



NOV 8 - DEC 30, 2018

Issaquah (425) 392-2202

Everett (425) 257-8600 VillageTheatre.org

JAN 4 - FEB 3, 2019 Village Theatre



Dream big. Plan ahead.

Washington College Savings Plans can help you start saving towards a brighter future.

Learn more at wastate529.wa.gov







GET and DreamAhead are qualified tuition programs sponsored and distributed by the State of Washington. The Committee on Advanced Tuition Payment and College Savings administers and the Washington Student Achievement Council supports the plans. DreamAhead investment returns are not guaranteed and you could lose money by investing in the plan. If in-state tuition decreases in the future, GET tuition units may lose value.



rom once upon a time to happily ever after, join Pacific Northwest Ballet on four exciting adventures!

PNB's Story Ballet package is your ticket to imagination, tradition, brilliant dancing, and musical treasures. Perfect for families, date nights and gift-giving, you'll enjoy package savings + PNB subscriber benefits.





Feb 1-10, 2019



March 17 & 23, 2019



April 12-21, 2019

Noelani Pantastico. © Roger Miller.



ORDER NOW!

PNB.org/storytime

206.441.2424



Contents Seattle's Child

November 2018 // Issue 468

WHAT PARENTS ARE TALKING ABOUT	7
DAD NEXT DOOR	9
ROMP	11
CHOMP	13
SHOP	15
FEATURE	
WORKING PARENTS	20
MAKING HOME	29
CALENDAR	31
PARENT DISPATCH	39

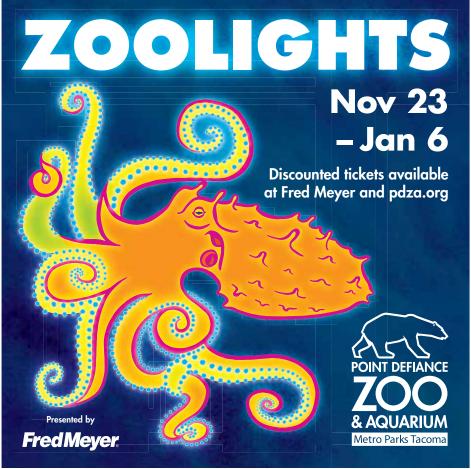




→ Find us online at seattleschild.com

Cover photo by
JOSHUA HUSTON







Seattle's Child

November 2018 // Issue 468

"Seattle is my town. I know this city inside and out... or so I thought until I had kids."

Seattle's Child is your guide to getting to know your city all over again. Finding things to do, places to eat, and how to get around — it's a whole new ballgame with kids in tow. We're interested in how parents make homes in a space-challenged urban environment, how families create community, and what parents are talking about. Seattle's Child reflects real

Puget Sound families and their broad range of parenting experiences.

ANN BERGMAN

Publisher, Founder abergman@seattleschild.com

BOO DAVIS

Art Director bdavis@seattleschild.com

SYDNEY PARKER

Managing Editor sparker@seattleschild.com

JULIE HANSON

Website Editor jhanson@seattleschild.com

JENNIFER MORTENSEN

Calendar Editor calendar@seattleschild.com

MIKE MAHONEY

Copy Editor

JEFF LEE, MD

REBEKAH DENN, ANDIE POWERS Contributing Editors

ASHLEY BRECKEL ANDERSEN, FIONA COHEN, LYNN DIXON, AMY HATCH ONO, KATRINA OTUONYE, SHIN YU PAI Contributing Writers

ASHLEY BRECKEL ANDERSEN

Website Managing Editor abreckel@seattleschild.com

AMY CADWELL Publisher's Assistant

ADVERTISING

KIM LOVE Ad Production Manager klove@seattleschild.com

MELIA WILKINSON Senior Sales Account Manager mwilkinson@seattleschild.com 774-253-2219

STEPHANIE KONAT

Sales Account Manager skonat@seattleschild.com 425-770-4768

Seattle's Child

Seattle's Child has been providing useful information to parents since 1979. In addition to our monthly magazine, look for our special themed publications – Explore, FamilyPages, School and SummerTime — Exploie, Family-Ages, Survoy and Similar Inter-distributed free throughout the Puget Sound area. Seattle's Child is published monthly with combined issues in January/February and July/August.

ONLINE seattleschild.com

Like us on Facebook

Follow us on Twitter

@SeaChildMag

MAIL c/o USPS #112

1463 E Republican St. #193, Seattle, WA 98112

VOICE 206-441-0191

TO ADVERTISE advertise@seattleschild.com

STORY IDEAS editor@seattleschild.com

CALENDAR SUBMISSIONS calendar@seattleschild.com

Deadline is first of the month, one month prior to publication (Dec. 1 for Jan/Feb. publication). Include date, time, cost, appropriate ages, address, contact information and description.

Don't miss
these stories on
seattleschild.com



Lifesaving lesson
Teach kids when,
how to call 911

Rainy-day fun
How to stay active
when it's nasty out

→ Find more local news for families on seattleschild.com

»What Parents Are Talking About

Education, health, development and more



A sparkly reading rainbow

Drag Queen Story Hour is opening hearts and minds, one book at a time

by SYDNEY PARKER / photo by JOSHUA HUSTON



Once upon a time at the Seattle Children's Festival, drag queen Aleksa Manila read books to children. Perched regally atop a cozy nest of blankets and wrapped in a glamorous fuchsia kimono, Manila inspired awe in each child who toddled into the room. Coco, age 4, was moonstruck by Manila's hot-pink hair adorned with magenta flowers.

"Are those flowers *real?*" said Coco skeptically.

"Fake," whispered Manila, with a heavylashed wink and a smile. "Now who wants to pick our first story?" A field of tiny hands sprouted up and story time began with a reading of Manila's favorite children's book, *My Princess Boy.*

Written by Seattle author Cheryl Kilodavis to help explain her son Dyson's fondness for "pretty things" to teachers and classmates, the book inspired a movement of acceptance for children who feel misunderstood. "I love

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >

Discover the History and Culture of the Tulalip Tribes

NEW EXHIBIT

Opening November 3

Interwoven History: Coast Salish Wool

invites visitors to learn about the fundamentals of weaving, while exploring the materials, techniques, processing and technology. We invite you to see our textiles and how they came

to life.

Located less than a mile west of I-5 Exit 199 6410 23rd Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271 360-716-2600 HibulbCulturalCenter.org

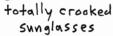
Hibulb Cultural Center



& Natural History Preserve

You'd Cry Too Toddler Fashion Statements







full sleeve dinosaur



backward shoes

«What Parents Are Talking About

CONTINUED

my Princess Boy. When we go shopping, he is the happiest when looking at girls' clothes. But when he says he wants to buy a pink bag or a sparkly dress, people stare at him," Kilodavis writes.

"The Princess Boy's story is very close to my own story," says Manila, who began to question her gender identity while attending Catholic elementary school in the Philippines. "I remember being in the boys section and staring at the girls section, wondering, 'Should I be there?"

For the past five years, Manila has hosted Drag Queen Story Hour for families all over Seattle. She chooses books that are either authored by or about queer families, such as *And Tango Makes Three* and *Bob is a Unicorn.* "I don't just perform for the kids, I do this for their families, too," says Manila. "I want to open hearts and minds."

Kirkland mom Jen Guzewich says she brought her sons Zachary, 2, and Alex, 5, to Drag Queen Story Hour to broaden their horizons. "I want my sons to be exposed to a diverse population and to know that everyone deserves love," says Guzewich.

Manila's readings at public libraries, festivals and Pride events are an extension of her social justice activism. Offstage, "Alex" works as the Program Supervisor of Addiction Services at Seattle Counseling Service and runs Pride ASIA, an organization founded in 2012 to empower "LGBTQ communities through the Asian Pacific Islander lens." Mayor Jenny Durkan honored Manila with the 2018 Outstanding Leader Pride Award for challenging prejudice and elevating

awareness around the issue of addiction in the LGBTQ community.

Manila credits her mother for raising her to be brave in the face of adversity. "I grew up with a really strong, empowered female presence," says Manila. "My mom survived the Japanese occupation of the Philippines. She raised four children in the '60s, when it was uncommon for a single parent to be working. She really exemplifies strength and resilience."

Manila is not alone in her pursuit of queer acceptance through story time. Drag Queen Story Hour events are now happening in community spaces all over the world. "DQSH captures the imagination and play of the gender fluidity of childhood and gives kids glamorous, positive, and unabashedly queer role models," states the DQSH website (dragqueenstoryhour.org). "In spaces like this, kids are able to see people who defy rigid gender restrictions and imagine a world where people can present as they wish, where dress up is real."

Not everyone views the movement in such a positive light. A Drag Queen Story Hour event at a public library in Lafayette, Louisiana, was recently postponed when large protests were planned by religious organizations and the library determined it was unequipped to handle the crowds.

"Seattle is very lucky that we are so progressive," says Manila. She points to the multidisciplinary Gender Clinic at Seattle Children's Hospital as an example of the city's forward thinking. Only five children's hospitals in the United States have clinics offering similar care for young people who are transgender or gender non-conforming.

Regardless of national attitudes, Manila plans to continue her story hour activism. "Sometimes parents become hesitant when they realize they're walking into story time with a drag queen. But they always stay," says Manila. "It's just story time."

»DadNextDoor



A little encouragement from across the fence

by JEFF LEE, MD

Drivers needed

Parenthood is a bumpy road with hairpin turns but it doesn't last forever. Enjoy the ride.

People sometimes ask me what it's like having a younger child in my life again, and how it's different this time. My daughters are 25 and 20, and my sweetheart's daughter Pippa is not quite 8. I have to say, I feel lucky. She's funny, and loving, and full of beans. I have less responsibility — I leave most of the discipline and limit-setting to her amazing mother while I get to do the fun stuff. But still, it's all pretty familiar. The main difference is that this time I'm more aware.

When you're a young parent, time contracts and expands simultaneously. The current crises seem to stretch out to infinity, obstructing and obliterating any view of a happier future. At the same time, your kid's developmental landmarks fly by like race cars at the Indy 500. They laugh, they crawl, they walk, they talk, and before you know it, they're getting on a school bus and you can't remember the last time they fell asleep in your arms.

I don't know if it's the calm that comes with experience, or the fatigue that comes with age, but time seems more stable these days. Instead of lunging back and forth between wild fluctuations of forever and never again, I sometimes plant my feet in the solid now.

Over Labor Day weekend, we went backpacking in the Sierras. One morning, we all woke up a little colder and a little sooner than we had intended, and the three of us bundled up together in our hammock. Pippa and her mom fell back to sleep, but I lay awake. I felt their bodies relax and grow heavy, pressing against me like warm bags of sand. Their chests rose and fell in slow, even breaths. Their eyelids fluttered with dreams. Across the lake, sunrise tipped the treetops with gold, and wisps of mist drifted up off the water like ghostly spirits pulling free. I remember thinking that the moment wouldn't last, and using every sense I had to take it all the way in.

Years ago I had a patient who began to show signs of Alzheimer's disease in her mid-eighties. She'd lived a full, satisfying life, and she faced her failing memory with remarkable grace and equanimity. One day, she told me this joke:

A woman gets into the passenger seat of a car driven by her elderly mother, who isn't as sharp as she used to be. At one point, the car speeds through a red light without even slowing down. Not wanting to offend her mother, or sound accusatory, the woman says nothing. But at the next intersection, her mother speeds through another red light. The

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >



www.robinsoncenter.uw.edu 206-543-4160 · rcys@uw.edu



Come meet the new Head of School Dr. Michael C. Smith

All School Open House November 15th from 6-8pm

(206) 364 - 7777 2400 NE 147th St. Shoreline WA 98155 www.shorelinechristian.org







«DadNextDoor

woman decides she has to say something.

"Mom, do you realize you just ran through two stoplights in a row?"

"Oh my," her mother says, "am I driving?"

One day, I asked how she was feeling about her dementia, and the changes she was going through. She told me she had no regrets. She had tried to get as much as she could out of life, moment by moment, and for the most part she'd succeeded. She said she couldn't ask for more.

We tend to think of life as a series of big chunks: infancy, childhood, adolescence, career, marriage, parenthood, middle age, old age. But the functional unit of life is much smaller than that. It's now, and now, and now again. As many beads as that strand will contain in the end, we can only string them one at a time.

Children know this instinctively. It's their complete immersion in now that makes them enchanting, and exasperating, and unexpectedly wise. I see this in Pippa all the time. One moment she's giggling with delight, and the next she's wailing and gnashing her teeth as if the world is coming to an end. Then, every so often, she says something off the top of her head that makes me open my eyes and reconsider what I think I know. It's a mountain road with a lot of hairpin turns, but I buckle up, lean into the curves, and try to enjoy the ride. I know this won't last forever. I don't want to miss a thing.

