

THE CITY OF FRANKLIN, VA PRESENTS

*The Official 4<sup>th</sup> Annual*

SPECTACULAR

*Juneteenth Cultural*

*Celebration*



*June 18th-21st, 2026*

★ **FRANKLIN, VA** ★

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**OFFICIAL SOUVENIR BOOKLET**

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FOR AMERICA.



FRANKLIN, VA



*Congratulations on the*  
4TH ANNUAL SPECTACULAR  
**JUNETEENTH**  
**CULTURAL**  
**CELEBRATION**  
HONORING FREEDOM.  
CELEBRATING CULTURE.  
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# Organizers' Two Cents

On behalf of Amun Ra Inc., I would like to sincerely thank everyone who dedicated their time, energy, and support to help bring about our 4th Annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration — and our second four-day Juneteenth observance. We look forward to everyone enjoying themselves as we honor the emancipation of enslaved African Americans in the United States.

Special thanks go out to the many volunteers who committed themselves to the vision and purpose of this event. Each year presents its own unique challenges, but year after year we continue to prove that, with God, all things are possible.

I especially want to recognize Michael Smith Sr., a valued member of the Amun Ra Inc. Board of Directors, whose encouragement and determination helped ensure that we pushed forward despite every obstacle. His motivation, support, and commitment to this celebration have truly been unmatched.

We are also deeply grateful to our sponsors, including the City of Franklin and Walmart, whose early contributions helped get the momentum started. Thank you, David, for helping move this vision forward. Every sponsor listed throughout this booklet played an important role in making this event possible.

In particular, I would like to personally thank Mayor Paul Kaplan for not only supporting and voting in favor of a united Juneteenth celebration, but also for personally contributing to Amun Ra Inc. to help fund this event. This combined Juneteenth celebration in Franklin would not have been possible without the support and votes of Vice Mayor Wyndolyn Copland, Councilman Mark Kitchen, Councilwoman Jessica Banks, and Councilman Ricky Grizzard.

With little more than a month to organize, raise funds, and prepare, we still managed to create an action-packed four-day celebration beginning Thursday, June 18th, with our traditional wreath-laying ceremony at the Franklin Slave Memorial to honor our enslaved ancestors. This year also marks the first time Franklin will host a national speaker as part of our Juneteenth celebration, concluding Sunday, June 21st, with a Gospel Explosion and youth-centered activities for the community.

In between, this year's celebration brings together many of the powerful elements from our first three years, including recognition of Nat Turner and the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense, live entertainment, vendors, cultural programming, and much more.

Saving the best for last, I must first give thanks to God for giving me both the vision and the means to help bring this opportunity to life — an opportunity not only to celebrate Juneteenth, but also to help reshape the narrative surrounding one of Southampton County's most significant historical figures: Nat Turner. Born here in Southampton County, Nat Turner died fighting for what all Americans desire — freedom and equality.

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported this celebration in ways both large and small, and to every attendee who continues to help make this vision a reality.

God willing, next year will be even more spectacular.

**Power to All the People!!!**

*Gregory McLemore*

Senior City Councilman  
President & CEO, Amun Ra Inc.



JUNETEENTH

FREEDOM  
THEN.  
FREEDOM  
NOW.  
FREEDOM  
FOREVER.

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# TEACHER OF THE YEAR

— YOU TEACH. YOU INSPIRE. YOU DESERVE THIS. —

— WIN A —  
**BRAND NEW  
CAR!**



NOMINATE YOUR  
**FAVORITE  
TEACHER  
TODAY!**

★ SCAN TO NOMINATE ★



NOMINATE  
A TEACHER  
TODAY!



COMMUNITY  
VOTES  
DECIDE



FINALISTS  
ANNOUNCED  
ONLINE



WINNER  
GETS A  
BRAND NEW  
CAR!



THANK YOU TEACHERS!  
YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY.



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ONE COMMUNITY.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
EVERY DAY!



WE APPRECIATE  
ALL YOU DO!

★★★★ ONE TEAM. ONE COMMUNITY. MAKING A DIFFERENCE.



