

# Village Voice of Spencer, WI



LuCille Tack  
Center  
for the  
**ARTS**

The Spencer Area Chamber of Commerce awarded their 2021 Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year awards at the Village of Spencer's Music in the Park concert on August 4th.

The Citizen of the Year was awarded to Ron Draeger, cited for his work in tracking the village's history and other civic efforts (and all-around good guy-ness).

The Business of the Year was awarded to Pat Fleischman and Al Tesch, (two pretty good guys in their own right) owners of Bear Creek Canvass just north of the Village on HWY 13.

*\*Comments in parentheses are the opinion of the Editor and may not reflect the entire Spencer Area Chamber of Commerce...but of course they do, or they wouldn't have presented these awards. Duh.....!*

**CONGRATULATIONS GENTLEMEN!**



**What's Rockin' in Rocketville!**

By Mike Endreas

District Admin./School District of Spencer



We're Back!!! And better than ever. The School year officially begins on September 1st but anyone that has kids or lives near the school knows that this has been the case most of August. I am thrilled to have the kids back in the building. Summer gets pretty long without the energy they provide.

I am certainly aware the major question going into this school that is on everyone's mind is how will the School District of Spencer be addressing the Covid 19 pandemic. In my opinion, the best way to describe our plan is reactionary. Last year I felt we were proactive in our deliberation and that served our students and staff very well. I am extremely proud of the work and planning that was involved in making this a safe environment for all involved. With vaccinations and more information coming

It's been quite a long, dry spell in the performing arts industry, but excitement is building toward the return to live arts and entertainment at the Tack Center... beginning this month! Woo hoo!

You may recall that during the dark months of 2020, the Tack's art gallery received a "face lift." New wall coverings were installed by R & R Flooring and an eclectic assortment of artwork was donated to create a "permanent collection." These works of beauty fill the bare walls whenever there isn't a featured artist on display.

The artworks have been enlivening the space since earlier this year, and the contributing artists are being honored at a reception on Friday, September 10 from 5 - 7 pm. Join us in viewing this diverse collection and greeting those whose talents we celebrate and whose generosity we appreciate: Elizabeth Sallee Bauer (photography), Cheryl Dietmeyer (macro-photography), Carmen Duran (acrylics), Scott Menzel (contemporary digital art), Judith Pentz (fabric), Mary Lee Reineking (multi-media), Kathleen Rulka (ceramics) and William Wiedenbeck (photography). Our thanks also go to the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin, which graciously helped subsidize this project. The reception is free and open to the public.

So good, so good, so good! Even if you DON'T know of Neil Diamond, you'd still know the words to "Sweet Caroline!" And even if you've never heard of Matt Vee and "The Killer Vees" (or Bobby Vee, 60's pop music sweetheart and father/uncle of this



See **TACK** page 3

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**ROCKIN'** from page 1 forward we are going to monitor and keep in tune with our data and allow that to direct us in our planning. To start the school year the school board has approved a plan that:



- Masks will be recommended but not required.
- Social Distancing whenever possible.
- Vaccinated individuals will not be required to quarantine.
- Non-vaccinated exposed individuals will be allowed to attend with no symptoms and a negative result of a Covid Test.
- Covid positive individuals will follow the 10 day quarantine and return symptom free.
- Athletics will follow the WIAA guidelines (which may differ from District plan)

As mentioned, we will monitor and track positive cases and if we reach a threshold of 5% of our population positive we will begin mitigation measures such as masking and further precautions.

On a more positive note all of our Fall sports are up and running full blast. It is great to see our kids getting the opportunities to play and participate as we all know that is what school is all about.

Lastly, an update on our building project. I was told I would have the keys handed over the week of September 20 for occupancy. We look to use that week to move in and begin classes and general school usage. The current issue is the timeline for the bleacher install. I am told that anything involving steel is delayed and difficult to get. I am hoping to get an athletic contest in our gym this fall yet but time will tell. I do anticipate opening the fitness center to our community sometime in October.



