



"The Peak of Good Living"

TOWN OF APEX
NORTH CAROLINA

Proclamation

Juneteenth 2024

from the Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African-American Freedom and recognizes the end of slavery in the United States, and it is also a day for communities to come together to celebrate African American heritage and culture, resiliency and unity; and,

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, It was not until June 19, 1865, that General Gordon Granger announced General Order No. 3 in Galveston, Texas, declaring all enslaved individuals free; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest African-American holiday that observes and commemorates the day when a quarter of a million enslaved Africans in America learned of their freedom two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation; and,

WHEREAS, On July 21, 2020, the Apex Mayor and Town Council was one of the first elected bodies in North Carolina to authorize the observance of Juneteenth as a Town recognized holiday where offices and facilities are closed.

WHEREAS, The Town of Apex, in collaboration with the Juneteenth Committee, is honored to host the 4th Annual Juneteenth Festival on Saturday, June 15, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., which will explore the history of Juneteenth and offer a time for the community to join in celebration with live music, food trucks, local vendors, and much more.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jacques K. Gilbert, Mayor of Apex, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 19th, 2024, as "Juneteenth" in the Town of Apex, and invite the community to join me in commemorating this historic moment in time for our nation to move us forward together in freedom and equality for black Americans.

I hereby set my hand and have caused the Seal of the Town of Apex, North Carolina, to be affixed this the 28th day of May 2024

Jacques Gilbert, Mayor