★ 4TH ANNUAL ★  
**SPECTACULAR**  
**JUNETEENTH**  
**CULTURAL CELEBRATION**



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📅 **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS** 📅

**THURSDAY**  
*Kickoff Celebration*  
**BARRETT'S LANDING & WORKFORCE CENTER**

**5:30PM** BON SECOUR  
**WELCOME**  
 Councilman McLemore

**5:35PM** BON SECOUR  
**WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**

**6:00-7:00PM**  
**DR. UMAR JOHNSON LECTURE**  
 Workforce Development Center

**7:00-7:30PM**  
**Q & A DR. JOHNSON**  
 Workforce Development Center

**7:30-9:30PM**  
**DR. UMAR MEET & GREET**  
 Barrett's Landing

**6:00PM**  
**MAYOR'S WELCOME**

**6:05-9:30PM**  
**CULTURE JAZZ BAND**

**9:30PM**  
**LOCAL TALENT / OPEN MIC**

**10:00PM**  
**FIREWORKS CLOSE**

**FRIDAY**  
*Music & Entertainment Night*  
**BARRETT'S LANDING**

**5:00PM**  
 VICE MAYOR'S WELCOME & INTRO OF CITY OFFICIALS  
 DJ MUSIC

**5:30PM**  
 2UPLIFT AFRICAN DRUMMERS & DANCERS

**6:00-8:30PM**  
**CHESTER B BAND**

**8:30-9:15PM**  
**MICHAEL JACKSON EXPERIENCE**

**9:15-10:00PM**  
**PRAXTON**

**10:00PM**  
 CLOSING REMARKS & FIREWORKS

**SATURDAY**  
*Community Celebration*  
**MLK CENTER & BARRETT'S LANDING**

**1:00PM** MLK  
 LOCAL HEROES RECOGNITION

**2:00-2:15PM** MLK  
 FAITH GRACE MODELS

**2:15PM** MLK  
 COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ROUND TABLE

**3:00PM** BL  
 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

**3:30PM** BL  
 SLINGSHOTS, RYDERS, SPYDER MOTORCYCLE CLUB

**5:00-6:00PM** BL  
 DJ MUSIC

**6:00-9:00PM** BL  
 DOMINIC CARR BAND

**9:00-9:30PM** BL  
 LINE DANCING CONTEST

**9:30-10:00PM** BL  
 ANDRE CROSS SOUTHERN SOUL SHOW

**10:00PM** BL  
 CLOSING REMARKS / FIREWORKS

**SUNDAY**  
*Father's Day Celebration*  
**COLLEGE DRIVE PARK**

**12:00-1:00PM**  
 FATHER'S DAY OPEN AIR CHURCH SERVICE WITH DR. ERIC MAJETTE

**1:00-2:00PM**  
 NEW LIFE GLOBAL PRAISE TEAM

**1:00-4:30PM**  
 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

**3:00-4:45PM**  
 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

**4:45-5:00PM**  
 THE RED TOAST, SPONSOR THANKS, & CLOSING REMARKS



KICK OFF THE 4TH ANNUAL

# SPECTACULAR JUNETEENTH CULTURAL CELEBRATION



THURSDAY  
**JUNE 18TH**  
**2026**

WITH A

## *Wreath Laying* **CEREMONY**

HONORING OUR PAST. INSPIRING OUR FUTURE.

AT BON SECOURS  
SOUTH HAMPTON  
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

**5:30PM**



IN MEMORY OF THE SLAVES  
OF THE CAMP PLANTATION OF  
SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY VIRGINIA  
THE NAMES AND DATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH  
OF THOSE INTERRED IN THIS  
SLAVE CEMETERY ARE THIS VIKOWN.  
AMONG THOSE BURIED IN THIS VICINITY ARE  
PATRICK CAMP, MOURING CAMP AND FANNIE CAMP.  
THIS MEMORIAL WAS INSPIRED BY  
MR. LEROY TURNER  
OF SOUTHAMPTON COURTY

IN MEMORY OF THE SLAVES  
OF THE CAMP PLANTATION OF  
SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY VIRGINIA  
THE NAMES AND DATES OF BIRTH AND DEATH  
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SLAVE CEMETERY ARE NOT KNOWN.  
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THIS MEMORIAL WAS INSPIRED BY  
MR. LEROY TURNER  
OF SOUTHAMPTON COUNTY

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO  
**WILLIAMS FLORIST**  
FOR THE DONATION OF THE WREATH  
HONORING OUR ANCESTORS.

