# The Asian Reporter

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# Welcome the Year of the Rabbit!



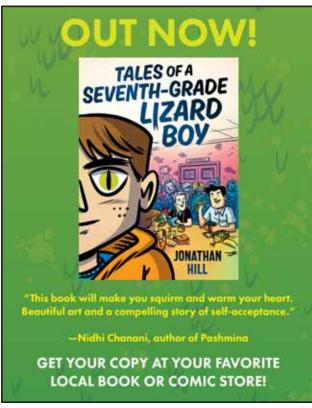


RABBIT HOPS IN! A street vendor displays different lucky charms, including golden colored Rabbits, while waiting for customers in the Chinatown area of Manila, the Philippines, in this February 1, 2011 file photo. This year's Lunar New Year celebration welcomes the Year of the Rabbit. Those born in the Year of the Rabbit are usually hospitable, honorable, and expressive individuals. The Asian Reporter's special section celebrating the Lunar New Year begins on page 10. (AP Photo/Pat Roque, File)



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The Asian Reporter is published on the first Monday each month.



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# Happy Lunar New Year!



**HOPPY NEW YEAR!** The Lunar New Year, which begins January 22, 2023 this year, marks the Year of the Rabbit. People born under the sign of the Rabbit are generally considered to be talented, well-mannered, and principled individuals who are sensitive and honorable. They are also known for their tendency to be secretive and timid, and can be gossipy and superficial. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung, File)

# What sign are you?

Find the year you were born. Those born in January or February should consult page 13.

```
\begin{array}{c} 1900,\,1912,\,1924,\,1936,\,1948,\,1960,\,1972,\,1984,\,1996,\,2008,\,2020 \longrightarrow \text{Rat} \\ 1901,\,1913,\,1925,\,1937,\,1949,\,1961,\,1973,\,1985,\,1997,\,2009,\,2021 \longrightarrow \text{Ox} \\ 1902,\,1914,\,1926,\,1938,\,1950,\,1962,\,1974,\,1986,\,1998,\,2010,\,2022 \longrightarrow \text{Tiger} \\ 1903,\,1915,\,1927,\,1939,\,1951,\,1963,\,1975,\,1987,\,1999,\,2011,\,2023 \longrightarrow \text{Rabbit} \\ 1904,\,1916,\,1928,\,1940,\,1952,\,1964,\,1976,\,1988,\,2000,\,2012,\,2024 \longrightarrow \text{Dragon} \\ 1905,\,1917,\,1929,\,1941,\,1953,\,1965,\,1977,\,1989,\,2001,\,2013,\,2025 \longrightarrow \text{Snake} \\ 1906,\,1918,\,1930,\,1942,\,1954,\,1966,\,1978,\,1990,\,2002,\,2014,\,2026 \longrightarrow \text{Horse} \\ 1907,\,1919,\,1931,\,1943,\,1955,\,1967,\,1979,\,1991,\,2003,\,2015,\,2027 \longrightarrow \text{Sheep} \\ 1908,\,1920,\,1932,\,1944,\,1956,\,1968,\,1980,\,1992,\,2004,\,2016,\,2028 \longrightarrow \text{Monkey} \\ 1909,\,1921,\,1933,\,1945,\,1957,\,1969,\,1981,\,1993,\,2005,\,2017,\,2029 \longrightarrow \text{Rooster} \\ 1910,\,1922,\,1934,\,1946,\,1958,\,1970,\,1982,\,1994,\,2006,\,2018,\,2030 \longrightarrow \text{Dog} \\ 1911,\,1923,\,1935,\,1947,\,1959,\,1971,\,1983,\,1995,\,2007,\,2019,\,2031 \longrightarrow \text{Pig} \\ \end{array}
```

### The Gregorian and Chinese lunar calendars

Animal	Gregorian	Chinese
Rabbit	January 22, 2023	Year 4721
Dragon	February 10, 2024	$Year\ 4722$
Snake	January 29, 2025	$Year\ 4723$
Horse	February 17, 2026	Year 4724
Sheep	February 6, 2027	Year 4725
Monkey	January 26, 2028	Year 4726
Rooster	February 13, 2029	Year 4727
Dog	February 3, 2030	Year 4728
Pig	January 23, 2031	Year 4729
Rat	February 11, 2032	Year 4730
Ox	January 31, 2033	Year 4731
Tiger	February 19, 2034	Year 4732

# A few animal characteristics

Rat: Honest, idealistic, practical, sentimental, argumentative, greedy Ox: Careful, diligent, eloquent, patient, eccentric, stubborn

Tiger: Ambitious, dynamic, honorable, loyal, critical, impatient
Rabbit: Artistic, considerate, intelligent, peaceful, hesitant, judgemental
Dragon: Energetic, faithful, generous, sincere, defensive, opinionated
Snake: Charitable, elegant, organized, reflective, anxious, possessive
Horse: Calm, confident, independent, talented, contradictory, moody
Sheep: Adaptive, creative, empathetic, polite, impractical, pessimistic
Monkey: Charming, sensitive, vivacious, wise, cunning, selfish
Rooster: Adventurous, courageous, funny, hardworking, cynical, vain
Dog: Brave, devoted, knowledgeable, trustworthy, disagreeable, strict
Pig: Affectionate, cheerful, obliging, optimistic, naïve, snobbish

Read your forecast for the Year of the Rabbit! Horoscopes by Madame Mingmei begin on page 14.

# The Rabbit hops in

The Year of the Rabbit arrives January 22, 2023, and its arrival will be celebrated by people throughout the world with varied traditions and celebrations. Considered by many to be the oldest calendar system in the world, the Chinese lunar calendar traces its origin back as far as 2637 B.C.E. Each year is represented by one of the 12 animals of the zodiac: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig.

Similar to many traditions, the observation dates back to an ancient legend: China's Jade Emperor wanted to determine the order of the calendar, so he called upon 12 animals in the kingdom to participate in a race. The order in which the animals finished determined the placement in the calendar. The Rabbit finished fourth, after the Rat, Ox, and Tiger. In 2023, we celebrate the delicate and intelligent Rabbit.

Similar to celebrations observed by multiple cultures, the Lunar New Year is known by many names. In Vietnam, it is known as *Tet Nguyen Dan*, while Korea celebrates *Sol*, Cambodia commemorates *Chaul Chnam Thmey*, and Thailand enjoys *Songkran*, which occurs in April. China recognizes the Spring Festival, *Chuen Jie*, when friends and family come together to wish one another happiness and pay respects to ancestors in a celebration that begins on the New Year and continues for 15 days.

