

The Hinsdalean

Community journalism the way it was meant to be

Thursday, December 26, 2024 •

Hinsdale, Illinois •

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Feeling the joy

Eight-month-old Daphne Sheldon looks delighted to be in her holiday outfit, showcasing the smile that earned her recognition as winner of the The Hinsdalean's 2024 Happy Baby contest. Learn more about the Sheldon family, which includes parents Lindsey and Josh, and big sister Maeve, in a feature story on Page 9. See the photo that won her the title on Page 6. (Jim Slonoff photo)



Passing the torch
Chamber leader retires as her mentee prepares to step in.
Page 7



Celebrations continue
Options abound for marking the start of a new year.
Page 15



Focus on fitness
Sign up for a class or hike a new trail to help get in shape.
Page 30

*Happy
New Year*

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NEWS

Holiday spirit makes itself at home

DuPage PADS and Union Church partner to give those in need a Christmas treat

By Ken Knutson

kknutson@thehinsdalean.com

The Interim Housing Center lobby in Downers Grove gradually filled with children and parents Dec. 19 as DuPage PADS held its annual Christmas party, complete with Santa and Mrs. Claus, to spread cheer among the county's under-resourced population.

April Redzic, president and CEO of DuPage PADS, said there are currently about 300 residents at the center, one-third of them children.

"Everyone's welcome to come see Santa, but our younger ones probably get most excited," Redzic said with a smile.

Union Church of Hinsdale's ministry of change was instrumental in staging the event by helping provide the goods identified on children's wish lists. Union Church member and Hinsdale native James Lang was on hand to help facilitate the event. Lang said the joy among the participants is evident.

"Seeing the looks on the kids' faces is very cool," Lang said.

Holding the gathering in the IHC lobby was a Christmas celebration in itself. The organization, which provides shelter and services for



Santa and Mrs. Claus — portrayed by Hinsdale residents Jim and Mary Sue Honigschmidt — await young wishlist holders during the Christmas party Dec. 19 at DuPage PADS' Interim Housing Center in Downers Grove. (Jim Slonoff photos)

the county's homeless population, purchased the former Red Roof Inn property in 2022 and has been car-

rying out a complete renovation since. Redzic said last year's holiday party had to be held in much tighter quarters upstairs that lacked the cheer and brightness of the festively festooned lobby.

Hinsdale residents and Union Church members Mary Sue and Jim Honigschmidt were back as the famous Christmas couple after serving last year, eager to evoke smiles and gift wishes from enthralled — albeit at times apprehensive — youngsters.

"We have these outfits, and we just like to give," Mary Sue said. "(The kids) are so cute."

The older kids who may act too old for Santa often harbor a deep desire for the life-elevating possibilities he represents.

"The junior high kids just want to be like everybody else, with bikes and UGG boots," Mary Sue said.

Chad Pedigo, DuPage PADS' vice president of development, said IHC residents stay free of charge, with an average length of stay between six and 10 months. Previously churches in area communities, including Hinsdale, served as shelters one day a week where people slept on the floor in a common room.

"Here you have the dignity of a door with your own beds and personal bathroom," he said, noting residents can also avail themselves of employment and other services.

Redzic said one her favorite moments of the evening actually happened out in the complex.

"We had a family in quarantine with a major health issue, so Santa and Mrs. Claus went with me to knock on their window, and wave, and tell them Merry Christmas," she said.

The special house call didn't go unnoticed.

"On our way back, we did a walk around the property on the sidewalk, and so many of our adults came to shake Santa's hand and receive some cheer. It did them a world of good," Redzic recounted.

Expressions of gratitude were a common refrain.

"Everybody's appreciative," said Lang, who was also preparing to cook Christmas Eve meals for residents and then serve them out of the IHC's newly completed kitchen,

More giving, more hope.

"It's a wonderful experience," he said.



Sisters enjoy their private session with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Interim Housing Center.

ONCE UPON A TIME



Pictures from the past — Hinsdale's building services supervisor, Jim Piontkowski, took this photo in 1979. What appears to be Air & Wize and Merle Norman were located at 50 S. Washington St. The space on the left of the rebuilt structure will soon house Maison Paz the space on the right is now is Virgil Catherine Gallery. 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.



Happy Birthday!
Matthew Gebauer
turns 7 today

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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. Obituaries may be edited for style and space.

Photo reprint policy
Photographs that appear in The Hinsdalean may be purchased on our Web site at thehinsdalean.com. Occasionally additional photographs that have not been published in the paper may be published on the site; these also will be available for purchase.

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“ The village’s recently adopted incentives program to preserve historic homes has been remarkably successful. ”

Cauley looks back on busy year in town

Village president pens his final year-end report, as he has decided not seek another term

This is my final year-end letter to Hinsdale residents as village president.

When I became village president in 2009, fixing the village’s finances was a top priority. In 2008, Hinsdale risked a credit rating downgrade when a bond rating agency placed Hinsdale on “Negative Outlook.” Since 2008, Hinsdale has maintained a stable AAA bond rating. Only about 15 percent of Illinois municipalities can make that claim. While keeping the village on a firm financial footing, we have also made significant infrastructure improvements since 2009.

Since 2009, 62 of the 66 miles of Hinsdale roads have been resurfaced or reconstructed. Since 2009, we have also replaced about 20 percent of our water mains and sewers. This year, the village completed water main replacements on West Second Street and improved various roads, including resurfacing part of South Monroe Street. In 2025, the village plans to spend \$2.3 million replacing water

mains and sewers and \$8.3 million to resurface or reconstruct roads. Since 2009, we also completed the Woodlands Sewer and Drainage Project (2012-16), replaced the wooden Oak Street Bridge (2015) and built the parking deck (2020).

Hinsdale businesses are thriving. Retail vacancies in the central business district are below 2 percent, which is lower than in many neighboring communities. Hinsdale remains a much-sought-after destination for businesses. A new luxury auto dealership, McLaren, will open on Ogden Avenue in 2025, further bolstering the village’s sales tax base.

The village’s recently adopted incentives program to preserve historic homes has been remarkably successful. At homeowners’ requests, nearly 90 homes are included on our historically significant structures list,



Tom Cauley

and 17 applications have been approved for the village’s incentives designed to save homes from demolition. Consistent with preserving Hinsdale’s unique character, the village board recently approved the Vine Street Station project, which will bring seven age-restricted condominiums to the former Lutheran Zion School building while

maintaining that building’s distinctive structure.

Our Fire and Police departments are second to none. Hinsdale police are doing fabulous work apprehending those who pose a threat to our community. As examples, recently three individuals with firearms who hijacked a car were arrested by our officers at Ogden and Route 83 after a foot pursuit and a search of backyards. Also, in September a suspicious vehicle led our officers on a chase that resulted in the driver flee-

ing on foot. The driver, who had an extensive criminal history, including a conviction for attempted murder, was arrested and two firearms were recovered.

