

# The Hinsdalean

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Thursday, January 2, 2025

Hinsdale, Illinois

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## Angels we have heard on high

**Practice makes perfect** as members of the Union Church's Children's Christmas Pageant held their dress rehearsal Dec. 21. The program featured traditional songs and readings by the older students to tell the story of Christ's birth. Please turn to Page 9 to read about Haley Tuck, who started out as one of the angels and now, as a senior at Hinsdale Central, helps director Penny Johnson with the performance. Please turn to Page 14 for more pictures. (Jim Slonoff photo)



**Silver and green**  
Shoppers make merchants merry  
this holiday season.  
Page 7



**Merry and bright**  
Annual Christmas tradition  
brings joy to Hinsdale teen.  
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**Curtain up!**  
Theaters gearing up for winter,  
spring seasons.  
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# NEWS

## Resolve to abide by new state laws

By Ken Knutson

*kknutson@thehinsdalean.com*

Almost 300 new laws took effect in Illinois as of Jan. 1, including ones governing how citizens get IDs, what information is included in job postings and how people can cancel gym memberships.

Here some of the changes that Hinsdale residents should be aware of, including ones co-sponsored by the village's General Assembly lawmakers, with contributing reporting by Capitol News Illinois.

The state's minimum wage is now \$15, completing a six-year ramp-up initiated during Gov. JB Pritzker's first month in office in 2019.

Also in the workplace, employers with 15 or more employees must now include information about benefits and salary range on job postings. And companies are prohibited from discriminating or tak-

ing adverse action against employees because of their responsibilities as a caregiver for a family member, which could cause them to miss work.

The secretary of state can begin creating a process to issue digital driver's licenses and state IDs this year. Residents will still be required to receive a physical ID, and agencies or private entities will not be required to accept digital IDs in place of physical IDs.

Gyms and fitness centers must accept multiple ways for people to cancel their membership, including by mail, email and online.

Businesses that offer a free trial or promotional period for their product or service longer than 15 days must notify customers at least three days before the subscription automatically renews at a paid rate.

Several new regulations relating to artificial intelligence have taken effect. Child pornography can no longer be generated using AI, and

protections have been instituted to prohibit using AI to recreate a person's voice, image or likeness for commercial purposes without the person's consent.

To help first responders, Rep. Nicole La Ha (R-82, Lemont) co-sponsored legislation to provide police officers and firefighters with mental health counseling without any cost-sharing requirement.

"I value supporting our men and women who serve our communities and see their wellbeing as a priority," La Ha remarked in a posted statement.

Also in the area of health care, short-term health insurance plans have been deemed illegal because they do not meet the minimum standards of the federal Affordable Care Act. A ban also has been enacted on so-called "step therapy," which requires patients to try and fail treatments preferred by insurance companies before they can receive the treatment recom-

mended by their doctor.

State Sen. Suzy Glowiak Hilton (D-23, Western Springs) sponsored a measure prohibiting pharmacists from refusing to fill paper or non-electronic prescriptions.

"Pharmacies must accept doctors' prescriptions for approved medication regardless of how the prescription is sent to them," Glowiak Hilton said in a statement.

The move was in response to 2021 legislation that required prescriptions of controlled substances to be sent electronically to counteract the opioid epidemic. However, Hilton stated some pharmacists have been refusing to fill non-electronic prescriptions despite exceptions under the law.

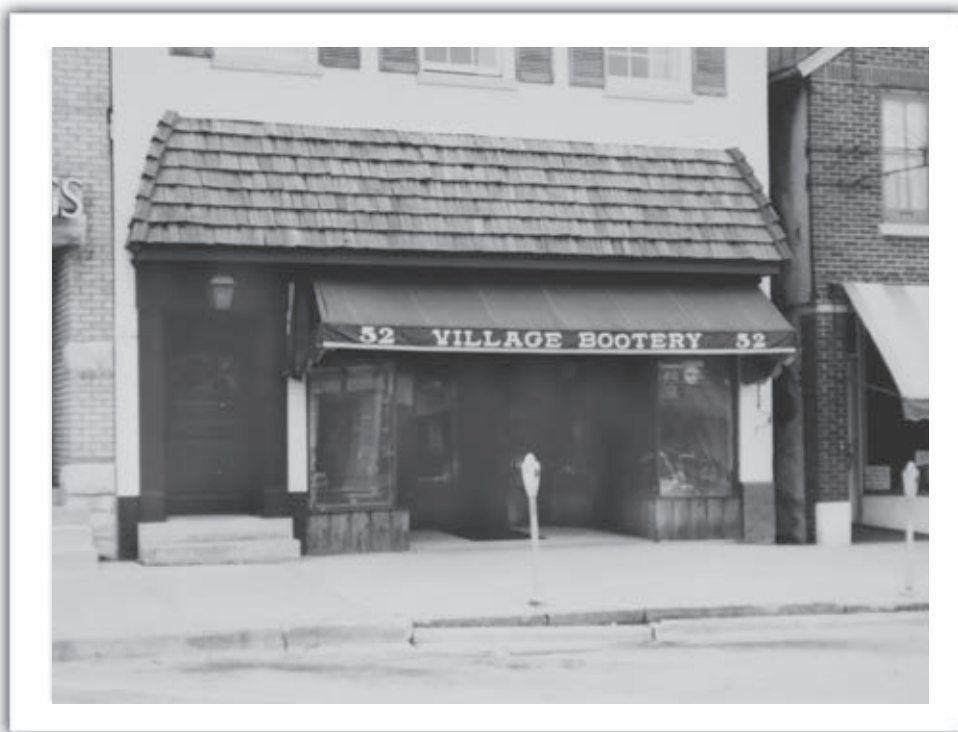
"Denying someone of their medication could have serious medical consequences," Glowiak Hilton commented. "These are unnecessary barriers that must be addressed in our pharmacies to prevent potential harm."

### A madrigal evening



Hinsdale Central's madrigal concert was held early last month. With songs, quick skits and plenty of laughter and good cheer, the program was a big hit with the audience. In addition to the Royal Court Madrigal Singers, music was performed by the Chamber Strings and Holiday Winds. (Jim Slonoff photos)

# ONCE UPON A TIME



**Pictures from the past** — Hinsdale's building services supervisor, Jim Piontkowski, took this photo in 1979. Village Bootery was located at 52 S. Washington St. Today Vintage Charm is currently operating there. Do you have a Hinsdale photo that is at least 25 years old? We'd love to share it with our readers. Stop by our office at 7 W. First St. or email it to [jslonoff@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:jslonoff@thehinsdalean.com).

## The Hinsdalean

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**Happy Birthday!**  
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## The Hinsdalean

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**Corrections**  
The Hinsdalean staff strives to provide an error-free newspaper each week. If a mistake is published, however, we are happy to correct it. Call or email Pamela Lannom to report errors requiring correction or clarification.

**Letters to the editor**  
Our letters policy is published on Page 11.

**Obituaries**  
Obituaries are published free each week in The Hinsdalean. Information may be mailed, faxed or emailed to [news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com). Obituaries may be edited for style and space.  
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“ Ultimately, we are most proud of our academic efforts since we know that means our students are excelling academically. ”

# National, state recognition mark 2025

*D181 celebrates host of achievements, including students' top academic performances*

As we wound down the 2024 calendar year, we couldn't help but reflect on all the fantastic things we accomplished together. Our district once again excelled in various areas and continued to solidify our reputation as a premier district.

As a district, our collective efforts have been recognized at the state and national level. Clarendon Hills Middle School received the prestigious National Green Ribbon Award for its commitment to health and wellness and facility efficiency. Since all of our facilities mirror the CHMS efforts, we are confident that all district schools will be recognized in the near future. Additionally, two more District 181 schools received national recognition for their exceptional collaboration and improvement efforts by achieving the prestigious designation of "PLC at Work" schools. Once again, we

have been mirroring these efforts at all of our schools and anticipate more recognitions and celebrations in the coming year.

Additional accolades from the Illinois Association of School Boards and Illinois Association of School Business Officials acknowledged the district's innovative programs, financial management and the school board's community engagement.

Ultimately, we are most proud of our academic efforts since we know that means our students are excelling academically. This progress was noted by several external organizations, from Niche to US News & World Report. Niche ranked our schools A+, and US News & World Report ranked



**Hector Garcia**

our schools at the highest level — Best Elementary and Middle Schools. Finally, D181 was one of the highest-performing elementary districts in the state, and we couldn't have been prouder.

Here's further evidence of our students' outstanding academic performance. Fall 2024 MAP testing revealed consistent reading achievement at the 83rd percentile and increased math achievement to the 94th percentile. These results and data from the 2024 Illinois Assessment of Readiness and Illinois Science Assessment, where students achieved record highs in English language arts, math and science, showcased the district's commitment to academic growth. Beyond academics, we continue

our focus on keeping our students safe and in an outstanding learning environment. We invested in safety measures and innovative curricula to create a positive learning environment. We were also excited to expand our full-day kindergarten program to give our youngest learners more opportunities to grow and learn in the fall of 2025.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated staff, outstanding administrators and supportive board members. Their hard work and commitment serve as critical pillars of our success. We also want to thank the D181 Foundation and PTOs for their unwavering support.

We wish everyone a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year!  
— Dr. Hector Garcia, superintendent, Community Consolidated Elementary District 181

“ The excellence in our classrooms would not be possible without our exceptional teachers and administrators. ”

# D86 leader reviews year's achievements

*New superintendent grateful for the efforts of teachers, administrators and students*

As I reflect on the past year, and in particular the last six months in my role as superintendent of this incredible school district, I am filled with gratitude and pride.

Even before officially coming on board, I participated in a series of listening and learning sessions with members of our community — students, families, teachers and local leaders — to better understand the heartbeat of our district. One of the highlights of that period was attending the graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024. Celebrating their achievements and witnessing their excitement for the future reinforced my belief in the extraordinary potential of our students. I remain convinced that our students are capable of much more than we typically expect of them!

From July onward, our schools have been bustling with achievements that showcase the talent, dedication and resilience of our students and staff. Academically, we are proud to

once again have numerous students recognized as National Merit Semifinalists and Illinois State Scholars. These honors are a testament to the hard work of our students and the unwavering support of their families and educators. Additionally, our district received notable recognition on the Illinois Report Card, underscoring our steadfast commitment to academic excellence and student success. These accolades remind us of the power of education to open doors and transform lives.

The excellence in our classrooms would not be possible without our exceptional teachers and administrators. This year, several of our educators were honored with prestigious awards, highlighting their innovative approaches and dedication to nurturing our students' growth. It is their passion and professionalism that cre-



**Michael Lach**

ate an environment where our students can thrive.

Beyond academics, our students have excelled in athletics and community engagement. From thrilling victories on the field to acts of kindness off it, our student-athletes embody the spirit of teamwork, perseverance and service. This year, we have celebrated everything from state championships to our teams using their platforms to make a positive impact, exemplified by events like Volley for the Cure, which raised funds and awareness for the Susan G. Komen Foundation. These efforts remind us that success is not just about winning, but also about contributing to the greater good.

At the district level, we have been working diligently to support our schools and chart the path forward. Our focus remains on ensuring

that every student has access to high-quality education and the resources they need to succeed. As we look ahead, we are actively defining our next level of work and will be seeking input from our community to shape the future together. Stay tuned for opportunities to get involved — your voice is vital as we move forward.

As we close out 2024, I want to thank each of you for the warm welcome and support you have shown me during my first months as superintendent. It is a privilege to serve this community and to work alongside such dedicated students, educators and families. Together, we have accomplished so much, and I am excited about the possibilities ahead.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. Let's make 2025 another year of growth, achievement and collaboration.  
— Dr. Michael Lach, superintendent, Hinsdale High School District 86

# NEXT WEEK

## Hinsdale High School District 86 Board

6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 9  
Hinsdale Central High School  
55th and Grant streets  
[www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings](http://www.hinsdale86.org/board-of-education/board-meetings)

## Did you know?

The Hinsdale Public Library at 19 E. Maple St. offers a variety of services to residents.

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- Streaming music, movies and TV
- Hoopla offers a selection of music, TV, movies and select MasterClass courses for streaming and downloading. Kanopy's streaming collection of films and HPL's Great Courses collection are available as well.
- Digital magazines
- More than 7,000 titles are available through the eMediaLibrary, Libby and Hoopla's BingePasses.
- 3-D printing
- The library's dual-extrusion printer can create

complex designs in one or two colors. Library patrons may request one 3-D printed piece per year at no charge. Additional projects cost 20 cents per gram of filament used.

- Devices to check out
- Library cardholders can check out a number of devices for three weeks. The list includes portable DVD players, iPads, therapy lamps, Nintendo Switch Lites and more.

- Digital Media Lab
- The lab is an advanced multimedia creation center available to HPL cardholders. Users can compose or edit music, take photos for Etsy, record a podcast, shoot hi-def video or scan cherished family snapshots.

For more information, visit [www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info).



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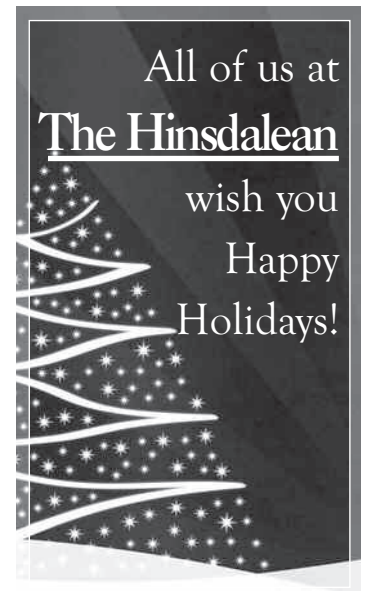
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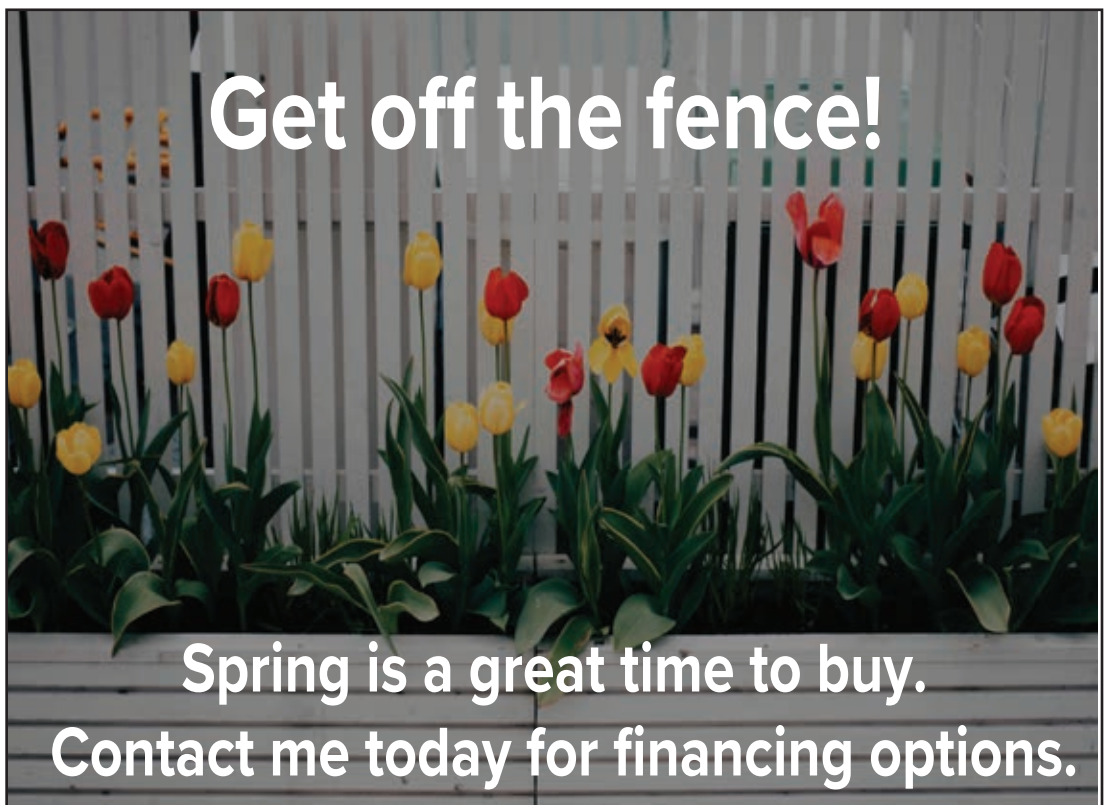
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# Shoppers make Christmas bright in town

*Hinsdale merchants say this holiday shopping season was stronger than last year's*

**By Pamela Lannom**

*plannom@thehinsdalean.com*

Toni Patisserie & Café had its busiest holiday season ever this year, owner Toni Cox said.

"Both Thanksgiving and Christmas we did way more than our projections, and our projections are pretty aggressive," Cox said last week. "We were pleasantly surprised."

The buche de Noel (yule log) cake, stollen and cookies were the biggest sellers.

"Cookies were crazy. We had a hard time keeping up with them," Cox said.

For the first time this year, the shop sold hors d'oeuvres for folks hosting cocktail parties or holiday dinners.

"We were pleasantly surprised at how well they were received," she said. "It definitely was a good addition."

Holiday baking isn't over for Cox and her staff, who will prepare gallettes des rois, or King's Cakes, for Epiphany on

Jan. 6.

"That's a tradition we've been doing for years," Cox said.

The busiest day of the season was Christmas Eve, she said, with Dec. 23 being the second-busiest day.

Staff at Alixandra Collections also found the store getting busier the closer it got to Christmas. Manager Toni Gentleman said she thinks a late Thanksgiving altered shopping patterns.

"There was no urgency, then all of the sudden it was the weekend before Christmas," she said. "Even the 23rd and 24th were like full throttle, everybody out and about shopping."

"That Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday leading up to Christmas were busier than last year," she added. "That was like our season in those five days."

Marketing manager Danielle Piscopo agreed that it seemed

to take shoppers some time to start thinking about Christmas.

"When we were setting up our tree, like a week or two before Black Friday, people were like, 'It's so early to set up your tree,'" she said. "It's almost like people's minds weren't in the holiday season until the week before Christmas."

Popular items were Peter and Gabby jewelry, assistant manager Emily Jahn said. And sweaters.

"I think a lot of people here were shopping for themselves," Piscopo said. "A lot of people were looking for outfits for themselves, for holiday parties."

JoAnn Pesa, an associate at Meredith Jaye, said this shopping season was better than last year's and noted that customers filled the store for several weeks.

"Actually we were very busy right around Thanksgiving and throughout the season," she



**Shoppers at Meredith Jaye** consider potential gift purchases in the week before Christmas. Hinsdale merchants said the holiday season was its busiest in the final days before Christmas. (Jim Slonoff photo)

said.

Apparel and home goods, especially Christmas items, were the top sellers. The Dec. 26 sale brought in even more

shoppers who wanted to get ready for Christmas 2025.

"A lot of holiday (merchandise) was discounted," Pesa said.

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# POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following report Dec. 30.

## Driver arrested for criminal trespass

Michael J. Barnett, 47, 401 W. Michigan St., Milwaukee, Wis., was arrested for criminal trespass to vehicle and driving with a suspended license at 11:55 a.m. Dec. 26 at BP Gas Station, 149 E. Ogden Ave. He was driving a vehicle that was reported stolen out of Milwaukee and had arrest warrants out of Chicago and McHenry County. He was charged and taken to DuPage County Jail on the warrants.

## Tier 2 pension changes possible

By Ben Szalinski

bszalinski@capitolnewsillinois.com

Changes that would make improve benefits for government employees hired since 2011 could be on the table when lawmakers return to Springfield in January.

The General Assembly passed legislation in 2010 to create a second tier of state pension benefits in hopes of reducing long-term liabilities. But the latest benefits structure for employees entering the government workforce after 2010, known as Tier 2, has raised concerns about its compliance with Social Security and fairness.

Not all public employees are covered by Social Security. But federal law requires governments to provide benefits that are at least equal to Social Security. If a pension system fails to meet that "Safe Harbor" requirement, the employer must make up the difference.

While calls for changes have grown louder in recent years, the underlying concerns aren't new, Sen. Robert Martwick, D-Chicago, said.

"It was contemplated by members of the General Assembly during debate for its passage that Tier 2 could create a problem if it didn't satisfy Safe Harbor," Martwick said.

Tier 2 employees also say the benefits they receive, which are not as generous as those received by Tier 1 employees who were hired before 2011, will make retirement challenging and are hurting recruitment and retention in public sector jobs.

Lawmakers are tentatively scheduled to be back in Springfield Jan. 4 for a lame duck session before new lawmakers are sworn in Jan. 8.

"Whether that will all come together in a fashion that is ready for lame duck or not remains to be seen," Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego, told Capitol News Illinois.

## Latest proposal

Kifowit's House pensions committee has held more than a dozen hearings exploring pension reform in the past two years, including on multiple bills she has filed. The latest bills, House Bill 5909 and Senate Bill 3998, are a product of the "We Are One Illinois" coalition of labor unions seeking Tier 2 reform.

"We understand this is a big lift," Illinois AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Pat Devaney said in a Dec. 13 committee hearing. "We're going to continue to push for a lame duck solution."

The union-backed proposal would aim to fix the "Safe Harbor" flaw of Tier 2, in part by increasing the maximum salary used to calculate pension benefits by more than \$40,000.

Unions and government employers have also described a growing challenge to retain and recruit people to government jobs, in part because of Tier 2 benefits. Illinois has a significant staffing shortage, Kifowit noted.

Another key fix in the bills would put the Tier 2 retirement ages back in line with Tier 1. Under current law, Tier 1 employees are eligible for retirement benefits about five years earlier than Tier 2.

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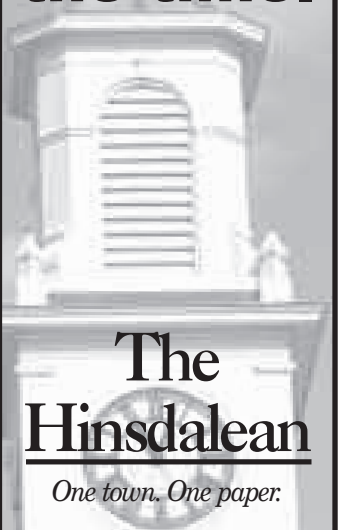
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■ "It's rewarding to see it all come together."  
- Haley Tuck

## Church pageant a tradition for Hinsdale teen

For many, the days leading up to Christmas involve shopping, decorating and wrapping gifts. For Haley Tuck, that time of year has often been filled with rehearsals, costumes and lots of children.

Tuck has been part of Union Church's annual Christmas pageant for as long as she can remember, first as a cast member and more recently as an organizer of the church's long-standing tradition.

"I've been every single possible thing," said Tuck, who over the years portrayed various animals and an angel in the retelling of Christ's birth.

"As you get older, you graduate to the different parts," she noted.

Now a senior at Hinsdale Central High School, it's been several years since Tuck performed in the pageant. This year, she stepped back behind the curtain to help bring the annual pageant to the stage. She and another intern helped Penny Johnson, director of Christian education and administration manager at the church, to direct almost 40 children in the production of this year's play.

Anyone who wants to be

part of the pageant is welcomed, Tuck said. This year's cast was among the biggest yet, requiring the creation of a few additional donkey costumes in order to outfit the expanding herd.

"The angels have the biggest costumes," Tuck said, complete with wings and halos.

Tuck said that during her years as a cast member, the church occasionally expanded the Christmas performance beyond the Bible's telling of Christ's birth. She played Lucy in a performance of "A Charlie Brown Christmas," and narrated the story of "Scrooge."

The pageant was presented during the church's worship service Sunday, Dec. 22. A highlight is the traditional singing of "Silent Night," which the children perform while holding battery-operated candles.

"It's rewarding to see it all come together," she said.

Tuck said many of this year's cast members were familiar to her, not only as fellow members of the church, but as participants in vacation Bible school.

"I help a lot in the summer as a vacation Bible school



### HALEY TUCK

PLANS TO STUDY MARKETING IN COLLEGE • LIFELONG HINSDALE RESIDENT AND MEMBER OF UNION CHURCH • NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY MEMBER • HAS A DOG NAMED LOLA • AVID SOCCER PLAYER

counselor," she said.

Volunteering, Tuck said, is an important part of her life, due in no small part to her lifelong relationship with Union Church of Hinsdale. She said the church has taught her the importance of contributing to her community, which she also does as a member of the Infant Welfare Society Junior Board.

Like the Infant Welfare Society itself, the Junior Board supports the Angel Harvey Family Health Center in Chicago.

"This year, we created baby baskets," Tuck said, which were filled by Junior Board members with necessities for new moms in need.

Despite her many performances at Union Church,

Tuck said she's never been bitten by the theater bug. But the role of volunteer is one Tuck plans to continue as she attends college and throughout her life.

"I definitely want to continue volunteering wherever I end up for college," she said.

— story by Sandy Illian  
Bosch, photo by Jim Slonoff



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# OPINION

EDITORIAL

## Make the most of 2025 — by following our advice!

The top five resolutions for 2025, according to Statista Consumer Insights, are to save money, eat healthier, exercise more, lose weight and spend more time with family and friends.

Every year at The Hinsdalean we like to move beyond setting our own resolutions and offer a list for readers, leaders and elected officials in the community to try to improve on what we always hope will be a peaceful and prosperous new year.

We're not sure whether this unsolicited advice will be followed, but like Fred's Christmas greetings to his Uncle Scrooge, we offer it just the same.

### • Rearrange the furniture

District 181 should move audience seating closer to the board table for its meetings — or provide binoculars so attendees can see who's sitting up there.

### • Mind your manners

Candidates running in the April election should remember that their "opponents" in these races are neighbors and community members who also are willing to donate their time to serve. We hope each will campaign on the unique qualities he or she would bring to the office rather than focusing on disparaging other candidates.

### • Keep the criminals away

The best way to deter crime in town? Don't invite criminals in with opportunities for easy

pickings. Lock car doors and remove the key fob from the interior. Make sure to keep some interior lights on when away from home.

### • Make local investments

Residents who patronized local stores, salons and restaurants should continue to support these establishments all year long.

### • Do your homework

Voters should spend the time needed to make informed choices when they head to the polls for the April 1 consolidated general election. In Hinsdale alone, 16 candidates are running for 12 seats on the village board, library board and one school board.

### • Sign up now

Residents of all ages should take advantage of all that's available to them in the village — from the property tax-supported offerings of the Hinsdale Parks and Recreation Department and the Hinsdale Public Library to classes and programs at The Community House.

### • Follow the rules

We continue to see kids riding high-powered electric bikes (750 watts and higher) that have been banned in the village. We also see them riding low-speed electric bikes on the sidewalks, which is prohibited, and in the business district, where they are prohibited. Even those on tradi-

tional bicycles are breaking the rules riding on the sidewalk in the central business district. Parents need to make sure their kids know the rules and set significant consequences if they do not follow them rules. Otherwise the consequences will be much more serious if someone is injured or killed.

### • Adopt, don't shop

Almost two dozen dogs, almost a dozen cats a handful of guinea pigs and a rabbit are available to adopt from the Hinsdale Humane Society. If you're looking for a new pet, before calling a breeder or heading to the local pet store, visit [www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org](http://www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org).

### • Join Red Devil Nation

Residents who have yet to attend an athletic event, a concert or a theatrical performance at Hinsdale Central High School should resolve to do so this year. These talented teens put in a lot of work before stepping on the court or the stage — and they'd appreciate the support.