#### Different lunar zodiac animals

Each culture has different traditions, and in the case of the lunar calendar, the animals that make up the yearly cycles sometimes differ. For example, in the Tibetan cycle, the Rat is referred to as the Mouse, the Rabbit is referred to as the Hare, and the Rooster as the Bird. In the Vietnamese tradition, the Rabbit is referred to as the Cat, the Sheep as Ram, and the Rooster as Cock.

Each animal recurs every 12 years, but in a different incarnation based on one of five elements — metal, water, wood, fire, and earth. For example, this year is the Year of the Water Rabbit, which was last celebrated 60 years ago in 1963. After exiting on February 9, 2024, the Water Rabbit will not return until 2083.

According to Chinese astrology, people born in the Year of the Rabbit (1915, 1927,

1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011, and 2023) are generally considered to be talented, well-mannered, and principled individuals who are sensitive and honorable. They are also known for their tendency to be secretive and timid, and can be gossipy and superficial. Water Rabbits — including those born between January 22, 2023 and February 9, 2024 — are popular, sympathetic, and relate to the feelings of others, but can sometimes be indecisive and overemotional.

#### **New Year traditions**

For many cultures, the arrival of the New Year marks a spiritual time in which celebrants give thanks at temples and pray for a year's good luck. Another widely practiced tradition involves sweeping homes clean of evil spirits by literally cleaning and sweeping dwellings of dirt. In addition, new clothing is often purchased in commemoration of the New Year.

The Spring Festival usually ushers in China's busiest travel season, a time when families journey great distances to celebrate with loved ones. Amidst the continuing coronavirus pandemic, people may choose to travel this year depending on the level of infection in their particular area. In Thailand, revellers typically get wet and wild during *Rohd Nam Songkran*, a festival in which celebrants dowse one another with water to bring rain in the coming year.

Worldwide celebrations also bring out many culinary traditions. Chinese traditionally eat rice cakes and dumplings, Vietnamese dine on a kind of rice cake called *banh trung*, and people in Korea prepare traditional foods, including *duk-kuk*, a rice cake soup.

Children celebrating the arrival of the Lunar New Year are greeted with many treats. In China and Vietnam, youngsters receive special red envelopes containing New Year's money (in China, the envelopes are called *hong bao*). Korean children usually bow to their parents and grandparents and, in return, receive freshly minted money (though not in red envelopes).

The next Lunar New Year will bring the Year of the Wood Dragon, from February 10, 2024 to January 28, 2025. Have a safe and prosperous Year of the Rabbit!

# The Year of the Rabbit

The Rabbit is the fourth animal of the lunar zodiac. Those born under the Rabbit sign are generally considered to be artistic, peaceful, intelligent individuals who are diplomatic, considerate, and affectionate. They are also known for their tendency to be secretive and at times can be indifferent. Rabbits born between January 22, 2023 and February 9, 2024 are Water Rabbits. The water element enhances a Rabbit's sensitive quality, so they tend to be fragile and emotional by nature. Water Rabbits are usually popular among friends and family, as they can relate to how others feel. Sometimes they become too attached or overemotional about the problems of others, though. Water Rabbits dislike conflict and confrontation.

# Rabbit facts

Year of the Rabbit: January 22, 2023 to February 9, 2024

Chinese Calendar Year: 4721

Rabbit Years: 1903, 1915, 1927, 1939, 1951, 1963, 1975, 1987, 1999, 2011, 2023

Characteristics: Those born in the Year of the Rabbit are expressive, diplomatic, and moderate. They are considerate and hospitable, but sometimes are hesitant and judgemental. Cultured and artistic, Rabbits decorate their home beautifully and are often well-dressed. Rabbit people find compromise to avoid conflict and try hard to keep the peace and make everyone happy.

**Best careers**: Rabbits tend to be good art collectors, librarians, lawyers, pharmacists, public relations executives, interior decorators, tailors, landlords, accountants, chemists, and politicians.

**Born in the Year of the Rabbit**: Confucius, César Chávez, Jet Li, Tiger Woods, Albert Einstein, Jaime Lim, Wayne Chan, Jason Lim.

# Ruby and the zodiac animals go on an adventure

By Vickie Lee Illustrations by Joey Chou Henry Holt and Co., 2017 Hardcover, 40 pages, \$17.99

By Jody Lim

The Asian Reporter

uby's Chinese New Year is a picture book aimed at children between four and eight years old, but both young and seasoned readers will enjoy this book. I read it to my five-year-old nephew and he thoroughly enjoyed the delightful story and colorful drawings.

On the first page, we meet Ruby, a bubbly child who finds out that her grandmother is unable to travel to visit her. For as long as she could remember, Ruby and her grandmother would celebrate the Lunar New Year together, "eating special foods and making drawings for

Soon after hearing the news, Ruby makes a decision: "If grandmother could not come to Ruby, Ruby would to go

"She's going to see her," my nephew chimes in enthusiastically.

On a red piece of paper, Ruby draws a picture of her family sitting at a table full of "noodles, dumplings, fish, vegetables, and holiday sweets," then folds the creation, places the gift in a red envelope, and heads out on an adventure.

Along her journey, Ruby meets a Cat and a Rat and asks them to join her in delivering the gift for her grandmother. Ruby and the two animals discuss how to travel across the meadow and pond. Rat's solution: "Let's ask Ox. She's so strong and dependable."

Soon they meet Tiger and Rabbit who are flying colorful streamers, and discover Dragon and Snake making red paper lanterns. "Ribbons," says my nephew, "and homemade decorations for the party!"

Next the group discovers Horse and Goat grazing in the

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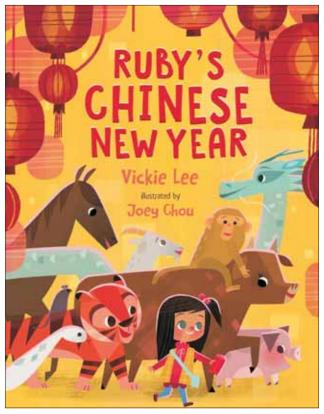
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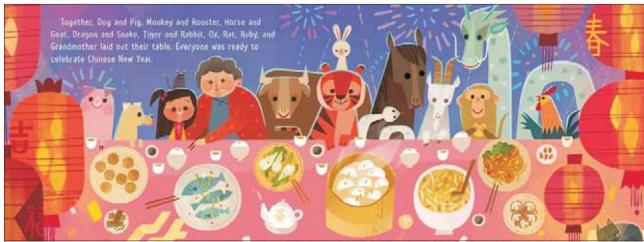
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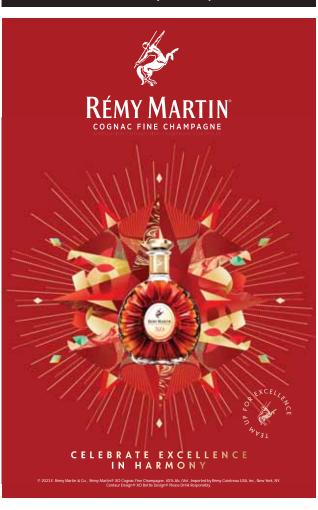
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# Ruby and the zodiac animals go on an adventure

Continued from page 11

meadow and Monkey and Rooster catching fish for the holiday feast. From the pond, they can *see* grandmother's house.

