

Juneteenth GAMMON HOUSE FatherFest

Saturday, June 20, 2026, 11am-7pm
620 Piqua Place, Springfield, Ohio

Celebrating June 19, 1865,
the day U.S. Maj. Gen. Granger declared
all people free in General Order No. 3.

*"The people of Texas are informed that,
in accordance with a proclamation
from the Executive of the United
States, all slaves are free. This
involves an absolute equality
of personal rights and rights
of property between former
masters and slaves, and the
connection heretofore existing
between them becomes that
between employer and hired labor.*

This occurred 2 ½ years after President Abraham
Lincoln's historic Emancipation Proclamation.



www.gammonhouse.org

History of Juneteenth

The Juneteenth national community festival began over 150 years ago in Galveston, Texas to celebrate the first Juneteenth on June 19th, 1865. Juneteenth highlights the ending of slavery in the United States. Since the Gammon House is one of only three original Underground Railroad safehouses in Ohio owned and operated by a family of color, we proudly serve as one of the national venues to preserve this important event in history at **no cost** to the community.



Stop by the Welcome Center on the Gammon Green! Sign up for your next steps at Gammon House with merch, tours, or memberships!

From the Stage

11am	Opening Ceremony with DJ Cuest
12:50pm	Special Recognition of The Jud Family
1pm	Dad Joke Competition
1:30pm	Good Dad Award Presentations
2pm	Deron Bell Band
3pm	Legends of Springfield
4 pm	Fraternity Step Show (Gammon Green)
4:30pm	Honey and Blue
5:30	Champion City Choir



*Lift Every
Voice &
Sing Lyrics*



DJCUEST.COM



*Faith Daniels,
Main Stage Host*

FROM THE STAGE...

LEGENDS OF SPRINGFIELD



The Legends of Springfield Band is a stellar group of musicians from Springfield, Ohio, who have performed throughout the area for many years. They proudly represent and honor the legacy of the many talented artists who have called Springfield home.

HONEY AND BLUE



Honey and Blue's soul-pop duo from Columbus is known for captivating harmonies, cinematic songwriting, and electrifying live performances. Blending elements of soul, R&B, and modern pop, their sound is timeless and fresh. They've shared the stage with artists Aloe Blacc, Bettye LaVette, and Charlie Hunter. Their latest album *Bloom* showcases their signature blend of emotional storytelling and lush musicality. Whether performing acoustically or with a full band, Honey and Blue deliver an unforgettable, heart-forward experience.

CHAMPION CITY CHOIR



The Champion City Choir is a dynamic vocal ensemble based in Springfield, known for uplifting performances celebrating community, culture, & musical excellence. Bringing together talented voices from across the region, the choir delivers powerful renditions of gospel, contemporary, & inspirational music while creating spaces that inspire connection & unity.

DERON BELL BAND



The Deron Bell Band's high-energy, diverse musical style blends several genres. Their performances feature: *Funk & R&B: Deeply rooted in the Dayton, Ohio funk tradition, the band performs classic R&B and funk. Deron Bell himself is referred to as a "Funk maestro," and the band has presented shows on "The History of Funk Music and Gospel in Ohio."*

Motown, Jazz, Inspirational & Soul: *Their repertoire includes classic Motown hits, Inspirational and soulless.*

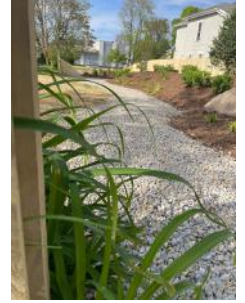
Live Experience: *Their shows are described as featuring "sing-along hand-clapping dance music" with audience participation.*

Festival Events

1

Visit the Discovery Trail

WALK the Ohio River to Lake Erie
Underground Railroad journey, stopping along
the way at various towns along Route 68.
Location: The Gammon House Backyard



2

Pics with DJ Chill

MAKE A MEMORY with free pictures
for the whole family by Pics with DJ
Chill by Chris Chilton.
Location: The Gammon House

@picwitdjchill



3

4pm Step Show

DON'T MISS the excitement of a high
energy step show by members of Alpha
Phi Alpha, Inc., and Omega Psi Phi, Inc.
Location: The Gammon Green



4

Freedom Train

EXPERIENCE the Freedom Train
tour around the Gammon Family
property with the whole family!
Location: Piqua Place & Clark Street



5

Activities with SMOA



EXPERIENCE *Resilient Spirits!* **EXPLORE**
Haitian metalworks with the Springfield
Museum of Art through fun, hands-on activities.
Location: Children's Area Tent



6

Special Exhibits

UNDERSTAND the Underground Railroad with The Links, Inc., Cliff Park High School, & more!

