

Village Voice of Spencer, WI

Nominations for Citizen of the Year

Yes, we all know by now that *Spencerama* has been cancelled this year. But , there

are some activities this fall that will take place as usual. Not only will the *Brad Bauer* weekend go on as planned for Aug. 14-16 but the *Pie/Music in the Park* will be taking place as scheduled on Wednesday, August 19. *The Spencer Area Chamber of Commerce* would again like to recognize someone as our *Citizen of the Year*, but we need your help! Once you figure out who your citizen of the year is just submit a brief (or not so brief) letter of nomination for the person you think has contributed most to *Spencer* this past year. It's pretty easy after that! You can either send it to Partners Bank at PO Box 37 in Spencer, Attention: Linda, drop it off at Partners bank on Clark Street or email lindah@partnersbankwi.com. Do you need to go to the Village Office? Drop your nomination off there! The deadline is the 31st of July so you've got plenty of time but why wait. I'll bet you know who you'd pick right now, *So Go For It!* And Thanks!



Marvin "Mike" Engel, April 25, 1907 – December 7, 2006

Photo circa 1930's

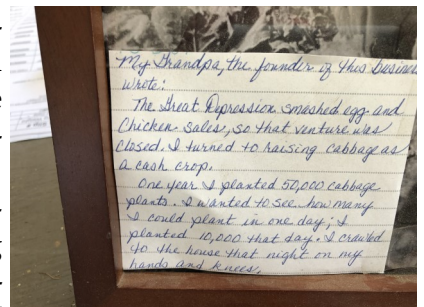
On my first visit to Englewood Garden Center this Spring I saw my classmate Lori Andres. Lori and I graduated from high school together here in town a few years ago. I knew her then as Lori Landwher and as of today, she's owned the greenhouse for 30 years. As usual, she greeted us with a smile.

On the left end of the long counter, opposite the cash register on the right, was a framed black and white photo of Mike Engel, the guy who started Englewood Nursery. If you were a kid from Spencer, like me, you knew Mike Engel. If you weren't a kid from here but lived anywhere nearby, there's a good chance you'd heard of Mike. Either way, almost 14 years after his passing at over 100 years old, this quaint, venerable patch of history on the Village of Spencer's west side

holds at least a million memories.

I started thinking about Mike and Lori and my mom and grandma and that greenhouse that I seemed to know well, despite going there just a few dozen times in my life, since I haven't always lived here.. When my son and his girlfriend came to visit she wanted to start a little, indoor herb garden. I knew just the place. We gave her the obligatory, albeit brief tour, of some of other greenhouse's dotting the area, making sure I was on the path to Englewood's at the end of our journey ensuring we 'd get the herbs for the job, and then some. That place has become a magnet for my checkbook as I fill the chinks in my garden and flowerpots. But that's ok. It rarely disappoints.

This time, as I showed my guest around the greenhouses, I had become so enamored with, for their history, if for no other reason, I took a picture of that young Mike Engel kneeling before a sea of self-planted cabbage plants (above). In the corner of the frame Lori had a hand-written note (pictured right) that we removed so I could see the whole picture. (Go to Englewood on Page 2).



My Grandpa, the founder of this business wrote:
The Great Depression smashed egg and Chicken sales, so that venture was closed. I turned to raising cabbage as a cash crop.
One year I planted 50,000 cabbage plants. I wanted to see how many I could plant in one day. I planted 10,000 that day. I crawled to the house that night on my hands and knees.

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**SPENCER SUPPORT
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Englewood, from page 1.

I know the picture is small so here is what Lori wrote for her grandpa's photo: "My Grandpa, the father of this business wrote:"

"The Great Depression smashed egg and chicken sales, so that venture was closed. I turned to raising cabbage as a cash crop.

One year I planted 50,000 cabbage plants. I wanted to see how many I could plant in one day; I planted 10,000 that day. I crawled to the house that night on my hands and knees."

That's pretty much Mike Engel in a nutshell. He was known for his diligence and incredible hard work. I visited with Lori on my fourth or fifth trip to the greenhouse this spring and while there's enough for a book, I hope you'll settle for more next month on Englewood and it's history.



From the Editor

My wife Venita (Bun) and I often end the spring/summer/fall days with a trip to the compost site, down the long road, past the Industrial Park and into the setting sun, turning West Willow drive into a dusty destination for grass clippings, tree branches or the occasional bag of leaves. When we lived in Alaska it was often a sunset four-wheeler ride to the gravel pit. I guess I'm just a romantic at heart.

