Business can be responsible, successful

By Mary Stamp

Austin Zimmerman is the new co-owner of Ganesh Himal Trading.

Christine McMackin’s recovery helps others recover from their addictions

By Johnny Fuller

Faith Action Network dinner presents awards

The Rev. Priscilla Paris-Austin will be the keynote speaker at the Faith Action Network of Washington’s Annual Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 10 in Renton, with a livestream to Spokane. The Spokane dinner will be held from 4:30 to 8 p.m., at the Glover Mansion, 321 W. 8th Ave.

FAN will celebrate accomplishments in the past year and gather inspiration to “Raise Our Voices” for justice in 2020. FAN will celebrate accomplishments in the past year and gather inspiration to “Raise Our Voices” for justice in 2020. FAN will celebrate accomplishments in the past year and gather inspiration to “Raise Our Voices” for justice in 2020.
Racism is ongoing concern of WCC

In a message for people gathered in Hampton, Va., World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary Olav Fykse Tveit explored “Race, Repentance and Reformation: An Ecumenical Op- portunity.” He was joining a commemoration of 400 years since the arrival of enslaved African peoples to Jamestown.

In a message for people gathered in Hampton, Va., World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary Olav Fykse Tveit explored “Race, Repentance and Reformation: An Ecumenical Opportunity.” He was joining a commemoration of 400 years since the arrival of enslaved African peoples to Jamestown.

“Racism in all its forms is the opposite of our values as Christians, as churches and as an ecumenical movement,” he said. Seeing the many Christian traditions at the commemoration, he said, “It’s a redemptive work for the church.”

“Racism as a sin that cannot be addressed only in one program, but must be combated in all that we do,” he added, noting that it “is an ongoing concern of the worldwide fellowship of churches, indeed of the whole ecumenical movement.”

Coalition seeks emoji that symbolizes forgiveness

A coalition of peace-building organizations in Finland has launched a campaign to crowdsource an emoji that symbolizes forgiveness. The Evangelical Lutheran church of Finland is one of the founding organizations of the Wopigemjovi campaign.

After the winning idea is selected, the #forgivemoji team will urge managers of the emoji list at the Unicode Consortium to add the new emoji to the standard selection, which is used by billions of smart phone users across the world. Of the 2,823 emojis collected by the Unicode Consortium, not a single one connotes forgiveness.

WCC asked Tuomo Pusonen, director of communication at the Evangelical Lutheran church of Finland, what difference a forgiveness emoji would make. Tuomo said: “We need an easy, compact way to express our feelings in situations where we are not able to find the right words. Smilies or emojis do not work for serious crimes such as genocides or war crimes, but in our daily lives, we face often situations when a small genuine gesture could have a great, refreshing impact. To apologize and to forgive are cornerstone for all kinds of peace with each other.”

Orthodox women in WCC share experiences

An early October consultation in Durres, Albania, brought together Eastern Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox women involved in the work of the WCC since the 10th WCC Assembly in Busan, Korea, 2011.

The women are members of WCC governing bodies, commissioners program advisors, resource persons and WCC staff. They shared their ecumenical experiences and discussed the Orthodox women’s agenda towards the 11th WCC Assembly in Karlsruhe, Germany, 2021.

Ruth Mathen, from the Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church and the Christian Conference of Asia, said Orthodox women, in their uniquely different and independent communities and contexts, have developed their own resources and toolkits to confront the challenges they face.

“The consultation offered space for cross-cultural and cross-continental learning,” said Ruth. “I have heard how Orthodox women are supporting and sheltering refugees in Greece, how they are rehabilitating survivors of domestic violence in Russia and how they enable grassroots-level empowerment for other women in Latin America. It is reassuring to know that Orthodox women have access to a global support system facilitated by the WCC and united by our common Orthodox ethos,” she added.

WCC Assembly date is now Sept. 8-16, 2021

As autumn kicks in, churches in Karachi and Karslruhe and across Germany are making headway in preparing to receive the WCC’s 11th Assembly Sept. 8-16, 2021. On the Rhine near the French-German border, Karslruhe will receive tens of thousands of Christians from all over the world, including delegates from WCC member churches, representatives of ecumenical partners, media representatives and interested people wanting to participate.

Fig Tree appeal will continue for 35 days

Fig Tree supporters will double their gifts during the 35-day “Branching Out: Beyond 35 Years” campaign, Oct. 24 to Nov. 27.

There will be video clips, testi monials and石化 and their followers through Facebook, Twitter, other social media, thefigtree.org, emails, fli ers and personal contacts inviting people to give.

A $17,000 challenge grant will help The Fig Tree meet the branch’s $35,000 goal. The appeal is for a boost beyond regular giving of sponsors and benefit donors.

“We seek to launch the next chapter for The Fig Tree publications and programs by ’branching out’ to expand our staff, financial and online resources,” said editor Mary Stamp.

With increased demand for sto ries, directories and outreach, the campaign will “enrich our roots with capacity building, grow new branches to reach more readers, advertisers, sponsors and partners, and bear more fruit by multiplying our sharing of life-transforming stories,” she said.

“We ask our board and support ers to help ’boost’ our messages as we share online appeals daily, telling how The Fig Tree media make a difference,” she said. Anyone can create a Face book fundraiser for the Fig Tree “Branching Out” campaign.

Congregations may request speakers or have special events.工作会议 Fig Tree seeks volunteers to 1) share Facebook donation posts, 2) share articles they like, 3) promote promotional messages 4) email friends, and 5) ask their congregations to promote the campaign. “We will also participate in Facebook’s Giving Tuesday on Dec. 3. Matched gifts are available at 5 a.m. Pacific time.

For information, call 535-1813 or email info@thefigtree.org. Donations may be made by mail on the Facebook fundraiser or at thefigtree.org/donate.html.

Fig Tree receives Rotary grant for computer

Rotary 21 of Spokane recently presented The Fig Tree with $2,500, which was used for pur chasing a computer for their office at Emmanuel Family Life Center and for $400 bestowed as an expression of their support for the newspaper and directory, said Anne Marie Shapleigh, director of the Civic Affairs Committee.

The event, organized by The Fig Tree, Catholic Charities Eastern Washington, the Faith Action Network, the Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia and other partners will feature a legislative briefing, a panel on gun violence and edu cation, and workshops.

“Making It Happen” is conference theme

With the holiday season ap proaching, the Salvation Army Christmas Red Kettles will soon be in locations around the region.

The Salvation Army of Spokane is looking for people to ring bells at the kettles, which help raise funds to support the services and programs The Salvation Army provides with more than 12,000 people with more than 43,000 nights of shelter, 32 million pounds of food and other basic needs. Gifts in kettles help keep lives change.

