

Initiative campaigns draw fewer dollars

Washington’s three ballot measures attract little outside money as national races compete for funds

By Mitchell Roland
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

OLYMPIA – Campaign contributions for and against statewide initiatives this year have been diminished by a lack of national interest, a slate of competitive congressional races in battleground states siphoning resources and a rough economic environment, according to political science professors who study state campaign finance.

But residents should still expect an onslaught of campaign advertising during the next three weeks leading up to Election Day. “Sometimes when you have a really large amount of money pouring into these elections, there’s outside-of-the-state money that’s coming in. So it’s something that, for whatever reason, has attracted a lot of attention from California or New York or something else,” Kevin Pirch, a political science professor at Eastern Washington University, said. “None of these are really attracting any out-of-state money. It’s a much more local issue. There’s not a lot of people in New

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BUSHEL OF FALL FUN

ABUNDANT HARVEST, PLEASANT WEATHER MAKE GREEN BLUFF FESTIVAL A HIT

By Megan Howard
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

In rain or shine, Green Bluff Road resembles a fall Hallmark movie each weekend during the Harvest Festival. Apples and gourds line the loop, and farms and orchards are packed with guests, each offering something a bit different. Some boast corn mazes and bouncy houses, and others offer ciders and fresh produce stands.

For many farm owners, this year’s festival is the best. Good weather, an abundant apple harvest and high turnout are a few of the reasons the Harvest Festival is a boon.

Crystal Griffiths, one of the owners of the Farmhouse on Green Bluff, said each year the festival gets better. For the past few festivals, the farm hosts a one-day event, “Howl’oween on the Bluff,” where vendors line their 10-acre land and dogs dress up in Halloween costumes.

Other days throughout the festival are more relaxing, Griffiths said. The front of the farm has a coffee stand, offering warm fall lattes and apple doughnuts patrons can munch on while they pick pumpkins. There’s also a white barn, which functions as a bistro with flatbreads and wine.

“It’s kind of like adult Green Bluff,”

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DAN PELLE/FOR THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW
Choua Birge and her son Ari, 6, plan to paint a Batman, Minions and a regular face on pumpkins they found Saturday while visiting Siemers Farm at Green Bluff.

DR. UNIVERSE EXPLORES THE EVOLUTION OF THE PRAYING MANTIS
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Fairs to help fire victims rebuild

Homeowners can get free asbestos surveys, advice on repairs

By Emry Dinman
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

The city of Spokane will host two resource fairs to help residents and homeowners navigate next steps to rebuild from the Spokane Complex

fires, including free second opinions from Habitat for Humanity and Hayden Homes on quotes for repairs.

The first event will take place at 6 p.m. Tuesday at Flett Middle School. Another will be held at 6 p.m. Oct. 26

at Salk Middle School. Staff and other community partners will also be on hand to provide guidance on housing assistance, attempts to make rebuilding regulations more

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