

# The Pilkingberg News

## Calendar of Local Events

### Mobile Blood Drives 9am—3pm

A community partnership between Metro Parks Tacoma and Bloodworks Northwest is making it more convenient to give blood that's needed at Tacoma-area hospitals. When you donate, you're saving lives!

### March 3 STAR Center

3873 S 66th St, Tacoma

### March 10 Center at Norpoint

4818 Nassau Ave NE, Tacoma

### March 13 Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters

4702 S 19th St, Tacoma  
www.Bloodworksnw.org  
1800-398-7888

### March 15—18

### Just Between Friends Spring Sale

It's a bargain hunter's dream!  
At the Pavilion — Puyallup  
Fairgrounds  
www.tacoma.jbfsale.com

### March 11

### Tacoma's Winter Wonderland for Kids With Disabilities

STAR Center 3-7pm  
3873 S 66th St, Tacoma  
FREE for kids with disabilities and their families!  
Designed for ages 5-12  
Family fun activities including indoor and outdoor bounce houses, face painting, games and crafts and much more!  
www.metroparkstacoma.org

### March 24

### T-Town Expo: Play Explore Learn

Tacoma Dome + Parking Lot  
10am—3pm  
FREE interactive community event with demonstrations and activities for the entire family!  
www.CityofTacoma.org/playexplorelern

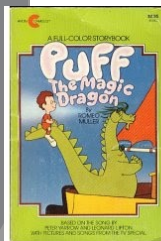
## Read Across America Day

Theodor Seuss Geisel (March 2, 1904 – September 24, 1991) was an American writer, poet, and cartoonist. He was most widely known for his children's books written and illustrated as Dr. Seuss.

NEA's Read Across America Day is a nationwide reading celebration that takes place annually on March 2—Dr. Seuss's birthday. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers participate by bringing together kids, teens, and books, and you can too! Check out the website [www.seussville.com/Educators](http://www.seussville.com/Educators) and follow the link to Read Across America under Events & Programs.

There are a number of us here at Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg that love books and share that love with the kiddos in our lives.

Donna Haynes: "Where is Baby?" was a fun pop-up book to read with Gracee Rae, the daughter of friends of the family, while lunching at Boat House 19. It kept them both entertained.



Shawn McClain: was a big fan of Puff the Magic Dragon thus grew up liking the dragon myth. She can't wait to have grandchildren so she can share her love of books with them!

Reid Ekberg: Reading with the kids is one of his favorite things. They have story time every night. Some of the favorites are "Room on the Broom", "Little Blue Truck", "Madeline", "Green Eggs & Ham", and "Snow White".



Jamie Williams: Granddaughter Everly has her own book nook.



Dayle Conrad: Granddaughter Katelyn has always loved looking at picture books. Now Grandma Dayle makes books of adventures and camping trips to keep the memories alive. Whenever Katelyn comes for a visit she loves to read all the books and relive the special memories.



## Inside:

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## Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg’s Non-Profit of the Quarter: Pierce County Project Access

### Be a Project Access Partner

Pierce County Project Access provides access to medical care for people who are low-income and uninsured. We do this with a team of healthcare providers who donate care to those in our program.

**PIERCE COUNTY  
PROJECT ACCESS**



You can be a partner with us in this effort! It’s easy to become a member of our team.

Anyone, businesses and individuals, can partner with us. Our funding comes solely from local partners; businesses and individuals. The cost of serving a patient is \$280 – from application screening to scheduling their first appointment with a provider. Perhaps you feel that’s a great place for you to join in our work. About \$32 in care are donated for every dollar we spend on helping a client, which stretches our donor’s gifts.

We also partner with local small businesses who need our services for their employees. We’re happy to talk with you about how we do that.

It is truly our honor to serve Pierce County through our work. If you are interested in partnering with us or want to know more information, please contact the Executive Director, Leanne Noren at [Leanne@pcmswa.org](mailto:Leanne@pcmswa.org) or (253) 336-4810.



