

Chairman's Chat

Rob Linebarger, SCRCC Chair/CEO
chair@spokanegop.com
Defending Faith, Family & Freedom

***This Issue: Jobs, Economy and Currency** - We support balanced budgets, reduced regulations, limited taxation and Free Market, allowing growth to the individual and to the economy as a whole.*

***Next Issue: Education** - We are dedicated to reaffirming the importance of safety for students and staff. We support a rigorous "back to basics" curriculum as determined by parents and local school districts.*



Go to SpokaneGOP.com and click on Donate and Volunteer Today!

And remember to visit us on FACEBOOK. Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP



CHAIR'S CORNER

LET'S REMEMBER THE 56 WHO RISKED EVERYTHING?

A REAL PROFILE IN COURAGE

The Declaration of Independence was officially adopted as of July 4, 1776, but most of the signers didn't begin to put pen to parchment until August 2, 1776.

In August 1776, 56 men—merchants, farmers, lawyers, and statesmen—signed the Declaration of Independence in Philadelphia, pledging their lives, fortunes, and sacred honor to a fledgling nation. Their act of defiance against Britain branded them traitors, and the Revolutionary War tested their resolve.

The fates of these signers were as varied as their backgrounds, marked by sacrifice, resilience, and tragedy, though none were executed for their signatures many faced personal ruin. Richard Stockton of New Jersey was captured by British forces in 1776, imprisoned, and tortured. He recanted his oath under duress, a broken man, dying in 1781. Thomas Nelson Jr. of Virginia, a planter, saw his home seized by British troops. He ordered it shelled during the Siege of Yorktown, prioritizing victory over wealth. His health and fortune crumbled, and he died in 1789 at 50. Five signers—George Walton, Button Gwinnett, Lyman Hall, Joseph Hewes, and George Read died before the war's end in 1783, some from illness, others from war's toll.

Others endured hardship but survived. John Hart of New Jersey fled his farm as British troops burned it, hiding in forests while his family suffered. He died in 1779, worn out. Philip Livingston of New York lost his wealth to British occupation, dying in 1778 while serving in Congress. Yet some prospered. John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, intellectual giants, lived to shape the new nation, both dying on July 4, 1826, the Declaration's 50th anniversary.

Not all faced calamity. Benjamin Franklin, already famous, continued his diplomatic work, securing French aid. Samuel Adams thrived as Massachusetts' governor. Robert Morris, the financier, gave his fortune to the cause but later rebuilt his wealth, only to face debtor's prison years later.

Myths persist—none were hunted solely for signing, and no signer's wife died in retribution. But the war's chaos touched them all. Georgia's Lyman Hall saw his property confiscated; Delaware's Caesar Rodney rode through illness to ensure independence's vote, dying in 1784. Their sacrifices varied, but their commitment unified them.

These 56 men, flawed yet bold, faced uncertain fates for a shared vision. Some lost everything; others gained legacy. Their signatures, etched in courage, forged a nation, their stories a testament to liberty's cost.

Please join me in celebrating the 249th anniversary of our Declaration of Independence.

Defending Faith, Family and Freedom

PO Box 3621, Spokane, WA 99220

Phone (509)838-6162

SpokaneGOP.com

WAKE UP SPOKANE COUNTY. WAKE UP WASHINGTON STATE PROP NONE

The Spokane City Council has once again chosen to ignore the will of the voters by passing so-called "Prop None," (Ord. C36679) a watered-down replacement for the voter-approved Proposition 1. Spokane residents spoke clearly at the ballot box: they want enforceable tools to address illegal encampments and protect public spaces. Instead, they've been handed a substitute no one asked for and told it's better.

We were promised leadership that listens. What we got was the opposite.

This decision marks yet another example of the growing divide between City Hall and the citizens it's meant to serve. For months, Spokane voters, business owners and neighborhood leaders have pleaded for common-sense action to address the crisis on our streets. They supported Prop 1 not because it was extreme, but because it was clear, enforceable and necessary.

Now, with midnight phone calls behind closed doors and last-minute amendments, the council has thrown out that clarity in favor of bureaucratic half-measures that lack teeth and accountability.

This isn't just about policy, it's about trust! Trust in our process. Trust in our vote. Trust that when the people of Spokane speak, their leaders will listen.

