

The Parking Lot



February 2026

Community Comes Together to Feed Neighbors This Holiday Season

This holiday season, the Spirit Lake community once again showed the power of neighbors helping neighbors through the recent food drives. Thanks to generous donations, dedicated volunteers, and strong community support, hundreds of local families were provided with meals during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

At Thanksgiving, **192 food boxes** were distributed, helping to feed **727 people** across our community. Just weeks later, the Christmas food drive delivered **166 food boxes**, ensuring **621 people** had food on their tables during the holidays.

These efforts reflect the heart of Spirit Lake—people stepping up to care for one another when it matters most. From those who donated food and funds, to volunteers who packed boxes and helped with distribution, every contribution made a meaningful difference.

Thank you to everyone who played a part in making this season brighter for so many. Your kindness and generosity continue to strengthen our community and remind us what it truly means to look out for one another. ❤️

Seahawks Fans Turn Team Spirit Into Community Impact

Local fans of the Seattle Seahawks proved that team pride goes far beyond game day. The Spirit Lake Seahawks Fan Club participates in the community food drive to deliver meaningful results for families across the region.

Each week, fans bring specific food items to fill the holiday food boxes. Through weeks of outreach, collection efforts, and volunteer coordination, the fan club helped gather **5,200 pounds** of food and more than **\$2,200** in monetary donations. The combined total directly supports local food assistance programs and helps ensure that families facing food insecurity have access to essential resources.

The effort was supported through strong partnerships with the Spirit Lake Food Bank, Silver Valley Food Bank, Spirit Lake Community Coalition, and Cup of Grace, along with community sponsor, Mary Madrishin. Together, these partners helped turn fan enthusiasm into meaningful, direct support for neighbors in need.

Organizers emphasized that the drive reflects what the Seahawks fan community stands for—loyalty, teamwork, and showing up when it counts. By channeling their shared passion into service, local fans demonstrated how sports communities can play a powerful role in strengthening the places they call home.

The Spirit Lake Seahawks Fan Club plans to continue combining football fandom with community service, proving that being a Seahawk isn't just about cheering on Sundays—it's about making a difference all year long.



Timberlake Students helping pack food boxes

Thank you to our Community Partners

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Timberlake Middle School | Nash and Sons RPM |
| Millers Harvest Food | Sweet Lou's Restaurant |
| Super 1 Athol | Spirit Lake Community (Senior) Center |
| PB&J Haydener's | Spirit Lake Food Bank |
| First Interstate Bank | Spirit Valley Food Bank |
| Giorgi's Burgers | Spirit Lake Seahawks Fan Club |
| Maine St Taphouse | Cup of Grace |
| Linger Longer Lounge | Spirit Lake Community Coalition |
| Mi Pueblo Restaurant | |



Spirit Lake Village Winter Olympic Games 2026

A Day of Winter Fun, Friendly Competition & Community Spirit

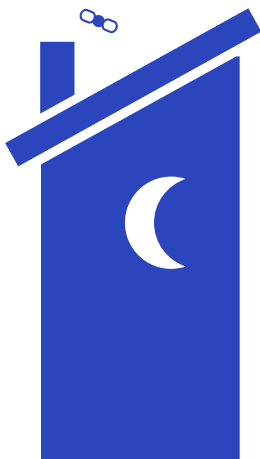
Saturday, February 21, 2026
11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Spirit Lake City Park

Event Highlights

- Outhouse Races
- Chili Cook-Off
- Winter Games & Activities



Scan for event details & updates
www.spiritlakecc.org



Spirit Lake Community Calendar FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout 3 PM Chess Club	4 6:30 PM SLCC Events Committee	5	6 4:30 PM Bunco 7 PM Movie: This Beautiful Fantastic (2016)	7
8 🏏 3:30 PM Super Bowl Gathering	9	10 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout	11 6:30 PM SLCC Community Heart & Soul	12	13 7 PM Movie: The Philadelphia Story (1941)	14
15	16	17 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout	18 6 PM Beer Pairing Meal (Doors 5:30)	19	20 7 PM Movie (TBA)	21 9 AM-1 PM CPR/AED/First Aid Class
22	23	24 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout	25 6:30 PM SLCC Monthly Meeting	26	27 7 PM Movie (TBA)	28 11 AM SL Winter Olympic Games & Chili Cook Off

FOR FULL EVENT DETAILS DETAILS, SEE NEXT PAGE

Community Meals
Senior Center Mondays & Wednesdays 4:30 pm
Senior Center Fridays 7:30 am
Cup of Grace Tuesdays 4:30 pm

