



## PROCLAMATION

### *On the 30th Anniversary of the Independence of Ukraine*

WHEREAS, thirty years ago, on August 24, 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine formally declared an independent, sovereign, and democratic Ukrainian state, establishing the territorial integrity of Ukraine as sovereign and inviolable, further upheld by over 90% of Ukrainians in a national referendum in December of that same year; and

WHEREAS, for centuries the people of Ukraine yearned and struggled to achieve an independent state all the while preserving their culture, language, and self-identity; and,

WHEREAS the territorial integrity of Ukraine is sovereign and inviolable, and portions of Ukraine's territory are currently under Russian military occupation in contravention of international law, we honor the efforts and sacrifices of the Armed Forces of Ukraine to stave off further Russian military advances in Ukraine, and their readiness to defend and the entire European continent and its United States allies against further aggressive actions of the Kremlin; and

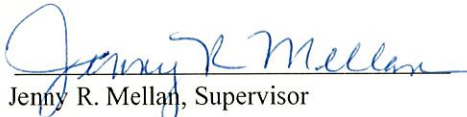
WHEREAS, thirty years ago, on June 30, 1991, the indigenous Crimean Tatar people of Ukraine restored their historic executive-representative body - Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people - which in 2016 was once again banned by Russian occupying forces and the Mejlis building in Simferopol seized by Russian law enforcement, as the language, rights, and culture of Ukraine's indigenous people remain under threat today, much as they were during the Soviet and Tsarist regimes; and,

WHEREAS, 75 years ago, in the immediate aftermath of World War II, when many thousands of Ukrainians found themselves beyond the borders of their homeland as refugees, nearly half between the ages of 10 and 29, upon the initiative of a group of older activists in the English, American and French occupied zones of Germany, the Ukrainian Youth Association (CYM) was reborn on July 6, 1946, and quickly spread to several continents, branching out from Europe into North and South America, and Australia, and again found a home in the place of the organization's founding – Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, Ukrainian Americans continue to make significant contributions to the cultural fabric of the United States while never forgetting about their rich history and heritage, more than 100 years since first immigrating to this great nation, with which they share the collective U.S.-Ukrainian values of freedom, democracy and the rule of law; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine has always had a special bond with the United States, with an over 20-year working relationship on U.S.-NATO deployments, with Ukraine sending servicemen and women to serve alongside U.S. forces in theaters such as Afghanistan and Iraq;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, "Jenny R. Mellan, Supervisor of the Town of Lumberland" on behalf of its citizens, do hereby proclaim this day/week August 24, 2021 as **Ukrainian Independence Day/Week** and request and urge all citizens to join in commemorating this important anniversary. On this day, let us recommit ourselves to helping the Ukrainian nation reclaim full sovereignty over its international borders and remember its heroes who sacrificed their lives to ensure freedom and happiness of the future generations.

  
Jenny R. Mellan, Supervisor

MOTION BY: Councilwoman Gingold    SECONDED BY: Deputy Supervisor Sherman  
Roll Call Vote: 5-0

ADOPTED BY THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF LUMBERLAND  
LAURIE TERRY, TOWN CLERK  
AUGUST 11, 2021