In 2025, the village will begin a multi-year program to improve vehicular and pedestrian safety. The first phase of this safety program will focus on the central business district and adjacent areas. Keeping residents safe is a high priority.

The village recently remodeled the Memorial Building Plaza, funded largely through donations from the Hinsdale Public Library, businesses, and residents as part of the village’s 150th anniversary fundraising campaign. The village board thanks those who assisted with the various 150th celebratory events.

I thank the village board, members of the various commissions and staff for all their hard work in 2024.

Happy Holidays

— Tom Cauley, village president

“ Library programs that educate and enrich our community continue to find and connect new audiences. ”

Library celebrates a remarkable year

Board president reviews library’s goals along with the many accomplishments of 2024

2024 has been a remarkable year for our library. Two full years into the implementation of the strategic plan our community developed with us, it feels like we have more momentum and a clearer sense of purpose than ever before.

Library programs that educate and enrich our community continue to find and connect new audiences. One new tradition that has really taken off is the library’s Mid-Autumn Moon Festival celebration. Hundreds of people joined us for live music, crafts, a talent show and even a food truck as we welcomed the harvest moon together for the second year. We’ve stayed committed to our goal of reducing isolation among our older residents by increasing our daytime programming for adults by nearly 600 percent. We know that not everyone is available during the workday, though, so in the last year and half we’ve also

added nearly 50 programs available off-site or on nights and weekends.

Making people more aware of their library’s offerings is crucial to the success of our strategic plan. We have worked to expand our print newsletter, add new e-newsletters and strengthen partnerships around town. Our number of school partnerships more than doubled this year. At local preschools and grade schools, our youth librarians made dozens of visits to read books, share material, and prepare for a record-breaking summer reading program. Students have been able to enhance their excellent education with new services like a subscription to the Peterson’s Test Prep database, which lets high schoolers use their HPL library card to



John Bloomfield

remotely take free ACT, SAT and AP practice tests.

And, of course, making sure we have the items our residents want to borrow remains a top priority. Interest in online books continues to grow. We saw an 18 percent increase in circulation of digital materials this year, without losing any circulation of our print collection. We continue to introduce other collections,

too, like our popular seed library. Garden-loving Hinsdaleans picked up over 1,000 seed packets this spring. We’ve been growing our Library of Things collection, too. Our “Hobby Gateway” items are a great way to “try before you buy” with a new hobby. Whether you’re interested in metal detecting or birding in your backyard, trying out a ukelele or recording a

podcast at home — we’ve got the basics to get you started.

Perhaps the highlight of the year for me was joining our friends at the village in commemorating the completion of a 150th Anniversary project — the new plaza outside Memorial Hall. I am proud that our library worked so closely with the village and donors to make such a lasting contribution to Hinsdale. This beautiful new space epitomizes intergovernmental cooperation, efficient spending and the core values I discussed above.

We hope to build on that success as we maintain our beautiful building, looking for new ways to keep the library welcoming, exciting and accessible to all. At the end of the day, that is what I like most about the library: it truly offers something for every single person in Hinsdale.

— John Bloomfield, Hinsdale Public Library Board president

NEXT WEEK

The Hinsdale Village Board, Community Consolidated District 181 Board and Hinsdale High School District 86 Board are not scheduled to meet the week of Dec. 30 to Jan. 3.



One happy baby!

This is the photo of Daphne Sheldon (submitted by mom Lindsey) that won her the title of Hinsdale's happiest baby for 2024. She appears on the front cover of today's issue, and her family is featured in the 60 Seconds article on Page 9.

Holiday campaign runs through Jan. 2

Hinsdale police have joined forces with the Illinois Department of Transportation for the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" and "Drive High, Get a DUI" enforcement campaign to ensure that festive gatherings don't end in tragedy. Through Jan. 2, law enforcement agencies across Illinois are adopting a zero-tolerance policy for impaired driving.

Police urge everyone to take the following simple steps:

- Plan ahead: Designate a sober driver, use public transportation or arrange for a

ride-sharing service.

- Report dangers: If you spot an impaired driver, pull over safely and call 911.

- Be a hero: Stop a friend from driving impaired by taking their keys and helping them get home safely.

- Buckle up: It's your best defense against impaired drivers.

The campaign is made possible through federal highway safety funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration administered by IDOT.

Correction

Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry is now the Griffin Museum of Science and Industry. Its old name was used in a Dec. 19 story on winter break activities.

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Field bids HCC farewell after 20 years

Chamber's marketing director will take the helm when office reopens after the new year

By Pamela Lannom
plannom@thehinsdalean.com

Twenty years ago Eva Field had an interview with Jan Anderson for a part-time assistant director position at the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce. The two clearly hit it off.

"Three hours later, I left with the job," Field said.

Last week Field spent her last day with the chamber, retiring as president and chief executive officer. She said she's leaving the nonprofit in a good place.

"The chamber has moved into a healthy direction for the last several years," Field said. "I do always say Jan Anderson was the start of it. She started the new direction of the chamber and I followed through with it. I'm very happy to see where the chamber sits financially and the connection with the village."

She's also confident in her replacement, Amanda Wagner, who has worked as the chamber's marketing director for the last three years. A new membership director, Wendy Pickett, started last month, and a new marketing and special events director, Dakota Kolvitz, will join the staff in January.

"We have everybody in place," Field said. "To have Amanda at the helm and ready to go, and now we've formed a new team as well, which is exciting."

Field said the accomplishment she is most proud of and the part of the job she enjoyed the most are one in the same — the connections she's established and



After working with Eva Field (right) for three years, Amanda Wagner will take the reins as president and CEO of the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce in January. Field is retiring after a 20-year career in Hinsdale. (Jim Slonoff photo)

the friendships she's made. She also is proud of the chamber's relationship with the village, which she has continued to build.

"I can't say enough about the village," she said.

Retirement could consist of volunteering at a stable near her home for children and adults with special needs. It definitely will include more time with her four grandchildren, who range in age from 5 to 10.

She said she will miss the chamber members and her colleagues from other chambers.

"I just made so many great friendships through the

years," she said. "I've been so blessed for many, many years to have a super board to work with and guide and that's who really makes the chamber very successful and healthy."

Field advised Wagner to be ready for anything.

"You never know what your day is going to be," she said. "You never know the phone call that you get, the email you receive or who walks through that door."

Wagner said she is excited and nervous to step into a new role with a new team.

"That would be something I'm looking forward to — new people coming in, but at the same time it's going to be one of our challenges," Wagner said.

After leading her first board meetings in January, Wagner will continue to focus on event planning for 2025, which is a bit behind schedule.

"The first of this year, we'll hit the ground running," she said.

