

Juneteenth Proclamation

- Whereas** President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, as the nation approached its third year of bloody civil war.
- And Whereas** the proclamation declared “that all persons held as slaves” within the rebellious states “are, and henceforward shall be free”
- And Whereas** On June 19, 1865 General Gordon Granger led thousands of federal troops to Galveston, Texas to announce that the civil war has ended, and that slaves had been freed.
- And Whereas** Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration honoring the end of slavery in the United States of America.
- And Whereas** In 1996 the first legislation to recognize “Juneteenth Independence Day” was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives.
- And Whereas** On June 18, 2020 Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear issued and signed a formal proclamation recognizing June 19th as Juneteenth in Kentucky.....and affirmed his intent to request the next general assembly declare Juneteenth an official state holiday in the Commonwealth of Kentucky.
- And Whereas** Recognition of Juneteenth reflects the Commonwealth’s resounding belief of liberty and equality for every citizen.
- And Whereas** The citizens of Hopkinsville and Christian County Kentucky support and embrace our Governor’s proclamation and celebrate our diversity and common heritage.

Now, Therefore, I, Wendell A. Lynch Mayor of Hopkinsville Kentucky and Steve Tribble County Judge Executive of Christian County Kentucky.

Do hereby declare June 19th as Juneteenth Day in Hopkinsville and Christian County Kentucky and encourage all citizens to pause, reflect and embrace our shared journey of Freedom.

Signed this 19th Day of June, 2020




Wendell A. Lynch – Mayor




Steve Tribble – County Judge Executive