The next task? Crossing the pond. "With a leap and a bound, Ruby dove into the pond. She would swim to grandmother's! She was so close!"

But the red envelope falls into the pond, and the animals help retrieve Ruby's gift from the water.

"Oh no," cried Ruby. "It's ruined. Everything is ruined."

"She's sad because her card is broken," says my nephew.

"It's not ruined!" Rooster crows in the book.

The animals and Ruby continue on their way with the wet gift. Dog and Pig greet them upon arriving at their destination.

"Ruby! What a wonderful surprise," grandmother says.

"Everything is okay; they have each other," my nephew proclaims. (Such wise words from a preschooler.)

Of course, we all know how the tale ends for Ruby, her grandmother, and the animals — a lovely Lunar New Year gathering. But there is a small, sleepy twist; you'll have to read it to find out.

Ruby's Chinese New Year is filled with vibrant and lively images of Ruby and the animals of the zodiac. At the end of book, readers are also treated to the legend of the lunar zodiac, the traits of each animal, and directions on how to make a paper lantern, paper fan, and good luck banner.

Thank you, author Vickie Lee and illustrator Joey Chou, for an entertaining Lunar New Year book we can all enjoy.





**STORY + CRAFTS.** Ruby's Chinese New Year is a picture book written by Vickie Lee and illustrator Joey Chou. After reading the delightful story with colorful drawings, readers will find directions on how to make a paper fan, paper lantern, and good luck banner.



# Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit!

January 22, 2023 to February 9, 2024



# USPS issues Year of the Rabbit Lunar New Year stamp

A new Year of the Rabbit stamp is the fourth in the third series by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) celebrating the Lunar New Year. The Rabbit stamp will be dedicated on Thursday, January 12 at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco.

The Lunar New Year is one of the most important holidays of the year for many Asian communities around the world and is celebrated by people of Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Tibetan, Mongolian, Malaysian, Filipino, and other heritages.

In the United States and elsewhere, the occasion is celebrated in various ways on New Year's day and in the days that follow. Across many cultures, numerous traditions exist for ringing in a new year of good luck and prosperity.

In communities across the United States, people shop for food and other supplies, hang decorations, and ceremoniously clean their homes and streets to welcome the year with a fresh start. Many people also attend parades and special events.

### 2023 Rabbit stamp

Utilizing red, pink, and purple as the predominant colors — said to be lucky colors for individuals born during the Year of the Rabbit — the mask of the Rabbit in the new stamp's art incorporates elements



RABBIT STAMP. A new Year of the Rabbit stamp (left image) is part of a third series of Lunar New Year stamps issued by the U.S. Postal Service. Previous Rabbit stamps were issued in 1999 (top right) and 2011 (bottom right). (Images courtesy of the U.S. Postal Service)

with symbolic meaning.

Several of the patterns were created with the style of Asian textiles in mind as well as green flowers that represent the arrival of spring, which the Lunar New Year also signals in Chinese culture.

The crescent shape in the center of the Rabbit's head references the lunar calendar on which Lunar New Year is based and the celestial themes of the lunar zodiac.

Art director Antonio Alcalá designed the stamp and pane with original artwork by Camille Chew.

The 2023 Year of the Rabbit stamp is being issued in panes of 20. A forever stamp, it will





always be equal in value to the current first-class mail one-ounce price.

#### Year of the Rabbit

The Rabbit, also referred to as the Cat in some cultural traditions, is the fourth of the zodiac animal signs associated with the lunar calendar. Those born during the Year of the Rabbit are often viewed as artistic, considerate, intelligent, and peaceful. The Year of the Rabbit begins January 22, 2023 and ends February 9, 2024.

#### First stamp series began in 1992

Late artist Clarence Lee, an American of Chinese descent who was born in Honolulu, designed the original USPS series of Lunar New Year stamps.

The first stamp, a Year of the Rooster stamp worth 29 cents, was issued in 1992. The stamp had a paper-cut two-dimensional look. The 11 animals in the lunar zodiac followed each year. Another feature of this series were *kanji* characters written by a profes-

ritten by a profes-Continued on page 15



# **Lunar New Year** events



ILLUMINATED GARDEN. Lan Su Chinese Garden celebrations in honor of the Year of the Rabbit begin January 21 and end February 5. Festivities feature cultural performances, festival decorations, craft activities, audio tours, a scavenger hunt, demonstrations, workshops, and Lantern Viewing (pictured). (Photo courtesy of Lan Su Chinese Garden)

#### Tet Nguyen Dan at PSU

Jan 9, 4-6pm, Portland State University (PSU), Smith Memorial Student Union, Rooms 327/328/329 (1825 SW Broadway, Portland). Learn about the Vietnamese Lunar New Year and sample authentic Vietnamese New Year food at Tet Nguyen Dan, presented by the PSU Vietnamese Student Association. For info, call (503) 725-5855, e-mail <vsa.psu@gmail.com>, or visit <a href="https://pdx.campuslabs.com/engage/event/8641118">https://pdx.campuslabs.com/engage/event/8641118</a>.

#### "Tet 2023" at Gregory Heights Library

Jan 13, 3-4pm, Gregory Heights Library (7921 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland). Celebrate "Tet 2023," the Vietnamese Year of the Cat, at Gregory Heights Library. Participants are invited to learn fun facts and traditions about Tet at the event, which features craft and read-along activities in English and Vietnamese. Attendance is first come, first served. For info, call (503) 988-5123 or visit <a href="https://multcolib.org/events/t%E1%BA%BFt-2023-celeb">https://multcolib.org/events/t%E1%BA%BFt-2023-celeb</a> rating-vietnamese-year-cat/123268>.

### Tet Festival at Seattle Center

Jan 14-15, 11am-6:30pm (Sat-Sun), Seattle Center (305 Harrison St, Seattle). Attend Tet Nguyen Dan — the Vietnamese New Year — presented by Seattle Center Festál in partnership with Tet in Seattle. Tet Festival 2023 ushers in the Lunar New Year with live performances, lion dances, local food vendors, art exhibits, a fashion show, hands-on activities for children, a health fair offering free screenings and services for eye health, osteoporosis, blood pressure, diabetes, immunizations, and more, along with interpreter services. For info, call (206) 684-7200, or visit <www.seattlecenter.com> or <www.tetinseattle.org>.

