



**SPENCER
CHAMBER**

PRESS RELEASE February 25, 2021

City of Spencer: 150th Anniversary Announcement

The City of Spencer will hit a significant milestone in 2021: the 150th Anniversary of its founding!

The City, the Spencer Chamber of Commerce, and a group of Spencer citizens are currently coordinating activities to celebrate this commemorative event. The main portion of the celebration will take place during the city's annual Flagfest weekend, beginning this year on Friday, June 11, 2021. Opening ceremonies will take place at the Clay County Courthouse lawn at 5pm on June 11th, the Mayor of Spencer will give a welcome.

During Friday's opening ceremonies, a beard contest, which was launched in late December will be judged live. Women are encouraged to take part by creating a fake beard from any items, creativity is key – think dried pasta, wigs, etc. To close the ceremony at the Courthouse, a time capsule that was buried 50 years ago will be opened. Following the opening ceremony will be a kiddie parade on the courthouse lawn, a teen dance at the YMCA, and a street dance with the White Keys at 5:13 Bar.

The remainder of the weekend will be filled with events for all ages, the annual Flagfest parade, Spencer Main Street's 5K Fun Run, family-centered bike ride, and kid's fishing clinic will take place throughout Spencer. Horse and Buggy rides, face painting, inflatables, local Fire Department water fights, and a dodge ball tournament will all take place at the Clay County Fairgrounds. Saturday evening's events will include the Grand Cruise, arranged by the Old Iron Company and The Christian Motorcycle Association Bike Show. The evening will conclude with fireworks at the fairgrounds. On Sunday, events will include a river float, airplane rides for youth, disc golf tournament, homemade boat contest and free swim at the Spencer Aquatic Center. Sunday evening events will conclude with a movie in the Spencer Hospital park.

Prior to the festivities in June, several groups will have events to "get you in the spirit." The Flagfest & Sesquicentennial Committee with the assistance of Spencer Community Theatre will be launching a do-it-yourself period clothing contest. Beginning in May, residents and visitors are encouraged to visit the Clay County Heritage Center which will host an exhibit specific to the history of Spencer. In May, there will be a few historical events headed up by the Historic Preservation Commission.

Closing ceremonies are being planned for October 10, 2021. The Spencer Chamber is taking suggestions as to what should go back in the time capsule to be opened in another 50 years. At the closing ceremonies in October, the committee plans to announce the items that will go into the time capsule, fill and close the capsule.

The committee would also like to invite organizations throughout the Spencer community to organize their own 150th Anniversary event. They will have the opportunity to be listed in the event brochure if details are received prior to March 19.

These events are made possible through the generous donations from the following sponsors: City of Spencer, Black Hills Energy, Arnold Motor Supply, Spencer Municipal Utilities, US Bank, Masonic Lodge, Spencer Rotary Club and Community State Bank.

If you would like to volunteer or sponsor any event, or need more information, please contact The Spencer Chamber of Commerce at (712) 262-5680, or info@spenceriowachamber.org

To stay abreast of all events please visit this website: www.spenceriowachamber.org/flagfest or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/SpencerFlagfest>. Merchandise is being developed and can be purchased at www.pressedcollection.com/spencer150th.

The committee looks forward to having Spencer residents and visitors join in the grand celebration of the beautiful City of Spencer, Iowa!

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SPENCER CHAMBER

Events Planned to Date

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Opening Ceremony at 5:00PM on the Clay County Courthouse Lawn

- Mayor's Welcome
- Judging Beard & Whiskerina Contests
- Honor Guard
- Opening of Time Capsule

Kiddie Parade following Opening Ceremony on Clay County Courthouse Lawn.

Teen Dance will take place Friday evening at the Spencer YMCA.

Community Street Dance will take place at 8:00PM hosted at 5:13 Bar by the Young Professionals and will feature the band "White Keys."

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Main Street 5k Fun Run will take place at 7:30AM and begins at the Spencer Hospital Grand Park. Registration opens at 7AM.

Youth Fishing Clinic will take place at Stolley's Park from 7:30AM-Noon for kids ages 5-13 and is sponsored by the Iowa Great Lakes Fishing Club.

Bike Ride will begin at 8AM at the Clay County Fairgrounds.

SATURDAY, JUNE 12 (Con't)

Flagfest Parade will begin at 11:00AM in Spencer, Iowa.

Community Fire Departments

Water Fights begin at 1:00PM adjacent to the Silver Lot at Clay County Fair.

Horse & Buggy Rides from 1:00-1:45PM at the Clay County Fair.

Face Painting from 2:00-6:00PM Clay County Fair with the Spencer High School cheerleaders.

Inflatables from 2:00-6:00PM at the Clay County Fair.

Tug of War begins at 2:00PM with check-in at 1:00PM.

Dodgeball begins at 2:00PM at the Clay County Fair.

Grand Cruise & Tunes will take place from 6:00-11:00PM and sponsored by the Old Iron Company.

Christian Motorcycle Association Bike Show will take place from 6:00-11:00PM on West 5th Street and is sponsored by The Christian Motorcycle Association.

150th Celebration Fireworks

will start at 10:00PM on the Clay County Fairgrounds.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Young Eagle Airplane Rides for kids ages 8-17 from 8:00AM - 11:00AM (weather permitting) at the Spencer Regional Airport and is sponsored by Spencer Experimental Aircraft Association.

River Float will launch at 10:00AM at Stolley's Park and will travel down river to West Leach Park. Registration begins at 9AM.

Spencer Disc Golf Tournament will begin with registration at 1:00PM at West Leach Disc Golf Park (all ages).

Homemade Boat Races will take place at Stolley's Park with registration at 12:00PM and boat viewing at 12:30PM with races to follow.

Family Swim will take place at the Spencer Aquatic Center from 12:30-7PM.

Movie in the Park will begin at dusk in the Spencer Hospital Grand Avenue Park. Hosted by Grand Ave. Improvement, Spencer Jaycees and Spencer Hospital.

This is a preliminary list of events. Events are subject to changes.

For the most recent list of events and details please visit: www.spenceriowachamber.org/flagfest

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