Employment orientation were held in October in Spokane, Cheyehal, Deer Park and Cheney. Walk-in orientations and hiring will be at the Cheyehal Food Bank, 302 E. Main Ave., 10 a.m. to noon, Monday, Nov. 4; the Greenhouse, 211 N. Fir Ave., in Deer Park, 1 to 3 p.m., Monday, Nov. 4, and at Cheney Outreach, 201 3rd St., 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Nov. 6.

Fewer days between Thanks giving and Christmas this year may result in fewer days for the Red Kettle volunteers. Volunteer leaders choose the location, date and shift that fits their schedules.

For information, call 329-2759 or email Gerriann.Armstrong@ salvationarmy.org.

Salvation Army recruits Red Kettle bell ringers

It is also a volunteer opportunity for individuals, service groups and churches wishing to help vul nerable neighbors, said Gerriann Armstrong, coordinator.

In 2018, The Salvation Army assisted more than 12,000 people with more than 43,000 nights of shelter, 32 million pounds of food and other basic needs. Gifts in kettles help change lives.

Employment orientation were held in October in Spokane, Cheyehal, Deer Park and Cheney. Walk-in orientations and hiring will be at the Cheyehal Food Bank, 302 E. Main Ave., 10 a.m. to noon, Monday, Nov. 4; the Greenhouse, 211 N. Fir Ave., in Deer Park, 1 to 3 p.m., Monday, Nov. 4, and at Cheney Outreach, 201 3rd St., 10 a.m. to noon, Wednesday, Nov. 6.

Fewer days between Thanksgiving and Christmas this year may result in fewer days for the Red Kettle volunteers. Volunteer leaders choose the location, date and shift that fits their schedules.

For information, call 329-2759 or email Gerriann.Armstrong@ salvationarmy.org.

SNAP’s CEO honored for role in housing

Julie Honkeamp, SNAP CEO, was among seven to be honored in October with the Washington State Housing Finance Commission’s 2019 “Friends of Housing” award. Honorees are selected for their leadership and contribution to provide safe, decent and afford able housing.

Julie became SNAP’s CEO and financial access CEO in June 2011. The agency serves more than 45,000 a year through home ownership counseling, energy assistance, home repairs, counseling and transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing.

For information, call 319-3036 or visit snapwa.org.

Regional Ecumenical & Interfaith News

Shalom Ministries will be hosting a free Thanksgiving Meal Thursday, October 28, 2019 from 1-3 PM

All are welcome!

Volunteers are needed Please call 509-455-9019

For more information Visit us at www.shalommeals.org

SNAP’s CEO honored for role in housing

Julie Honkeamp, SNAP CEO, was among seven to be honored in October with the Washington State Housing Finance Commission’s 2019 “Friends of Housing” award. Honorees are selected for their leadership and contribution to provide safe, decent and affordable housing.

Julie became SNAP’s CEO and financial access CEO in June 2011. The agency serves more than 45,000 a year through home ownership counseling, energy assistance, home repairs, counseling and transitioning from homelessness to permanent housing.

For information, call 319-3036 or visit snapwa.org.

Religion News Briefs

Around the World

World Council of Churches News, PO Box 2100
CH - 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland. Tel: +41-22 791 6111
Fax: +41-22 788 7244 www.oikoumene.org

Racism in all its forms is the opposite of our values as Christians, as churches and as an ecumenical movement,” he said. Seeing the many Christian traditions at the commemoration, he said, “It’s a redemptive work for the church.”

“Racism as a sin that cannot be addressed only in one program, but must be combated in all that we do,” he added, noting that it “is an ongoing concern of the worldwide fellowship of churches, indeed of the whole ecumenical movement.”
Southside Community Center
3151 E 27th Ave Spokane 99202

Weddings, events, lectures, birthday parties, dances, meetings and fundraisers.
Large Ballroom & Room Rentals
Available to rent for church services
Call 535-0803 ext. 102
rentals@outheddcenter.com

Raising Our Voices
Southside Community Center
3151 E 27th Ave Spokane 99223

Events, weddings, lectures, birthday parties, dances, meetings, and fundraisers.
Large Ballroom & Room Rentals
Available to rent for church services
Call 535-0803 ext. 102
rentals@outheddcenter.com

FAITH ACTION NETWORK ANNUAL DINNER
Register Online by Nov. 3

The Glover Mansion
321 W 8th Street
Spokane, WA 99204

Social Hour begins at 4:30 PM
Dinner/Program starts at 5:30 PM

November 2019 - The Fig Tree - Page 3
Austen Zimmerman job shadowed Denise Attwood to learn fair trade

Denise Attwood and Austin Zimmerman with Nepali weavers.

“Many adult children about my age are returning to run their parents’ businesses. It’s fun to transition with them. We each bring different life experiences, which excites me about the future of fair trade in Nepal,” said Austin.

For information, call 448-6681 or email info@ganeshhimaltrading.com.
F Plumbers, engineers, the Tri Cities and Ellenburg emphasize the im-
portance of both immigrants and community members knowing immig-
ants’ rights and the need for their labor.
They suggested ways commu-
nity members can help protect those rights.

Speaking at the recent Ethnic-
ity, Race and Indigenous Peoples
Conference at Gonzaga Universi-
ty were Jennyfer Mesa of Lati-
bos en Spokane; Abigail Scholar
Bangs of Central Washington
Justice for Our Neighbors; Martin
Negrete of All In for Washington
and Jim Dawson of the Spokane
Immigrants’ Rights Coalition.

Jennyfer has visited the “con-
centration camps on the border
where children are traumatized”
and options for legal status are few.
She challenges the abuses there
and the racist attacks that allow the
abuse to happen.

Martin said enforcement is de-
signed to destroy Immigrant and Cu-
toms Enforcement (ICE) and Cas-
toms and Border Patrol (CBP).
The CBP—in white trucks with
stripes overpowers within 100
miles of the border or port of
entry, like the international
airport in Moses Lake.
ICE and CBP work together.
Police often turn people over to
ICE officers, who wear civilian
clothing and are in charge of both
removal and prosecution.

Jennyfer emphasized that immi-
grants in our communities,” he said.
“You want police officers to look at
people as people, not turn people over.
Our people are intimidated.”

Jim, who volunteers
with the Spokane Immigrant Rights
Coalition and works with FUSE
Washington, said an administra-
tive warrant is like phishing.

“At times, the CBP have turned
their backs and let people cross
the border, because Washington’s
economy needs their labor in
Central and Eastern Washington.
Immigrants are here to do impor-
tant jobs for us,” he said.

“Many here for 30 years are still
undocumented and have no path
to citizenship.”

“Filling a role in the economy,
and knowing officials will turn
their backs, they have been here
decades contributing to our com-
munities,” Jim said. “When they
are picked up in sweeps, their
families and employers suffer.”
Community members can sup-
port a legal defense fund for
people picked up.

