



P.O. Box 584
Storm Lake, IA 50588

News Release: Community Support Continues to Move Us Forward

Storm Lake, IA (June 17, 2026) After a full two weeks of collecting donations, the 2026 Star Spangled Spectacular, with a theme of “Built on Freedom, Bound by Community” has reached \$23,000 towards a goal of \$50,000. Josh Newhouse, fundraising co-chair for Star Spangled Spectacular, said many donors have increased their donations over last year, and several first-time donors sent in their contributions this week. “We also received donations from donors we have not heard from in many years as well as several new donors,” said Newhouse. “Every donation helps us meet our goal.”

Fundraising co-chair Matt Brostad noted that online donations continue to increase. “We hope that it continues to be popular as we still have a lot of money to raise,” said Brostad.

Donation checks can be made out to Star Spangled Spectacular and sent to

Josh Newhouse, Fundraising Chair
PO Box 457
Storm Lake, IA 50588

Donors and categories through June 9-15, 2026, include:

- **1776 Society (\$1,000 and above):** Energy Transport, and VT Industries.
- **Liberty Bell Ringers (\$500-\$999):** Russ Eddie, Micki Godbersen, and Nutra Tech, Inc.
- **Patriots(\$350-\$499):** Jim Spooner and Judy Quick, and Kevin and Julie McKinney.
- **250 Club (\$250 commemorative giving level):** A & A Automotive/Adam and Angie Kutz, Gennatos Family Dentistry, Brian and Betsy Lenzmeier, Bob and Patty Payer and Family, City of Lakeside, and Goettsch Dispatch.
- **Skyrockets (\$200-\$349):** Dr. Lisa R. Lindeman, DDS, Gary and Patricia Armstrong, Steve and Terry Brashears, and Dave and Barbara Dvergsten.
- **Firecrackers (\$100 to \$199):** Bill and Lana Crilly, Loew’s Carpet One Floor & Home, Jane Meyer, Derick and Amanda Bruhn, Dean and Josie Ellingson, Gene and Gloria Lyster, David and Marla Nees, Gary and Cheryl Petersen, Tim Smith, Mike Wilson, The Villager Family Restaurant, Roger and Judy Anderson, Howard Hatlelid, Elements by K. Sorbe, Tom Fitzpatrick, Mike’s Lawn Service, Brenda Nickolisen, Tony and Erin Pertzborn, Steve and Ann Roth, Peter and Julie Steinfeld, Storm Lake Times Pilot, Gilbert and Sally Wilkens, Compass Real Estate, Arvid and Coleen Baughman, Russ and Tracee Dierenfield, Foell Seed LLC/Jon and Kirsten Foell, Bill and Joan Kruse, Lakeshore Cyclery & Fitness, Steven Larsen, Harry and Lynn Schaller, Jason and Lisa



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Shepherd, Farm Credit Services of America, Steve and Diane Hamilton, and two anonymous donors.

- **Sparklers (up to \$99):** Dan and Laurie Gaffney, Don and Lois Crouch, Clair O. Thompson, Jeff Stark, Brent and Debra Hendriks, Jerry and Sandy Hurd, Joann Larson, Connie Stille, Vista Paints, Jeff and LaDonna Brummer, Pat Cowan, Steve and Jane Culbertson, Mark and Mary Erickson, Storm Lake I.O.O.F. Lodge #221, Shannon and Michele Kelly, Rick and Donna Phillips, Kathy Pomrenke, Tim and Erin Smith, Rob and Michelle Smith, Bruce and Ann Storm, Mike and Barb Wells, Bryan and Leann Baumhover, Khamlo and Houg Khounlo, Marlene Morrow, Russ and Amy Chrischilles, Rita Smith, Lyn and Diana Berkland, Susan and Troy Briggs, Ben and Judy Malcom, Rick and Janet Anderson, Bob and Jean Bennett, Mike and Feryle Berkland, Doug and Coleen Imming, Ed and Mary Kay Larsen, Brad and Sondi Raveling, Delores Sievers, Beth Dawson, Janet Halder, and one anonymous donor.

About the Star Spangled Spectacular

A favorite Northwest Iowa tradition, Storm Lake's annual Star Spangled Spectacular celebrates Independence Day along the City's beautiful shores. The family-friendly event is held July 3-4 and welcomes fresh entertainment and returning favorites such as The Big Parade, food and shopping vendors, a classic Car Cruise, the Ride-Run, fireworks, a Patriotic Ceremony, a Kiddie Parade, and more. Visit www.starspangledspectacular.net .

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