



Hello February

As we step into this lovely month, let us embrace the crisp air and gentle promise of spring around the corner. Whether you're cozying up with a good book, celebrating Valentine's Day with loved ones, or simply enjoying the quiet beauty of winter, may your days be filled with warmth and joy.

**Read below for newsletter highlights:**

- PHE office events
- Non-Profit of the Quarter
- Coverage Corner
- Community Events
- PHE Birthday's & Anniversaries
- Happy Valentines Day Recipe



## Office Events



*Melanie Rice (Our big game winner!)*



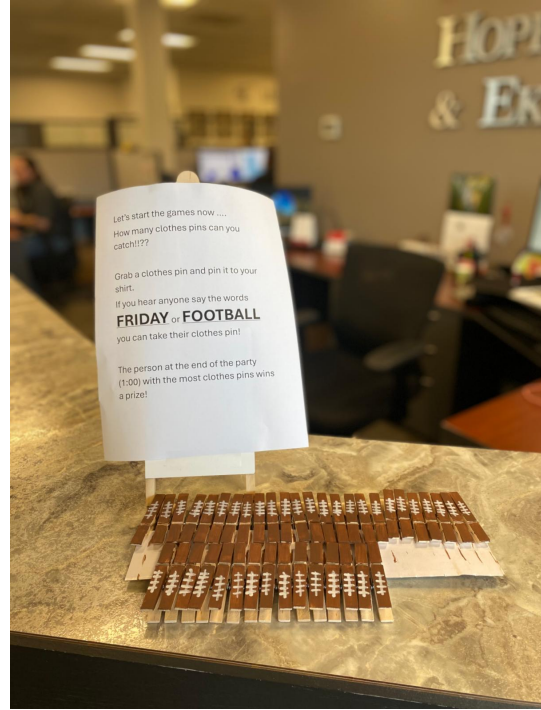
*Jamie Williams making popcorn*

### **Superbowl Party**

This year's Superbowl party was the perfect time for us all to get together and celebrate our own successes and just take the time to enjoy ourselves. The party was a hit, the event started off with an array of ball park favorites: Hotdogs, chicken wings, popcorn and more! There was a few football themed games and a pom-pom making station. The event was made possible by PHE's office manager Maria, a huge thank you goes out to her and all who came together to make the event a success.



*Clockwise from front: Carissa Milligan, Beverly Williams, Bailie Grahn, Shawn McClain, Melanie Rice, Patrick Griffin, Evan Kirkegaard, John*



Clothespin game



Non-Profit of the  
Quarter



## Coyote Central

**Vision:** An equitable world powered by curiosity, creativity, and collaboration.

**Mission:** Coyote Central sparks creativity in young people, putting tools in their hands to build skills and forge their futures.

## Coyote Central: Commitment to Equity

Coyote Central is committed to prioritizing equity in all our actions. We recognize that our communities have suffered due to obstacles to opportunities for low-income individuals, immigrants, refugees, and communities of color. Our goal is to break down these barriers by including a variety of perspectives in our decision-making and actively seeking to expand our understanding of equality. While we begin with a focus on racial equality, we also address disparities related to income, gender identity, culture, language, ability, and any other forms of oppression that our community may face.

### Efforts to Date Include:

- Establishing a Youth Advisory Board to emphasize the importance of student voice throughout the organization;
- Organizing talkback sessions and surveys with students and parents to enhance community input.
- Modifying our registration process to ensure reserved spots for underrepresented populations;
- Broadening the diversity of our teaching artists, staff, and board members to mirror the varied identities of our students;
- Offering training sessions for our teaching artists that focus on racial equity, micro-aggressions, conflict resolution, restorative justice, gender pronouns, and effective strategies for supporting youth on the autism spectrum as well as ESOL students; and
- Assisting an Equity & Inclusion Task Force (EITF) comprised of students, parents, teaching artists, board members, and staff.

[Visit our Website](#)



Coverage Corner



### Workers' Compensation for Remote Workers

If you own a business in Washington State, chances are you do not spend much time thinking about Workers' Compensation coverage. Washington is one of only four monopolistic states where the state (via L&I) is the sole provider of Workers' Comp insurance. Once you set up your account, pay your premiums, and move on to the next task on your list, it is easy to forget about it.

However, the workplace landscape has changed. With the rise of remote work, it is essential to ensure you have the right coverage in place.

Remote work has created new opportunities for employees and expanded the available workforce for employers. If a key employee

**Reid Ekberg**  
*President*

moves to Arizona to be closer to family, you can keep them on board. If you need help with billing and find the perfect candidate in Texas, you can hire them. This flexibility is great for business—but do not forget that you still need to provide Workers' Compensation coverage for remote employees.

The good news? Unlike Washington, most states allow private insurance companies to provide Workers' Comp coverage, giving you access to competitive markets with affordable premiums—especially for remote, home-office-based employees. As your insurance broker, we can help you secure the right coverage outside of Washington, too.

If Workers' Comp was not on your onboarding checklist, give us a call. We are here to help.



