A message from **Kevin J Cook – USN (Ret.)**
Director of Veterans Services
Shared Services District of Milton and Randolph

I wanted to make sure there is no confusion on **Veterans Day Ceremonies on SAT Nov 11th, 2017**. While we have a day off on Friday, **Veterans Day is always celebrated on NOV 11th, no matter where it falls in the week**.

This is because Veterans Day was originally "Armistice Day", signifying the end of World War 1 on NOV 11th, 1918 at 11:00 a.m. (The 11th month, the 11th Day, the 11th hour when the guns went silent.) Next year, it will be the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1.

There has been a great effort by many of our colleagues behind the scenes in preparation of this day and I am confident this will be a great day for Milton.

This is an important and significant ceremony as we will be honoring all of our Vietnam War Veterans with the dedication of a **POW/MIA Chair** in Milton Town Hall. The POW/MIA Chair will be located in the front foyer of Town Hall and symbolize that as long as there are POW/MIAs from our nation's wars, there will be an open chair waiting for them in Milton.

The ceremony will begin promptly at 11:00 a.m., will feature patriotic music and speakers from military services along with color guards Police, Fire Department and the Milton High Band & Chorus.
We will have Vietnam Veterans there and distribute Town of Milton Challenge coins to all Vietnam Veterans in attendance.

To date, there are still1600 POW/MIAs from the Vietnam War. 39 of these POW/MIAs are from Massachusetts. We will have Milton School children read aloud the names of the 39 Massachusetts residents still listed as POW/MIA from the Vietnam War during our ceremony.

Prior to the ceremonies, **there will be a Veteran's Day Breakfast held at the Council on Aging building at 10 Walnut Street from 08:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m.** The proceeds from breakfast will go to **establishing a fund for Milton Veterans In Need.**
Tickets will be $7 and available at the door. The breakfast will be organized by ALL ARE WELCOME, an all-volunteer group that has helped other communities with similar functions. **Milton High School and Blue Hills Regional Technical High School students** will be serving food, helping to meet their community service requirements for graduation.

We are planning a great day for Milton to honor our Veterans and look forward to you joining us. Please share this message to all who would like to be part of Veterans Day 2017 in Milton.