Good governance means respecting the voice of the people even when you disagree with it. It means showing up, doing the hard work and being honest about who you're really working for. Unfortunately, the passage of "Prop None" sends a loud and clear message: certain members of this council believe they know better than the citizens they were elected to represent.

It's long past time for Spokane to have leadership that listens, not just in campaign slogans, but in action. Leadership that respects the vote. Leadership that puts public safety, order and accountability above political maneuvering.

The people of Spokane - YOU - deserve nothing less.

**Jonathan Bingle, Spokane City Council,
District 2**

SAY "WHEN".

By Juli Skinner

National Deficit: \$1,364,734,028,768 (as of July 2025)

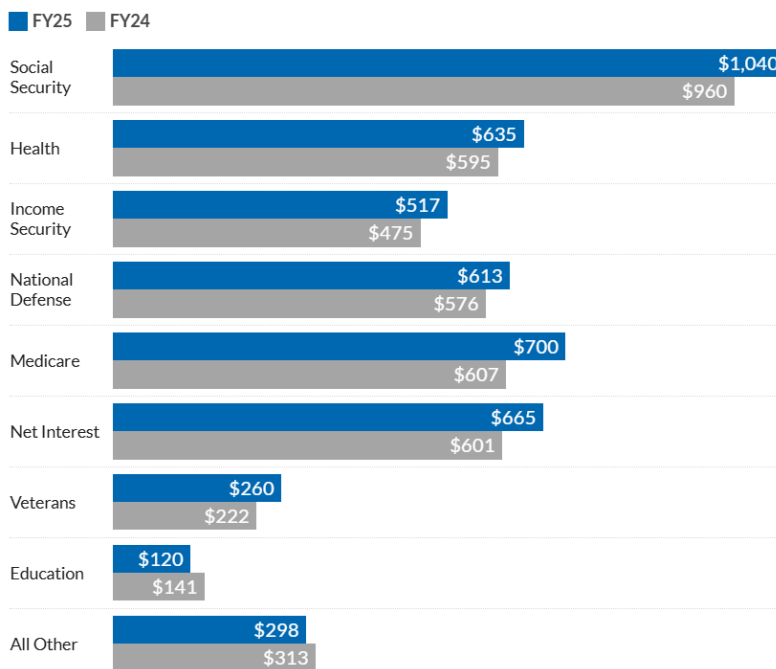
Washington [projected biennium] Deficit: \$4.35 billion (2025-2027) \$6.7 billion (2027-2029)

Democrats have had control of Washington for two decades and are only a year out of a Trifecta in the hub of our nation. Neither government has driven our debt back to black - both allocate excessive funds on programs that don't work. Economies tank with Democrats in power so why do we keep helping them? If it isn't Dems overpowering us in our state, it is pouty Reps retiring from the U.S. Congress (*you might as well move to the Dem column*). They vocalize their dissent in theatrical limelight against President Trump which does nothing to address the issues. Up until his second term, I'd always naively believed it was a philosophy of reciprocal altruism - if we're nice, they're nice - that motivated Republicans into neutrality - while I yelled at the television and eye-rolled articles highlighting us caving to Democrats. Sadly, I understand now that it is much deeper than any uttered "principles". Balancing the budget is powered by good ole' politics and everyone wants a piece of the pie.

Like it, love it or loath it, The One Big Beautiful Bill (OBBB) is emblematic of no Dem support, **BUT** it narrowly passed *with* a Republican majority. Instead of looking at it for how it benefits a legislator, (and his/her constituents) can we please just get back to what's best for the country as a whole? The growing deficit doesn't bother me; (**don't gasp yet**) I trust President Trump. What bothers me is the disingenuous concern of Republican rebels. We have enough greedy Nancy Pelosis, "Master Stock Trader", getting rich on perfectly timed investments. We don't need your greed. You are held to a higher standard. Start behaving like it.