### Vietnamese Lunar New Year Festival

Jan 21, 10am-5pm, SF Supermarket (5253 SE 82nd Ave, Portland). Attend the Vietnamese Lunar New Year Festival, a celebration presented by the Vietnamese Community of Oregon that features lucky red envelopes, a dragon dance, music performances, traditional dance, martial arts, awards for outstanding students, a raffle, vendors, and more. For info, call (503) 349-9232, e-mail <thaotvnco@gmail.com>, or visit <www.facebook.com/</pre> vncousa>.

### Chinese New Year Cultural Fair

Jan 21, 11am-5pm, Oregon Convention Center (777 NE Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Portland). Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit at the Chinese New Year Cultural Fair. The daylong event returns in person in 2023 after broadcasting virtually the past two years. The event, themed "Golden Rabbit Celebrating the New Year," includes traditional and contemporary Chinese cultural activities; Chinese folk dance and music; artists from the Oregon Chinese Artist Association showcasing Chinese calligraphy and more; booths offering food, beverages, products, and services; and more. For info, or to obtain the full schedule of events, call (503) 771-9560 or visit <www.portlandchinesetimes.com>.

### Chinese New Year at Lan Su

Jan 21-Feb 5 (daily), 10am-4pm, Lan Su Chinese Garden (239 NW Everett St, Portland). Ring in the Chinese Lunar New Year — the Year of the Rabbit — with cultural performances, festival decorations, craft activities, audio tours, a scavenger hunt, demonstrations, workshops, and more at Lan Su Chinese Garden. Festivities kick off January 21 with a lion dance performance at the garden's Entrance Plaza to usher in the Year of the Rabbit. The January 21 community event is free and open to the public and will also be streamed live

Continued on page 16

# **LUNAR CALENDAR**

When were you born?

