



City of St. Charles

I L L I N O I S

Proclamation

RE-DEDICATION OF CAMP KANE

- WHEREAS,** in the mid 1800's Illinois was an active part of the Abolitionist movement; St. Charles was part of that movement. Congressman John F. Farnsworth, St. Charles resident, was a well-known abolitionist, was a personal friend to Abraham Lincoln, an advisor to Lincoln during the Lincoln Douglas debates and nominated Lincoln for President; and
- WHEREAS,** after the start of the Civil War, John F. Farnsworth requested permission from President Lincoln to commission the 8th Illinois Cavalry and train them in St. Charles. The commission was approved on August 11, 1861 and Lincoln named them "Farnsworth's Big Abolitionist Regiment". By August 20, 1861 the first company was formed. John F. Farnsworth was made Colonel and later in 1862 a Brigadier General.; and
- WHEREAS,** Colonel Farnsworth used the property he owned that is now known as Langum Park to develop Camp Kane, the Civil War Training Camp that would become the home of the 8th Illinois and 17th Illinois Cavalries. This was the only Civil War training camp in Kane County and it remained active until early 1864; and
- WHEREAS,** on September 18, 1961, 1,164 men were officially mustered in at Camp Kane. The 8th Illinois Cavalry's honors include battles such as Mechanicsville, Antietam, Fredericksburg and most notably Gettysburg, where it was the 8th Illinois Cavalry's Lt. Marcellus Jones who fired the first shot of that famous battle. Confederate Colonel John S. Mosby "The Grey Ghost" called the 8th Illinois "The best cavalry regiment in the Army of the Potomac"; and
- WHEREAS,** on August 26, 2014 the Jones Law Office was relocated to Camp Kane. This was the first law office in St. Charles run by Steven S. Jones who named St. Charles and it served as a holding cell for deserters during the Civil War; and
- WHEREAS,** on September 20, 2014 we honor all the men who served in the 8th and 17th Illinois Cavalries, as well as honor all of the important St. Charles and National history that Camp Kane and the Jones Law Office represents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, hereby proclaim that on September 20, 2014 the lower southern portion of Langum Park be officially dedicated and renamed to Camp Kane.

SEAL

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Raymond P. Rogina", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor