

# RECORDS

## 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.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 17

- Coffee with Randy — 7 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Chair Exercise — 10:30 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- 41st Northwest Iowa Ag Outlook Conference & Trade Show, sponsored by the Spencer Chamber — Clay County Fair Regional Events Center
- 500/Pool/Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 18

- Tai Chi — 9 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Next Chapter Book Club — 10:30-11:30 a.m., Spencer Library
- Iowa Lakes Corridor Development Corp. "Corridor Connections" Event on "Conversational Management" — 10:30-11:30 a.m., Northwest Bank Corporate office, Spencer. Preregister with the Corridor Development Group.
- Ponytail Canasta / Pool — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer

### THURSDAY, FEB. 19

- Chair Exercise — 10:30 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Dinner Date — 11:45 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- 500/Pinocle/Bingo/Pool/Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Grand Avenue Free Medical Clinic — 4-8 p.m., 1200 N. Grand, Spencer
- Free Community Meal — 5-6:30 p.m. The Outreach, Spencer
- Spencer Table Tennis Club — 6:15-8:15 p.m. Spencer SDA Church Fellowship Hall
- Spencer Girls Wrestling Club: Grades 3-8 — 6:30-7:30 p.m. SMS Wrestling Room

### FRIDAY, FEB. 20

- Coffee Klatch — 9 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Tai Chi — 9 a.m., Spencer YMCA
- Movie — 12:30 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Pool/Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Geri-Fit Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m., Spencer Library
- Middle School Dance — 8 p.m., Spencer Family YMCA

### SATURDAY, FEB. 21

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

### MONDAY, FEB. 23

- Mahjong/Bingo/Bridge — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Geri-Fit Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m., Spencer Library
- Films for the Cinematically Disadvantaged — "La Chimera" — Carey's Electronics, 7 p.m.

### TUESDAY, FEB. 24

- Coffee with Randy — 7 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Chair Exercise — 10:30 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- 500 / Pool / Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Hope & Healing Support Group — 7-9 p.m., Crosswinds Church, Spencer

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25

- Tai Chi — 9 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Ponytail Canasta / Pool — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer

### THURSDAY, FEB. 26

- Chair Exercise — 10:30 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Dinner Date — 11:45 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- 500/Pinocle/Bingo/Pool/Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Free Community Meal — 5-6:30 p.m. The Outreach, Spencer
- CAASA presents "Gridshock," a film about sex trafficking in Iowa — 6-8 p.m., Spencer Hospital, limited to 80 people, register by calling 712-363-5042
- Spencer Table Tennis Club — 6:15-8:15 p.m. Spencer SDA Church Fellowship Hall

### FRIDAY, FEB. 27

- Coffee Klatch — 9 a.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Tai Chi — 9 a.m., Spencer YMCA
- Pool/Snooker — 1 p.m., Occasions, Spencer
- Geri-Fit Senior Chair Fitness — 1 p.m., Spencer Library
- SCT Mainstage: "The Sound of Music" — 7:30 p.m. SCT Playhouse, Spencer

## OBITUARY

### Craig Kenneth Johnson

APRIL 17, 1955 — FEB. 11, 2026

Craig Kenneth Johnson, 70, of Manson, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2026. The memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 20, 2026, at Our Savior's United Methodist Church in Manson. Visitation will be held from 10-11 a.m. prior to the service at the church. The family will greet friends following the service from noon to 2 p.m. at the Manson Golf & Country Club. Arrangements have been entrusted with Gunderson Funeral Home — Weishaar Chapel in Manson.

Craig was born on April 17, 1955, in Spencer to Merle and Lura Mae Johnson. He grew up in Spencer and was an active and accomplished student-athlete. As a proud member of the Spencer Tigers, Craig competed in football, golf and wrestling, becoming a multiple Lakes Conference wrestling champion. His competitive spirit and quiet determination were evident even in those early years.

During high school, Craig met a young woman from Estherville, Kathy Kultala. He often said she was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen. Though he would jokingly remark that she was "way out of his league," the two began dating and shared their first kiss under the disco ball inside the Roof Garden at Lake Okoboji — a story he loved to tell. After high school, they stayed in touch and dated as Craig attended Iowa State University as a pre-vet student and Kathy attended the University of Iowa. He was a member of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity and lived in the frat house during his undergraduate studies. Craig and Kathy were married on Aug. 21, 1976, beginning a lifelong partnership rooted in love, loyalty and laughter. They shared a small trailer near campus while Craig attended veterinary school at Iowa State.

Following graduation, the couple moved to Cherokee, where Craig began practicing veterinary medicine. He later purchased a clinic in Pomeroy, branching out on his own, and eventually opened a new clinic in Manson, where he faithfully served the community for more than 30 years. Known simply as "Doc," Craig was a gifted veterinarian who cared for both large and small animals. Clients frequently remarked on his extraordinary skill and the genuine compassion he showed, treating every animal as if it were his own.

Craig retired in 2015 and cherished spending winter months in Palm Springs with Kathy. He was an avid fan and longtime season ticket holder of the Minnesota Vikings, faithfully cheering them on through every season. An accomplished golfer, Craig won numerous club championships in Manson and was a proud member of both Manson Golf and Country Club and Fort Dodge Country Club. He recorded five hole-in-ones during his lifetime — remarkably, two in the same week at those two courses — an achievement he carried with well-earned pride.

