## By Amber Hanneken

Staff Writer

HUGO — Juneteenth — a celebration of emancipation, of freedom and of African American heritage — is kicking off its third year in Hugo on Saturday, June 19.

The holiday orginated in Galveston, Texas in 1865 to commemorate the abolition of slavery in the United States. Today, it is recognized as a state holiday in Oklahoma and 35 other states. The celebration begins in Hugo at 11 a.m. with a parade taking place down Jackson Street and turning on Broadway. Trophies will be given to first, second and third place floats in the categories of car/truck, all terrain vehicle and motorcycle. Trophies will also be given to bicycle riders in various youth age groups as well.

Games, music, entertainment and fellowship begin at 2 p.m. at Cora Lee Roe Park. A grill cook-off contest will make mouths water. Barbecue will be served at 4 p.m.

For more information, contact Jesse Brown at 580.326.5535, Oneta Green at 580.326.3165, Clinton Crawley at 580.326.5648 or Lloyd Pearl at 580.743.3530.