

Village Voice of Spencer, WI

What's Rockin' in Rocketville!

By Mike Endreas

District Admin./School District of Spencer

I hope to someday look back on the events that have unfolded over the past month and a half and find that it has made our students, staff and community more resilient and increase the appreciation of what we used to refer to as our normal lives. Thank you to our health care and essential workers that have continued their dedication to supporting the needs of our community in this trying time.

SPENCERAMA DAYS 2020 cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic!

There has been hope over the last month that we could move toward normal socializing by the end of April so we could finalize **SPENCERAMA DAYS** 2020. Unfortunately, it is not going to be such a quick transition and the decision to cancel **SPENCERAMA DAYS** had to be made. We will begin planning **SPENCERAMA DAYS** 2021 for June 11, 12, 13, 2021 and hope you mark your calendars. Stay safe and look forward to a great event next year.

On Thursday April 16, 2020 Governor Evers announced that he extended the Safer at Home order until May 26, 2020. Included in that order he closed Public and Private schools for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. Our last day of school for students is May 29, 2020 but the school year ends June 30. What this means is we will not be able to do any face to face programs, etc. through the month of June. In a normal year we would be hosting summer school, having work out sessions for our athletes along with other events. All of these options are put on hold but may be able to happen virtually.

Our staff have worked hard to work in a virtual environment while providing some fun for our kids. Via Facebook they have put our "missing you slideshows" for our kids. A social distancing parade was held on Friday, April 24 to let the kids know we are thinking of them. To me that has been the most difficult time in all of this. I often would get great energy and comfort from making a round through the school to talk with and interact with kids. There is no greater therapy than having a 1 minute conversation with a kindergartner.

My heart goes out to the Senior Class of 2020. We all can look back on our senior year and think about the activities that we were involved with. Some of us, not me of course, remember the senior prank that was played to leave our memorable mark. The school concerts, plays, dances and sporting events all play a significant role in that high school memory.

We have plans to hold a virtual graduation ceremony for our Seniors on May 16 to mark the virtual end of their education. Plans are also being made to honor our kids with a graduation ceremony this summer as we do not want to deny them at least an opportunity to walk across the stage and be recognized for their hard work and contributions they have made to our school. Much is up in the air but we will do everything we can within the rules and regulations that are laid out to make this happen..

I continue to be extremely proud of the work our students and staff have done during these times. I want to thank our parents for their work as well. I can't imagine balancing your work, running a household and working with your son or daughter in supporting them in the virtual environment. Stay safe all!



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For more info and to sign up: www.stratfordclasses.com

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

- *Avoid close contact with people who are at risk.
- *Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- *Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- *Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
- *Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.
- *Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

[cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

SPENCER

**SUPPORT
BUSINESS**

Spencer's Social and Emotional Learning word for May is **TOLERANCE**.

Tolerance is the willingness to accept feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own, and to admire the good qualities and good work of others. To express one's point of view in a decent and respectful way while respecting the sentiments of others.

TOLERANCE



Willingness to accept feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own

Whether you are a mom or dad, aunt or uncle, teacher or a neighbor, teaching tolerance, especially to children, is something we must all take responsibility for. Children are impressionable and are still forming their perceptions of the world.

They notice how we as adults attach values to differences. Hence, in the absence of their own experiences, they tend to base their impressions and opinions of one another on assumptions influenced by the positive or negative beliefs of those who are either closest or most influential in their lives, including parents or other family members, colleagues, educators, and/or role models. Therefore, promote openness and respect by demonstrating empathy and compassion through your words and actions. Treat others with respect, and your child will, too. Remember that kids are always listening and observing. Teach them love. Be an example of loving others despite and because of their differences. Learn to honor traditions and learn about others' traditions. Talk about differences respectfully and about how it's good that people are different.

Accept others who are different in their race, gender, culture, habits, and beliefs. The world is full of diversity and that is the beauty of our universe.

Summary of Spencer's Social and Emotional Learning words this year... **Optimism.** A feeling or belief that good things will happen. **Integrity.** The quality of being honest, fair, and having strong moral values. **Perseverance.** The ability to get through difficult tasks without giving up. **Respect.** A feeling or understanding that someone or something has value. **Cooperation.** Working together towards a shared goal or purpose. **Empathy.** The ability to understand someone else's needs and share their feelings. **Self-confidence.** A feeling or belief in your own power and ability. **Responsibility.** The moral obligation to behave fairly in consideration of self and others. **Tolerance.** Willingness to accept feelings, habits, or beliefs that are different from your own.

School District of Spencer, SEL Committee

at the TACK

Living in these unusual times requires a mindset that thinks outside the box; that solves problems in a resourceful way; that uses creativity to make a new state of affairs workable.

