

Spirit Lake Community News

The Parking Lot

Where the meeting ends and the real conversations begin



March 2026

Community on the Move: Spirit Lake's Outhouse Races

The Spirit Lake Winter Olympic Games including the annual Outhouse Races once again proved that some of the best moments in our town happen when neighbors come together simply to have fun.

Teams of friends, families, and community members raced outhouses provided by Sedlmayers' and City Hall down the course, with one brave rider inside. While the races brought plenty of laughter and friendly competition, the real highlight was the strong sense of community behind it all.

Congratulations to **Star Batt**, who took home the win in this year's Outhouse Races, and to **Jessica Spears**, whose delicious entry earned top honors in the Chili Cook Off.

Winners of the Outhouse Races

The day was made even more festive thanks to the many local businesses that joined in the fun. Several downtown businesses offered specials, including hot dogs and even a wing-eating contest, creating a lively atmosphere throughout Maine Street

A special thank-you goes to Savannah Bradetich, who brought games down for the kids, helping make the event enjoyable for families of all ages.



Be Ready, Spirit Lake: Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training

Sign up to be a part of CERT for the Spirit Lake Area!

The Spirit Lake Community Coalition, in cooperation with Kootenai County Emergency Management, is planning to form a CERT in the Spirit Lake area to help our community to be prepared for any disaster we may face in the future. Training is free!

Basic CERT Training is scheduled for three all-day sessions, **April 11, 12, and 25** at Timberlake Middle School.

Sign up by April 1, 2026 with your contact information, so we know how many to expect and how to contact you.

1. Sign up online at: <https://www.spiritlakeecc.org/cert-training>
2. Sign up for a FEMA SID (Student ID) <https://cdp.dhs.gov/femasid>
3. Save your new FEMA SID number and bring it with you to the Training
4. Complete an online training before April 11 at : <https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=is-100.c&lang=en>
5. Send a copy of your certificate of completion of the online training to CERTKootenai@gmail.com

We will be in touch before the training - check your email.

Thank you for considering supporting your community!!





WHAT IS CERT?

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is a nationally recognized program that helps to prepare local community members to be prepared for hazards that may affect their area.

CERT training promotes a partnership between emergency professionals and the public they serve. If a disaster were to overwhelm or delay the community's emergency response, CERT members can use the basic skills learned in training to assist themselves, their families, and others. These skills, covering response and organization, can help save and sustain lives until professional help arrives.

It is not matter of IF a major disaster will strike, but WHEN. We must be prepared to protect and help ourselves, and the community in which live.

If you have any questions or are interested in hosting a CERT Basic Training Course, please reach out to:

CERTKootenai@gmail.com



CERT BASIC TRAINING

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

CERT ORGANIZATION

DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS PT. 1

DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS PT.2

DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY

FIRE SAFETY AND UTILITY CONTROLS

LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

TERRORISM AND CERT

COURSE REVIEW, FINAL EXAM AND DISASTER SIMULATION

UTAH SHARES A VIDEO ABOUT CERT:

[HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/7J702RUSIHA?SI=SB95GYZSDW46TKJY](https://youtu.be/7J702RUSIHA?si=sb95gyzsdw46tkjy)

Spirit Lake Community Calendar APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10 AM Yoga 4:30 PM Dinner Service 6:30 PM SLC C Events Committee 6:30 PM Comedy Night	2 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof	3 7:30-10:30 AM Community Breakfast	4 9 AM Community Coffee 8 PM Live Music
5 12-8 PM Easter Dinner	6 4:30 PM Dinner Service	7 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout 6:30 PM Planning & Zoning	8 10 AM Yoga 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 4:30 PM Dinner Service 6:30 PM Heart & Soul	9 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof	10 7:30-10:30 AM Community Breakfast	11 9 AM Community Coffee TBD AM CERT Class 9 AM Little League Field Prep 8 PM Live Music
12 TBD AM CERT Class 9 AM Little League Field Prep	13 4:30 PM Dinner Service	14 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout 6:30 PM City Council 6:30 PM Historic Preservation	15 10 AM Yoga 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 4:00 PM Historical Society 4:30 PM Dinner Service	16 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof	17 7:30-10:30 AM Community Breakfast	18 9 AM Community Coffee 8 PM Live Music
19	20 4:30 PM Dinner Service	21 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout	22 10 AM Yoga 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 4:30 PM Dinner Service 5:30 Moroccan Pairing Meal 6:30 PM SLC C Monthly Meeting	23 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof	24 7:30-10:30 AM Community Breakfast	25 9 AM Community Coffee 8 PM Live Music
26	27 4:30 PM Dinner Service	28 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 10:30 AM Preschool Storytime 3 PM Teen Hangout	29 10 AM Yoga 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof 4:30 PM Dinner Service	30 8:30-9:30 AM Fit & Fall Proof		