Live Music by  
*Cultured*  
Jazz Band

6:00PM – 9:30PM

**BARETT'S LANDING**



**AFTER THE WREATH LAYING CEREMONY**  
(DURING DR. UMAR JOHNSON'S 6PM SPEECH  
AT THE PDCC WORKFORCE CENTER)



- THE MUSIC
- VENDORS
- ACTIVITIES

AND DR. UMAR'S  
**BOOK SIGNING**  
(7PM) AT BARETT'S LANDING



— 4TH ANNUAL SPECTACULAR —  
**JUNETEENTH**  
★ CULTURAL CELEBRATION ★



*A Special*  
**THANK YOU**  
*TO*  
**DR. UMAR IFATUNDE JOHNSON**  
— A HISTORIC VISIT TO FRANKLIN, VIRGINIA —



The 4th Annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration extends sincere appreciation to Dr. Umar Ifatunde Johnson for visiting Franklin, Virginia, and sharing his knowledge, experience, and message of empowerment with our community.



Dr. Umar Ifatunde Johnson is a Doctor of Psychology, Certified School Psychologist, author, educator, and internationally recognized speaker. Throughout his career, he has advocated for educational excellence, cultural awareness, youth development, family engagement, and community empowerment.



Among his accomplishments, Dr. Johnson is the founder of the Frederick Douglass and Marcus Garvey Academy, an educational initiative dedicated to the academic and cultural development of African-American youth. He is also the author of several works, including *Psycho-Academic Holocaust* and *Black Parent Advocate: The Art of War for Dealing with America's Public and Charter Schools*.



For more than two decades, Dr. Johnson has traveled throughout the United States and internationally, speaking to educators, parents, students, and community leaders on issues related to education, special education advocacy, self-determination, leadership, and community development. His work has inspired countless individuals to become more actively involved in shaping the future of their families and communities.



Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States and serves as a time to reflect on freedom, resilience, education, and progress. The presence of distinguished speakers such as Dr. Umar Ifatunde Johnson helps continue that tradition by encouraging learning, dialogue, and civic engagement.



We extend our sincere gratitude to Dr. Umar Ifatunde Johnson for taking the time to visit Franklin and contribute to the 4th Annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration. His appearance helped make the 2026 celebration a memorable and impactful experience for many throughout our community.



Through his continued commitment to education, empowerment, and the uplift of our people, Dr. Umar Ifatunde Johnson remains a powerful voice for positive change and a strong advocate for future generations.

*We thank you, Dr. Umar Ifatunde Johnson, and look forward to the impact of your continued work!*

“ Education, awareness, leadership, and community engagement help shape future generations. ”



CELEBRATING THE 4TH ANNUAL SPECTACULAR

# JUNETEENTH



CULTURAL CELEBRATION

HEADLINER

# PRAXTON

FRIDAY  
**JUNE**  
**19<sup>TH</sup>**



**5PM - 10PM**

**FIREWORKS  
TO CLOSE OUT  
THE NIGHT!**



THE  
**MICHAEL  
JACKSON  
EXPERIENCE**



-  **CHESTER B'S  
PARTY BAND  
TRIBUTE SHOW**
-  **VENDORS  
& LOCAL  
SHOPPING AND FOOD**
-  **CHILDREN'S  
ACTIVITIES  
& FUN FOR ALL!**



# 2UPLIFT

AFRICAN DRUMMERS & DANCERS



# BARRETT'S LANDING

100 BARRETT ST, FRANKLIN, VA 23851

# COMMUNITY LEADERS ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION








BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES THROUGH DIALOGUE, COLLABORATION & LEADERSHIP



The Juneteenth Cultural Celebration proudly presents our Community Leaders Round Table Discussion, a special gathering designed to bring together leaders from across our region for meaningful conversation and community engagement.



### THIS FORUM WELCOMES:

-  City Council Members
-  County Board of Supervisors Members
-  City Managers
-  County Administrators
-  School Board Members
-  Political Party Leaders
-  Pastors and Ministers
-  Nonprofit Leaders
-  Business Leaders
-  Community Advocates
-  Civic Organization Representatives

This round table provides an opportunity for leaders from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to discuss issues affecting our communities, share ideas, strengthen partnerships, and explore ways to create positive change for future generations.

*We believe that when leaders come together with a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect, communities become stronger, more informed, and better prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow.*



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**OUR HOMETOWN AWARDS CEREMONY WILL RETURN DURING THE**

# 2027

JUNETEENTH CULTURAL CELEBRATION

As we continue to expand this celebration, we are reserving our next awards presentation to honor an even greater number of deserving community members whose service, leadership, and commitment have made a lasting impact throughout our region.

