

# The IDEAL Community Newsletter

## JUNETEENTH



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Celebrated on June 19th, this holiday commemorates the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States. The celebration dates back to 1865, when 250,000 slaves in the state of Texas, which became the last bastion for slavery during the Civil War, were declared free by the U.S. Army. While Juneteenth has become a well-known celebration marking the end of slavery in the U.S., it isn't a straightforward story of emancipation, nor did it necessarily improve conditions for African Americans.

Understanding Juneteenth requires recognizing the complexities of freedom and the ongoing struggles for equality that continue to this day.

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## Join the IDEAL Committee

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR RECOMMENDATIONS?

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# PRIDE

## What is Pride?

Pride, in its simplest terms, is a celebration of one's identity, acceptance, and the unity that comes from embracing our differences. It is a time for everyone to honor the diversity within their community and for individuals within the LGBTQ+ community to express pride in who they are. Pride encourages sharing lived experiences without fear, fostering a sense of belonging and raising awareness about the importance of inclusion.

## Why is Pride celebrated?

Pride is celebrated to ensure that everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are. It fosters a more inclusive perspective within our communities, highlighting the diversity that enriches us all. After years of fighting for equality, Pride allows the LGBTQ+ community to openly be themselves and celebrate the progress made while continuing to advocate for further change. Pride offers a healing opportunity to find joy and solidarity within the community, honoring the journey and resilience of its members.

## How is SPCA Tampa Bay celebrating Pride?

SPCA Tampa Bay is celebrating Pride by fostering a supportive and safe environment where every team member is encouraged to be their authentic selves. We are proudly participating in the Pride Parade and Street Carnival to show our commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Additionally, we are dedicated to maintaining our commitment to inclusivity, our "For-All" philosophy ensures that individuals from all walks of life feel comfortable and valued within our organization

## Get Involved!

[SUPPORT LOCAL LGBTQ+ BUSINESSES](#)

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