

35TH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

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November 2018
Volume 35 Number 9

Micah 4:4

news@thefigtree.org
(509) 535-1813 • 535-4112

Monthly newspaper and website covering faith in action throughout the Inland Northwest
online at www.thefigtree.org • check The Fig Tree Facebook page daily for news and links

Diversity enriches higher education

By Mary Stamp

As Eastern Washington University's vice president of the office for diversity and inclusion since July 2017, Shari Clarke is building on EWU's long history of commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Africana studies, American Indian studies and women and gender studies have been taught for 50 years, and Chicano studies for 40 years. Its PRIDE Center is nearly 10 years old, plus it offers disability studies and global initiatives programs.

Her role as the inaugural vice president is a step forward, because it gives her a seat at the table with the president and other vice presidents for making decisions and developing initiatives.

Her office is in Showalter Hall beside the president's office. When construction is complete, the Multicultural and PRIDE Center will be in the Pence Union Building (PUB).

Shari is using several avenues to advance recruitment and retention of students and faculty of under-represented communities.

- EWU has joined the Southern Regional Educational Board (SREB), an organization that helps recruit and retain faculty by con-



Shari Clarke is vice president of diversity and inclusion at Eastern Washington University. Photo is courtesy of Eastern Washington University

necting a pool of potential faculty with institutions of higher education. It coaches and mentors graduate school students interested in teaching in higher education and offers a three-day professional development workshop for potential faculty.

- EWU will offer a Summer Institute for Diversity Education May 28 to 31, 2019, to present a 30-hour curriculum that helps 30 faculty, staff and community members understand their own diversity and learn multicultural competency.

- EWU has launched a Multicultural Center, where students and faculty can gather for discussions to hear different viewpoints and build diversity awareness.

- Diversity Cheney reaches out to business owners to let them know about the diversity on campus and in the community. Shari attends events where she encounters the region's diverse communities, such as at Fiesta Spokane, Unity in the Community, YWCA Spokane, and the Carl Maxey Center discussions.

- EWU has also launched a five-year diversity strategic plan to create a climate of inclusion for the recruitment and retention of faculty and staff with a focus on becoming

Continued on page 4

Jubilee Marketplace empowers artisans, including Guatemalan seamstresses

The 30th annual Jubilee Marketplace empowers communities through fair trade 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 2, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 3, at First Presbyterian Church, 318 S. Cedar in Spokane.

Vendors representing communities from around the globe display their goods for early holiday shoppers to buy as gifts that "are beautiful in more ways than one," said Mary Frankhauser, one of the founders and organizers.

"In one sense, the jewelry, clothing, artwork, home goods and other items are beautiful

because they are vibrantly colorful and handmade. Their beauty lies also in the stories behind the products," she said. "Women in difficult circumstances starting businesses; adults with disabilities gaining life skills to make an income, and communities thriving because of their fair pay."

Stories come from Nepal, Ethiopia, Chile, Thailand, Guatemala, Peru, Vietnam, Liberia, Philippines, Laos, Nicaragua, Rwanda, Kashmir, India, Zambia and other places where Jubilee's partners connect with groups of artisans.

Because of fair trade, the arti-

sans can feed their families, send their children to school, receive medical care and live with dignity. A video, "Vendor Voices," based on interviews with some Jubilee 2016 vendors, can be viewed on Jubilee's Facebook page.

Food items are from Catholic Charities, Christ Kitchen and Transitions New Leaf Bakery & Café.

Mary said the sale takes its name from the year of Jubilee in Deut. 15 and Lev. 25, which celebrates God's provision for the whole community. It is a model for a sustainable society, in which some members cannot acquire an overabundance of resources that permanently impoverishes the others. It is also about Jesus' Great Commandment in Matt. 22:36 to love God and love neighbors.

"The Old Testament Jubilee model and Jesus' commandment provide the foundation for our Jubilee sale," said Mary. "The principles of fair trade provide a practical means to implement the ideals of the biblical jubilee."

Fair trade means not only that artisans earn a living wage for

Continued on page 4

Faith Action Network honors Fig Tree editor

Faith Action Network (FAN) will gather more than 500 people from faith communities and community partners at 4:30 p.m., Sunday Nov. 18, for its Annual Dinner in Renton, and a first annual dinner in Spokane at the Glover Mansion, 321 W. 8th Ave. Some of the program will be livestreamed to Spokane.

Seventh District Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, a leader in Washington, D.C., for women, immigrants and children separated from their families at the border, will speak on the theme "Ripples of Change." Travel author and television host Rick Steves will bring a message from his recent travels.

The Rev. Jim CastroLang, pastor at Colville UCC who serves on the FAN Governing Board, sparked the idea of the first Spokane FAN dinner. He said that "it's important for the faith community to be at events, to stand beside people who care and to do community organizing. FAN partners with organizations to improve the quality of life for all people in our state."

The FAN Annual Dinner features several awards. In Spokane, an Interfaith Leadership Award will be presented to Mary Stamp, editor of The Fig Tree, for her persistent work and broad vision in bringing faith voices to the public square, inspiring a region for nearly 35 years, said Jim.

FAN appreciates the way interfaith communities and perspectives have been represented as the Fig Tree has evolved and lived into its mission to "break through divisions among people to promote unity and action for the common good."

Renton award recipients are Justice Leadership to the Washington Immigrant Solidarity Network and Northwest Immigrant Rights Project; Advocating Faith Communities

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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

Another sad anniversary for Christians in Syria

Recently the 2,000-day mark since the abduction of two Syrian archbishops was passed. Syriac Orthodox Archbishop Yohanna Ibrahim and Greek Orthodox Archbishop Paul Yazigi haven't been heard from since gunmen kidnapped them outside Aleppo in April 2013, almost five and a half years ago.

WCC leader calls for thinking, acting 'green'

World Council of Churches (WCC) general secretary Olav Fykse Tveit responded to the recently released report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming.

"Use of fossil fuels, unsustainable production of food and deforestation, among other human economic activities, have raised greenhouse gases to a level that already has an unambiguous impact on the climate," he said. "The report states that the consequences of temperatures rising will be more severe than what was predicted earlier. As people of faith, we must always have the impoverished and vulnerable in the midst of our prayers and actions. We cannot be silent and stay passive. We all need to do what we can do. Governments, businesses, churches and individuals all have a part.

"We have to think and act 'green' in everything we do," said Olav, who as WCC general secretary is leading a process for a project to change the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva and build new buildings there in the Green Village project with energy efficiency, water management and biodiversity considerations in its construction and its ongoing operation.

"What you and I do in response to perhaps the biggest global challenge humanity has ever confronted may be seen as a mere drop in the ocean," he said, "but it can turn into a wave of change."

Leader discusses Churches in Solidarity with Women

WCC deputy general secretary Isabel Apawo Phiri reflected on the recent Global Consultation on the Decade of the Churches in Solidarity with Women, and what insights gathered there might mean for the ecumenical movement.

She said the clear message was to move from reports to action for a just community of women and men at personal, congregational, denominational and global levels.

Participants heard testimonies of churches who excelled in increasing the participation of women in leadership positions. The Jamaica Council of Churches has, for the first time, a woman president. The WCC shared its progress in having four presidents who are women and four who are men.

"The upsurge in church-implicated sexual and gender-based violence in the media indicates we are not where we need to be, Isabel said. "The WCC move toward transformative masculinities and femininities demonstrates our awareness of the problem and our intentionality in addressing it."

At the 1998 WCC Assembly in Harare, she said, "participants acknowledged the power in community and in voices lifted together to speak to their churches, councils and theological institutions. They shared through tears the stories of violence in women's lives in every corner of their communities and their churches around the globe. In some moments, they also found courage to admit the cracks in their solidarity—the stories resisted or not heard, such as complicity in racism, struggles to speak of sexuality and the oppression of heterosexism."

Asked about the #MeToo movement, Isabel said, "While the church seems to be taking its cue from society, we operate within cultural and social constructs. Silence is not an option on gender-based violence. The world church, in particular the WCC, is not ignorant or apathetic, but has set the agenda for some of the transformational shifts established by the United Nations today."

Read more at <https://www.oikoumene.org/en/press-centre/news/wcc-deputy-general-secretary-reflects-on-decade-of-the-churches-in-solidarity-with-women>.

REGIONAL ECUMENICAL & INTERFAITH NEWS

'Inform, Inspire, Involve' is 2019 theme

"Inform, Inspire, Involve" is the theme for the 2019 Eastern Washington Legislative Conference from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 26, 2019, at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, 115 N. Raymond.

The Rev. Jim CastroLang, Eastern Washington representative on the Faith Action Network Board and member of the planning com-

mittee with representatives from The Fig Tree and Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington, will moderate a panel discussion on how a religious grounding helps generate policies that improve lives and society.

Panelists will be Episcopal Bishop Gretchen Rehberg, the Rev. Walter Kendrick of Morningstar Baptist, D.R. Michel of

Upper Columbia United Tribes and Catholic Bishop William Skylstad.

Plans include workshops on the environment, gun safety, immigration, taxes and revenues, homelessness and children.

Community agencies will bring displays to share in a resource fair.

For information, call 535-1813 or email resourcedirectory@thefigtree.org.

NW-ARM presents video, discussion on media

The Northwest Alliance for Responsible Media is presenting a screening of and discussion on Robert McChesney's documentary, "Digital Disconnect: How Capitalism Is Turning the Internet Against Democracy," from 6 to 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 14, at Gonzaga University's Wolff Auditorium in Jepson.

Robert is a professor in the Department of Communication at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

He is the author of 24 books on media and the political economy,

including *Digital Disconnect*, *Communication Revolution* and the award-winning *Rich Media, Poor Democracy*.

With John Nichols, he is co-author of the award-winning *Dollarocracy: How the Money and Media Election Complex Is Destroying America*. His work has been translated into 31 languages.

In *Digital Disconnect*, Robert looks at advances in the digital age and how the decline in enforcing antitrust violations, the increase in patents on digital technology and other policies make

the Internet "a place of numbing commercialism," dominated by a few monopolies.

He contends that the capitalist control of the Internet has led to the collapse of credible journalism and made the Internet a tool for government and corporate surveillance, and a "disturbingly anti-democratic force."

In "Digital Disconnect," he challenges people to reclaim the potential of the digital revolution to spread democratization.

For information, call 313-6656 or email caputo@gonzaga.edu.

Immigration policy redefines 'public charge'

A newly proposed change in the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) policy would make it harder for people to gain legal status in the United States.