### Community Events

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#### **Neighborhood Nights** *Every Thursday*

Every Thursday evening at the Tacoma Art Museum, the doors will be staying open late, welcoming everyone to experience the Museum free of admission. Neighborhood Nights offers programs with community partners, artists, scholars, and entertainers. Stop by TAM Cafe for a bite or a drink before enjoying exhibitions and artmaking in TAM Studio. Thursday evenings at TAM are the perfect time to bring your friends, family, or a date to connect with art.



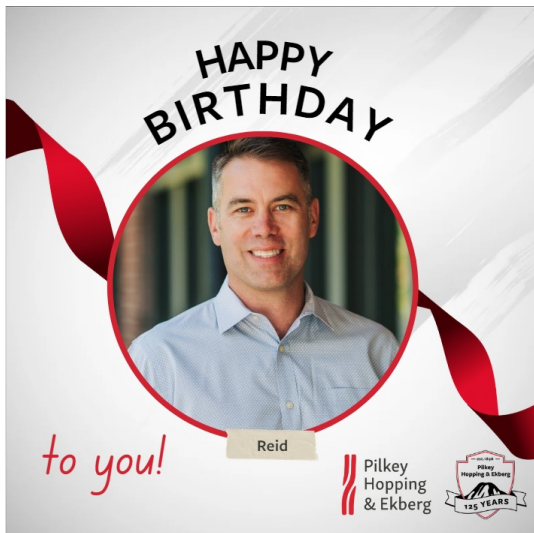
#### **Free Third Thursdays at the Museum** *Every Third Thursday*

Tacoma's monthly Third Thursday museum district celebration! Local museums offer free or discounted admission once a month, and often feature special activities. Visit the Washington State History Museum for free from 3pm to 8pm. You can also visit the Foss Waterway Seaport from 4pm - 8pm, and the Tacoma Art Museum and Museum of Glass from 5pm to 8pm. Local downtown art galleries also open their doors for participants to stop by and enjoy, the works of art and mingle with the artists.



## PHE Birthdays

This month, let's come together to celebrate the birthdays of four amazing individuals: Patrick Griffin – Personal Lines Tech, Beverly Williams – Personal Lines Account Manager, Reid Ekberg – Company President, and Linda Mattos – Benefits New Business Producer. We appreciate each of you for being vital contributors to PHE's success!





## PHE Anniversaries

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**Abegail Novera**  
*Virtual Assistant*  
**1 Year Anniversary**

I joined PHE in February 2024, marking my first experience in the insurance industry as a Commercial Lines Virtual Assistant. I am thrilled to be part of the team, supporting both my Account Managers and our clients. Working with PHE has truly been a transformative experience for me. I live with my three brothers and my mom in Quezon City, Philippines. In my free time, I enjoy reading books, playing pool with friends, and spending time with my dog, Hera. I have an easy-going and cheerful personality, and I love to travel and explore new culinary delights in the places I visit. I am eager to learn and grow as I collaborate with my team and advance my career at PHE.



**Lesla Bentley**  
*Account Manager*  
**3 Year Anniversary**

My name is Lesa Bentley, a lifelong resident of Washington. Raised in Renton, I attended local schools, with a passion for music and art, particularly choir. I live in Auburn with my husband of 38 years, two adult daughters, and three cats. My retail career began in 1983, working for my father's grocery store and later at Safeway, Costco, and Dollar Tree. In 2006, I transitioned to insurance, specializing in auto insurance, and worked at various agencies, including Bell-Anderson Insurance and Soloman Insurance Agency. In February 2022, I joined Pilkey Hopping & Ekberg in the Personal Lines Department, eager to contribute my knowledge and settle in.



**William Coulton**  
***Account Manager***  
***1 Year Anniversary***

Will is an Account Manager in our Commercial Lines Department. He grew up in Charleston, Illinois and moved to the Seattle area after finishing graduate school. He spent the last six years working in the marine insurance industry. When he's not working, Will enjoys hiking, camping, fishing, and enjoying the outdoors with his wife, son, and dog.

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Happy Valentines Day

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HAPPY  
**VALENTINE'S**  
DAY



Recipe of the Month

# Valentine's Cupcake Recipe

## Ingredients

- 1c. flour
- 1c. sugar
- 1c. butter
- 2 eggs
- tsp vanilla
- pinch of salt

## Instructions

1. Mix flour, sugar, salt in a bowl
2. Whip butter and sugar, then add eggs, vanilla and mix.
3. Pour mixture into muffin tins, and bake at 450° for 25 min.



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## REFERRAL PROGRAM

Our referral program is one way we say thank you for trusting us enough to recommend PHE to your family and friends.

For every qualifying referral we receive, which consists of a new customer requesting a quote, we will mail you a \$10 Starbucks gift card. We also match this with a gift to our non profit of the quarter!

Click [here](#) to request a quote!

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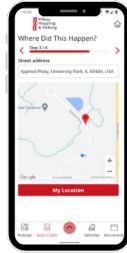


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