The mom of four kids ages 21, 16, 14 and 12 said she hopes to follow Field's example when it comes to keeping things moving.

"Let's get this off our plate' is something she always says and she keeps things moving along. That is something I have been trying to learn and pick up and get better at over my last three years here," Wagner said.

Like Field, Wagner enjoys the relationships she's established with chamber members.

"I'm glad to be here — and I don't intend on leaving unless they kick me out," she said.

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POLICE BEAT

Hinsdale police distributed the following reports Dec. 17 and 23.

DUI arrests

• Calvin L. Harvey, 43, 3934 Granite Court, Aurora, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving with a blood-alcohol content higher than .08, improper lane use, transportation of open alcohol by a driver and improper lighting at 2:16 a.m. Dec. 22 at Route 83 and 22nd Street. He was in possession of an open container of alcohol and submitted to testing indicating he was over the legal limit. He was charged and released to appear in court.

• Suzanne R. Roberts, 57, 7501 Keeney St., Niles, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, speeding and improper lane use at 12:20 a.m. Dec. 23 at Ogden Avenue and Interstate 294. She refused testing to determine her blood-alcohol content before being charged and released to appear in court.

Warrant arrest

Antion Ashford, 31, 6012 Laurel Lane, Willowbrook, was found to be wanted on an active arrest warrant out of DuPage County after police stopped him for speeding at 10:32 a.m. Dec. 21 at Route 83 and Ogden Avenue. He was cited for speeding and released to appear in court.

Package stolen

A resident of The Pearl of Hinsdale, 600 W. Ogden Ave., reported that she did not receive a package that was delivered to her Dec. 14.

Forgery incident

Someone forged three checks using the bank account information of a business and attempted to obtain a loan at Fuller's Service Center, 102 W. Chicago Ave., between Dec. 11 and 13.

Window, decorations vandalized

- A broken window on an apartment door was discovered Dec. 13 in the 10 block of South Washington Street.
- Christmas decorations in the yard of a home in the 800 block of South County Line Road were damaged between Nov. 27 and Dec. 20.

Identity theft incidents

- The identity of a resident of the 700 block of South Lincoln Street was used to open a fraudulent credit card account and make fraudulent transactions Aug. 14, 2023, The incident was reported Dec. 11.
- The identity of a resident of the 100 block of North Vine Street was used to open a cell phone account Dec. 4. The incident was reported Dec. 12.

Arrests do not constitute conviction of a crime, and individuals listed here should be presumed innocent until proven guilty. If charges are dismissed or reduced or the accused is found not guilty, he or she can contact The Hinsdalean at news@thehinsdalean.com to provide us with documentation. Information will be updated online and in the next issue of the paper.

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■ “When you pass by someone, they stop and say, ‘Hi,’ that took a little getting used to.” — Josh Sheldon

Young family makes a happy home in Hinsdale

Hinsdale’s Daphne Sheldon has made an impression during her first year in the world.

Daphne, 8 months, captured best costume honors at the Hinsdale Fall Family Fest in October for her rodent tableau, sharing credit with handy dad Josh.

“Josh built a mousetrap to sit on top of our wagon, and (Daphne) sat in the hole as a mouse,” mom Lindsey said.

This month she earned the title of Happiest Baby for 2024 in The Hinsdalean’s annual contest for community cuteness.

“We’ve had a year,” said Lindsey, during a pre-Christmas family interview. “Josh from the start has called Daphne ‘Champ,’ but she’s really earned it now.”

Big sister Maeve, 2, was a lion for Halloween. But when it comes to her little sibling, Maeve likes to use her paws for tickling. When she’s not cavorting with her ever-growing entourage of stuffed animals, that is. Her newest addition following a Brookfield Zoo visit?

“Baby tiger,” Maeve revealed.

Lindsey said the train ride there proved to be just as cap-

tivating.

“I want to go on the train again,” Maeve chimed in.

The family moved to Hinsdale in the summer of 2023, but they had become well-acquainted with the village long before that.

“We’re just five blocks from Grandma and Grandpa, and a couple blocks further from cousins,” Lindsey said. “We’ve been coming out to Hinsdale for holidays for over a decade. And now we’re here.”

Lindsey and Josh met as students at University of Illinois and began family life in Chicago’s Logan Square neighborhood before striking out for the suburbs. Being so close to loved ones and within walking distance to Burns Field and Monroe School where the girls will one day attend is delightful, the couple said. The spirit of community also has been a pleasant surprise.

“When you pass by someone, they stop and say, ‘Hi,’” Josh said. “That took a little getting used to.”

But the Logan Square neighborhood they left behind had its virtues, too.

“We miss the restaurants.

We loved the city so it was bittersweet,” said Lindsey of the



THE SHELDON FAMILY

JOSH GREW UP IN OTTAWA, LINDSEY IN OSWEGO • FAMILY LIKES GOING TO MY SISTER KATE & FULLER HOUSE • OLDER DAUGHTER MAEVE LIKES MICKEY MOUSE & BLUEY • JOSH ENJOYS PLAYING GOLF • FAMILY DOG IS TUCKER

move, although they both still commute downtown by train for work.

Lindsey works in human resources for a biotech start-up and Josh is a data analyst. Time is scarce when it comes to DIY projects at their 100-year-old home. Plus the din of remodeling doesn’t mesh well with nap times.

“We’re slowly fixing this house up, aren’t we?” Josh

mused to his wife.

“Slowly,” answered Lindsey. “We’ll be here for a while.”

The Hinsdale Community and Hinsdale Public Library are favorite destinations.

Christmas traditions observed this year included opening the daily advent calendar and meals with relatives. Maeve is excited for January when she’ll make the jump to age 3. Daphne,

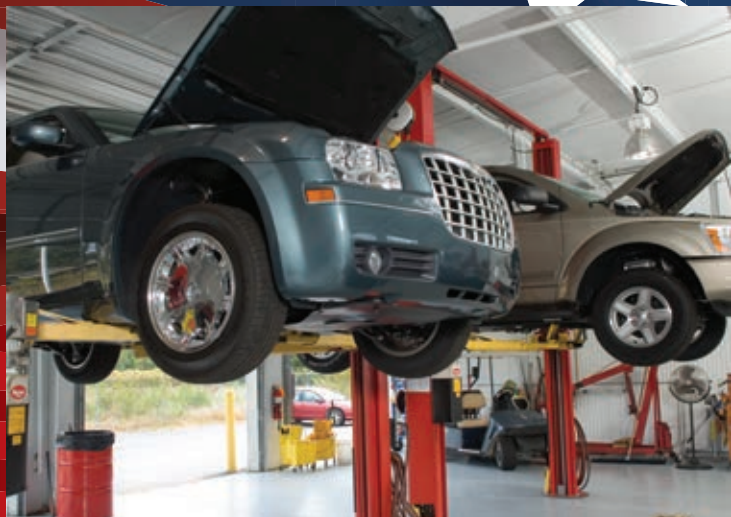
described as a chill baby by her parents, turns 1 in April.

