

Special Early Edition Due To Festival Information!



October 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.





NO GENERAL MEETING DUE TO FESTIVAL

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](#)

Congratulations!

At our Annual Meeting on September 13, 2026, the membership unanimously approved the re-election of **John Angeline, Jonathan Balash, Joy Hellman, Kim Fidler, Martha Nally, Rex Hinkle, Shea Finnegan** to our board of directors (for 3-year terms). Also, the general membership unanimously approved our leadership slate of officers up for election:
President: **Jonathan Balash**
Vice President: **Elisabeth Solchik**
Treasurer: **Wendy Wonderley**
Secretary: **John Angeline**

Festival Fundraising

Monthly Programs



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 for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)!

1-844-289-0879

Trans Lifeline
1-877-565-8860

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. As always, if you are in immediate danger, 911 should be your first option.



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 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

SPENCER PRIDE'S



DINE with PRIDE



Dine-in or carry-out, and a portion of your order will support the Spencer Pride Festival. Check out the specials on tap for our 20th Anniversary!

WED, SEPTEMBER 30 | 11A - 9P

Join us at Civilian Brewing Crops on Wednesday, September 30, 2026 from 11am-9pm.

September 13 through Oct. 3

Online or in-person at the Spencer Pride commUnity center W-Sun 10a-7p



Celebrate 20 years of Spencer Pride and win big in our Festival Fundraising Sweepstakes!

From September 13 through the festival on October 3, enter for your chance to win a share of over \$5,000 in incredible prizes donated by our generous community partners.

Tickets \$5 each or 6 tickets for \$25 Purchase online at <https://spencerpride.org/home/festival-fundraising/> or in-person at the Spencer Pride commUnity Center (Wed-Sun, 10 AM-7 PM).

Featured Prizes:
Spencer Pride 20th Anniversary Exclusives
Bespoke Handcrafted Quilt by the amazing @Julie Parmenter

Theater, Music & Fine Arts
Beef & Boards, Indiana Repertory Theatre (IRT), Phoenix Theatre, Footlite Musicals, Dance Kaleidoscope, IU Ballet, IU Cinema, Kentucky Performing Arts Center, and KanKan Cinema
Getaways & Outdoor Adventures
Getaway in Madison, IN via In Bloom Rental, Indianapolis stay at The Prescott in Irvington, IndiGo Birding tours, Cave Country Canoes paddle passes on the Blue River
Family Outings, Sports & Attractions
Indianapolis Zoo, Indy Eleven, WonderLab, Indiana State Museum and Indiana Historical Sites, Hoosier Heights, Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory, Belle of Louisville Riverboat, WonderLab Museum, and the Terre Haute Children's Museum, Hoosier Alley

Dining and Treats
Bakersfield, MAD Love, Bucceto's, and Chocolate Moose, Heine Brothers Coffee, and Mrs. B's Tea

Fitness, &Self-Care
The Goat Conspiracy, Bloomington Yoga Collective, All About Belly Dance, Todd Fuqua photography headshots, Tranquil Spa massage, and Jessica's Nails
Creative Fun
Caveat Emptor bookstore, Planted community cooking classes, Pottery House Studio, Rebel Purl, Knitting Romance, and "building bricks" sets

We'll also have even more prizes in a silent auction at our Festival Afterparty, so get your tickets and join in the fun! <https://www.eventeny.com/events/ticket/?id=27723>

Fine Print: NO PURCHASE, DONATION OR PAYMENT OF ANY KIND NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. Alternative



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



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 Terry@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 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 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 4:30-6:30 pm on the 2nd & 4th Wednesday. Contact Joy@SpencerPride.org for more info. Follow us in Instagram!



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 for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)! Visit our [webpage](#)!



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



An inclusive Dungeons & Dragons RGP ang gaming group. RPG meets as scheduled. Open Game Night 3rd Saturday @ 4 pm. Contact Rainbow.Rollers@SpencerPride.org

Sunday 10 am until 7 pm. Support your local news organization!