Look up your date of birth to find out what sign and element apply to you!

```
Jan. 31, 1900 to Feb. 18, 1901 — Metal Rat
                                                        Feb. 13, 1964 to Feb. 01, 1965 — Wood Dragon
Feb. 19, 1901 to Feb. 07, 1902 — Metal Ox
                                                        Feb. 02, 1965 to Jan. 20, 1966 — Wood Snake
Feb. 08, 1902 to Jan. 28, 1903 — Water Tiger
Jan. 29, 1903 to Feb. 15, 1904 — Water Rabbit
Feb. 16, 1904 to Feb. 03, 1905 — Wood Dragon
Feb. 04, 1905 to Jan. 24, 1906 — Wood Snake
Jan. 25, 1906 to Feb. 12, 1907 — Fire Horse
Feb. 13, 1907 to Feb. 01, 1908 — Fire Sheep
Feb. 02, 1908 to Jan. 21, 1909 — Earth Monkey
Jan. 22, 1909 to Feb. 09, 1910 — Earth Rooster
Feb. 10, 1910 to Jan. 29, 1911 — Metal Dog
Jan. 30, 1911 to Feb. 17, 1912 - Metal Pig
Feb. 18, 1912 to Feb. 05, 1913 — Water Rat
Feb. 06, 1913 to Jan. 25, 1914 — Water Ox
Jan. 26, 1914 to Feb. 13, 1915 — Wood Tiger
Feb. 14, 1915 to Feb. 02, 1916 — Wood Rabbit
Feb. 03, 1916 to Jan. 22, 1917 — Fire Dragon
Jan. 23, 1917 to Feb. 10, 1918 — Fire Snake
Feb. 11, 1918 to Jan. 31, 1919 — Earth Horse
Feb. 01, 1919 to Feb. 19, 1920 — Earth Sheep
Feb. 20, 1920 to Feb. 07, 1921 — Metal Monkey
Feb. 08, 1921 to Jan. 27, 1922 — Metal Rooster
Jan. 28, 1922 to Feb. 15, 1923 — Water Dog
Feb. 16, 1923 to Feb. 04, 1924 — Water Pig
Feb. 05, 1924 to Jan. 24, 1925 — Wood Rat
Jan. 25, 1925 to Feb. 12, 1926 — Wood Ox
Feb. 13, 1926 to Feb. 01, 1927 — Fire Tiger
Feb. 02, 1927 to Jan. 22, 1928 — Fire Rabbit
Jan. 23, 1928 to Feb. 09, 1929 — Earth Dragon
Feb. 10, 1929 to Jan. 29, 1930 — Earth Snake
Jan. 30, 1930 to Feb. 16, 1931 — Metal Horse
Feb. 17, 1931 to Feb. 05, 1932 — Metal Sheep
Feb. 06, 1932 to Jan. 25, 1933 — Water Monkey
Jan. 26, 1933 to Feb. 13, 1934 — Water Rooster
Feb. 14, 1934 to Feb. 03, 1935 — Wood Dog
Feb. 04, 1935 to Jan. 23, 1936 — Wood Pig
Jan. 24, 1936 to Feb. 10, 1937 — Fire Rat
Feb. 11, 1937 to Jan. 30, 1938 — Fire Ox
Jan. 31, 1938 to Feb. 18, 1939 — Earth Tiger
Feb. 19, 1939 to Feb. 07, 1940 — Earth Rabbit
Feb. 08, 1940 to Jan. 26, 1941 — Metal Dragon
Jan. 27, 1941 to Feb. 14, 1942 — Metal Snake
Feb. 15, 1942 to Feb. 04, 1943 — Water Horse
Feb. 05, 1943 to Jan. 24, 1944 — Water Sheep
Jan. 25, 1944 to Feb. 12, 1945 — Wood Monkey
Feb. 13, 1945 to Feb. 01, 1946 — Wood Rooster
Feb. 02, 1946 to Jan. 21, 1947 — Fire Dog
Jan. 22, 1947 to Feb. 09, 1948 — Fire Pig
Feb. 10, 1948 to Jan. 28, 1949 — Earth Rat
Jan. 29, 1949 to Feb. 16, 1950 — Earth Ox
Feb. 17, 1950 to Feb. 05, 1951 - Metal Tiger
Feb. 06, 1951 to Jan. 26, 1952 — Metal Rabbit
Jan. 27, 1952 to Feb. 13, 1953 — Water Dragon
Feb. 14, 1953 to Feb. 02, 1954 — Water Snake
Feb. 03, 1954 to Jan. 23, 1955 — Wood Horse
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Jan. 21, 1966 to Feb. 08, 1967 — Fire Horse
Feb. 09, 1967 to Jan. 29, 1968 — Fire Sheep
Jan. 30, 1968 to Feb. 16, 1969 — Earth Monkey
Feb. 17, 1969 to Feb. 05, 1970 — Earth Rooster
Feb. 06, 1970 to Jan. 26, 1971 — Metal Dog
Jan. 27, 1971 to Jan. 14, 1972 — Metal Pig
Jan. 15, 1972 to Feb. 02, 1973 — Water Rat
Feb. 03, 1973 to Jan. 22, 1974 — Water Ox
Jan. 23, 1974 to Feb. 10, 1975 — Wood Tiger
Feb. 11, 1975 to Jan. 30, 1976 — Wood Rabbit
Jan. 31, 1976 to Feb. 17, 1977 — Fire Dragon
Feb. 18, 1977 to Feb. 06, 1978 — Fire Snake
Feb. 07, 1978 to Jan. 27, 1979 — Earth Horse
Jan. 28, 1979 to Feb. 15, 1980 — Earth Sheep
Feb. 16, 1980 to Feb. 04, 1981 — Metal Monkey
Feb. 05, 1981 to Jan. 24, 1982 — Metal Rooster
Jan. 25, 1982 to Feb. 12, 1983 — Water Dog
Feb. 13, 1983 to Feb. 01, 1984 — Water Pig
Feb. 02, 1984 to Feb. 19, 1985 — Wood Rat
Feb. 20, 1985 to Feb. 08, 1986 — Wood Ox
Feb. 09, 1986 to Jan. 28, 1987 — Fire Tiger
Jan. 29, 1987 to Feb. 16, 1988 — Fire Rabbit
Feb. 17, 1988 to Feb. 05, 1989 — Earth Dragon
Feb. 06, 1989 to Jan. 26, 1990 — Earth Snake
Jan. 27, 1990 to Feb. 14, 1991 — Metal Horse
Feb. 15, 1991 to Feb. 03, 1992 — Metal Sheep
Feb. 04, 1992 to Jan. 22, 1993 — Water Monkey
Jan. 23, 1993 to Feb. 09, 1994 — Water Rooster
Feb. 10, 1994 to Jan. 30, 1995 — Wood Dog
Jan. 31, 1995 to Feb. 18, 1996 — Wood Pig
Feb. 19, 1996 to Feb. 07, 1997 — Fire Rat
Feb. 08, 1997 to Jan. 27, 1998 — Fire Ox
Jan. 28, 1998 to Feb. 05, 1999 — Earth Tiger
Feb. 06, 1999 to Feb. 04, 2000 — Earth Rabbit
Feb. 05, 2000 to Jan. 23, 2001 — Metal Dragon
Jan. 24, 2001 to Feb. 11, 2002 — Metal Snake
Feb. 12, 2002 to Jan. 31, 2003 — Water Horse
Feb. 01, 2003 to Jan. 21, 2004 — Water Sheep
Jan. 22, 2004 to Feb. 08, 2005 — Wood Monkey
Feb. 09, 2005 to Jan. 28, 2006 — Wood Rooster
Jan. 29, 2006 to Feb. 17, 2007 — Fire Dog
Feb. 18, 2007 to Feb. 06, 2008 — Fire Pig
Feb. 07, 2008 to Jan. 25, 2009 — Earth Rat
Jan. 26, 2009 to Feb. 13, 2010 — Earth Ox
Feb. 14, 2010 to Feb. 02, 2011 — Metal Tiger
Feb. 03, 2011 to Jan. 22, 2012 — Metal Rabbit
Jan. 23, 2012 to Feb. 09, 2013 — Water Dragon
Feb. 10, 2013 to Jan. 30, 2014 — Water Snake
Jan. 31, 2014 to Feb. 18, 2015 — Wood Horse
Feb. 19, 2015 to Feb. 07, 2016 — Wood Sheep
Feb. 08, 2016 to Jan. 27, 2017 — Fire Monkey
Jan. 28, 2017 to Feb. 15, 2018 — Fire Rooster
Feb. 16, 2018 to Feb. 04, 2019 — Earth Dog
Feb. 05, 2019 to Jan. 24, 2020 — Earth Pig
Jan. 25, 2020 to Feb. 11, 2021 — Metal Rat
Feb. 12, 2021 to Jan. 31, 2022 — Metal Ox
Feb. 01, 2022 to Jan. 21, 2023 — Water Tiger
Jan. 22, 2023 to Feb. 09, 2024 — Water Rabbit
Feb. 10, 2024 to Jan. 28, 2025 — Wood Dragon
Jan. 29, 2025 to Feb. 16, 2026 — Wood Snake
Feb. 17, 2026 to Feb. 05, 2027 — Fire Horse
Feb. 06, 2027 to Jan. 25, 2028 — Fire Sheep
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# Give blood.

Jan. 24, 1955 to Feb. 11, 1956 — Wood Sheep

Feb. 12, 1956 to Jan. 30, 1957 — Fire Monkey

Jan. 31, 1957 to Feb. 17, 1958 — Fire Rooster

Feb. 18, 1958 to Feb. 07, 1959 — Earth Dog

Feb. 08, 1959 to Jan. 27, 1960 — Earth Pig

Jan. 28, 1960 to Feb. 14, 1961 — Metal Rat

Feb. 15, 1961 to Feb. 04, 1962 - Metal Ox

Feb. 05, 1962 to Jan. 24, 1963 — Water Tiger

Jan. 25, 1963 to Feb. 12, 1964 — Water Rabbit

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# Year of the Rabbit forecasts

We hope you enjoy Madame Mingmei's Year of the Rabbit forecasts.

The first prediction applies to each animal sign (Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, Pig) for the new lunar year. Each prediction is followed by an additional forecast specific to one's element (metal, water, wood, fire, earth).

To find out what sign and element apply to you, turn to page 13 and look up your date of birth.

By Madame Mingmei

Special to The Asian Reporter

# The Rat

Following a good Year of the Tiger, the Year of the Rabbit will bring with it some ups and downs. Rats will



need to use their dynamic, imaginative, and calm traits to make the best of opportunities that present themselves. Being quick-witted, practical, patient, and open-minded will help Rats weather any bumps in the road. Also be considerate of

the feelings and thoughts of family and friends.

#### Element specific:

- Metal Rat: Ambitious Metal Rats should be open to compromise and keep their anger in check this year.
- Water Rat: Utilize your accommodating nature in 2023 to set yourself up for 2024.
- Wood Rat: Wood Rats need to burrow into their creative side to find success during the Year of the Rabbit.
- Fire Rat: Energy and idealism is the key to success this Rabbit Year.
- Earth Rat: Earth Rats who hold onto their sense of order and discipline will have some success in 2023.