FOR FULL EVENT 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

✿ MARCH 2026

Mar 25 · 6:30 PM — **SLCC** Monthly Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center
Mar 28 · TBD — Ninja Event, Post Office Cleanup, Maine St

🌸 APRIL 2026

Apr 1 · 6:30 AM — Comedy Improv Night, Sedlmayer's
Apr 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 · 10 AM — Yoga, Spirit Lake Community Library
Apr 1 · 6:30 PM — **SLCC** Events Committee Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center
Apr 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 28, 30 · 8:30-9:30 AM — Fit & Fall Proof Class, Spirit Lake Senior Center
Apr 3, 10, 17, 24 · 7:30-10:30 AM — Community Breakfast, Spirit Lake Senior Center
Apr 1, 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29 · 4:30 PM — Dinner Service (Salad Served at 4:30), Spirit Lake Senior Center
Apr 4, 11, 18, 25 · 9 AM — Community Coffee Meetup, Cup of Grace
Apr 4, 11, 18, 25 · 8 PM — Live Music Night, Linger Longer Lounge
Apr 5 · 12 - 8 pm - Easter Dinner, Sedlmayer's
Apr 7, 14, 21, 28 · 10:30 AM — Preschool Storytime, Spirit Lake Community Library
Apr 7, 14, 21, 28 · 3 PM — Teen Hangout, Spirit Lake Community Library
Apr 7 · 6:30 PM — Spirit Lake Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting, City Hall
Apr 8 · 6:30 PM — **SLCC** Community Heart & Soul Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center
Apr 11, 12 · 9 AM — Little League Field Prep, Volunteer Park
Apr 11, 12 · TBD AM — CERT Class, Timberlake Middle School
Apr 14 · 6:30 PM — Spirit Lake City Council, City Hall
Apr 14 · 6:30 PM — Spirit Lake Historical Preservation, City Hall
Apr 15 · 4 PM — Historical Society, Spirit Lake Historical Museum
Apr 22 · 5:30 PM — Moroccan Pairing Meal,, Sedlmayer's
Apr 22 · 6:30 PM — **SLCC** Monthly Meeting, Spirit Lake Senior Center



Scan for SLCC Calendar



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

The Heart and Organization Behind Spirit Lake's Celebrations



Susan delegates responsibilities, gathers and delivers supplies, and making lists and checks them twice. She demonstrates incredible patience, dedication, creativity, and a genuine love for our community.

She guides the SLCC team in planning months in advance for each event so that when the day arrives, everything runs like clockwork. While many volunteers help along the way, Susan leads the effort—managing schedules, coordinating details, and organizing SLCC-sponsored events. SLCC also proudly supports events hosted by other community partners, including our schools, churches, and the City. Susan has built strong relationships with these groups, helping ensure our community events are successful and well connected.

Spirit Lake is known for its fun and memorable events that make our town one-of-a-kind and bring residents and visitors together. So the next time you are enjoying a Spirit Lake event, see if you can find Susan in the crowd and give her a big “Thank You!”

Have you ever had to plan a wedding, big party or other event? If so, you know just how much time, energy, work and organization it takes! Spirit Lake has many such events throughout the year so you can imagine the work it takes to carry this out!

Spirit Lake Community Coalition is so fortunate to have a remarkable person who works tirelessly behind the scenes, helping lead and organize the many special events that bring our community together throughout the year. It takes a person with special skills to take on this role. Susan plans, organizes, and coordinates with community groups and volunteers.

Upcoming Community Events

February

Winter Olympic Games*

May

Community Market* (May - Sept)

June

Big Back In - Lawnmower Races

VFW Pancake Feed

Inaugural Annual Herbal Festival

July

4th Parade,* Vendors, & Games

4th of July Fireworks

September

VFW Car Show

Games & Vendors in the Park*

Heritage Days

October

Homecoming Parade

Homecoming Tailgate Party*

Trunk or Treat

November

Thanksgiving Food Boxes*

Holiday Swags Fundraiser*

December

Christmas Food Boxes*

Downtown Lighting & Christmas Parade*

Cocoa Crawl & Santa*

*SLCC Sponsored Events

VENDORS WANTED – Spirit Lake Community Market



Do you 🌱 grow it, 🍰 bake it, 🍪 make it?
Join the Spirit Lake Community Market this summer!

📅 Thursdays | May 7 – September 3

📍 Spirit Lake City Park (The Big Park)

Share with a local maker, baker, or grower who should be at the market!

