

Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

PROCLAMATION

in honor of

Juneteenth

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation, informing the last enslaved African Americans of their freedom—more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln had issued the proclamation; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, the United States Congress officially recognized Juneteenth as a federal holiday—Juneteenth National Independence Day—marking a historic step toward national acknowledgment and healing; recognizing our shared history, and acknowledging the realities of past and present inequities is essential to building a more inclusive and thriving community for all; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day or Freedom Day, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States; It stands as a powerful symbol of resilience, liberation, and the ongoing pursuit of justice and equality for Black Americans while honoring their strength, contributions, and perseverance throughout history; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County is dedicated to fostering an environment of understanding, respect, and inclusion, and recognizes the importance of acknowledging our individual and collective experiences and history to promote a more just and unified community; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth serves as a reminder that work remains to be done to ensure equitable access to opportunity for Black residents, including the pursuit of strategies that improve access to education, economic development, housing, and land-based initiatives; and

WHEREAS, in 2026, Black Humboldt and the Eureka Chapter of the NAACP will host a multi-day Juneteenth Cultural Festival from June 18 to June 21, featuring educational workshops, cultural performances, and community gatherings. The Juneteenth Day Festival, a cornerstone event celebrating Black liberation and community empowerment, takes place at Eureka’s Halvorsen Park on Saturday, June 20. Juneteenth is an opportunity not only to reflect on the struggles for freedom and civil rights, but also to celebrate the strength, creativity, and leadership of Black communities in Humboldt County and beyond.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors does hereby recognize June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth Day in Humboldt County and encourages all residents to commemorate this day through education, community engagement, and a continued commitment to liberty and justice for all.



June 16, 2026

Mike Wilson, Chair