



CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Proclamation

PROCLAMATION 2024-2

RECOGNIZING LUNAR NEW YEAR IN THE CENTRE REGION

WHEREAS, Lunar New Year is an important holiday and a time of joy and renewal for many Asian communities around the world and for Americans of Asian origin, including those of Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tibetan, Mongolian, Singaporean, Malaysian, and Filipino descent. Traditions across these cultures are varied, but all focus on celebrating and strengthening family and community bonds; and

WHEREAS, the Lunar New Year, also known as Spring Festival, is based on the Lunar calendar, which includes the Chinese zodiac, or Sheng Xiao, a repeating 12-year cycle of animal signs and their ascribed attributes; and

WHEREAS, though the animal signs can vary across cultures, the Lunar New Year marks the transition from one animal to the next, with February 9, 2024, ending the Year of the Rabbit, and February 10, 2024, starting the Year of the Dragon. The dragon is the fifth of the 12 zodiac animal signs, and those born in the Year of the Dragon are often seen as courageous and intelligent, and displaying tenacity, enthusiasm, and confidence; and

WHEREAS, Centre County greatly benefits from the creativity, enterprise, skills, and diverse heritage of our Asian Pacific Desi American (APIDA) residents, some of whom are new immigrants, while others are first, second, or even fifth-generation Americans; and

WHEREAS, over 10,000 Asian Pacific Desi American (APIDA) residents live, work, and play across Centre County communities, contributing to our economy and enriching the ethnic and social fabric of our community with multiple languages, cultures, and religious beliefs. The Centre Region greatly benefits from the creativity, enterprise, skills, and diverse heritage of our residents; and

WHEREAS, like all major holidays around the globe, the Lunar New Year honors the eternal bond of respect, honor, and love for family, community, and country and unites families over generations; and

WHEREAS, those celebrating Lunar New Year are our beloved friends and family, our cherished neighbors, and valued members of the Centre Region community; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Centre Region Council of Governments General Forum does hereby proclaim **February 10, 2024**, as **Lunar New Year** in the Centre Region and wishes everyone celebrating the holiday a Happy Lunar New Year. We encourage everyone to join in the spirit of celebration and reaffirm our community's commitment to family, diversity, mutual respect, and creating an inclusive environment of belonging for all our residents.

PROCLAIMED THIS Twenty-Sixth Day of February 2024, by the Centre Region Council of Governments General Forum, Centre County, Pennsylvania.

Attest:

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Norenberg".

Eric Norenberg
Executive Director, Centre Region COG

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald B. Servello".

Ronald Servello
Chair, Centre Region COG