“With nearly one in seven
people in the state an immigrant,
immigrant rights are integral in the
state’s communities and work-
force,” Abigail said. “Protecting
them strengthens local econo-
 mies.” Jennyfer said Washington’s
$8 billion agriculture brings three
generations of immigrants every
year to keep families together.

“Despite having no legal status,
they contribute to our economy,”
she said. “The system benefits
many, but workers lack access to
housing, schools, legal status and
citizenship, so they fear ICE.”

One evening driving home,
Abigail rolled through a stop sign
and was stopped. Even as a U.S.
citizen she was afraid.

“I cooperated. I know ICE,
which formed after 9/11, needs a
warrant signed by a judge within
30 days,” she said.

Abigail said border patrol
officers often wait outside the Grant
County Courthouse in Ephrata to
pick up people when they leave
after being a witness, applying
for a protection order or paying a
fine. They are taken, and family
do not know where or why.

Martin said All In for Wash-
ington trains people to recognize ICE.

“When they have a warrant, it’s
for real, but when they don’t, they
try to trap people. We tell people
they have the right to be silent and
leave,” he said, “but when they
see authority figures, it’s hard for
many to do.”

At Spokane’s Greyhound Sta-
tion, CBP, who wear uniforms, tell
people to step off the bus.

“If the person speaks, agents
may have probable cause, so it’s
best to remain silent.” Martin said.

Jim said ICE does not follow
its own rules. They are meeting
quotas and assume people do not
know or won’t assert their rights.

Abigail, who has been execu-
tive director of Central Washing-
ton Justice for Our Neighbors
(CWJfon) for a year, previously
reported on ICE activities with the
Washington Immigration Solidar-
ity Network (WAISN) hotline.

“It’s painful to hear the
daily trauma of people,” she said.

While people cannot interfere
with a federal officer, they can
video as officers detain people at
a courthouse and bus station.

“Just being present is impor-
tant,” she said. “The Latinx com-
nunity goes into lockdown when
they hear ICE or CBP is present.”

With Latinos en Spokane,
Jennyfer hears of people detained
while buying produce, going to
child care, accessing Medicare or
going elsewhere.

“Latino community and going
to work, the way to control them.”

Martin urges people to hold
Senators and Representatives
accountable by writing them and
having conversations with them.

“We need to be part of the
ongoing process, not just wait for
a Presidential election. We can
work on a local level with city
councils to understand immigra-
tion issues and give support in
schools,” Jennyfer said.

For information, email info@
latinosenspokane.org or abigail@
cwjfon.org, or call Martin at 206-
349-4015 or Jim at 360-292-8540.

1) If immigrants know their
rights, it’s harder for ICE or CBP.
2) When someone is picked up,
rapid response teams contact
lawyers to request the person
be released from jail and not sent
into a detention center.
3) It costs less for legislators
to intervene than for someone to
go into detention. Spokane’s jail
contracts with ICE and CBP to
hold people two days before trans-
ferring them to a detention center.
4) A Spokane Immigrant Rights
Coalition fund pays for immi-
grants to consult with lawyers
to negotiate bonds to be released
before they are separated from
family and lose their job.
5) It also pays for people to
apply for green cards or asylum.

Jim said the long-term
need is to fix the broken immigration
system. There are interim actions,
Recovery Café interrupts the cycle of addiction and resulting poverty

Continued from page 1

Christine said, “they don’t have to be the way they lost or that nobody cares about them. Because when they walk in that door, they are cared about.”

Recovery Café’s mission is to permanently interrupt the cycle of addiction and intergenerational poverty that long-term substance abuse sustains.

“Many times people leave treatment and they’ve gained some tools from those places,” she said, “but then they’re out in society and it’s hard to navigate the systems, where to go and who to talk to. That’s what we provide for them. We give them a safe place to come figure out how to navigate those resources with people who are also in recovery.

By creating a safe, inclusive space where people can come, year after year, Recovery Café aims to not only support people mentally and emotionally, but also physically by offering free lunch Tuesdays to Fridays. Before each class, members will have five minutes of silence, taking refuge from the noise of the city and the noise that they carry with them.

Through peer-to-peer mentoring, recovery coaching, and the School of Recovery, the Café both equips and empowers individuals to maintain their long-term mental health and recovery, while also connecting them to a growing community of recovering addicts they can lean on for support.

“Peer support is about being with a person who has been through it and know how it feels,” Christine said. “Taking refuge among peers helps people learn to live in a community again.

“We teach some of those basic things about how to be kind to somebody,” she said, “how to have a conversation, how to trust and have accountability. We encourage people to earn a GED, apply for a driver’s license and find a job.”

Since Recovery Café opened at 214 N. Cedar St. in February 2017, its membership has steadily grown to 115 people with new individuals joining the community each week. Many are homeless, living in poverty, experiencing discrimination, or dealing with trauma, anxiety and depression, among other nuanced obstacles that lie between them and their recovery.

One member, Gloria Kohn, believes that Recovery Café saved her life.

“After being fired from jobs over the past 25 years because of my addiction,” she said, “Staff showed me how to do my résumé, explained the 12-step program and saved my life. Because of helping me with my résumé, I was able to become a certified nursing assistant. So, I’m on the registry for the State of Washington.”

Mike and Dorothy run the State Opioid Response (SOR) program at Recovery Café, supporting those who are recovering from addiction to opioids. They have helped thousands of people locally throughout their careers. “I can have ‘had almost every day,’” Mike said, “and say I made a difference today.”

To serve Native Americans in their recovery journey, Dorothy established partnerships with the American Indian Community Center and The Native Project. “More than 79 percent of Native Americans now live in urban centers,” she said. “Our area experiences higher than average rates of alcoholism, drug addiction and mental health issues.”

Recovery Café welcomes 23 Native Americans as members and continues to deepen its engagement with Native American people in the greater Spokane area.

Along with other staff members, Dorothy and Mike join members of Recovery Café for lunch, lead Recovery Circles and participate in all the classes and activities at the Café. Every Tuesday, for instance, Recovery Café offers classes on topics that range from coping with grief to health and wellness and job skills training.

These classes, which are part of a program called the School of Recovery, equip members with skills and knowledge they can share with family and friends to support their long-term recovery. Along with many other members, Gloria comes to the Café every day. “If I ever feel in a shady way,” she said, “I know that I can come to Recovery Café where I can talk to somebody so my day will be brightened. I know somebody will be there. They’re supportive, loving and understanding.”

Recovery Café also offers more formal training to its members to equip them with skills and knowledge to both maintain their recovery and to support peers who are just beginning their journey.

Like other Café members, Gloria gained training as a certified peer counselor and became a recovery coach.