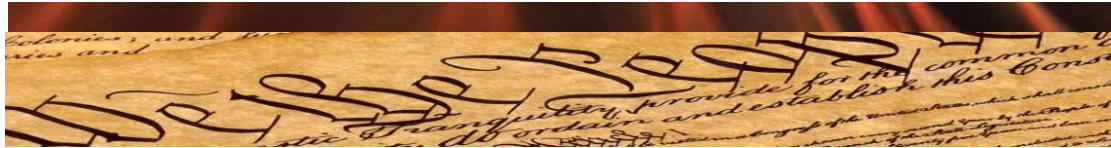
Spending in FY25 is up compared to last year

Federal Spending by Function (Billions of \$)



<https://www.pgpf.org/programs-and-projects/fiscal-policy/current-debt-deficit/#national-debt>

Nationally, we have a chance to start cutting debt. Our state on the other hand, is failing. Experts smarter than me say "rising costs" [related to lame programs], relaxed eligibility criteria, extensive expenditures in public service demand and outpaced revenue collection contribute to our debt. Cash, temporary rent and homeless youth assistance, assisted living, early education programs, emergency shelters, expanded social service, health care and education eligibility for low-income families and illegal immigrants cannot be sustained by falling revenue received from home sales. <https://houserepublicans.wa.gov/editorials/>. Uh, yup, when payables are greater than receivables, you go broke. New York is on the precipice of electing a Socialist. Is that where we're headed? Giving to the poor and taking from the rich while elites elevate themselves is not a benevolent act. "Slowing government growth is a better option than adding taxes", Andrew Stokesbary (R) said as he addressed Washington's deficit last December. Inslee's answer to the deficit: Taxes. His twin, Ferguson, is in compliance: Raising taxes (fuel), collecting revenue (traffic tickets) and constantly suing President Trump. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DyFAsLqE0Ro>. Oh yeah, that should do it. We will be out of debt in no time. **WE** don't need help hurting **US**. Let's try something new - elect good conservatives. <https://leg.wa.gov/about-the-legislature/house-of-representatives/>.



The Constitutional Corner

By Lori Burns

Our Fragile Economy

It is extremely difficult to know how I feel about Trump's "Big Beautiful Bill". I don't necessarily see it as such. Part of our massive deficit is due to the raising of the debt ceiling that Trump seems to see no reason to curb. Some of it was COVID. Pretty much all of it is due to the fact that we as a nation have no fiscal discipline.

Any adult who functions in the adult world knows that it is impossible to maintain financial solvency when your spending outpaces your income. We, as individuals, cannot get away with such irresponsibility as our debtors would rightly demand action and consequences. Our government on the other hand, has been mired in deficit spending the majority of our lives. The consequences of such reckless spending have been utterly lost on the politicians, on both sides of the aisle, who refuse to do the hard work of changing course. Meanwhile, the citizens suffer. The huge spike in inflation is a punishing tax paid by every consumer and is a direct result of over-taxation and out-of-control government spending. And since the voters have routinely failed to hold their elected representatives accountable, nothing has

changed, nor will it.

President Trump, as a businessman, sees debt as a tool. He might be able to make it work for our economy, but I don't see how. The Republicans in Congress, with rare exception are just as bad at the Democrats about wasteful pork-barrel spending. They are perfectly happy to cut spending as long as it doesn't affect their state or district. Furthermore, they love to make their campaign promises during election cycles which are immediately forgotten upon re-entry into the D.C. swamp.

I do not relish being negative. There are some really good things in the BBB. But there are also some really scary things in it. Our economy, indeed our survival as a nation, hangs in the balance of the next few years. If we cannot get serious about slashing our profligate spending, paying down our debt and using some common sense when it comes to government expenditures, we will be crushed under the weight of our own stupidity. We are out of time and we must demand better from Washington D.C. They clearly will not change it on their own and we must not trust them to do so.

We need YOU to become a PCO! Spokane County has 451 precincts. Each precinct needs a Republican Precinct Committee Officer (PCO). Out of the 451 precincts, 278 have a Republican PCO. That means 173 more PCOs are needed. Wonder where you will be valued? HERE!

Does your precinct have a PCO? You can find out on our GOP website under the **About Us** tab, then **Officers**, which takes you to <https://spokanegop.com/leadership>; finally click on your **District** and find your **Precinct** to see if there is a PCO. If the position is vacant, please consider becoming a PCO and contact your District Leader. If it is not vacant, still consider contacting your District Leader and volunteer to help your leader find more PCOs for your district. Your District Leader's name and contact information is on the page where you check to see if your precinct needed a PCO.

PCOs are an important connection between voters and the Republican Party. More PCO information can be found at: <https://spokanegop.com/become-a-pco>.

Don't know your PRECINCT? You can find it on the GOP website, **Home** page. Scroll down to the link, **Find My Precinct** in the red box, then follow the directions. Or, at [VoteWA.gov](https://vote.wa.gov). Then, submit your name and birthday – click **Registration**.