Above all, Craig was devoted to his family. In recent years, he took on the role of caregiver as Kathy bravely battled Parkinson's disease for over two decades, caring for her with the same steadfast love that defined their marriage. He was immensely proud of his three children, Brent, Elias and Natalie, and found his greatest joy in being "Poppa Doc" to his seven grandchildren. He rarely missed their sporting events or school activities and loved delivering doughnuts during overnight visits — a simple tradition that became a cherished memory. Craig treasured his friendships and could often be found on the golf course or enjoying card night at KC's Halftime Lounge. His steady presence, quick wit and generous heart will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Craig is survived by his loving wife, Kathy; his children, Brent (Kim) of Omaha, Nebraska; Elias (Niki) of Urbandale; and Natalie of Denver, Colorado; his seven grandchildren Cameron, Wyatt, Nash, Drake, Maverick, Giovanna and Michaela; his brothers Allen (Mary) Johnson of Chandler, Arizona, and Kirk (Roberta) Johnson of Reno, Nevada; sister-in-law Diane Johnson of Tucson, Arizona; along with numerous nieces, nephews and extended family. He was preceded in death by his parents Merle and Lura Mae Johnson; and his brother Mark Johnson.

Memorial donations may be made to the Iowa Chapter of the American Parkinson Disease Association in his honor.

Craig's life was defined by dedication — to his faith, his family, his profession, and his friends. His legacy of compassion, humility and quiet strength will live on in the many lives he touched.



## HY-NOON KIWANIS WELCOMES BATSCHELET



Spencer Hy-Noon Kiwanis welcomed Adam Batschelet to its membership. He works for RP Constructors LLC, and he and his wife, Abby, have two daughters — soon to be three. They live near Greenville on a farm which he farms. President Sara Taylor inducted Batschelet and presented him with his certificate, badge and T-shirt. (Photo submitted)

## FUNERAL NOTICES

### MARLENE WESTPHALEN

Marlene Westphalen, 89, of Spencer, passed away Feb. 10, 2026, at McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Funeral services are Friday, Feb. 20, at Warner Chapel in Spencer. Visitation is one hour prior to the service. Burial is in Trimello Cemetery, Royal.

### WESLEY "WES" THIESSEN

Funeral services for Wesley "Wes" Thiessen, 65, of Everly, are pending at Geelan Funeral Home of Spencer.

### CAROL DIANE KETTELKAMP

Carol Diane Kettelkamp, 82, of Spencer, passed away Feb. 8, 2026. Visitation will be Saturday, April 11, at First Congregational Church in Spencer, with the celebration of life to follow at 11 a.m. at the church. Warner Funeral Home of Spencer is in charge of arrangements.

## AROUND CAMPUS

### LOCAL STUDENTS ON NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE DEAN'S LIST

Five students from Spencer earned a spot on the Northwestern College academic dean's list for the fall 2025 semester. The list is comprised of students who have achieved a semester GPA of 3.50 or above while carrying a minimum of 12 graded hours at the Orange City school. This semester, 532 students qualified. Of them, 354 students earned a GPA of 3.75 or higher and are considered Collegiate Scholars. Students on the list are Devin Dirks, senior in data science and statistics; Jack Eilts, sophomore in accounting; Jada Piercy, senior in elementary education; Kamdyn Van Gelder, junior in biology-health professions; and Aaron Linn, senior in English teaching and secondary education. Eilts and Piercy were designated as collegiate scholars.



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## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### BOJI BURGER BATTLE UNDERWAY

Eight restaurants are turning on the grill to keep February warm in the Iowa Great Lakes. Dickinson County Farm Bureau and the Iowa Great Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce are teaming up for the third annual Boji Burger Battle. The Feb. 1-28 competition includes eight signature burger entries from: Boss' Pizzeria & Sports Bar at Lake Okoboji Resort & Conference Center in Okoboji; Dudley's Garage Restaurant & Bowling in Lakefield, Minnesota; McKeen's Pub and Grill in Spirit Lake; Nautical Bar & Grill in Arnolds Park; The Hutt in Arnolds Park; The Peacock Lounge and Grille in Arnolds Park; The Ritz in Arnolds Park; Waterfront Grille & Event Center at Bridges Bay in Arnolds Park

### IOWA DNR RULES MEETING IS MARCH 4

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources is hosting a series of town hall-style meetings where staff provide updates on completed hunting seasons, discuss possible changes to hunting rules and regulations, and address other topics as requested. Locally, the DNR will be at Maser Monarch Lodge, 22785 Nature Center Road, in Okoboji, on March 4. The meeting begins at 6 p.m. Comments collected will be considered to proposing changes to hunting rules and regulations.



# NOTICE

# NEW DEADLINES

## FOR DISPLAY ADVERTISING, SUBMITTED NEWS ITEMS

<b>NORTHWEST IOWA SHOPPER</b> 3 p.m. Thursdays	<b>TUESDAY SPENCER REPORTER</b> 3 p.m. Thursdays	<b>FRIDAY SPENCER REPORTER</b> 3 p.m. Tuesdays
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## FOR LEGAL NOTICES & CLASSIFIED ADS

<b>TUESDAY SPENCER REPORTER</b> Noon Thursdays	<b>FRIDAY SPENCER REPORTER</b> Noon Tuesdays
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## NEWS DEADLINES FOR OBITUARIES

<b>TUESDAY SPENCER REPORTER</b> 10 A.M. FRIDAYS	<b>FRIDAY SPENCER REPORTER</b> 10 A.M. WEDNESDAYS
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