So I guess that's what I've learned. Sometimes parenting can make you feel like a helpless passenger, but don't let it. Yes, you're moving fast. Yes, you're a little out of control. But in the end, you're still behind the wheel.

Drive.

ABOUT OUR COLUMNIST

Jeff Lee knows about cars, but strictly metaphorically, in Seattle.

Right under your nose!

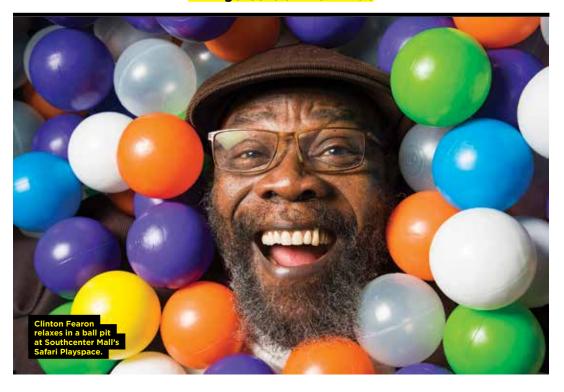
Take the shorties to Short Run

Young fans and doodlers can meet and learn from local authors and artists at the **Short Run Comix & Arts Festival**. Join a kids' reading circle with children's book author Jessixa Bagley, learn to draw comics with David Lasky, and enjoy demonstrations of animation and screen-printing.

Saturday, Nov. 3, at Seattle Center's Fisher Pavilion and the Vera Project. Free. <u>shortrun.org</u>



>> ROMP Things to do with kids



Rattle and boi-oi-oing

Seattle-based reggae artist Clinton Fearon gives a kids' concert — flexatone volunteers wanted

by FIONA COHEN / photos by JOSHUA HUSTON



The reggae star was a member of the Gladiators before moving to Seattle and launching his own career as a band leader. He has performed on every continent except for Antarctica, and his

albums and songs regularly make bestseller lists within the genre.

On Saturday, Nov. 10, Fearon will perform a show for kids, as part of Seattle Town Hall's Saturday Family Concert Series. Fearon loves entertaining young audiences.

"Kids are honest," he says.
"If they are having a great time,
CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >

5 things to do

Laid-back alternatives to Black Friday



Play cards or board games

It's a good time to try a new game. Your 2-year-old likes Pairs. How will she take to Go Fish? Is your 10-year-old ready for Settlers of Catan? Time to find out.



Play sports

Round up your family and some friends to converge on a playfield for a little multi-generational friendly competition: soccer, touch football, Quidditch, whatever makes sense to you.



Go for a walk

Pull on boots, fleeces and raincoats and go take in this area's loveliness in the dark bluster of late November. Best destinations: Carkeek Park (where salmon are running in Piper's Creek), Seward Park, Lincoln Park, or anywhere with a beach.



Fly a kite

If your kids are like mine, they'll be intrigued by assembling the kite and getting it into the air, and unimpressed from then on. But they will enjoy watching other people's kites. Great places to soar: Gas Works Park and Kite Hill at Magnuson Park.



Bake cranberry sauce muffins

This uses up some leftovers, and you have time to stage things so you can bake with your children's "help." Get them involved measuring and mixing, and of course tasting the results. Recipes available online.

CONTINUED

you know it."

Connecting with kids means focusing on songs with clear melodies and relatable themes. A chunk of his repertoire will come from his acoustic album Mi an' Mi Guitar.

"You need not a lot of instruments; sweet melodies, for sure," Fearon says. "Something they can all sing along with, where they can feel involved."

Fearon usually performs as part of the Boogie Brown Band, an eight-piece ensemble. The children's concert will be just him and his bandmate, Mark Oi, both playing guitars.

Fearon plans to bring a suitcase packed full with percussion instruments. These aren't toys, but the real instruments you can hear on his albums: cowbell, cabasa, vibraslap, vibratone, and the flexatone, a hand-held instru-



Let's go!

Clinton Fearon and Mark Oi play at 11 am Nov. 10 at the Phinney Neighborhood Association, 6532 Phinney Ave. N. Tickets available at townhallseattle.org

ment which has two balls that bang against a bendy piece of metal. How you bend the metal

makes for some zany noises, of the sort heard in classic cartoons. Kids who volunteer can drum, ring, rattle and boioi-oing along with the songs.

As with his adult shows, many of the songs will reinforce messages of love, community and treating each other kindly and fairly.

"Basically it's love, and how to understand one another and get along as people," Fearon says.



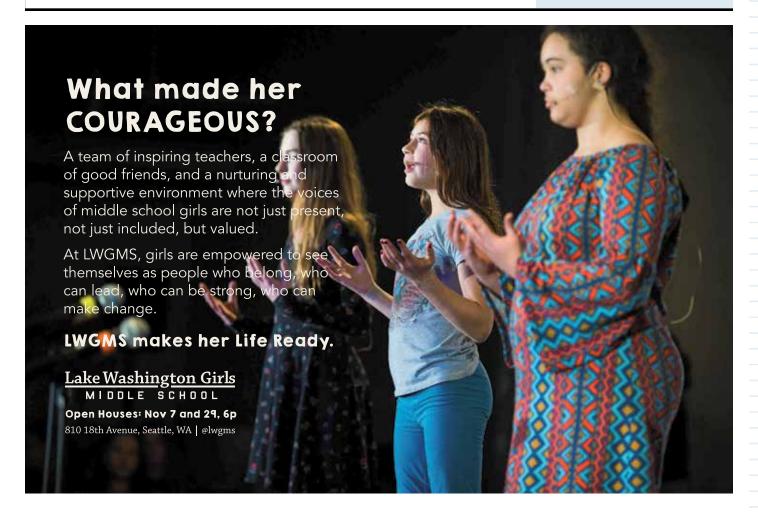
For (local) grown-ups only

All the single parents

Are you a nice parent who just wants to meet another nice parent? Then The Not-Creepy **Gathering for Parents** Who Are Single and Want to Fall In Love

is the event for you. Free childcare provided.

Friday, Nov. 9, from 6 to 8 pm at the Fremont Abbey (4272 Fremont Ave. N.) thenotcreepygathering.com





'Tis the season

Giving back this Thanksgiving

Here's a different sort of harvest to celebrate for Thanksgiving. Northwest Harvest has a new home in SoDo for its Cherry Street Food Bank, after redevelopment forced the organization to a new location after 35 years. It'll move in early 2019.

Learn more about how to support holiday food programs at seattleschild.com/How-your-family-can-give-back-this-Thanksgiving → Get our monthly Chomp newsletter by food writer Rebekah Denn » seattleschild.com/ newsletters

Eating with kids



'Sell by' date dilemma?

Local food writer Jill Lightner wants you to waste less food and have more fun in the kitchen

by REBEKAH DENN / photos by JOSHUA HUSTON



I defrosted more pita bread than my kids wound up eating, and

the leftovers were getting stale. Sound familiar?

"Spread them on a sheet pan and toast them until they're crispy... and grind them up in your food processor into crumbs," says Seattle food journalist Jill Lightner.

An inch of leftover salad dressing lingering in the fridge? "If it's like an Italian vinaigrette, it's an amazing marinade for any vegetable." Brush it on chicken thighs or burgers before grilling. Add it to soup.

Lightner should know. In her new book Scraps, Peels and Stems (Skipstone Press), she offers good advice and recipes for how to waste less food, especially going into the holiday CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >



in town

Shake Shack shakes up **South Lake** Union

Yes, we already have great burgers in the Seattle area. Yes, we have awesome homegrown chains. But it's still exciting that superpopular Shake Shack has opened its first Seattle outlet. Look for it near Amazon headquarters in South Lake Union, at 2115 Westlake Ave. The New Yorkbased business is known for fast food made from quality ingredients, including burgers, crinkle-cut fries, and (of course) shakes. Our Shack will feature some Seattle-specific specialties, including frozen custard "concretes" (dense milkshakes) that include Theo Chocolate, Sea Wolf Bakery croissants, and A la Mode pies. At the least, it should hold us over until we convince Burgerville to come to town.





Igniting the academic and creative potential of students with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences.

1701 20th Ave S, Seattle, WA 98144 hamlinrobinson.org

Inspiring Gifted Students





SEATTLE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL 206-691-2625 seattlecountryday.org

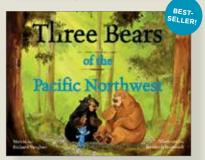




Fairytales with a PNW Twist!



\$17.99 | 9781632171832



\$17.99 | 9781570616846

sasquatchbooks.com





«Chomp

season. We need those skills: the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that as much as 40 percent of America's food is squandered.

Why bother fighting waste, when life is busy enough and Seattle offers curbside composting? In the small picture as well as the big one, cutting food waste saves money. It helps the environment. Ultimately, it helps battle hunger.

"It doesn't mean you have to eat foods that you dislike, and it doesn't mean you have to staple your kids' butts to the kitchen chair and say 'You can't get up until you finish your plate," she says.

Jill Lightner's top tips:

- ▶ Foods aren't necessarily spoiled just because they've passed a "sell by" date. Smells and visual cues are more useful (Is the milk curdled? Are the vegetables slimy?)
- ▶ Buy smaller containers of milk (or shelf-stable boxes) so you don't wind up pouring out the last pint in the gallon.
- ► Instead of fresh seafood our most-wasted food category - consider canned (it's cheaper, too!) or frozen.
- ► Frozen unseasoned vegetables are nutritious and last much longer than fresh.
- ▶ Use up pantry odds and ends with flexible recipes like granola or muffins.
- ► Instead of lettuce, which often rots before it's eaten, make lettuce-free salads or use hardy greens like kale, where you can toss a sliced handful into your pasta or inside a quesadilla.
- ▶ Make realistic meal plans. Better to order pizza on purpose one night than do it at the last minute and waste the ingredients for the dinner you'd planned.
- ▶ Help kids track what they're not eating in their lunches, and change packing habits accordingly.
- ▶ Buy a smaller Thanksgiving turkey: Grocery stores tell you to plan on at least a pound per person, but half of that will give you a feast - and you'll still have leftovers.
- ► Go to seattleschild.com for Lightner's recipe for Use-It-Up Granola

Q&A

Where in the city do you love to shop?

Sarah Ricard Orza, principal dancer, Pacific Northwest Ballet



"My daughter Lola and I like nothing more than exploring Seattle together. A favorite local haunt of ours is the Ballard Farmers Market.

We browse the farmers' stalls, chow down on veggie quesadillas from Patty Pan

Cooperative and finish it off with a visit to Clover Toys, our favorite toy store!"

»Shop



She's got the Beet

Kirkland mom launches globally inspired line of clothing designed for childhood adventures

by KATRINA OTUONYE / photos by JOSHUA HUSTON



Ashima Singhal believes that when it comes to kids' clothing,

you shouldn't have to choose between natural and stylish, or functional and comfortable. After working for Microsoft for 12 years, she launched Beet World, an eco-friendly, ethically sourced clothing line for girls ages 2 to 12. All of the clothes are manufactured in her family's factory in Moradabad, India, which has operated for nearly 40 years.

"My parents were particular about us dressing well," Singhal says. They impressed on her the importance of dressing for success, and she often wore dresses that her mother had embroidered herself.

Now based in Kirkland, Singhal is the mother of two boys, ages 3 and 5. She used her knowledge of fabrics gathered CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >

Squishy recipe for fun

Upgrade your kids Play-Doh with a natural alternative from Vancouver. Wash., that lasts four times as long. Cali Tolbert's Earth **Grown KidDoughs** sells homemade dough (available gluten-free, or with scents and sparkles) made with "stuff I can find in my kitchen," Favorite scents include Fruit Loopy Frenzy, Root Beer Float, and GrapeZILLA. ► earthgrown kiddoughs.com

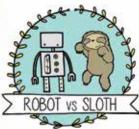
Baby keepsake journals for all

Liam Elijah

Julia Nardelli Gross launched the line of "All About Me: A Little Book of Love and Adventure" baby journals with her husband Jeremy in 2015. Based in Shoreline, they know that no two families are alike. RubyRoo creates inclusive baby journals for families of all shapes and sizes, orientations and religions. ► rubyroobaby.com

HOLIDAY GIFT GIVING





cute animals fighting each other * handmade local art

1535 1st Ave, Seattle, WA 98101



JANUARY 18th-27th



LakeChelanWinterfest.com



from growing up in the family business to develop a clothing line that enables kids to "feel comfortable, get messy, play in the garden or the sandbox," but also look nice enough to give them a sense of pride in their appearance.