# The Ox

The Year of the Rabbit will be a lucky one for reliable and consistent Oxen. If a new opportunity arises, plow



into it and seriously consider its merits. Recognition for your talent, hard work, and diligence may be waiting for the clear-thinking, organized Ox. 2023 may be a busy one, but Oxen who contain their hot tempers should achieve their goals.

 $Element\ specific:$ 

- Metal Ox: Remain hardworking, as always, but avoid being stubborn.
- Water Ox: Flexibility and practicality are important characteristics to have this Rabbit Year.
- Wood Ox: The Year of the Rabbit is a good opportunity for a sociable Wood Ox to blossom and grow.
- Fire Ox: Honest and fair Fire Oxen should have a productive year; remember to try not to offend those around you.
- Earth Ox: To obtain the security you prefer, stay principled and loyal during the 2023 Year of the Rabbit.

# The Tiger

The Rabbit Year will be a lucky one for the enthusiastic



and engaged Tiger. Be generous with your time, idealistic in your pursuits, and open-minded to new opportunities to maximize your blessings. During your lucky year, remember also to show compassion toward friends and family to help strengthen

those important relationships.

### Element specific:

- Metal Tiger: The active and passionate Metal Tiger should exercise confidence and flexibility in 2023.
- Water Tiger: Take on Rabbit's Year clearly and objectively to maximize your lucky year.
- Wood Tiger: The charming Wood Tiger should enjoy an active social life this year.
- Fire Tiger: Optimistic and capable Fire Tigers should contain their explosive tempers during the Year of the Rabbit.
- Earth Tiger: The Earth Tiger will roar in 2023, as long as they are fair and responsible.

## The Rabbit

2023 is your year, Rabbit, and it's a year of hope, so go



for it! Use your intellect, learned experiences, and craftiness to help pursue your goals and aspirations. Act diplomatically when encountering complicated situations, do not allow your tendency to be indecisive hold you back, and always remain

modest. While it should be a good year, remember to guard wealth you've accumulated.

Element specific:

- Metal Rabbit: Don't be timid in 2023, Metal Rabbit. Gather your confidence and try something new.
- Water Rabbit: Being sensitive is a good trait for the Water Rabbit; use it to sympathize with others' feelings.
- Wood Rabbit: Generous and easygoing Wood Rabbits should use their creative and adventurous side to achieve happiness in 2023.
- **Fire Rabbit**: The affectionate Fire Rabbit should rein in their moody side by utilizing leadership skills.
- Earth Rabbit: Earth Rabbits should embrace their decisive yet practical traits to achieve their goals.

# The Dragon

The enthusiastic and principled Dragon will experience



success and have attention focused on them this year, as long as they hold back their impatient and defensive tendencies. If clear goals are set, progress and success are likely. Dragons who are courageous and visionary will have the tools necessary to

overcome any roadblocks in 2023.

Element specific:

- Metal Dragon: The expressive and determined Metal Dragon should set new goals, big or small, this Rabbit Year
- Water Dragon: A balanced and optimistic Water Dragon needs to pay close attention to the tasks that are actually attainable.
- Wood Dragon: The Wood Dragon should keep logic and reason at the forefront when making decisions.
- Fire Dragon: Perfectionist Fire Dragons will need to set their impatience aside during the Year of the Rabbit.
- Earth Dragon: Cooperative and sociable Earth Dragons should focus on family and friends this year.

# The Snake

A lucky year is in store for the Snake, who had a tough



Year of the Tiger. New experiences may be on the horizon in 2023, so evaluate and analyze them with the wisdom you're known for. Remember to be determined and sympathetic when making important decisions, as those who display

self-doubt may have tepid results. Lastly, trust your gut to guide you through your lucky Rabbit Year.

### Element specific:

- Metal Snake: A chance to travel may be presented to the opportunistic Metal Snake; set aside funds and start planning for the possible adventure.
- $\blacksquare$  Water Snake: Use your voice this year to help others. When you speak, people listen.
- Wood Snake: Find a hobby that is right for you, as it may serve as a great outlet during 2023.
- **Fire Snake**: Keep your family and friends close, as a fun and interesting year may be in store.
- Earth Snake: Seek advice from a trusted friend or family member.

# The Horse



The Year of the Rabbit may bring tough luck to the anxious or hard-nosed Horse. The calm, confident, and sincere Horse should work very hard to make a rough year a little better. During this Rabbit Year, flexible Horses may be able to turn an unlucky event into good fortune for their family and friends. The year will also have good times; energetic Horses should gallop toward these events and savor them.

Element specific:

- **Metal Horse**: Focusing on good health is an important goal for the stubborn Metal Horse.
- Water Horse: The Water Horse should strive to overcome inconsistency to experience success.
- Wood Horse: The high-spirited Wood Horse should be kind to others and put their best hoof forward in 2023.
- Fire Horse: Fire Horses should organize their personal and professional schedules to stay on top of everything.
- Earth Horse: Earth Horses should find a hobby that is a good fit for them, then step back from some of their responsibilities to occasionally enjoy it.

# The Sheep

Tough luck is in store for the impractical Sheep during



the Year of the Rabbit. Adaptable, candid, and imaginative Sheep need to shed illogical thinking to shear off the chance of a rocky year. Be sure to spend time with the important people in your life. In addition, pay attention to your health and

listen to what your body is telling you.

Element specific:

- Metal Sheep: The shy or sensitive Metal Sheep should work toward harmony and security during the Rabbit Year.
- Water Sheep: Opportunistic Water Sheep should shed their fear of change.
- Wood Sheep: Opportunity may come knocking; be sure to act promptly after consulting trusted friends.
- Fire Sheep: Fire Sheep should remain focused this Rabbit Year in order to finish any projects they start.
- Earth Sheep: Always give your best to make each day a little better for those around you.

# The Monkey

The Year of the Rabbit may be a bit rough for the deceit-



ful Monkey, but an inventive, enthusiastic, and sensitive Monkey may lessen its intensity. Monkeys will need to work very hard to have some stability this year. Problemsolving Monkeys will thoroughly analyze new opportunities and chances that arise

and be careful about all aspects of their life in 2023.

Element specific:

- Metal Monkey: A big decision is on the horizon. Be rational and confident when evaluating the potential options and outcomes.
- Water Monkey: Water Monkey should cultivate healthy relationships in 2023. Toxic ones may bring you down, so be sure to remove them.
- Wood Monkey: This Rabbit Year may present interesting offers and opportunities. Be cautious.
- **Fire Monkey**: Remember, Fire Monkey, that without clear targets, not much is accomplished.
- Earth Monkey: Earth Monkeys should focus on the safety of themselves and others to avoid potential incidents.