### • Give us the scoop

Our most valuable source for story ideas is you. Is there something happening with you, in your family, on your block or with a local organization you're connected to that your neighbors would enjoy knowing about? Give us a call (630-323-4422) or shoot us an email ([news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com)). That's what community news is all about.

COMMENTARY

## To Ainsley on her 16th birthday

Since 2011, I have been writing an annual birthday letter to Ainsley as my final — or first — column of the year, depending on how her Jan. 2 birthday falls.

I would love to say I had an annual tradition in mind that first year, but I actually was just trying to fill space during that weird week between Christmas and New Year's.

As I have repeated every year, I appreciate how patient Ainsley has been in allowing me to write this column — and how patient readers have been in indulging me.

Dear Ainsley,

This year, as your Sweet 16 approaches, I've looked back at the birthday letters I've written you over the years. I've enjoyed reading about some of your cutest moments, like when you suggested Santa take you in his sleigh to visit Baby Jesus in heaven. And when you used to say "hamgerbur" instead of "hamburger." I've also been reminded of other big events

in your life, including the year you fractured your arm, your first road trip (to Hinsdale, Mont.) and our celebration of milestone birthdays and anniversaries in Maui.

I also discovered that you have been taller than me since you were 11. I know how happy that must make you.

Some things have not changed. Potty humor — and I'm including farts in that category — continues to crack you up. I believe you inherited this trait from your father. Fortunately your great sense of humor extends to other topics.

You still break out in song for no particular reason, although you're more likely now to sing a Mozart aria or rap song than "Alice the Camel."

I find a couple of themes recurring in my letters as well. One is that while time seems to be passing too quickly, I have loved watch-



Pamela Lannom

ing you grow up and wouldn't trade that experience for anything.

Another is that life can be really hard. You lost three grandparents in six years. You missed months of school — and spent many more learning remotely — after the pandemic. And you've had to put up with your fair share, and then some, of mean kids.

You have had some experiences when you've seen the worst of people. I am so proud of you that you continue to see the best in others, especially those who many of us overlook.

Last year I wrote about the different worries I carried with me during your first 15 years and promised to worry less and affirm more.

I would like to think I kept that promise to you. I certainly tried. But I doubt I lived up to your expectations. Perhaps not even my own.

Worrying is an occupational

hazard when you're a parent, especially when I see you in a tough situation. I want to fix it, but I know I can't. Or shouldn't. My job is not to make life easier for you (in the long run that will just make life harder), but to be fully present with you when times are tough. I promise to continue to try to get better at this one.

And I can remind you — even if you respond with an eye roll — how much I love you and how proud I am of you. You continue to amaze me with your capacity to love and care for others, your funny comments and your beautiful singing voice. And your sense of style. I can't forget that!

I hope you have a wonderful year this year. More importantly, I hope you know just how wonderful you are.

Happy Sweet 16, Ainsley.

Love,  
Mom

— Pamela Lannom is editor of *The Hinsdalean*. Readers can email her at [plannom@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:plannom@thehinsdalean.com).

# OPINION

## GUEST COMMENTARY

# New year, positive me

A New Year, a new you — isn't that how the saying goes? As a high school student, not sure I have lived long enough for any resolutions. This idea of a new me when I haven't finalized the old me is a bit of a



**Milan Bansal**

stretch. Why make resolutions for an idealistic version of myself when I could spend more time just celebrating my truths? Teenagers are so stressed these days, chasing an ideal of what could be great. Instead, take stock of what you know is true and embrace what you have learned. Here is what I know:

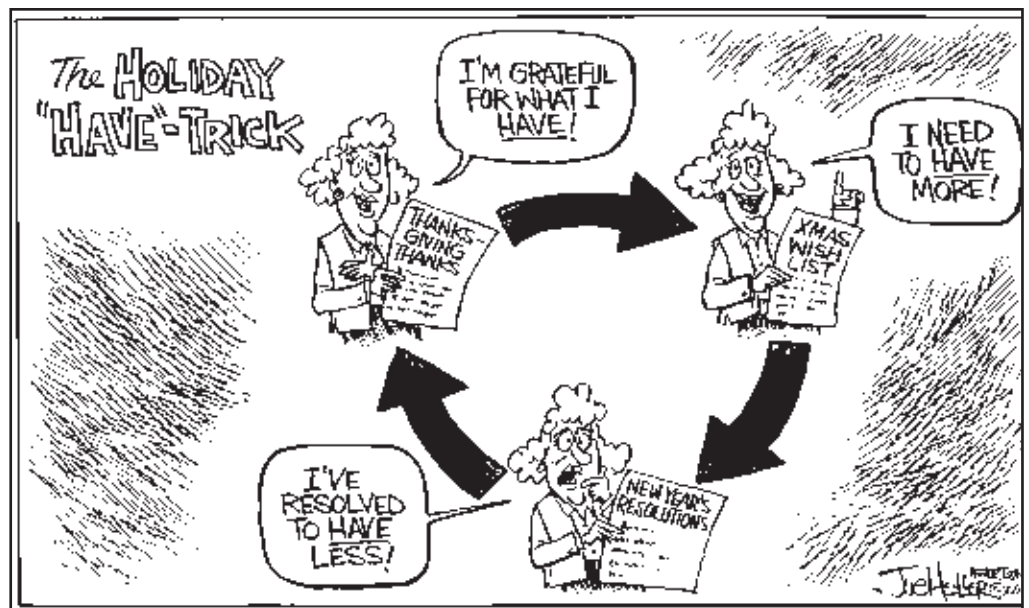
- I am a person with a messy bedroom and clothes on the floor. I have a process.
- Patience and tolerance are two of my best qualities. I am calm amid chaos.
- I would like to make it through high school without too much stress and feel happy with who I am. I don't need to compare myself to others.
- I make mistakes. Working on my communication skills and navigating social media is a work in progress. Let's laugh and talk more, not just text.
- The ones that love you? Love them back. I hug my mom every day before I leave for school. It makes us both feel good.
- Having grace and consideration for others has no price or expiration. Be kind. No, be kinder.
- Laugh and be humble. Your successes are only possible because of the failures

you hide. Choose to share disappointments, let go of what ifs and try again.

- I can and should work even harder next semester. Not for anyone but myself.
- People remember effort. Give more, show up often and be consistent.
- Share your talents and your sparkle with others. If you are a great musician, play for others. If you are patient and kind, volunteer. Don't hide your glow.
- It is OK to be different. Don't let the limits of what others tell you define your goals or shape your personality. Do what excites you.
- You don't have to do everything well or be award-winning in everything — or even anything. Being good enough is great.
- Acknowledging someone else's accomplishments does not prohibit your own success. There is room for us to celebrate others. Thank you to all who have read my column and mentioned it to me.
- Try something new. Don't worry if something looks good on a college app. Do you like it?

Lastly, honesty is the best policy with yourself. When you look in the mirror this new year, let your own truths be the best judge of who you are. Teens don't need resolutions, they just need hope and positivity. Be hopeful. Know your truths.

— Milan Bansal, a freshman at Hinsdale Central, is a contributing columnist. Readers can email him at [news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com).



## LETTERS POLICY

### Requirements

- 250 words or fewer
- include writer's name, address and daytime phone number

- documentation must be provided for numbers, statistics and other facts mentioned in the letter
- no form letters

### Submission

- e-mail to [news@thehinsdalean.com](mailto:news@thehinsdalean.com)
- fax to (630) 323-4220
- mail to The Hinsdalean,

Letters to the editor, 7 W. First St., Hinsdale IL 60521

### Questions?

Call (630) 323-4422

# OBITUARIES

## Una Mae Herzog

Una Mae Herzog, 95, of Clarendon Hills passed away Dec. 28, 2024.

Una was born in 1929, in St. Joseph, Mo., the daughter of Alfred and Una (Baxter) Booth. She graduated from Woodruff High School in Peoria in 1947.

She married Edward E. Herzog on March 12, 1949, in Peoria. They were married for 63 years before his passing in 2012 in Peoria.

Together they lived in Peoria for 15 years raising their family prior to moving to the Chicago area for the next 20 years. They then retired in 1986 to a lake home in Oak Run near Galesburg, where Una and her family enjoyed many Fourth of July celebrations throughout the years. She spent the last 10 years of her life living in Clarendon Hills, near her family.

Una worked many secretarial and bookkeeping jobs over the years, but her passion and gift was using her hands to create things. She loved to sew, knit, build and craft, and could fix anything. She loved reading and music and always enjoyed singing, especially with The Belles of

Harmony group in Peoria. She was kind and gentle and always had a way of surprising people with her subtle sense of humor. She never raised her voice or said an unkind word to anyone. Every person who met her was amazed by her sweet nature.

Una loved being with and taking care of her family more than anything. She had a way of always putting everyone else first. She was a wonderful mother and grandmother who will be so greatly missed.

Una is survived by her three children, Susan, Mark and Lori; her daughter-in-law, Kim (Rosselle); her two brothers, Eddie and Montie (Jackie) Booth; her nine grandchildren, Greg, Adam, Lindsey (Larry), Christopher, Sydney, Gabrielle, Gillian, Isabelle and Dylan; and four great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will take place at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 3, at Swan Lake Memory Gardens, 4601 W. War Memorial Drive, Peoria.

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

## Bernadine "Bunny" Jackson

Bernadine "Bunny" Jackson, 86, passed away peacefully Oct. 18, 2024, in McKinney, Texas.