Spirit Lake Community Calendar

🎄 FEBRUARY EVENTS

- Feb 3 · 3 PM – Chess Club, Community Center
- Feb 3, 10, 17, 24 · 10:30 AM – Preschool Storytime, Spirit Lake Community Library
- Feb 3, 10, 17, 24 · 3 PM – Teen Hangout (snacks by Cup of Grace), Community Library
- Feb 4 · 6:30 PM – SLCC Events Committee Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center
- Feb 6 · 4:30 PM – Bunco, Blanchard Community Center
- Feb 6 · 7 PM – Movie at the Museum: This Beautiful Fantastic (2016), Spirit Lake Historical Museum
- Feb 7 · 1 PM – Book Mending Workshop, Spirit Lake Community Library
- Feb 8 · 3:30 PM – Super Bowl Gathering, Linger Longer
- Feb 11 · 6:30 PM – SLCC Community Heart & Soul Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center
- Feb 13 · 7 PM – Movie at the Museum: The Philadelphia Story (1941), Spirit Lake Historical Museum
- Feb 18 · 6 PM (Doors 5:30 PM) – Beer Pairing Meal, Sedlmayer's
- Feb 20 · 7 PM – Movie at the Museum (TBA), Spirit Lake Historical Museum
- Feb 21 · 9 AM–1 PM – CPR/AED/First Aid Class, Spirit Lake Fire Station (\$5 non-cert / \$25 AHA)
- Feb 21 · 11 AM – SL Winter Olympic Games & Chili Cook-Off, The Big Park
- Feb 25 · 6:30 PM – SLCC Monthly Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center
- Feb 27 · 7 PM – Movie at the Museum (TBA), Spirit Lake Historical Museum



Scan for SLCC Calendar



Rooted in Community Heart & Soul principles, we celebrate our town's past while building a vibrant future. Everyone is welcome to get involved!

Visit our [Facebook](#) page & **join us** at a monthly meeting, the **fourth Wednesday of every month** at the Spirit Lake Senior Center.

Submit
YOUR calendar dates
at
www.spiritlakecc.org



Scan for SLCC Facebook

🍴 COMMUNITY MEALS

- Mondays – Dinner · Senior Center · 4:30 – 6 PM
- Tuesdays – Dinner · Cup of Grace · 4:30 – 6 PM
- Wednesdays – Dinner · Senior Center · 4:30 – 6 PM
- Fridays – Breakfast · Senior Center · 7:30 – 10 AM

🏛️ COMMUNITY MEETINGS

- 1st Wednesday – SLCC Events
- 2nd Wednesday – CH & S CORE
- 3rd Wednesday – Historical Society
- 4th Wednesday – SLCC

🏛️ CITY HALL MEETINGS

- 1st Tuesday – Planning & Zoning
- 2nd Monday – Urban Renewal
- 2nd Tuesday – City Council
- 3rd Monday – Historical Preservation

🇺🇸 VFW EVENTS

- 1st Saturday of each month:
10 AM – Veterans Breakfast · All welcome
- 11:30 AM – Monthly VFW Members Meeting

Meet Your New Spirit Lake Mayor Charlene Phipps



If you were out and about in Spirit Lake this spring and summer, chances are you crossed paths with Charlene Phipps. She was everywhere; meeting residents, listening to concerns, and sharing her vision while running for mayor. Now elected, Mayor Phipps is even more eager to connect with the people she serves.

Charlene is a retired Registered Nurse whose career often placed her in high-pressure, fast-moving situations. She credits that experience with shaping her calm demeanor, attention to detail, and measured decision-making skills she believes translate well to public service.

Mayor Phipps has served on the Spirit Lake City Council since January 2024 and describes herself as detail-oriented, with experience in finances and accounts payable that will be valuable in her new role.

Community involvement has long been central to Charlene's public life. She founded the Spirit Lake Meals on Wheels Silent Auction benefiting the Community Center—raising \$1,500 in its first year and an impressive \$15,000 in its second. She has also been an active, hands-on participant with the Spirit Lake Community Coalition, contributing time and energy to initiatives that make a meaningful impact locally.

Building partnerships is another priority. Charlene has worked to connect Spirit Lake with organizations such as Avista, Innovia Foundation, the Idaho Department of Commerce, Main Street America, and Mike Crapo, among others. She believes collaboration with partners who understand Spirit Lake's goals is key to long-term success.

She ran on a platform of openness and transparency with priorities that include accessible city council meetings where residents can share ideas and concerns, posting annual financial audits online for public review, and forming a Business Consortium so local businesses can meet to ask questions, offer solutions, and help one another grow.

