

MEMORANDUM

TO: St. Charles County Council

FROM: Ryan Graham, Director of Parks

RE: Ordinance to name new park

DATE: 2/28/22

In 2021, the St. Charles County completed the purchase of approximately 199 acres of property near Wentzville for the development of a new County park. For your consideration is an ordinance to name this new park "Oglesby Park".

This is a request to name this park "Oglesby Park" to recognize one of the properties first owners, Benjamin Oglesby, a former slave who bought the property between 1875 and 1877. Research done by the Department, indicates that Benjamin Oglesby was born into slavery in Virginia in 1825, he was taken to Missouri in 1830, he ran away in 1864 and joined the Union Army serving in the 56th United States Colored Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. After the war, Mr. Oglesby along with his wife and 6 children farmed the property until his death in 1901 at the age of 76.

A more detailed history of Benjamin Oglesby accompanies the ordinance request and this letter. We are requesting approval to name the 21st St Charles County Park "Oglesby Park".

Please let me know if you have any questions, concerns or would like to discuss further.
Thank you,

Ryan Graham
Director of Parks