Location: The Gammon House Backyard



7

Activities, Arts, & Crafts

INTERACT with your family and enjoy these history & art activities sponsored by Springfield Promise Neighborhood.

Location: The Gammon Green



8

Scavenger Hunt

COMPLETE your *Passport to Freedom* by traveling through the Gammon Grounds. Finishers receive a Gammon House award!

Location: The Gammon House



9

Bookmobile

BORROW a book or **GET** a library card in the Clark County Library's Bookmobile!

Location: Piqua Place



10

Explore a Firetruck

EXPERIENCE a fire truck & fire fighters with your family with Springfield Fire Division.

Location: Clark Street



11

Bounce Houses & Rides

JUMP & PLAY at the free bounce houses and rides that keep children entertained throughout the festival.

Location: Piqua Place



Meet the artist behind the 175th Anniversary Gammon House Drawing



Edén J. Thompson is a visual artist, licensed K-12 visual art educator, and graduate student in the M.A. Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Antioch University. A graduate of the University of Oklahoma with degrees in Psychology and Spanish, her artistic work centers Afrocentric themes and the richness of African American culture. Through visual storytelling, Edén creates pieces that honor Black identity, beauty, and community, using art as a vehicle for cultural pride, reflection, and healing.

In addition to her artistic practice, Edén currently serves as an Academic Support Aide with Springfield City School District and will begin teaching art in the upcoming school year. She is passionate about nurturing creativity and confidence in young learners while helping students connect with culture and self-expression through visual arts. Edén also aspires to become a Licensed Professional Counselor and therapist in Ohio, blending creativity, mental health advocacy, and education to empower youth and families. Her vision is to use both art and counseling as pathways for healing and the celebration of Black cultural legacy.



*On behalf of
The Gammon House,
thank you, Edén, for
commemorating our
175th milestone with your
skill and passion.*



What a Legacy!

The Gammon Family's fight for freedom & dignity is something we carry forward today and throughout the year. This year, the Gammon House stands for over 175 years! Below are more of the ways we demonstrate all people are worthy of opportunity.

National Recognition



This spring, Gammon House received national recognition. National Park Service Midwest Regional Manager of the National to Freedom Barry Jurgensen wrote, "The community of Springfield is a shining example of preservation."

Mobile Health Unit



**CENTRAL
STATE UNIVERSITY**

Operated by the Central State University Extension, this customized motorhome travels across Ohio to bring health education and preventive services directly to urban and rural communities that are isolated from health care facilities.

Mobile Changing Unit



Community inclusion means giving our loved ones with disabilities a safe, private, & hygienic place to address toileting needs while in our community.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace



SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Clark County welcomes SHP! They have a "bed build" today near the Juneteenth Festival where they'll build 20 beds for local kids to fulfill the mission that *No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town!*

Complete our survey!



**We use this survey to collect feedback.
Thoughts & suggestions are welcome!**



FatherFest 2026

Location: Gammon House Green

11am-2pm FatherFest Community Resource Tent

- **VISIT** the Urban Light/Fathering Strong Table
- **ENTER** drawings for Father's Day gifts (until 1pm)
- **CHECK-IN** for Good Dad Award recipients
- **PLAY** games as a family
- **COMPLETE** crafts & gifts for your dad

1pm

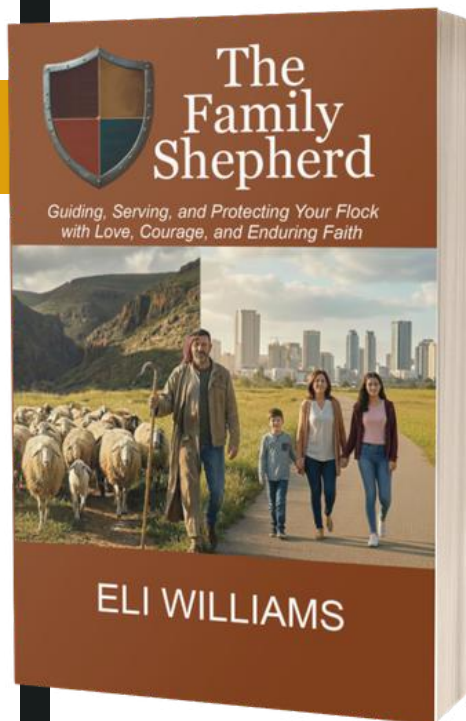
Dad Joke Competition!