Bunny, born in Chicago, was surrounded by family and the love of her life, Jerry Jackson. They recently moved from Danville, Calif., to McKinney to be near their daughter, Jennifer Whalen, and her family.

Bunny graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas in 1959 with a bachelor's in psychology with an emphasis on religion. She was the president of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and was awarded by "Mortar Board" for her achievement in scholarship, leadership and service. While living in the Seattle area, Bunny also served as Kappa Alpha Theta chapter advisor at the University of Washington.

Bunny and Jerry lived in the California East Bay for more than 50 years. In Walnut Creek, they raised their three children and later moved to the Alamo/Danville area.

Bunny enjoyed Theta alumni events, play-

ing bridge with friends and "sisters" and serving on the Alumni Advisory Board for the Theta Chapter at UC Berkeley. Bunny cherished being a faithful member of Community Presbyterian Church, Danville, and participating in their weekly Focus Living Bible Study.

Bunny and Jerry shared a special love story that began when Jerry spotted Bunny coming off the Hinsdale/Clarendon Hills middle school bus. It was love at first sight. Jerry knew that Bunny would be his bride, soulmate and best friend forever. This year they celebrated their 65th anniversary.

Bunny's beautiful smile, grace and lifelong focus on her family will be greatly missed by her children.

She is survived by her children, Brent (Allyson) Jackson, Jennifer Jackson (John) Whalen, Jill Jackson (Brad) Howe; her eight grandchildren; her five great-grandchildren; and her sister, Bette Meyer.

Services have been held.

## Lawrence Walsh

Lawrence "Larry" Walsh, 94, of Oak Brook passed away peacefully at his home Dec. 22, 2024.

Larry was an honorable man who lived life fully. He attended Fenwick High School and graduated from Purdue University in 1955. He continued to be one of the biggest Boilermaker fans around. He was a decorated Korean War veteran earning the Bronze Star, and he remained a proud veteran.

Larry was president of Midland Pipe and Supply, which was founded by his father in 1924. Both he and his brother grew the company out of the Great Depression era to be a leader in utility and power construction. He was highly respected in the pipe and supply industry and was at the forefront of computer utilization in business, as well as valve automation. He remained actively involved in the industry by volunteering in numerous trade associations.

Larry was a man of humor, wit and wisdom, making all those around him laugh, even in his final days of life. He felt blessed to call Grand Beach, Mich., his home. He was an active parishioner at Notre Dame Catholic Church for 30 years. He also was actively involved at Long

Beach Country Club and Butterfield Country Club, which provided much joy for him and his entire family.

Larry was a true athlete but never boasted of his accomplishments. He ran two marathons beginning at the age of 60 and competed in 15 triathlons. If he wasn't running, biking or swimming, you could find him either on the golf course or on the slopes skiing.

Larry will be remembered as a man of faith and dedication to his family, especially to his wife, Marge, and his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Margaret Whalen Walsh; his children, Larry (Cathy) Walsh Jr., Susie (Terry) Shea of Hinsdale, Stephen Walsh, Michael Walsh, Nancy (Barry) Ketchmark, and Amy (Phil) Lacey; his 14 grandchildren; and his two great-grandchildren.

A funeral Mass was said Dec. 28 at St. Isaac Jogues Church in Hinsdale. Interment was at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made online to Misericordia at [www.misericordia.com](http://www.misericordia.com).

Sullivan Funeral Home in Hinsdale made the arrangements.



Brian Powell, Sr.  
Brian Powell, Jr.

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## IN FOCUS



### Practice makes perfect

**Penny Johnson** works with the cast of the Union Church children's Christmas pageant during a rehearsal before it was presented in worship Dec. 22. **Haley Tuck** (see Page 9) makes a last-minute costume adjustment. Music director **Stephen Edwards** gathers the young singers to fine tune one of the songs. This year an especially large group of children were in the cast, so organizers had to find more halos, wings and donkey ears. A church member who is a master seamstress helped out at the last minute. (Jim Slonoff photos)

## Open the curtains on 2025

*New year begins with plenty of tantalizing options for community theatergoers*

**By Ken Knutson**

*kknutson@thehinsdalean.com*

Add a late entry to your 2025 resolution list: see more theater! It shouldn't be difficult to follow through with a lineup of notable productions on tap nearby. Local stages are continuing their 2024-25 seasons with productions ranging from hit musicals to comedies, and from romance to whodunit. Book your seat now, and enjoy the show!

- "Disney's The Little Mermaid" continues its run through Sunday, Jan. 12, at Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.

Dive beneath the waves with Ariel, a young mermaid with a captivating voice and an insatiable curiosity, as she defies her father and makes a daring deal for the chance to create the world of her dreams on land. Enjoy the beautiful score, including favorites like "Under the Sea," "Part of Your World," and "Kiss the Girl."

Show times are at 1:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 1:30 and 7 p.m. Thursdays, 7 p.m. Fridays, 3 and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 and 6 p.m. Sundays. Dinner-theater packages are available. Tickets for the show only start at \$52.95. Visit [www.drurylanetheatre.com/the-little-mermaid](http://www.drurylanetheatre.com/the-little-mermaid) or call (630) 530-0111.

- Theatre of Western Springs presents "Outside Mullingar" from Thursday, Jan. 23, to Sunday, Feb. 2, in its Mary Cattell Theatre at 4384 Hampton Ave.

From the writer of "Moonstruck," the play is a compassionate, delightful work about how it's never too late to take a chance on love as Anthony and Rosemary's romantic journey is heartbreaking, funny and ultimately deeply moving.

The show runs Thursdays through Sundays, with show times of 8 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, and 2:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The Jan. 24 and 26 shows are sold out.

Tickets are \$28, \$15 for children and students. Visit [www.theatreofwesternsprings.com](http://www.theatreofwesternsprings.com) or call (708) 246-4043.

- Get your golden ticket for Stage Door Fine Arts' performance of the musical "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" from Friday,

Jan. 24, to Sunday, Feb. 2, at The Community House, 415 W. Eighth St. in Hinsdale.

Based on the famous novel by Roald Dahl, the world-famous Willy Wonka is opening the gates to his mysterious factory, but only to a lucky few. Young Charlie Bucket and four other golden ticket winners will embark on a life-changing journey through Wonka's world of pure imagination including chocolate waterfalls, nutty squirrels and the great glass elevator, all to be revealed by Wonka's army of curious Oompa-Loompas.

The show runs Fridays through Sundays, with most shows at 7 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays.

Tickets are \$25 to \$30. Visit [www.sdfa.booktix.com](http://www.sdfa.booktix.com).

- The Buffalo Theatre Ensemble invites audiences to dig into "Native Gardens" from Thursday, Jan. 30, to Sunday, March 2, at College of DuPage's McAninch Arts Center, 425 Fawell Blvd. in Glen Ellyn.

This comedy follows Pablo, a high-powered lawyer, and his very pregnant wife, doctoral candidate Tania, who have purchased their first home next door to community stalwarts Virginia and Frank. Soon a disagreement over a long-standing fence line derails the young couple's plan for the American Dream with an all-out war of taste, class, privilege and entitlement. The hilarious results guarantee no one comes out smelling like a rose.

A pre-show discussion with the director and designers will be held at 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30; a post-show discussion with the director and cast will be held on Friday, Feb. 7. An ASL performance is offered on Thursday, Feb. 20.

Show times are 7:30 p.m. Thursdays to Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays.

Tickets are \$44, \$42 for seniors. Visit [www.atthemac.com](http://www.atthemac.com).

- For an interactive theater experience, the Dinner Detective Murder Mystery Dinner Show will keep you guessing when you join the sleuthing on select Saturday nights year-round at the Hyatt Regency Lisle-Naperville, 1400 Corporetum Drive in Lisle.

Audience members tackle a



**The final performances** of "Disney's The Little Mermaid" at Drury Lane Theatre and "The Dinner Detective" at the Hyatt Regency Lisle-Naperville are among the shows to check out as area stages welcome audiences in 2025. (photos provided)

challenging crime while feasting on a fantastic dinner (see website for full menu). But beware — the actors are not dressed in costume and are hidden in the audience. And with the criminal lurking somewhere in the room, you may even find yourself as a prime sus-

pect.

Show dates are posted for sale eight to 12 weeks in advance. The next shows available are from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturdays, Feb. 1 & 15.

Tickets start at \$69.95. Visit [www.thedinnerdetective.com/western-chicago-suburbs](http://www.thedinnerdetective.com/western-chicago-suburbs).



See the inside of the McCormick House decorated for Christmas, enjoy outdoor light shows and festive decorations and admire a 28-foot tree at Christmas at Cantigny, which runs through Sunday, Jan. 5. See Page 18 for details. (photo provided)

## ARTFULLY DONE

### ■ Origami — Folding in the New Year

Jan. 4  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
www.hinsdalelibrary.info  
(630) 986-1976  
Learn from the Chicago Area Origami Society the basic folds of origami to transform flat paper into 3-D masterpieces. Finish the program with a paper crane origami which represents luck, health and peace. Time: 2 to 4 p.m. RR

### ■ Mayslake: A Sanctuary for Refreshment and Renewal

Jan. 7-Feb. 22  
Mayslake Peabody Estate  
1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook  
www.dupageforest.org  
(630) 206-9566

Through his camera lens, William North reveals how the architecture and design of Mayslake Hall highlights and amplifies its bucolic setting, creating space for contemplating and enjoying

nature. Meet the artist and enjoy signature mocktails at a reception from 6 to 8 p.m. Jan. 15. Hours: noon to 3 p.m. weekdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays.