“We have a lot of family time whenever we can get it,” Daphne said. “We just like hanging out.”

They’re eager to see what 2025 has in store.

“We just try to appreciate every single moment,” Josh said.

— story by Ken Knutson, photo by Jim Slonoff



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OPINION

EDITORIAL

Leaders' reflections prompt us to write our own

As leaders of Hinsdale's taxing bodies reflect back on 2024 on Page 5 of our holiday issues (village and library this week, school districts next week), we decided to take a look back at our own pages and share our thoughts on the top stories of 2024.

- High-powered electric bikes are banned in the village

We selected this story because it's No. 1 in the most ignored rule in the village. We regularly see kids who are not old enough to drive on bikes that travel nearly as fast as cars and it frightens us every time.

- District 86 welcomes a new superintendent

This might be a routine story for some community newspapers, but here it was big news after the Hinsdale High School District 86 Board put Superintendent Tammy Prentiss on leave, had an assistant superintendent fill in for her, hired two interim superintendents to share responsibilities, and then hired another interim superintendent after one of them quit. We hope not to write about a new district leader for a long, long time.

- School districts reach deal on Clarendon Hills TIF

The situation seemed pretty contentious in July when Clarendon Hills officials abruptly

announced plans to form a tax increment financing district along 55th Street. The village planned to use diverted property tax revenue for \$17.7 million worth of improvements and \$6.9 to purchase property. Following several meetings of the Joint Review Board and objections at Clarendon Hills Village Board meetings, the size of the TIF was reduced and those amounts were reduced to \$10 million and \$2 million, respectively. The village also made other concessions to the school districts.

- Historic preservation looks to future

After years of covering waves of demolitions of historic homes in the village, 2024 gave us the opportunity to cover an exciting number of preservation projects. The village's new preservation incentives have worked wonders, it seems. After trustees in January approve the next five properties to be added to the Historically Significant Structures Property List, there will be 94 homes on it.

- Nomadic Red Devil swimmers return to home pool

Repairs to Hinsdale Central's Don Watson Aquatic Center dragged into the fall sports season, meaning the girls swim team had to compete away until early October. Nevertheless, the team demonstrated its wealth of talent wherever it dove in and excelled at the state meet with a

sixth-place finish.

- HCS relocates to old humane society site

At long last HCS Family Services got its own building at 22 N. Elm St. The nonprofit had operated out of the Memorial Building since its founding in 1937, but running a food pantry in the historic space had become increasingly challenging. HCS leaders worked with the village to renovate the property that previously housed the Hinsdale Humane Society.

- Bears grab Amegadjie in the NFL draft

Former Hinsdale Central football standout Kiran Amegadjie is selected by the Chicago Bears with the 75th overall pick in the third round of the 2024 National Football League Draft in April. Amegadjie, who starred at Yale University, was the third former Red Devil drafted since 2018, following Brian Allen and fellow Bear Doug Kramer Jr. May they both help awaken the Bears, please!

- New plaza unveiled at Memorial Building

In commemoration of Hinsdale turning 150 in 2023, local officials in November dedicated the Memorial Building Plaza. The \$400,000 project, expanding the former 3,000-square-foot patio by 800 square feet using Unilock brick pavers and adding wall seating areas, was paid for village and Hinsdale Public Library funds as well as \$80,000 donations. See you there in the spring!

COMMENTARY

It's the most wonderfully strange time of year

As you read this, I am home in my PJs enjoying my third day off this week — an extra bonus this year that might not happen again in 2025. We'll have to see if the paper comes out on time next week.

The time after Christmas and before New Year's is always a rather strange time of year. Holiday celebrations continue, but with a different flavor than they had before Dec. 25. The tree is starting to dry out, the cookies are getting stale and the thought of drinking another glass of egg nog can stir feelings of nausea.

Producing a paper at this time of year is especially strange. I'm actually writing this column on Dec. 23. Christmas is still two days away! So I can't really reflect on how it all went.

But that won't stop me from making some predictions.

- Inviting my birth mother and my birth father and his wife to stay with us for the holidays will turn

out to be a great decision. I already had a wonderful day with Pat on Sunday, doing some shopping, getting a massage and wrapping presents — all mother-daughter activities we've never been able to enjoy together. Bob and Shari arrived Monday (I can't wait to finish my work today to go home and see them) and I know we'll have a great time, as well.

- Some gifts will be hits, some misses.

We invest so much time and money trying to find just the right present. Sometimes we're right and other times the item ends up sitting in the closet unopened for a year. As kids get older, the percentage of misses seems to rise — unless you give cash. But being together opening presents Christmas morning is a gift itself, regardless of what's underneath all that wrapping



Pamela Lannom

paper.

- "A Christmas Story" will be as funny as ever. My birth mom has never seen it, believe it or not, and will think it's a classic. (If this turns out not to be true, I promise to run a correction in next week's paper.)

- The live nativity service at Hinsdale Covenant Church will serve as a wonderful

reminder of what Christmas is all about. There was no glitz or glam when a teenage Mary gave birth to her son in a stable — or cave — more than 2,000 years ago. The chaos of having sheep and a donkey and kids involved in the telling of the Christmas story is not only appropriate, it's enjoyable.

- The toffee cheesecake will turn out beautifully.

I might be tempting fate by writing this the day before I make the cheesecake, but I overcooked the

last one I made when Bob was in town and am due for a hit and not another miss.

- Ainsley will receive too much candy.

This is a truth universally acknowledged every holiday in our house.

- I will not be able to read the prayer before dinner without crying.

I haven't yet been able to make it through yet, so I imagine celebrating Christmas for the first time with my birth parents will not be the first year that I don't choke up.

- It all will go by too fast.

I am certain of this. After weeks of preparation and anticipation, snap, the holidays are over. But our memories, fortunately, will last beyond the New Year.

I hope all of you will have/had a wonderful holiday as well.

— Pamela Lannom is editor of *The Hinsdalean*. Readers can email her at plannom@thehinsdalean.com.

OPINION

GUEST COMMENTARY

A long winter's nap

As the calendar fell, we had just a few extra days before Thanksgiving this year. That really helped November feel paced just right. But then, Thanksgiving hit, December came whirling in and we were off to the holiday races.



Carissa Kapcar

Don't get me wrong, I love the holidays and all the annual events and traditions that surround me and my family during this time. "Faithful friends who are dear to us, gather near to us, once more" never rings more true than it does in December. It's a grand time of the year!

