

PROPOSED LAW WOULD SLOW EVICTIONS FOR NONPAYMENT

City Council considers changes which would help to pay back rent, legal fees, mediation

By Emry Dinman THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW
Spokane landlords may soon be required to participate in eviction prevention programs. The City Council is considering changes to local laws in January which would also make the pro-

grams more easily accessible. Funding for the programs – which includes help to pay back rent, legal fees and mediation between landlords and tenants – has been coming from the state to the city of Spokane and the county for years, effectively a continuation of the state’s eviction

protections that began during the COVID-19 pandemic. While the widespread moratorium on evictions has long since ended, the funding for eviction prevention has not: The most recent two-year cycle, which runs

See EVICTIONS, 9

Fifth Spokane ICE protester pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges

By Garrett Cabeza and Caroline Saint James THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW
A woman who pleaded guilty Tuesday to a federal charge of conspiring to impede or injure officers during a massive Spokane immigration protest earlier this year said her boyfriend was also arrested that day and

eventually deported. Bobbie Silva was the fifth defendant in the last week to plead guilty to the same felony in relation to the June 11 demonstration at Spokane’s U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement office at the north end of Riverfront Park, where

See PLEAS, 11

Volunteers prep Spokane County Fair and Expo Center for annual Bureau

More than 800 wooden cars and trucks, ‘thousands’ of pajamas donated

By Nina Culver FOR THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

The wreaths have been hung and the trees decorated as volunteers work hard to turn a building at the Spokane County Fair and Expo Center into a festive place for the Christmas Bureau to make holidays bright.



CHRISTMAS FUND • 2025

RAISED: \$187,290.53
GOAL: \$600,000
HOW TO DONATE: NEWS, 9

Volunteers are also hard at work arranging for little extras that are given away while supplies last. That includes wooden toy cars and trucks made by mostly retired woodworkers that are given away in the bagging area and pairs of pajamas in children’s sizes. A steady stream of both have been dropped off this week, making it nearly impossible to keep an accurate count. Organizers estimate there are at least 800 cars and trucks, and the pairs of pajamas number in the thousands.

Dave Heitstuman is one of the most prolific woodworkers, dropping off 456 toy trucks along with Dave Volker, who helps him assemble them. “It’s primarily me,” Heitstuman said. “The other Dave is a huge help with the first part of the assembly.”

This is the third year Heitstuman has made trucks for the Bureau, but he’s been

See BUREAU, 9



‘I’M JUST NOT THAT PERSON ANYMORE’



PHOTOS BY KATHY PLONKA/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW
TOP: Removery Tattoo Removal and Fading studio lead and sales consultant Ashley Sullivan, left, supervising nurse practitioner Melanie Lawrence and laser technician Jerin Hubert-Posey talk about the process of tattoo removal.

How Removery Tattoo Removal and Fading lets clients create clean slate

By Mathew Callaghan THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Hope Foster is not the same person she was when she got her first tattoo at 18.

For the past few years, getting rid of some of her tattoos sounded like a good – even great – but ultimately unobtainable idea.

It simply cost too much.

When Foster learned about Removery’s new location on North Division in Spokane, she consulted with them to look at getting one small tattoo expunged from her body. After learning about their prices and payment plans, she opted to get 14 square inches of ink removed.

Everyone has something they regret, like an ex-partner or an outdated belief. Any number of things have the potential to age

See REMOVAL, 9

A Spokane Christmas story

Ridpath residents gather for fifth annual holiday dinner

NEW BILL WOULD BAR NO-CONDITIONS DISCHARGES

Following the recent release of Kevin Coe, lawmakers want to make it harder for serial rapists to be released. NEWS, 5

65-INCH MAC & CHEESE BOX SELLS OUT IN MOMENTS

Supplies of the special edition Kraft product was available at midnight on Black Friday and gone within an hour. FOOD, 1

WSU PRESIDENT LAYS OUT PLAN FOR COACHING VACANCY

Elizabeth Cantwell said “demonstrated” and “contemporary” success necessary for football program’s next leader. SPORTS, 1

Ridpath Hotel tenant Angie Fagan gets served a holiday dinner Friday by Paul Mann and Mark Mackin, partners in the ownership group that redeveloped the historic building.



COLIN MULVANY/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

By Nick Gibson THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Last week, awash with a holiday glow, the former Ridpath Hotel resembled its grandeur of decades ago.

Long dining tables adorned in red and green tablecloths lined the mezzanine, evergreen boughs clung to the banisters, and a sparkling Christmas tree stood watch next to the historic property’s old fireplace.

A steady buzz carried throughout the room – the sound of dozens of neighbors greeting, laughing and sharing a meal together.

“It’s a wonderful thing, isn’t it?” said resident Angie Fagan.

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