### ■ Watercolor Series

Fridays, Jan. 17-March 28  
Mayslake Peabody Estate  
1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook  
www.dupageforest.org  
(630) 206-9566

Beginning and intermediate artists will learn watercolor and gouache techniques from a scientific illustrator of the Chicago Field Museum. Explore the surface structure and coloration of plants and animals while studying color mixing, color layering, and other techniques. The program is for ages 18 and up. \$200 per person. Time: 4 to 6 p.m. Cost: \$200. RR

## CASTING CALL

### ■ 'Bleacher Bums'

Jan. 7, 8 & 12

*Please turn to Page 18*

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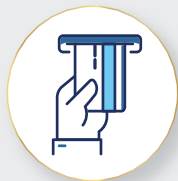


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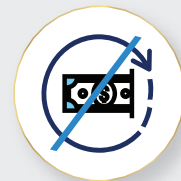
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# PULSE

Continued from Page 16

Westmont Community Center  
75 E. Richmond St.  
[www.westmontparks.org/wpa](http://www.westmontparks.org/wpa)

Set in the outfield bleachers of Chicago's beloved Wrigley Field, this slice-of-life comedy about a group of devoted (and sometimes dysfunctional) Cubs fans is a love letter to baseball, camaraderie and the unique community of fans who make it all so special. Auditioners will do cold reads from the script; no monologue is required. Rehearsals will take place on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. Performance dates are March 27-30. Time: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. time slots Jan. 7 & 8; 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. time slots Jan. 12.

## FAITH COMMUNITIES

### ■ IFF Luncheon

Jan. 8  
Union Church of Hinsdale  
137 S. Garfield Ave.  
Church member Jim Jung, a 45-year veteran EMT/firefighter of the Clarendon Hills Fire Department, will discuss the basics of CPR, AED operation, first aid and home safety. The program will be followed by a question-and-answer session and lunch. Make a reservation by Jan. 2 by emailing Elizabeth Jung at [ejung@uchinsdale.org](mailto:ejung@uchinsdale.org). Time: 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Cost: \$15. RR

## FAMILY FUN

### ■ HPL Puzzle Race

Jan. 11  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976  
Celebrate National Puzzle Month by creating a team of up to six puzzling enthusiasts and race against five other teams to complete the same 500-piece puzzle in two hours. Snacks and prizes will be provided. Participants must be at least age 14, and teams can consist of two to six players, with at least one adult. Team leaders should complete registration. Time: 2 to 4 p.m. RR

## FOR A CAUSE

### ■ Bernie's Book Bank Drive

Through Jan. 7  
[www.berniesbookbank.org](http://www.berniesbookbank.org)

Donate new or gently used children's books to increase book ownership among underserved children throughout Chicagoland. Hinsdale drop-off locations are 400 Pamela Circle, 608 E. First St., Hinsdale Bank & Trust at 25 E. First St. and CorePower Yoga at 34 S. Vine St.

## GREAT OUTDOORS

### ■ Winter Mammals Drop-In

Jan. 6  
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center  
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs  
[www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com)  
(708) 839-6897  
Learn about the mammals of Cook County by examining the center's skins and skulls collection. Time: 11 a.m. to noon.

### ■ Sunrise Hike

Jan. 12  
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center  
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs  
[www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com)  
(708) 839-6897  
Come join this "before hours" hike to experience the dawning of a new day. Time: 6:45 p.m. RR

## HEALTH & WELLNESS

### ■ Fitness Hike

Jan. 4  
Brezina Woods  
La Grange Road south of Cermak Road, near La Grange Park  
[www.fpdcc.com](http://www.fpdcc.com)  
(312) 533-5751  
These 6-mile hike will be faster paced with little to no stopping or interpretation. Time: 9:30 a.m.

### ■ Self-Care Saturday

Jan. 11  
Mayslake Peabody Estate  
1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook  
[www.dupageforest.org](http://www.dupageforest.org)  
(630) 933-7248  
Use organic lavender to create an eye pillow, moisturizing salt scrub and lavender sachets to use at home. The program is for ages 18 and up. Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost: \$64. RR

## HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

### ■ Illumination

Through Jan. 4  
Morton Arboretum  
4100 Route 53, Lisle  
[www.mortonarb.org](http://www.mortonarb.org)  
New this year at the arboretum's annual light show spectacular is a vibrant display of interactive tree shapes synchronized to different musical instruments in the Grand Garden. Along the one-mile walking trail, a concession tent will serve hot chocolate, snacks, alcoholic beverages and s'mores kits to be enjoyed at warming bonfires. Hours: 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Tickets: \$13.80 to \$30.40.

### ■ Christmas at Cantigny

Through Jan. 5  
Cantigny Park  
1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton  
(630) 668-5161  
[www.cantigny.org](http://www.cantigny.org)  
Explore a dazzling array of experiences while strolling a half-mile, fully ADA- and stroller-accessible path. Enjoy music-orchestrated light shows, festive decorations, larger-than-life flower sculptures and a towering 28-foot Christmas tree. The McCormick House is open with rooms adorned in festive splendor. Enjoy a scenic outdoor skate at the rink adjacent to Le Jardin. Visit the website listed above for a full schedule. Tickets: \$12 to \$38, with discounts for advance purchases.

## JUST FOR KIDS

### ■ Improv Class

Thursdays Jan. 9-Feb. 13,  
The Community House  
415 W. Eighth St.  
[www.thecommunityhouse.org](http://www.thecommunityhouse.org)  
(630) 323-7500  
Stage Door Fine Arts will introduce students ages 7-16 to the basics of acting as taught at programs like Second City and iO Chicago, including expressing emotions by using their bodies, gestures and facial expressions and creating characters and situations of all shapes and sizes. Time: 5 to 6 p.m. Cost: \$230. RR, MD

### ■ Nature Storytime

Jan. 10  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)

## CLEAN & CHECK YOUR FURNACE



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Please turn to Page 19

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**Continued from Page 18**

(630) 986-1976  
Kids through second grade will hear nature stories to notice how weather, trees and animals change with the season, presented by the Morton Arboretum. Time: 10 to 10:30 a.m. RR

■ **January Scavenger Hunt**  
Through Jan. 31  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
www.hinsdalelibrary.info  
(630) 986-1976

Kids of all ages can stop by the library any time and find the woodland animals hiding around the Youth Services Department, learning fun facts about them along the way. Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays.

**LISTEN & LEARN**

■ **Creative Sustainability Workshop**  
Jan. 10

Swallow Cliff Woods-North  
Route 83 west of 96th Avenue  
near Palos Park  
www.fpdcc.com  
(312) 533-5751

Learn about creative reuse methods and mending techniques that can give items a second life by turning them into an ornament, decoration or bird feeder. Use supplies provided or bring your own. Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m.

**NOTEWORTHY**

■ **Donna Herula Trio**  
Jan. 11  
Unitarian Church of Hinsdale  
11 W. Maple St.  
www.acousticren.com  
(630) 941-7797

This Chicago-based folk blues group performs fun, lively and heartfelt versions of traditional blues songs as well as creating original songs that tip the hat to the tradition. Streaming tickets also are available. Time: 7 p.m. Tickets: \$20.

**ON STAGE**

■ **'Goodnight Moon and the Runaway Bunny'**  
Jan. 16  
McAninch Arts Center  
College of DuPage  
421 Fawell Blvd., Glen Ellyn  
www.atthemac.org  
(630) 942-4000

Kids in pre-K through second grade can experience this Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia production of beloved stories brought to life with endearing animal puppets, stunning scenic effects and evocative music. Times: 9:45 & 11:30 a.m. Tickets: \$10.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

■ **Mussel Matters**  
Jan. 9  
The Preserves at Oak Meadows  
900 North Wood Dale Road, Addison  
www.dupageforest.org  
(630) 933-7248  
Join a film screening of "Mussel Matters: Saving Critical Species in DuPage"

*Please turn to Page 20*

*Inter-Faith Fellowship*, hosted by:  
**UNION CHURCH OF HINSDALE**

137 S. Garfield Street, Hinsdale, IL 60521  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Inter-Faith Fellowship Presents**  
First Responder Captain Jim Jung

**Wednesday, January 8, 2025**

Fellowship, Lunch, Program \$15 at the door!  
Doors open at 11:45 am, Lunch at Noon, Program to follow!!

Union Church's own Jim Jung, a 45-yr veteran EMT/Firefighter of the Clarendon Hills Fire Department will discuss the basics of CPR, AED operation, choking, and first aid. He will also explain the importance of having a safe home both medically and for fire prevention. Following the program there will be a question-and-answer session.

**Reservations requested by Thursday, January 2, 2025 to Elizabeth Jung at [ejung@uchinsdale.org](mailto:ejung@uchinsdale.org) or 630-688-1706**



MISSION STATEMENT: Inter-Faith Fellowship is "Community Wide" and ALL INCLUSIVE. We offer lunch and compelling programs to educate and entertain while providing fellowship. We support charities fighting hunger and victims of domestic violence.