Many PCOs and other Republicans work hard for our party. If you have someone in mind, please nominate that person as PCO or Republican of the Month. It is not difficult to nominate: [REPUBLICANS/PCOs OF THE MONTH](#) form.

**WE HAVE WORK TO DO.
LET'S DO IT!**

Officers Spokane County GOP

Chair - Rob Linebarger

Executive Assistant - Debbie Smith

Vice Chair - Carolyn Hall

State Committeeman – Dale Whitaker

State Committeewoman – Kellie Rizzi

Secretary - John Scherling

Treasurer - Richard Jones



Standing Committee Chair Appointments:

Lincoln Day – Rob Linebarger
Budget – Jenelle Simpson
Candidates – John Scherling
Credentials – Brian Boyer
Elections – Tim Kinley
Bylaws and Policies & Procedures – Cecily Wright
Finance – Mike Kelly

Special Committee Chair Appointments:

Audit – Natalie Poulson
Legislative – Stephanie Brenden
Marketing – TBA
Platform – John Scherling
Resolutions – John Scherling
Volunteers – Debbie Smith
Young Republicans – Enrique Rico
Events – TBA
Judiciary – TBA

The national debt has a chokehold on freedom

Budget season reminds me of a movie catch phrase from the original version of “Fun with Dick and Jane,” starring George Segal and Jane Fonda. Upper class father, mother, son and daughter are seated at the dinner table. The maid silently brings in the food. Dick has lost his cushy vice president job at an aerospace corporation, and breaks the news to the family as the plates are delivered. He announces a few economies. No more French wine, no more ski lessons, they won’t heat the swimming pool. The kids groan. The maid snorts. Jane spritely says, “I’ll drop the Book of the Month Club.”

The camera cuts to the kitchen, where the maid pragmatically thumbs through the Help Wanted ads. Dropping ski lessons and subscriptions isn’t going to cut it. Dick and Jane continue to spend like they have it. Dick and Jane eventually decide bank robbery is a viable solution.

We approach state and federal budgeting like Dick and Jane. We keep spending money when we don’t have it. And that’s a collective we, because we’re the ones who put the pressure on our elected officials to protect our personal Book of the Month Club.

We’re continuing to run up the credit card while making minimum payments. According to the Congressional Budget Office, the difference in economic impact between closing the gap with higher taxes or reduced spending are less significant than the unsustainable trajectory of federal debt growing faster than the economy. The CBO projected in its 2007 report that by 2029 our total revenues collected will only cover the interest. We’ll be totally debt financing our government. That’s not sustainable.

Fix the Debt, a bi-partisan group of former legislators, governors and pragmatists, is blunt in their warnings. If we don’t control growing health care costs, including Medicare and Medicaid, we will have less to spend on investments in infrastructure and research for the next generation, and a broken safety net.

If we truly want to live in pursuit of happiness on Independence Day, we need to fix the debt.

Fix the Debt: <http://www.fixthedebt.org/>

National Debt Year by Year: <http://www.polidiotic.com/by-the-numbers/us-national-debt-by-year/>

US Debt Clock: <http://www.usdebtclock.org/index.html>

Reprinted with permission of the author, Sue Lani Madsen, freelance columnist. Follow at <https://suelanimadsen.substack.com/>

Excerpt from a column published July 1, 2017 in The Spokesman Review. For the complete column, additional commentary and links to more sources: <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2017/jul/01/sue-lani-madsen-the-national-debt-has-a-chokehold-/>

August 5, 2025 Primary

Ballots Mailed: July 16 - 18, 2025

Election Date: August 5, 2025

Election information: Candidates who have filed, Online Voters' Guide, Ballot Measures and Registration information, available on the Spokane County Elections website: <https://www.spokanecounty.gov/178/Current-Election>.

GOP recommended candidates for local races in 2025

https://spokanegop.com/spokane_gop_2025_recommended_primary_candidates.

WHY is the **banner** above so large????? Because it is *that* important for every Republican to vote. Write the date down in your calendar. We cannot turn this ship around without YOU! In the City of Spokane especially, with the extreme liberal majority, we will become like the West side of the state if we do not fight back with our votes. Don’t forget the school board races as well. It starts with WHOM is overseeing OUR children. Talk to your family and friends and NOT ONLY share our recommendations but provide simply logic as to why it is important to remove the hard Left who is infiltrating our beautiful city with their terrible policies.

