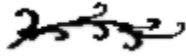


Office of the Mayor
City of Greenville, Mississippi

Proclamation



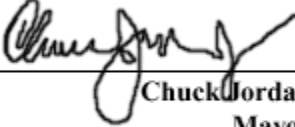
Greenville, Mississippi
HOT TAMALES CAPITAL OF THE WORLD®

- **WHEREAS:** A Delta-style tamale is smaller than a Latin-style tamale, is simmered instead of steamed, has a gritty texture from the use of corn meal instead of masa or corn flour, has considerably more spice, and is usually served with juice that is the byproduct of simmering. Today, some people even fry their hot tamales; and
- **WHEREAS:** Many hypothesize that tamales made their way to the Mississippi Delta in the early twentieth century when migrant laborers were brought in from Mexico to work the cotton harvest. The African Americans who shared the fields easily recognized the basic tamale ingredients: corn meal and pork. It makes sense, then, that the interaction of African Americans with Mexican migrant laborers explains part of this culinary union; and
- **WHEREAS:** Within the Delta, Greenville, MS is a hotbed of hot tamales. In the early part of the twentieth century, river commerce brought many Sicilians to the Greenville area. Some believe the migrant Mexican laborers who came through the Delta might have shared their tamale tradition with these Italian immigrants; and
- **WHEREAS:** The "Delta Hot Tamale Festival" set for October 20, 2012. Although this is the first hot tamale festival of its kind, Greenville is no stranger to food, music, and a good time. In fact the idea for the hot tamale festival got started when several friends hosted a tamale taste off, pairing tamales from area restaurants with homemade versions. The Delta Hot Tamale Festival is prepared to do a similar tamale taste off, infusing music for a full festival atmosphere; and
- **WHEREAS:** The distinction of Hot Tamale Capital of the World is not without evidence. According to Southern Foodways Alliance, Greenville has more hot tamale restaurants/food stations than any other city in Mississippi. The Mississippi Delta Hot Tamale Trail, a project of the Southern Foodways Alliance and Viking Corporation, notes the history of the hot tamale through documented oral histories archived on its website www.tamaletail.com

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, THAT I, Charles "Chuck" Jordan, Mayor of the City of Greenville, in the State of Mississippi, do hereby proclaim the City of Greenville, Mississippi:

"HOT TAMALES CAPITAL OF THE WORLD"

Date: 7-18-12



Chuck Jordan
Mayor
City of Greenville, MS