**Pet pic of the week**

**Clyde is a lively,** affectionate little guy with a heart full of love and an energy that's impossible to miss. He's always ready to join the fun, whether it's curling up for a cozy snuggle with his favorite people, chasing after toys or enjoying his favorite snacks. His happy-go-lucky spirit is contagious, and he'll quickly become the center of your world. Clyde is looking for a home where he can be your one-and-only companion, soaking up all the love and attention he deserves. If you're searching for a loyal, playful sidekick who will brighten your days, come meet this sweet little guy — he's sure to steal your heart! Stop by the Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center, visit [www.hinsdalehumane.org](http://www.hinsdalehumane.org) or call (630) 323-5630. (photo provided)



*Continued from Page 19*

County" followed by a moderated panel Q&A with local experts. The program is for ages 16 and up. Time: 6 to 7:30 p.m. Cost: \$10. RR

**TEENS & TWEENS**

■ **Teen Self-Defense Workshop**

Jan. 5  
The Community House  
415 W. Eighth St.  
[www.thecommunityhouse.org](http://www.thecommunityhouse.org)  
(630) 323-7500

Ages 11-17 will participate in a series of discussions and be introduced to basic physical self-defense skills and techniques focusing on mindset, skill set and planning. Attendees must have a signed electronic waiver on file in advance of the event. Time: 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost: \$47. RR, MD

■ **Money Smarts Lunch & Learn**

Jan. 11  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.

[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

Financial advisors Nora Hernandez and Clare Nawrocki will equip teens with knowledge about savings and checking accounts, vital financial terms and budgeting to make well-informed financial decisions and effectively manage money. A pizza lunch is included. Time: 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. RR

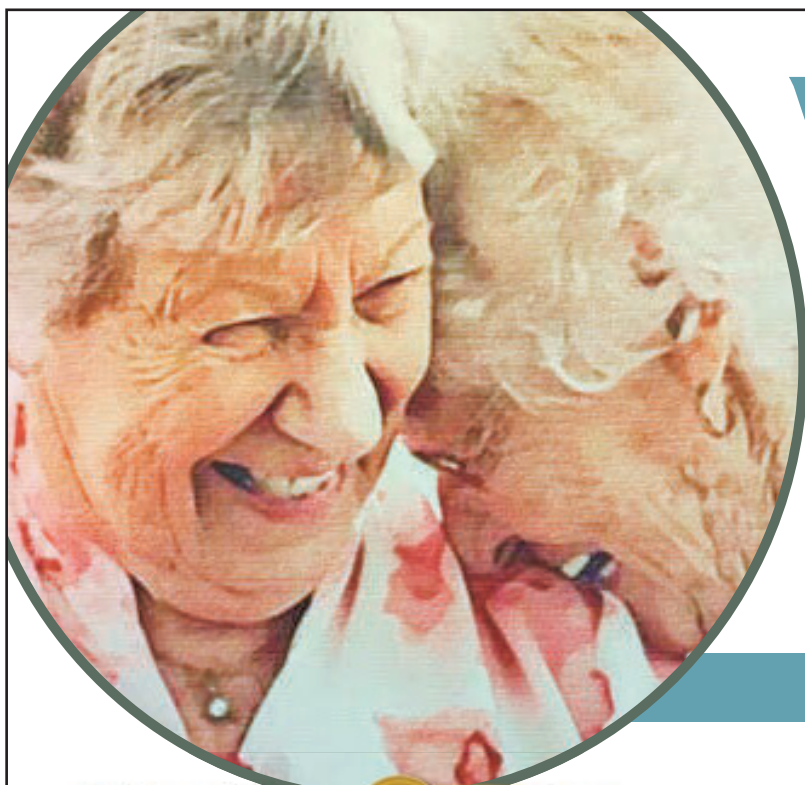
**WEE ONES**

■ **Tales as Old as Time with Belle**

Jan. 13  
Hinsdale Public Library  
20 E. Maple St.  
[www.hinsdalelibrary.info](http://www.hinsdalelibrary.info)  
(630) 986-1976

Preschoolers with an adult can enjoy singing, storytelling and a meet and greet with Belle from "Beauty and the Beast." Time: 10 to 11:30 a.m. RR

*Key  
RR - registration required  
MD - member discounts*



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is Not Working...**

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So you think you're a *real* Hinsdalean, eh? Tell us where you think this picture was taken and you can win a Fuller's Ultimate Car Wash gift card. Send your answer to: The Hinsdalean, Village Posting Board, 7 West First St., Hinsdale, IL 60521. Winners will be drawn from correct answers received weekly. *Good luck!*

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

The Hinsdalean  
7 West First Street,  
Hinsdale, IL

(630) 323-4422  
Fax: (630) 323-4220

### Hours & Deadlines

Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Classified deadline:  
Tuesday 4 p.m. for  
Thursday's publication

Email:  
tinaw@thehinsdalean.com

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## Crossword Answers

P	T	A	S		H	S	T		C	A	L	F		
V	I	R	T	U	O	S	O		O	L	I	O		
T	O	N	E	D	O	W	N		R	E	A	P		
			N	O	D				N	I	N	E	R	S
R	A	D	O	N		C	A	G	E					
A	M	I	S		E	A	G	E	R	L	Y			
P	A	S		T	V	S	E	T		Y	A	M		
			T	H	R	O	A	T	S		D	O	L	T
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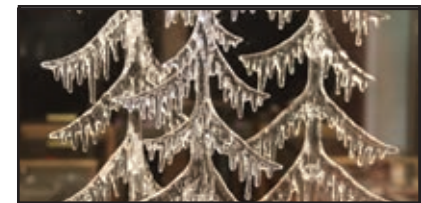
## Is this your license plate?

Does it belong to someone you know?



The owner of this car is a winner of an  
**Ultimate Car Wash**  
compliments of Fuller's and The Hinsdalean.  
Call 630-323-4422  
to claim your prize.

## Yes, I'm a real Hinsdalean!



**YES, I'm a real Hinsdalean!**  
Today's picture is at:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Send your answer to: The Hinsdalean  
7 W. First St., Hinsdale, IL 60521  
or email: tinaw@thehinsdalean.com

One winner will be chosen monthly from all correct entries and receive a Fuller's Ultimate Car Wash gift card.

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## So, you think you are a REAL HINSDALEAN – December photos



Dec. 5, 2024  
 PHILLIP'S FLOWERS



Dec. 12, 2024  
 KING KEYSER



Dec. 19, 2024  
 SO



Dec. 26, 2024  
 MY SISTER KATE

OUR LUCKY WINNER FROM DECEMBER IS:

**Peter Loughman**

who will receive an Ultimate car wash gift certificate from Fuller's Car Wash.



# VILLAGE POSTING BOARD

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1-5 Plots. Mature section, right off main entrance across from pond. \$9,000 each. Email: [pdilucas@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pdilucas@sbcglobal.net)

## Shows

**GUN SHOW:**  
January 3-5, 2025  
Racine Area/Sturtevant,  
Fountain Hall-8505 Durand  
Fri 3-9pm, Sat. 9am-5pm,  
Sun. 9am-3pm.  
\$10 (under 14 FREE).  
More info: 563-608-4401  
[www.marvkrauspromotions.net](http://www.marvkrauspromotions.net)

## Help Wanted

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**Apply in person at**  
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We'd love to buy your old car. We pay \$100-\$500 cash for "the good, the bad and the ugly". Free tow-away.  
**Call Rod 773-930-7112**

## Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79596 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on December 27, 2024 wherein the business firm of

### JAYBEE MAKES IT HAPPEN

Located at 889 S. Lorraine Ave., Apt. 206, Wheaton, IL. 60189 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Joshua Bassett, 889 S. Lorraine Ave., Apt. 206, Wheaton, IL. 60189. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 27th day of December A.D. 2024.  
Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
January 2, 9 & 16, 2025.

New Year's Day is every man's birthday. Charles Lamb

An optimist stays up until midnight to see the new year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves. Bill Vaughan

## Public Notices

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

**COUNTY OF DU PAGE**

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE EIGHTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT**

**ESTATE OF HELEN B. GIORDANO DECEASED**

**CASE NUMBER 2024 PR 000939**

Notice is given of the death of Helen B. Giordano whose address was 5420 Subiaco Dr. #236, Lisle, IL. 60532. Letters of Office were issued on December 19, 2024 to Kenneth Giordano, 355 S. School St., Lombard, IL. 60148, as Independent Administrator whose attorney is Mark C. Metzger.

### NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES

Notice is hereby given to all creditors, persons and unknown heirs, who are heirs or legatees in this cause.

To probate a Will, and whose name and address is not stated in the petition to admit the Will to probate, an order was entered by the court on December 19, 2024 admitting the Will to Probate. Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission, you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the Will by testimony of the witnesses to the Will in open court or other evidence, as provided in section 6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/6-21). You will also have the right under the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/8-1), to contest the validity of the Will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after the admission of the Will to probate.

The estate Will be administered without Court Supervision, unless under section 28-4 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/28-4) any interested person may terminate independent administration at any time by mailing or delivering a petition to terminate to the Circuit Court Clerk.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of CANDICE ADAMS, Circuit Court Clerk, 505 N. County Farm Rd., Wheaton, Illinois, or with the representative or both on or before \*June 27, 2025 any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a

## Public Notices

claim filed with the Circuit Court Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney, if any, within 10 days after it has been filed with the Circuit Court Clerk.