Singhal takes into account the texture, weave and weight of fabrics when making creative decisions for her line. She derives inspiration from the burgeoning art scene in Philadelphia's Center City, where she spent time in her youth.

The Beet World line includes dresses, tops and back-to-school styles, in everything from plaid and floral designs to gingham

and trendy culottes. The clothes are made of natural, breathable cotton fabrics that are gentle on the skin. Singhal chose the name Beet World to represent how close the products are to nature. "I love

the vibrancy of the word 'beet,' and I wanted to reflect that these are worldwide designs," she says. She encourages her children to explore nature and feeds them healthy, whole foods. Her family has traveled everywhere from Italy and Chile to India and Switzerland, and the clothing line gives them an outlet to connect to the community and the world around them.

She appreciates that Beet World gives her and her family a platform to promote what's important to them. "We always try to connect to parents," says Singhal, who views Beet World as "a wonderful way to be a vessel for positive messages."

Clothes are for sale in the \$30to-\$40 price range. For each garment sold from the Fall Favorites collection this season. Beet World will donate 1 percent of net sales to organizations dedicated to promoting education and literacy among women and children.

► beet-world.com

How of a shop or product with serious kid appeal? Email us at shop@seattleschild.com



You've got to be kit-ing

Ewe can do it

Kent couple makes kids' craft kits for felting furry friends

by KATRINA OTUONYE

Your kids can make their own felted friends and learn a fun, simple new

craft with Woolpets. Kent couple Laurie and Kevin Sharp use high-quality wool and step-by-step photo instructions in more than 42 patterns of small felt toys for ages

10 and up. Needle felting is portable, and requires few supplies: wool, a needle and a foam pad. Choose

from an owl, penguin, ladybug, bumblebee and more. Crafters can create these cute critters for the Thanksgiving dinner table or to give as holiday gifts. Make a mistake? Pull the colors apart and

The craft kits range in price







americascarmuseum.org

A modern collection of carefully curated children's clothes in the heart of Gilman village



Shop in store and online WWW.EVEKIDS.NET

317 NW Gilman Blvd. Ste 25 • Issaguah

(i) @evekids_





Historic Columbia City



In the neighborhood

Outsiders and geeks welcome

Comic shop invites your family to come as you are

by SYDNEY PARKER

When Jill Taplin opened **Outsider Comics**

and Geek Boutique in Fremont, she was on a mission to make comics more inclusive. Featuring a large selection of adult and children's titles from local, minority, LGBTQ and female authors, the store has an inviting, family-friendly atmosphere.

If your child is new to comics, Taplin and team are dedicated to learning about their interests and helping them select stories that speak to their personality. For the crafty kid, Outsider sells unique merchandise, including a Beauty

and the Beast origami kit, Star Wars felt and howto-draw superhero instruction books. If you're a boardgame family, pick up Family Quiz, an eclectic trivia game for kids 10 and over, or a video-gamethemed 1,000piece puzzle.

Taplin hosts teen Dungeons & Dragons-themed game nights and Outsider young adult book clubs in the store's special event space. Parents with geeky tastes will find the fashion section of the store particularly enticing. The store's collection of sweaters and dresses feature subtle "everyday cosplay" designs so you can express your fandom without standing out at a PTA meeting.

► Learn more at outsidercomics.com



BABY+KIDS

STORE in Bellevue

a Modern Children's Store carrying a great selection of TOYS, Furniture, baby GEAR, BOOKS, Accessories and MORE!



www.shopweetots.com

10245 Main St, Suite 103 · Bellevue, WA 98004 · 425,502,7182

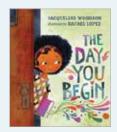
»The Book Corner

A PLACE AT THE TABLE: November is a time to welcome guests and strangers, some of whom have traveled long distances, into our homes. Foster warmth and generosity with these inclusive stories! - Nicholas Carr



Will Bear Share? by Hilary Leung Infant to age 3

Bear has a lot to give, but will she share? Follow Bear's brightly colored day as she makes her friends happy by sharing her toys (but not her toothbrush!) with all of her friends.



The Day You Begin by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Rafael López

Ages 5 to 8

When you feel scared and alone, it takes courage to connect. From the 2018-2019 National Ambassador for Young People's Literature comes a book about sharing your story, the different foods we eat, and making friends despite our differences.



Dreamers by Yuyi Morales

Ages 4 to 8

Leaving home behind doesn't mean you leave your spirit there. *Dreamers* celebrates the identities of migrantes who make their homes in new places, and how books and language open the door to share yourself with others. Available in Spanish!

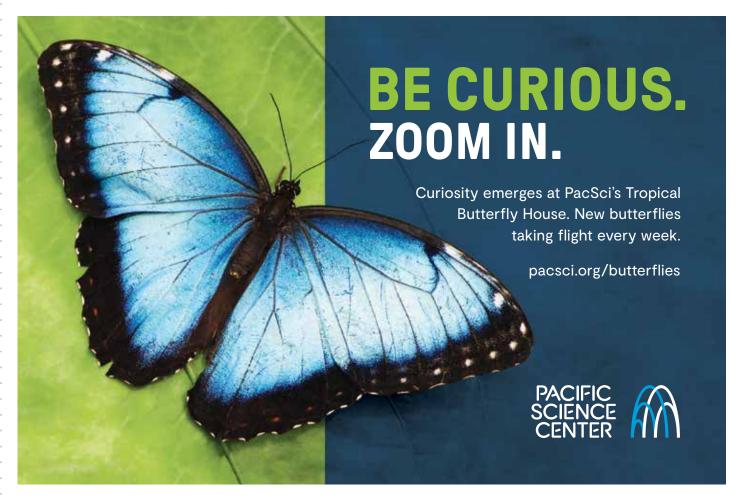


Louisiana's **Way Home** by Kate DiCamillo

Ages 10 to 12

In the middle of the night, Louisiana and Granny leave home, never to return. Louisiana wants to go back, but discovers a new life among the people of a small Georgia town. Will Louisiana's life just be more goodbyes?





THE BALANCING ACT



Parenting is a uniquely exhilarating and exhausting experience. Add a full-time job to the mix and you've got a recipe for ending the day facedown with a piece of pizza in your mouth. For parents with exceptionally challenging jobs, make that a frozen pizza. Whether bringing a baby to the office, creating art out of motherhood, or doubling down on the night shift, here's how Seattle parents are making it work.

How parents with tough jobs make it work

From the ER to the high seas, four families share what it's like to parent while working demanding jobs

by AMY HATCH ONO /
photos by JOSHUA HUSTON



The struggle for balance is familiar to most working

parents in Seattle. Expensive housing, limited childcare, and traffic-jammed freeways create the perfect storm for stress. But navigating all of the above can be especially difficult when also working under extremely physically and emotionally demanding conditions.

Just three weeks after his son Sam was born, Tyler Kirkpatrick had to return to work on a commercial fishing boat out of Dutch Harbor, Alaska. During fishing season, Kirkpatrick worked grueling 12hour days, seven days per week, with only a few days off.

"Back then I could call from town every few days, but if the weather was bad, it might be as long as five days," he says.

Home alone in Magnolia with an exceptionally fussy newborn, his wife Brenda mastered the art of doing things with one hand and subsisted on trail mix. She kept a list by the phone of all the baby's special moments. "If I didn't write it down, when I spoke to him in a few days I would have forgotten and he'd miss out on all these little milestones," she says.

When their daughter Sydnee was born two weeks before her due date, Tyler was stuck in Alaska trying to get in one last fishing trip. He rushed to the airport and waited all day for a seat to open up, but couldn't get home in time. He wept as his

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >

20 SEATTLE'S CHILD November 2018

< Demanding jobs CONTINUED

mom gave him a play-by-play from the delivery room, "I still miss her birthday every year," he says. "That's really tough."

Showing up for your children while maintaining a full-time job is a challenge even when you're not working nights on the Bering Sea. For parents whose work requires emotional stamina, a quick mental shift is necessary to be present with their families.

For Gina and Shane Severide of North Bend — both nurses, he in the ER at Swedish Issaguah and she in the ear, nose and throat clinic at Seattle Children's Hospital — life with three kids and alternating shifts is a constant juggling act.

"We honestly live by our iPhone schedules; who works what shift, who is on point for which school picture, who has soccer pickup, etc. No two days are the same," says Gina.

When the kids were little, whichever parent was off would call the other one



at work so the kids could say good night. But the chats often backfired, "Usually it would end with the kids crying because they didn't understand why the other parent couldn't come home." she says.

To decompress and reconnect, the couple routinely wakes up before dawn. "We work out at home together, have coffee, watch some TV," says Shane. "Our days are crazy, and so for us this is a way to get time for ourselves before the kids are up."

Carving out alone time is essential to coping off the clock. Ed Turner unwinds from his night job as a police officer for the city of Orting with a unique morning ritual before his two sons get up for school. "I sit down, try a new specialty root beer, watch Netflix and let my mind wander to what I am watching," he says. "It's how I reset."

Once the boys are dropped off at

school, Ed can sleep, and still be available to shuttle them to football practice in the afternoon. His wife Meredith, a human resources executive in downtown Seattle, usually meets them for a handoff so Ed can start his shift.

"I think for our kids and their schedule, this has been right for us," says Ed. "It has allowed both of us to work, save on childcare costs and give the kids a lot of solid time with their parents."

But sometimes a balance just can't be struck. When parents ask North Seattle mom Tiffany Greenberg how she does it all, she just laughs. "I'm not a fan of the phrase 'work-life balance," she says. "To me, that sounds like everything is in a serene state, and that simply isn't the case."

Before she had her daughter Ellie in 2015, Greenberg found working intense hours as a physician's assistant in a reconstructive surgery office exciting. Some days she'd leave work at 4 pm. others at 4 am. But when she came back after maternity leave, the frenetic pace began to take a toll.

"How a surgery and recovery will go simply varies so much patient to patient,

"I'M NOT A FAN OF THE PHRASE **WORK-LIFE BALANCE.** TO ME. THAT SOUNDS LIKE EVERYTHING IS IN A SERENE STATE. AND THAT SIMPLY **ISN'T THE CASE."**

it's just the way it is," says Greenberg. "It was too unpredictable of a schedule for me to feel like I could have a relationship with my husband and be with my daughter."

She ultimately decided to switch to a job at a dermatologist's office with more regular clinic hours. She took a pay cut, but the office is located near her daughter's school and they get to share quality time together on the daily commute.

Working an intense job while raising children is a situation many Seattle parents find themselves in. Rather than trying to have it all, Greenberg says she's accepted that being a working parent means that something always has to give.

"I feel like it's about this continuum of sacrifices," she says. "Sometimes I sacrifice time with my kid so I can study, sometimes I sacrifice my shower or getting chores done. Everyone is sacrificing something different every day; you just have to decide what can give that day and then keep going."



Babies in the boardroom

Washington is ahead of the curve regarding workplace childcare

by SYDNEY PARKER



When Annie Yu leaves for work in the morning, she brings her briefcase, her keys... and her baby.

Yu is an attorney in Attorney General Bob Ferguson's office, where the Infant at Work Program was introduced this year. Approved employees are permitted to bring in babies, from 6 weeks to 6 months, for the full workday.

While Yu works, her 5-month-old baby Hadley plays on the floor, snuggles in a front carrier, or naps in a Rock 'n Play. Two co-workers are officially designated to trade off watching the baby when Yu attends a meeting, but many others are eager to volunteer.

"It was a really cool experience to be sitting at a professional table that I belonged at, doing important work, but to also know that my baby was only 100 yards away," savs Yu.

More than 2,100 babies in over 200 organizations have been successfully brought to work nationwide, according to the Parenting in the Workplace Institute.

"I think it's made me more productive because it's really boosted my overall job satisfaction," says attorney Natalie King, another parent who is utilizing the program.

Research shows that well-structured babies-at-work programs result in numerous organizational benefits, including higher morale, increased teamwork and lower employee turnover.

"As a parent of 10-year-old twins, I know the importance of the first months of a child's life," says Attorney General Ferguson. "[The Infant at Work Program] helps our office attract and retain talented staff,

but more importantly, it gives parents the flexibility and support they need in the first months of their child's life."

"IT WAS A REALLY COOL **EXPERIENCE TO BE SITTING** AT A PROFESSIONAL TABLE THAT I BELONGED AT, DOING IMPORTANT WORK. **BUT TO ALSO KNOW THAT** MY BABY WAS ONLY 100 YARDS AWAY."