Join Us on

## JUNE 20, 2026

### FAITH & GRACE AFRICAN ATTIRE Fashion Show

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMUNITY CENTER

-  683 Oak St, Franklin, VA 23851
-  SATURDAY, JUNE 20, 2026
-  BEGINNING AT 1:00 PM

Experience an inspiring showcase of African heritage, culture, elegance, and creativity through traditional and contemporary African attire.





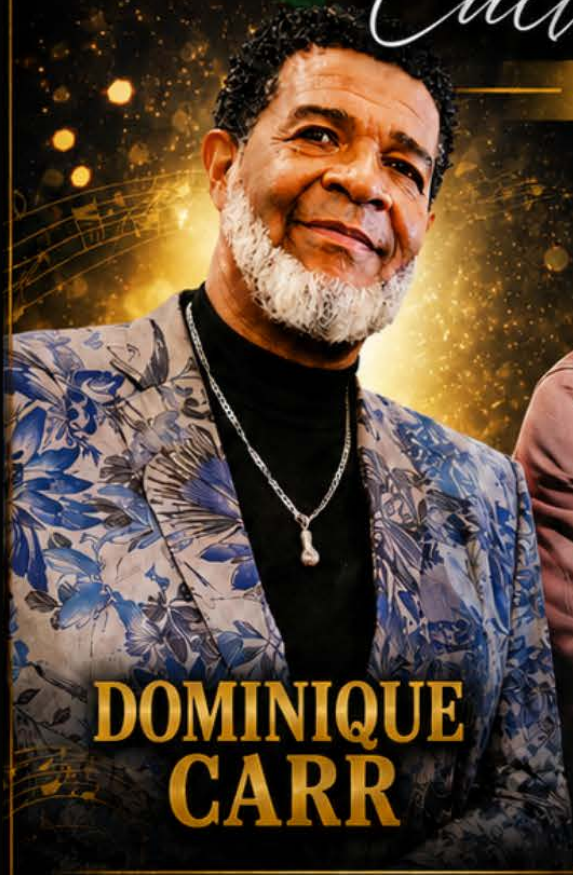
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SPECTACULAR

# JUNETEENTH

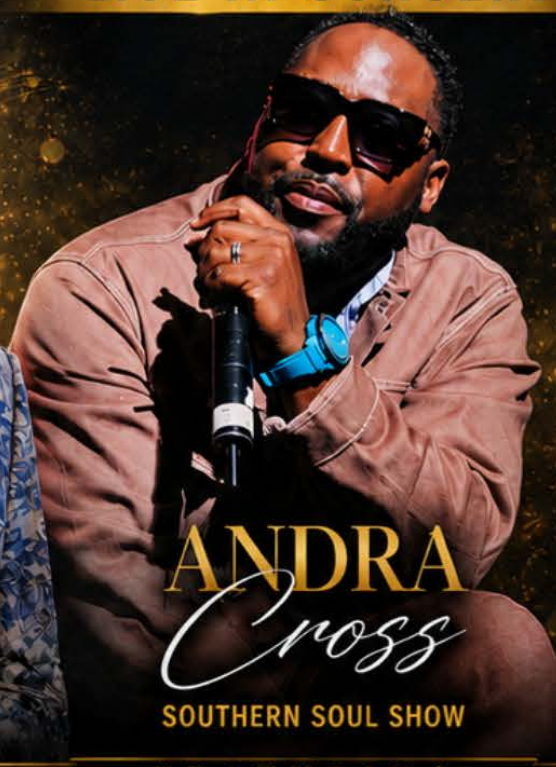
*Cultural Celebration*



LIVE IN CONCERT



**DOMINIQUE  
CARR**



**ANDRA  
Cross**  
SOUTHERN SOUL SHOW



**DJ  
TIM LEMON**

★ ★ FEATURING ★ ★

SATURDAY  
**JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup>**

SHOW TIME: 5PM - 10PM  
FESTIVITIES START: 3PM

**BARRETT'S LANDING**  
100 BARRETT ST, FRANKLIN, VA 23851

- STREET VENDORS
- CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES  
BOUNCE HOUSES • CORNHOLE  
HORSESHOES & MORE!
- LINE DANCE CONTEST
- FIREWORKS FINALE

★ SPECIAL GUEST VISIT FROM MOTORCYCLE CLUBS ★



&



A DAY OF UNITY. A NIGHT OF SOUL. ★ HONORING OUR HERITAGE. BUILDING OUR FUTURE.

# CELEBRATE JUNETEENTH & FATHER'S DAY

Open Air Service!

