



January 2026



#### Spencer Pride General Meeting

**our mission**  
At Spencer Pride, our mission is to improve the quality of life for rural LGBTQ+ people in South Central Indiana by:

- fostering allyship and understanding through education and advocacy,
- creating safe spaces that support both physical and mental well-being, and
- addressing social inequities that stem from the unique intersectionality of queer and rural identities

**our vision**  
At Spencer Pride, our vision is to leverage our diversity and privilege in order to cultivate an inclusive community of compassion and celebration for rural LGBTQ+ people.

**Pitch-in, Music, Games, & Great Company**

**Holiday Party**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 4 AT 4 PM**

#### Support Lines

[The Trevor Project](#)  
Text **Start** to 678678  
1-866-488-7386

[National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#)  
Call or text 988

[SAGE LGBT Elder Hotline](#)  
1-877-360-5428

[Substance Abuse & Addiction Hotline](#)  
1-844-289-0879

[Trans Lifeline](#)  
1-877-565-8860

#### Blood Drive: Judi's Drive

#### Monthly Programs



A PROGRAM OF SPENCER PRIDE

A group for lovers of books - including those "banned" for controversial content.  
Meets at 5:30 pm on the 4th Thursday (also virtually). Contact [Julie@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Julie@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!

**LGBT National Hotlines**  
National: 1-888-843-4564  
Youth: 1-800-246-7743  
Coming Out: 1-888-688-5428  
Seniors: 1-888-234-7243

**Middle Way House**  
1-812-336-0846

If you know of other support hotlines that should be included, please email [info@SpencerPride.org](mailto:info@SpencerPride.org). As always, if you are in immediate danger, 911 should be your first option.

#### Rainbow Cruisers to the Caribbean



We are excited to announce Spencer Pride's next cruise! We will be sailing to the Caribbean on the Celebrity Beyond from June 14-21, 2026. The cruise is open to anyone who wants to support our work and experience Pride Month with us on the ocean! It is a family-friendly experience that is sure to offer something for everyone.

To register or get more details, scan the QR code or visit <https://spencerpride.johnheathttravel.com/>. For each stateroom reserved, Spencer Pride will receive a donation. Our 2024 cruise to Alaska helped us raise \$4,000, and we hope to exceed that amount in 2026.



Did you know that the first penny press (a.k.a. a penny smashing machine) debuted at the Chicago's World Fair in 1893? Since that time these unique machines have popped up around the world and are highly sought by tourists and collectors alike. What does a penny smashing machine do? Well, it should come as no surprise that it smashes pennies. It does so while also imprinting a special design into the coin. Children of all ages love to crank the handle and feel the pressure build as the penny is compressed and imprinted.

Spencer Pride is proud to host Owen County's only penny smashing machine, which has arrived just in time for the eclipse! The Spencer



#### NATIONAL BLOOD DONOR MONTH

##### "Judi's Drive" SPENCER PRIDE BLOOD DRIVE

SPENCER PRIDE BLOOMOBILE  
17 E FRANKLIN ST

SPENCER, IN 47460

APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED  
Walk-ins Welcome: Call 800-485-6594 or SCAN the QR Code to schedule your appointment!

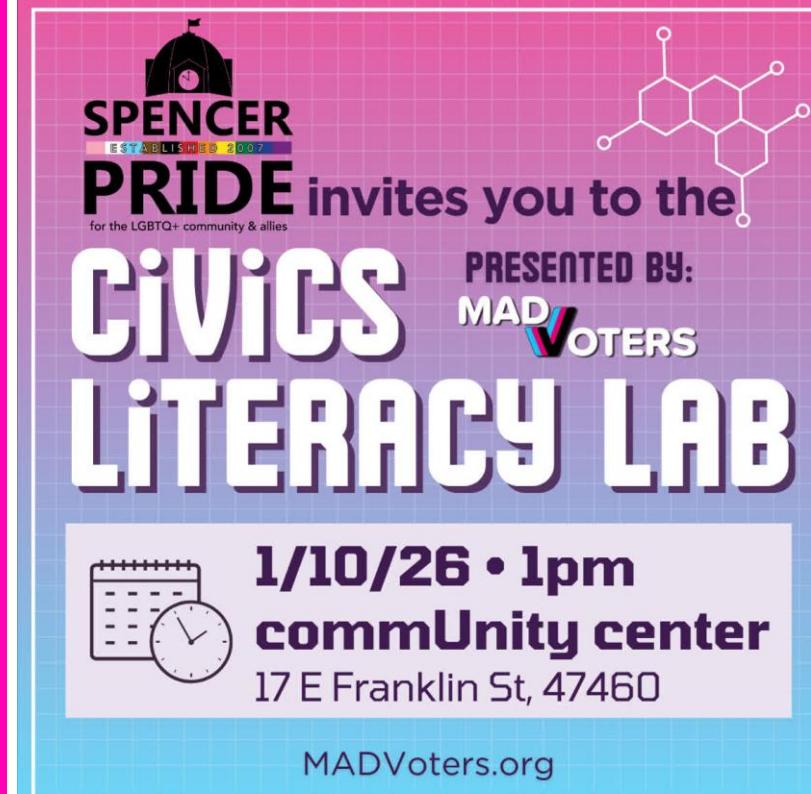
PROMOTION  
As a thank you, all attending donors with a valid email and code SPARK in their appointment notes will receive a \$25 e-gift card.

This drive is in honor of Judi Epp and her belief to always give back to the community.