Leanne (right) with the staff of Pierce County Project Access

**Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg is pleased to support Pierce County Project Access, the Non-Profit of the Quarter. For every referral we receive this quarter, we’ll donate \$5 to this organization.**

[www.pcmswa.org/pcpa](http://www.pcmswa.org/pcpa)

### Survey Request



Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. *We'd like to hear from you.* Please visit [www.PHELISTENS](http://www.PHELISTENS) for customer feedback.

It's a quick 2-minute survey and you can remain anonymous or leave a message. We read every response we get, so please be candid. On behalf of our team, we sincerely thank you for your business and look forward to your feedback.

Here are a few responses we have received –

“It’s nice to know that you have my back.”  
William V.

“Shawn and Donna are the best! Shawn is very helpful, responsive and is a great face to Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg. Donna has always watched out for us and given us the best of service.”

Pete G.



## The New Tax Law on Health Insurance

The tax reform bill that went into effect on January 1, 2018 has received a lot of attention. Everyone wants to know how it will affect them and their healthcare.

The biggest change from the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017 was an adjustment to the individual mandate requiring Americans to maintain qualified health insurance or pay a penalty. It did not completely do away with the Affordable Care Act's penalty, but instead zeroes out the dollar amount and percentage for those that go without coverage, leaving the legislation intact for future congresses to make adjustments. However, don't jump for joy just yet. You are still on the hook for 2018. The removal of the penalty will not take effect until 2019.

For large employers with 50+ employees, it is important to note that the new legislation did not do away with the employer mandate to provide coverage or pay a penalty. So, if your employer just started providing coverage due to the enactment of the Affordable Care Act in 2010, then don't expect that to change because of the new legislation.

Lastly, there is a lot of theorist on both sides of the isle trying to forecast how this will affect our healthcare system. In the end, this is a very complex situation and we are all just waiting to see if our crystal ball predictions hold true.



## Daylight Savings Time is also Daylight Safety Time

In most places in the United States, March 11th is Daylight Saving when clocks are moved forward one hour. We here at Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg want to remind you it's also a great time to improve your family's safety. Health and safety agencies often use the approach of Daylight Saving Time to remind people to change the batteries in their smoke alarms. The American Red Cross suggests you test your smoke alarms and talk with your family about your fire escape plan. It's good to practice the plan too – at least twice a year.

Daylight Saving is a great time to check your emergency preparedness kit to make sure it's fully stocked with fresh supplies. Check out the website [www.ready.gov/build-a-kit](http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit) for a list of emergency supplies for home and car. And don't forget your pets!

### Carbon Monoxide a concern too

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 400 people die annually in the US from carbon monoxide poisoning. The CDC recommends changing the batteries in your CO detectors when moving your clocks forward. The most common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include headache, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, chest pain and confusion. See the CDC's site for more ways to prevent carbon monoxide exposure. [www.cdc.gov/features/timechangeCODetectors](http://www.cdc.gov/features/timechangeCODetectors)



**Daylight  
Saving  
Time  
begins  
Sunday  
March 11th**

We here at Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg hope these tips help and that you'll consider sharing them with the people you care about so they can live safer lives too.



Pilkey  
Hopping  
& Ekberg

Insurance since 1896

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(253) 756-2000  
www.pheinsurance.com

**We'd love to hear about your community involvement! If you'd like to be featured as one of our clients of the month, please contact Dayle Conrad, newsletter editor.**

**[dayle@pheinsurance.com](mailto:dayle@pheinsurance.com)**

## The Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg Referral Program

Your referrals mean the world to us. We work hard to earn each referral with great service every day. Our "Spread the Word" program is our way to say thank you for all the referrals you've trusted us with for years.

Refer someone to Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg Insurance and get something back! For every referral, you get:

- A \$5 Starbucks Gift Card! What qualifies as a referral? A referral is when we get a call for a quote from someone saying you referred them to us.

- We also match this with a gift to our non-profit of the quarter.

- This quarter the recipient is Pierce County Project Access.

- That's it. The person you refer is under no obligation to purchase a policy from us. Give it a try! We appreciate your trust in us.