During this season we celebrate any and all of the areas in our lives where we've built community. School communities, work communities, neighborhood communities ... even, the pickleball community. You name it and there was probably an ornament exchange, cookie exchange or Secret Santa exchange to accompany it in the last month.

While we try to celebrate our communities all year long, the holidays provide the occasion to make those get-togethers actually happen and a backdrop to do so in a sparky manner. The ritual and rhythm of these gatherings give us something to anchor ourselves around for the next 11 months of the year and that's important. Having a sense of fellowship with others is one of the things that can make us feel connected, confident and most importantly, give us a

sense of belonging.

Have you ever been in a crowd of people and still felt lonely? Feeling surrounded by people and feeling a sense of belonging are different. We all want and need to know that we're a part of something — a group, a

family, a fellowship — that's larger than ourselves. That's belonging. Belonging might be the biggest gift of the season.

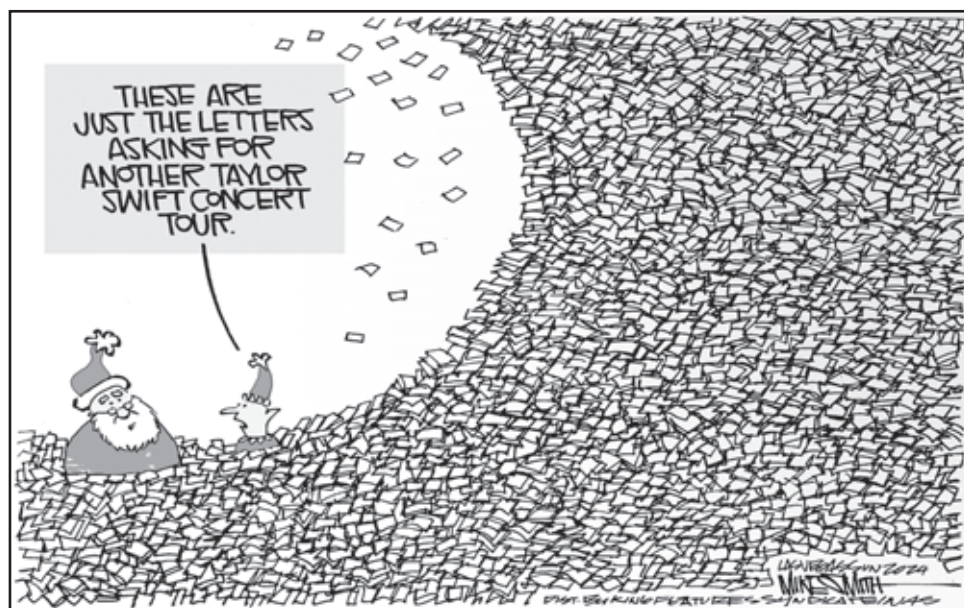
For all the hustling and bustling and magic making I did over the years as a mom, what I hope most is that my kids grew up knowing they are connected to something beyond themselves. Be it a family, friend or other type of community, my wish is that my children feel a part of something and have that sense of belonging.

December can be an exhausting time of making all the things happen. But as another holiday season comes to a close and we reflect back on the fun that was had, I already feel a pang of nostalgia that lets me know it was all worth it.

This is a special time of the year shared with special people. The connections and memories give us a coziness in knowing that we are surrounded by warmth, love and friendship. Belonging. And belonging is the key ingredient that we all need as we settle in for a long winter's nap.

— Carissa Kapcar of Hinsdale is a contributing columnist. Readers can email her at news@thehinsdalean.com.

CARTOONS



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
- 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

ASK AN EXPERT

ASHLEY VITTORI, WINE SHOP CO-OWNER

What champagne is best for New Year's Eve?

Long before France had a name, the grapes grown in this part of the world were used to create a sparkling beverage associated with celebration, special occasions, and even royalty. Although all true champagnes are made in the Champagne region of France with locally grown grapes, not all champagnes are alike.

Ashley Vittori, co-owner of the Hinsdale Wine Shop at 12 E. Hinsdale Ave., said flavor, color and mouth feel can vary greatly when it comes to champagne. She combed through the shop's collection of champagnes to find three that will add a delicious touch to New Year's Eve — or any special occasion.

At \$44.99 a bottle, NV Chateau De

Bligny carries the lowest price point of the recommended champagnes.

"That will make it appealing to everyone," she said.

With a yellow hue, NV Chateau De Bligny carries autumnal notes and flavors of stone fruits, including nectarine.

"It has a spicy aroma," Vittori said.

Made with a 50/50 mix of chardonnay and pinot noir grapes, it earned 94 Points from acclaimed wine critic James Suckling.

Vittori said the NV Chateau De Bligny is suitable to enjoy on its own or as the star of a cocktail.

A bit higher on the price scale is Dom Ruinart Blanc de Blancs, selling for \$124.99 per bottle. The flavor of this champagne is described as bright and refreshing, with notes of lemon, pear and passion fruit.

Vittori said the Dom Ruinart Blanc de Blancs is especially good with fish, or of course, as a midnight toast.

"I've personally had this one on vacation and on New Year's," she said.

This champagne, which earned 94 points from Wine Enthusiast, is as appealing to the eye as it is to the palate.

"It's got some beautiful packaging," she said, making it a great gift.

At \$259.99 per bottle, Laurent-Perrier Grand Siecle comes in with the highest price point and the highest rating, earning 100 points and the title of 2023 wine of the year from James Suckling.

"If you love champagne, this is it," Vittori said. "When a champagne wins a wine award, you know you have something amazing."

The flavors in this champagne include ginger, pie crust, nutmeg and salted caramel.

"It's like the most amazing toasted bread you've ever had," Vittori said.

Like so many good things, this one won't be around for long, Vittori said. A majority of the grapes used to create this champagne are from 2012, which is considered a great vintage.

"It's never coming back," she said.

Lesser-priced options also are available, including sparkling wines, bruts, and proseccos.

Customers who come to the shop for advice on choosing any sort of libation can be assured the person answering their questions knows what they're talking about. The staff samples everything they sell.

"That's the part that makes us different from our competitors," Vittori said.

— by Sandy Illian Bosch



Ashley Vittori, co-owner of the Hinsdale Wine Shop, said the store carries more than 40 varieties of sparkling beverages this time of year, but they don't last long. "As fast as we get it is as fast as it goes right now," she said. (Jim Slonoff photo)

Winter Champagne Spritz

- 2 ounces elderflower liqueur
- 1 ounce fresh lemon juice
- Top with 3 ounces champagne

Garnish with a sprig of rosemary or mint.

HOLIDAY POSTCARD

Dear Stressed Out,

Reduce your stress this holiday by reserving your assisted living apartment today!

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Your Caring Neighbor,



To : Stressed Out
from : The Birches

birches.net ● 630.789.1135

Primary Care, Personalized

At Rush Concierge Medicine, we take your health care personally.