One day this Spring we dropped off a small truck-load of something when I saw a pretty good pile of shingles. What I muttered to myself, and what my wife picked up on, was neither printable nor romantic.

You see I grew up at 506 South La Salle before migrating 50 feet to 100 E. Elm Street when I was twelve. Right across the street to the west, was in fact, a real honest-to-goodness, junk yard. It was awesome. We spent many summer days building forts in tress that were dragged there after storms, re-arranging the bricks from the old high school or chucking them into the ever advancing marsh ponds, dragging boards and other valuable barriers to ensure we had outfield fences and benches for our homemade version of County Stadium (where the Brewers used to play).

So, for future reference, I *know* junk yards, and now I was worried. A couple weeks later we noticed an unusual number of big, black plastic bags and plenty of other smaller ones blowing around in the evening breeze. Not good.

Later that week a pile of concrete was being dumped somewhere near the rest of the concrete and some miscellaneous dirt was dumped directly next to it, nowhere near the pile that is obviously dedicated to that type of waste near the back of the compost site. An un-named guy, who works for the Village, yes, I think I know them all, (no need to name) even stopped to scold/inform the guy that there was a proper protocol to dumping. He shared that story with me five minutes later as I was dumping even more grass clippings. He even called me by name, perhaps sensing my history with junk yards.

Fortunately, the Compost Site, which Village administrator Paul Hench told me was the official name, is not a junk yard. Unfortunately, some people are treating it as though it is.

Our friend Inez Fosberg often called it the sculch (rhymes with mulch) pile. It seemed appropriate although I had no clue what it meant. I couldn't even find it in my trusty Webster's Concise Dictionary of the English Language but in the Merriam-Webster Unabridged Dictionary, on the google machine, sculch is defined as trash, junk or rubbish and says it is chiefly dialectal which means Inez, who has a sister in Nebraska, probably picked it up being from a long line of farmers, like many of us around here, including myself.

Our Compost Site, aka, sculch pile, (Thanks Inez) is not a junk yard. First off, it's highly convenient, has appropriate signage that a child could easily follow and even canisters that you can throw your trash bags in when you're done dumping. Now, after the aforementioned abuses, there's a stop sign upon entering, probably because the village was forced to throw a chain and lock on the property each night.

Sunflowers grow at the compost site late in the summer and even an occasional gourd, pumpkin or green tomato peeks out from hiding near the back. This is a place that people can take their waste that will regenerate itself into a flower or vine or even soil that can be used after some seasoning. There are even some piles of mulch that I'm sure people use from time to time. Plastic and shingles and stuff like that don't re-grow and are far from what this place was intended to be.

I know most folks use the site as it was intended. Let's continue that so we don't lose a good thing.



NTC Announces New Programs for Fall 2020
(WAUSAU, Wis.) – Beginning in Fall 2020, stu-

dents at Northcentral Technical College (NTC) can select from eight new degree programs created in response to job market changes and the needs of current and prospective students.

“We recognize that many families are considering alternatives to having their son or daughter go off to college this fall due to the uncertainty surrounding COVID-19,” said Lori Weyers, President, NTC. “Our new Liberal Arts Transfer degree gives students an opportunity to earn their AA or AS degree locally at NTC and then transfer to any UW college, with guaranteed transfer to UW-Madison.”

Applications are now being accepted for new programs in Civil Engineering Technology, Business Operations, Crop Scout, Hospitality Specialist, Human Resources, Paralegal, Liberal Arts and Supply Chain Assistant. Business Operations, Hospitality Specialist, Human Resources, Paralegal and Supply Chain Assistant are offered 100% online through NTC's most flexible option, Virtual College.

“Each new program is a direct result of feedback from our businesses and community partners,” said Weyers. “Students can expect to be in high demand for high paying careers upon graduation.”

For more information or to apply to one of NTC's new programs, please visit www.ntc.edu or contact Admissions at 715. 803.1645.

See NTC, page 6

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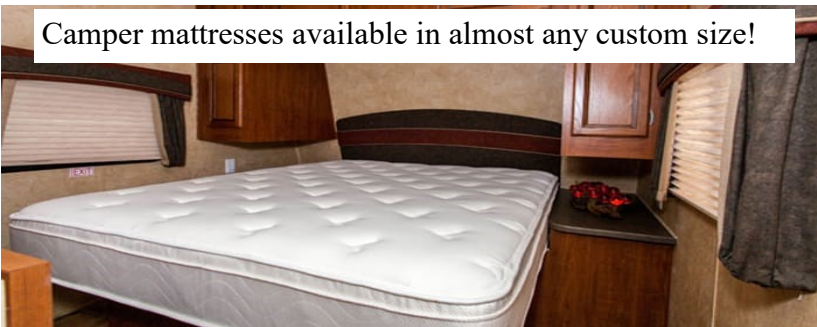
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What's Rockin' in Rocketville!