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FEATURING

**DR. ERIC MAJETTE &**

THE NEW LIFE GLOBAL  
MINISTRY PRAISE TEAM



★ WE LIFT. WE PRAISE. WE CELEBRATE FREEDOM! ★

BASKETBALL  
TOURNAMENT

FATHER'S DAY  
TRIBUTE

CHILDREN'S  
ACTIVITIES

CORNHOLE

CHRISTIAN RAP DJ

AND MORE!

12-5pm Sunday, June 21st

Closing out the 4-day event with a special

HOSTED BY  
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Honoring the Legacy.  
Celebrating the Freedom.  
Building the Future.

In partnership with  
**The City of Franklin VA.**



# Red Toast



A Toast to the  
**ANCESTORS.**  
**THE STRUGGLE.**  
**THE VICTORY.**  
**THE FUTURE.**

400 S College Drive, Franklin, VA 23851

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE BLOOD SHED BY OUR DECEASED ENSLAVED ANCESTORS.



# JUNETEENTH

## Freedom Day!



**JUNE 19TH**  
A DAY OF FREEDOM.  
A LEGACY OF HOPE.

*Remember the Past. Celebrate Freedom. Inspire the Future.*

### WHAT IS JUNETEENTH?

Juneteenth, also known as **Freedom Day**, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It is celebrated every year on **June 19th**.

On this day in 1865, Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced 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...”

This order came more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, making Juneteenth a powerful symbol of delayed justice, resilience, and true freedom.

### THE VIRGINIA CONNECTION

Before Juneteenth, resistance against slavery was already underway right here in Virginia. In **1831**, enslaved African American **Nat Turner** led a bold rebellion in Southampton County with the goal of ending slavery. Though the rebellion was suppressed, it was one of the most significant uprisings in U.S. history and showed the unbreakable spirit of those fighting for freedom.



Statue: "Freedom" by Ed Dwight  
Artistic depiction of Nat Turner  
Portrait of Nat Turner courtesy of the Austin Branch NAACP.

Source: <https://www.naacpaustin.com/blog/black-history-month-nat-turner>



The Civil War ended in April 1865. On June 19, 1865, enslaved people in Texas finally learned they were free—two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation!

### A HISTORY OF FREEDOM



#### JANUARY 1, 1863

President Abraham Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation, declaring freedom for enslaved people in Confederate states.



#### 1831

Nat Turner leads a rebellion in Southampton County, Virginia, challenging the brutality of slavery and inspiring future resistance.



#### JUNE 19, 1865

Union General Gordon Granger arrives in Galveston, Texas, and issues General Order No. 3, announcing freedom.



#### APRIL 1865

The Civil War ends. Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrenders to Union General Ulysses S. Grant in Appomattox, Virginia.



#### JUNE 17, 2021

Juneteenth is officially recognized as a federal holiday, honoring this important moment in American history.

### WHY JUNETEENTH MATTERS TODAY



#### HONORS HISTORY

It marks the true end of slavery in the United States and honors those who fought for freedom.



#### CELEBRATES RESILIENCE

It honors the strength, resilience, and achievements of African Americans.



#### EDUCATES & INSPIRES

It is a celebration of culture, family, faith, and community that inspires future generations.



#### BUILDS A BETTER FUTURE

It calls us to continue the work of justice and equality for all people.



Let us remember.  
Let us celebrate.  
Let us continue the journey toward a more just and equitable world.

**JUNETEENTH**  
*Freedom Day*  
CELEBRATE ★ REMEMBER ★ HONOR ★ EMPOWER

#### HISTORICAL REFERENCES

- National Museum of African American History & Culture (NMAAHC) <https://nmaahc.si.edu>
- Library of Congress – Juneteenth: A Celebration of Freedom <https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/juneteenth>
- National Archives – Emancipation Proclamation <https://www.archives.gov/exhibits/featured-documents/emancipation-proclamation>

#### IMAGE & CONTENT CREDITS

- Statue: "Freedom" by Ed Dwight
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- Portrait of Nat Turner courtesy of the Austin Branch NAACP.
- Source: <https://www.naacpaustin.com/blog/black-history-month-nat-turner>
- Juneteenth flag image provided for educational purposes

#### ABOUT THIS PAGE

This page is intended for educational purposes to honor the history and significance of Juneteenth. Information compiled from trusted historical sources. Please visit the websites listed for more information.



*AmunRa's*



# NAT TURNER — EXHIBITION —

*Featuring our T.n.T Tour & Tent*



Hosted by Brother Khalifah Muhammed

In the interest of promoting Juneteenth which represents emancipation of the enslaved population of the United States.