According to Sr. Attracta Kelly, OP, an immigration lawyer, the proposed rule would redefine the concept of a "public charge," which can disqualify people from obtaining legal status. She spoke on a live stream from the Adrian Dominicans, whose motherhouse is in Adrian, Mich., in October.

Public charges are immigrants who are considered likely to be financially dependent on benefits from the U.S. government. Cur-

rently, "public charge" grounds apply only to immigrants who receive or are considered likely to receive cash assistance benefits, such as social security.

The new proposal expands the "public charge" grounds to non-monetary benefits, such as food stamps, housing assistance or Medicaid benefits.

The proposal was formally published in the Federal Register on Oct. 10, so the public has 60 days from then to submit their comments for or against the proposal.

Marijke Fakasiieiki, executive director of Refugee Connections in Spokane, said that Protect-

ing Immigrant Families offers connections for people to make comments at their website, protectingimmigrantfamilies.org.

"Under the proposal, if the government determines that a person is likely to become a 'public charge,' it can deny a person admission to the U.S., to lawful permanent residence or to green card status," said Marijke.

She said the policy may affect some of the immigrants who live in Spokane and rely on assistance while establishing themselves.

For information, call 209-2384 or visit protectingimmigrantfamilies.org.

Tree of Sharing offers gifts to oft-forgotten

For the 36th year, volunteers will be stationed at tables at Spokane Riverpark Square, Northtown Mall and Spokane Valley Mall to distribute tags for shoppers to buy gifts for oft forgotten families. This year, there are 8,000 tags from 60 agencies to pick up from Friday, Nov. 23, to Sunday, Dec. 17.

Shoppers purchase gift requests and return them to tables at any of

the three malls. From there, they go to a warehouse, where they are sorted to go to the agencies.

The Tree of Sharing began as a project of Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ and is now an independent non-profit supported by Westminster, KREM-TV, Thomas Hammer Coffee Roasters and the Washing-

ton Air National Guard.

Coordinators recruit volunteers to fill times at the tables. The national guard transports gifts to a temporary warehouse for sorting.

The Tree of Sharing connects the Spokane community through acts of giving during the holiday season.

For information, call 808-4919 or visit treeofsharing.org.

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The Fig Tree is published 10 months each year, September through June.

Deadlines:
COPY - 3rd Fridays ADS - 4th Tuesdays
It is published by The Fig Tree, 1323 S. Perry St., Spokane, WA 99202, a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.

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Faith Action Network (FAN)
a statewide, interfaith movement for the common good
invites you to the

First Annual Spokane FAN Dinner
Sunday, Nov. 18 - doors open 4:30 PM
The Glover Mansion, 321 W. 8th Ave. Spokane

We will link by livestream to the FAN Annual Dinner in Renton and also provide some local perspectives. Help FAN leverage the influence and passion of the interfaith community to advocate for a just society!

For tickets and sponsorship: <http://bit.ly.SpokaneFANdinner>
More information: Spokane@fanwa.org

Andrew Prevot is fall Flannery lecturer

Andrew Prevot, associate professor of systematic theology at the Boston College Department of Theology, will speak on "Unrestricted Love: Blackness and Catholicity as Interrelated Marks of a Christian Life" for the Fall 2018 Flannery Lecture presented by Gonzaga's Religious Studies Department. He will speak at 6 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 6, at Cataldo Hall at Gonzaga University.

Andrew is the author of *Thinking Prayer: Theology and Spirituality Amid the Crises of Modernity* and co-editor of *Anti-Blackness and Christian Ethics*.

"To live as a Christian today means, among other things, recognizing and celebrating the catholic breadth, length, height and depth of divine grace in our diverse, globalized world. God's love is unrestricted," said Andrew, who believes catholicity requires a Christian affirmation of black life in this time when #BlackLivesMatter and black-life-affirming movements seem to impede Christian wholeness. "These movements are sacramental signs of divine love so thoroughly unrestricted that it proudly and tenderly embraces even those lives that this violent world unjustly brands as insignificant," he said.

The Flannery Chair of Catholic Theology, held twice a year, seeks to further excellence in theological study and teaching at Gonzaga. For information, call 313-6782 or visit Gonzaga.edu/religious-studies.

Fall Folk Festival will be on Nov. 10 and 11

Spokane's 23rd Annual Fall Folk Festival will be held Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 10 and 11, at the Spokane Community College Lair, 1810 N. Greene St. There will be performances from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday.

The first festival was held at the Unitarian Universalist Church with about 12 groups performing. When it outgrew the church, it moved to Glover Middle School and then in 2003 to Spokane Community College. It is now held over two days and features more than 100 performing groups, attracting about 5,000 attendees.

The event presents diverse cultures in the community through traditional music, dance and the arts. Music includes bluegrass, gospel, Klezmer, Appalachian, Southern African, Celtic, Brazilian, Egyptian, Scandinavian, Chinese, Hawaiian and more.

There will be folk tales, storytelling, multi-cultural dancing, music and dance workshops, contra dancing and family activities. The event is organized and produced by volunteers through the Spokane Folklore Society. For information, email myspokanefolklore@gmail.com or visit spokanefolklore.org.

Catholic Charities dedicates Sisters Haven

Catholic Charities will host a dedication and blessing of The Sisters Haven at 10 a.m., Thursday, Nov. 1, followed by tours. Located next to the Holy Names Convent, this 75-unit housing complex will be the new home to formerly chronic homeless families. It is named The Sisters Haven in gratitude to the legions of women religious who have dedicated vocations of care and prayer to the people of Eastern Washington.

The communities include Sisters of Providence, Sinsinawa Dominican Sisters, School Sisters of Notre Dame, Sisters of St. Francis, Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon, Poor Clare Sisters, Good Shepherd Sisters, Sisters of the Cross, Sisters of Christian Community and Sisters of the Holy Spirit. For information call 358-4250, ext. 6183 or email chc@ccspokane.org.

Human rights organizations to present awards

The Spokane Human Rights Commission and the Spokane County Human Rights Task Force have joined together to honor people and organizations across Spokane County through the Spokane Human Rights Awards.

Lisa Rosier, executive director of the Southside Community Center, announced that awardees will be recognized at a dinner at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 15, at the Southside Community Center, 3151 E. 27th Ave. For information, call 535-0803.

FAN annual dinner to be livestreamed from Renton

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to Bellevue faith communities for efforts on homeless shelters, and Legacy Awards to the late Verlene Jones Davis for her devotion to FAN as a founding board member and efforts for social justice, and to the late Ron Young for his contributions as an

educator, organizer, activist and change agent for peace and social justice. Attendees will celebrate FAN's 2018 accomplishments and build support for advocacy in the upcoming legislative session.

For information, call 206-635-9790, email degooyer@fanwa.org or visit fanwa.org.

Baroque concerts are again in churches

Spokane Symphony music director Eckart Preu found conducting the 2018 baroque concerts in churches a "cool, joyful, fun and intimate experience." The churches have smaller settings, but enough space and acoustics fitting for baroque music, he said.

"The Spokane Symphony recognizes the importance of baroque music as part of music history," he said. "Modern, romantic and classical music, and symphony orchestras developed from the baroque era."

Although some people may not have heard baroque before, Eckart said they would likely recognize it. Baroque music, like much music today, appeals to those with short attention spans. Six to seven pieces each last five to 10 minutes in a one-hour baroque concert, compared with symphony concerts that

last two to two-and-a-half hours and include three pieces—an overture, a concerto and a symphony.

The Winter Baroque Celebration—at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec 8, at Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ, 411 S. Washington and at 3 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 9, at the Spokane Valley Church of the Nazarene, 15515 E. 20th Ave.—will feature 50 members of the Spokane Symphony orchestra and 80 members of the Spokane Symphony Chorale performing festive Christmas works by composers from France, Germany and Italy.

Eckart said that the pieces will highlight Christmas traditions in Europe, including two main choruses from Johann Sebastian Bach's Christmas Oratorio.

For information, call 624-1200 or visit spokansymphony.org.

KYRS celebrates 15 years of broadcasting

KYRS-Thin Air Community Radio is celebrating its 15th anniversary of community broadcasting with locally produced programs, hosted by volunteers, including independent and local music.

It plans two events in November. One is a musical performance at the Big Dipper, on Tuesday, Nov. 13. Then from 7 to 10 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 17, KYRS will hold its Annual Silent Auction Gala at Hamilton Studio, 1427 W. Dean, with music by Milonga.

Thin Air Radio began in 1999, when community activists learned the Federal Communications Commission would open the public airwaves to a new radio service, Low Power FM. The stations were to be just 100 watts—the power of a light bulb—locally owned, nonprofit and non-commercial. Built mostly by volunteers, donated union labor and community support, KYRS-LP began broadcasting on

95.3 FM on Oct. 26, 2003, with 12 live, locally produced programs, said founder and station manager Lupito Flores.

In 2005, KYRS added the 92.3 FM Translator station for a wider area. In 2007, because of commercial station KPND from Sandpoint, KYRS vacated 95.3 FM, and switched to 89.9 FM.

In November 2011, KYRS became a full-power, non-commercial, educational station, broadcasting with 6,800 watts. The new signal on 88.1 FM re-

placed 89.9 FM. It reaches about 400,000 people from Kettle Falls to Pullman, and Coeur d'Alene to Ritzville, including six counties and three Native American reservations.

Since beginning with 12 local programs, KYRS airs more than 40 locally produced programs on youth, poetry, women, environment, arts, news, culture and music, said Lupito.

For information, call 209-2428, email lupito@kyrs.org or visit www.kyrs.org.

JINGLE BOOKS



Give the Gift of Literacy this Holiday Season

Collection boxes for new and gently used K-3 books are in area libraries, bookstores, businesses, banks and the Kootenai County School District office through Dec. 13

Books will be given free to children in grades K-3 at Kootenai County Elementary Schools from Dec. 14 to 16

For information, call 208-964-4823 or email heartofcda@gmail.com

Whitworth University International Club

34th Annual International Festival 2018

Friday, Nov. 16



5 p.m.
Dinner

7 p.m. - Entertainment

Hixson Union Building - \$10

Call 777-3796



Spokane Area Bahá'í Communities Celebrate Twin Birthdays Twin Founders of Their Faith

3 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10

Unity Center, 4123 E. Lincoln Rd.

Event is free - Public is invited.

Bazaars

Bake, Craft and Book Sales, Auctions & Meals

90th annual Christmas

Faire & Bazaar

Saturday, Nov. 10

9:30 am - 3 pm
Cathedral of St. John
127 E. 12th Ave.
Free admission

Champagne mustard, jam & cookies, ornaments gifts for everyone. Vintage treasures

Lunch: soup, rolls, pie

Visit with St. Nicholas Child care & crafts

A Completely Bazaar Day in Cheney Saturday, Nov. 3

Loads of craft and baked goods Come for breakfast, stay for lunch Raffle prizes, White Elephant gifts Visit all four churches!!!