Name: Mark C. Metzger  
DuPage Attorney Number: 208026  
Attorney For:  
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Published in The Hinsdalean  
December 26, 2024,  
January 2 & 9, 2025.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79582 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on December 12, 2024 wherein the business firm of

### BODY MIND INTEGRITY

Located at 517 Thornhill Drive, Carol Stream, IL. 60188 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Ruth Julian, 726 Michigan Street, Wheaton, IL. 60187.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 12th day of December A.D. 2024.  
Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
December 19 & 26, 2024  
and January 2, 2025.

CERTIFICATE NO. 79581 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on December 10, 2024 wherein the business firm of

### TST CONCEPT ART & GRAPHICS

Located at 843 W. College Blvd., Apt. 302, Addison, IL. 60101 was registered; that the true or real name or names of the person or persons owning the business, with their respective post office address(es), is/are as follows: Taiwo Owoniyi, 843 W. College Blvd., Apt. 302, Addison, IL. 60101.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 10th day of December A.D. 2024.  
Jean Kaczmarek  
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean  
December 19 & 26, 2024  
and January 2, 2025.

And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been. Rainer Maria Rilke

## Equal Housing



It is the intent and goal of this newspaper to have each advertiser who wishes to place a covered advertisement in the newspaper comply with the Fair Housing laws. Any advertisement which is perceived to contain language contrary to these laws will be rejected or changed to remove the offending reference. There may be situations where it is not clear whether particular language is objectionable. Such advertisements should be referred to a supervisor for consideration and determination. Under certain circumstances, advertisers may claim that because of the nature of the housing being advertised, they are not subject to the Fair Housing laws. Such claims are irrelevant for purposes of considering advertisements for publication in this newspaper. Every housing advertisement published in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing laws.

**H**ometown  
**I**n town  
**N**eighborhood  
**S**coops  
**D**elivered free  
**A**ll Hinsdale  
**L**ocal  
**E**ach Thursday  
**A**t your door  
**N**ews  
**READ  
IT  
AND  
REAP!**



# MIND GAMES

- ACROSS**
- 1 SCH. SUPPORTERS
  - 5 WHITE HOUSE MONOGRAM
  - 8 YOUNG COW
  - 12 STELLAR MUSICIAN
  - 14 HODGEPODGE
  - 15 SOFTEN
  - 16 HARVEST
  - 17 AUCTION SIGNAL
  - 18 CALIF. NFL TEAM
  - 20 HARMFUL GAS
  - 23 BATTING PRACTICE AREA
  - 24 "LUCKY JIM" AUTHOR
  - 25 WITH GUSTO
  - 28 - DE DEUX
  - 29 SPORTS BAR FIXTURE
  - 30 CANDIED VEGGIE
  - 32 GULLETS
  - 34 KNUCKLEHEAD
  - 35 GRECIAN VESSELS
  - 36 WALKING STICKS
  - 37 RADIATOR SOUNDS
  - 40 SOAP UNIT
  - 41 "RHYME PAYS" RAPPER
  - 42 PLAYWRIGHT WILDER
  - 47 STADIUM TOP
  - 48 STATISTICAL ANOMALIES
  - 49 WIFE OF GERAINT
  - 50 TO THE - DEGREE
  - 51 "TOODLE-OO!"

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11	
12				13					14				
15									16				
			17				18	19					
20	21	22				23							
24					25					26	27		
28					29					30		31	
		32		33						34			
				35					36				
37	38	39					40						
41						42	43				44	45	46
47						48							
49						50				51			

- DOWN**
- 1 USMC RANK
  - 2 UNCLE (SP.)
  - 3 PRINCE VALIANT'S SON
  - 4 SHORTHAND PROS
  - 5 COBRA FEATURE
  - 6 AWAY FROM NNE
  - 7 FREIGHT WEIGHTS
  - 8 INTERSECTION
  - 9 DOWNWIND
  - 10 TALE TELLER
  - 11 DANDIES
  - 13 JAPANESE NOODLE
  - 19 "-- A KICK OUT OF YOU"
  - 20 KNOCK
  - 21 LATIN 101 WORD
  - 22 PLATTER
  - 23 BROADWAY ROSTERS
  - 25 CHICAGO SUBURB
  - 26 RHONE CITY
  - 27 HARVARD RIVAL
  - 29 RIPPED
  - 31 PEAKS (ABBR.)
  - 33 OXIDIZED
  - 34 "RATS!"
  - 36 POET SANDBURG
  - 37 CONCEAL
  - 38 PC PICTURE
  - 39 BIG RIG
  - 40 THIS AND THAT
  - 43 GRASS SHACK
  - 44 CHAI, E.G.
  - 45 LEFTOVER BIT
  - 46 CODE-BREAKING GP.

ANSWERS TO TODAY'S CROSSWORD CAN BE FOUND IN THE CLASSIFIEDS.

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		4		9		8	
6			1			7	
	5			8			6
9			6			8	
		2			7		9
	7	3		2			4
2			5	4		3	
	3				8		6
		9		7			8

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Govern;
2. Large;
3. Divert;
4. Neon

Today's Word  
**ELEVATOR**

## SCRAMBLERS

Shuffle the letters and have a try to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the grid.

- Rule: \_\_\_\_\_
- VENGRO** \_\_\_\_\_
- Grand: \_\_\_\_\_
- REGAL** \_\_\_\_\_
- Delect: \_\_\_\_\_
- TRIVED** \_\_\_\_\_
- Word: \_\_\_\_\_
- NONE** \_\_\_\_\_

TODAY'S WORD

S	8	5	7	9	4	3	6	7	1	A
U	1	9	7	8	6	2	2	3	5	N
D	6	7	3	1	7	9	9	8	2	S
O	7	1	9	9	2	6	3	2	8	W
K	3	6	5	4	1	8	7	9	7	E
U	7	2	8	7	3	9	9	1	6	R
	9	3	6	2	8	7	1	5	7	
	2	7	7	3	5	1	8	6	9	
	5	8	1	6	9	7	4	2	3	

# HOROSCOPES

January 2025 Horoscopes • Week 2



CAPRICORN

**CAPRICORN - Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Financial matters may require some attention right now, Capricorn. Examine your budget and figure out if the new year requires some changes to how you're managing money.



ARIES

**ARIES - Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Focus on collaboration this week, Aries. Teamwork leads to unexpected rewards if you are open to others' ideas, so remain receptive to the input of teammates.



CANCER

**CANCER - Jun 22/Jul 22**  
It is important that you take time for some self-care this week, Cancer. Your emotional well-being is just as important as your physical fitness. Reflect on some personal goals in this area.



LIBRA

**LIBRA - Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Embrace your artistic side this week, Libra. Consider a new hobby that will keep your mind busy. Social activities that involve creative pursuits also can bring inspiration and joy.



AQUARIUS

**AQUARIUS - Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, new ideas may lead to some personal projects that inspire you. You might find that you'll be quite busy on these self-imposed tasks for the next couple of weeks.



TAURUS

**TAURUS - Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, when a project presents itself to you, stay grounded and run through all the components carefully. Employ the same strategy when going over financial opportunities.



LEO

**LEO - Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Leo, you often excel in group settings, and social gatherings this week are a place where you can shine. Use all opportunities to network and connect with others.



SCORPIO

**SCORPIO - Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Allow home and family to take center stage, Scorpio. Spend as much time as possible with loved ones and try to get to the root of any persistent, unresolved issues.



PISCES

**PISCES - Feb 19/Mar 20**  
This is a good time to focus attention inward, Pisces. Make time for reflection and even some meditation if that is something that interests you. The rewards will be worth it.



GEMINI

**GEMINI - May 22/Jun 21**  
Gemini, clear up any misunderstandings and express your thoughts openly with others this week. Communication is certainly key at this juncture in time.



VIRGO

**VIRGO - Aug 24/Sept 22**  
It is important to focus on your work-life balance right now, Virgo. Prioritize important tasks, but also make time for relaxation. Small changes to your routine can be ideal.



SAGITTARIUS

**SAGITTARIUS - Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, this week focus on activities that afford a chance to learn and explore. You might want to take a class or try a new hobby. Curiosity can be exciting.

# SPORTS



## Central nets spot in championship

Hinsdale Central's Dillon Orozco (clockwise from top left) drives into the lane and teammate Eric Kozys pulls up for a jumper during the Red Devils first-round game Dec. 26 against Plainfield East at the Hinsdale Central Holiday Classic tournament. Michael Powell kept his sights on the bucket while Orozco put in a layup during the contest, a 64-35 Devils victory. The team was set to play in the championship against Brother Rice Monday night, after press time. (Jim Slonoff photos)

**SD** STAGE  
**FA** DOOR  
FINE  
ARTS



THE  
COMMUNITY  
HOUSE

**GET YOUR GOLDEN  
TICKETS TODAY!**



**JANUARY 24<sup>TH</sup> -  
FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup>**



FOR TICKETS AND INFO VISIT  
[WWW.STAGEDOORFINEARTS.COM](http://WWW.STAGEDOORFINEARTS.COM)

## UPCOMING AUDITIONS

Disney · PIXAR  
**FINDING  
NEMO**

**FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
2<sup>ND</sup>-8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**

**Alice  
by heart**

**MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>  
HIGH SCHOOL**

**Full Details at [www.StageDoorFineArts.com](http://www.StageDoorFineArts.com)**



*note to self*  
*this will be the*  
*best year yet*

- 2025 -

Looking to buy or sell in 2025? Contact Kim today!



**KIM LOTKA**

630.533.8800

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