Grounded in strong principles while remaining flexible and forward-thinking, Charlene recognizes both the challenges ahead and the deep care residents have for their town. She is a patient listener who values input from citizens and business owners alike and is committed to an open-door policy. She encourages everyone to reach out, set up a time to visit, and get to know her.

With energy, optimism, and a collaborative spirit, Mayor Phipps invites the community to be an active part of the journey. Together, she believes, Spirit Lake can continue to thrive and be one of the best small towns in America.

Ready, set, go!

SLURA Receives Community Citizenship Award

The Spirit Lake Urban Renewal Agency (SLURA) receives the Community Citizenship Award, recognizing its commitment to responsible investment and community benefit. Through carefully managed Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds, SLURA has supported key projects including the development and gifting of Fireside Park to the City, cemetery expansion, paving and road improvements and critical water infrastructure improvements. When managed well, TIFs expand the city's budget without raising taxes or reducing the city's overall budget.

Special thanks to Vicki Coombs, SLURA Administrator, for her unmatched attention to detail and dedication to excellence in serving the community.



Paul Sturm, Marc Kroetch, Melissa Hallas, Becky DeMers, Mike Erickson, (not pictured: Vicki Coombs)

City Council Updates January 13, 2026

- a. Proposed Ordinance #635 - Ice and Snow Removal- NO ACTION
- b. Wage Matrix, Job Descriptions, and Policies- NO ACTION
- c. Proposed Ordinance #643 – Mobile Vending- NO ACTION
- d. Proposed Ordinance #644 – Spirit Shores Vacate Right of Way – PASSED
- e. Resolution 2026-1-13 Comprehensive Plan Adoption- PASSED

Mayor, Charlene Phipps sworn in
Councilman, Terry Moore sworn in
Councilman, Darrell Woods sworn in



Local School Receives National Award

Congratulations to Spirit Lake Heritage Christian Academy on being recognized as a Top Private Christian School. This honor reflects the academy's strong commitment to academic excellence, faith-based education, and the nurturing of character and leadership in its students.

Spirit Lake is proud to have an institution that invests so deeply in the growth of our youth and contributes positively to our community. Well done to the staff, students, and families who make this achievement possible. 🌞

🏈 Super Bowl Watch Party & Community Giveback

Join Scotty and Tammy and the rest of the Seahawk fans on **February 8th at 3:30 PM** at The Linger Longer for a Super Bowl Watch Party—no reserved seating, just good food, great company, and plenty of game-day excitement.

Everyone is welcome, and it's a perfect chance to connect with fellow fans and meet members of the Spirit Lake Seahawks Fan Club, who continue to show up big for our community.



We're also excited to share that the Spirit Lake Seahawks Fan Club has donated \$3,200 in cash to support local causes—an incredible example of community spirit in action. To keep that momentum going, please bring peanut butter and jelly donations to support The Lunch Shack. Help feed our kids this summer!

Come for the game, stay for the camaraderie, and help make a difference right here in Spirit Lake.

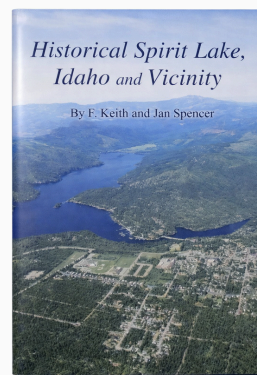
Preserving the Past with the Spirit Lake Idaho Historical Society & Museum

The Spirit Lake Historical Society was incorporated by the State of Idaho on October 12, 1999. This active nonprofit was conceived in the Spirit Lake Pawn Shop by four founding board members: Mary Waller, Thomas Marsili, Lorin Watson, and Joy Porter.

Mary ran the pawn and thrift shop on Maine Street in the building that now serves as Spirit Lake City Hall. While puffing on a steady stream of cigarettes and an oxygen machine at the same time in the smoke-filled interior, Mary engaged customers in conversations—not so much about the value of the merchandise inside the shop, but about the value of the history just outside its door.

Photos and stories were collected and saved, a book was published, and eventually, a museum was created.

Society meetings with historical content are the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:00pm at the Museum on the corner of 6th Avenue and Jefferson Street. The Society currently hosts "Movies at the Museum" on Friday evenings at 7:00 pm, with free popcorn. Memorial Weekend opens the regular museum season and the old time music band Free Spiritz, hosts a jam on the 1st Saturday of each month and organizes the 4th of July music in the parade and park. The Society supports the All School Reunion in August and celebrates our old timers at the Ice Cream Social on Labor Day. The website is spiritlakehistory.org and to talk about history call 208-691-9533.



Historical Spirit Lake, Idaho and Vicinity

(Book can be purchased at Mrs. C's Trains or at the Museum)



Spirit Lake Idaho Historical Museum