Come Visit Our Christmas Bazaar!! Cheney United Methodist Church crafts, baked goods and a gift shop designed for children Saturday, Nov. 3 • 9 am-3 pm 4th & G St. - Cheney WA

Northwood Presbyterian Deacons Annual Christmas Bazaar Sunday, Dec. 9 noon to 2 pm

6721 N. Monroe St. - Spokane WA

There will be baked goods, crafts, woodwork and more! Coffee, water and cookies are complimentary.

SCANDINAVIAN BAZAAR

Proceeds benefit local charities

SATURDAY, Nov. 3

Kaffe Stua 9 - 11 am

Bazaar 9:30 am - 1 pm

Central Lutheran Church

512 S. Bernard (5th & Bernard)

Lefse, Scandinavian Cookies & Crafts

Pre-order at church - 624-9233

Audubon Park United Methodist Women's Annual Bazaar

Sat. Nov. 10 - 9 am-2 pm

3908 N. Driscoll Blvd.

Wheelchair Friendly • Drawing • Apple Dumplings

Redemption Church Medical Lake

11th Annual Hollyfaire

Sat. Nov. 10 - 9 am-4 pm

400 E. Grace - Medical Lake

Crafts • Food • Collectibles • Party Lines

Save the date for the 2019

Eastern Washington Legislative Conference

'Inform, Inspire, Involve'

Saturday, Jan. 26

9 a.m.-3 p.m. Spokane Valley United Methodist

115 N. Raymond St. - Spokane Valley

For information, contact

Malcolm Haworth - The Fig Tree - (509) 535-1813

Scott Cooper - Catholic Charities - (509) 358-4273

Paul Benz - Faith Action Network (206) 625-9790

Students need to be exposed to, comfortable with, respectful of differences

Continued from page 1
a diversity serving institution.

• The SHE (Self-esteem and Higher Education) Leadership Academy, is recruiting 10 girls each from six high schools—Cheney, Shadle, Rogers, North Central, Ferris, and Lewis and Clark—from underrepresented groups. In March, they will come to campus for a day, participate in a college admissions fair, a poetry slam, music, and workshops on leadership and self-esteem. At the luncheon, 50 girls will be matched with 50 mentors. EWU is recruiting mentors who will connect with the girls once a month.

EWU's commitment to diversity and inclusion was recognized—as was Whitworth University—among 95 institutions of higher education for the 2018 national Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED), a program of *INSIGHT into Diversity* magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. The recognition of colleges and universities has occurred since 2012. EWU and Whitworth will be featured in the

November 2018 issue.

While 32 percent of EWU's students are from under-represented populations, Shari said EWU seeks more diverse students and has "a robust commitment" to increasing diverse faculty numbers, because they do not yet reflect the number of students.

"When there are openings, we want diverse faculty to be in the pool to be considered," she said.

Shari discussed why it's important for EWU to have diversity among faculty and students.

"Research shows that in the classroom and on campus students benefit from diversity among students and faculty," she said. "It enhances dialogue, giving students different lenses and ways to view issues and people. It changes conversations.

"An educational institution needs to lead in knowledge about global concerns and multiple cultural perspectives. When students graduate and are hired, co-workers will be more than white, straight men," she said. "Employers look to hire people who can interact with people of different

backgrounds and cultures, people who are comfortable with and respect differences."

If students are not exposed to differences, they will not know how to engage with different people, she said.

"Higher education is a chance for students to step outside their comfort zones and enrich their lives," Shari continued.

A native of Toledo, Ohio, Shari earned a bachelor's degree from Lane College in Jackson, Tenn., a master's degree at Bowling Green State University in Ohio, and a doctoral degree in educational leadership and higher education from the University of Nebraska.

She began her higher education career 26 years ago at Whitman College in Walla Walla, where she grew to love the Northwest.

Shari then held leadership positions at the University of Maine-Orono, the University of Nebraska and Marshall University. She came to EWU from Ohio University, where she had served as vice provost for diversity and inclusion and chief diversity officer since 2014.

Her passion to advance under-represented populations in the faculty, students, staff and community connects with her faith growing up in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. She is involved in Bethel AME in Spokane.

"I have grown up with a belief in the goodness of people. We can respect each other in spite of our differences," said Shari.

She is working with other area university diversity officers, like Lorna Hernandez Jarvis at Whitworth University. She also meets with the chief diversity officers around the state.

"We give voice and visibility to individuals overlooked and not at the table," Shari said. "Given our political climate, diversity matters."

She remembers watching on black-and-white TV as police used water hoses and attack dogs against African Americans, as women burned their bras and as Native Americans stood their ground at Wounded Knee.

"The names have changed from colored people to people of color, Negro to African American,

Hispanic to Latinx, Indian to Native American, but brutality and discrimination continue," she asserted.

"Diversity matters so African American men are not killed in the streets, women are not abused and harassed, migrant children are not separated from families, and we relate to people as people," Shari said. "If you get to know someone different from yourself, you will enrich your life. We are better together."

She said EWU's vision is for a community where human difference is affirmed and integrated into students' intellectual, personal, and professional development.

With that commitment, she said its mission is "to create a diverse and inclusive community by using the principles of critical dialogue, reciprocity and solidarity to facilitate learning that cultivates cultural engagement, enriches mindfulness, fosters a sense of belonging and challenges systems of privilege and oppression."

For information, call 359-4742 or email sclarke5@ewu.edu or visit ewu.edu/diversity.

Jubilee brings items from ministries, such as one in Guatemala

Continued from page 1
their work but also that there is a long-term relationship between producer and buyer that builds stability in places where opportunities to make a living have been scarce, she said.

"Jubilee vendors represent small businesses or ministries connected directly with artisans throughout the world," said Mary.

"The Jubilee sale helps to remind us of the challenges we face every day throughout the year as consumers. Even when we're shopping, we are called to put our neighbors' needs—wherever they live in the world—at the same level as our own," she said. "That means we need to ask hard questions and make thoughtful decisions that benefit others. As privileged people and followers of Jesus, we are challenged to that."

First Presbyterian collects a small percentage from vendors' sales to pay for expenses, like advertising and mailing postcards.

Not all the proceeds are returned to artisans by vendors, because each business, whether for-profit and nonprofit, has expenses, Mary explained.

Sandi Thompson-Royer and her husband, Brian, serve by invitation as Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-workers in Guatemala. In their role of facilitating leadership among women,

they have traveled around the country, working with the national Presbyterian Women leaders. They receive financial support from First Presbyterian Church and other congregations.

At this year's Jubilee International Marketplace, Sandi will have a booth to sell pieces produced by women in Guatemala.

A group of 12 seamstresses from a Presbyterian women's sewing project with the Mam, an indigenous group, took sewing classes twice a week for two years. In March 2018, Mary Mattie from Hamblen Park Presbyterian Church came to Guatemala with several seamstresses to show how to make products they

thought would sell. Teens now have treadle machines in their homes. Hamblen provided irons and sewing kits for the project.

"I knew Jubilee would be a great way to introduce the products," said Sandi. "The biggest impact we have seen so far is their self-esteem. Each earned an extra \$50 per month for five months."

When one woman in the group

miscarried recently and couldn't help with a large order, the group shared their wages with her.

"The women, who are sewing cloth napkins, don't understand why U.S. folks would pay \$5 for a napkin, but we in the U.S. are committed to move away from paper products. We thought napkins would be a great seller, and they have been," Sandi said.

She encourages people who use or wear something that is fair trade to imagine women working from home as they cook, care for their children and sew.

"We work together to bring justice for a different world and to understand each other's cultures," said Sandi.

For information, call 747-1058 or email sandit@hotmail.com.



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Whitworth's commitment to diversity anchored in being Christ-centered

Lorna Hernandez Jarvis, chief diversity officer and associate vice president of diversity, equity and inclusion at Whitworth University, is grateful that the commitment and collective efforts of faculty, staff, students and senior leadership mean Whitworth has been recognized in both 2016 and 2018 by the national Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award.

"The university's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion is so strong because it is anchored on our Christ-centered rationale to seek reconciliation, peace, justice and inclusion," she said.

INSIGHT into Diversity magazine selected Whitworth based on its efforts in recruiting and retaining a diversified population.

Lorna, who has served at Whitworth since July 2017, follows Larry Burnley, who was there for seven years.

"The award recognizes us for our student life programs; for having one of our campus ministry pastors specialize in equity, diversity and inclusion; for faculty and staff professional development, and for professional development for our senior leaders," Lorna said.

She described several programs for multicultural students and under-represented groups:

- **The BUCS** (Building Unity and Cultivating Success) Bridge Program is a four-day program for first-year students from first-generation and/or underrepresented racial and ethnic populations. Whitworth reaches out to students in its pre-orientation program to enhance community building, multi-cultural identity and college navigation, and then mentors students through the first year.

- **Act Six** is a leadership and scholarship program that selects and trains students who are leaders in their communities, have good academic standing, come from low-income backgrounds, and are the first in their families to go to college. The program connects local faith-based community affiliates with faith- and social-justice-based colleges to equip



Lorna Hernandez Jarvis promotes intercultural competency.

urban and community leaders. For 16 years, Whitworth has selected eight students in the region for full, four-year scholarships.

- **On campus**, cultural-diversity advocates are in every residence hall. Through peer mentoring, they promote dialogue on race, ethnicity and other differences, including engaging different viewpoints.

- **Diversity Monologues**, coordinated by students, staff and faculty, showcase stories of diverse Whitworth community members.

Not only is the incoming class the largest in number, but also 33 percent are from under-represented populations, Lorna said. That figure does not include the 100 international students from 30 countries.

- **The campus minister** specializing in equity, diversity and inclusion not only is available to counsel with students, but also assures that there is inclusion of different expressions of Christian worship and different cultures, she added.

- **For 24 faculty and staff** members each year, the Intergroup Dialogue and Diversity Education program offers a three-day summer workshop that provides "knowledge of cultural issues, intercultural competency training, communication skills and social identity awareness to engage in difficult conversations in productive ways, to lean into conflict and

to handle disagreement rather than avoid difficult conversations," Lorna said.

After the workshop, there are monthly meetings through the academic year.

Senior leaders, those on the president's cabinet—which is more than 40 percent women and 25 percent people in underrepresented populations—engage in monthly meetings on intercultural competency development and implement what they learn in their areas of work.