In a country where only 14 percent of civilian workers have access to any paid family leave through their employer, Washington state is way ahead of the curve. Starting in 2020, Washington workers will be entitled to 12 weeks of paid leave for the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >

5 self-care tips for working parents

Balancing work and childcare can take a toll on your mental health. How do you satisfy your employer and your children while still taking care of yourself? Here are 5 tips from parenting therapist Clarice Wirkala of North Seattle

Therapy & Counseling.

1. Just say no. Don't take on extra work or volunteer projects in addition to your work unless you feel deeply connected to the cause.

2. Ask for help. Don't feel guilty about hiring people to help with cleaning, driving and childcare if you can afford it. If you can't afford it, arrange a child swap with friends, or if possible enlist the grandparents. It will deepen your children's network of people who care about them.

3. Strive for efficiency, not perfection. Some people do batch cooking, then freeze it to make meal prep quick and easy, so they can spend more time with their kids. What is efficient for you?

4. Don't compare yourself to other parents. Some parents have more time to volunteer at school or shuttle their kids to activities. Others get more vacation time. What matters is that your kids know you're there for them, interested in their lives and accept them, no matter what.

eing able to do it all. "All of it" doesn't really matter anyway. Focus on the atmosphere in the household. Is it warm? Open? Honest? Funny? If so, you're doing great. If not, go back to your kids and listen to what they have to say.

You have to take care of yourself whatever that means for you to be able to take care of your family to the best of your ability.

- Ashley Breckel Andersen

22 SEATTLE'S CHILD November 2018









< Babies in the boardroom CONTINUED

birth, adoption or foster placement of a new child. Birth parents who experience pregnancy complications can receive 18 weeks of paid leave.

Historically, low-income workers and especially women of color have suffered the most from a lack of access to paid familv and medical leave benefits. Under the new law, low-income workers will receive 90 percent of their wages and higherincome workers will receive a progressively smaller portion of their wages.

Several Seattle companies are already going above and beyond. Zillow Group offers 16 weeks pay at 100 percent base salary, \$1,000 in Amazon "Baby Bucks" for new parents to purchase the essentials, free \bar{b} reast milk shipping for nursing mothers traveling for business, \$10,000 per employee towards adoption expenses, coverage for infertility services and 16 days of backup childcare per year via Bright Horizons.

After returning from maternity leave, Kristen Colony, a lead onboarding manager at Zillow, says she received powerful support from her company as she struggled with postpartum anxiety and depression. "I'm an intelligent, accomplished person and I didn't want to be perceived as someone who can't handle things," says Colony. "It was the push from my co-workers and benefits team that got me to see, OK, you're right, I need some help."

She took a short-term disability leave to participate in a postpartum outpatient program and returned to work better prepared to cope with the transition to

working motherhood. Colony remains a valued Zillow employee.

A large, profitable company like Zillow is in an obvious position to offer great benefits, but even some small Seattle businesses have embraced the radical idea that employees are humans with meaningful lives outside of the workplace.

"I FEEL SORT OF NAIVE THAT I DIDN'T REALLY **GET HOW IMPORTANT** 12 WEEKS OF LEAVE IS UNTIL I HAD TO CARE FOR A NEWBORN."

Molly Moon Neitzel, founder of Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream shops, offers her employees 12 weeks of 100 percent paid family leave for parents bringing new children home through birth, fostering or adoption. She also pays 100 percent of health insurance premiums for employees and their children.

"I feel sort of naive that I didn't really get how important 12 weeks of leave is until I had to care for a newborn," says Neitzel, mother to a 5-year-old daughter and 9-month-old son. "It really makes me think, 'Wow, more women need to be in power creating these policies that affect

every single human being."

At Molly Moon headquarters above the Capitol Hill shop, Neitzel manages her workflow as well as her milk flow. She often leads meetings while wearing the

Willow, a portable breast pump worn under her top. "We lovingly call her robot-boobs," says Miranda Smith, Neitzel's executive assistant and social media specialist.

After Smith had her daughter Scout last year, she was grateful to have a comfortable room in which to pump at work. She had never planned on having children, so when a surprise pregnancy afflicted her with debilitating nausea, she found herself in good company. "Everyone was so nice and understanding that I couldn't perform at my peak," says Smith.

The best ice cream for pregnancy cravings? "We have so many pregnant women who get addicted to our salted caramel," says Neitzel. And postpartum? "Cookie dough with hot fudge was my jam. Our cookie dough has oatmeal in it, so I tell myself it's good for milk production too."

Breast milk is one of many benefits a child is more likely to receive when their mother has access to paid family leave. While the United States is still the only industrialized nation in the world without a federal paid familyleave policy, Washington is taking steps in the right direction. Baby steps.

PARENTAL LEAVE

Know your rights

Parenting while employed requires flexibility. New babies, sick toddlers and special events don't always fit into the traditional 9-to-5 workday. But studies show that parents face extra scrutiny for taking parental leave or requesting a flexible schedule even when they perform well at work.

Seattle employment attorney Lindsay Halm says that employers aren't required to provide paid leave - with a few limited exceptions. The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) will protect your job for up to 12 weeks after you've had a baby or adopted a child, but doesn't require your employer to continue paying you. This becomes a challenge for families when deciding how much time they can afford to take off.

If your company doesn't provide FMLA - for example, if it's a smaller company with less than 50 employees - protecting your job will be based on a dialogue with your employer, says Halm.

Communicating early (and often) is important, as is being upfront about your desire to keep working. Following an in-person discussion, Halm recommends "sending an email summarizing your conversation, noting what you discussed and confirming you're on the same page."

Remain open-minded about working with your employer. If you reach a stalemate, consider contacting a lawyer who specializes in employee-side workplace rights.

- Ashley Breckel Andersen

COME AND SEE HOW WE'RE HELPING KIDS WITH LEARNING DIFFICULTIES



SCHOOL TOUR: November 6th, 1-3pm

Call Eaton Arrowsmith Redmond 425-861-8327









The art of motherhood

When a child comes into an artist's life, do they disrupt their practice or change their perspective?

> by SHIN YU PAI / photo by JOSHUA HUSTON



When my son Tomo was born five years ago, I gave up thinking about making art for nearly a year. Days

melded together and I lost sense of time. In those early days, I tracked the intervals between feedings, bowel movements and naps. At six months, I turned my attention to the markers of development, the emergence of teeth -

FIRST PERSON

watching for the proper time to introduce solid

food. I tracked my son's language development and traded in reading novels and poetry books for long dissertations on brain science and early childhood development. Mothering was not yet intuitive to me, in the way that caregiving came effortlessly to my acupuncturist husband.

I started taking walks with Tomo in Carkeek Park, where we visited Piper's Orchard, one of



SPRUCE STREET SCHOOL



Elementary Education, Ages 5 - 11

A diverse academic environment where creativity and imagination thrive.

2018 - 2019 Open Houses



DOWNTOWN SEATTLE 914 Virginia St. Seattle, WA

> 98101 206.621.9211

www.SpruceStreetSchool.org



Call today for a school tour. 206.547.8237 UCDS.org

Learning By Design





www.sammamishmontessori.com * 425-883-3271

the oldest fruit orchards in Seattle. I'd been contemplating a project in the orchard based on a long poem I'd written about the history of that land — an argument for heirloom species in reaction to news of the genetically modified Arctic apple circulating in school lunches nationwide.

I held my son aloft so he could pluck antique apples from branches. He had just begun to explore language, words like "mom" and "dad"; "butter" and "raisin" but had stalled out. I'd racked my brain for strategies to make language more approachable to Tomo.

Two ideas emerged — printing words from my poem on the ripening skins of apples in the trees with sunlight; and reorganizing my thoughts into an alphabet poem, where each letter could begin a new stanza related to some aspect of the orchard: A for Antique, D for Delicious, F for Found. In this way, my poem became a field guide for visitors to the orchard, a text where I could impart to a reader or listener everything I wanted my son to know about the orchard.

That project, which became "HEIRLOOM," marked the first time I brought together my interests in photography, installation, text and sound — parts of my creative practice that I had held separately. Mothering required integrating the many identities of being woman, daughter, wife and artist — but a whole other series of internal shifts were beginning to take place.

How I thought about the approachability and experience of language transformed. Tomo became my guide, based on where I could engage his developing mind. At the age of 2, he developed a love for balloons. So for an outdoor cultural festival, I printed balloons with short poems and handed them out to families and visitors.

A year later, my partner and I introduced Tomo to educational cartoons on PBS. As I watched my son take in this information and the quality of his attention, I thought about how a text that I'd written on the city of Redmond's initiative to expand its tree canopy could be reimagined as a viewable animated piece. With the help of the city and a designer, I worked to transform the text into an animated poem which we projected onto the back of City Hall.

This past August, I took over one of the rustic cabins at Camp Long with artists Michael Barakat and Tom Stiles. The Arts in Nature Festival invited me to make a site-specific work related to the environmental history

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >











The Learning Tree Montessori 1721 15th Ave Seattle WA 98122 206-324-4788

Come and take a tour of our amazing Montessori preschool!

We have provided year-round, allday care for children on **Capitol Hill** since 1979 in a cozy, beautiful setting.

We embrace families of all structures, colors and religions.

Call to sign up for a tour: 206-324-4788

info@learningtreemontessori.com

Open Houses, 10am-noon, **November 3 and January 12** delivered to your inbox

Sign up for our e-Newsletters

» seattleschild.com/ newsletters

· WASHINGTON'S BEACH TOWN ·

at Seabrook on the Washington Coast!

To participate in our Reader's Survey go to

» seattleschild.com/ Seattles-Child-2018-Reader-Survey

and be entered to win

Lots of great runners-up prizes, too!

< The art of motherhood CONTINUED

of Longfellow Creek, which runs throughout the park. I studied up on the history of Camp Long and its connection to scouting and created an interactive installation that could appeal to children, as I imagined things from Tomo's perspective. He'd moved on from television to iPads.

I staged the cabin with scouting paraphernalia borrowed from the Boy Scouts of America's regional office and placed a vintage ViewMaster at the center of the experience. Using the handheld viewer, a visitor

"THE PRESENCE OF A YOUNG CHILD IN MY LIFE HAS HELPED ME TO **ORIENT TO THE NOTION** THAT POETRY IS ALIVE **EVERYWHERE AROUND US."**

could click through a custom-made ViewMaster reel, as if it was a low-fi animation. The reel itself scrolled through frames of a poem that I wrote exploring the erasure of Longfellow Creek, a tributary that runs through West Seattle. Beneath the bunk bed, we installed a sound system that played recordings of Longfellow Creek to animate the cabin.

Tomo visited the cabin when the installation was complete. I watched him clamber onto the bunk bed and settle comfortably back on a pillow, where he peered into the ViewMaster. At that installation, kids knew intuitively what to do, scooping up the handheld viewer and guiding their parents, who stopped to regard the Pinewood Derby cars, waxing nostalgic on childhood.

The presence of a young child in my life has helped me to orient to the notion that poetry is alive everywhere around us. I contemplate the full sensory experience that poetry can be beyond the written page. And when I listen to my son, I hear a kind of intuitive creativity at play, a curiosity about the relationships between people and things in his world. How he rhymes the word "placenta" with "Santa," taking measured pleasure in language — the apple never falling far from the tree.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Shin Yu Pai served as poet-inresidence for the Seattle Art Museum and was the fourth Poet Laureate of the city of Redmond. She is a visual artist and a mother. Follow Shin Yu Pai at shinyupai.com. Unlock more from our magazine at seattleschild.com 1

Get us delivered to your inbox Sign up for our eNewsletters ?

Find local resources for busy parents Visit our family-friendly directory of busineses 1

Don't miss an issue Subscribe and get Seattle's Child mailed to your home

→ Find more nest-making ideas on seattleschild.com

»MakingHome

Living large in small and unique spaces



Breaking down barriers

This renovated home in View Ridge opens doors for a child with cerebral palsy

by ANDIE POWERS / photos by JOSHUA HUSTON

Sometimes, you're just gonna need a bigger boat, or perhaps just a different house. Built in 1911, Britt Piehler

and Beck Weinhold's Craftsman-style home in Ballard began to present too many barriers for their growing 5-year-old daughter Lola.

Lola has cerebral palsy and utilizes a wheelchair, walker, and assistive communication device. Rather than investing time and money into updating the old layout, they purchased a more flexible, 3,000-square-foot, ranch-style foreclosure in Seattle's View Ridge neighborhood and

began a year-long renovation.

