

AROUND THE AREA

SPENCER
WEATHER
FORECAST**TODAY** — Mostly sunny and cold, with a high near -5. North northwest wind 5 to 10 mph.**TONIGHT** — Mostly cloudy, with a low of -11. North wind around 5 mph becoming east after midnight.

SATURDAY

2
-8

SUNDAY

6
-11

MONDAY

15
4

TUESDAY

24
4

WEDNESDAY

15
4

THE MAGIC OF POSSIBILITIES

Veteran performer keynotes annual Corridor luncheon

RUSS MITCHELL
Managing Editor
news@spencerdailyreporter.com

A magician never reveals all of his secrets, so expect Devin Henderson to have a few surprises up his sleeve for business leaders in Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson and Emmet counties.

The veteran performer from Kansas City will be the keynote speaker for the Iowa Lakes Corridor's 15th Annual Business Recognition Luncheon. The 11:30 a.m. program takes place Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the Clay County Regional Events Center in Spencer.

Henderson is starting his 23rd year as a professional speaker. Whether he's in front of PepsiCo executives or the lunch crowd in northwest Iowa, Henderson's goal is to tie humor and magic to a larger message. Attendees aren't left wondering "How do we apply this?"

"I want them to be able to take information directly to their work — that same day — and apply a lot of the principles," the keynote speaker said.

His message centers around the question, "What else is possible?"

"The answer is, something greater is always possible," Henderson said. "For me personally, it is about growing in my faith, growing as a husband, growing as a dad and really making sure that I'm living selflessly in a way that is impacting other people."

That inspirational message has taken him to 41 states and Canada. A booking in Germany is on the horizon, but those connections with an audience weren't always the product of a detailed itinerary.

Magicians on TV captured Henderson's imagination early on.

"Then a magician came to my elementary school in fifth grade, did a school assembly and got me onto the stage," he said. "That's what really got me hooked — getting up in front of everybody and realizing: you don't have to be a famous magician on TV to be considered a professional magician."

Henderson turned that pre-teen moment into hours of combining the shelves of his local library. The self-taught illusionist checked out every book on magic tricks he could find.

The performer realized he could turn his passion into a career while he was at Kansas State University.

"I kind of hit a fork in the road toward the end of college at K-State," Henderson said. "It was either try magic as a living or get my master's degree in marriage and family therapy. After I got my bachelor's, I just decided, 'Let me just try this — just approach some restaurants and see how it works.' I landed a couple of restaurant gigs, and the rest is history. It just took off from there."

Henderson's two-plus decades on the road have led to some surprising moments, which he'll share with the Spencer audience.

Visit the Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corporation website to RSVP for the event and confirm a seat.

The Corridor Annual Business Recognition Luncheon includes the 2025 annual report and recognition for Corridor business leaders whose vision in 2025 led them to ask:

"What else is possible?"



About 300 attendees will gather in Spencer for the Iowa Lakes Corridor's 15th Annual Business Recognition Luncheon to recognize local achievement and review priorities shaping northwest Iowa's economy. Veteran speaker and magician Devin Henderson of Kansas City will keynote the program. Henderson recently published his first book, "What Else is Possible? A Magician's Secrets to Greater Breakthroughs in Your Life and Work," which is available on Amazon. (Photo submitted)

P.E.O. loans, grants and scholarships available for women in our community

The Philanthropic Educational Organization has been celebrating "women helping women reach for the stars" for more than 150 years. Since its inception in 1869, this nonprofit organization has helped more than 120,000 women pursue educational goals by providing over \$400 million in grants, scholarships, awards and loans. Through its membership of over 5,800 chapters, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than half a million women in the United States and Canada who are passionate about helping women advance through education.

- P.E.O. Scholar Awards (PSA) Established in 1991 to provide substantial merit-based awards for women of the U.S. and Canada who are pursuing a doctoral-level degree at an accredited college or university. Applications accepted between Aug. 20 to Nov. 20, with one academic year still to be completed.

- P.E.O. STAR Scholarship (STAR) Established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional high school senior women to attend an accredited post-secondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. Applications accepted from Aug. 15 to Oct. 15.

- P.E.O. Chapter AT Local Scholarship Grants for local high school girls who are moving on to higher education (four-year, two-year or vocational training) to help offset their first year costs. Applications are accepted at the Spencer High School Guidance office from March 6-24. The award is announced on May 6.

To learn more about P.E.O., its powerful educational philanthropies and see stories of women who have benefited from these programs, visit www.pointernational.org.

If more information about a specific program is needed, contact Mary Jean Montgomery at mvjmontgomery@gmail.com.

YOUR PHOTOS



AMBASSADORS TOUR NEW IGLLS ADDITION

Ambassadors visited Iowa Great Lakes Lutheran School on Tuesday to see their new addition. Principal Sarah Popp shared that the new wing hosts grades four to eight, with six new classrooms. Since she started in 2018, adding middle school has been a frequent request, which they are now able to accommodate with the additional space. IGLLS will be hosting an open house to view both the new section and the rest of the school on Sunday, Jan. 25, from 2-4 p.m. (Photo submitted)

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OMELET BRUNCH 2026
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