What, REALLY, is creativity?

Once upon a time, I believed that creativity was like discovering electricity, curing diseases like polio or writing a symphony. And, indeed, those ARE very creative accomplishments! I eventually came to realize that while I couldn't necessarily offer the world original discoveries or works of art, I could still be creative. I could take a situation and, using my own experience, come up with a solution to the concern. I could take someone else's idea and twist it to solve my own problem. Award-winning writer Lisa Barone would call it "copying smarter."

Isn't it safe to say that, at the moment, almost ALL of us are copying smarter? We wouldn't be surviving if we weren't! Crazy times call for crazy answers, and we'd all agree that there's no play book for what we're living through right now.

Most of us wouldn't describe ourselves as being particularly creative; but when faced with an uncertain future, an everyday schedule turned on its head, one MUST be creative! Believe it or not, if you're managing to get up every day, take care of your family and go about your business, you can bet you are problem-solving on a high level and are probably the poster child for creativity.

It will take the utmost creativity to get beyond the pandemic we're living through. Our medical



(See TACK, page 7)

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SCB Update:

Spencer Community Boosters continues to provide valuable programs to the Spencer Community. Since inception in 2015 we have been dedicated to the community and youth sports. Currently Spencer Community Boosters runs the Youth Baseball, Softball, and Basketball Programs. In addition, we are working towards beginning a youth volleyball program. These programs are critical to our small area and allow kids to play where they live instead of traveling to neighboring towns. Each year over 125 Spencer kids participate in our programs and over 100 kids from outside of Spencer come to the ARC Park to play ball.



Since 2016 SCB has been running the Spencer ARC park. We host several tournaments, including the Brad Bauer Community Tourney. In addition, three nights a week you'll be able to watch youth baseball and Thursday our Adult League night hosts Volleyball and Men's Softball. Monday through Thursday you will find anywhere between 50 and 200 people in the stands. It's a busy place which is amazing because the years' prior had seen a steep decline in attendance as the ARC Park fell into disrepair.

SCB wanted to change that and we did! As the years passed, we made many enhancements to the park including new dugouts, electrical, replaced the walk in cooler. But with more use and an ever-mounting maintenance list, it has become evident that we need more. The concessions and shelter area are in need of major improvements and more to the point, do not meet our needs any longer. In 2019 SCB requested permission to build new facilities. The timeline for completion is dependent on fundraising but we are hoping to complete phase one in the fall of this year or Spring of 2021 as to not cause any down time with our leagues.

Phase one will include tear down and reconstruction of the shelter area. The new shelter will be better placed behind home plate and will include an announcing booth above the structure so that the scorekeeper can hear the umpires during games. Approximate cost of this phase of the project is \$30,000

Phase two will include tear down and reconstruction of the concession stand and storage area. The current concession stand has limited space and each year faces more and more maintenance needs. Some have been hundreds of dollars to fix and what's needed in the next few years would be too expensive to spend fixing on a building that doesn't suit our needs effectively. The Village of Spencer has given the go ahead to move forward on the reconstruction pending submission of the floor plans. The projected cost of this project is \$60,000. Currently SCB will need additional fundraising to cover this cost but we are hoping for a great 2020 and 2021 season! Lets hope the current shut downs don't last into the summer. We are confident that with two years of regular season fundraising, along with community support, we will have no problem meeting this goal. If you'd like to learn more please message us on Facebook or call Becky Gorst at 715-321-6061 to discuss.



*SCB offers baseball leagues for 8U, 10U and 12U as well as a Bronco team for 7-9th graders. Softball this summer is 8U, 10U and 14U. Basketball is offered for boys and girls from 4th-6th grade.

Up to 9 Men's teams have shown interest for Thursday's Softball league which means there could be as many as four games each Thursday. Volleyball is also held on Thursdays.

Spencer Area Historical Society



SUMMER HOURS-Historical Museum-
In the Olde Hall-Downtown Spencer-
Open 11AM-2PM-
3rd Sunday of Month.

*Not right now, but also open to groups
by appointment by calling Ron @659-
5182 or Jerry @ 659-5577.



From the Editor This month we will complete the third and final part of the Spencer Fire of 1886. As the fire started and then began to rage, help arrived and plans to rebuild soon followed but as aforementioned, it will remain "the darkest day in the history of the village." I'll re-start you with part of the last sentence from last month. (See FIRE, page 6)

Although SPENCERAMA has been canceled this summer they would still like to crown some Miss Spenceramas by following the links below. Contact Jenny Schriener via the information provided if you have further questions.




Hey Young Ladies of Spencer....