## The Rooster

Thoughtless Roosters will endure a rocky Year of the



Rabbit. Honest, charitable, and brave Roosters will need to work really hard to overcome the challenges that may come their way. The communicative nature and generous spirit of Roosters will be the key to having a productive year, as will

prompt and clear thinking.

 $Element\ specific:$ 

- Metal Rooster: An important decision will descend upon you this year; seek advice if needed.
- Water Rooster: Take time in 2023 to rejuvenate relationships and friendships from the past.

Continued on page 15

# **Year of the Rabbit** forecasts

Continued from page 14

- Wood Rooster: Wood Roosters should act courageously this year and continue to be good troubleshooters.
- Fire Rooster: Fire Roosters should listen very carefully to family and friends.
- Earth Rooster: The Year of the Rabbit may become full of responsibilities, both new and old.

# The Doa

After a lucky Tiger Year, the Year of the Rabbit may



bring tough luck to the distrustful Dog. Idealistic and responsible Dogs will be well served by barking, working hard, and acting unselfishly. Being helpful and loyal to others may aid dutiful Dogs in their pursuit to keep 2023 stable and productive.

Element specific:

- Metal Dog: Surround yourself with positive people this year. Don't be nervous.
- Water Dog: 2023 may end up being one in which you must work really hard to achieve your goals.
- Wood Dog: It would be better for Wood Dogs to avoid big changes this year.
- Fire Dog: Take on an unforeseen task this Rabbit Year, as it may enlighten you to new things.
- Earth Dog: Be cautious when taking on a new project during the Year of the Rabbit.

# The Pig

Rough times may be around the corner for the



overconfident Pig. Self-sacriforgiving, knowledgeable Pigs may avoid the trough of misfortune by finding motivation and focusing on goals priorities. In addition, sensible and caring Pigs should spend time focusing on

personal and familial relationships.

Element specific:

- **Metal Pig**: Help raise up those around you in 2023. Your efforts will not only help them, but also bring you joy and satisfaction.
- Water Pig: Investing in education or expanding your horizons may help you reach your goals.
- Wood Pig: The Rabbit Year may present many activities to keep you busy and also help plan for the future.
- Fire Pig: Meeting problems head on during the Year of the Rabbit will help put your life in order.
- Earth Pig: Earth Pigs should focus on a specific skill to create a solid foundation for 2024.

Illustrations by Jonathan Hill

# **USPS** issues Year of the Rabbit **Lunar New Year stamp**

Continued from page 12 sional calligrapher. The series ended in 2005.

After the initial series of stamps concluded, members of the Asian community urged USPS to continue its issuance of Lunar New Year stamps annu-

#### Second series released in 2008

The second set of stamps was called the Celebrating Lunar New Year series and the first stamp was released in 2008.

Instead of following the route of illustrating the zodiac animals, artist Kam

Mak chose to depict symbolic objects of Lunar New Year celebrations — a red lantern, the lion dance, firecrackers, drums, lucky bamboo, and more.

The stamps also featured small animal illustrations, in a traditional papercutout style, by Lee, the artist who created the first stamp series in 1992. Mak designed the series with art director Ethel Kessler.

To learn more, or to purchase the new Lunar New Year stamp, call 1-800-STAMP24 (1-800-782-6724) or <www.usps.com/stamps>.

# Scheduling your updated booster

The updated booster targets the Omicron subvariants (BA.4 and BA.5) and the original COVID-19 virus strain.

### When CAN I get it?

At least two months since your last shot, whether that is completion of an initial COVID-19 vaccine series or an original (monovalent) booster dose.

# When SHOULD I get it?

When you are able, make time to get your booster

If you or your loved ones are high risk due to your health or exposure to crowds (through school, work, or a hobby), it is important to get your booster as soon as you can.

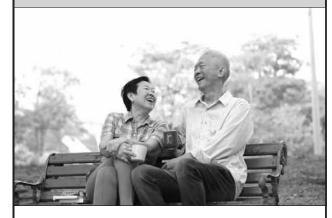
If you are at lower risk, you should plan to get the shot before cold weather sets in and activities move indoors. Just be sure to schedule a time and add it to your calendar so you don't forget.



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Have a safe and prosperous Year of the Rabbit!



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# Janice V

link to view our last two issues.

# Read

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# Do you need to talk?

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### **Mental Health Resources**

The Safe + Strong Helpline: 1-800-923-4357

Reach Out Oregon: 1-833-732-2467

The National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988

Community Counseling Solutions: 1-800-698-2392

# Support for Teens

Oregon Youth Line: 1-877-968-8491 or text "teen2teen" to 83986

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Senior Loneliness Line of Oregon: 503-200-1633

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most don't know they have it. You can take action and reduce your risk of developing type 2 diabetes. Take a free screening or talk to your doctor.

Diabetes **risk factors** include:

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# Lunar New Year events



**DRAGON DANCE PARADE.** The Lunar New Year Dragon Dance Parade & Celebration on January 28 starts at 10:00am at the Portland Chinatown Museum with lion dances, drummers, and a 150-foot dragon. The parade then travels through downtown Portland and ends at the Oregon Historical Society Museum. (AR Photo/Jan Landis, File)

Continued from page 13

on Lan Su's social media accounts. The first 500 visitors to the garden receive *hong bao*, or traditional lucky red envelope at entry. The 16-day festival, which ends February 5, includes Chinese brush painting, family craft activities, a chopstick challenge, foods of the New Year, a lion dance workshop, a Chinese calligraphy workshop, and more. Another highlight of the celebration is Lunar New Year Lantern Viewing — illuminated hanging red lanterns and large lantern sculptures — which is held on the evenings of January 26 to 29 and February 2 to 5 (separate admission tickets are required). For info, to obtain a complete schedule of activities, or to purchase Lantern Viewing tickets, call (503) 228-8131 or visit <www.lansugarden.org/things-to-do/events/lunar-new-year>.

#### Lunar New Year Dragon Dance Parade & Celebration

Jan 28, 10am-1pm, NW Davis Street near the Portland Chinatown Museum (127 NW Third Ave, Portland). Kick off the Lunar New Year with a mile-long parade in Portland coordinated by the Oregon Historical Society and numerous community partners. The Lunar New Year Dragon Dance Parade & Celebration starts at the Portland Chinatown Museum with lion dances, drummers, and a 150-foot dragon, followed by a parade that marches under the China Gate and through downtown Portland to the Oregon Historical Society Museum (1200 SW Park Ave, Portland) for a joyous conclusion. Members of the community who are interested in volunteering for the event should e-mail  $\verb| <info@portlandchinatown.org>. For info, call (503)|$ 222-1741 or (503) 224-0008, or visit <www.ohs.org> or <www.portlandchinatownmuseum.org>.