"**We define intercultural competency** as skills to engage people of different experiences and backgrounds than our own," said Lorna. "Those skills include 1) cognitive skills about how we frame our thinking, 2) affective skills about how we react, and 3) behavioral skills about how we act with dignity, respect and understanding of the experiences of others."

She discussed the role of Whitworth's commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion related to the university being Christ centered.

"**Christianity is why** we do what we do," she said. "We integrate our Christian faith and identity into our work with diversity."

A document, which was developed two years ago by the dean of spiritual life, in collaboration with members of the faculty, states that the university understands equity,

diversity and inclusion to be central to its identity as a Christian institution and to its advocacy for those standards in the university and in the world.

Lorna, who was born in Massachusetts spent her childhood and youth in Mexico. Her mother is American and her father is Mexican. Her mother was raised Jewish in Philadelphia, and her father was raised Catholic. In their late teens, they each met Quakers and became Quaker. They met each other when working on a Quaker social project in Mexico.

Here, Lorna attends the Spokane Friends Church.

Lorna earned a bachelor's degree in psychology in 1988 from the University of Akron and a doctoral degree in cognitive psychology in 1993 from Kent State University.

Her first job was teaching psychology at Hope College in Holland, Mich., where she also did part-time administration work as director of diversity courses and as director of the general education program. She led a team to teach and mentor faculty, especially new faculty, on diversity.

Given her Mexican and American background, and growing up bilingual, Lorna's academic research has been in language

development, semantics and bilingualism, which represents her lived and academic experiences.

Her other research has been on acculturation for adolescents, as the second generation of immigrant families, related to their psychological wellbeing as they adapt to the new culture and maintain their ethnic identity.

Lorna first came to Whitworth when her predecessor invited her four years ago to lead a workshop on intercultural dialogue.

For information, call 777-4215 or email lhernandezjarvis@whitworth.edu.

International dinner set

Whitworth University's 34th Annual International Festival will be held with dinner at 5 p.m. and entertainment at 7 p.m., Friday, Nov. 16, at the Hixson Union Building.

Whitworth's record freshman class of 705 includes students from diverse backgrounds and 34 international students from 17 countries—Mongolia, Japan, Nigeria, France, India, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, Nepal, Ecuador, England, Guatemala, Spain, Pakistan, Philippines and Vietnam.

For information, call 777-3796.



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For more information, visit bit.ly/SuelnSpokane

Warriors Heart to Art on display Dec. 1

Local volunteers from Warriors Heart to Art are hosting the fifth annual event to honor veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

"The Welcome and Witness: A Public Listening" will take place at 7 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 1, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4340 W. Ft. Wright Blvd.

After a five-day retreat, veterans share their experiences through sculpture, song, poetry

and paintings. Their stories help the public understand the nature of military trauma and its long-lasting effects on individuals, families and communities.

The public gathering includes an art exhibit and performances after the retreat that helps veterans heal from PTSD using creative arts to tell their stories and reconnect with themselves and society.

"Veterans need support, empathy and compassion from the com-

munity. Suicide is the main cause of death among U.S. troops," said John Hancock, president of Warriors Heart to Art Spokane. "This project helps us take better care of soldiers and veterans, decreasing their sense of isolation and despair and helping them stay alive—given that 22 veterans commit suicide each day in America.

Veterans interested in sharing and professionals with veterans to refer, visit WarriorsHeartToArt.org.

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Honduran journalist links migration to policies that create violence, poverty

Jennifer Avila, a journalist in Honduras, founded an online publication a year ago, called *Contra Corriente*. She works with six other journalists to publish reports about what is happening in Honduras and Central America.

She recently spoke to university students, community members and the Latinx community in Idaho, Washington and Oregon—at the Human Rights Education Institute in Coeur d'Alene and Whitworth College in Spokane—during the 2018 Northwest Witness for Peace Tour. Her goal was to tell how United States policies create violence and poverty that make more people flee from Honduras to the U.S.

In the spring, summer and this month, caravans of 1,200 to 7,000 immigrants seeking asylum have come or are coming to the U.S., even though the U.S. government seeks to discourage immigration.

Jennifer said people risk fleeing to the U.S. in spite of stronger laws and borders, because risks of living and struggling to survive in Honduras are greater—with violence, poverty and inequality.

“Journalists need to create consciousness among citizens in Honduras and the U.S.,” Jennifer said, “so people know there is a connection between daily violence our people experience and both U.S. government policies and U.S. business investments.”

While she found that few in the U.S. know about Honduras or Central America, people wanted to know more. Because mainstream media rarely cover issues, Jennifer said small local media challenge the message of nationalism in a time of globalism.

“Everything that happens in the world is connected,” said Jennifer, who was first on a local TV show when she was 15.

She has been a journalist for eight years, working with a Jesuit radio station and as a filmmaker producing documentaries on migration, gender violence and human rights.

Last year, she created *Contra Corriente* with a website, blog and social media to spread news around the world. They seek and receive support to publish translations from Spanish into English, French, German and Norwegian.

“Independent journalists connect with human rights organizations,” she said. “Human rights need independent journalists. So we connect with Witness for Peace.



Jennifer Avila was at the Human Rights Education Institute in Coeur d'Alene with photos by *Contra Corriente's* photographer Martín Cáliz on display at Emerge, 208 N. 4th St., CdA until Nov. 4. Photo courtesy of Witness for Peace Northwest

“In Honduras, the market is designed to serve the elite and U.S. interests in the region that keep Honduras a mining and banana republic,” Jennifer said.

Big corporations and other countries decide Honduras' policies, she said. Honduras was a base in Central America for the U.S. military to fight insurgents when Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador had civil wars.

“We are a country without a memory because of military rule. A 2009 coup d'état undermined a move to democracy and human rights. In a 2017 political crisis, the president was re-elected even though the constitution prohibits him from having another term,” she said. “Many denounced the election as fraudulent.

“The U.S. government supported him. Even though the people are defenseless, they went on the streets to protest. The government murdered 30 and arrested 1,500. Now we have a dictatorship.”

Jennifer also reported that 90 percent of the cocaine coming to the U.S. is from Honduran drug cartels and organized crime that undermine the economy.

While the first cause of migration is poverty, the second is violence from drug trafficking and gangs.

“The U.S. war against drug trafficking continues and has caused violence,” she added. “We have nowhere to be safe. Drug traffic will not stop if there is big demand.”

In addition, because land is in the hands of monoculture agriculture and mining, people do not benefit from the wealth.

In the 1980s, Honduras produced rice, corn and beans. Now land is used to produce biofuels to meet the U.S. demands for fuel, Jennifer said.

“We do not have a democracy

that protects the people. Nearly 80 percent of murders are committed with impunity because of government corruption, she said.

Honduras has 9.5 million people. Even though people flee, the population is stable, because there is a high birth rate with many people in their 20s and 30s.

Many families who fled in the 1990s and still live in the U.S. sustain the Honduran economy by sending funds home. The Honduran government does not want them to be deported, she said.

“Our small digital media outlet reaches 10,000 people a month. We do not want people to be ‘click-addicts,’ so we tell the big stories,” she said.

Jennifer said the reach is low because the education system is poor, so many people are illiterate, and few have internet access.

What is published in *Contra Corriente* reaches beyond the internet, as readers share with their friends.

In Honduras, it's hard to gather news and dangerous to be an independent journalist, Jennifer said.

“When we ask questions, there is concern because we do not have a free press. When there is a protest in the streets, people do not trust media, and are violent toward journalists. Police are also violent with the press, even international media. The threat creates the silence they want,” said Jennifer. “When we ask questions, we are at risk. People sharing stories are in danger if they tell us what is happening.

“We report on crime structures operating in neighborhoods, mafia corruption in government and big business, and gangs and drug cartels, which control territories.

Protecting our sources is hard,

but part of ethical journalism,” she said.

Contra Corriente staff make a living through donations, crowd funding and support from international organizations. People can donate through the web page.

“Independent journalism is not free. It's expensive,” said Jennifer, who directs a team of six journalists—half in Tegucigalpa and half in San Pedro Sula—and seeks to assure them a minimum wage. “Money, however, does not influence our editorial approach.

“It has survived one year, and I hope it will be sustainable, lasting five, 10, 20 or more years,” Jennifer said.

“While speaking in the U.S., I learned that even though we are 5,000 kilometers apart, many U.S. people believe in solidarity and are committed to help migrants and issues that cause migration for Central Americans far away,”

Jennifer said.

She appealed for people in the U.S. to work through community organizations to urge the U.S. government to change policies.

For information, visit witnessforpeace.org/northwest-speaking-tour/ or visit *Contra Corriente's* Facebook page.

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Staff at Spokane's hospice houses treat dying is a normal part of living

For a man who had lived on the streets most of his life, his last few weeks of life at Hospice of Spokane's hospice house were his best days, eating the best food he had ever eaten and drinking all the milk he wanted.

Hospice of Spokane's two hospice houses seek to provide quality care, comfort and food for patients of any means to make their last hours, days, weeks and months there meaningful, quality times, said Alicia Reid, director of hospice houses and admissions, Matt Kinder, director of social services, and Gina Drummond, CEO.

Both hospice houses have 12 private rooms.

The first opened in November 2007 at 367 E. 7th Ave. The second opened in North Spokane at 102 W. Rhoades in April 2014.

"Families and patients can be in a setting where the patient's care needs are met, so the family can focus on being family," said Gina, who moved to Spokane 14 years ago to be CEO and to start the first hospice house.

Gina had previously worked 10 years with Peace Hospice of Montana in Great Falls and had overseen building a hospice house there. Hospice of Spokane was then "dreaming" of building a hospice house.

Most of the 2,000 people Hospice of Spokane serves in a year traverse the end-of-life journey in their own homes, assisted living facilities, skilled care facilities or hospitals. Gina said Hospice of Spokane works closely with local hospitals and other facilities to serve patients in all environments.

However, there also was and is demand for the hospice houses.

"Each day in the hospice houses, we hope the dying person has the best day possible, realizing it could be their last. It's important that they can make every moment count," said Gina.

"When patients come to a hospice house, we often see relief on the faces of family members who have provided care," said Matt. "They realize they are in a safe, peaceful environment where caring, competent staff are there to serve and care for their loved one."

Alicia, Gina and Matt say hospice houses are sacred spaces.

"There's a peaceful calm when entering the building, not the level of activity in the hospital or the stress at home," said Alicia.