The most popular freedom fighter and warrior for emancipation in the history of the United States was undoubtedly world famous Nat Turner of the Nat Turner insurrection of 1831.

Southampton County was the birth place of two figures for emancipation Nat Turner and Dred Scott of the famous Dred Scott Supreme Court Case of 1857 where the Supreme Court ruled that slaves had no right to sue for their freedom.

With Nat Turner being recognized worldwide for his rebellion and insurrection AmunRa has always been adamant about including the story of Nat Turner and changing the narrative of Nat Turner from terrorist to freedom fighter against the worst institution of slavery in world history.

It is said that Nat Turner's rebellion and insurrection was the spark that was followed by John Brown of the Harper's Ferry rebellion that led to the "war of the states" known as the American Civil War.

The Nat Turner tent is a small exhibition featuring the film "Birth of a Nation" with the actor Nate Parker running everyday of the event with literature about Nat Turner.

Interesting and informative all a part of the 2026 4th Annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration.

**SATURDAY JUNE 20TH**



**BROTHER MUHAMMAD HOSTS THE  
NAT TURNER LIBRARY TOUR YEAR AROUND.**

**Sign up at the tent**

**THE TOUR INCLUDES STOPS AT:**

- Cross Keys – Nat Turner State Historical Marker (DHR Marker U-122)
- Cabin Pond – Site where the rebellion was staged
- Hebron Baptist Church, Drewryville, Virginia
- Time permitting the Nat Turner Trail in Courtland

**Sign up at the tent**



**T.N.T. TENT EXHIBITION**  
Featuring the film "Birth of a Nation"  
Daily showings & educational literature about Nat Turner.



**EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE FOR ALL AGES**  
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Remember the past. Celebrate freedom. Build the future.

**HONOR • REMEMBER • TELL THE TRUTH**



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**4TH ANNUAL**

**SPECTACULAR  
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*Celebration*



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ENVIRONMENT**



# Honoring the Native Heroes of Southampton County, Virginia



Champions of Freedom, Justice, and Legacy, Southampton County, Virginia, holds sacred ground—a land shaped by resilience, defiance, and the unyielding pursuit of liberty. From the fields of revolt to the halls of legal battle, the region has birthed and harbored heroes whose legacies echo through the corridors of American history. This page honors five powerful figures: Nat Turner, Dred Scott, Anthony Gardener, John Brown, and James Magee—men whose lives and actions formed a tapestry of resistance, justice, and enduring truth.



## Nat Turner (1800–1831)

*Prophet. Rebel. Martyr.*

Born into slavery in Southampton County, Nat Turner was a deeply spiritual man who claimed visions and signs from God. In 1831, he led one of the most significant slave uprisings in U.S. history—the Nat Turner Rebellion—fighting to free himself and others from bondage. Though the rebellion was ultimately suppressed, Turner’s courage sparked intense national debate over slavery and ignited the flame of abolition. His life and sacrifice remain a haunting testament to the cost of freedom and the power of conviction.

*“I was born for some great purpose...”*

— Nat Turner



## Dred Scott (c. 1799–1858)

*Symbol of Legal Injustice. Catalyst for Change.*

Though most known for the infamous Dred Scott v. Sandford Supreme Court decision, Scott’s early life traces back to Southampton County. Enslaved and denied basic human rights, he bravely pursued legal action for his freedom after being taken into free territories. The Court’s 1857 ruling—that no Black person could be a U.S. citizen—outraged the nation and helped accelerate the path to the Civil War. Dred Scott’s fight exposed the moral bankruptcy of slavery and the urgent need for justice.

### Legacy in the Land

These men—rebels, thinkers, educators, and fighters—represent the spiritual and historical backbone of Southampton County. Their lives speak to universal themes of justice, resistance, and the indomitable will of a people who refused to be broken.

May we remember them not just in memory, but in action.

*“The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice.”*

— Martin Luther King Jr.



## Anthony Gardener (Dates Unknown)

*Forgotten Patriot. Native Son.*

Little documented but long remembered in local oral histories, Anthony Gardener is recognized as a native Black patriot of Southampton County. Stories speak of a man who resisted servitude and helped protect his community from violent retribution during the unrest of the 19th century. Though details of his life remain veiled by time, Gardener stands as a reminder that not all heroes are found in books—some live in the soul of the land and the memory of the people.