### 2023 Lunar New Year Fair

Jan 28, 10am-3pm, Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). Teb 5, 5-9pm, Happ Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit at the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience's family-friendly Lunar New Year Fair. Events include a live lion dance performance by LQ Lion Dance in front of the museum entrance on King Street to bring good luck for the new year; crafts, games, and art; exploration of a new Lunar New Year exhibit; and a storytime session about lion dancing. Indoor activities require paid museum admission. For info, call (206) 623-5124 or visit

Northwest Charles Feb 5, 5-9pm, Happ Ave, Portland). Attendance in front of a new to purchase tickets (but 558-5492, e-mail common common

### Asian Spring Festival Celebration

Jan 28, noon-5pm & 6:30-9pm, Seattle Center (305



Harrison St, Seattle). Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit with friends and family at a Spring Festival celebration organized by the Seattle Chinese Association and Chinese Microsoft Employee Network. A food court, an afternoon performance, games, gifts, a photo booth with traditional Chinese outfits, and more are featured during the afternoon portion of the event, which takes place from noon to 5:00pm. The evening gala held at McCaw Hall is held from 6:30pm to 9:00pm. For info, or to buy tickets, call (206) 684-7200 or visit <www.seattlecenter.com>.

#### VCA Chinese New Year

Jan 28, 5-7pm (light meal & games), 7-9pm (performances), Skyview High School (1300 NW 139th St, Vancouver, Wash.). Enjoy food, performances, and more at the Vancouver Chinese Association's (VCA) Chinese New Year celebration. For info, or to purchase tickets (required), e-mail <vca\_usa@yahoo.com> or visit <https://vca-wa.org/vca-2023-new-years-gala>. For addresses of businesses selling tickets in person, visit <www.facebook.com/vcausa>.

### 2023 Lunar New Year Cake Time

Jan 29, 2-4pm, Virtual. Welcome the new year safely online at the Lunar New Year Cake Time event, presented by Multnomah County Library. For info, call (50) 988-5123 or visit <events.multcolib.org/. To register, visit <a href="https://multcolib.org/library-location/online">https://multcolib.org/library-location/online</a>.

#### "Lunar New Year: Altars, Ancestors, Traditions, Blessings"

Jan 29, 2022-Jan 8, 2023, 10am-5pm (Tue-Sun), Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (719 S King St, Seattle). Learn about how different cultures observe the Lunar New Year at "Lunar New Year: Altars, Ancestors, Traditions, Blessings," a new exhibit at The Wing. For info, call (206) 623-5124 or visit <www.wingluke.org>.

### Northwest China Council New Year Gala

Feb 5, 5-9pm, Happy Dragon Restaurant (707 NE 82nd Ave, Portland). Attend the Northwest China Council's annual Chinese New Year Gala ringing in the Year of the Rabbit. The event features a 10-course banquet, silent auction, performances, door prizes, and music. For info, or to purchase tickets (by February 3 at 5:00pm), call (503) 558-5492, e-mail <info@nwchina.org>, or visit <www.nwchina.org>.



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# First of all, I don't even like carrots

By Wayne Chan

The Asian Reporter

have been living a lie.

I'm not who I thought I was. Apparently, everything I knew about myself is now in question.

It wasn't intentional. I would have been fine if I had never found out the truth about my identity. But somehow, someway, I'm gonna have to live with myself.

You see, I am not a Dragon.

I'm reminded every Lunar New Year, which this year begins January 22. In 2023, we are celebrating the Year of the Rabbit.

For years, actually decades, I had the firm belief I was born in the Year of the Dragon. Why would I think this? Well, when I was a kid, there was no internet. Most people learned information at school, or if they wanted to find out something specific, they read an encyclopedia.

Fortunately for me, I was reminded that I was born in the Year of the Dragon every time my parents took me to their favorite Chinese restaurant.

When we sat down at our favorite booth, it was right there on the table in front of us — a paper placemat with red lettering listing various birth years and how one's birth year correlated to an animal in the lunar zodiac.

Looking at the year I was born, it was as plain as day. I was born in the Year of the Dragon.

I was a Dragon, and this was way before the series "Game of Thrones" made them a cool thing.

And who wouldn't want to be a Dragon? Now that the internet is accessible nearly everywhere, it's easy to expand on the characteristics of the Dragon. The Dragon is "the most vital and powerful beast in the Chinese zodiac." Also, below are characteristics of people born in the Year of the Dragon. (I couldn't help comparing them to my own personality.)

Dragons have:

- 1. Innate courage. OK ... me.
- 2. Tenacity. Yup, me again. Keep going.

3. Intelligence. OK, now I'm starting to blush. Stop it! With all of my natural, inherent intelligence, I set out to learn more about Dragons and the lunar zodiac.

It turns out that with each new year, the celebration of each animal is also a time when that animal is at its most robust and virile. And since my birthday is in early February, not only was I a Dragon, but a Dragon at the top of its game. A truly beautiful and magnificent creature.

Please, please, stop with the compliments. Yes, I'm a powerful, magnificent Dragon at the height of my powers, but I'm just like everyone else — just stronger and more magnificent.

This is what I believed for decades, and to say the least, I was perfectly fine with it.

Until.

Until I got married.

I remember it vividly. My beautiful wife Maya and I went to dinner at a Chinese restaurant, As if right on cue, there was the usual lunar zodiac placemat. It was time for me to regale my wife with my life story and how lucky she was to be married to a courageous, virile, and brilliant Dragon. I pointed at my year of birth and proudly exclaimed, "Yup, I'm a Dragon."

nfo, or Then Maya picked up her smartphone. After a little 1 (503) research, she said, "Wait, you were born on February 6, visit and that year, the lunar new year began on February 13.

"WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!?" I said.

You're not a Dragon. You were born seven days before the new year that year. That means, you're ... a Rabbit!

"WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!?" I said. Again. A Rabbit? How can I be a Rabbit? I was a strong, virile,

courageous Dragon just two minutes ago!

What makes it worse, is that if I really was born at the tail end of the Rabbit Year, I'm not even a strong, energetic Rabbit. I'm basically a Rabbit at the end of its rope. I'm a Rabbit on its deathbed. I'm a bunny on life

In shock and in a panic, I looked up the characteristics of the Rabbit. It turns out that people born in the Year of the Rabbit have soft and tender personality traits. Well, of course they're soft and tender! You're a Rabbit! You'd be soft and tender too if you were a Rabbit on its deathbed on life support!

My whole life is in question. I love my wife, but she cannot be right. I need a second opinion.

Anyone know a reliable lunar zodiac specialist?

For timely information about upcoming events, visit <a href="www.facebook.com/TheAsianReporter">www.facebook.com/TheAsianReporter</a>>.