



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: June 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Proclamation – “Juneteenth” World Wide Celebration

Report in Brief

Last year staff was approached to submit a Proclamation for the City Council’s consideration for the “Juneteenth” Celebration in Woodland. As the request was beyond the due date for Council receipt, the opportunity to recognize the event was not feasible. The sponsors of the 2009 “Juneteenth” event have the information in advance for the Council’s consideration on June 2.

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt of a Proclamation recognizing “Juneteenth”, a Celebration of Emancipation from Slavery, to be celebrated on Saturday, June 13, 2009 at John Ferns Park.

Background

This event has been held nationally since 1865 recognizing June 19, as the African American Emancipation Day. The programs and events emphasize education and achievement, the history of African Americans in Yolo County and their contributions to agriculture and community institutions such as churches, schools and civic organizations. All community members are encouraged to attend the “Juneteenth” celebration at John Ferns Park on Saturday, June 13, 11 AM to 6 PM.

Recommended Action

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt of a Proclamation recognizing “Juneteenth”, a Celebration of Emancipation from Slavery, to be celebrated on Saturday, June 13, 2009 at John Ferns Park.

Prepared by: Sue Vannucci, Director of
Administrative Services

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

Attachments: Proclamation and Flier



Juneteenth Committee Presents



2nd Annual Juneteenth Celebration



ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

Storytelling
Healthcare Info
Exhibits

Cultural Arts & Crafts
Face Painting

Music
Food
Singing

Fun for the whole family

TIME:
LOCATION:

11 A.M. TO 6 P.M.
JOHN FERNS PARK

DATE: JUNE 13, 2009

750 W. SOUTHWOOD DRIVE, WOODLAND

City of Woodland

PROCLAMATION

JUNETEENTH WORLD WIDE CELEBRATION

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, from the origins of this recognition in Galveston, Texas in 1865, the observance of June 19th as the African American Emancipation Day has become a nationally recognized event; and,

WHEREAS, African Americans have been recorded in Yolo County since its first census taken in 1850 and have been an integral part of the history of Yolo County; and,

WHEREAS, many children born in Yolo County were assisted in their arrival by a renowned nurse in Esparto and African American midwives; and,

WHEREAS, African American families homesteaded in the Capay Valley and one farmer is known to have owned more property than anyone else in the County. This farmer created the Monday School District; and,

WHEREAS, the Woodland Opera House construction in the 1800's was aided by an African American brick mason, while many performed at the Opera House as the Merry Minstrel Company and Merry Men; and,

WHEREAS, many businesses were owned by African Americans and the farmers were active in the local Grange, as well as, those who were involved in all forms of business from teachers to postal and other governmental workers; and,

WHEREAS, the Churches in the City had an active membership of African Americans as did many fraternal groups and clubs, civic groups, school boards, councils, associations, and a host of other community involvement venues, with the Second Baptist Church of Woodland taking the lead this year; and,

WHEREAS, these individuals were instrumental in the local celebrations of African American History Month, Martin Luther King Jr. recognition, and the University of California Black Family Day Celebration and Juneteenth.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Woodland does hereby proclaim June 13, 2009 as the "Juneteenth Celebration" in the City of Woodland with events to be held at the John Ferns Park, and urges citizens to celebrate, commemorate and participate in the activities associated with this event.

Dated this 2nd day of June, 2009.

Marlin H. Davies, Mayor

Artemio Pimentel, Vice Mayor
William Marble, Council Member

Martie L. Dote, Council Member
Jeff W. Monroe, Council Member