By Mike Endreas

District Admin./School District of Spencer

I hope this article finds you getting opportunities to enjoy the summer within limitations and guidance to assure safety. As a school district the learning environment is very limited as we are offering a couple of virtual offerings for kids and virtual workouts are being made available to our athletes.

The Governor's school closure order sunsets on June 30 at which time the District is at liberty to determine the amount of opportunities that are available. At times like this I am thankful for the strong supportive school board that we have. At our regular June meeting it was decided that we will continue to limit the use of the building through the month of July. We will not be holding any face to face summer school, as we originally hoped to provide. The board has also decided that the use of the facility by outside organizations will be not allowed through the month of July. The hope is that through ever changing guidance from the state we can create a plan to safely re-open our doors and to get back to some normalcy in August. As for the school grounds, beginning July 1 we will allow the use of our ball diamonds, playground equipment, and track areas. We do hope that those using them will adhere to common protocols to ensure safety.

In the meantime, the building project is revving up and will soon be in full swing. The FACE and Restroom renovations are on schedule and progressing daily. At a special meeting on July 6 the board will approve the site plan bids and excavation will begin on July 13. The Dome and remaining conventional construction are scheduled to begin on or around August 17. Our move in date of the summer of 2021 is still the plan.

With all the pandemic concerns and the building project I have become distracted with what is truly important. At the end of the 2019-20 school year we will have three outstanding people retire from the School District of Spencer. Emily Bissonette (grade 2), Deb Hein (Admin. Assistant) and Connie Schroedel (Title 1) will be starting their new careers. I want to wish them all the best. Not only are they talented at their professions but even greater people. Their fun-loving attitudes, and work ethic will truly be missed.

I wish you all a great summer as our District continues to plan for the uncertain future the pandemic has created. We will work diligently to formulate a plan that will provide educational opportunities for our kids while also assuring the safety of all. I will do my best to continue to provide updates as more information is available.

Having experienced the reality *at the* TACK

of a pandemic and the accompanying restrictions, let's look forward to when we can once again come together to laugh and be inspired and amazed by the exceptional talents of local, national and international performers and artists. And what will you see when the time is right? TA-DA! It is with great excitement that the Tack introduces its 2020-21 "On With the Show" season – subject to change, as necessary, to keep patrons, performers, volunteers and staff safe.

"Tribute bands" have always been well-received here at the Tack, and this season we're giving a nod to the beloved music of The Carpenters (a holiday show with returning Helen Welch) and the unforgettable hits of ABBA by ABBA-Mania (Canada.) Michael Perry's "Sneezing Cows and Love Songs" and "Mutts Gone Nuts," which were postponed last spring, will finally find their way to the stage. The dark winter months will light up with the energetic Zydeco swamp/blues/rock music of Wisconsin's own Copper Box; while amid dry wit and banter, Canadians Bridge & Wolak will perform various genres of music on digital accordion and clarinet. Using the storytelling style of his native Ireland, Aidan Dooley is expected to re-enact the riveting true stories of the Antarctic Exploration by Scott and Shackleton in an intimate piece of theater set to take place in March 2021. Featuring the incredible talents of Central Wisconsin locals, November's "Talent at the Tack" will offer a grown-up "Cabaret," so to speak, that will benefit the Arts Adventure Education Series for area school children. As always, we like to think there's something for almost everyone at the Tack!

In addition to performing artists, visual artists will display works in a generous variety of mediums – from alcohol ink to collage, long exposure photography to watercolor painting. Catch the opening receptions on the first Friday evening of the month or view their exhibits at the time of a performance.

Special events this season include an author chat with Eau Claire's Nickolas Butler, a motor-coach trip to Minneapolis to visit art museums and a spring basket class.

See TACK on page 6.



Spencer Library news....

The Spencer Library (as well as all Marathon County Libraries) will re-open to the public on June 22nd with limited services available via appointment. We will continue to offer curbside pick-up for any patron.

A household can make an appointment for 25 minutes of library time. Appointments MUST be made ahead of time. One household appointment per week.

Patrons must remain outside the door until library staff notify them it is ok to enter. Patrons must stop at the sanitation station to sanitize their hands. Patrons will be asked to social distance and masks are highly recommended.

All library materials should be returned to the outside book drop.

Spencer Library Hours:

Monday: Curbside pick-up 1-3pm.