Scan to Apply
Spirit Lake Community Market Vendor Application



Apply <https://marketspread.com/market/36312/spirit-lake-community-market/apply/6958/vendor/>

City Council Updates March 10 , 2026

- Morgan Regulatory Taking Analysis- PASSED
- Spirit Lake Urban Renewal Agency (SLURA) Annual Report – PASSED
- Barbara Brown Resignation from the Spirit Lake Planning & Zoning Commission - PASSED
- Appointment of Zachary Neu to the Planning and Zoning Commission - PASSED
- Memorandum of Understanding- City of Spirit Lake Park & Recreation and Timberlake Little League - PASSED
- Resolution 2026-03-10A – Fee Resolution - PASSED
- Resolution 2026-03-10B – Authorizing Adoption of the Kootenai County MultiJurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation Plan - PASSED
- 6685 W Nash Road Right-of-Way and Easement Dedication – PASSED



Celebrating a True Spirit Lake Neighbor

The sentiment the Spirit Lake Community Coalition hears most often is how much people value living in a town where neighbors know each other. That spirit of connection may be Spirit Lake's greatest asset. In a world where that feeling can sometimes be lost, our town continues to cherish and live it every day.

One person who truly represents the caring spirit of our community is **Terry Moore**. Many of you likely know Terry and may even call him a friend, having worked alongside him on the many projects and activities that support Spirit Lake.

Terry and his wife, Della, moved to Spirit Lake seven years ago after spending more than forty years in the Midwest. Drawn by Spirit Lake's beauty and welcoming small-town lifestyle, Terry quickly became deeply involved in the community.

He served on the Planning and Zoning Commission, is a leader in the Spirit Lake Community Coalition, and in November was elected to the Spirit Lake City Council.

Terry is often seen around town with tools in hand, painting benches, fixing signs, clearing snow from sidewalks, and helping improve parks and public spaces. His willingness to step in and help wherever needed earned him the Spirit Lake Citizen of the Year Award in 2025.

Terry reminds us that one person truly can make a difference – and many hands make light work!

Terry chairs the SLCC Parks & Maine St. Committee and leads our Ninja Projects. A Ninja Project is a small, fast project completed by a small group of people to improve something in the community.

If you see Terry downtown, take a minute to say, **"THANK YOU!"**



Upcoming Ninja Projects

US Post Office Cleanup	3/28
Little League Field Prep.	4/11 & 12
Police Dept Ext. Painting	4/25
Fireside Park Cleanup	TBD

Do you want to join us for a Ninja Project?

Do you have an idea for a Ninja Project?
Reach out to us on FB or stop by and talk to Terry

Spotlight on Spirit Lake History – The Trail to Spirit Lake

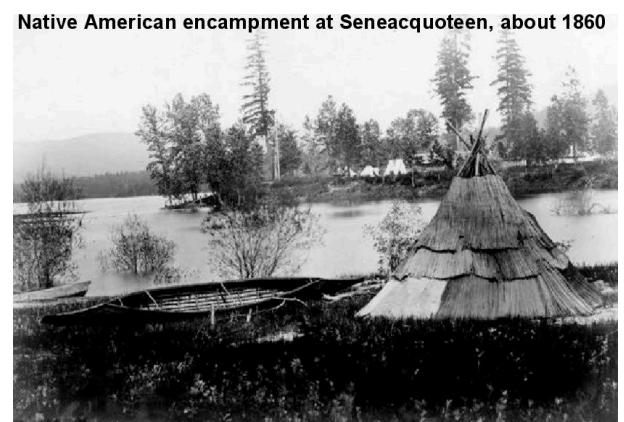
The trails of the people who lived in the Spirit Lake region for thousands of years wound through the wilderness. An ancient trail led from the Spokane River to the Pend Oreille River. This was the "Seneacquoteen" (Sin-yak-wa-teen) Trail and it means "crossing the river." The trail turned east at Twin Lakes but a branch split off going north and then along the eastern shore of Tesemini, (translated "lake of spirits") now, Spirit Lake.

The area's first map was in 1874 and the trail was widened to a wagon road from Rathdrum in the 1880s. On May 16, 1889 in the Spokane Falls Review, by John Reavis wrote this description about going from Spokane to Spirit Lake. "The

road was up the valley of the Spokane River to the town of Rathdrum, twenty-six miles east on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and then 10 miles north through a heavy mountain forest. We had a pair of good, tough, little horses who were used to the long and rapid traveling of this country.... Suddenly and unexpectedly as we turned down a hill, the wall of the thick forest parted and through the opening we could see Spirit Lake nestled quietly and placidly in the embrace of the surrounding mountains....It seemed to me this might not only be the paradise of the fisherman and the hunter, but of the tourist and lover of nature as well, for in this little lake was a gem indeed..."



Northern Pacific train, 1870s



Native American encampment at Seneacquoteen, about 1860