Pride Festivals

Our friends at Greenwood Pride are using their website to manage and host a festival page for all of the pride organizations in the [Indiana Pride Network](#).

Be sure to click the link and check out other festivals throughout Indiana.

methods of entry are available via the Sweepstakes Rules & Details at the bottom of each prize page. You do not need to be present to win, but review the details of each sweepstakes prize as prize pickup at the commUnity center may be required! Spencer Pride’s exempt event activity notification is on file with the Indiana Gaming Commission.

Over \$5,000 in prizes!

View the prize descriptions on the containers or scan the QR code below to go to our website with prize information:

\$5/ticket or 6/\$25

FESTIVAL FUNDRAISING SWEEPSTAKES

ON SALE THROUGH OCTOBER 3RD 11:59P

DRAWING ON OCTOBER 7TH

Volloween Party

VOLLOWEEN PARTY

OCTOBER 10 | SATURDAY | 6 PM

2565 BRAYSVILLE ROAD, SPENCER

COSTUME CONTEST | BONFIRE | VOLUNTEER AWARDS

FOOD | BEVERAGES | FRIENDS & FUN!

Spencer Pride Festival

20th Anniversary

www.SpencerPride.org

This year is extra special—Spencer Pride Festival is turning 20, and we’re throwing the biggest celebration yet! For two decades, this incredible festival has brought people together in downtown Spencer to honor love, diversity, and community spirit.

On the day of the festival, you can expect all the things you love—live entertainment, a huge outdoor marketplace, delicious food, family-friendly fun—and a few exciting surprises to mark this milestone year.

Below is a graphic of the festival activities. Yes, it is very small digitally, however, it will be around the square on the day of the festival. You can also go to [Eventeny](#) to see it.

for more info. Join our [Facebook Group](#)! Visit our [webpage](#)!



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 for more info.

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.

2026 Spencer Pride Festival

Program Schedule

All activities shown are free admission, except for the After Party.

COMMUNITY YOGA
10-11 AM
Free admission, except for the After Party

QUEER JOY: A POTTER WRITING WORKSHOP
10-11 AM
Free admission, except for the After Party

RAINBOW KIDS' OPEN TABLES
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

RAINBOW KIDS' ONE SHOT 8PG
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

JOSH VORMAN AUTHOR DISCUSSION
3-4 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

BRAQ QUEEN STYLORINE
4-5 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH
6-7 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

COOKING FOR BEDS
7-8 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

PRINCE OF AAS SAGG
7-8 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

SPENCER PRIDE FESTIVAL
20 26
Changeling for Good

BIRD SCAVENGER HUNT
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

WYATT TUCKER
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

GRAVY BIRD
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

SOUTHERN INDIANA TAIKO
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

PAT LEE DANCING
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

LIN RYE
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

WONDERBEST IRIS OUTDOOR FUN AREA
12-1 PM
Free admission, except for the After Party

