

# RECORDS

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### SPENCER YP TRIVIA NIGHT FEB. 3

Spencer Young Professionals will have a trivia night Tuesday, Feb. 3, with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. and the event at 7 p.m. It's at the Spencer Municipal Golf Course. Contact spenceriayp@gmail.com for details.

### BABY BIOLOGIST FREE PROGRAM SET

Baby Biologist is a free program for children under 2 years old accompanied by an adult. This month's session, Eco-Baby, will be held at the Dickinson County Nature Center on Tuesday, Feb. 3, from 10:30 to 11 a.m. This free program introduces simple and safe ways for little ones to interact with their natural environment. The session will start with a short story time together, followed by a time of movement activities and using recycled materials. Children will also be introduced to early sorting skills by exploring shapes made from recyclable items. Registration is required by 5 p.m. on Feb. 1. Call 712-336-6352 for more information.

### SPENCER LITTLE LEAGUE SIGNUP THRU FEB. 8

SYBSA announced registration for Spencer Little League is underway through Sunday, Feb. 8. Summer ball is open to boys and girls in grades K-8, with registration ranging from \$75 to \$95 depending on the player's grade. Registration after the Feb. 8 deadline is \$20 more. Register at spencerlittleleague.org. Team sponsors are being sought as well, and you can email spencerlittleleague@outlook.com for information.

### PHEASANTS FOREVER BANQUET FEB. 14

Clay County Pheasants Forever will hold its annual banquet Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Clay County Events Center in Spencer. Seating is limited. Doors open at 5 p.m., dinner is at 6 p.m. and the live auction begins at 7 p.m. You can register by using the QR code in the ad on the front page of this week's Northwest Iowa Shopper (Jan. 28) or by going to the Spencer Reporter website and looking for the ad on the right side of the home page and clicking on it.

### CAASA PRESENTING FILM ON SEX TRAFFICKING

"Gridshock," a film about sex trafficking in Iowa, will be presented by the Spencer office of Centers Against Abuse & Sexual Assault (CAASA) on Thursday, Feb. 26, 6-8 p.m., at the Spencer Hospital. Seating is limited to 80 people. You can register by calling 712-363-5042.

### BEAT THE WINTER BLUES BY READING

Spencer Public Library is hosting a Beat the Blues Winter Reading Challenge Jan. 19 through Feb. 28. You can join through Beanstack online or get a paper copy at the library. The more you read, the more chances you have at winning a prize drawing! The activity is free to the public. Call 712-580-7290 for more information.

### HOPE & HEALING SUPPORT GROUP MEETS

The Hope & Healing Support Group meets every fourth Tuesday of the month. It is 7-9 p.m. at Crosswinds Church, 1900 N. Grand Ave., in Spencer. It is open to all adults affected by mental health challenges personally or through family, and those navigating the emotional effects of recovery. It is hosted by NAMI Northwest Iowa and Project Recovery Iowa. For more information, call Ayaan Thomas at 712-339-4424 or email nwoutreach@namiiowa.org.

### EXHIBITS AT CLAY HERITAGE ON ADA HISTORY

The Spencer ADA Council has partnered with the Clay County Heritage Center to celebrate the landmark passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990. There are a variety of exhibits. The Spencer Reporter contributed its Sept. 30, 2025, front page about Spencer High School's status as a Special Olympics Unified Champion School to the display.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

We endeavor to keep the calendar accurate. If there are items here that are no longer scheduled, or items for which the details have changed, or items that should be added, please email us at news@spencerdailyreporter.com.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 30

- Coffee Klatch — 9 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Tai Chi — 9 a.m., Spencer YMCA
- Pool/Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions
- Chamber Bowling Fundraiser — Spencer Bowl Gateway North, Registration Required

### SATURDAY, JAN. 31

- Spencer Chamber Eggs & Issues Legislative Forum — 9-10:30 a.m., Spencer City Hall Council Chambers.

