

# Village Voice

of Spencer, WI

Welcome to the Rockets new home!



The Editor throws out the first pitch, so to speak!



YOUNG FANATICS!



OLDER FANATICS!

## DOME DEBUT!



*From the Editor*

Friday afternoon. Nov. 19th; the monthly deadline for this newsletter. I opened my Publisher file, moved a few things around and pondered how to open, how to end and what's in between.

My mind was elsewhere. My son Bobby and I were slated to ref the first game ever in the Dome that night. My wife Venita would tag along and take some photos.

When we walked through the door my earlier worries about my newsletter were quelled.

A literal buzz ran through the proceedings from that time until we exited after the JV game, so with 83 photos and the high that comes from being involved in a true happening, the rest was easy (well, easier).

The energy in that new building was truly amazing and the smiles and enthusiasm could have lit up the whole village for a month.

It was as if all that hard work and the anticipation of something great was all worth the wait. I guess, because it was. There was little to go wrong so when the Varsity girls downed Gilman 51-46 to finish off the doubleheader win the perfect night was complete.



Game Action!



My son and I discuss Peace in the Middle East and a few other things!



All photos by V. "Bun" Pilz



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*Keep Kozy Tree*



Donate any item that will keep a person warm this winter season by placing in the box or on the tree or table.

*OR*

Are you in need of something to keep you warm this winter season please pick an item from the tree or table.

All donations that are left on the table or tree after Christmas will be donated to local organizations in the community to provide food or warmth to someone in need.

Keep Kozy Tree is located in the lobby of Partners Bank Spencer Branch and is being:

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*Community Tree Lighting Ceremony after the parade.*

Parade will start at 5pm. Santa will be in the parade and stick around for the tree lighting ceremony for any kids or adults who would like to visit Santa until 7pm in the Lions Shelter.

Kids' gift bags, hot dogs and warm drinks will be available in the Lions Shelter after the parade.

Spencer Kids Group will have "Santa Baskets" available. Purchase your tickets after the parade in the Lions Shelter.

The community ice rink is getting ready for use. The framework is up and as soon as the weather is consistently cold enough, it will be filled (it may already be filled). Several have contributed to a new warming house that is in the process of being built and will also serve as a ticket booth for SPENCERAMA DAYS. In order to make it moveable and usable for a dual purpose, the size and design has changed from the original plan.

Thank you to the following for making the warming house a reality:

Land O' Lakes, Spencer Woman's Club, Wayne & Pauline Frome, Spectrum Benefit Solutions, Ethan & Miranda Perrine, Anderson Electric, Will & Elizabeth Garton, Tom & Deb Schafer, Paul Hensch.

Help will be needed to keep the ice rink clear of snow. Please consider digging in whenever you see the need. We would also like to find someone to share how to skate for new skaters on a set date/time. If you are willing to show others how to skate, please let the Village Office know and we can work on setting up a date. HAPPY SKATING!



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

By Mike Endreas

District Admin./School District of Spencer

I broke down and pulled out the winter coat for the first time and although it felt good when I stepped outside it just put me in the frame of mind knowing winter is here and there is nothing I can do about it. As

I fight this mental challenge preparing for the cold and snow it is comforting to know that it also marks the start of the Holiday season! December is a huge month full of fun and activities for our students and we hope that you can join in and support them in all of their endeavors. First and foremost here is a list of dates and times of our Holiday Concerts.

- December 4 and 5 - Madrigal Dinner 7:00 p.m. on the 4th 1:00 p.m. on the 5th. -- December 9 - Elementary Holiday Performance 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. LTCA -- December 20 - MS/HS Holiday Choral Concert 7:30 p.m. LTCA

The Madrigal dinner requires tickets, order forms can be picked up in our MS/HS office but you are welcome to attend the other concerts.

On Saturday December 4 we will be hosting a dedication and open house of our new building addition (The Dome) all are welcome to attend from 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. with a dedication ceremony beginning at 9:30 a.m. A great deal of collaborative work amongst the Spencer School Board and Village Board to make this addition a reality. Hope you can join us.

I want to congratulate the Spencer Kids Group on their 25 year anniversary! They will be hosting an open house at SKG from 1 - 4:00 p.m. on December 4 as well. Twenty five years of supporting the children is a great feat and I thank them for their efforts.

