

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING NOVEMBER 24, 2022  
A NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING**

**Whereas**, in 1621, in Plymouth, on Massachusetts Bay, the Pilgrims established the custom of gathering together each year to express gratitude for the preservation of their community, and for the bountiful harvest over the previous year that their labors had brought forth in the new land. Joining with their neighbors, they feasted in unison and celebrated in a common offering of thanks; and

**Whereas**, in 1789, when President George Washington marked our nation's first Thanksgiving celebration, he prayed to our Creator for peace, union, and plenty. And in 1863, when our country was torn apart by civil war, President Abraham Lincoln reaffirmed this great national tradition by establishing its official observance, and reminding us that we are one nation "which might bend but shall not break"; and

**Whereas**, in the years since, Thanksgiving Day has come to be a part of the social fabric that unites Americans everywhere with their past, each other, and the magnificent cultural sweep of this storied nation; and

**Whereas**, today Americans gather with family and friends on Thanksgiving Day to recount the joys and blessings in their lives. On this day, Americans all across this great land express hope and give thanks for the productivity of their labors, the fertility of their harvests, the health and happiness of their loved ones, the strength of their liberties, and the safety of their land; and

**Whereas**, this inspiring holiday has become that most American of traditions, a day upon which residents and citizens everywhere express gratitude for the blessings of family, community, and home.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Thaddeus J. Kobylarz, Mayor of the Borough of Chatham, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 24, 2022 to be a "National Day of Thanksgiving" in our cherished town. On this day, let us reflect upon the many blessings we enjoy. Let us be mindful of the tremendous virtue in the lifting up of our friends, neighbors, and loved ones throughout the year. Finally, let us resolve to engage in daily acts of kindness and compassion, acts that will help bind us as a special community in this wonderful place we call "Chatham Borough."

This the 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of November 2022



BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

Thaddeus J. Kobylarz, Mayor