We understand that your health and well-being affect every aspect of your life. We will work with you to prioritize your health by focusing on your wellness goals. Whether you want to stay active, better manage a chronic condition, or seek a more personalized health care experience, we are by your side. Rush Concierge Medicine is a membership-based primary care practice that focuses on highly personalized, accessible care. Our clinic is conveniently located in downtown Hinsdale.

As a member, you'll have a personal physician and nurse navigator as your partners in every aspect of your health. Your team is always a simple call, email or text away — 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With same- or next-day appointments available, they'll prioritize your concerns quickly.

“With concierge medicine, you have access to your doctor and nurse any time, and we really serve as your quarterback in care,” says Luan Elezi, MD, family medicine physician with Rush Concierge Medicine. “Our goal is to help you open up and discuss your health concerns so we can establish an open relationship and true partnership.”

Better Access, More Time

To build this partnership, Rush Concierge Medicine is tackling two of the biggest challenges in health care: difficulty accessing care and not having enough time with your doctor.

“Our patients are in the office for 90 minutes to two hours for their comprehensive physical,” says Marie Runyan, RN, BSN, concierge nurse navigator. “Many concerns come out when you have more time together, so that helps us really get to know you.”

The goal of breaking down these time and access barriers is to foster a strong partnership between you and your care team — which can ultimately help improve your overall health and wellness.

“Concierge medicine is more personalized and convenient,” Runyan says. “For example, if you wake up not feeling well, we'll get you in right away. You'll see your physician who knows you, your health history, your medications and your background.”

Concierge medicine also makes it easier to manage the complexities of health care. “We will help you navigate everything from annual wellness exams to chronic illnesses and beyond,” Runyan says. “Knowing we're there as your partner takes the pressure off of you to juggle it all.”

Investing In Your Health

A lot of people find their way to concierge medicine when they are ready and able to invest in their health. “Our goal is to optimize your health and focus on prevention so we can help you be more proactive with your health rather than reactive,” says Elezi.

To do this, Rush Concierge Medicine provides recommended screening and prevention testing specific to your needs. Your care team will work with you to determine if a deeper dive into different aspects of your health would be helpful based on your history and risk factors.

“Many of our patients are prioritizing their health, and they come to us looking for ways to prolong their life through prevention,” Elezi says. “By offering much more comprehensive testing, we can do more proactive disease prevention because we have more data to guide it.”

Concierge medicine can also be a game changer if you're managing chronic conditions. Your concierge medicine team will help you coordinate appointments with your specialists and navigate the system, ensuring that nothing falls through the cracks.

“When you're seeing five different specialists, there's so much information, and there can be so much disconnect between providers,” Elezi says. “We know exactly who you see, all your medications, all your concerns, and all your appointments. That allows us to collaborate with your specialists, advocate for you and make sure everyone is on the same page.”



Become a Member

If you're interested in becoming a member of Rush Concierge Medicine, you can schedule a complimentary meet-and-greet with the concierge medicine team to get a feel for the practice and providers.

To schedule a meet-and-greet or to learn more about Rush Concierge Medicine, visit rush.edu/concierge-medicine or call (630) 724-1680. Rush Concierge Medicine is located at 32 E. 1st St. in Hinsdale.



OBITUARIES

Anna Borsuk

Anna (Kubecka) Borsuk, 91, of Clarendon Hills died Nov. 2, 2024, in Talent, Ore., surrounded by family.

Ann dedicated her life to raising her children in Clarendon Hills, where she and Ed lived for more than 60 years, creating a warm environment for her family that lasted well into adulthood. She was the longest-serving volunteer at the Clarendon Hills Public Library, where her cheerful smile welcomed patrons for 35 years.

Visitation will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 28, at Christ Lutheran Church, 60 55th St., Clarendon Hills.

She is survived by her children, Kathy Borsuk, Karen McCoy and Mark Borsuk; her



Borsuk

grandchildren, Cale Guevera, Colleen Williams, Sebastian Borsuk and Stella Borsuk; and her great-grandchildren, Tina Williams and Lily Guevera.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 63 years, Edward John Borsuk.

A funeral service will take place at 11 a.m. at the church.

Interment will follow at Woodlawn Cemetery in Forest Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made online to Friends of the Library by sending an email to CHPLfol@gmail.com.

Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale handled the arrangements.

Did you know?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates the average American household throws away almost 125 pounds of trash each week. From Thanksgiving to New Years, that amount increased 25 percent, totaling about 940 pounds of waste. Roughly 80 percent of what is discarded during the holidays could be recycled or re-used.

Residents have a variety of options when it comes to recycling after the holidays.

• Holiday lights

Any type of holiday string lights, including LEDs, Italian mini-lights and rope lights — working or not — along with electrical cords, can be dropped off year-round at SCARCE, 800 S. Rohlwing Road, Addison. Hours are 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tuesdays to Fridays. Visit www.scarce.org or call (630) 545-9710 for more information.

• Clothing and textile recycling

DuPage County has partnered with eWorks and RewearAble to collect clothing and textiles for reuse and recycling at several sites. Acceptable items are clothing, shoes, sheets, bedding, towels and other household textiles in any condition (no heavily soiled items). Shoes must be matched and tied together. Items must be bagged.

The closest drop-off is the Burr Ridge Public Works Facility at 451 Commerce St. Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

• Electronics recycling

Computers, laptops, servers, computer monitors, televisions, printers, fax machines, scanners, VCR and DVD players, video game consoles, cell phones and with other electronics and small household appliances can be recycled at several sites. Appliances with refrigerants and all other items not listed cannot be accepted.

Fees apply for TVs and monitors: \$25 for items up to 21 inches and \$35 for items 21 inches and larger. All other elec-

tronics are accepted at no charge.

The closest drop-off is the Burr Ridge Public Works Facility at 451 Commerce St. Hours are 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

• Styrofoam

Western Springs offers a styrofoam recycling collection from 9 a.m. to noon the first Saturday of every month in the Recreation Center parking lot, 1500 Walker St. For more information, visit www.wsprings.com/faq.aspx?qid=188.

• Trees

Christmas trees placed at the curb will be collected during the weeks following New Year's Day. All decorations and trimming must be removed from the tree.

Branches cut from a tree can help protect plants in gardens, according to the Morton Arboretum Plant Clinic. Branches laid over garden beds will insulate the soil so it doesn't heat up in winter warm spells and cause plants to emerge prematurely from dormancy.

Trees also can be left in the backyard to provide shelter for birds and other animals during the winter.

As a reminder, curbside recycling in Hinsdale is limited to the following items: aluminum cans and clean foil; plastics number #1 PET, #2 HDPE, #3 PVC, #4 LDPE, #5 PP, #7; glass bottles and jars in all colors; tin cans and empty aerosol cans; cardboard, including cereal boxes, beverage cartons and corrugated cardboard; six- and 12-pack rings; and paper, including newspaper, direct mail, bills, envelopes, magazines, catalogs, telephone directories, office and school paper, brown paper bags.