Let's keep the fun going on December 4th. Once you have gone to the two open houses you'll be ready to get outside for the Village of Spencer Christmas parade at 5:00 p.m. Santa will be in the parade and stick around for a tree lighting ceremony and will also be in the Lion's shelter until 7:00 if the kids want to share their lists.

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that's why we're local.

simple human sense



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**WEDNESDAY**  
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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.*

The season brochure from the LuCille Tack Center for the Arts offered eleven shows for the 1999 – 2000 season! Not too bad for an upstart theater. This was, after all, only its fourth season. Once again, it displayed a wide variety of affordable entertainment.

Of particular interest to our local audiences is the Our Front Porch series at the Tack which provides a venue for local performers and artists. So much outstanding talent we have in our own backyard! The Community Collage this season included the Atomic Tailfins from Marshfield and the Wayward Scandinavians from the Greenwood area. What a delightful contrast in music and styles and the audience loved them! The Atomic Tailfins would return the following season to perform a full evening of rock 'n' roll music and dancing sponsored by the LTCA.



The season also marked the first appearance of Gaelic Storm. This group, which first gained national attention with its appearance in the film *The Titanic*, certainly took the Tack audience by storm. The energy and skill of the performers made such an impact on the audience that they would be invited to return in 2004 (at much greater cost)!

Volunteer Sally Rakovec recalls something else about this outstanding group. "I remember the first time we had Gaelic Storm at the Tack Center. Usually, artists have specific food items that they want. Sometimes they have a vegetarian or they like a certain tea."

"Well, Gaelic Storm said they wanted cider. So I got a couple half gallons of apple cider. I, being from the Midwest, knew of no other cider. Well, they wanted dark cider beer, which we cannot supply."

"They thought it was so funny that they got apple cider they even brought it on stage with them. If there was a song about any kind of drinking, they pointed directly to the 'apple' cider right out front. When they came back the second time, they jokingly asked where the apple cider was."

"I think the best times spent with any group are when we feed them. They are hungry and we fill a need. They always seem to relax with food as it is a common ground. We have many laughs and stories as we eat together."

While it's true that I've never seen a bad performance at the Tack, like everyone else, I have my own personal favorites. Two of them appeared during this season. Blind Man's Bluff, a group of five young men who not only sang a cappella but also made astonishing mouth sounds. I love good a cappella groups, and this one was outstanding. Also outstanding was the appearance of the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra. It's wonderful listening to excellent musicians do what they do so well.

Attending shows at the LuCille Tack Center for the Arts gives us that opportunity several times throughout the year. Whatever your favorite, you'll find it there – waiting to entertain you.

*at the TACK* Sleigh bells ring, are you list'nin'? We might not be walkin' in a Winter Wonderland yet, but no doubt that will soon be the case. In the meantime, the Tack has some suggestions to get readers in the Christmas spirit.

Right out of the proverbial gift box comes Helen Welch, bringing "A Carpenter's Christmas" to Spencer on Friday, December 3 at 7:30 pm. Backed up by her world-class band, she will share Christmas favorites, Carpenter classics and behind-the-scenes stories of the brother/sister duo. Helen's enchanting voice and sparkling British humor will make the evening one to remember for a long time to come. Just ask the folks who enjoyed her performance back in 2018! What a perfect way to start the month!

The Tack's Art Night has become rather popular – so much so that one with a holiday theme has been added this month. Why not set aside an evening just for yourself, learn the art of Zentangle and create your own Christmas-

### Spencer Library news....

December 1-31 children may pick up their free Grab N Go craft at the Spencer Library. Go under the sea by making your own craft aquarium. Weave waves of the ocean with yarn, and then color and paste sea creatures in the waves to create your own sea scene. All supplies and instructions are included.

December 1-31 adults and teens may pick up their Grab N Go craft, "I Love Books" wooden heart. You will get a wooden heart pendant declaring your love for books that can be used as an ornament, gift tag, attached to a bookmark or in some other creative way. These kits are free and available to the public. One kit per person while supplies last.

