

# THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

## SPOKANE HOMICIDES

By Emma Epperly | THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

There were 24 people in Spokane County who were reportedly slain in 2021. Most of them were shot and killed. All but seven were boys and men. They were babies, toddlers, teens and adults. • Detectives arrested a suspect in the vast majority of the homicides, yet three remain unsolved. • Inside is a list of the homicide victims provided by the Spokane Police Department and the Spokane County Sheriff's Office.

See **HOMICIDES, 5**



Bobbie Young

## WHO KILLED BOBBIE YOUNG?

Family of woman found slain at homeless camp last year frustrated by lack of leads, publicity on the case

By Emma Epperly  
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

It was just a normal day for siblings Devon Waggoner and Ashly Young as they headed to work on March 12, 2021.

Then their phones rang, a Spokane police detective was on the line and they both had a sinking feeling.

"I just knew something was wrong and I almost knew who it was about," Young said.

"I just kind of felt the energy," Waggoner said.

Their mother, Bobbie Young, 51, was found dead in a tent at a Spokane homeless camp where she had been living along the 2000 block of Thorpe Road near Highway 195 south of Interstate 90. She had been shot and stabbed, according to police.

Police spokesperson Julie

See **YOUNG, 5**

**MORE ON HOMICIDES**

### POLICE SAY RISE IS SYMPTOM OF LARGER HEALTH CRISIS

Law enforcement officials say an increase in substance abuse, drug trafficking are tied to violent crime.

**NEWS, 6**

SUNDAY, March 27, 2022

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Spokane, Washington

## WAR IN UKRAINE

Spokesman-Review reporter Eli Francovich is in Eastern Europe to cover stories with ties to Spokane. Francovich's articles will appear throughout the week. His trip was paid for largely by Spokesman-Review readers who have donated to the Community Journalism Fund and through the newspaper's Northwest Passages event series. To help support this trip and similar newsroom efforts, contributions can be made at [www.spokesman.com/thanks](http://www.spokesman.com/thanks).

# An impossible journey

Polish volunteers create safe havens for millions displaced by Russia's war

By Eli Francovich  
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

MEDYKA, Poland - They traveled for two days. Weaving in and out of a war, the line of their escape intersected by Russian checkpoints, 25 in 60 miles.

First a caravan of buses took them from Berdyansk, Ukraine, a coastal city less than 50 miles from besieged Mariupol, the scene of some of the worst devastation.

Then once back into Ukrainian-held territory, they took a train; 16 people crammed into a space meant for four.

And finally, on the last leg of their journey, they walked, the wheels of their rolling suitcases

clicking over the cobblestones. For 13 hours they shuffled forward, passing into Poland at 1 a.m. Friday - three among more than 30,000 who arrived that day. They entered at Medyka, a small village in the southeast of the country where they were welcomed with food, coffee, candy, clothes, medical care and more.

Since Russia invaded Ukraine in February, millions have fled, causing one of the most acute refugee crises in the world. In turn, that has triggered a massive humanitarian response. Volunteers have flooded to Poland and Ukraine, and many

See **UKRAINE, 8**



ELI FRANCOVICH/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Karim Gaity, right, laughs at a video Alex Hajduczak shows him. Gaity fled his home in Berdyansk, Ukraine. With his family, he spent two days crossing military checkpoints and riding trains to get to Poland.

## Lilac Festival makes its big comeback by naming Mead senior Huber as queen

By Garrett Cabeza  
THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

The Spokane Lilac Festival is back this May, and a new queen is ready to lead the way.

Mead High School senior Janina Huber was coronated queen of the 2022 Royal Court Saturday at Spokane First Church.

The Royal Court, made up of seven area high school girls, held hands on stage before last festival's queen, Julia McIntyre, announced Huber as queen and winner of the Ralph Husom Past Presidents Queen's Scholarship. Each of the princesses received at least one scholarship.

The crowd of roughly 150 people erupted in applause as McIntyre placed the queen's crown on Huber's head.

Huber then made a brief speech and sat on a throne, posing for photos with the other six

See **QUEEN, 11**



JESSE TINSLEY/THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

Janna Huber, steps up to the microphone after donning the tiara and cape of the Lilac Festival Queen on Saturday at First Church in north Spokane.

## We the People

COMMUNITY PROJECT

### SHOULD SUPREME COURT JUSTICES SERVE FOR LIFE?

With a more politicized process, experts wonder if term limits should be imposed. **NEWS, 10**

### LUXURY SELF-STORAGE TAKES HOLD IN SPOKANE

Large condo concept driven by household downsizing, big-ticket purchases. **BUSINESS, 1**

### PHYSICAL PLAY AGAIN DOOMED GONZAGA

Common theme sticks out when examining how Zags' past few seasons have ended. **SPORTS, 1**

### WOODWARD, COUNCIL AT ODDS OVER CHIEF OF STAFF

Mayor wants post to aid homeless initiative; members think it would be redundant. **NW, 1**

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\$3

MultiCare



APRIL 29 | 8pm Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox  
Tickets: [multicareheartstrings.org](http://multicareheartstrings.org) | Starting at \$30

Presented by: Radia, 93.7 The Mountain and KHQ

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