This training gives her and others the ability to lead Recovery Circles. These weekly groups offer the community to check in with their peers, share what they are dealing with, and help each other identify and assess the changing needs of those in the circle.

To expand the Café’s capacity to serve people in Spokane, they plan to create a Telephone Recovery Support program. This will further equip members with knowledge of community resources and employment information they can share with community members seeking recovery.

With new members joining each week and with new staff, the building housing Recovery Café is too small for its growth. With a larger building in a more accessible location, Christine believes membership would double or triple.

Because addiction intersects with so many aspects of life, including poverty and intergenerational addiction, Recovery Café has the potential to make significant impact on the community, she said.

Recovery Café is open Tuesdays to Fridays.

For information, call 960-8529 or email recoverycafe@community-minded.org.

Civic Theater Benefit Performance for Lutheran Community Services NW & Lutheran Campus Ministry at EWU

IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE

The saga of George Bailey, whose dreams of escape and adventure have been quashed by family obligation and civic duty. His guardian angel Clarence descends on Christmas Eve to save him from despair and remind him what the world would have been like had he never been born.

Wednesday, December 11th
6 pm - Social Hour / 7:30 pm - Curtain / Tickets $35 each
Call or email Christie McKee
509-343-5020 - cmckee@lcmw.org

Making a Positive Difference in the Lives of Seniors!

From Persia with Love

Monday, Nov. 18 6-8 p.m.
The Magic Lantern Theatre - 25 W. Main

Join us for a fun evening with Shahrokh Nikfar, host of The Persian Hour on KYRS, and learn first-hand about his country of origin.

Shahrokh recently took a trip to Iran and has come back with great photos, videos and stories. He will expose you to a real image of Iran, a country which is never shared in mainstream media.

For more information, contact Shir at slikhty@pjals.org or 509-838-7870

From yesterday to today and every day, Hennessey Funeral Home & Crematory is committed to being the highest quality funeral service provider in Spokane.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you for over 125 years.

We are Hennessey... Honest, dignified and compassionate in everything we do.
Daybreak Youth Services lets teens know they can have fun and stay sober

Experiences of three staff members intersect with how Daybreak Youth Services is able to offer personalized inpatient and outpatient recovery and treatment for teens struggling with substance use disorder and mental health challenges in Eastern and Southwest Washington.

In Spokane, the residential inpatient program provides a safe environment for girls ages 12 to 18 seeking treatment. Clients work on recovery while continuing school and engaging in recovery activities to further their growth and success. Spokane also offers an evaluation and treatment facility for short-term crisis and co-occurring disorder counseling and wraparound intensive services.

Daybreak offers services for males and the females. The inpatient services for males are in Brush Prairie, Wash., and for females, in Spokane.

In both locations, Daybreak’s inpatient facilities offer programs around the clock to prepare the teens for high school diplomas or GED tests. Daybreak’s horses recognize that teens and their families often feel frightened, isolated and confused. They use horse-assisted programs to support teens to heal and thrive.

Life enrichment director Catherine Reynolds and director of external relations Sarah Spies understand the struggle from personal experience. Catherine remembers wondering what she had done wrong when her daughter spiraled into addiction.

Sarah’s world turned upside down when a rodent intruded into her home, which almost killed her. When her daughter spiraled into addiction, she wanted to help others.

“Faith draws me outside of myself when I serve,” said Sarah. “It gives me an opportunity to make a difference and want to help others.”

Sarah feels privileged to “make a difference in teens’ lives, break chains that might lead them to homelessness or crime, and set them on a track to become contributing members of society.”

To face the stigma of mental illness and substance use disorder, teen need compassion, love, encouragement and understanding,” said Sarah, who values her mother who was her “cheerleader” and believed she could overcome addiction.

For more information, call 444-7033 ext. 2001 or email spiers@daybreakyouthservices.org.

Sarah Spies, Catherine Reynolds and Tom Russell

In 1991, she earned a master’s in education at George Washington University in D.C. Six years ago, she began studies at SFCC when her daughter was struggling with substance abuse at college in Colorado.

“I wanted to understand why she was making poor choices,” she said.

Her daughter overcame substance use disorder and is now thriving. She is now studying to be a veterinarian.

Tom, who became Daybreak’s CEO in March, said dealing with both mental health and substance abuse—instead of one or the other—helps youth recover faster and for the long-term.

After studying theology and business at Union, an Adventist college in Lincoln, Neb., he worked 35 years in hospitals, clinics and managed-care—15 years in Missouri before becoming senior vice president and then CEO for Adventist Health in Portland in 1994. In 2001, he earned a master’s in business at Southern Adventist University there.

Prior to retiring in 2015, he developed a wellness program for hospital employees and implemented it in 19 hospitals for 50,000 employees. He then began Russell Health Strategies, a consulting company to improve wellness and health outcomes.

Last year, a friend asked him to help Daybreak. Tom was interested because a son’s friend, who spent much time with his family, had committed suicide, so Daybreak’s mission drew him.

Tom feels privileged to “make a difference in teens’ lives, break chains that might lead them to homelessness or crime, and set them on a track to become contributing members of society.”

“Face the stigma of mental illness and substance use disorder, teens need compassion, love, encouragement and understanding,” said Sarah, who values her mother who was her “cheerleader” and believed she could overcome addiction.

For more information, call 444-7033 ext. 2001 or email spiers@daybreakyouthservices.org.

In Spokane, the residential inpatient program provides a safe environment for girls ages 12 to 18 seeking treatment. Clients work on recovery while continuing school and engaging in recovery activities to further their growth and success. Spokane also offers an evaluation and treatment facility for short-term crisis and co-occurring disorder counseling and wraparound intensive services.

Daybreak offers services for males and the females. The inpatient services for males are in Brush Prairie, Wash., and for females, in Spokane.

In both locations, Daybreak’s inpatient facilities offer programs around the clock to prepare the teens for high school diplomas or GED tests. Daybreak’s horses recognize that teens and their families often feel frightened, isolated and confused. They use horse-assisted programs to support teens to heal and thrive.

Life enrichment director Catherine Reynolds and director of external relations Sarah Spies understand the struggle from personal experience. Catherine remembers wondering what she had done wrong when her daughter spiraled into addiction.

Sarah’s world turned upside down when a rodent intruded into her home, which almost killed her. When her daughter spiraled into addiction, she wanted to help others.

“Faith draws me outside of myself when I serve,” said Sarah. “It gives me an opportunity to make a difference and want to help others.”

Sarahl feels privileged to “make a difference in teens’ lives, break chains that might lead them to homelessness or crime, and set them on a track to become contributing members of society.”