Here's your chance to represent our community as Miss Spencerama to reign in 2020-2021, an honor that will be bestowed upon a young lady from the Spencer Area. As Miss Spencerama, your activities will revolve around community functions during the year in which you reign, including opportunities to represent Spencer in local parades. **Scholarship available!** Visit the links below to learn more!

Entry forms due July 31st

Miss Spencerama judging event to take place during Pie in the Park on August 19th.

Miss Spencerama:
2019-2020 Freshmen – Juniors eligible
<https://form.iotform.com/200877004239049>

Junior Miss Spencerama:
2019-2020 4th – 6th grade eligible
<https://form.iotform.com/200903100144132>

Lil' Miss Spencerama:
2019-2020 4K – 2nd grade eligible
<https://form.iotform.com/200903368686159>

Please contact Jenny Schreiner with any questions at 715.660.1060 or schreiners1006@gmail.com.

FIRE, from page 5 Mayor W. H. Upham and a large number of the whole-souled citizens of Marshfield came up as soon as the fire would admit of it and brought with them two wagon loads of provisions which were divided among the needy who had been left.....

without food or shelter. Mayor Upham, in behalf of the citizens, invited all who were unprovided with shelter to accompany them to Marshfield. Nearly all were provided, however, having found a place with friends. Nevertheless, the kindly aid given and the hospitable invitation extended will not soon be forgotten by the people of Spencer.

The trains were somewhat delayed as the rails were badly warped where the fire passed. The telegraph wires were also down, but were soon repaired and an instrument placed in the Blackstone house.

We have interviewed some of our citizens who were burned out and in answer to the question, are you going to rebuild? The reply has been yes, in most instances. Many will not rebuild so long as the weather keeps as dry as it has been during the past season, but as soon as all is favorable we will expect to see buildings going up on the sites of those that are now smouldering in ruins.

The records of the town were saved.

The railroad company will rebuild the depot 250 feet north of where it formerly stood. For the time being a freight car will be employed as a freight room. The post office is located in the Hagen building.

*I hope you enjoyed a bit of our village's past as much as I enjoyed getting it to you. The real thanks though go to Ron Draeger and all those at the Historical Society that provide me with their valuable "cargo". (Cargo? I guess I've been reading about trains lately).

TACK, from page 3 profession, research teams and political leaders must take the data we have, ask critical questions and turn the results into information that will help solve the current state of affairs.

At the Tack, we believe that the Arts unleash creativity in very special ways and that it is essential for everyone, not just performers. Currently, we are using our creativity to reinvent the next Tack performance season—putting together a schedule of events that offers something entertaining and stimulating for everyone, but offers the flexibility needed to successfully navigate this uncertain time.

No one knows what life will be like this summer, this fall, or even this winter! Will we be able to gather, sitting shoulder to shoulder in a theatre or church? Will we be able to join together and experience the wonder of the Arts? Only time will tell. We hope that in the days to come we can abandon our masks and screens and, instead, soak up the energy and inspiration of a live performance...at the Tack.

Spencer Library news....

Audrey tells me that she's still not sure when the library will be open. As a reminder, the outside book drop remains open. There will be no fines on material that was due after March 16th. All May programs and Book Clubs have been cancelled. WI-FI is available outside the library and Aubrey is in the library Monday-Thursday if you have any questions.



As Mike Endreas mentioned in his what's Rockin' in Rocketville column on page 1, there was a parade on April 24th. From where I stood it was a huge success with warm temps and friends and neighbors socially distancing. We watched as a police car led things off followed by a bus from Burnett Transit. Throw in a bunch of balloons, hundreds of posters and yes, that is a dinosaur. It was a great day to be a Rocket and a Spencerian or is that Spencerite. Whatever! I counted 52 vehicles. Nice job everyone!



Spencer Churches

CATHOLIC

Christ the King

Father Barry Saylor
208 S. LaSalle
659-4480

4:00PM Saturday Evening Mass
8:00AM & 10:00AM Sunday Mass
office@ctkspencer.net

CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

9:00AM Sunday School age 3-5th grade
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

Sunday School at 9:15 am
10:30am Sunday Worship



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CONTACT US

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Community Monthly Newsletter for Spencer Residents

MAY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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3	4	5 Older Americans 9:00am Village Hall. Legion 7pm Village Hall. National Teacher Day. Cinco de Mayo.	6	7 Woman's Club 6:30pm @ Village Hall.	8	9
10	11 Village Board Mtg. 6:30 Village Hall	12	13	14 Sr. Citizen Mtg. 10:30am @ NUTZ. Lion's Club 6:30pm @ Nutz. 4H 7pm Village Hall.	15	16
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