Hope all is well with everyone. I look forward to working with the students, staff and community to have an outstanding school year. One last quick please; be on the lookout for bus traffic beginning Sept. 1!

**TACK** from page 1



The evening will feature a hit list that sold over 100 million records interspersed with stories of the man and his songs. Seats for this not-to-be-missed evening are going fast, so don't wait to secure your own! Tickets are available online at [lucilletackcenter.com](http://lucilletackcenter.com) or by calling 715.659.4499 and leaving a message. The Tack Ticket Office will open to walk-in traffic on Wednesday between 11 am and 2 pm, beginning September 1. Use Door #22 at Spencer Public Schools.

Welcome back to the area's most intimate and friendly theatre as we kick-off the 25th anniversary of arts and entertainment at a place you're ALWAYS welcome...the Tack!

musical tribe), you would still be missing a PHENOMENAL concert featuring the hits of Neil Diamond and the opening of the Tack's 25th Anniversary Season on Thursday, September 23 at 7:00 pm.

The evening will feature a hit list that sold over 100 million records interspersed with stories of the man and his



**LuCille Tack Center for the ARTS**

**CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT!**

Registration Forms available at SKG and R&R Flooring and Furniture. Register by Sept. 8th and mail to SKG at P.O. Box 15 or drop off at SKG.

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*Well-known for both her English teaching career and theatre legacy, the late Esther Rannow was also one of the LTCA's first volunteers and its House Manager for many years. In celebration of the Tack's 10th Anniversary in 2006-07, Mrs Rannow wrote a series of articles for the TRG's "Backstage at the Tack," in which were shared memories of each of its past ten seasons. The Village Voice is re-publishing these articles to offer the reader a glimpse backward into the Tack's history.*

I know. It doesn't seem possible the LuCille Tack Center for the Arts in Spencer is celebrating its tenth anniversary. As with any anniversary, it becomes a time for reminiscing and remembering. Those volunteers at LTCA have a host of moments that they recall and some were even willing to share them. A particularly poignant perspective came from volunteer Marcia Draeger. She had been attending the earliest planning stages of the Tack center, and

after construction had begun, Larry Stordahl, District Administrator, took the members of the committee to check out the progress. It was November, dark and cold, when he led them to the area that would become the stage. She said, "As I looked up and saw the open, dark sky with many stars...it was beautiful. I thought, this will never be seen again, just like this." Apparently, Diane Veale felt the same way and brought her choral group to the stage where they sang under the open ceiling.

That first season at the Tack brought to the stage an incredible variety of performers: from the Russian Folk Orchestra, Ballet Folklorico de Mexico, Jury's Irish Cabaret and The Madison Brass, Riders in the Sky to The Howie Sturtz Orchestra and Granny. For many audience members, however, the shining moment was Lorie Line and her Pops Chamber Orchestra at the Grand Opening of the LTCA.

It was her appearance, in fact that enticed some of the Tack's most ardent volunteers and supporters. Russ and Nancy Dean from Greenwood wrote that they hadn't heard anything about the Tack Center in 1996, but when Russ' mother came to visit and read about the upcoming show, she wanted to go. Said she used to listen to Line playing at Dayton's in downtown Minneapolis. Nancy said, "So we got the tickets...the last three, I think, as were in the back row. Anyway, we really enjoyed the concert and were hooked from then on. We've never heard a bad concert at the Tack!" Amen to that! One of the wonderful aspects of the Tack, is its "Front Porch Series" that brings to the stage, and our audiences, a wonderful opportunity for more local and regional performers. That first season began what I believe is a valuable dimension to its programming. Sally Rakovec wrote this: "I'd just like to say a few words about Phyllis and Larry Huber (Country Folk). How proud to have these folks that grew up right here in Spencer, graduated from Spencer High, were high school sweethearts, and have such talent. When they performed at the LTCA for this first time, it was also about the time they were visiting Nashville for a recording session. They really make music together; they harmonize so beautifully." I concur, being only mildly biased since both had been students in my classes.