Most of the work was originally intended to allow easy passage of Lola's wheelchair and walker — no passageway was left narrower than 48 inches wide, no doorway narrower than 36 inches — but the entire family has embraced the benefits of the open hallways and corners. The wide angles around the kitchen island make for easy

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE >

«Making<mark>Home</mark>

CONTINUED

cooking without bumping elbows, and the open floor plan facilitates family togetherness, even when each person is working on their own activities.

Lola now has a clear view and pathway to whatever she might need, which has fostered greater independence. "Lola loves her spot at our dining room table, which faces the kitchen," says Britt. "From there she can do activities while keeping an eye on Beck and I in the kitchen. She's queen of her domain."

Lola's 7-year-old brother Owen is also a fan of the renovations, especially the wide French doors. "It's like having another room," says Britt. "He always insists that we eat outside in the summer."

In addition to opening up the space, the architect designed low-threshold exterior doors, replaced knobs with levers on all interior doors, and installed cubbyholes and hooks in the entryway to keep the floor clear. Much of the home's aesthetic modifications were necessary to fix up the shoddy state of the foreclosure. Fresh paint, refinished floors and a complete kitchen remodel, including new cabinets, counters, appliances and lights, gave the



home a new lease on life. The family is currently planning a "Phase 2" renovation, which will convert Britt and Beck's master closet into an elevator shaft so Lola can access the basement.

The couple is now fully informed on how to best create a space for a child with Lola's similar capabilities. "Because it's hard to predict the future, our best advice is to keep things flexible," says Britt. "Kids grow, abilities evolve, conditions progress. Using furniture that can be moved later instead of built-ins, or adding more outlets than might seem sane; you just never know!"

→ Is your family living in a unique space? We want to hear from you! makinghome@seattleschild.com

Local resources for busy parents



Searching for summer camps?
Planning a birthday party?

Check out our constantly updated

Online Directory

of family-friendly businesses

» seattleschild.com/directories



Nov. 8

Math Fest

Calling all kids ages 3 to 11! It's never too early to start building a love for math. Come to the **Rainier Community** Center for a fun and free night of carnival-style math games with prizes.



New parents and caregivers, bring your infant or toddler to West Seattle's Admiral Theater for a 10 am showing of the latest films. No one cares about fussing and crying, and you can enjoy the show.

Nov. 9 Wendy and Peter: Into Neverland

Bellevue Youth Theatre brings this classic tale to life onstage, with a twist. Come see a world of fairies, pirates and children who never grow up, as narrated by Wendy. Great for ages 8 and older.

Nov. 16 Super Hero Skate Night

BYO capes and masks and get ready to scoot around the Alki Community Center on skates! With themed music, games, raffles, a costume contest and more, this evening is a sure hit!

Nov. 22 Issaquah Turkey Trot

Dust off that old turkey costume, or find something fall-related to wear, and run or walk this fun 5K that benefits the Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank.

ightarrow For our mobile-friendly, totally searchable, constantly updated calendar go to ${f seattleschild.com}$

What's happening around town

11/18

by JENNIFER MORTENSEN

Thursday, November 1

SEATTLE AREA

20 Years of Pacific Voices.

Celebrate those who contributed to the "Pacific Voices" exhibit, and look ahead to community collaborations for the New Burke (opening fall 2019). Dancing, music and food for purchase. 4 to 7:30 pm. FREE. Burke Museum, Seattle (U District). www.burkemuseum.ora

Family Nature Class: Falling Leaves. Preschoolers and caregivers explore the natural world using all five senses, creativity, and pre-math and literacy skills. Activities, circle time and a short hike with games and stories. 9:30 to 11 am. \$\$. Washington Park Arboretum, Seattle. www.botanicgardens.uw.edu

Girls Who Code. Girls in grades 6 through 12 use computer science to create programs and solve problems. 4 to 5:30 pm. FREE. Delridge Community Center, West Seattle. www.seattle.gov

The Velveteen Rabbit. Welcome the holiday season with this classic story about a shy toy rabbit that longs to become real. Ages 5 and older. 7 to 8:30 pm tonight; various times through Dec. 30. \$\$. Šeattle Children's Theatre, Lower Queen Anne. www.sct.org



NORTH SOUND

KIDSTAGE's Chicago. See this award-winning musical set in the Roaring '20s and presented by high schoolers. 7:30 pm tonight through Sat.; 2 pm on Sun. \$\$. Cope Gillette Theatre, Everett. www.villagetheatre.org

SOUTH SOUND

Disney on Ice Presents Dare to Dream. Celebrate what's possible

with Disney heroines: Moana, Anna, Rapunzel, Belle, Cinderella and more. 7 to 9 pm tonight; various times through Nov. 5. \$\$ to \$\$\$. ShoWare Center, Kent. www.disneyonice.com

Late Play Date: Sasquatch Snack & Paint. Drop in for themed activities perfect for families with children ages 3 to 12. 6 to 8 pm. FREE. White River Valley Museum, Auburn. www.wrvmuseum.org

Friday, November 2

SEATTLE AREA

Toddler Gym Playtime. Little walkers, up to the age of 5, play, learn and develop both motor and social skills. 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. FREE. Ballard Community Center. www.seattle.gov/parks

Small Frye: Storytelling + Art. A dramatic storytelling by Seattle Children's Theatre in the galleries, followed

EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE Please call ahead or check the venue's website before you go. EVENT PRICING \$: Under \$10 / \$\$: \$10-\$20 / \$\$\$: \$20 and over



HOLIDAY WONDERLAND at Country Village

Photos with Santa Nov 24-Dec 24 and events every weekend:

NOV 10 A Taste of the Holidays

NOV 17 & 18 Gingerbread House Weekend

> COUNTRY VILLAGE

NOV 24 Small Business Saturday

DEC 1 Santa Arrival & Tree Lighting DEC 8 Santa Arrgh-rival, A Pirate X-mas DEC 8 & 9

Cookies with Mrs. Claus

DEC 15 & 16 Fun with Frosty

DEC 22 Shopping with the Elves

VISIT LIVE REINDEER ALL SEASON LONG!

23718 Bothell Everett Hwy, Bothell, 98021 • www.countryvillagebothell.com



«Calendar

CONTINUED

by an optional art-making session. For preschoolers and caregivers. 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. FREE; pre-register. Frye Art Museum, First Hill. www.fryemuseum.org

Family Fun Night. Get the whole family moving with a gym full of toys, tumbling mats and more. Tonight's special theme: "Bingo!" 6 to 8 pm. \$. Magnolia Community Center. www.seattle.gov/parks

Día de los Muertos & Movie Night. Celebrate and learn about this Mexican tradition. Dance performances, face painting, sugar skull designing and a screening of the Disney film Coco. 5:30 to 8:30 pm. FREE. Miller Community Center. www.seattle.gov/parks

EASTSIDE

Snow White. A delightful retelling of the classic fairy tale. 7 pm today; various times through Nov. 4. \$\$. Bellevue Youth Theatre. www.parks.bellevue.gov

Saturday, November 3

SEATTLE AREA

Diwali Family Festival. Celebrate the festival of lights by touring the exhibition "Peacock in the Desert: The Royal Arts of Jodhpur, India." Live performances and lantern crafts. 11 am to 2 pm. FREE; pre-register. Seattle Art Museum, Downtown Seattle. www.seattleartmuseum.org

Short Run Comix & Art Festival. Mingle with thousands of comic artists and comic arts fans from all over the world. Art demos, author interviews and live performances. 11 am to 6 pm. FREE. Fisher Pavilion and The Vera Project at Seattle Center, Lower Queen Anne. www.shortrun.org

Green Seattle Day. Dig in and get out into your local neighborhood to help restore Seattle's forests. Join the fun at 15 parks across the city, and be one of hundreds of volunteers planting thousands of plants. Begins at 9 am. FREE; pre-register. Various park locations. www.greenseattle.org

Day of the Dead Festival. Watch a neighborhood parade, followed by a festival of music, dance crafts, community altar, sugar skull decorating and more. 3 to 7 pm. FREE. Phinney Center, Phinney Ridge. www.phinneycenter.org

Hmong New Year Celebration. Experience the culture of the Hmong people from the highlands of China, Laos and Thailand. 11 am to 6 pm. FREE. Seattle Center Armory, Lower Queen Anne. www.seattlecenter.com

And In This Corner: Cassius Clay.
Long before he was Muhammad Ali,
12-year-old Cassius Clay knew he would
be a hero someday. This live performance is best for children ages 9 and
older. 1 and 4:30 pm today; various times
through Nov. 25. \$\$\$. Seattle Children's
Theatre, Lower Queen Anne. www.sct.org

EASTSIDE

Fall Cooking Workshop. Make a healthy fall-themed appetizer and dessert. For children ages 2 to 6. 10 am to noon. FREE with canned food donation; pre-register. Bright Horizons, Bellevue. www.brighthorizons.com

Storybook Theatre: *3 Pigs.* A musical performance perfect for children ages 3 to 10. Shows feature catchy songs

Presented by:

hildrens Nuseum



Salish Sea Youth Ballet's Friday Harbor Nutcracker December 15 & 16

Celebrate the holidays on San Juan Island! salishseaballet.com | 360.298.1720



delivered to your inbox

Sign up for our e-Newsletters

»seattleschild.com/ newsletters

Burlington December 7-9, 2018 at The Outlet Shoppes at Burlington Indoor activities Climbing Wall Outdoor activities Snow from Mount

New Winter Wonderland location for 2018!

Super Heroes

Frozen Princesses

Bouncy Houses,

Mini Golf & more

The Outlet Shoppes at Burlington

Baker Ski Area

Wagon Rides

Face Painting

Reindeer

Join our Facebook event for regular Winter Wonderland updates!

Stay for the weekend! Candlewood Suites, Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn & Suites, Fairfield Inn & Suites or Cocusa Motel

The Children's Museum will remain open at the Cascade Mall until construction of the new space at The Outlet Shoppes is completed.

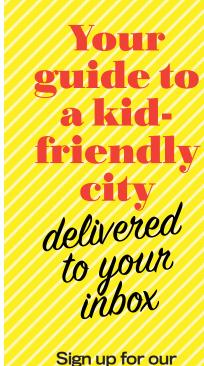
Located in Burlington, WA:: Tel: 360.757.8888

To learn more about the Museum, programs & our 2019 relocation

www.SkagitChildrensMuseum.net

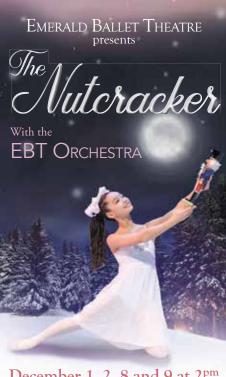
VisitSkagitValley.com





e-Newsletters

»seattleschild.com/ newsletters



December 1, 2, 8 and 9 at 2^{pm} December 8 at 7^{pm}

Northshore Performing Arts Center

npacf.org | emeraldballet.org



«Calendar

CONTINUED

and life lessons with happy endings. 11 am, 1 and 3 pm. \$\$. Kirkland Performance Center. www.kpcenter.org

NORTH SOUND

Northwest Artists Holiday Show. Award-winning artists will be selling paintings, prints, pottery, gourmet food and more. 10 am to 5 pm today and Sun. FREE; donations appreciated. Unitarian Universalist Church, Edmonds. www.snohomish.org

SOUTH SOUND

Discovery Days. Explore the MaST Center's Aquarium, which holds more than 15 tanks with 3,000 gallons of flow-through seawater and displays more than 250 native marine species. 10 am to 2 pm. FREE. Marine Science and Technology Center, Des Moines. www.mast.highline.edu

Pier Into the Night Live Dive. Take an underwater journey of Gig Harbor Bay... without getting wet. Professional divers livestream what they encounter below the surface. Narrated by biologists. 6 to 8 pm. \$\mathcal{S}\$. Jerisich Public Dock, Gig Harbor. www.harborwildwatch.org

Jet City Comic Show. Comics vendors, guest speakers, costume contest, gaming and more. 10 am to 6 pm through Sun. \$\mathcal{S}\$; free ages 10 and younger with paid adult. Tacoma Convention Center. www.jetcitycomicshow.com

Family Nature Walk. Take a naturalist-led walk through the park and learn how plants and animals adapt to the sosons. Ages 3 and older. No strollers. 10 to 11 am. FREE; pre-register. Titlow Park, Tacoma. www.metroparkstacoma.org

How I Became a Pirate. Sail off on a fantastic musical excursion with a band of comical pirates. Based on the popular children's book by Melinda Long. II am and 2 pm today; 2 pm Sun. \$\$. Tacoma Musical Playhouse. www.tmp.org

FARTHER AFIELD

KiDiMu Masters: Family Fun Day.
The entire museum will transform into an 18-hole miniature golf course. 10 am to 4 pm. \$ to \$\$\; free 12 months and younger. Kids Discovery Museum, Bainbridge Island. www.kidimu.org

Sunday, November 4

SEATTLE AREA

Toddler Time at the Aquarium. Tots explore developmentally ageappropriate, hands-on activities. For children ages 5 and younger. 9:30 am to noon today through Nov. 6 and Nov. 18-20. \$\$\$. Seattle Aquarium, Downtown Seattle. www.seattleaquarium.org

Bunka no Hi Japanese Culture Day. Japanese groups and organizations showcase their cultural traditions including taiko drums, tea ceremony, music, dancing, food (cash only), martial arts, games, crafts and more. Il am to 4 pm. FREE. Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington, Seattle (International District). www.jcccw.org

EASTSIDI

Juanita Bay Park Interpretative Tour. Watch for songbirds, waterfowl, turtles and more during a ranger-led interpretive tour of this wildlife habitat. Children ages 6 and older.