## John Brown (1800–1859)

*Abolitionist Warrior. Conscience of a Nation.*

Though not born in Southampton County, John Brown was forever linked to its legacy. Inspired by Nat Turner’s rebellion, Brown believed armed insurrection was the only path to abolish slavery. His 1859 raid on Harpers Ferry became a pivotal moment in American history. Brown revered Turner as a kindred spirit and often invoked Southampton’s soil as sacred ground. He called for solidarity between races in the fight for freedom and died for that vision—a martyr to the cause of liberation.

*Thank you for celebrating the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration with us!!!*



The 4th Annual

# SPECTACULAR Juneteenth

CULTURAL CELEBRATION

## BLACK HISTORY REFLECTIONS

**Black History Reflections** is just another part of the Spectacular Juneteenth cultural celebration that is about reflecting pride in the historical contributions and struggles made by African Americans that we tend to forget as we move on with our lives. A time in the celebration to pay respect and educate one another facts that have been buried with our ancestors. Black History is not a month it is the history of not only the United States but of the world. From the oldest human fossils found in Africa to the baby that was born today. Black History is to **never ever** be buried or extinguished again so let's **reflect** on history!!!



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**NOVEMBER 3rd**

**WARD 3  
RE-ELECT**

**Re-Elect**



**GREG**



**McLEMORE**

**for Ward 3 City Councilman**

- FRANKLIN'S SENIOR COUNCILMAN
- LEAD THE WAY TO A BLACK MAJORITY ON COUNCIL
- CREATOR OF FRANKLIN'S JUNETEENTH CULTURAL CELEBRATION
- STRONG ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IDEAS
- VOTES NO TO TAX AND UTILITY INCREASES
- PROMOTING AMPHITHEATER/ ROSIE'S GAMING CENTER/ HOTELS
- FIGHTS CITY WASTING TAX PAYERS MONEY



**IN MY PLAN:**

- GET SOME STREETS RENAMED TO FAMOUS BLACK PEOPLE
- COMING IN 2027 A MLK CELEBRATION FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING'S BIRTHDAY FOR THE FIRST TIME IN FRANKLIN

**COUNCILMAN McLEMORE BELIEVES IN**

**"SAY IT LOUD, I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD."**

**A VOTE FOR GREG McLEMORE IS A VOTE FOR YOUR VOICE.**

**McLEMORE WON'T GO ALONG, JUST TO GET ALONG.**

**VOTE NOVEMBER 3rd**

**RE-ELECT GREG McLEMORE WARD 3 CITY COUNCILMAN**

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*Celebrating the Spectacular  
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together!*

Let's build a stronger, healthier, and more vibrant Franklin—  
for today and for tomorrow.



**VOTE  
NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>**

★ ★ ★ PAID FOR BY FRIENDS OF RICKY SYKES ★ ★ ★

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2026

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Josh Wyche Sr.



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YOU BELIEVE



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 celebration.

WE  
 AGREE



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Congratulations to Amun Ra Inc on

THE 4TH ANNUAL SPECTACULAR  
**Juneteenth**  
 CULTURAL CELEBRATION



HAVE A  
*Wonderful*  
**CELEBRATION!**

NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>

RE-ELECT  
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National Leader of The Original Black Panther Party



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# JUNETEENTH

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ON YOUR  
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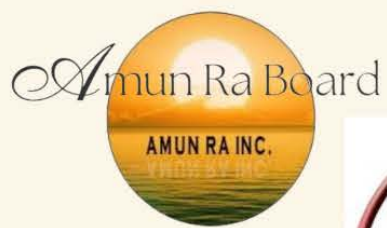
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With sincere gratitude, we honor the loyal sponsors and community supporters who have stood with the Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration for three years or more. Your continued generosity, partnership, and belief in this vision help us preserve culture, uplift families, celebrate freedom, and create a meaningful experience for our entire community. Thank you for growing with us, believing in us, and helping make this celebration possible year after year.

*Thank You*



**KAPLAN**  
**Paul**



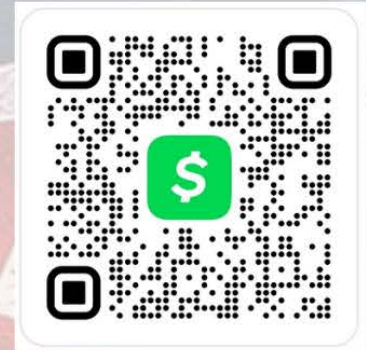
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# Amun Ra Inc.