### SUNDAY, FEB. 1

- American Legion omelet breakfast — 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Veterans Hall, Spencer

### MONDAY, FEB. 2

- Blood drive — 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., First Congregational Church, 1212 First Ave. W., Spencer
- Clay County Democratic Party Caucus — 7 p.m., Spencer Public Library, all precincts
- Clay County Republican Party Caucus — 7 p.m., Spencer Middle School, all precincts

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

- Spencer Area Visually Impaired/Blind Self-Help Group — 1:30 p.m., Spencer Public Library ICN room.

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 4

- Tai Chi — 9 a.m., Occasions, Spencer

## CLAY COUNTY REPUBLICANS

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★ CLAY COUNTY ★  
REPUBLICAN CAUCUS  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>  
7:00 PM  
SPENCER MIDDLE SCHOOL

## BABY BIOLOGISTS INVITED TO NATURE CENTER



**Looking for an interactive time centered around nature for your little one? Baby Biologist is a free program for children under age 2 when accompanied by an adult. The February session "Eco-Baby" will be held from 10:30-11 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 3, the Dickinson County Nature Center. This free program introduces simple and safe ways for little ones to interact with their natural environment. There is no cost to attend, but registration is required by 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1. More events can be found online by visiting dickinson-countyconservationboard.com or call the Nature Center at 712-336-6352. (Photo submitted)**

## FUNERAL NOTICE

### GERALD "JOHN" JOHNSTON

Services were pending at Warner Funeral Home, Spencer, for Gerald "John" Johnston, 94, of Spencer, who passed away Jan. 27, 2026.

## OCCASIONS / MEALS ON WHEELS MENU

- Monday, Feb. 2:** Greek marinated chicken, brown rice, whole wheat bread, vegetable, fruit
- Tuesday, Feb. 3:** Meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, whole wheat bread, vegetable, fruit
- Wednesday, Feb. 4:** Baked chicken Parmesan with noodles, vegetable, dinner roll, chocolate cake
- Thursday, Feb. 5:** Pork roast, baby reds, vegetable, fruit
- Friday, Feb. 6:** Philly chicken hoagie, potato wedges, vegetable, fruit

## AMERICAN LEGION OMELET BREAKFAST

*Sunday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026 • 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM*

### VETERAN'S HALL

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## ACCIDENT

### A BLIZZARD, A STOP SIGN, A SNOWPLOW, 2 VEHICLES — AND A CRASH

The Clay County Sheriff's Department investigated a two-vehicle crash that occurred Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 2:05 p.m., at the intersection of 400th Street and 130th Avenue, about 2 miles west of Royal in Clay County. According to a report from the sheriff's department, it was determined that Jerry Wise, 55, of Ayrshire, was driving his 2011 Cadillac DTS northbound in the 4000 mile of 130th Avenue when he failed to see the stop sign at 400th Street during a ground blizzard. Wise entered the intersection and was struck by a 2023 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 driven by Eric Walhof, 50, of Spirit Lake, who was leaving the eastbound stop sign on 400th Street. Walhof's view to the south was blocked due to a Clay County Secondary Roads plow and did not see Wise failing to slow down. Damage to the Wise vehicle was listed at \$5,500 and damage to the Walhof vehicle was estimated at \$6,000. No injuries were reported. Wise was cited for failure to obey a stop sign and failure to provide security against liability (no insurance) — accident related.

• All charges are merely an accusation and defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

## ARREST

Angel Kent, 45, of Marathon, was arrested Friday, Jan. 24, at 4:50 p.m. in the 1400 block of Fourth Avenue SW in Spencer and charged with driving while under suspension, no driver's license and no insurance, all simple misdemeanors. A report from the Clay County Sheriff's Office stated a Clay County Sheriff's deputy initiated a traffic stop with having prior knowledge the driver, Kent, had a suspended driver's license. Upon making contact with Kent, she was placed under arrest and transported to the Clay County Jail without incident. Kent was released on bond.

• All charges are merely an accusation and defendants are presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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