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Celebrate Tết at Shadle Park Library: A Community Lunar New Year Celebration

Spokane Public Library, in partnership with the Vietnamese American Senior Association of Spokane (VASA), will host a Tết celebration on **Saturday, January 24 at 11:30am at Shadle Park Library**. The free, all-ages event invites the community to experience traditions honoring the Vietnamese Lunar New Year and welcoming the Year of the Horse.

Tết is the most important celebration in Vietnamese culture, rooted in a lunar calendar system thousands of years old. While Lunar New Year is celebrated across many Asian cultures, Tết reflects Vietnam's distinct history, traditions, and cultural identity.

"Tết is a time of family, gratitude, renewal, and joy. Bringing Tết into the library allows us to share these traditions in a welcoming, public space," said Mary Nguyen, General Secretary and Event Coordinator for VASA.

The Year of the Horse symbolizes strength, vitality, and forward movement. This year's celebration also coincides with America approaching its 250th birthday, adding an additional layer of reflection.

"We are proud Americans contributing to the cultural diversity of this great nation," Nguyen said. "Events like this help build understanding and connection across cultures."

The celebration at Shadle Park Library will include:

- An ancestry holiday offering ceremony led by VASA, including a temporary shrine constructed at Shadle Park Library for the occasion
- A lively lion dance
- Opportunities to take souvenir postcard photos with the lion and dancers
- Tastings of traditional Vietnamese foods
- A special gallery display of Vietnamese Tết folk art prints
- Drawings for many gift cards donated by Vietnamese and other Asian community members
- Good-luck money (lì xì) for the first 100 children (first come, first served)
- A bilingual Tết Magazine created to mark the occasion

For VASA, which has served the Spokane community for more than 25 years, hosting Tết at Shadle Park Library represents an important partnership.

"We deeply appreciate Shadle Park Library for providing a space where our community traditions can be shared openly," Nguyen said. "Tết is sacred, joyful, and meant to be experienced together."

"Let's have a memorable Tết in Spokane," Nguyen said. "Cung Chúc Tân Xuân! Happy New Year of the Horse!"