

# ARLINGTON HEIGHTS PROCLAMATION

## A Day to Celebrate Juneteenth June 19, 2023

**WHEREAS**, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, setting in motion the end of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the Civil War ended with the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Court House on April 9, 1865; and

**WHEREAS**, this news reached Texas when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston Bay with Union troops. It was on June 19, 1865, that he announced: "The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free."; and

**WHEREAS**, celebration of the end of slavery, which became known as Juneteenth, is the oldest known public celebration of the end of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and celebrates the successes gained through education and greater opportunity; and

**WHEREAS**, on a larger scale, celebration of Juneteenth reminds each of us of the precious promises of freedom, equality, and opportunity which are at the core of the American Dream.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Thomas W. Hayes, Mayor of the Village of Arlington Heights, along with the Village Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2023 as a day to celebrate Juneteenth, and urge all citizens to join in this celebration.

  
Thomas W. Hayes, Mayor

Trustee Richard Baldino  
Trustee James Bertucci  
Trustee Wendy Dunnington  
Trustee Nicolle Grasse

Trustee Robin LaBedz  
Trustee Tom Schwingbeck  
Trustee Scott Shirley  
Trustee Jim Tinaglia