Library use by appointment 3-7pm.

Tuesday/Thursday/Friday: Curbside pick-up 2-4pm.

Library use by appointment 10am-2pm.

Wednesday: Curbside pick-up from 5-7pm.

Library use by appointment 1-5pm.

No Saturdays.

Please call 715-659-3996 to make your appointments or if you have any questions.

Summer reading will begin on June 22nd. There will be no performers this summer and crafts will be available as grab n' go.



TACK, from page 5.

You are cordially invited to hop on to our website, print your own brochure, view dates and details of each event, note health and safety precautions/procedures in place and be advised of any changes that may become needed as the season rolls along. A limited number of hardcopy season brochures will be mailed to those without computer technology, but most communication this year will be via website, email and social media. Don't be left out of the loop! Sign up to receive e-blasts and updates at: lucilletackcenter.com; send your email address to: info@lucilletackcenter.com or leave a message at 715.659.4499.

When we get back to the theatre, things may feel a bit different. We're confident, however, that it will be worth the wait. Until that moment, stay healthy! At the Tack, it's "On With the Show!"

NTC, from page 3

Editors Note: In all honestly, I would've loved to print everything I received from NTC but space would not allow it. The descriptions of the new programs and the occupations that they may lead to are worth a read. Please contact them through the information on page three or the info. below. Here is a list of those new programs.

List of New Programs

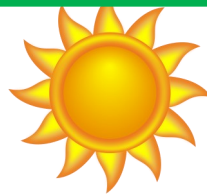
- BUSINESS OPERATIONS TECHNICAL DEGREE -- CIVIL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATE DEGREE ---CROP SCOUT TECHNICAL DIPLOMA--HUMAN RESOURCES ASSOCIATE DEGREE --HOSPITALITY SPECIALIST TECHNICAL DEGREE -- LIBERAL ARTS TRANSFER ASSOCIATE DEGREE --PARALEGAL ASSOCIATE DEGREE --SUPPLY CHAIN ASSISTANT TECHNICAL DEGREE.**

Kelsi Seubert
Marketing & Public Relations Director
Phone: 715-803-1509
Email: seubert@ntc.edu.

VILLAGE NEWS

The Village Office will be closed on Friday, July 3rd. Village Board Meeting is Monday, July 13 at 6:30 (usual time). Spencer Woman’s Club will meet on August 6 at 6:30. Spencer Garden Walk – July 11 from 10am-2pm.

MUSIC IN THE PARK. Mark your calendars for **Music in the Park** sponsored by the **Spencer Area Chamber**. Each Wednesday evening around 6:00 pm in August there will be music and some type of food available by one of the local non-profit organizations. To start off the events, one of the Village favorites helping support the Historical Society, **FoxFire Affair/Draegen Schlayers** will be performing. On Wednesday, August 19th, in addition to **Music in the Park**, the **Citizen of the Year** will be announced and **Miss Spencerama, Lil’ Miss Spencerama, and Jr. Miss Spencerama** will be crowned. There will be more information in the August Village Voice, Spencer Connection, on facebook, and on posters around town. Expect change and a great evening!



Spencer Garden Walk

Sponsored by
Spencer Woman’s Club
Saturday, July 11th
10AM– 2PM



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Church of Christ,

B3942 State Hwy 13
659-4796
9:00AM Sunday Bible Study
10:00AM Sunday Worship
7:00PM Wednesday Bible Study



METHODIST

Spencer United Methodist Church
108 Burnett Street
659-5551
9:30AM Sunday Worship
Club 3:16 Wed. 3:30– 5:30pm
sumcs@spencerum.church

LUTHERAN

St. John’s Church (ELCA)
Rev. Rebekah Tarras
B3750 State Hwy 13
659-5158
Sunday Worship will be at 8am and 10 am starting on September 9.

Trinity Lutheran(LCMS)
Rev. Mark Neumann
109 W. Clark Street
659-4006
Worship will be Thursdays at 7pm.



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CONTACT US

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Community Monthly Newsletter for Spencer Residents

JULY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
For all Church times, see page 7			1 Canada Day 	2	3	4 
5	6	7 Legion 7pm Village Hall.	8	9 Sr. Citizen Mtg. 10:30am @ NUTZ. Lion's Club 6:30pm @ Nutz. 4H 7pm Village Hall.	10	11 Spencer Garden Walk 10-2pm.
12 14U Softball Tourney at ARC Park.	13 Village Board Mtg. 6:30 Village Hall	14	15	16	17	18 10U Baseball Tourney at ARC Park.
19 10U Softball Tourney at ARC Park.	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	