Matt said the peaceful, home-like environment assures that the patients' quality of life is as good



Matt Kinder, Gina Drummond and Alicia Reid sit by the fireplace at the South Spokane hospice house.

as it can be for the time they have left. Each patient has his/her own room with bathroom, a microwave and sink. The hospice houses allow pets to visit. Chairs pull out into beds so some family can stay.

There's always soup, coffee, tea and snacks available for family. Patients have full meals.

"Many say living is easy but death is hard. We walk with people through the difficulty that can go with dying," Alicia said.

Gina said education is part of that, so people do not fear.

"If people are educated, they are empowered, and their fear falls away," she said.

"We normalize dying, seeing it as a natural part of life," said Matt.

"We support people whatever their spiritual journeys and whatever they believe," Gina added.

"I value our agency's focus on what gives people meaning, what is valued and what is most important to the patients and families," said Matt. "Spirituality and/or religion is a part of life for so many. We realize we are part of a story that is bigger than ourselves."

In 1977, a small group of committed volunteers started Hospice of Spokane to make dying people's last experiences positive.

Cecily Saunders, the founder of the modern hospice movement, started a hospice in 1967 in England. Just 10 years later Spokane's opened—the 12th hospice in the U.S., said Matt.

Alicia, who grew up in Spokane, entered nursing as a second career, and 10 months after starting as a hospital nurse, she found her niche with hospice 12 years ago. Her first career was in international business with a telecom equipment business from 1996 to 2002.

She earned a bachelor's in busi-

ness in 1991 at Seattle University, and finished studies in nursing in 2005 at Spokane Community College because nurses were needed.

"I wanted to spend time with people," she said of her shift to hospice work. "I have no fear of dying or death, because I have cared for elderly people—but hospice work is with all ages. It's about helping people through their final journeys."

Alicia oversees both houses, the staff, a clinical coordinator and admissions. Staff includes six registered nurses and six nurses' aids at each house.

Staff provide education, support, care giving and compassion.

"We educate families on the care we provide, medications, the process they go through, the progress of the disease and what to report to us," Alicia said.

In most cases, Gina said, Medicare, Medicaid and private insurance cover hospice care, but a few patients who do not require skilled acute care may be charged room and board at the hospice houses.

The average stay is eight-and-a-half days. Some stays are just hours and some are months.

"People need to continue to qualify by having a prognosis that they will live six months or less, and seeking just palliative—or comfort—care," Gina said. "A few stabilize, are discharged and may come back later."

Matt, who grew up in Spokane and has been with Hospice of Spokane 17 years, earned a master of social work degree in 2001 at Walla Walla University. In 1993, he earned an associate's degree at Spokane Community College and in 1995 a bachelor's from Whitworth studying sociology and psychology.

While at Whitworth, he worked

a year at the Arc of Spokane with people with intellectual and physical disabilities. He then worked about five years in Seattle at a mental health facility with people with severe and persistent mental illness.

He started with Hospice of Spokane in 2001 as a social work case manager, serving patients and families in their homes.

He has been director of social services for 10 years, overseeing 20 social workers, four employed chaplains, about 20 volunteer chaplains, five bereavement counselors and other volunteers.

Gina, who grew up in Miles City, Mont., earned a bachelor's degree in 1988 and then a master's in nursing in 1999 at Montana State University. She was a nurse for several years in oncology and psychiatry before she realized she wanted to work in hospice, including working two years in surgical oncology at the University of Washington Hospital in Seattle before starting at Peace Hospice of Montana.

"Part of my spirituality is through encouraging people and through kindness. I want to help people find meaning, look at what their lives meant and how they made a difference," Gina said.

Matt values compassion, empathy, tenderness, service and the

non-judgmental presence he experiences with Hospice of Spokane.

Matt added: "We meet people where they are. Our job is to love and serve people, whoever they are and wherever they come from."

"We encourage people to be on good terms with all people, to live as if today were their last day, to do the best they can and treat people with kindness," he said.

Matt said the work has opened him up to be more comfortable with mystery and not knowing.

"I have moved from an either/or view to more of a both/and view," he said, "where everything belongs. This includes tears, memories, anger, laughter, sadness, joy and hope. They are all part of the process."

Alicia sees that as families gather, they cry, tell stories and laugh.

She recommends the advice of singer Tim McGraw in his 2004 album, "Live Like You Are Dying," a reminder that no one knows when their time will come. So we need to do all we can to live fully now."

For information, call 456-0438, email info@hospiceofspokane.org or visit hospiceofspokane.org.

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Local leaders share ideas on sustainability

In two workshops during the Spokane Compassion Games' Earth and Spirit Festival, speakers reflected on local sustainability issues and interfaith approaches to stewarding the earth.

Speakers in the first workshop—Jule Schultz of Spokane Riverkeeper, Josh Hechtman of ReProduce 81 and Kristine Major of Spokane's Regional Solid Waste Disposal Department—offered ideas for people to help the community live in healthier, more sustainable ways.

Jule, a marine biologist who works on water quality and non-point pollution (from rain or snow runoff) in the Spokane River watershed, reported that local water conservation measures will preserve summertime flows in the Spokane River, as the Aquifer provides a majority of flow to the river during the summer months.

"In addition, the city's work to reduce stormwater pollution will affect the largest source of pollution in the river," he said.

"Water conservation is also critical for preserving summer flows in the river," Jule said, also reporting on the work of 475 volunteers recently picking up 15,220 pounds of litter from the river.

For information, call 835-5211.

Josh, a Lewis and Clark High School student, founded ReProduce 81 to find ways for Spokane Public Schools to reduce food

waste in half by 2030.

He believes increasing community awareness will reduce food waste and eradicate hunger. He said food waste in schools is 60 percent vegetables and 40 percent fruit. He also said that waste produces methane in landfills, contributing to global warming.

ReProduce 81, a project of Spokane Edible Tree where Josh worked last summer, has had some effect:

- Schools are working on finding ways to reuse, recycle, recover or dispose of food.

- To recover food, his school has eight bins where students can put food they won't eat. That food goes to food pantries.

- Josh and the director of nutrition services at Spokane Public Schools created an educational video.

- He and other students plan to go to Olympia this year to lobby for bills to reduce food waste.

- ReProduce 81 has 40 members and aims to have 150 by 2020.

"Our goal is for three high schools, three middle schools and three grade schools to collect and recover 3,000 pounds of food by the end of the year," Josh said.

For information, call 209-2890 or email spokaneedibletreeproject@gmail.com.

Kristine, solid waste education coordinator, said each person makes 4.4 pounds of trash each day, creating 1,300 to 1,500 tons

of garbage each day in Spokane County. Most goes to the Waste to Energy Plant, which for 26 years has incinerated it to recover energy.

"Food waste does not burn," she said. "The best way to deal with garbage is to make less of it. The region also works to reduce, recycle and compost waste.

Single stream recycling diverts 50 percent of waste to recycling and compost. For recycling to be effective, people need to know what to put in each bin.

Kristine listed what's accepted in the blue bins for recycling:

- Items must be clean. Recycling sorters have found dirty diapers.

- Glass bottles now go to the landfill as beneficial cover until markets change.

- Metal—tin and aluminum—is accepted, but should be rinsed and not include lids.

- Paper should be clean and dry.

- Plastic jugs, bottles and tubs are accepted, but not lids, Styrofoam or plastic bags.

- Food scraps and food-soiled paper go with mixed yard and food waste in the green bins.

"Why should we care? Clean air, land and water are dwindling resources. Caring about the environment is a social justice issue, as well as a resource issue. Children make us care," Kristine said, "and that is always a great reason."

For information, email kmajor@spokanecity.org.

Festival of Fair Trade will be Thanksgiving weekend

Ganesh Himal Trading Company's annual Thanksgiving weekend 34th annual Festival of Fair Trade will be from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23 to 25, at the Community Building, 35 W. Main.

The event is an opportunity to choose from unique handcrafts offered by Ganesh Himal from Nepal; Conosur Imports, from Chile; Singing Shaman Trader from Pakistan, Nepal and Mexico; Maya Earth Coffee and Moon-

flower Enterprises from Guatemala; Corazon Scarves from Guatemala, and Kizuri's products from many countries.

This year's it includes celebration of Kizuri's 10th year.

"Items we feature put people and the planet before profit, promote gender equality and women-owned businesses," said Sarah Calvin of Ganesh Himal. "With fair trade, we seek to empower and innovate."

For information, call 448-6561.

L'Arche and Gonzaga host speaker

L'Arche Spokane will host Sister Sue Mosteller to speak at 6:30 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 10, at Gonzaga University's Cataldo Hall.

In 1972, she began working with L'Arche in Richmond Hill, Ga., finding it a gift to live there.

For 40 years, she was a leader of the L'Arche Daybreak community and the Federation of L'Arche. She was the first leader after Jean Vanier of L'Arche International and led it through a time of international expansion in the 1980s.

She worked with Fr. Henri Nou-

wen in his 10 years at Daybreak. Sue has published four books. The latest is *Light Through the Crack: Life after Loss*. After Nouwen's untimely death, she served as literary executor of his estate.

She established the Henri Nouwen Archival Collection at the University of Toronto St. Michael's College and has been engaged in Nouwen Literary Legacy over the past two decades.

For information, call 483-0438 or email commleader@larcheof-spokane.org.

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Speakers from four faiths describe beliefs that undergird stewardship

Speakers in an interfaith workshop on stewarding the earth as part of the recent Earth and Spirit Festival told about how their faiths' teachings call believers to care for the earth.

They were Gayle Haeger of Valley Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Gurmehak Khahera a first year college student from the Sikh Community; Cheloye Penwell of the Valley Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and Kimberly Bibee and Michael Collum of the Soka Gakkai International Buddhist community.

Gayle said Seventh-Day Adventists believe the Creator God created the planet, placed plants, creatures and humans on it, and said it was good. On the seventh day, people are to rest, worship and enjoy the beauty of creation.

"One way we care for the world is to advocate for a plant-based diet that helps people live an average of seven years longer," she said.

"The average American consumes 270 pounds of meat a year. The average person in India eats 10 pounds a year," Gayle said, concerned that fewer, bigger factory farms treat animals cruelly and that use of antibiotics increases resistance to antibiotics humans need to treat infections.

Gayle expects meat-based diets will be unsustainable by 2050 because they require more land, water and pesticides to produce than the equivalent amount of plant-based protein.

She said Adventists promote gardening and community gardens. Upper Columbia Academy near Spangle has started an agricultural program.

Adventists promote a stewardship—harmony with nature—not a domination theology that leads people to exploit creation. She said God expects caring stewardship from followers for both economic and social justice reasons.

