

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 5, 2026

Vetstock 2026 to Bring Springfield Together to Honor, Heal and Celebrate Veterans

Free festival will feature live music, food, community resources, local vendors and family activities

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. | Veterans, military families and community members will come together this November for Vetstock 2026, a free festival dedicated to honoring those who have served, connecting veterans with community resources and celebrating the community that supports them.

Hosted by the Vetstock Committee and Operation Hometown Heroes, Vetstock will take place Saturday, November 7, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Salvation Army Community Center, 1600 Clear Lake Ave., Springfield.

With the theme “HONOR. HEAL. CELEBRATE.”, the family-friendly event will feature live music, free food and refreshments, community resources, local and veteran-owned vendors, and activities for all ages.

“Vetstock is about making sure our veterans know that their service, sacrifices and stories matter,” said the Vetstock Committee. “We want Springfield to show up for the people who showed up for us. This is a chance to connect, celebrate and build a stronger community together.”

Community Fundraiser at Izumi Rotary & Bar

The community can support Vetstock 2026 ahead of the festival at a Veteran Fundraiser hosted by Izumi Rotary & Bar on Saturday, October 10.

From 4 to 8 p.m., guests can enjoy food, live music, family entertainment, giveaways and community activities. Ten percent of food and drink proceeds will be donated to Vetstock 2026.

The event lineup includes:

- **4–6 p.m.:** Meet & Greet with Illinois food reviewer Grazing Guse
- **4–8 p.m.:** Taqueria El Paisa
- **4–8 p.m.:** Live music
- Family entertainment and activities
- Giveaways and prizes

The fundraiser will be held at Izumi Rotary & Bar, 3061 Wabash Ave., Suite B, Springfield.

“This fundraiser gives our community another opportunity to come together and support the veterans we will celebrate at Vetstock,” organizers said. “Every meal, every contribution and every person who shows up helps make this event possible.”

Businesses and Organizations Invited to Participate

Local businesses, nonprofits and community organizations are invited to participate in Vetstock 2026 as vendors or sponsors.

SPONSOR DEADLINE	October 15, 2026	VENDOR DEADLINE	October 31, 2026
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Vendor booths are \$50, and sponsorship opportunities begin at \$150, with additional opportunities for expanded event and promotional recognition. Exclusive sponsorship opportunities are also available for music, food and drinks.

Vetstock is more than a one-day celebration. It is an opportunity for Springfield to recognize local veterans, connect veterans and families with resources, and demonstrate that the community stands behind those who served.

Admission is free, and everyone is welcome.

VETSTOCK 2026

Saturday, November 7, 2026 | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Salvation Army Community Center
1600 Clear Lake Ave., Springfield, IL 62703

Free admission & Free food and refreshments

MEDIA INQUIRIES

David Rieger
Vetstock Committee Member
317-362-1780
davidjrjr89@msn.com