To face the stigma of mental illness and substance use disorder, teens need compassion, love, encouragement and understanding,” said Sarah, who values her mother who was her “cheerleader” and believed she could overcome addiction.

For more information, call 444-7033 ext. 2001 or email spiers@daybreakyouthservices.org.

In 1991, she earned a master’s in education at George Washington University in D.C. Six years ago, she began studies at SFCC when her daughter was struggling with substance abuse at college in Colorado.

“I wanted to understand why she was making poor choices,” she said.

Her daughter overcame substance use disorder and is now thriving. She is now studying to be a veterinarian.

Tom, who became Daybreak’s CEO in March, said dealing with both mental health and substance abuse—instead of one or the other—helps youth recover faster and for the long-term.

After studying theology and business at Union, an Adventist college in Lincoln, Neb., he worked 35 years in hospitals, clinics and managed-care—15 years in Missouri before becoming senior vice president and then CEO for Adventist Health in Portland in 1994. In 2001, he earned a master’s in business at Southern Adventist University there.

Prior to retiring in 2015, he developed a wellness program for hospital employees and implemented it in 19 hospitals for 50,000 employees. He then began Russell Health Strategies, a consulting company to improve wellness and health outcomes.

Last year, a friend asked him to help Daybreak. Tom was interested because a son’s friend, who spent much time with his family, had committed suicide, so Daybreak’s mission drew him.

Tom feels privileged to “make a difference in teens’ lives, break chains that might lead them to homelessness or crime, and set them on a track to become contributing members of society.”

“Face the stigma of mental illness and substance use disorder, teens need compassion, love, encouragement and understanding,” said Sarah, who values her mother who was her “cheerleader” and believed she could overcome addiction.

For more information, call 444-7033 ext. 2001 or email spiers@daybreakyouthservices.org.
Lead poisoning led to fighting environmental injustice

Lead poisoning led to fighting environmental injustice

At their October vigil, the Faith Leaders and Leaders of Consciience (FLLC) recognized Cass Davis, who is vice chair of KRFP Radio Free Moscow in Idaho, for speaking out about lead poisoning of people like him, who grew up in the Silver Valley.

Cass, whose family made a living from extractive industries—mining and logging, remembers the South Branch of the Coeur d’Alene River running milk-white.

“It was even though I had a below average IQ, I knew that was wrong,” said Cass, who repeated first grade. “I went to summer school. It was called ‘retarded’ school. There, they had me go through hoops, walk on a balance beam and do other tests. I could do those skills and reason. They concluded I wasn’t retarded but I was lazy, so they put me in second grade.”

His parents diligently went through workbooks with him. They tried to ground him and not allow him to leave his room until his homework was done. They even tried spanking.

“My parents knew all I wanted to play with frogs at Pine Creek,” he said. “Punishing me wasn’t working, so they eventually let me do that and I was a happy child.”

In junior high, he was in special education. He did not pass tests, but the school kept him passing. “I did not seem retarded. What was wrong? I did not get homework done. Everyone was disappointed. I did not like school. I did not like learning,” Cass said.

Because lead poisoning was not acknowledged as a problem, the teachers were not trained to deal with the disorders and learning disabilities of students who had high lead levels in their blood, he said.

His fifth grade teacher told his mother he would be institutionalized by the time he was 18. That’s when his parents decided to let him play at the creek, rather than forcing him to do school work. They focused on building his self-esteem and let him have fun.

“I was born in a sacrifice zone. Most teachers did not know that students had lead poisoning,” he said. “That’s because it was a company town that controlled the media and covered up what lead did to children.

“My father told me if I want to understand how the world works, to follow the money trail to see who is making profits,” said Cass.

He became involved with a direct action environmental movement that allowed him to travel across the country. He met other environmentalists who were trying to save indicator species, whose loss would mean the ecological web would be broken.

“A white male, allegedly a person of privilege, I call for camaraderie among all victims—the repressed gender, native Americans whose lands were taken, black people who were enslaved, and people whose lives are limited by poisoning from environmental devastation,” he said.

“I did not succeed at college. I couldn’t pass tests, so I was a laborer, limited by my disability from lead poisoning. I wanted to go to college to become an environmental attorney so I could work for social and environmental justice and sue polluting companies into extinction,” he said.

Cass knows, however, that bugs, trout, birds, mammals and people are all threatened: “We need to respect other species in the big picture,” he said.

“I’m entitled to speak as a victim of the extraction and consumption economy that threatens all life on the planet,” he said. “We need to come together as allies, all connected. Small activists need to have courage. We need to struggle despite the odds,” he said.

FLLC presented Cass with a photograph of an eagle flying over Lake Coeur d’Alene as a symbol to give him strength.

For information, call 208-310-1790 or email cassdavis136@gmail.com.
Deb Abrahamson continues to educate on health needs, mine clean-up

Vigil story continues from page 8

During their vigil, the Faith Leaders of the Clearwater (FLLC) presented Deb Abrahamson with its Leader of Conscience Award “for having the courage to speak with moral strength on the environmental devastation caused by uranium mining and milling on the Spokane Tribal lands, for founding and directing the SHAWL Society to protect Sovereignty, Earth, Air, Water and Land, and for educating others to do the same.”

Uranium, which was mined on the Spokane Tribal lands from 1955 to 1981 for nuclear weapons, created a toxic, radioactive environmental hazard that continues to devastate tribal people’s health and culture.

After the FLLC honored her for her continued efforts, Deb shared new insights about her involvement.

“I am touched by this honoring and for the faith leaders hearing the story and understanding why it is so important for our people, lands and waterways,” said Deb, telling that she started the SHAWL Society adapting to a public hearing at the Ford mill site with her six-month old son.

“I felt it was necessary to listen, because I had lived on the reservation during the time and had not paid attention,” she said. “The mining was so accepted by the government, schools and people who made decisions. I watched tracks with rocks go by, often dropping rocks that hit and broke windshields of our cars,” she said. “Many people worked for the mines.”

Her father, who died at the age of 63 of a heart attack, bought home misshapen balls that she and her nine siblings would throw against the barn wall to watch them bounce in crazy directions.

“Many who worked at the Midnite and Dawn Mines and the Ford Mill Site have died,” said Deb. “We first noticed that our mothers and grandmothers, who cleaned the clothing, died. They would shake out the yellowkae uranium dust. Workers were not told—so they would breathe it and not be able to wear their clothing.”

Women would turn over the mattresses and find yellowkae, because often men did not change their clothes when they slept between double shifts.

“Each generation is affected,” Deb said. “The mining company thought it could lower the standards for cleanup. A year and a half ago, it asked the EPA to lower the standards,” Deb said. “We began meeting again. If we do not keep a watchful eye, the company will try to do less.

“We need to be steadfast. We need to ask elected officials to be at the table. Allies are important because even our own people have a level of denial and apathy. We have to continue to push,” she said.