HOLIDAY FUN

1 to 2 pm. FREE. Juanita Bay Park, Kirkland. www.eastsideaudubon.org

Plant a Tree. Learn why some tree leaves change color and others don't. Then go for a walk through the forest and plant a willow tree. Children ages 5 through 10 and caregivers. 2:30 to 3:30 pm. FREE; pre-register. Lewis Creek Park, Bellevue. www.bellevuewa.gov

SOUTH SOUND

Día de los Muertos Celebration. Artmaking, face painting, performances, food, and exhibitions of a tapete (sand painting) and community altars. *IO am to 6 pm. FREE. Tacoma Art Museum. www.tacomaartmuseum.org*

Bell, Book and Candle. Watch John Van Druten's bewitchingly fun romantic comedy. For ages 8 and older. 2:30 to 3:30 pm. \$\$\$. Tacoma Little Theatre. www.tacomalittletheatre.com

Monday, November 5

SEATTLE AREA

Crusoe, The Celebrity Dachshund. Meet the popular blogging wiener dog who shares heartwarming and goofy photographs of his world travels. Ticket includes greeting line admission for one family, plus a copy of the book Crusoe, The Worldly Wiener Dog: Further Adventures With The Celebrity Dachshund. 6 pm. \$S. University Book Store, U District. www.ubookstore.com

Toddler Gym. Play with toys, balls, trikes, push bikes and more. Noon to 3 pm. FREE. Delridge Community Center, West Seattle. www.seattle.gov

Pajamarama! Evening Family Story Time. Change the scene for bedtime stories. Enjoy rhymes, songs and crafts especially for preschoolers. Jammies and teddy bears welcome. 6:45 to 7:30 pm. FREE. Shoreline Library. www.kcls.org

Tuesday, November 6

SEATTLE AREA

Story Time for Kids. University Book Store hosts a special story time for ages 3 to 7. Enjoy dramatic readings of the best in new and classic kids' tales, plus activities and entertainment. Tuesdays at 11 am. FREE. University Book Store, U District. www.ubookstore.com

Kaleidoscope Play & Learn. Listen to stories, sing songs and do simple arts and crafts. Plus play time with various toys and activities. Bring lunch and eat with your playtime friends. 10:30 to noon. FREE. Rainier Beach Library. www.kcls.org

Detective Cookie's Chess Club. Learn to play chess. New members are always welcome to this urban club that's been ongoing for more than a decade. Children and teens ages 7 and older. 3 to 5 pm. FREE. Rainier Beach Library. www.kcls.org

Pokémon League Night. Trading-card game players at all levels are welcome. Learn the game basics and get the feel for competitive play. Trade and win prizes. 5 to 7 pm. FREE. Top Ten Toys, Greenwood. www.toptentoys.com

Wednesday, November 7

SEATTLE AREA

Free Admission to Renton History Museum. Located in a historic Art Deco firehouse, the Renton History Museum offers changing exhibits, programs, publications and events. 10 am to 8 pm. FREE. Renton History Museum. www.rentonhistory.org

Seattle Meowtropolitan Family Day. The cat cafe welcomes younger kids and their caregivers into the lounge to learn how to safely interact with feline friends. Minimum one adult per two children. Il am. \$\$. Seattle Meowtropolitan Cafe, Wallingford. seattlemeowtropolitan.com

Open Play at the PlayGarden. Drop by this beautiful, inclusive park for a fun afternoon of

play with kids of all abilities. Expert staff is on site to lead activities and offer support. 3 pm to 6 pm Wednesdays; 10 am to 2 pm Saturdays. FREE. Seattle Children's PlayGarden, Beacon Hill. www.childrensplaygarden.org

EASTSIDE

Matilda. Roald Dahl's beloved magical misfit comes to Village Theatre's stage in this hit musical. 7:30 to 10 pm tonight; various times through Dec. 30. \$\$\$. Francis J. Gaudette Theatre, Issaquah. www.villagetheatre.org

KidsQuest Low Sensory Evening. A special time for kids with sensory sensitivities to visit the museum. Limited attendance, low ambient noise and lighting make an inviting space to explore and play. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. FREE; pre-registration required. KidsQuest Museum, Bellevue. www.kidsquestmuseum.org

SOUTH SOUND

Stone Soup. Is it possible to make soup from only a stone? Find out and help the village prepare a feast. Part of the "Let's Play" series featuring short, interactive shows for kids ages 5 and younger. 10 am today through Nov. 11. \$, free ages 2 and younger. Olympia Family Theater. www.olyft.org

Thursday, November 8

SEATTLE AREA

Math Fest. Kids ages 3 to 11 build confidence and enthusiasm for math by playing carnival-style math games for prizes. 5 to 7:30 pm. FREE. Rainier Community Center. www.zenomath.org

Tales from Latin America: The Armadillo's Song and The Half Chicken. Celebrate story through music with sweet and wacky folk tales from Central and South America. Featuring songs by Mondeto De Oro and Afrocubism, as well as a Sesame Street favorite. For children ages 3 to 6. 10 to 11 am. FREE. Belltown Community Center. www.seattle.gov

Family Nature Class: Mushroom Mania. Preschoolers and their caregivers use sensory investigation, creativity and math to learn all about mushrooms and their natural environment. Class includes circle time, a hike, story time and group play. 9:30 to 11:30 am. \$ to \$\$. Washington Park Arboretum. www.botanicgardens.uw.edu

NORTH SOUND

Disney on Ice Presents *Dare to Dream.*Celebrate what's possible with Disney heroines: Moana, Anna, Rapunzel, Belle, Cinderella and more. 7 to 9 pm tonight; various times through Nov. II. \$8 to \$\$8\$. Angel of the Winds Arena, Everett. www.disneyonice.com

SOUTH SOUND

Story Club: Big Questions for Inquiring Young Minds. November's book: The Peace Bell by Margi Preus. Kids ages 8 to 11 engage in big questions with story time, discussion and exploration of a museum exhibit. 4 to 5 pm. FREE. White River Valley Museum, Auburn. www.wrvmuseum.org

Friday, November 9

SEATTLE AREA

Mommy Matinees at the Admiral. New parents and caregivers can enjoy a movie with their infant or toddler. Lights are turned up, sound is turned down and no one cares about fussing and crying. Fridays, usually 10 am; check website. \$\$. Admiral Theater, West Seattle. www.farawayentertainment.com

Family Skate Night. Relive your youth while introducing kids to skating rink fun, music and games. Friday nights, 6:30 to 8:15 pm. S. Bitter Lake Community Center Annex. www.seattle.gov

Skwim. Play a game that's a mix of water polo and Frisbee golf with kids, teens, and





CONTINUED

adults. 7 to 8 pm. \$. Greenwood Community Center/ Evans Pool. www.seattle.gov

Family Dodgeball Night. Parents vs. kids! Pizza served after the game. 6:30 to 8:30 pm. \$. Queen Anne Community Center, Seattle. www.seattle.gov

Seattle International Auto Show. See hundreds of new vehicles, including exotic cars and alternative fuel vehicles. Family fun zone with track driving, video games, crafts and more. Noon to 9 pm today; 9 am to 9 pm Sat.; 9 am to 6 pm Sun. and Mon. \$\$; FREE for children 12 and younger. CenturyLink Field Event Center: www.seattleautoshow.com

EASTSIDI

Wendy and Peter: Into Neverland. This original twist of a classic tale explores the world of fairies, pirates and children who never grow up, all through the eyes of Wendy. Ages 8 and older. 7 pm tonight; various times through Nov. 18. \$\$. Bellevue Youth Theatre, Bellevue. www.parks.bellevuewa.gov

Saturday, November 10

SEATTLE AREA

Bird Tour. Walk with experienced birders while searching for migratory birds and year-round residents. Ages 8 and older. 8 to 10 am. \$. Discovery Park, Seattle. www.seattle.gov

Family Weekend Walk: Super Senses. Channel the super senses of local wildlife to explore, play and learn. Ages 2 to 12. 12:45 to 2:30 pm. FREE. Washington Park Arboretum. www.botanicgardens.uw.edu

Discover Science Weekend. Aquarium scientists and visiting scientists share their research through interactive experiments. *9:30 am to 5 pm through Sun. Included with admission. \$\$ to \$\$\$, FREE ages 3 and younger. Seattle Aquarium, Downtown Seattle. www.seattleaquarium.org*

Fall-ing for the Woodwinds. A board-certified music therapist introduces the woodwind family in an environment designed specifically for children on the autism spectrum and with sensory sensitivities. Meet musicians, hear a short performance and explore instruments. IO am and noon, today and Sun. \$\$. Benaroya Hall, Downtown Seattle. www.seattlesymphony.org

EASTSIDE

Wetland Waddlers. Preschoolers and caregivers explore the Mercer Slough with art, play and story time. 9:30 to 11:30 am; pre-register. \$\$. Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center: www.pacificsciencecenter.org

Snoqualmie Ridge Turkey Trot. 5K run and IK kids' run. 7 am registration, 9 am kids' run, 9:15 am 5K. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Cascade View Elementary School, Snoqualmie. www.runsnoqualmie.com

SOUTH SOUND

Veterans Day Parade. Learn about the meaning behind Veterans Day at one of the largest Veterans Day parades in America. II am. FREE. Main Street, Auburn. www.auburnwa.gov

Family Nature Walk. Take a naturalist-led walk through the park and learn how plants and animals adapt to the seasons. Ages 3 and older; no strollers. 10 to 11 am. FREE; pre-register. McKinley Park, Tacoma. www.metroparkstacoma.org

Discovery Days + Live Dive. Tour the MaST Center — the marine biology and aquarium facility of Highline College — and its aquarium showcasing 250 native marine species. 10 am to 2 pm. Live Dive at 11 am. FREE. Marine Science and Technology Center, Des Moines. www.mast.highline.edu

PBS Playdate. The Children's Museum celebrates Sesame Street with themed, hands-on activities. 10 to 11:30 am. FREE. Children's Museum of Tacoma. www.playtacoma.org Veterans' Appreciation Days. All currently serving or honorably discharged military personnel will receive FREE admission, with half-price admission for their family members. Valid ID required. 9:30 am to 3 pm through Mon. Northwest Trek Wildlife Park, Eatonville. www.nwtrek.org; Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, Tacoma. www.pdza.org

NORTH SOUND

Mill Creek Veterans Day Parade. This parade honors those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and features floats, bands, drill teams, equestrian teams and more. Il am to noon. FREE. Main Street, Mill Creek. www.snohomish.org

Rock and Gem Show. Rock hounds of all ages are welcome at this annual show with displays, demonstrations and a kids' beading table. 9 am to 5 pm today; 10 am to 5 pm Sun. FREE. Maplewood Rock and Gem Club, Edmonds. www.maplewoodrockclub.com

Oddmall: Emporium of the Weird.