Below are drop-off locations for a variety of items, most of which are listed in DuPage County's recycling guide at www.dupagecounty.gov > Home > Government > Departments > Environment and Sustainability > Recycling. The website also includes information on recycling options for items not listed below.



Brian Powell, Sr.
Brian Powell, Jr.

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www.sullivanfuneralhomehinsdale.com

Make New Year's Eve memorable

From light shows to stage spectacles, 2024 finale has plenty to offer revelers

Give 2024 a fond farewell by joining the celebration at one of these sites nearby.

- Seats are available for the 8 p.m. New Year's Eve performance of "Disney's The Little Mermaid" at Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane in 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."

Tickets start at \$79.20. Visit www.drurylanetheatre.com or call (630) 530-8300.

- New Philharmonic will perform to close out 2024 and ring in 2025 at the College of DuPage's McAninch Arts Center, 421 Fawell Blvd. in Glen Ellyn.

Maestro Kirk Muspratt will conduct this fun pops concert featuring a variety of light classics, Strauss waltzes, arias, guest soloist bass-baritone Richard Ollarsaba, champagne and surprises.

Tickets are \$68-\$80 and are still available for the 5 and 8:30 p.m. concerts. Visit www.atthemac.org or call (630) 942-4000.

- Brookfield Zoo's Holiday Magic light festival ends on the last day of the year, so head on over to 8400 31st St. to experience the magic before it's gone.

Featuring more than 2 million twinkling LED lights, the festival also captivates visitors with giant illuminated animals, a dazzling tunnel show, and more than 900 beautifully decorated trees that illuminate the night, each adorned by local community groups and organiza-



New Philharmonic's performances at College of DuPage's McAninch Arts Center and the Winter Lights display at the Central Park in Oak Brook are just a couple of the activities that New Year's Eve revelers can enjoy as part of their celebration of the occasion. Appetites can also get in on the fun with special fare being served at local restaurants. (photos provided)

tions. Take a leisurely stroll through new immersive displays, Candy Cane Lane and Sparkling Coast, and enjoy the festive atmosphere — complete with Santa on hand.

Tickets are \$20.95 to \$34.95 plus parking; some activities have additional fees. Visit www.brookfieldzoo.org/holidaymagic for tickets and more information.

- Experience a wonderland at Winter Lights at Central Park in Oak Brook, 1510 Forest Gate Road. As the sun sets and darkness descends, discover dancing trees, colorful rainbow arches, cascading snowflakes, dazzling twirling icicles, vibrantly colored butterflies and musical hearts throughout this accessible, one-way half-mile looped scenic pathway. The event continues through Sunday, Jan. 5.

Admission is free; visitors are encouraged to bring

donations to benefit the Peoples Resource Center and The Oak Brook Park District Foundation. The walk is open from 4:30 to 9:30 p.m. Visit www.obparks.org for more information.

- Don't miss the always breathtaking illumination light show against a wooded winter landscape at Morton Arboretum, 4100 Route 53, Lisle.

See the show while strolling along a 1-mile paved walking path with festive music. This year's event introduces a vibrant display of interactive tree shapes synchronized to different musical instruments in the Grand Garden. Also enjoy s'mores or stop in one of the concession tents for a snack and beverage.

Tickets are \$16-\$41.75, with member discounts. Visit www.mortonarb.org for tickets and time availability.

Year-end bites

- Savor the closing hours of 2024 at Vistro Prime, 112 S. Washington St.

The restaurant's New Year's Eve menu will feature the normal offerings plus prime rib, lobster risotto and A5 wagyu. Pair your meal with a Champagne cocktail of Laurent-Perrier, a sugar cube and a perfect balance of rhubarb and angostura bitters.

Visit www.vistroprime.com or (630) 537-1459 for reservations.

- The whole family can get in on the party at Il Poggiolo, 8 E. First St.

Bring the young ones starting at 5 p.m. for a New Year's Eve party for children, with party favors and a countdown at 7 p.m. A special kid's menu will be offered for \$25, along with chef's specials and regular menu items throughout the evening.

Visit www.ilpoggiolohin-

[sdale.com](http://www.lucillerestaurant.com) or call (630) 734-9400 for reservations.

- Lucille at Drury Lane, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, offers two ways to celebrate New Year's Eve with dinner and a show.

The first option includes a 7 p.m. prix fixe five-course dinner, unlimited beverages and a ticket to the 8 p.m. Drury Lane Theatre performance of "Disney's The Little Mermaid" — with intermission refreshments — for \$225 per guest.

The second option includes dinner and a theater ticket as well as 10:30 p.m. post-show party with butler-passed hors d'oeuvres, stationed appetizers, carving station, dessert display, live music and a premium open bar and midnight Champagne toast for \$300 per guest.

Visit www.lucillerestaurant.com/holiday-events or call (630) 530-8300 for reservations.



Brookfield Zoo's Holiday Magic continues through Tuesday, Dec. 31, with new experiences this year. 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.

FOR A CAUSE

■ Bernie's Book Bank Drive Through Jan. 7

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.

GAME ON

■ Chicago Elite Youth Volleyball

Tuesdays, Dec. 31-Jan. 28
The Community House
415 E. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org

Please turn to Page 18

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, 2024

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 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.

Snowed in? Escape with these winter reads

Good news!

If you're reading this column, it means your newspaper has been delivered, and you are not yet trapped in a lodge or cabin, cut off from civilization by a winter storm.

When you work at a library, it really hits you how frequently this seems to happen. If you are familiar with "Murder on the Orient Express" or "The Shining," you may already know about this all-too-common issue: If you go anywhere for the winter, odds are high that you will get snowed in and something scary, mysterious or romantic will happen to you.

Based on a thorough analysis of the literature, it is unfortunately most likely to involve murder — but, there's also a chance you'll wind up married to a duke!

Here are some of our librarians' favorite examples of blizzards and avalanches wreaking havoc on winter excursions.

- "One by One" by Ruth Ware

Guests at a ski chalet begin to disappear after an avalanche hits in this modern twist on the classic mystery setup. An "Unwanted

Guest" by Shari Lapena (takes place at an inn), "The Overnight Guest" by Heather Gudenkauf (at a farmhouse), as well as "The Hunting Party" by Lucy Foley and "The Christmas Guest" by Peter Swanson (both at British country estates) all feature guests solving — or causing — mysteries in various snowy settings.

- "Seduction on a Snowy Night" by Madeline Hunter, Sabrina Jeffries and Mary Jo Putney

Three popular romance writers offer wintry tales of secret heiresses, rakish barons, colonels, corsairs and costume balls.

