

## PROCLAMATION



## C.A.S.U.A.L. DAY

**WHEREAS**, colon and rectal cancers are one of the most frequently diagnosed cancers in Northeast Pennsylvania; and

**WHEREAS**, incidence and mortality rates in some areas are as much as 11% higher than the U.S. average; and

**WHEREAS**, about 75% of new cases of colon and rectal cancer occur in patients of average risk; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 515 new cases are diagnosed, and about 200 patients die from colon cancer each year in the counties of Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming combined; and

**WHEREAS**, the **Northeast Regional Cancer Institute** has been easing the burden of cancer in Northeastern Pennsylvania for over 30 years through community and patient services, hospital and practice support services, and cancer surveillance programs specifically designed to meet the unique needs of our region; and

**WHEREAS**, on **Thursday, March 31, 2022**, the **Northeast Regional Cancer Institute** will sponsor the 19<sup>th</sup> annual **C.A.S.U.A.L. (Colon Cancer Awareness Saves Unlimited Adult Lives) Day** to increase colon cancer awareness throughout Northeastern Pennsylvania; and

**WHEREAS**, **C.A.S.U.A.L. Day** was established by the family of Helen Phillips, who fought a courageous battle against colon cancer and died in the summer of 2002.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, We, the **Luzerne County Council** do hereby urge residents of Luzerne County and all of Northeastern Pennsylvania to be screened for early detection of colon cancer, participate and support the **Northeast Regional Cancer Institute** in its colon cancer awareness efforts, and designate the month of **March as Colon Cancer Awareness Month** and **March 31, 2022** as **C.A.S.U.A.L. Day in Luzerne County**.