Starting Nov. 29th, 2021 there will be a checkout policy change in all the Marathon County Libraries. (Non-new) Books, Audiobooks & Playaways will now be a 21 day checkout period (former policy was 28 days). Magazines 7 days checkout period (former was 14 days). Renewal Periods are equal to the items checkout period (former renewal period was 7 or 14 days). \$5 fine limit (former was \$10).

Spencer Branch Library and all Marathon County Libraries will be closed all day Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 23-26th

The Spencer Library Hours:  
Monday & Wednesday 1-7pm.  
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 10-4pm.  
Saturday 10-2pm.

ROCKIN' from page 3 The School District of Spencer will be hosting a Rocket Warm-up day in the High school commons from 7 - 8 a.m. to say thanks for the support. All are welcome to join us for a hot chocolate, warm apple cider, a cup of coffee and maybe a cookie or two.

I told you there was a lot going on this month! With the busy schedule and times that the Holiday season always brings, please do not forget to take the opportunity to reflect on family and friends and all the great things those relationships offer. Have an awesome December and look forward to seeing you at the various events listed.



TACK from page 5 themed Zentangle ornament in the process? The event will take place Wednesday, December 8 from 6:30 - 8:00 pm in the Community Room at the Spencer Village Hall. Spencer Schools Art Instructor, Carmen Schweiger, will provide the necessary materials. No charge, no need to sign up and no experience necessary. Just come ready to doodle and have fun! Please note: this activity is for adults only and masks are required.

In addition to Tack-sponsored performances, keep in mind that one of the best ways to find some holiday cheer is to attend a school holiday concert. This year, Spencer Elementary students will celebrate in song on Thursday, December 9 at 1:30 pm and 7:00 pm. Spencer High School Choirs and Handbells will present "Merry & Bright" on Monday, December 20 at 7:30 pm. All performances are free, open to the public and guaranteed to put a smile on the face of even the grumpiest grinch!

Finally, many folks prefer to gift "experiences" rather than "things." Tack gift certificates make the perfect present for just about anyone and can be found online or at the Ticket Office on Wednesdays between 11 am and 2 pm. The office will be closed from December 22 through January 4.

To purchase tickets or for more information on any of these events, visit [lucilletackcenter.com](http://lucilletackcenter.com) or call 715.659.4499.

From our 501-seat "house" to wherever you call home, the Tack Board of Directors wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a sensational New Year! We look forward to seeing you soon...at the Tack! Be well!

**25 YEARS OF**  
Spencer KIDS GROUP

**OPEN HOUSE**  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4TH  
1-4PM  
SPENCER KIDS GROUP

Snacks and Refreshments provided  
Volunteer and Business Support Appreciation awards presentation, 2PM

The Unity American Legion will start up their Pancake Breakfasts starting December 5th and each first Sunday of the month; Jan. 2, Feb. 6 and March 6 from 8:30am to 12:30pm.



Spencer Area Historical Society  
117 E. Clark Str. Spencer Olde Hall  
Closed for the Winter but open by appointment.  
Call 659-5182 or 659-5577.  
Groups of 10 or less are the most manageable.

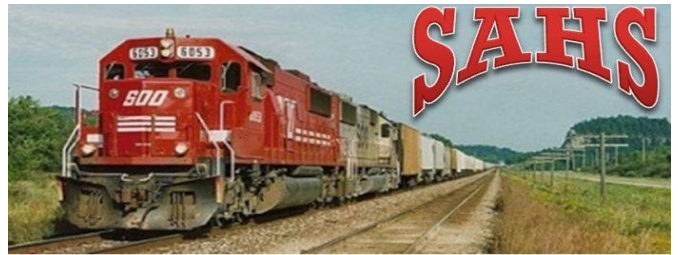
School District of Spencer, SEL Committee  
**WORD OF THE MONTH FOR DECEMBER**

Empathy

The ability to understand and connect to the feelings of another.



