



PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Joseph Sekerzicky Day
November 13, 2008

WHEREAS: Joseph Sekerzicky is a life-long New Jersey resident who served overseas in World War II in the Philippines as an airplane mechanic. He was then sent to Japan as part of an infantry unit and expected to be part of the invasion of Japan. However, the course of his military career changed when the United States dropped the atomic bomb. Mr. Sekerzicky served the rest of his time overseas as a military policeman in Yokohama, and

WHEREAS: The WWII veteran was discharged from military service directly from the hospital at Fort Dix where he had back surgery. His hospital visit meant he missed the ceremony where he would have received his service medals including the Bronze Star Medal, and

WHEREAS: Joseph Sekerzicky never told anyone he did not receive his medals and other awards. His daughter, Michelle Muir, learned of his missed opportunity while sorting through some family records. Over the next year she worked through the National Personnel Records Center to get her dad's service awards, and

WHEREAS: Joseph Sekerzicky is receiving his Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, American Service Medal, Asiatic Pacific Service Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Philippines Liberation Ribbon and Honorable Service Lapel Button WWII from Colonel Michael Christian during a special ceremony at Lutman Towers. The 89-year-old veteran and his wife, Annette, have called Luftman Towers home for the past four years, and

WHEREAS: The Middletown Township Committee wishes to take this opportunity to commend Joseph Sekerzicky for outstanding service to his country. It is the brave actions of soldiers such as Mr. Sekerzicky that allow Americans to retain their freedoms and way of life.

NOW

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Gerard P. Scharfenberger, and the entire Middletown Township Committee, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 13, 2008 as Joseph Sekerzicky Day in honor of his meritorious achievements.