Gurmehak said Sikhism, a monotheistic faith that began in 1469, believes it is important for people to realize "we are responsible for the environment" and "we are to be custodians of the earth to benefit all people."

"We seek to become selfless for the good of all. Concern for nature is part of loving life. To become one with the divine life, we are to live in harmony with all creation," she said. "All is holy. God is manifest through all creation. When we destroy nature, we disrespect the divine."

On Sikh Environment Day March 14, Sikhs plant hundreds of thousands of trees and flowers.

Gurmehak said some Gurudwaras—worship centers—are going green. One in San Jose uses solar energy and composts. EcoSikh



Michael Collum, Kimberly Bibee, Cheloye Penwell, Gurmehak Khahera and Gail Haeger.

uses Sikh values, which shape behaviors to sustain the future.

Cheloye, who has been in the Latter-day Saints church from an early age, said stewardship permeates teachings, as part of responsibility to care for "our bodies, friends, associations, communities and the earth."

"We are taught to respect," she said. "The earth is an awe-inspiring, resilient gift that has all we need to sustain ourselves. We cannot destroy it, but we can make it unpleasant. Everyone answers for selfish, thoughtless, improper, sinful misuse of the earth."

In the mid 1800s, LDS pioneers left the East to settle in the Salt Lake Valley and made it a fertile paradise where people shared abundance.

"As farmers, we see the land as a source of sustainable bounty with enough to sustain us all, including those in need," Cheloye said, noting the church helps in disaster relief and humanitarian aid.

During a famine in the 1990s in Ethiopia, the LDS produced atmit, a nutritious gruel mixed with water. For someone near starvation, it builds strength and immunity until other resources come, she said. For clean water, LDS aid workers and community members drilled wells so communities could maintain them.

"The earth has wondrous bounty we are to share," Cheloye repeated. "God works to move people from selfishness to care for life now and in future generations."

"Pollution is the result of selfishness," she said. "The state of the human soul and the environment are interconnected. If we each reduce a little human suffering then people move on to solve big issues of hate, discontent and intolerance of different beliefs."

"Families are central. We are saved as families. We have a tradition of family gardens and

canning," she said.

"When we live in harmony with the environment, strife and challenges today solve themselves," she said. "We need to keep up pressure to protect our shared environment to pass to our children."

Kimberly said Soha Gakkai International (SGI) is about love and peace, changing the individual to change the destiny of the nation.

"Buddhism began 2,500 years ago with the Buddha's quest for the meaning of life and enlightenment. We are to protect the environment and humanity because of the oneness of life," she said. "If I harm the land, plants or you, I harm myself. We are a microcosm and macrocosm. We are to guard the ecological system."

SGI's founder emphasized three levels—local grassroots, intermediate community and citizens of the earth.

"At home, individuals can eat healthful foods. Living in community is about how we treat others and the earth. Globally, I link with everything on the planet," she said. "We need a global vision of the oneness between self and the environment. We can make changes by changing our lives and how we perceive the world."

Michael said the more each person learns of the complexity of issues, the more powerless they may feel, but SGI members empower each other by promoting peace, culture and compassion, through the United Nations.

Michael said SGI believe "we are the change we want to see."

The SGI Seeds of Change Exhibit and Earth Charter Initiative introduce sustainable development.

A film, "A Quiet Revolution" says one person can make a difference—as villagers creating a way to capture rain water in a drought or women rallying to plant trees to counter deforestation.

Michael said a recent SGI "Li-

ons of Justice Festival" gathered young people of many backgrounds to stand for the dignity of all in the midst of the polarized society, domestic violence, school shootings, racial discrimination and the nuclear threat.

"The roots of evil are greed, anger and ignorance, but one person at a time can change things for himself/herself. That change affects other people and the environment," Michael said.

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The dizzying muddle of events/news create election-time cacophony

What a dizzying cacophony of events has led up to the election. What's happening? Will our shock overwhelm and numb us? How are media we each follow covering it? Are they raising the crucial questions to help us make decisions? How informed are we? We have also had debates, voters guides, social media appeals, ads, campaign rallies, personal connections with candidates and opportunities to research the issues.

There were bombs mailed to members of one party, the gruesome murder of a Saudi journalist, mocking body slamming another, and another caravan of Central Americans leaving risky lives of poverty in violent neighborhoods. There's talk of terrorism

and terrorists. There's slinging of muddy, hateful words and xenophobia—blaming, bait and switch, repetition of falsehoods to win believers. Words matter. There here have been volatile words this season.

Violence and threat of it is taking the political rhetoric out of the realm of discourse and into the realm of division that leads to fear and hate that lead to violence. Since the pipe bombs, there's been a call to tone down the rhetoric.

In this issue, we learn that free speech has costs and limits, that area universities are committed to including students and faculty of diverse backgrounds to build "intercultural competence."

It's heartening to know that many people

are keeping their commitments to work for peace, justice, sustainability and caring.

It's heartening that the State Supreme Court ended the death penalty and the Spokane City Council voted for renewable energy, a nuclear-free zone and limiting Border Patrol access to the Intermodal Center.

It's heartening to know that local people reach out globally to help friends in other lands improve their lives with fair trade.

It's heartening to know the witness of caregivers with people as they are dying.

It's heartening to know there are many sung and unsung journalists who inform people of facts and truth around issues.

Someone recently said it's hard to be resilient in these days, but now and all

times are times we need to be resilient and to carry on in our commitment to justice and caring. It took decades to form the UN.

We need to recognize the power of social movements through which people demand changes in policies in the many months and years between elections.

Faiths, nonprofits, ad hoc groups and ongoing organizations are avenues for people to learn about, be empowered and act—to speak out, march, contact leaders and organize peers. That's how we express our vote between elections.

Before and after we vote, we must be attentive. We must keep informed, inspired and involved.

Mary Stamp - editor

Last 100 years have brought world agenda to protect people and life

The last 100 years seem to be the most remarkable in history. They began with the worst of times and ended with visions and goals to establish the best of times.

Exactly one-hundred years ago, on Nov. 11, 1918, a horrific war that left 9 million soldiers dead and 21 million wounded officially came to an end. It was called the "War to End All Wars," although many historians believe it never really ended.

It did, however, lead to the founding of the League of Nations, the precursor to the United Nations.

Thus began in earnest the world's conversation on preventing war through a world peace-keeping organization.

Sadly, too few countries were ready to pledge united support. It would take another World War, 21 years later, one that killed an estimated 60 to 80 million people, to convince nations of the dire necessity for

a peace-keeping body.

Fortunately, two great men conceived a plan in the middle of World War II and in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean for bringing the nations together.

U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt met with British Prime Minister Winston Churchill in December 1941 to discuss plans for a stronger organization to replace the League of Nations. They conceived of a Charter that would help end the present war and prevent future wars.

Roosevelt privately suggested to Churchill that the name of the future organization be the United Nations.

In January 1942, the major allied powers, along with 22 other states, agreed to work together to bring an end to World War II and committed in principle to the establishment of the United Nations after the war.

Just months after the war ended in 1945,

50 countries formed the United Nations, dedicated to maintaining international peace and security.

Thus began a new age for humanity.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of what might be considered the most important document in history, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A towering achievement for humankind, it set out for the first time our aspirations as a human family. The underlying causes of war finally began to be addressed.

As our world has become more crowded and complex, our shared problems and opportunities as a family call us to greater cooperation. Multiple world crises have called our species to a new stage of maturity.

In 2015, we answered the call. Following what was called the most inclusive and transparent process in UN history, involving millions of people throughout

the world, a monumental treaty was signed by all 193 member nations on behalf of their peoples. It is the Global Sustainable Development Goals.

It sets out a world agenda for protecting all people and forms of life, outlining 17 goals, so people everywhere can be part of creating a safe, sustainable, equitable, prosperous world where all life can flourish.

We urge everyone to become part of this movement by becoming familiar with the goals, supporting them and celebrating them as the viable path to lasting peace, enabling our human family to survive and thrive.

**Anne Bosserman, Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
Teresa McCann, religious education director at St. Joseph Parish - Otis Orchards
Guest editorial**



Gonzaga panel debates the role of free speech in allowing and countering hate speech

A panel of Gonzaga faculty responded to a presentation by Nadine Stossen, of the New York Law School, former president of the American Civil Liberties Union and author of *HATE: Why We Should Resist It with Free Speech, Not Censorship*.

The event was held on Oct. 12 to mark the 20th anniversary of the Gonzaga University Institute for Hate Studies.

"There are tensions between free speech and concerns about the wellbeing of people. Because freedom of speech and human rights go hand in hand, the best way to counter hate is robust free speech," Nadine said in a video-streamed speech.

She contends that laws are not only ineffective in countering hate and discrimination, but also counter-productive.

According to a report by the Committee to Eliminate Racism and Discrimination (CERD), laws to suppress hate speech do not do any good. They are often enforced against voices and views intended to be protected by laws.

"Stereotypes, prejudice and bias are demonic in criminal justice. Enforcing hate speech laws is inherently subjective," said the daughter of a Holocaust survivor. "CERD said counter speech is more likely effective in reducing hate speech."

Nadine gave examples of counter speech:

- The chant in Charlotte, "Jews will not replace us," was drowned by college students raising their voices to denounce hatred and work for a more just society.

- Recently some people have invited hate-group leaders to sit down to dinner with them, redeeming/changing them.

Three forms of counter-speech that drown out hate speech are persuasion, support for victims and apologies.

Panelists responding to her presentation were Luke Lavin, director of mission and ministry at Gonzaga University; George Critchlow, Gonzaga Law School professor emeritus; Joan Iva Fawcett, assis-

tant dean of diversity, inclusion, community and equity, and Vikas Gumbhir, associate professor of criminal justice.

Luke offered an overview of the Ignatian call to stand against hate with love. He said that when the Jesuits formed at the University of Paris, they began with the understanding that humans are made good in the image of a good God.

"We are gifts of God, so we know God. We suppose every good person presupposes good. If we are in error, we can correct each other with kindness," he said. "A Jesuit university operates by practicing free speech and giving free space for dialogue."

"If another interpretation bothers us, we are to act first as listeners. We are to be active in civic life: vote, debate, write, examine and advocate. We are to practice discernment, knowing God is good, holy and true and at work for society."

Luke said discernment is between two goods, creating tension that is a healthy sign of growth. Discernment at the civic level requires free speech, even when people have radical differences.

"We are to be contemplatives in action," Luke said.

George, who studied and taught at Gonzaga's Law School, said, "We all live in tension in our personal and political lives as culture is in transition."