SPENCER PRIDE commUnity center Versiti Blood Center of Indiana

On Saturday, January 10 we will be hosting our next blood drive at the commUnity center. You can reserve an appointment in advance or walk-in. We are hoping to have at least 21 donors this time. This particular blood drive we are calling "Judi's Drive," in honor of our recently passed co-founder Judi Epp. Making a blood donation is an important way to contribute to the health of our community and we hope you'll consider donating.

#### Civics Literacy Lab



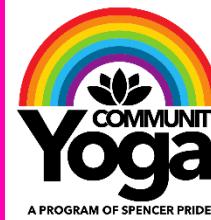
You are invited to a CIVICS LITERACY LAB on Saturday, January 10 at 1 pm at the Spencer Pride commUnity center. Join us for a free, in-person, interactive workshop designed to provide Hoosiers with important, nonpartisan information about the civic process so that they can better advocate for themselves and their communities.

- \* Voter eligibility, registration, and ID laws.
- \* Upcoming election information, including important dates, and the races on the ballot.
- \* Your elected officials and understanding their role.
- \* The legislative process
- \* Overview of key new laws.
- \* How to take action around civics in your community



#### Open Shifts

Text or call Jacob at 812-821-1442, or watch our Facebook Volunteer group for posts announcing opportunities!



Meets on the 2nd Wednesday at 6:15 pm. Individuals bring their own mat, all abilities and level welcome. For more information, contact [Julie.M@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Julie.M@SpencerPride.org)



A group for people who quilt, scrapbook, paint, decoupage, or anything of the like. Meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday from 5 pm to 7 pm. Individuals bring their own supplies to work on a project while others do the same. For more information, contact [Cat@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Cat@SpencerPride.org).



A group for people who love dancing and want to learn it and do it whenever they can. Meets at 6:15 pm on Thursdays. Contact [Jacob@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Jacob@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!



A spousal grief support group for members of the LGBTQ+ community & allies. Meets at 5:30 pm on the 1st Wednesday. Contact [Grief.Haven@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Grief.Haven@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!



A group for LGBTQ+ teens and allies (10-19) to connect, support each other, and have fun. Meets at 5 pm on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday. Contact [Joy@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Joy@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Follow us in Instagram!



A tutoring group for grades 6-12. Meets at 10 am on Saturdays. Visit our website for schedule. Contact [Andrew@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Andrew@SpencerPride.org) for more information.



A group for people who love birds and want to explore our natural world. Meets for outings on the 3rd Saturday, and special events. Contact [Rainbow.Birders@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Rainbow.Birders@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!



A social group for families with LGBTQ+ members. Meets quarterly. Contact [Shea@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Shea@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!



An inclusive Dungeons & Dragons RPG and gaming group. RPG meets as scheduled. Open Game Night 3rd Saturday @ 4 pm. Contact [Phillip@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Phillip@SpencerPride.org) for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!



A group for people who wish to live a more peaceful, joyful, and loving life. Meets at 4 pm on the third Sunday. Contact [Karen@SpencerPride.org](mailto:Karen@SpencerPride.org) for more info.

Pride machine features 5 designs, each featuring a special place in Spencer. The penny smashing machine was sponsored in part by Babbs, the Historic Tivoli Theatre, McCormick's Creek State Park, and Sweet Owen Convention & Visitors Bureau. Each coin takes 4 quarters and one penny (just \$1.01 for an awesome souvenir!).

#### The Owen News

Come get the latest copy of [The Owen News](#) at the commUnity center! We are open Wednesday through Sunday 10 am until 7 pm. Support your local news organization!



All monthly programs are free to participate and require no advanced registration.

We also host routine health & wellness services and monthly educational programming, in addition to annual events like the Spencer Pride Festival. For more information, ask a Spencer Pride volunteer or contact us at [info@SpencerPride.org](mailto:info@SpencerPride.org).

#### Fundraising News

##### Become A Sustainer

We are incredibly thankful for our sustainers! These amazing supporters give at a regular interval to cover 50% of the commUnity center's monthly operation costs.

Our goal for 2025 is to grow our Sustainer program to cover 100% of our center's operating costs.

To become a Sustainer, reach out to our Fundraising Director, Elisabeth Solchik, or you can start the process on our website: <https://spencerpride.org/donate/>



##### Did you know you could help support Spencer Pride while you are shopping?



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Balash**

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For more information about  
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**Martha Nally**

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Committee(s): D

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

A commUnity center Sponsor provides much needed support to assist with our current programming as well as with our future building expansion and programming that supports the LGBTQ+ community.

If you or someone you know would like to be a Sponsor, click [here](#) for more details!

## Thank You 2025 Sustainers



|                      |                  |                     |                     |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Ben Ale-Ebrahim      | Tyler DeFord     | Marissa Mallo       | Elisabeth* Solchik  |
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## PURPLE SPONSOR

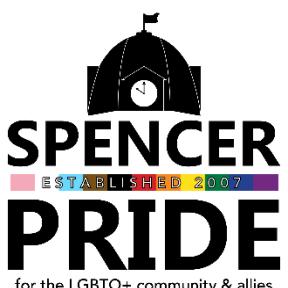


OCTOBER 4  
SPENCER, IN

Thanks again for your support!

**Our Contact Information**

Spencer Pride, Inc.  
PO Box 585  
Spencer, IN 47460  
812-652-5000  
<http://www.SpencerPride.org>



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