FOR MORE INFO

AFTER PARTY

Please join us on Saturday, October 3

12-3 PM
HV and ST Screening
countywide mobile office

Health, Wellness, & Accessibility Services

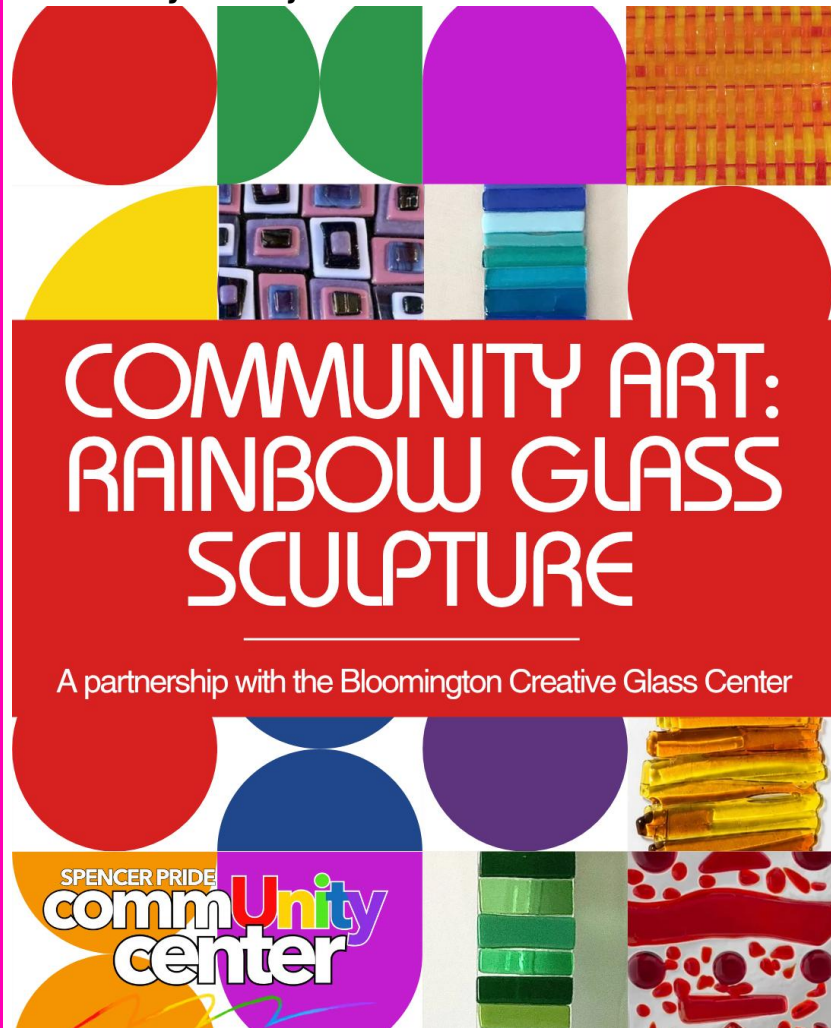
12-3 PM
Flu and COVID Vaccines
West Hill South on Mainline

12-6 PM
Low-Sugar Area
West Mainline 1st Street

12-6 PM
Lactation Room
West Mainline 1st Street

Free, accessible shuttles run 11 AM until 8 PM between downtown and Boston Scientific.

Programs with ASL interpretation are marked with



COMMUNITY ART: RAINBOW GLASS SCULPTURE

A partnership with the Bloomington Creative Glass Center

SPENCER PRIDE
community
center

Create & Connect: Community Rainbow Glass Art Sculpture!

We are excited to welcome you to our commUnity center in downtown Spencer for a special, hands-on art-making session! Come on by and help us build something truly dazzling for our new space.

With the amazingly talented Bloomington Creative Arts Center, we are crafting a stunning rainbow glass sculpture that will find its permanent home hanging in the skylight of the Rex G. Hinkle Library at the Spencer Pride community center—and we want your creative touch to be a part of it!

How You Can Create:

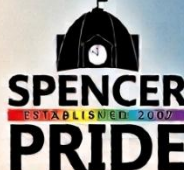
The Community Rainbow Sculpture: For a suggested \$5 donation, you can craft your very own monochromatic fused glass piece. All of our individual colored creations will be combined to form a vibrant masterpiece that will brighten our library for years to come!

Custom Fused Glass Art: For \$20, you can create your own custom piece of fused glass art. Once it is finished and ready, you can pick it up at a later date to keep and display at home.

No prior experience is necessary—just bring your creativity and community spirit! Stop by, support our community center, and leave your colorful mark on a piece of shared local art. We can't wait to see what we create together!