Keynote Address: Eli Williams, President of Urban Light Ministries

1:30pm

Good Dad Awards

- Presentations
- Gift



THE FAMILY SHEPHERD BOOK

Just Released! "The Family Shepherd" by Eli Williams

Guiding, Serving, and Protecting Your Flock with Love, Courage, and Enduring Faith

Now available on Amazon.



Thank you, Sponsors!

Diamond Level “Emancipation Oak”



Springfield Foundation

For good. For ever. For all.®

Premier Platinum Level “Safe House”

LOVED?!

JOHN LEGEND



Gold Level “Railroad Conductor”



Silver Level “Station Master”



Three Chelle's



937.629.1944



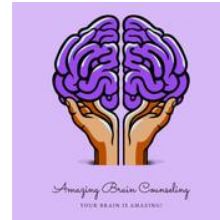
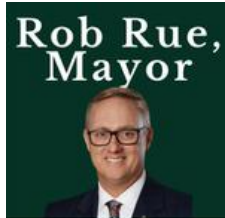
THE TURNER FOUNDATION



The Hank Jud Family

Bishop
Steve
Houpe

Bronze Level “Railroad Passenger”



Ruby Level “Precious Cargo”

- Brain Lumber Company
- Brown's Cafe
- Greg Roberts
- Huntington National Bank
- Levi Duncan
- Lil Joe's Market
- Littleton & Rue Funeral Home & Crematory
- OIC of Clark County
- Pamela Mitchell, Universal Biz Consultants & Coaching
- Springfield Chapter of The Links, Inc.
- Striver's Club

In-Kind Supporter “Candle in the Window”



- Church of Jesus Family Worship Center
- City of Springfield Maintenance Dept.
- Dale Henry
- Pic with DJ Chill Chris Chilton
- Robert C. Henry Funeral Home
- St. John Missionary Baptist Church

Gammon Village Support Team

“Follow the Drinking Gourd”

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.
Amy Korpieski, Springfield Museum of Art
Clark County Public Library
Natalie Fritz, Heritage Center Outreach Director
Pastor Ernest C. Brown, Sr.
Preston Mack
Springfield News-Sun
Sugar Roy, Nehemiah Foundation

thanks
for your
support

Juneteenth FatherFest Collaboration Team

“Freedom Seekers”

John Bailey, Gammon Board & Historian
Dorothy Booker, Gammon Board Member
Shawn Caruthers, Passport to Freedom
Aaron Clark, Juneteenth Entertainment
Dorris Daniel, Gammon Board, Treasurer, & Management
Patricia Daniels, Gammon Board & Resource Specialist
Heidi Earlywine, Gammon Board & Juneteenth Advisor
Roland Gilbreath, Juneteenth Entertainment
Gail Grant, Gammon Board & Curator
Camille Buford, Gammon Board Media & Marketing
Dale Henry, Historian/Community Service Liaison
Marvin Jordan, Gammon Board & Juneteenth Security
Marcey Langford, Church of Jesus Liaison/Activities
Imani Mcpheters, Gammon Board, Juneteenth/Prayer Breakfast Chair
Herchel Miller, Juneteenth Logistics
Aleyah Oliver, Church of Jesus Advisor
Sharif Rodgers, Gammon Board & Juneteenth Security
Bruce Stapleton, Gammon House Web Administrator
Kenneth Stone, Gammon Board & President
Eden Thompson, Artistic Talent
Jon Upshaw, Spfld. Promise Neighborhood/FatherFest
Eli Williams, President Urban Light Ministries/FatherFest
Letitia Wilson, Chair Community Service & Volunteers



It's more than a festival *It's a movement*

FESTIVAL MAP



GammonHouse.org
See more of what Gammon House has to offer!

