



## proclamation

**WHEREAS**, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular the Southwestern States, until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

**WHEREAS**, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and the enslaved were free; and

**WHEREAS**, African Americans who had been slaves celebrated June 19, commonly known as "Juneteenth Independence Day", as inspiration and encouragement for future generations; and

**WHEREAS**, African Americans have continued the tradition of observing Juneteenth Independence Day for more than 150 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth Independence Day began as a holiday in the State of Texas and is now celebrated in 45 States and the District of Columbia as a special day of observance in recognition of the emancipation of all slaves in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor African-American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures; and

**WHEREAS**, the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves and the descendants of former slaves remain an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, religion, or race; and

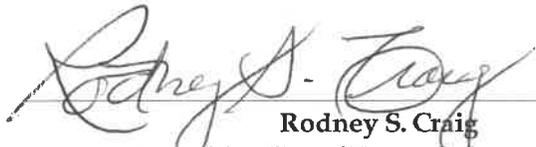
**WHEREAS**, slavery was not officially abolished until the ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in December 1865; and

**WHEREAS**, over the course of its history, the United States has grown into a symbol of democracy and freedom around the world;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Rodney S. Craig, Village President of the Village of Hanover Park, Illinois, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021 as "Juneteenth Independence Day" and recognize the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day to the United States. The Village of Hanover Park supports the continued nationwide celebration of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for the residents of Hanover Park to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped the United States.

**dated this 3rd day of June 2021.**



  
**Rodney S. Craig**  
Mayor of the Village of Hanover Park