Unusual arts and crafts, performances, kids' area and more. 10 am to 6 pm today, 11 am to 5 pm Sun. FREE. Evergreen State Fairgrounds, Monroe. www.oddmall.com

Sunday, November 11

SEATTLE AREA

Free State Parks Days. Enjoy free admission to one of 140 beautiful state parks. Day use only; overnight stays require additional fees. Today and Nov. 23. Various parks throughout the state of Washington. www.discoverpass.wa.gov

Veterans Day Discount. Woodland Park Zoo honors active duty and retired military and their spouses with FREE admission today. Must present valid military ID; cannot be combined with other offers or discounts. 9:30 am to 4 pm. Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle (Phinney Ridge). www.zoo.org

Public Sail. Set sail on a beautiful, classic boat for a 45-minute tour of Lake Union. *10 am to 4 pm. FREE. The Center for Wooden Boats, South Lake Union. www.cvb.org*

SOUTH SOUND

Second Sunday Music. Folk music by Sweet Mary will fill the beautiful gardens. I to 2:30 pm. S. W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory, Tacoma. www.metroparkstacoma.org

Monday, November 12

SEATTLE AREA

Veterans Day Program. All veterans of a U.S. military branch are invited, along with the public, to a short program in their honor. Refreshments to follow. 2 to 4 pm. FREE. Shoreline City Hall, Shoreline. www.shorelinewa.gov

Magic Monday. Magicians conjure feats of mystery, wonder and the bizarre. 7 pm. FREE. Third Place Books, Ravenna. www.thirdplacebooks.com

FARTHER AFIELD

Harry Potter Party. Celebrate the world of Harry Potter with an all-ages afternoon of crafts and fun. Costumes encouraged. 1 to 5 pm. FREE. Vashon Library, Vashon Island. www.kcls.com

Tuesday, November 13

SEATTLE AREA

Mini Mountaineers. Join your little one on an exploration of nature, and meet like-minded outdoorsy families. Walk along the coastline for bird watching, rock skipping and leaf crunching. Ages 2 to 5 and accompanying adult. 10 am; pre-register. \$. Magnuson Park, Seattle. www.mountaineers.org

Vienna Boys Choir. Renowned as one of the finest vocal ensembles in the world, the Vienna Boys Choir is made up of vocalists ages 10 to 14. 730 pm. \$\$\scrt{S}\$ Benaroya Hall, Downtown Seattle. www.seattlesymphony.org

Wednesday, November 14

SOUTH SOUND

Story Hour at the Conservatory. Kids will have fun learning about nature and plants through short stories, crafts and science projects. Today's book: Owl Moon by Jane Yolen. II am. \$. W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory, Tacoma. www.metroparkstacoma.org

Thursday, November 15

SEATTLE AREA

Family Movie Day. Enjoy a family movie with popcorn and beverages. Check the center's Facebook page for the film selection. 10 am. FREE. Belltown Community Center. www.seattle.gov

Park in the Dark Hike. Explore your senses and search for nocturnal movements in the forest. For children ages 5 to 12 and caregivers. 6:15 to 8:45 pm. \$\$ to \$\$. Washington Park Arboretum. www.botanicgardens.uw.edu

Thanksgiving Feast. Enjoy a full-scale Thanksgiving dinner with your community. 6:30 to 8 pm. S suggested donation. Garfield Community Center, Seattle (Central District). www.seattle.gov/parks

SOUTH SOUND

The Hip Hop Nutcracker. Watch this hip spin on Tchaikovsky's timeless music. Performed by dancers, a DJ and a violinist. 7:30 to 9:30 pm. \$\$\$. Pantages Theater, Tacoma. www.broadwaycenter.org

Friday, November 16

SEATTLE AREA

Super Hero Skate Night. Get out your capes and masks! Themed music, games, raffles, a costume contest and more. 5:45 to 7:45 pm. \$. Alki Community Center, West Seattle. www.seattle.gov

Bushwick Book Club: The Hate U Give. Not your run-of-the-mill book club, Bushwick shows offer a special interaction between audiences and musicians. This show features music inspired by Angie Thomas' young adult novel The Hate U Give. 7:30 pm. \$ to \$\$. The Vera Project, Seattle (Lower Queen Anne). www.townhallseattle.org

Seattle Reptile Guy. Meet reptiles and amphibians including snakes, geckos, turtles and more. 6:30 to 7:30 pm. S. Ravenna-Eckstein Community Center: www.seattle.gov/parks

EASTSIDE

Tiny Tot Story Time. Enjoy an interactive story time for infants and toddlers with singing, dancing and age-appropriate activities. IO to II am. FREE. Bright Horizons, Bellevue. www.child-care-preschool.brighthorizons.com

Fired Up Fridays. Artists of all ages can create a one-of-a-kind clay piece. 3 to 6 pm. 5 to \$5 for clay, glazing and firing, and museum admission. KidsQuest Museum, Bellevue. www.kidsquestmuseum.org

Planetarium Show: Wonders of the Universe. The Bellevue College Planetarium will reproduce the night sky in a special dome-shaped room. Marvel at the night sky while learning from a Science and Math Institute guide. Shows at 6, 7 and 8 pm. FREE; pre-register. Willard Geer Planetarium, Bellevue College. www.bellevuecollege.edu

SOUTH SOUND

Overnight at the Museum: Wizarding School. Kids ages 7 to 12 have an adventure with scavenger hunts, wand crafts, potion experiments and more. 7 pm. \$\$\s\$\$. White River Valley Museum, Auburn. www.wrvmuseum.org

The Polar Express Train. Wear your pajamas and ride a historic train as you enjoy story time, treats and a gift from Santa. 5:30 and 7:30 pm tonight; various dates and times through Dec. 31. \$\$\$, free ages 2 and younger. Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad, Elbe. www.mtrainierrailroad.com

Saturday, November 17

SEATTLE AREA

Exploration for All: Autism Early Open.



Families affected by autism spectrum disorder are invited experience exhibits without heavy crowds. Softened general lighting and decreased noise levels and visual stimulation wherever possible. 8 to 10 am. FREE. Pacific Science Center, Lower Queen Anne. www.pacificsciencecenter.org

Holiday Crafts Market. 65 juried artisans selling their handmade crafts and wares. 9 am to 4 pm. \$to \$\$\$. Spartan Recreation Center, Shoreline. www.shorelinewa.gov

Family Magic Show. Comedy magic, stage illusions, mind reading and lots of audience participation. After the show, kids will learn a magic trick. 1 and 2:30 pm. \$. Theater 4, Armory Building, Seattle Center: www.seattlemagicshow.com

Turkey Toss. Watch as the zoo's carnivores feast on a raw, store-prepared turkey. 10 am to 2 pm. Included with admission. \$ to \$\$, free ages 2 and younger. Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle (Phinney Ridge). www.zoo.org

EASTSIDE

Hands-On History: Historic Fraser Cabin. Built in 1888, the cabin comes to life with handson activities from settler life: agriculture, dairy, household tasks, log cabins and games. 11 am to 3 pm. FREE. Kelsey Creek Farm Park, Bellevue. www.eastsideheritagecenter.org

NORTH SOUND

Gingerbread House Weekend. Create a festive gingerbread house or enter into the contest. Photo ops, Santa's live reindeer and gingerbread house-building workshops. 11 am to 5 pm today and Sun. FREE admission; \$\$\$ workshops. Country Village, Bothell. www.countryvillagebothell.com

Holiday Market. Browse local, handmade crafts. Food, music and family photos with Santa. 10 am to 5 pm. FREE. Thomas Family Farm, Snohomish. www.snohomish.org

SOUTH SOUND

Lusio Lights Family Night. Curator Lusio brings the Conservatory gardens alive with light. Explore creative light art in the fragrant, dark pathways. Snacks, glow-in-the-dark face paint and music. 6 to 8 pm. \$\$ to \$\$\$; FREE for children 12 and younger. W.W. Seymour Botanical Conservatory, Tacoma. www.metroparkstacoma.org

Family STEAM Days. Explore science, technology, engineering and math activities at America's Car Museum. Il am to 4 pm. \$\$; FREE ages 5 and younger. LeMay America's Car Museum, Tacoma. www.americascarmuseum.org

FARTHER AFIELD

Holly Daze Bazaar. 65 island artisans and craftsmen showcasing their creations, just in time for giving season. 11 am to 4 pm. FREE. McMurray Middle School, Vashon Island. www.business.vashonchamber.com

Sunday, November 18

SEATTLE AREA

Toddler Time at the Aquarium. Tots will explore age-appropriate, hands-on activities. For children ages 5 and younger. 9:30 am to noon today through November 20. \$\$. Seattle Aquarium, Downtown Seattle. www.seattleaquarium.org

ArtVenture: Library Labyrinths. Check out "Edgar Arceneaux: Library of Black Lies" and experiment with book-making to create personal maps of your memories, stories and histories. 1 to 3 pm. FREE. Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington. www.henryart.org

Green Lake Gobble & Mashed Potato Munch Off. 10K, 5K and kids' dash for ages 12 and younger, followed by mashed-potato eating competition. 8 am registration, 9:10 am kids' dash, 9:30 am 10K and 5K. \$\$\$. Green Lake Park, Seattle (Green Lake). www. promotioneyents.com

Piper's Creek Salmon Celebration. See chum and coho salmon return to Piper's Creek at Carkeek Park; enjoy food, hot drinks, music and activities throughout the park. Salmon Stewards will be on hand to answer questions. Il am to 2 pm. FREE. Carkeek Park, Seattle (Broadview). www.govlink.org

Festival of Trees Celebration. View designer-decorated trees, visit Santa, enjoy music, cookies, cocoa, shopping and more. Proceeds benefit Seattle Children's Hospital. 1 to 4 pm. FREE, fee for some activities. Fairmont Olympic Hotel, Downtown Seattle. www.seattlefestivaloftrees.com

EASTSIDE

Pineapple Classic 5K. Try not to drop your pineapple! It's an obstacle race followed by a luau, to benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Ages 8 to adult. 8:30 am. \$\$\$. Marymoor Park, Redmond. www.llswa.org

Turkey Trot. 5K fun run/walk benefits Hopelink. Strollers and leashed dogs welcome. Post-race party with family fun. 8 am registration, 8:30 am kids' dash, 9 am start. \$\$\$. Marina Park, Kirkland. www.hopelink.org

SOUTH SOUND

Tacoma Youth Symphony Concert. Hear classical music from talented young musicians. 3 pm. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Rialto Theater, Tacoma. www.tysamusic.org

Fantasy Lights Walk. Walk through 2.5 miles of animated displays at Spanaway Park before it becomes a drive-through-only event. Bring flashlights. Strollers, wagons or wheelchairs are welcome. A vendor village will provide sweet treats. 5 to 8 pm. \$, free ages 3 and younger. Spanaway Lake Park, Spanaway, www.co.pierce.wa.us

Tuesday, November 20

SEATTLE AREA

Gingerbread Village. Local architecture firms team up with the Sheraton Seattle culinary team to design, bake and build larger-than-life, intricately decorated gingerbread creations. Benefits the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Today through Jan. 1. FREE; donations appreciated. Sheraton Seattle Hotel, Downtown Seattle. www.gingerbreadvillage.org

Wednesday, November 21

SEATTLE AREA

A Magical Cirque Christmas. Jaw-dropping magic, breathtaking circus acts and angelic voices singing favorite Christmas carols. A show for all ages. 7:30 pm. \$\$\$. Paramount Theater, Seattle. www.stgpresents.org

Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley. Merry Christmas from Mr. and Mrs. Darcy! Seizing the opportunity to be the heroine of her own story, middle sister Mary pursues her equal. 7:30 pm tonight; various times through Dec. 29. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Taproot Theatre, Greenwood. www.taproottheatre.org

Thursday, November 22

SEATTLE AREA

Magnuson Series Turkey Trot. 5K, 10K and kids' dash. Kids' dash at 9:45 am, 5K and 10K at 10 am. \$ to \$\$\$. Magnuson Park, Seattle (Sand Point). www.magnusonseries.org

Seattle Turkey Trot. Annual 5K run/walk benefits Ballard Food Bank. Strollers, dogs on 6-foot or shorter leash welcome. 9 am. \$\$ to \$\$\$. NW 85th Street and 32nd Avenue NW, Seattle. www.seattleturkeytrot.org

EASTSIDE

Turkey Day 5K and 5-Mile Fun Run. Dress up your "turkey legs" and see how fast they carry you through the 5-mile or 5K fun run. No dogs. 8:15 am registration, 9 am start. \$\$ to \$\$\$ plus canned food donation. Redmond Watershed Preserve, Redmond. www.finishstrongevents.com

Issaquah Turkey Trot. 5K run/walk benefits Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank. Costumes encouraged. 9 am. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Issaquah Community Center, Issaquah, www.issaquahturkeytrot.org

NORTH SOUND

Woodinville Turkey Trot. Test yourself on this flat, chip-timed 5k course, or enjoy the experience of running or walking with friends and family. Costumes encouraged. 7:30 am registration; 8:50 am kids' dash; 9 am 5k run/walk. \$\$\$. Wilmot Park, Woodinville. www.woodinvilleturkeytrot.com

SOUTH SOUND

Norpoint Turkey Trot. 5K run, 2-mile run/walk and kids' trot (ages 3 to 10, followed by crafts and games). 7 am registration; 9 am start. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Center at Norpoint, Tacoma. www.metroparkstacoma.org