Deb said that as a Spokane, Coeur d’Alene and Navajo, she is obligated to protect the earth.

“In spite of what man does, the earth will rejuvenate. The message of hope is also important. In spite of all that has been done in the attempt to eradicate our people, we are still here,” Deb said. “As humanity, there are so many devastating impacts to people and the world.

“Indigenous people who are protecting the rain forests in Brazil are being murdered,” she pointed out. “We need to continue to pray and keep aware of what is happening elsewhere, too. We need to stay involved. The young people are pushing forward, too.

“I’m thankful I’m alive. I’m in stage five sarcoma with uterine cancer, struggling to continue to work,” Deb said.

She sees three tasks now: 1) continue to clean up the mine, 2) work for community access to health statistics, and 3) improve health care access to help people live longer.

Deb’s daughter, Twa-le Abrahamson Swan, expressed gratitude for community support, because at times “we have felt we were standing alone.”

Twa-le said: “It’s an honor to continue to stand, speak out and learn, because we have to know about issues so we continue to fight. Our prayers in sweathouses have been disrupted, because we used contaminated rocks and water. There is more danger in inhaling the radiation. Also, our medicines from the land have been affected.

“Our family goes out and spends time every season on the land. It’s time spent with my mother, relearning the sites, gathering berries and other medicines in the mountains,” Twa-le said.

We respect and learn from the land and our elders. The land will take care of us if we take care of it.

The FLLC presented Twa-le with a photograph of an eagle flying over Lake Coeur d’Alene as a symbol of her strength.

For information, call 701-5525 or email shawlsociety@yahoo.com.
Supporting The Fig Tree spreads media literacy, nuances, solidarity

During Media Literacy Week, The Fig Tree launched its “Branching Out: Beyond the Northwest Detention Center” project, providing immigrants and refugees through the ages.

They speak to Jewish experiences in the 20th century, leaving Eastern Europe in the 19th, and surviving the Holocaust. Jewish immigrants and refugees relate to Jewish experiences as well.

We invite solidarity of everyone with immigrants and individuals from around the world.

We have seen this administration issue or advance policies that tear families apart and put children at risk. We are doing something different. We are lighting a candle to displace the darkness—maybe not completely, but at least partially.

As I think of the many voices silenced, I realized that this administration has silenced so many voices. We are going to continue to speak up for those who are voiceless.

The西北 Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

Everything remained peaceful while Jose and Christine waited. Christine spoke a few words of thanks for the support. Then he bravely walked through the door of ICE building.

He was immediately detained by officers and was prevented from requesting a U-Visa. It is a non-immigrant visa for victims of crimes who have suffered physical or mental abuse while in the U.S. and will assist law enforcement in investigating crimes.

The word and understanding of “solidarity” entered my life from encounters with people around the world—during six different days of study in a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-racial reality I encounter.

We have seen that NPCs, poverty, militarism and environmental devastation, together with God’s help.

For 35 years, The Fig Tree has promoted justice, diversity, and faith. We invite solidarity of everyone with immigrants and individuals from around the world.

We have seen this administration issue or advance policies that tear families apart and put children at risk.

As I think of the many voices silenced, I realized that this administration has silenced so many voices. We are going to continue to speak up for those who are voiceless.

The西北 Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Jose is an immigrant who has spent the past year inside a Seattle church to avoid deportation to Mexico. On Wednesday, July 17, Sisters Jude and Christine arrived at the church.

On Tuesday, July 16, Sisters Jude and Christine joined 200 others at Riverton Methodist Church, about one and a half miles from the ICE offices in Tukwila. Jude and Christine had spoken a few words in the center where Jose presented himself to ICE officials.

The following day, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.

Sisters Jude Connelly, Carmel Gregg and Christine are members of the Accompaniment Steering Committee.

Accompaniment programs can make a real difference in our immigration and criminal justice systems. Accompaniment helps immigrants and refugees who have committed crimes.

The Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma has created many opportunities for our Sisters to accompany immigrants and refugees to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) appointments, and bond or release hearings.

The next evening, the Tacoma Dominicans held a prayer vigil at Northwest Detention Center in Tacoma, where Jose Robles and daughter was detained. Jose and daughter came for the service and thanked all who were helping them keep hope for Jose.
Calendar of Events

Oct 24 to Nov 27 • “Branching Out: Beyond 35 Years,” Fig Tree campaign to match $17,000 challenge grant, thefigtree.org/donate.html

Oct 25 Nov 3 • “A Place to Call Home: Huntington Settlement story, Spokane Civic Theatre, 1020 N. Howard, 7:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays, 8/30-9/8

Nov 1 • Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), Hazen & Jaeger Funeral Home, 1306 N. Pines, 6 to 9 p.m., hpbaspokane@gmail.com

Nov 2 • History of Huntington Settlement, Argonne Library, 5202 N. Argonne Rd., 12-3 p.m. • Pen and ink: Native American Comic Book Workshop with Emma Noyes, Spokane Valley Library, 12000 E. Main, 2 to 3 p.m. • Partnering for Progress into Africa. Art and Dinner. “You Can Make a World of Difference a World Away,” Minravek Park Hotel, 1100 N. Sullivan, 5:30 p.m., 720-840, partnering for progress.org/afrika-auction

Nov 4 24 Common Ministries Robert Williams MicCU Conference with author Robin Mynarcz 7 p.m. Sunday, Community Congregational UCC, 525 NE Campus in Pullman; 2 to 4 p.m., Sunday workshop at St. James Episcopal, 1410 NE Stadium Way, noon Monday lecture, Bryan Hall Room 103, 332-2011

Nov 3 • “A Road Home,” Lydia Community Services Idaho Northwest Fundraising Luncheon, Nakagawa Fort Worth Commons, 4000 W. Randolph, 12:30 to 3 p.m, 433-5020, crickets@icams.org

Nov 3 • Spokane Youth Symphony: 70 Years of Inspiration, Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox, 6:30-10:30 p.m.

Nov 3-10, 17, 24 • Tatsa Mani Choling Buddhist Meditation, 2311 N. Monroe, 9 to 11 a.m.