Organizations Worth Supporting



Monday-Saturday

10-5 pm

East 14415 Sprague Ave.

And UGM

Both have thrift stores that take donations of items in good condition.

- Helping Captives, <https://helpingcaptives.org/>
- Union Gospel Mission, <https://www.uniongospelmission.org/>

SAVE THE DATE

GOP calendar

<https://www.spokanegop.com/calendar>

How closely do you align with the GOP? Take the [Values Alignment Quiz](#) and find out. Scroll down to *Ready to Make a Difference* to take the quiz.

CONTACT US

www.SpokaneGOP.com

FIND US

[Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneGOP)

[YouTube.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.youtube.com/SpokaneGOP)

[Instagram.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.instagram.com/SpokaneGOP)

SUPPORT US

<https://spokanegop.com/?form=donate>

[nate](#) Stay Informed.

<https://spokanegop.com/newsletter>

Ponderosa Republican Women: On Tuesday, July 15, PRW held our 5th annual Garden Party at Chap's Restaurant. It was an evening of elegance, inspiration and camaraderie. We were honored to welcome Stephanie Hamill as our keynote speaker! A renowned TV broadcast journalist and political commentator, Stephanie has been featured on OANN, Fox News, Fox Business, Newsmax and popular podcasts with Lara Trump, Sean Spicer and Kimberly Guilfoyle. She is also a contributing writer at the Media Research Center.

Our monthly luncheons will resume on August Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at the Ruby River Hotel 11:30-1pm. Washington State Republican Representatives Hunter Abel, Mary Dye and Joe Schmick will be speaking on topics of interest to us all - healthcare, farming and law enforcement. There should be time for us to ask a few questions, too. Details for the August meeting will soon be posted on the PRW website: ponderosarepublicanwomen.com where you will be able to make reservations. Guests are always welcome.

All the best, **Jan Grayhek**, PRW President

LEGISLATIVE WATCH

Defend Faith, Family and Freedom by Taking Legislative Action!

On June 30 the City Council majority passed an updated version which they say will be effective in replacing Prop 1. But it won't. The adopted Ordinance, including an amendment, is available on the City's website: <https://static.spokanecity.org/documents/citycouncil/final-agendas/2025/06/city-council-final-agenda-2025-06-30.pdf>, beginning on pg. 811. The Amendment starts on pg. 821. On pgs. 825-867 are letters people wrote to the Council expressing concerns. One citizen and taxpayer wrote, "Ordinances C36679 and C36691 (H.O.M.E.) will make it more difficult to enforce our existing laws and only worsen our homelessness crisis... I attended the Homeless Roundtables and I am shocked to see that the ordinances proposed by Mayor Brown DO NOT REFLECT the overwhelming consensus of those meetings."

Two other City ordinances that recently passed:

Ordinance C36691, H.O.M.E. Starts Here Initiative, pgs. 869-881, outlines the City's approach to improving housing affordability and access. It passed 5-2 with CM Bingle and CM Cathcart opposing. CM Cathcart said that the outlined plan is ok but much more discussion and changes are needed before it would be effective in accomplishing its goals.

ORDINANCE NO. C36694 starts on page 868 of the June 30 agenda. (See link above.) It passed 7-0 and will recodify the existing prohibition in aggressive solicitation. It should not negatively impact signature gathering on petitions as some feared.

SOME FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Since the state legislature has adjourned for the year, our focus needs to be on local issues. In Spokane City check out each week's Council agenda at <https://my.spokanecity.org/citycouncil/meetings/>. You can see replays of each week's meetings and, if you are willing to testify, you can sign up online to either testify in person or remotely, beginning on Friday evening before Monday's meeting. Do you live in Spokane Valley? Information on those city council meetings can be found at <https://www.spokanevalleywa.gov/129/Agendas-Minutes-Videos>.

Keep checking Facebook pages for our [County](#) and [State](#) GOP and WFRW (Washington Federation of Republican Women) for information and important messages when action by us is needed.

GET INSPIRED

Be active. Be proactive. Be reactive.

<https://spokanegop.com/>

Visit [Facebook.com/SpokaneGOP](https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneGOP). Like. Comment. Share.

The more you like & share, the more we circulate and reach people.

Interested in sharing your ideas, knowledge or time? Please consider volunteering for a GOP committee position. For Communications Committee or work submission, you **MUST** meet submission deadlines. Contact Terri at terrizalevits@gmail.com.