Tacoma City Turkey Trot. 5K fun run and 1K kids' run. Strollers welcome, no dogs. 7 am registration, 9 am 5K, 10:15 am kids' run. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Fleet Feet, Tacoma. www.tacomacityturkeytrot.com

Fantasy Lights. Drive through 2.5 miles of animated displays at Spanaway Park. Tune your radio to FM 95.3 to hear holiday music performed by a local high school. 5:30 to 9 pm through Jan. 1. \$\$, half-price on Nov. 26-28 and Dec. 3-5. Spanaway Park, Spanaway. www.co.pierce.wa.us

Friday, November 23

SEATTLE AREA

Macy's Holiday Parade. More than 20 inflat-

«Calendar

CONTINUED

able floats, high-school marching bands, 650 costumed characters, drill teams and Santa Claus. 9 am. FREE. Parade starts at Seventh Avenue and Pine Street, turns south on Fifth Avenue to University Street, then west to Fourth Avenue and north to Macy's, Downtown Seattle. www.macys.com

Seattle Center Winterfest. Connect to the spirit of the season with activities and entertainment including Winter Train and Village, performances, ice skating (\$) and more. See online for schedule through Jan. 6. FREE. Seattle Center Armory and Fisher Pavilion, Lower Queen Anne.

www.seattlecenter.com/winterfest

Native Holiday Gift Fair. Shop from native artisans for crafts, jewelry, cards, clothing, fine art, food and more. 10 am to 5 pm through Sun. FREE. Duwamish Longhouse, West Seattle. www.duwamishtribe.org

A Christmas Carol. A Seattle tradition, Charles Dickens' classic returns to ACT Theatre. Ages 5 and older (no babes in arms). 7:30 pm tonight; various dates and times through Dec. 28. \$\$5. ACT's Allen Theatre, Downtown Seattle. www.acttheatre.org

George Balanchine's *The Nutcracker*. Pacific Northwest Ballet presents the Tchaikovsky classic, featuring costumes and sets designed by author/illustrator Ian Falconer (Olivia the Pig). Best for school age and older. 7:30 pm tonight; various dates and times through Dec. 28. \$\$\$. McCaw Hall, Seattle (Lower Queen Anne). www.pnb.org

FASTSIDE

Elf The Musical, Jr. Enjoy a musical version of the movie Elf, where a special elf saves Santa Claus and brings happiness to all. 7 pm tonight; various times through Dec. 2. \$\$. Bellevue Youth Theatre. www.parks.bellevuewa.gov

KidsQuest Family Gingerbread House Workshops. Make and take home a gingerbread house, with all materials provided. Up to six people may work on a house. I to 3 and 5 to 7 pm today, 10 am to noon and 2 to 4 pm. Sat. \$\$\$. Space is limited, pre-register. Hyatt Regency, Bellevue. www.kidsquestmuseum.org

Snowflake Lane. It snows nightly on a parade of live toy soldiers and other characters, music and a light show. 7 pm daily through Dec. 24. FREE. Sidewalks of Bellevue Way and Northeast Eighth Street, Bellevue. www.snowflakelane.com

SOUTH SOUND

Zoolights. See the zoo transformed into a colorful winter wonderland with more than a half-million lights. Ride a camel or the antique carousel. 5 to 9 pm through Jan. 6 (closed Dec. 24). \$ to \$\$, free ages 2 and younger. Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, Tacoma. www.pdza.org

Saturday, November 24

SEATTLE AREA

Seattle Children's Kids Marathon. Children in grades K through 8 complete the final 1.2 miles of the annual marathon today. 10 am. \$\$\$. Seattle Center Memorial Stadium (lower Queen Anne). www.seattlemarathon.org

GeekCraft Expo. Shop dozens of vendors offering handmade, geeky wares. Featuring small, local businesses. Craft activities for kids hosted by Seattle ReCreative. Cosplay encouraged. 10 am to 5 pm today; 10 am to 4 pm Sun. FREE. Hangar 30, Magnuson Park, Seattle. www.geekcraftexpo.com

Greet the Season. Enjoy festive music, dance workshops, crafts and family activities at MOHAI, The Center for Wooden Boats and the Historic Ships Wharf. 10 am to 8 pm. FREE outdoor activities, \$\$ entrance to MOHAI. Lake Union Park, Seattle (South Lake Union). www.mohai.org

EASTSIDE

Santa Train. Take a holiday train excursion to



visit Santa Claus at the historic Snoqualmie Depot. Music, fresh-baked cookies from coal-fired ovens and a small gift for each child. 9 am to 4 pm today and Sunday and several weekends in December. \$\$\$. Northwest Railway Museum, Snoqualmie. www.trainmuseum.org

Garden D'Lights. Stroll a winter garden with a half-million mini-lights in three-dimensional plant and critter shapes. 4:30 to 9 pm through Dec. 30. \$; free ages 10 and younger. FREE nights are Nov. 24-29. Bellevue Botanical Garden, Bellevue. www.gardendlights.com

SOUTH SOUND

Tacoma Holiday Tree Lighting. Carols, Santa photos and a tree-lighting ceremony. 4:30 pm. FREE. Pantages Theater, Tacoma. www.broadwaycenter.org

Gingerbread Jamboree. Create your own gingerbread house. Sponsored by Children's Museum of Tacoma. 10 am to noon or 1:30 to 3:30 pm through Sun. \$\$\$. Pre-register. Hotel Murano, Tacoma. www.playtacoma.org

Imago Theatre's *Frogz*. Whimsical and inventive, this show is a clever intersection of vaudeville, cirque and mime. 7:30 pm. \$\$ to \$\$\$. Pantages Theater, Tacoma. www.imagotheatre.com

Sunday, November 25

SOUTH SOUND

The Greatest Showman Sing-Along.
The circus is coming to town for this Olympia tradition. Sing along to your favorite songs from the movie, and don your best circus, animal or Victorian apparel for the costume contest. 5 pm. \$\$. Washington Center Main Stage, Olympia. www.washingtoncenter.org

NORTH SOUND

Music for the Imagination. The Everett Philharmonic Orchestra presents a family-friendly concert filled with familiar songs. Afterward, meet the musicians and their instruments. 3 to 5 pm. \$\$. Everett Civic Auditorium, Everett. www.everettphil.org

Monday, November 26

SEATTLE AREA

Neil deGrasse Tyson: Adventures in Science Literacy. Learn about the joys of knowing how the universe works, and the disasters that can unfold when we do not. 7:30 pm. \$\$\$. The Paramount Theatre, Seattle. www.stgpresents.org

O'Christmas Trees Family Preview. View the 14 full-size, beautifully decorated Christmas trees

and vote on your favorite. Enjoy festive entertainment, photos with Santa, kids' crafts, and milk and cookies. 3 to 7 pm. FREE. The Westin Seattle, Downtown Seattle. www.washington.providence.org

Wednesday, November 28

NORTH SOUND

Festival of Trees. View beautifully decorated trees, plus enjoy crafts, entertainment, treats and visits with Santa. 1 to 6 pm. FREE. Tulalip Resort, Marysville. washington.providence.org

SOUTH SOUND

A Victorian Country Christmas. Puyallup Fairgrounds transforms into a Victorian village with live entertainment, a living nativity, food and kids' activities. 10 am to 8 pm today; various times through Dec. 2. \$\$; free ages 5 and younger. Puyallup Fairgrounds. www.avictoriancountrychristmas.com

Thursday, November 29

NORTH SOUND

Wintertide. Enjoy train rides, crafts, entertainment, hot cocoa and cookies by a bonfire, and Santa's arrival at 5:30 pm. 4 to 7 pm. FREE. Everett Performing Arts Center. www.everettwa.gov

Friday, November 30

SEATTLE AREA

A Charlie Brown Christmas. This family-friendly favorite is back to spread holiday cheer. Watch Linus help Charlie find the true meaning of Christmas in a musical adaptation of the cartoon. 7pm tonight; various times through Dec. 27. \$\$ to \$\$\$\$. Taproot Theatre, Greenwood. www.taproottheatre.org

EASTSIDE

The Nutcracker. Evergreen City Ballet presents a holiday tradition for all ages. See the online schedule, various times and locations through Dec. 16. www.evergreencityballet.org

Holiday Drumming for Fun. Grab a friend and get your holiday groove on with this upbeat and interactive seasonal celebration. 3 to 5 pm. FREE. Duvall Library. www.kcls.org

NORTH SOUND

The Lights of Christmas Festival.

Experience the largest Christmas festival in the Pacific Northwest. More than one million lights, live entertainment, children's activities, food, gift shops and more. 5 to 10 pm today; various dates and times through December. \$\$. Warm Beach Camp & Conference Center, Stanwood. www.thelightsofchristmas.com

»ParentDispatch

Voices from the local parenting community



Prioritizing happiness

It's a special-needs parent's dilemma: How much to help, and at what cost?



Every fall my husband and I have the same conversation: What will we prioritize this school year for our 7-year-old

son with special needs?

Which therapies will we add or cut? How much extra tutoring will we do? Which of his many challenges will we tackle first and which will we put on the back burner for another year?

My son's primary diagnosis is Autism Spectrum Disorder, but he also has a learning disability, fine and gross motor delays, sensory processing challenges and, to top it off, a severe stutter. As well as academic tutoring, he's done speech therapy, occupational therapy and behavioral therapy.

It hits me on the first day of school how behind he is. Other kids arrive on their bikes (my son's still on training wheels). One of his classmates is carting around a full-length novel (we're still slogging through BOB books). His peers smile and greet one another after a summer off (my son hides behind my back).

I recalculate how many more therapy sessions we can squeeze into our schedule: If we went down to once a week with his reading tutor, we could go up on speech therapy. But we still have social skills group to fit in. And shouldn't we add in swim lessons? All this therapy will be moot if he drowns.

It's easy to convince myself that all these "extras" are in my son's best interest. He does benefit from his therapies and, by and large, doesn't mind them. Looking ahead, I know he will need all these skills if he's ever going to live independently, find employment and generally succeed in life.

Lately though, I've been wondering about the cost of over-focusing on the future, both to my son's self-esteem and his overall well-being. What message might we inadvertently be sending him when we

insist he work twice as hard as his peers? You're behind, you're not good enough, we

We live in an age when technology can perform many of the communication tasks my son finds so difficult. Computers can read to him, write for him and even speak for him. What no computer can do - now or ever - is make him happy.

My son is happiest at home where he can reinvent his universe. He engineers impenetrable forts out of couch cushions, designs booby traps with ropes and pulleys and plows up the backyard to install a makeshift sewer system.

These projects require me to step back and observe my son's natural ingenuity. When left to his own devices, he is able to navigate through problems in his own unique and intelligent way. It occurs to me that happiness is its own kind of therapy. When we're happy, we're more able to learn, take risks and live up to our potential.

The thought of loosening up on expectations for our son scares me. If we stop pushing him academically, will he be able to stay in a mainstream classroom, attend his neighborhood school, get into college? If he doesn't get the right social and behavioral interventions, will he be able to make friends, marry and achieve his dreams?

Or will less time spent on formalized learning free him up to discover his innate abilities and inner resources?

I don't know.

What I do know is that any one of us could drown tomorrow, with or without swim lessons. All we're guaranteed is the present moment. If we're continually sacrificing the present for the future, really, what's the point?

We won't give up on therapy and tutoring altogether. We'll focus on a few skills and trust that the rest will come.

Or they won't.

Either way, our son will be happy.

Our guide to delivered to your inbox



Sign up for our e-Newsletters » seattleschild.com/

newsletters



Private Play Areas & Party Rooms • Friendly, Experienced Staff Set up & Clean up • Hassle-Free Planning

WEEKLY OPEN JUMP

Pre-K: Tue., Wed. & Thur. 10 am - 12 pm All-Ages: Tuesday, 12:30 - 2:00 pm \$9 per child • \$7 for siblings (plus tax)

FAMILY JUMP NIGHT

Second & Third Friday of the month 4:30-5:40 pm \$9 per child (plus tax)

SENSORY JUMP NIGHT*

First Tuesday of the month in Kirkland Second Tuesday of the month in Lynnwood 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm \$9 per child • \$7 for siblings (plus tax)

*Reserved for children on the autism spectrum and their families



WE OFFER MORE THAN BIRTHDAYS!

Open Jump • Special Events • Fundraisers Team Events • Field Trips • and More!

Pump It Up of Kirkland • 425.820.2297

pumpitupparty.com/Kirkland-WA 11605 NE 116th ST, Kirkland WA 98034

Pump It Up of Lynnwood 425.774.2297

pumpitupparty.com/Lynnwood-WA 18027 HWY 99, Suite J, Lynnwood WA 98037