profound sympathy and gratitude to the families who have lost their sons and daughters in the service to America. We promise to keep faith with all those who have died for our country by remaining vigilant in our defense of freedom and democracy. We promise to always pray and strive for permanent peace in the world so that new generations of Americans will never have to know the horrors of war.

WHEREAS, there are many essential lessons for the young and the rest of us as well: Appreciate the blessings of freedom, recognize the power and virtue of sacrifice; respect those who gave everything on behalf of our common good. Nobel sacrifices will not be forgotten. Americans stand with the families who continue to suffer and we share in their sorrow and great pride. This day reminds us what we can achieve when we pull together as one town, and one country, respecting each other with all of our differences, but coming together, we can fight any battle or face any challenge.

WHEREAS, Memorial Day reminds us of our duty to honor not only those we have lost in the cause of freedom, but also, through attention and care, the service men and women who came back home and are now our veterans, as well as the families of those for whom there tragically has never been a final accounting; and

WHEREAS, Memorial Day reminds us of our obligation to take care of those who have taken care of us, and above all it reminds us of our responsibility that America remain a leading force for democracy, peace and prosperity so that men and women who wear our uniforms will never have to endure the losses in battle that our predecessors did.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Putrino, Mayor of the Borough of New Milford in respect and recognition of all the courageous men and women who have served in the United States military, those who will serve, and those who gave the supreme sacrifice, we call upon the people of New Milford to observe each Memorial Day as day of remembrance and prayer to honor our National heroes.

Mayor Michael Putrino
May 27, 2019