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OUR PURPOSE

TO INFORM AND FAMILIARIZE THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AND COMMUNITIES OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE AMERICAN FEDERAL HOLIDAY JUNETEENTH AND ITS RELEVANT IMPORTANCE TO HEALING OUR NATION OF ONE OF THE WORST CHAPTERS IN OUR HISTORY AS A NATION DEVELOP MORE PRIDE AND TOGETHERNESS AMONGST THE CITIZENRY IN OUR COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE NATION.

WE WILL DEVELOP ALL TYPES OF LITERATURE, ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS THAT WILL HELP THE COMMUNITY AND THE NATION TO SEE HOW IMPORTANT JUNETEENTH IS REGARDING FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL.

OUR PLAN IS TO SETUP AN ONGOING GROUP OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES ALL YEAR LONG AT SCHOOLS, CHURCHES, PARKS AND ANYPLACE THAT WE CAN ENLIGHTEN PEOPLE ABOUT JUNETEENTH, ITS ORIGIN, HISTORY AND IMPORTANCE.

WE PLAN TO HAVE SOME LARGE EVENTS EACH YEAR TO BE OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISERS TO AIDE IN THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THIS MISSION, AS A WAY TO COMMEMORATE THE FEDERAL JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY.

HAPPY JUNETEENTH

## Amun Ra Board



Pam Lee



Jessie Harris



Mike Smith Jr



Greg Mclemore



Debra Goodwyn



Kimberly Turner

# My Gratitude

This is always a difficult page to write because, regardless of how I try, I am sure to leave out someone's name that I want to publicly thank for their time to this year's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration. If I miss you please charge it to my mind and not my heart. First and foremost, I want to thank God, Amun Ra, and the City of Franklin for our collaboration this year.

The thing about writing this page is, before the event takes place this souvenir brochure has already gone to the printer, and there are always people that appear at the last minute that are angels in disguise whose contributions should be recognized but, its too late to add them in. That sort of thing can happen when there are so many people and moving parts involved with a four-day production. I would like to thank the Board of Directors for Amun Ra Inc. Mr. Mike Smith Vice Chair, Pam Lee treasurer, Miss Jessie Harris, Debra Goodwyn, and our newest member, and quickly becoming indispensable Miss Kimberly Turner our board secretary, Thank everyone of you for your contributions, especially Mike Smith without whose unfaltering positive inspriation and financial support this event may not have taken place. When I wanted to quit and give up it was Mike Smith that encouraged me and reminded me of how important perseverance is in any worthwhile endeavor and Juneteenth is such an endeavor. I am so grateful to Mike.

Next, I would like to thank the Franklin City Council, Mayor Paul Kaplan, Vice Mayor Wendolyn Copland, Councilman Mark Kitchen, Council lady Jessica Grant, and Councilman Rickey Grizard. Who voted to support the city joining Amun Ra Inc. The city was our largest donor despite opposition to this event. I would like to thank the entire city staff for their support, especially the director of Parks & recreation Mrs. Sam Searles who bent over backwards to help pull this event off. I would like to thank our graphic designer Mrs. Telease Nixon who designed our souvenir brochures for the last three years. If you need any graphic design work for your business or events I recommend Telease, (see her ad). I would like to thank General Pain of the VA. chapter of the Original Black Panther Party along with the Franklin police for security, I would like to thank all our advertisers and donors, General Shelia Baxter, David Rabil, Clarence Baker and Gwen Blue for their contributions. As for sponsors, the first sponsor to step forward with a check was Walmart, thank you. Thank you to our first time supporter Clarence Ash of Crocker Funeral home of Suffolk, welcome. We have several new sponsors in this year's edition all welcome

I thank every sponsor or advertiser in this brochure; it's because of you all, that we can make this our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Juneteenth Cultural Celebration. I want to offer a special thanks to Dr. Umar Johnson for coming to our small city, and to all the talent, Praxton coming from Chicago and especially Andra Cross for volunteering his talent. Brother Khalifah Mohammad for salvaging the Nat Turner Exhibition Tour & Tent, Finally, I would like to thank all the volunteers in those yellow t shirts for all their donations of time, energy, and encouragement. If I start naming them all I would surly miss one of the most important ones, so I won't start naming, thank you, to all our volunteers. You have my unwavering gratitude for your support on our 2026 4<sup>th</sup> annual Spectacular Juneteenth Cultural Celebration.

Gregory McLemore  
Franklin City Councilman, CEO Amun Ra Inc.



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