Wednesday, October 14th: 10a-6p

Two Eyes Screening



TWO EYES

SCREENING EVENT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SPENCER PRIDE

TWO WAYS TO JOIN US



IN-PERSON SCREENING

OCTOBER 11, 2:00 PM EST

SPENCER PRIDE COMMUNITY CENTER

FEATURING LIVE Q&A WITH TRAVIS FINE



TWO EYES
A FILM BY TRAVIS FINE



ON-DEMAND STREAMING

UNLIMITED ACCESS TO FILM & Q&A WITH ALAN CUMMING & LILY GLADSTONE

CELEBRATE LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

50% OF TICKET SALES DIRECTLY SUPPORT SPENCER PRIDE

Celebrate LGBTQ+ History Month with an exclusive screening of TWO EYES!

Get your tickets & learn more here:

<https://twoeyesmovie.com/screening/spencer-pride-screening-event/>

Join Spencer Pride on National Coming Out Day for a powerful cinematic journey featuring Oscar nominee Lily Gladstone, trans icons Kate Bornstein & Ryan Cassata, Alan Cumming, Nakhane, Samuel Jaxin Enemy-Hunter, and Kiowa Gordon.

Whether you want to gather in person or watch from the comfort of home, you can be a part of this special event!

IN-PERSON SCREENING \$15

When: Sunday, October 11 at 2:00 PM EST

Where: Spencer Pride commUnity center

Bonus: Includes an exclusive 45-minute live Zoom Q&A with director Travis Fine after the film.

ON-DEMAND STREAMING \$10

When: October 12 – October 18

Where: Stream anytime on your TV, laptop, or phone

Bonus: Includes unlimited access to full Q&A conversations with Alan Cumming, Lily Gladstone, and the cast.

50% of all ticket sales directly support Spencer Pride to empower rural LGBTQ+ communities in south central Indiana.

#TwoEyesMovie #SpencerPride #LGBTQHistoryMonth
#NationalComingOutDay #QueerCinema

Open Shifts



Text or call Jake at 734-353-2195, or watch our Facebook Volunteer group for posts announcing opportunities!



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 2026 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?

**support
spencer pride
through corporate
MATCHING**

EIN: 26-2197732
ASK YOUR HR/BENEFITS REP FOR MORE INFORMATION!

PHILANTHROPY 101: When an employee makes a donation, they'll request the matching gift from their employer, who then makes their own donation. Companies usually match donations at a 1:1 ratio.

Matching gift programs are just one of the many types of corporate philanthropy initiatives that companies have, but \$4 – \$7 BILLION in matching gift funds are unclaimed each year!

These philanthropy programs allow us to maximize the impact of our donations - ask your employer today to help make an impact in the Spencer community.

**COMMUNITY REWARDS UPDATE
FOR Q2 2026**

YOU CAN HELP!

1. Register your existing Kroger Plus card, or create a new digital card at: <https://www.kroger.com/signin>
2. Under your Kroger Profile > go to Community Rewards > Enroll:
3. Search **EU230** to find Spencer Pride.

To learn more about linking your Kroger Rewards Card to Spencer Pride:
<https://www.kroger.com/!community/community-rewards>

39 households
\$64 donated

SPENCER PRIDE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jonathan Balash
he/him
*President
Board Chair*
Committee(s): E, P, R

John Angeline
he/him
Secretary
Committee(s): E, F

Elisabeth Solchik
she/her
*Vice President
Development Director*
Committee(s): E, D

Wendy Wonderley
she/her
Treasurer
Committee(s): E, F, P, R

Jacob Balash
he/him
Director
Committee(s): P, R

Kim Fidler
she/her
Director

Shea Finnegan
he/him
Director
Committee(s): P

Joy Hellman
she/her
Director
Committee(s): F, P

Rex Hinkle
he/him
Director
Committee(s): D

Martha Nally
she/her
Director
Committee(s): D

COMMITTEE LEGEND: D = Development, E = Executive, F = Finance, P = Programming R = Rehab

Welcome our new Executive Director!

Jake Taylor
they/them
Executive Director
Jake@SpencerPride.org

For more information about our Board, please scan here:

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.

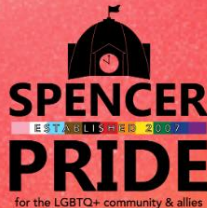
If you or someone you know would like to be a Sponsor, click [here](#) for more details!