Nov 7 • “The Tree Benefit and Boon” 4/15 • Richard Allen Clark, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 535-1813 • “Historic Evening with Anne Frank” Step Street Community Church, 334 W. Spokane Falls Blvd., 7 p.m., spoquetap.org • Spokane Y. McMahon, 4/30-5/1


Nov 7 21 • Peace and Justice Action Committee, 35 W. Main, 9 to 10:30 a.m., 484-5221

Nov 8 9 • Jubilee International Marketplace. Fairly Traded Handicrafts from around the World, First Presbyterian Church, 318 S. Cedar, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, www.spokanafairtrade.org

Nov 9 • Salmon Tales Gaia, Salish School of Spokane Annual Fundraiser, Gonzaga Preparatory School Student Center, 2244 E. Eckel, 6 p.m., salishschoolofspokane.org

Nov 9 • Spokane Symphony Popes: A Celebration of St. Gertrude’s Centennial, Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox, 8 p.m., 10/24/2019

Nov 9-10 • Great Northern University’s 2019 Missions Conference with A.W. Hull on “To the Nations,” Fourth Memorial Church, 2000 N. Standard, starts 9 a.m., Monday and Tuesday, ctmreplus@greatnorthernu.org, greatnorthernu.org/events/gnu-missions-conference

Nov 12 • “Outcome Measurement,” Spokane Nonprofit Network Meeting, Spirit of the Plains United Way, 900 N. Washington, noon to 1:30 p.m., learning@washngtonnonprofits.org

Nov 13 • Silent Day of Prayer on Giving and Loss, “Spiritual Help in Dealing with Grief and Loss,” Teresa Women LMHC, NCC, and Michael E. Deister, MSW, IHCW, UCSW, Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, 6910 S. Ben Burr Rd. 4:46-1200 intr.net

Nov 13 • “Women Against Hunger,” American Culinary Federation, Chefs de Cuisine-Indians NW, The Spokane, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Nov 14 • Shining up for Racial Justice, Chapter 7 of book, White Fragility, 35 W. Main, 5:40 to 7:10 p.m., spjals.org

Nov 15-16 • 24-Hour Retreat on the Hereafter, “Mercy and Caring: Lightening the Burden,” Fr. Stan Malner MD, Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, 6910 S. Ben Burr, 448-1214, ihrc.net

Nov 15-17 • KPBX Kids Concert: Spokane Aave Youth Choirs and Le Doree Choir, Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ, 411 S. Washington, 1 p.m., 328-5279 • “That Dam Issue!” Grand Coulee Dam, the Spokane Tribe and the Equitable Compensation Act, David Beene, South Hill Library, 3234 E. Perry, 3:30 p.m.

Nov 16 17 • Masterworks 4: 50th Anniversary of the Moon Landing, Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox, 8 p.m., Saturday, 3 p.m., Sunday, 624-2000

Nov 16 • “MMIW – Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women,” Margo Hill, South Hill Library, 1 p.m.

Nov 17 18 • PJALS hosts film: “From Peruna with Love” with Sharoch Niski, Magic Lantern Theatre, 25 W. Main, 6 to 8 p.m. online • “Ancient Native American Traditions Still Practiced Today,” Toshia Kirstensen, Shadle Community Building, 35 W. Main, 6:30 p.m.

Nov 20 • NAACP General Membership Meeting, Community Building, 35 W. Main, 7 to 9 p.m., spokanebranchnaacp@gmail.com

Nov 23 • Salish School, Shadle Library, 4 p.m.

Nov 24-26 • Festival of Fair Trade, Community Building, 35 W. Main, 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., spokanafairtrade.com

Dec 3 4 • “Giving Tuesday, plan to give to The Fig Tree on Facebook, “Around the Table,” World Relief Gaia Davenport Grand Hotel, 5:30 p.m., 484-9629,

Give The Fig Tree a BOOST as a new donor or beyond regular gifts as sponsors or at benefits. Your gift will be doubled by a $17,000 matching gift!

As our 35th year ends and our next 35 begin—The Fig Tree seeks to raise $35,000 in 35 days from Oct. 24 to Nov. 27

TO GIVE, GO TO: thefigtree.org/donate.html • https://www.facebook.com/536380798267548/ • The Fig Tree • 1321 S. Perry St. Spokane, WA 99202 509-513-1813

As our 35th year ends and our next 35 begin—The Fig Tree seeks to raise $35,000 in 35 days from Oct. 24 to Nov. 27

Give The Fig Tree a BOOST as a new donor or beyond regular gifts as sponsors or at benefits. Your gift will be doubled by a $17,000 matching gift!

enrich our roots to add staff, financial & online resources grow new branches to reach new people bear more fruit to share more life-transforming stories

C & H Foreign Auto Repair
E. 620 North Foothills Dr.
EDWARD W. CUSHMAN
Spokane, WA 99207
497-9893 OR 454-5282

MAYA EARTH COFFEE
Earth friendly gourmet blend Shade Grown Indigenous Coffee
Purchase by text, email or online coffee@mayearthcoffee.com www.mayearthcoffee.com • 509-768-3193

GANEHIS HALIM TRADING’S 35th FESTIVAL OF FAIR TRADE THANKSGIVING WEEKEND NOV 29-DEC 1 / 10 AM-5:30 PM 35 W. MAIN SPokane near k202 / 509 444-7617 FestivalofFairTrade.com

SPR Presents: Paula Poundstone Thursday, November 7, 7:30 p.m. at The Bing Crosby Theater
902 W Sprague Ave, Spokane, Comedian and frequent Fall fundraiser. We offer Pauln Poundstone on stage for an evening of stand-up, laughter and good times. Ticket are available at the door or online at TicketsWest.com by calling 1-800-225-SEAT.

Fall Folk Festival - Live Broadcast Saturday, Nov. 29, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on KPBX 91
KPBX hosts Vernie Windham and Steve Jackson on the air as we help kick off this annual event with some of the area’s finest folk musicians. You can attend the full event at Spokane Community College on Nov 9 and 10.

KPBX Kids’ Concert - Open Doors Saturday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m. at Western Washington Congregational Church, 411 S. Washington St. Hear the Spokane Area Youth Choirs and Le Donne Choir raise their voices in the historic Western Washington Congregational Church, hosted by SPR’s Vernie Windham.

Ganshee Sacred Art of Iconography
February 17-21, 2020

The Sacred Art of Iconography is CE approved for 4 credits
More Event Information at SpokanePublicRadio.org

SPR Presents: Paula Poundstone Thursday, November 7, 7:30 p.m. at The Bing Crosby Theater
902 W Sprague Ave, Spokane, Comedian and frequent Fall fundraiser. We offer Pauln Poundstone on stage for an evening of stand-up, laughter and good times. Ticket are available at the door or online at TicketsWest.com by calling 1-800-225-SEAT.

Fall Folk Festival - Live Broadcast Saturday, Nov. 29, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on KPBX 91
KPBX hosts Vernie Windham and Steve Jackson on the air as we help kick off this annual event with some of the area’s finest folk musicians. You can attend the full event at Spokane Community College on Nov 9 and 10.