He favors restricting some hate speech, based on the Constitution and legal traditions that evolved over history: "We punish libel, slander and falsehoods. We restrict speech if it harms, such as child pornography, words that promote violence or shouting, "FIRE!" in a crowded theater," he said.

"The notion of harm takes into account a clear and present danger that calls us to protect society," he said. "International treaties allow and compel repression of hate speech that hurts a group of people."

He said speech was bad enough in the Nazi era, before the Internet, which can be

used to educate in a positive way but can also manipulate, create fear, intimidate, perpetuate myths and falsehoods, libel entire groups and discourage people from participating in society because of their race, religion, culture or gender identity.

"I don't agree with Nadine that the only response to hate speech is more speech," he said. "We may need to adapt our constitutional framework, it may be okay to tell a violent crazy racist to shut up!"

Joan Iva learned about tension over free speech in two years as interim dean of students at the University of California at Berkeley. As she supported students, she learned free speech has a cost, often hundreds of thousands of dollars. Some underrepresented students who felt at risk because of words and photos holed up in a building and needed protection as gun violence broke out between protest groups.

At Sonoma State University, she cautioned a student newspaper against using the "N" word, saying there are limits to free speech.

When a controversial speaker some considered a terrorist came to Whittier College, faculty and students formed a human barricade to escort students to the event.

Joan Iva was born in the Philippines and immigrated to the U.S. in the 1980s, when she was young. During high school, her mother performed in a choir for a Filipino Festival. A school director closed the curtain to stop the event. Her father wrote an opinion article in a Filipino newspaper, challenging that action. He and the newspaper were sued for libel. They tried to settle out of court, but four years and thousands of dollars later, a judge ruled in her father's favor and called the libel suit "frivolous." Because of it, her parents were in turmoil during her college years.

"Free speech is not free," she said. "It cost my parents financially and emotionally. "Free speech is a treasure. We should not

take it for granted. We should use it, but there are limits to using it," Joan Iva said.

Believing faculty are to educate students to engage in dialogue, she said it's not free speech vs. hate speech, but the need for free speech to be responsible speech.

Vikas brought a sociological perspective to the discussion, distinguishing between troubles and issues.

"We all have troubles—like managing debts and commitments. We all have personal problems," he said. "There are also issues, which are the socio-political landscape or backdrop. For example, one unemployed person has troubles, but if millions of people are unable to find work for a fair wage, that's an issue."

The challenge and promise of sociology is seeing common threads between biography and history, and finding ways to coalesce around socio-political and socio-economic issues, he explained.

"Hate speech is inexorably linked to violence—lynching, violence against women in the society and culture, violence against people who are incarcerated and the culture that supports the death penalty even though it's applied disproportionately to those on society's edges," Vikas said.

He noted that the State Supreme Court just ended the death penalty because it is imposed in an arbitrary, racially biased way.

"We need to address hate and hate speech that threaten institutions and legitimize violence by the state," he said. "It touches lives of many on the receiving end of hate speech."

"To think of hate speech vs. free speech blinds us," he said, especially blinding people to the pain of people of color.

"It's not enough to drown hate speech with our voices. We must dismantle the institution of hate that victimizes people," Vikas said. "Never let attention wane from the violence so many in society drown in."

For information, call 313-3665 or visit gonzaga.edu/hatestudies.

Calendar of Events

- Nov 1 • **Dedication and Blessing** of The Sisters Haven, 1935 N Holy Names Court, 10 a.m. dedication and blessing, 11 a.m. tours
- **Peace and Justice Action** Committee, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m.
- **Affogato Community Day** benefiting Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane (PJALS), Saranac Commons, 19 W. Main, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m., 838-7870
- **Habitat-Spokane Homeownership** Informational Meeting, 1805 E Trent, 5:30 p.m., 534-2552
- **"Bing Crosby: From Spokane to a World Figure in 20 Years,"** Gary Giddings, Bing Crosby biographer, Hemmingson Center, 7 p.m., 842-8664 or upwindsailer@comcast.net
- Nov 1-30 • **Children's Christmas Joy Drive**, Mission Community Outreach Center, 1906 E. Mission, 536-1084
- Nov 1-3 • **Books Not Bombs**, PJALS Benefit Book Sale, 35 W. Main, noon to 6 p.m. on Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, 838-7870
- Nov 1,2,4, 8-11 • **"Mother Courage and her Children,"** Gonzaga Theatre Department, Magnuson Theatre, 502 E. Boone, 7:30 p.m. on 1,2,8-10, and 2 p.m. on 4 and 11, 313-6553, gonzaga.edu/theatreanddance
- Nov 2 • **Day of the Dead (Dias de los Muertos)**, Mexican holiday, Hazen & Jaeger Funeral Home, 1306 N. Pines Rd., hbaspokane@gmail.com
- Nov 2-3 • **Jubilee International Marketplace**, First Presbyterian Church, 318 S. Cedar, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, spokanefpc.org
- Nov 3 • **Catholic Charities' Leaf Raking Blitz**, for senior and disabled neighbors, O'Malley Hall at St. Aloysius Church, 330 E. Boone, 8:30 a.m., 459-6172, clapke@ccspokane.org
- **Hope Peace Healing** Fundraiser Brunch for Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, "Spend Time in Silence with Our Lord," Sr. Rosalie Locati SP and Deacon John Ruschinsky, director of IHRC, Hemmingson Ballroom, Gonzaga, 10:30 a.m. to noon, 448-1224, development@ihrc.net
- Nov 4 • **Lutheran Community Services Northwest** Inland Northwest Fundraising Luncheon, Mukogawa Fort Wright Commons, 4000 W. Randolph Rd., 12:30 p.m., social hour, 1:30 p.m., luncheon/program, 343-5020, cmckee@lcsnw.org
- Nov 6 • **Homeless Action Team**, "Hope for the Homeless," Spokane Valley United Methodist, 115 N. Raymond, 7 p.m., 924-7262
- **"Unrestricted Love: Blackness and Catholicity as Interrelated Marks of a Christian Life,"** Flannery Lecture with Andrew Prevot, associate professor of systematic theology at the Boston College Department of Theology, Cataldo Hall at Gonzaga University, 6 p.m., 313-6782
- Nov 7 • **Silent Day of Prayer on Dealing with Trauma**, "Orienting Our Lives towards God: Mental and Physical Benefits for Catholic Living," Catholic therapists Teresa Warren and Michael D'Esterre, Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, 6190 S. Ben Burr Rd., 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., 448-1224, ihrc.net
- **Faith Leaders and Leaders of Conscience**, Veradale United Church of Christ, 611 N. Progress, 9:15 to 11 a.m., 926-7173, genheywood@att.net
- Nov 8 • **Showing Up for Racial Justice**, 35 W. Main, 5:30 p.m.
- Nov 8, 29 • **Eastern Washington Legislative Conference** Planning, 3:30 p.m., 535-4112
- Nov 9, 10, 17 • **Chorale Coeur d'Alene**, "Made in the U.S.A." concerts, Trinity Lutheran CdA, 7 p.m., Fri., 2 p.m. Sat., First Presbyterian Spokane, 2 p.m. Sat. (17th)
- Nov 9-10 • **PowderKeg Brew Festival**, benefiting Habit for Humanity Spokane, lduffy@habitat-spokane.org
- Nov 10 • **Twin Birthdays of Twin Founders** of Bahá'í, Spokane Celebration, Unity Center, 4123 E. Lincoln, 3 p.m.
- **Salmon Tales**, Salish School of Spokane Annual Fundraiser, Gonzaga Preparatory School Student Center, 1224 E. Euclid, 6 p.m., salishschoolspokane.org/salmontales2018.html
- **"Travel Tips for Your Heart's Journey,"** Sr. Sue Mosteller, CSJ, former leader of L'Arche International, L'Arche and Gonzaga's Center for Community Engagement, Cataldo Hall, Gonzaga University, 6:30 to 8 p.m., visit bit.ly/SueinSpokane
- Nov 10-11 • **Spokane Fall Folk Festival**, Celebration of Cultural Diversity, Spokane Community College, 1810 N. Greene, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Sunday, 448-0659, spokanefolkfestival.org
- Nov 11 • **"Sharing the Dharma Day,"** Sravasti Abbey, 692 Country Ln., Newport, 9:45 a.m., 447-5549, office.sravasti@gmail.com
- Nov 12 • **Spokane Regional Law and Justice Council Meeting**, Spokane Regional Health District, 1101 W. College, noon to 1:30 p.m., 838-7870
- Nov 14 • **"Digital Disconnect: How Capitalism Is Turning the Internet Against Democracy,"** video and discussion, Northwest Alliance for Responsible Media, Wolff Auditorium in Jepson at Gonzaga, 6 to 7:30 p.m., 313-6656, caputo@gonzaga.edu
- Nov 15 • **Spokane Human Rights Awards Dinner**, Southside Community Center, 3151 E. 27th, 5:30 p.m., 535-0803
- Nov 16 • **International Festival 2017**, Hixson Union Building, Whitworth University, 5 p.m., dinner, 7 p.m., entertainment, 777-3796
- Nov 17 • **KYRS Silent Auction Gala**, Hamilton Studio, 1427 W. Dean, 7 to 10 p.m., 209-2428, kyrs.org
- Nov 18 • **Faith Action Network Annual Dinner**, Glover House in Spokane, live streaming speakers from Renton Pavilion, 233 Burnett Ave. S., Renton, 4:30 p.m., 206-625-9790, fanwa.org
- Nov 23-25 • **Festival of Fair Trade**, Community Building, 35 W. Main, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., 499-3320, info@ganeshhimaltrading.com
- Nov 23-Dec 16 • **Tree of Sharing**, Riverpark Square, Northtown and Spokane Valley Malls, shoppers pick up tags for gifts for families in need, tree of sharing.org
- Nov 27 • **#Giving Tuesday** is a global giving movement to refocus the holidays on the reason for the season: to give and inspire hope. Give to favorite nonprofits, charities, programs and movements!
- Nov 28 • **Fig Tree mailing and distribution**, St. Mark's Lutheran, 316 E. 24th, 9 a.m., 535-1813
- Nov 29 • **"Bonfire of the Humanities: The Moorings of an Academy Adrift,"** Edward B. Lindaman Endowed Chair lecture by Anthony Clark, with response by Berton Emerson, assistant professor of English, Weyerhaeuser Hall at Whitworth University, 7 p.m., 777-3270, anitalewis@whitworth.edu
- Nov 30-Dec 1 • **Coeur d'Alene Symphony Christmas** Concerts, Kroc Center, Coeur d'Alene
- Dec 1 • **League of Women Voters** of Washington Action Workshop for 2019 Washington State Legislative Session, Spokane Women's Club, 1428 W. 9th, lwvwa.org/event-3092402/Registration
- **Warriors Heart to Art**, "The Welcome and Witness: A Public Listening," Unitarian Universalist Church, 4340 W. Ft. Wright Blvd., 7 p.m., 360-661-7393
- Dec 6 • **Fig Tree Benefit/Development and Board**, Emmanuel Family Life Center, 631 S. Richard Allen Ct., planning-noon, board-1 p.m., 535-1813, mary@thefigtree.org
- November is Native American Heritage Month** at Spokane Public Libraries: see spokanepubliclibrary.org/calendar for details, 444-5300
- Nov 4, 6 • **The Spokane Tribe and Its River**, South Hill, 3324 S. Perry on 4th at 3:30 p.m.; Shadle Library, 2111 W. Wellesley on 6th at 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 6 • **Using Food as Medicine** While Incorporating Traditional Foods, Indian Trail Library, 4909 W. Barnes, 6:30 p.m.
- Nov 12, 17 • **Red Skirt Society Raising Awareness: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women 2018**, South Hill-12th-6:30 p.m., Shadle-17th- 3:30 p.m.
- Nov 13 • **Urban Native Experience**, Shadle, 6:30 p.m.