LuCille Tack Center for the ARTS

Grand openings are nearly always exciting, and certainly that day and evening at the Tack was no exception. Mingled with the excitement, however, was no small amount of anxiety. For those people who had spent countless hours planning and preparing for this day, there were also questions: Will this work? Have we done enough? Can we make it go? Will it survive? Well, I guess we know the answers to those questions, don't we? In ten years, the LTCA has grown into a respected member of the artistic community in Wisconsin. LuCille's Vision has become a solid reality that makes us proud. We remain ever grateful for her gift and for the extraordinary efforts of this community to keep it growing.



**B**rad Bauer 2021 was a success! We had 14 teams travel to the Spencer ARC park to compete for the title of 2021 Champ! This year the competition was stiff ending with co-champions, Dirty Dozen and Walk-off.

It was a busy weekend of food, fun, and lots of great raffle prizes won. We had help from Spencer Kids Group, Spencer Weightlifting Club, Spencer Boys and Girls Basketball, Brighton RecNeps, and Spencer Student Council to make the event successful.

Our sponsors came through as they always do. Special thanks to our Platinum Sponsors, Spectrum Benefit Solutions of Central Wi, James and Becky Gorst, GT Roofing, Chips of Marshfield and Anderson Electric.

In addition, we could not do what we do without acknowledging the board of directors for Spencer Community Boosters who contribute 100's of hours in volunteer work each year and spend most of their weekend at the park for Brad Bauer weekend. Jackie Soback, Jody Sandley, Jeana Bennett, Becky Gorst, Trish Aldrich, Sandy Christophersen, Troy Hardrath and Tracey Ackman. All contribute so much and do so without expecting anything in return.

Now we will focus on our concession stand building project which we plan to have completed by May 2022. We're also getting ready for youth basketball season 2021-22. We are really excited to have the kids back on the court!

## Spencer Library news....

### September Spencer Library Updates:

Lavender Sachet will be the Grab N Go craft for adults for September 1-30th. Pick up your craft kit to create a cute, sweet-smelling lavender sachet. We will provide you with the supplies and instructions to make your own sachet. This kit is free and available to the public. One kit per person while supplies last.

Straw Rockets will be the Grab N Go craft for kids from September 1-30th. Kids can make their own fun paper rockets at home (or anywhere) anytime with this fun kit. We have all the instructions and most of the supplies, you just need some markers or colored pencils and scissors. Two rockets per kit. One kit per person.

The Spencer Library hours (at this time) will remain unchanged.

Monday 1-7pm. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10am-4pm. Wednesday 1-7pm. Saturday 10am-2pm..

Those who are not vaccinated are highly encouraged to wear a mask. Please watch for any changes the Library Board may be making in the future as the Covid cases rise.

**Audrey Kohlbeck**

Spencer Branch Coordinator

Marathon County Public Library - Spencer Branch | 105

S. Park St., WI 54479

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## 2021 Spencerama Royalty Crowned

The Miss Spencerama pageant gives young ladies of Spencer the chance to represent our wonderful community. There are three levels of Miss Spencerama; Lil' Miss for 4k to 2nd graders; Junior Miss for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> graders and Miss Spencerama for Freshman to Juniors. Unfortunately, this year we did not have any Miss Spencerama applicants. Those crowned with this honor are involved in many community functions and activities during the year in which they reign, such as parades, community events, village board meetings, etc.

The Miss Spencerama pageant is organized by Spencer Girl Scout Troop 6158 and the Spencer Woman's Club, with financial support from the Spencer Woman's Club and Mark and Chris Frey. This year's judges were Susan Reid, Jan Ammons, and Vicki Zenner. The judges rated the contestants during the judging event on August 17<sup>th</sup> on the following areas: Poise, Personality, Appearance, Questions and Talent. Thank you all, this event wouldn't be possible without you!