KPBX Kids’ Concert - Open Doors Saturday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m. at Western Washington Congregational Church, 411 S. Washington St. Hear the Spokane Area Youth Choirs and Le Donna Choir raise their voices in the historic Western Washington Congregational Church, hosted by SPR’s Vernie Windham.
United Way offers Community Resource Exchange for ‘ALICE’ families

For people seeking housing, education, employment, food or health care resources for immediate or long-term needs, Spokane County United Way is offering a one-day Community Resource Exchange from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 16, at the Spokane Resource Center, 130 S. Arthur.

Like the center, the day is a “one-stop-shop” opportunity for low-income people to access 10 of the center’s partners and 15 of United Way’s 37 partners.

“We saw a need for low-income families and individuals—like people going to the Homeless Connect—to go one day to access services for after-school, early learning and other education resources, for affordable housing and energy assistance, for employment opportunities and training, and for family and youth services,” said Jeff DeBray, United Way’s community outreach and development manager.

Those who come will have access to direct services, a meal, hydration, hygiene and snack kits. Organizations will be present to do onsite hiring.

Sponsors Providence Health and Numerica Credit Union will provide funding for the meal and warm clothes, as well as 20 volunteers.

Jeff, a native of Montana who has been with United Way since graduating in 2018 in economics and politics from Whitworth University, said United Way seeks to “improve the educational, health and financial stability” of county residents.

United Way is inviting low-income families through schools, the city, courts, early childhood education, partner agencies and faith communities. The event is on Saturday so people who work can come, he said.

Jeff hopes families will leave the event better equipped to navigate the system and access resources, and volunteers will better understand challenges for families living paycheck to paycheck.

Lisa Curtis, director of communications and marketing at United Way, said, “Our work is to prevent families from becoming homeless. Many low-income families are one dilemma away from homelessness. Prevention comes in the form of before- and after-school programs, affordable meals, affordable housing and jobs.

In September 2018 and 2019, United Way held Day of Impact simulations, recruiting each year about 70 people from the business community to discover the challenges for a family using a bus pass to access services with children in tow. The simulations helped participants realize the need for a resource fair.

Lisa said United Way targets Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed (ALICE) families.

United Way also has an online simulation to help people understand the difficult decisions ALICE families make every day. It’s at unitedwayspokane.org/alice.

“ALICE families struggling to make ends meet have increased from 36 percent of county residents last year to 38 percent this year,” she said.

They are 45 percent of families in the City of Spokane, 50 percent of families in Airway Heights and 62 percent of families in Cheney. Jeff said United Way is in a unique position to offer the Community Resource Exchange with 37 partners, program grants and partners who financially support agencies to promote education, health care and financial stability.

Lisa, who has been with United Way for 13 years, said its focus changes based on community needs and funding. The current two-year funding focuses on ALICE families, domestic violence and child abuse.

“ALICE families need support to strengthen overall community health. There’s a gap between the rate of low-income and minority students’ graduation and the graduation rate of their affluent peers,” she said.

Because of that trend, United Way has also drawn funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to increase equity in education.

Jeff said United Way Funding provided partners with more than $2.5 million in two-year grants.

“A agencies welcome that sustainable support, because many are able to renew those grants another two years,” he said.

Sally Pritchard, who has been vice president of community impact and with United Way for 16 years, helps United Way find outside funding partners.

Recently they added funding from Avista Foundation and the Ballmer Group for a new position to coordinate the community’s response to homeless youth and young adults related to the A Way Home Washington initiative.

Excellerate Success, an education and equity program, is funded by a four-year grant from the Gates Foundation based on community data that shows that youth of color have disproportionately lower rates of graduation and higher rates of suspension, homelessness and juvenile justice involvement, Sally said.

“United Way has been offering educational events to create a more equitable system,” she said.

Hecoma Otao, author of So You Want to Talk about Race, is speaking on Nov. 15 for a sold-out event to raise awareness of the ALICE families, Sally said its more likely that African American, Latinx American and Native American families live in poverty, so the ongoing trainings reaching more people are an important part of United Way’s efforts to improve everyone’s educational, health and financial stability.

For information, call 838-6581, email jeffd@unitedwayspokane.org or visit unitedwayspokane.org.

Jeff DeBray and Lisa Curtis tell of resource exchange.

Join us for the 2020 Eastern Washington Legislative Conference

‘Making It Happen’

Saturday, Jan. 25

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Spokane Valley United Methodist Church

115 N. Raymond St. - Spokane Valley

For information, contact
Malcolm Haworth - The Fig Tree - (509) 535-1813
Jim CastroLang - Faith Action Network (509) 998-7203

TO RSVP
	Suggested donation - $20 ($15 each 5+, scholarships)
	Send to The Fig Tree • 1233 S. Perry St. • Spokane WA 99202

call (509) 535-4112 • 535-1813

to email event@thefigtree.org

Jeff DeBray and Lisa Curtis tell of resource exchange.

Our Community’s #1 Choice in Hospice Care

“Mom felt held in warmth, peace and comfort and she wasn’t afraid because of that. She had a beautiful ending and that was because of Hospice of Spokane.”

Janice Hughes and Becky Nappi

Serving patients and families since 1977

Dignity. Trust. Compassion. 509.456.0438 hospiceofspokane.org

35th Annual International Festival 2019

Friday, Nov. 22

5 p.m. - Dinner

7 p.m. - Entertainment

Hixon Union Building - $10

Call 777-3796

Our Community’s #1 Choice in Hospice Care

“Mom felt held in warmth, peace and comfort and she wasn’t afraid because of that. She had a beautiful ending and that was because of Hospice of Spokane.”

Janice Hughes and Becky Nappi

Serving patients and families since 1977

Dignity. Trust. Compassion. 509.456.0438 hospiceofspokane.org

35th Annual International Festival 2019

Friday, Nov. 22

5 p.m. - Dinner

7 p.m. - Entertainment

Hixon Union Building - $10

Call 777-3796

Join us for the 2020 Eastern Washington Legislative Conference

‘Making It Happen’

Saturday, Jan. 25

9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

Spokane Valley United Methodist Church

115 N. Raymond St. - Spokane Valley

For information, contact
Malcolm Haworth - The Fig Tree - (509) 535-1813
Jim CastroLang - Faith Action Network (509) 998-7203

TO RSVP
	Suggested donation - $20 ($15 each 5+, scholarships)
	Send to The Fig Tree • 1233 S. Perry St. • Spokane WA 99202

call (509) 535-4112 • 535-1813

to email event@thefigtree.org

Jeff DeBray and Lisa Curtis tell of resource exchange.

Our Community’s #1 Choice in Hospice Care

“Mom felt held in warmth, peace and comfort and she wasn’t afraid because of that. She had a beautiful ending and that was because of Hospice of Spokane.”

Janice Hughes and Becky Nappi

Serving patients and families since 1977

Dignity. Trust. Compassion. 509.456.0438 hospiceofspokane.org