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RETIREMENT COMMUNITIES

Upcoming Spokane Public Radio Events

Fall Folk Festival Concert & Live Broadcast
 Saturday, Nov. 10, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
SCC Lair Auditorium, 1810 N. Greene St.
 Hosts Verne Windham and Carlos Alden help kick off this annual event with some of the area's finest folk musicians.

KPBX Kids' Concert: Pianist Scott Kirby
 Saturday, Nov. 17, 1 p.m. - FREE
Spokane Falls Community College,
 Journey through 150 years of ragtime, blues, and Americana. Kirby's own watercolor paintings accompany the music, stories, and images.

Open House & On-Air Live Call-in
 Thursday, Dec. 6, 1229 N. Monroe
 4-6 p.m. Open House, 6-7 p.m. Call-in
 Here's your chance to visit the SPR station. Give us your feedback in person or call 1-800-328-5729 during the live call-in.

Kids' Concert: Spokane British Brass Band
 Saturday, Jan. 26, 1 p.m. - FREE
St. John's Cathedral, 127 E 12th Ave.
 Join SPR and the Spokane British Brass Band for a musical trip to the British Isles. Fantastic sounds will fill St. John's Cathedral!

Submit Your Event to the KPBX Arts Calendar
 On Air and Online

More Information at SpokanePublicRadio.org



Remembering and Giving Thanks Thursdays, 4:15 to 5:00 PM

The Ministry Institute invites you to pray with us in November in the style of Taizé, with music, readings and silence, as we are grateful for God's many gifts to us.
(No Taizé prayer on Thanksgiving Day.)

Advent Day of Reflection
 Saturday Dec. 8, 10 AM to 3 PM
 "For Unto us a Child is Born" ~ Pondering
 the Tender Mystery of the Incarnation
 with Sr. Patricia Novak, OSF



For more information, contact Shonna Bartlett at (509) 313-5765 or bartletts@gonzaga.edu

We welcome you to join us for reflection and contemplation.
 All events held at The Ministry Institute (TMI) Chapel
 405 E Sinto, 2 blocks north of St. Aloysius Church

Menstrual hygiene training, pads help free women in remote areas of Nepal

As fair trade provides more families with income to send their children to school, the Conscious Connections Foundation (CCF), created by founders of Ganesh Himal Trading Co., finds that more than money inhibits education for girls in Nepal.

In some communities, girls and women do not have access to menstrual hygiene pads, so they cannot go to school and work four to five days a month, said Denise Attwood, co-owner and co-founder of Ganesh Himal with her husband Ric Conner.

So Conscious Connections has begun educating girls on menstruation and providing eco-friendly, reusable menstrual hygiene kits.

“We offer a culturally appropriate comic book written in Nepali about menstruation and menstrual hygiene,” said Denise. **“In a fun way, it helps girls understand changes to their bodies, eating healthful foods, keeping clean and how babies are made.”** **“CCF also wanted to provide the kits to girls and give employment to some marginalized women, so we started a project employing four women to sew menstrual hygiene kits in Kathmandu,”** she said.

In March 2017, CCF received a grant to buy four sewing machines and fabric. The first 150 kits went for the Power of 5 to distribute to girls in CCF’s educational program.

Women in the Kathmandu project make kits with a polyurethane fabric shield sewn between layers of cotton flannel to prevent blood from leaking. Women put it in a holder in their underwear.

Each kit includes three pads that can be washed, hung out to dry and reused. They last about three years, and give women and girls confidence to go out in public.

“It’s a step up from rags, which many currently use. We found women glad to use them,” said Denise, who has used them herself.

CCF began the sewing project with a grant of \$1,800 from a couple in Spokane.

The Nepali women who make the kits sell them to CCF and others, and purchase more fabric to make new ones to sell.

When she and Ric were in Nepal last fall, they delivered 50 kits to girls in village schools to see their response. Along with providing the kits, CCF knows education is important because of religious and cultural taboos creating misunderstandings.

“Women and men need to understand that menstruation is normal, not something to be ashamed of, and that women still can go to school and work,” Denise said.

To provide menstrual hygiene education, CCF contacted the



Rebika Mahila makes pads for menstrual kit. Photo courtesy of Denise Attwood

Radha Paudel Foundation in Nepal. It has reached out to train girls and women in Western Nepal, where many still stay in menstruation huts, away from their families, as if they are untouchable or unclean while menstruating.

“Girls and women have died in the huts, because they are exposed to the elements, bitten by bugs or snakes, and no one will help them,” Denise said.

Kesang Yudron, who is in her 30s, is CCF’s organizer for this program.

“We have known her since 1984 when we started to work with her parents as partners with Ganesh Himal. Her parents sent their daughters to schools in India, and they had scholarships to study in the United States,” Denise said.

Kesang returned to Nepal and created her own fair-trade business in Southern Nepal with women who had been abused, trafficked and had no families. Seeing how menstruation is a barrier to women there, she began volunteering with CCF to teach about menstrual hygiene. She organized CCF’s menstrual hygiene workshop in Kathmandu and brought five women leaders from her group in Southern Nepal.

In early September, CCF sponsored 26 women and a man from different ethnic groups in urban and rural communities throughout Nepal for an intensive three-day training. The training covered gender inequality and discrimination, a woman’s reproductive physiology, menstrual hygiene and management, taboos and myths in the Nepali society, religious beliefs and laws on women rights.

“A young woman who is an export manager with the Association of Craft Producers (ACP) was surprised to learn that it takes 200 years for sanitary pads—available

in urban areas—to decompose. She now uses reusable pads,” Denise said.

Kesang and CCF recruited people they saw as leaders in their communities, and the Radha Paudel Foundation led Menstrual Hygiene Management Training at the Association for Craft Producers facility in Kathmandu. Trainers are certified to train in their villages and have access to culturally appropriate materials to train women, girls, men and boys in their communities. When they do trainings, CCF purchases the menstrual kits to distribute to those who attend.

Three months after trainings, trainers contact participants to see how the kits worked, if they used them and if they suggest changes.

One community sent trainers from their mountain village near the Tibetan border, a two-day walk to the nearest road. They have instructed more than 150 women and girls, and distributed 168 kits.

“CCF is raising funds to pro-

vide kits and do training in more communities many times a year,” said Denise.

One woman who came to the training is a certified medical assistant who walks two days to check pregnant women in her region. She hopes to reach more people in the remote area.

Kesang plans to create three-minute videos on questions women have about their bodies. Many villages in remote areas have good internet access and use cell phones. Women can call and see the videos without going to an urban area.

“CCF seeks to raise \$3,000 to train another 30 women leaders (\$100 each),” she said, adding that the Spokane couple who helped start the project sent another \$1,500. **“With kits costing \$7 each, CCF can provide jobs and 400 kits with \$2,800 in donations.”**

To help with the effort, the CCF’s Power of 5 has raised funds to hire an administrative assistant to work with the Association of Craft Producers.

The Power of 5 raises \$25,000 a year for K-10 education for 120 children. With half, they offer scholarships and the other half goes into an endowment to expand the program in future years.

To raise funds in the last two years, CCF has had five teams run in Bloomsday. In 2018, they raised \$18,000, including a \$10,000 memorial. Some doing virtual runs raised another \$3,700.

CCF has also expanded the Joy Attwood College Fund to assist three girls to attend 11th and 12th grades in the Kathmandu area, sharing \$2,000.

CCF has worked with Spokane Rotary Clubs to raise funds to rebuild a K-3 school in Ghatbesi, Nepal, which was destroyed by the 2015 earthquake, support primary school teachers and fund college scholarships for 20 rural girls in that area.

“People involved with CCF give more money as they know of the progress,” Denise said.

Some fair trade retail stores raise funds for the menstrual project by selling little doll ornaments to hang as tree or desk decorations.

“People are interested in being engaged in helping women if they are given a fun, creative outlet,” Denise said.

For information, call 499-3320 or visit consciousconnections-foundation.org.



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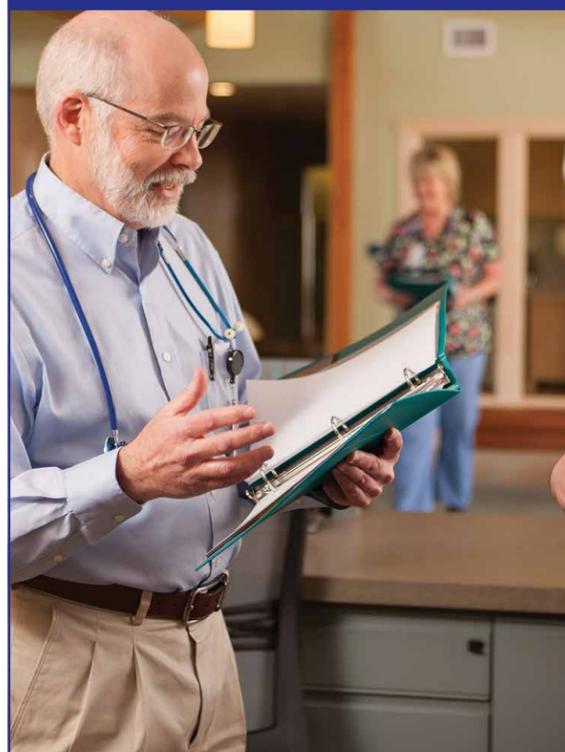


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