

60 YEARS AGO TODAY

A CHRISTMAS TRADITION WAS BORN

Finished just a week before broadcast, CBS execs weren't keen on the special Schulz produced until millions tuned in to watch "A Charlie Brown Christmas." **NEWS, 6**



THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

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Spokane, Washington

STUCKART PLEADS GUILTY TO IMPEDING ICE OFFICERS

Former City Council president accepts 'full responsibility,' says actions were 'necessary'

By **Alexandra Duggan and Caroline Saint James**
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Former Spokane City Council President Ben Stuckart pleaded guilty Monday to a felony charge of impeding the duties of immigration officers while trying to prevent them from transporting two legal immigrants to



Stuckart

told media outside of Spokane's federal courthouse following his

a Tacoma detention center for deportation.

"I understood what I was up against, but I felt it was necessary to take a stand," Stuckart

plea hearing. "I accept full responsibility for my conduct."

Stuckart, executive director of Spokane Low Income Housing Consortium, ignited a massive protest by posting on Facebook a call to action about the detainment of two young immigrants on June 11.

See **STUCKART, 5**

Washington farmers hurt by tariffs eligible for \$12B federal bailout

By **Orion Donovan Smith**
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

WASHINGTON - President Donald Trump on Monday announced that his administration would spend \$12 billion to bail out U.S. farmers who have suffered the fallout from tariffs, including wheat growers in the Northwest.

In remarks during a roundtable discussion with farmers

and administration officials at the White House, the president blamed his Democratic predecessor, Joe Biden, for mismanaging the inflation that has raised the cost of essential equipment and supplies. Trump's signature economic policy, taxing imports from other countries, has further increased those input costs and prompted the United States'

See **FARMERS, 5**

HOOKED ON WORMS



PHOTOS BY COLIN MULVANY/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Patti and George Anderson, owners of Spokane Worms, place heating pads on top of a container of feeding earthworms at their new business selling soil amendments, chicken treats and live worms.

SPANGLE PAIR LEANS INTO COMPOSTING WITH THOUSANDS OF TINY, WIGGLY MOVERS

By **Cannon Barnett**
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

In a small Spangle workshop, immediately off of U.S. Highway 195, thousands of worms are slowly burrowing into their new home, nestled cozily under heat-

ed blankets with as much food as they could ever want.

George and Patti Anderson are deploying these spoiled annelids for their up-and-coming business, aptly named Spokane Worms, selling soil amendments, chicken treats and live worms

for any purpose.

But how does a couple in their 60s stumble into farming a vat of worms in the first place? For the Andersons, it all started two years ago, when George Anderson, 68,

See **WORMS, 2**

BOLING: FALK HAS PRIDE, BUT LACKS EXPERIENCE

Former WSU walk-on quarterback says he sees Pullman job as end goal, not just another stop along his career. **SPORTS, 1**

6 OVERDOSE IN ONE NIGHT IN KOOTENAI CO. JAIL

Inmates taken to hospital, then returned to jail; sheriff's office suspects fentanyl was mailed into facility. **NW, 1**

'FIRE HOSE OF MOISTURE' AIMED DIRECTLY AT PNW

Heavy rain and unseasonably warm temperatures are expected through Thursday, bringing with it the threat of flooding. **NW, 1**

RIVERFRONT PARK TO TRANSFORM INTO 'VILLAGE'

BUSINESS: Holiday artisan market comes to the Gesa Pavilion with more than 60 vendors, live music and free entrance. **NEWS, 7**

Teddy bear avalanche strikes

Volunteers unload thousands of stuffed animals after record Chiefs toss

By **Nina Culver**
FOR THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW



NINA CULVER/FOR THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

More than 9,000 teddy bears and other stuffies were donated to the Christmas Bureau this weekend during the Teddy Bear Toss hockey game hosted by the Spokane Chiefs.

Some assembly was required Monday as Christmas Bureau volunteers unboxed new toys and put some together for display so parents looking for a gift for their children could see what they look like.

Boxes of batteries were unpacked so they could be bundled with toys that require them, and down the hall a room of volunteers sorted donated pairs of pajamas by size. As the morning continued, a Penske truck arrived crammed full with most of the record-setting 9,087 stuffed animals donated during the Spokane Chiefs' annual Teddy Bear Toss Saturday.

The truck was so full that bags of stuffed animals fell out when the doors were opened,

See **BUREAU, 5**



CHRISTMAS FUND • 2025

RAISED: **\$134,106**

GOAL: **\$600,000**

HOW TO DONATE: **NEWS, 8**