A Spencer Pride Sustainer is a donor who gives at a regular interval – monthly, quarterly, or annually – for as little as \$5/month.

We are incredibly thankful for our 2026 sustainers. These amazing supporters give at a regular interval to cover over 75% of the commUnity center’s current monthly operation costs.

To become a Sustainer, reach out to our Vice President and Development Director, Elisabeth Solchik at Elisabeth@spencerpride.org, or you can start the process through our website: <https://spencerpride.org/donate/>

Check the box "Show my support by making this a recurring donation"
And in the blank space that is a drop-down field for "My donation is for," select "Sustainer (Recurring)"



2026 Sustainers

Ben Ale-Ebrahim	Tyler DeFord	Bob Marshall	Anna Spears
John* Angeline	Carl Deitchman	Lucie Mathieu	Damon Spivey
Jonathan* Balash	Elizabeth DeVoe	Jody May	Marcia Steele
Jacob* Balash	Chad Eppelheimer	Felix McBeath	Michael Stevenson
Truman Balash	Kim* Fidler	Cathy McFarland	Ryan Stringer
Kathy Balash	Shea Finnegan*	David McFarland	Kayla Tackett
Fred Balash	Eric Flynn-McCormick	Berta Medicus-Moore	Kate Tavernier
Marion Banzhaf	Jim Frohlinger	Debbie Messer	Mitch Teplitsky
Connie Barton	David Friedel	Jennifer Morris	Therry The
Robene R. Bates	Darrell Frye	Martha* Nally	Brayton Thompson
Sienna J. Bates	Patrick Gallagher	Joe Newman	Marci Tillison
Barbara Bauer	Cathy C. Gebhard	Donna Nicholas	Terese Urban
Vic Bequeret	Kate Gehringer	Amanda Nixon	Nicole Vasconi
Glenda Breeden	Athena Goulet	Ed O'Brien	Karla Vedder
Bill Breeden	Kathy Griffey	Phillip O'Neil	Erica Whichello
George Brinson	Lynn Griffey-Ennis	Jameson O'Neil	Peggy Whitlow
Jessica Brinson	John Grisham	Caroline Owens	Karen Williams
Jennifer Brown	Cari Hale	Mark Parmenter	Wendy* Wonderley
Stephen Brown	Jackie Hall	Julie Parmenter	Don Wooldridge
Wren Brown	Nicholas Heck	Carri Ranard	Cathy Wyatt
Pam Browning	Mary Heldt	Mia Ranard	Dan Wyatt
Dean Bruce	Joy* Hellman	Lucy Ransdell	Karen Zuber
Marcia Bruce	David Henk	Alan Rice	Tom Zuber
Linda Bucklin	Ann Henk	Janet Rummel	Katie Zuber
Alex Butrum-Griffith	Rex* Hinkle	Eric Sader	
Linda Campbell	Cindy Houston	Bethany Satrom	*Board of Directors
John Cash	Jennifer Hurtubise	Dorcilla Schoolman	
Nathaniel Clawson	Melanie Keller	John Settle-Corbin	
Beth Clawson	Christy Kelley	Lynne Shiffriss	
Allie Cogan McHaley	Kathy Kessler	Casey Shively	
Claire Cogan McHaley	Matt Kirk	Kathryn Shumate	
Patti Cowin	Donna Lowe	Kathy Sideli	
Christy Crandall	Ann Mahrtdt	RJ Sliva	
Eric Crown	Marissa Mallo	Jenny Smith	
Dave Debikey		Elisabeth* Solchik	
Kelli Debikey		Cat Spratt	



Become a Sustainer

Spencer Pride
Festival



Pioneer
Year-long
Sponsorship

*Changed
for Good*



Thanks again for your support!

Our Contact Information

{{Organization Name}}

{{Organization Address}}

{{Organization Phone}}

{{Organization Website}}

{{Unsubscribe}}