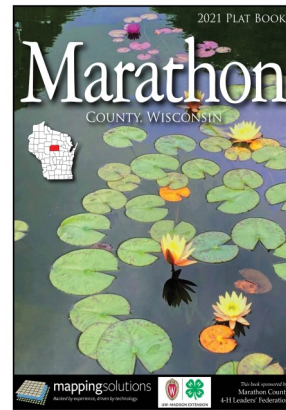
Dec. 6 @ 6pm – Nutz Deep



# ROCKET NUTRITION



With a little help, Josh and Janien Rinehart cut the ribbon opening their new business, Rocket Nutrition at 119 E. Clark Str. Spencer Area Chamber of Commerce members also lend a hand as others look on.



Marathon County 2021 Plat Books are available at the Spencer Village Office for \$40.00 year round by the Brighton Recneps 4-H Club. If you have any questions you can contact Jackie Soback, Brighton Recneps Leader at 715-659-5186.



## CATHOLIC

**Christ the King**  
Father Barry Saylor  
306 S. LaSalle  
659-4480  
4:00PM Saturday Evening Mass  
8:00AM & 10:00AM Sunday Mass  
office@ctkspencer.net

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Church of Christ,**  
211571 State Hwy 13  
Evangelist Todd Storks  
770-500-6577  
9:00AM Sunday Bible Study  
10:00AM Sunday Worship  
7:00PM Wednesday Bible Study

## METHODIST

**Spencer United Methodist Church**  
108 Burnett Street  
Rev. Kerry Wilson  
715-659-5551  
9:30AM Sunday Worship  
Christmas Eve Service 4:30 + 9pm  
Club 3:16 Wed. 3:30– 5:30pm  
sumcs@spencerum.church

# Spencer Churches

## LUTHERAN

**St. John's Church (ELCA)**  
Interim Pastor Lowell Bolstad  
210167 State Hwy 13  
659-5158. stjohsspencer.com  
Handicap accessible  
Sunday 9am.  
St. John's Riplinger. Sunday 11am  
For more info. see website

## Trinity Lutheran(LCMS)

Vacancy Pastor Rev. Kevin Hoogland  
109 W. Clark Street  
659-4006  
Sunday School 9:15am  
Sunday Worship Service 10:30am.  
Christmas Eve Service 4pm.  
Sunday School Christmas Eve Service 7pm.



**KINGS FOOD PANTRY** located at Christ the King Catholic Church ~ Wendel Street  
**OPEN MONDAYS 2-6PM, excluding holidays**  
Please use south west entrance, located in basement. All those in need are welcome.

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**Community Monthly Newsletter for Spencer Residents**

**DECEMBER**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
For all Church times, see page 7	Merry Christmas 		1	2 Spencer Woman's Club mtg. 6:30pm. GBB Columbus 5:30. BBB-Chequamegon 7:15	3 BBB Columbus 7:15. A Carpenter's Xmas with Helen Welch 7:30 LTCA.	4 WR @Royal H.S. 9:30am. Madrigal Dinner 7pm.
5 Unity Am. Legion Pancake Breakfast 8:30am. Madrigal Dinner 1pm.	6 BBB @Stratford 7:15pm.	7 Legion 7pm Village Hall. BBB Westfield 7:15 pm.	8	9 4H 7pm Village Hall. Eiem. Holiday Concert 7pm LTCA. GBB Stratford 7:15. BBB@ OW 7:15.	10 GBB Greenwood 7:15.	11 WR @Tomah 9:30am.
12 Packers vs. Bears @7:20 on NBC. 	13 Village Board Mtg. 6:30 Vill. Hall. BBB @ Wausau New-man 7:15pm.	14 GBB @Alma Center Lincoln 7:15pm BBB Gilman 7:15 pm.	15 School Board Meeting 6:30 pm.	16 GBB Loyal 7:15pm.	17 BBB Greenwood 7:15 pm.	18 WR @ Shawano 9:45 am.
19 Packers at Ravens @ Noon on FOX 	20 Holiday Choral Concert 7:30 pm LTCA.	21 St. Johns COME meal 5-6pm. Dine in or Carry Out. GBB @ Neillsville 7:15pm. BBB Loyal 7:15pm.	22 WR @ Rhinelander 10:30am	23 School Winter break from Dec. 23 to Jan. 2.	24 	25 
26 Packers vs. Browns @ 3:30 on FOX. 	27	28 BBB Marathon 1:15pm.	29 WR @ LaCrosse 9am	30	31 	 ARC