During the coronation event on August 18<sup>th</sup>, the Spencer Woman's Club recognized the 2020 Spencerama Royalty with a plaque and monetary awards for their accomplishments and completion of the commitments in their reigning year. Thank you, 2020 Spencerama Royalty: Kaelyn Schreiner, Miss Spencerama, Kaydence Plaskey, Junior Miss Spencerama and Jadyne Schober, Lil' Miss Spencerama for your time and commitment representing Spencer. We hope you remember this experience positively and continue to be involved in the community.

### Lil' Miss contestants:

Elsie Welch

Montana Tomczik

Willow Tomczik

### Junior Miss contestants:

Lyra Van Hoof

Danica Plaskey



### Congratulations to the 2021 Spencerama Royalty!

Montana Tomczik – Lil' Miss Spencerama

Lyra Van Hoof – Junior Miss Spencerama

Pictured from left to right: Willow Tomczik, Montana Tomczik, Danica Plaskey, Lyra Van Hoof, Elsie Welch

## St. Johns Lutheran Church

### Up- Coming Events:

A morning bible study will be held Wednesday mornings from 9-11am starting September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Men's Fellowship Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. starting September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Back to Church Fun Day September 12<sup>th</sup> following the 9:00 a.m. service.

Women's Bible Study Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. starting September 15<sup>th</sup>.

Cross Training & LIVE at 6:30 p.m. starting on September 15<sup>th</sup> with an optional meal at 6:00.

JAM at 10:15 a.m. starting September 19<sup>th</sup>.



## Spencer Lions

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Gentle Yoga	M	6:00 - 7:00pm	10/4 - 11/29
Painting Workshop- Cowboy Boots	W	7:00 - 9:30pm	10/20

For more info and to sign up: [www.stratfordclasses.com](http://www.stratfordclasses.com)

Email: [stratfordclasses@gmail.com](mailto:stratfordclasses@gmail.com)

Spencer Area Historical Society  
117 E. Clark Str. Spencer Olde Hall  
Open: Third Sunday of the month, 11am-2pm  
Next: Sept. 19  
Also: By appointment. Call 659-5182 or 659-5577.  
Groups of 10 or less are the most manageable.



The Spencer American Legion will have a Brat Fry  
**Friday, September 3**  
from 10am-3pm  
by Hwy. 13 in front of  
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**Badger Football**

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9/11 E. Mich. @ 6pm FS1  
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**CONTACT US**

Village Voice of Spencer  
500 S. Jefferson Str.  
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Email:  
villagevoiceofspencer@hotmail.com

Phone: 715-659-4710  
Steve Pilz, Editor

Spencer Village Hall  
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**Community Monthly Newsletter for Spencer Residents**

**SEPTEMBER**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
For all Church times, see page 7			1 Back To School! 	2 Spencer Woman's Club mtg. 6:30pm. VB Rib Lake 7:15pm	3 S/C @ Witt-Bern 7pm. 	4 XC @Marshfield Wildwood Park 10am.
5	6  labor day	7 Legion 7pm Village Hall. XC @Marshfield Wildwood Park 4pm.	8	9 4H 7pm Village Hall. VB Pittsville 7:15.	10 S/C @ Wey-Fre 7pm 	11 VB @ Auburndale 9am. XC @ Colby 10am.
12 Packers @ Saints 3:25 on FOX 	13 Village Board Meeting 6:30pm. Village Hall	14 XC @ Stratford All Day	15 Annual School Board Meeting @ 6:30pm.	16	17 S/C vs. Amherst 7pm 	18 XC @ Tribute Golf Course Wausau 8:30am.
19	20 Packers vs. Lions 7:15pm on ESPN 	21 VB OW 7:15pm.	22	23 XC Home Frwy Field 4:30pm. VB @ Gilman 7:15pm.	24 S/C vs. Nekoosa 7pm 	25 VB Tourney @ Abby 9am.
26 Packers @ 49ers 7:20 on NBC 	27	28 St. Johns COME meal 5-6pm. Drive-up only. VB Loyal 7:15pm.	29	30 XC @ Athens 4pm. VB @ Greenwood 7:15pm.	