- "The Terror" by Dan Simmons

An Arctic expedition goes awry in this chilling, (heavily) fictionalized account of a real 1800s event. In "The Thing," the 1982 film based on the 1938 novella "Who Goes There?" a sinister alien presence brings death and paranoia to the other side of the globe at an Antarctic research base.

- "The Gold Rush" (1925 film)

Charlie Chaplin wrote, produced,



John Kokoris
Check this out

directed and starred in this silent comedy. Chaplin's character is searching for gold when a blizzard strikes and causes chaos.

- "The Bear and the Nightingale" by Katherine Arden

This award-winning historical fantasy novel takes place in medieval Russia and incorporates the rich folklore of that time and place.

- "The Long Winter" by Laura Ingalls Wilder

This classic autobiographical children's novel, part of the "Little House" series, recounts the seven months of blizzards that hit the Dakota Territory in 1880.

These titles and many others can help you prepare for the inevitable disruption to your wintertime travel plans (or help you pass the time in between murders once you are snowed in).

But once the cold, hard reality sets in — you won't be coming back to Hinsdale for a long time — you may want a little more variety in your

reading and listening material.

Fear not! You can access thousands of titles remotely from your phone, tablet or computer. We recommend two essential apps for all Hinsdale patrons: Hoopla and Libby. Download these apps and set up an account using your library card to download audiobooks, ebooks and more with ease.

Just like you might need multiple streaming apps to watch all your favorite shows, different books are available on different platforms; between Hoopla and Libby, you'll be able to find most of what you want. Most of the digital titles cardholders can access appear in our catalog, which you can access through hinsdalelibrary.info or the new and improved Hinsdale Public Library app.

Safe travels and happy reading to all this holiday season! We hope to see you back at the library as soon as your rescue party arrives or your mystery is solved.

— *John Kokoris is marketing and outreach manager at the Hinsdale Public Library.*

*Warm wishes to you and yours this holiday season!
Whether you're thinking of buying or selling, let's
make your next move your best one!*

HAPPY Holidays!

Denise Marron
REAL ESTATE BROKER

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312.545.9252
www.MyTaxAppealLawyer.com

PULSE

Continued from Page 16

(630) 323-7500

Kids in first through fifth grade will be introduced to the game of volleyball or coached to improve their individual skill development in passing, setting, attacking, blocking, serving, defense and movement. Players will be divided according to skill level and age. Time: 5 to 6 p.m. Cost: \$120. RR, MD

GREAT OUTDOORS

■ Winter Bird Watch

Dec. 27
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs
www.fpdcc.com
(708) 839-6897

Walk to discover which birds are winter residents and then get warm by a cozy fire. Hot cocoa will be provided. The program is for ages 14 & up. Time: 9 a.m.

■ Winter Mammals Drop-In

Jan. 6
Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center
9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs
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.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

■ Fitness Hike

Jan. 4
Brezina Woods
La Grange Road south of Cermak Road, near La Grange Park
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
(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

Time: 6 p.m.

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

■ Christmas Chamber Concert

Dec. 28
Hinsdale Seventh-day Adventist Church
201 N. Oak St.

Julia Tsien on piano and Steven Song on violin will present this concert. A free will offering will be collected.

■ Winter Holidays in the 1890s

Through Dec. 30
Kline Creek Farm
1N600 County Farm Road, West Chicago
www.facebook.com/klinecreekfarm
(630) 206-9576

Join a guided tour of the 1890s farm house focusing on winter holiday traditions. Learn how farm families dec-

orated the tree, exchanged gifts, and prepared food for the holidays. All ages are welcome and registration is not required. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission: Free, \$5 suggested donation per person ages 3 and up.

■ Holiday Magic

Through Dec. 31
Brookfield Zoo
8400 31st St.
www.brookfieldzoo.org/holi-

daymagic

Visit this light festival featuring more than 2 million twinkling LED lights. Enchanting scenes come to life with giant illuminated animals, a dazzling tunnel show, Santa and walk-through displays. Some activities have additional fees. See website for hours and full schedule. Tickets: \$20.95 to \$34.95 plus parking.

Please turn to Page 20



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Continued from Page 18

■ Illumination

Through Jan. 4
Morton Arboretum
4100 Route 53, Lisle
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

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. 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

■ January Scavenger Hunt

Jan. 1-31
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.

■ Improv Class

Thursdays Jan. 9-Feb. 13,
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
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

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

■ 'Disney's The Little Mermaid'

Through Jan. 12
Drury Lane Theatre
100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook
Terrace
www.drurylanetheatre.com/
the-little-mermaid
(630) 530-0111

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. Times: 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. Tickets: start at \$52.95.

SPECIAL EVENTS

■ Lake View Open House

Dec. 28
Lake View Nature Center
17W063 Hodges Road,
Oakbrook Terrace
www.obtpd.org/nature
(630) 941-8747

Learn more about the Lake View Nature Center's programs and events and visit some cool critters at this open house, complete with nature-themed activities. All ages are welcome. Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

TEENS & TWEENS

■ Teen Self-Defense Workshop

Jan. 5

The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
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
(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

WINTER BREAK

■ Kids Open Art Studio

Dec. 27, Jan. 2 & 3
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecommunityhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Kids ages 5-12 will work with a different set of materials each day and either follow along with the project of the day or make their own. Oversized T-shirts are recommended as smocks. Time: 10 a.m. to noon or 1 to 3 p.m. Cost: \$36 per day. RR, MD

■ HHS Winter Camps

Dec. 27, 30 & Jan. 2-3
Hinsdale Humane Society
21 Salt Creek Lane
www.hinsdalehumanesociety.org
(630) 323-5630

The humane society invites kids in grades one through six to dive into the world of animals through engaging hands-on activities, creative crafts, fun games and up-close interactions with furry friends, learning valuable lessons in animal care, advocacy and kindness. Each day of camp will have the same lesson and activities. Parents should

Please turn to Page 24

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The Hinsdalean

A message from the co-owners of The Hinsdalean



Pamela Lannom
Editor



Jim Slonoff
Publisher

Dear Hinsdalean,

It's hard for us to believe we started our 19th year of publication in September of this year. And while another year has flown by, we continue to devote our time and energy into providing you with the best community newspaper we can. We were humbled once again to be named the best weekly newspaper of our size in the state by the Illinois Press Association – for the fifth year in a row.

We hope this message finds you well. We are reaching out to you, our valued readers, to ask for your support. In order to continue providing high-quality, independent journalism, we are seeking voluntary contributions from our community of readers.

Your generous donation will help us maintain our commitment to delivering reliable news and insightful stories. Every contribution, big or small, makes a meaningful impact.

If you're interested in supporting our work, you can easily make a donation using the QR code below or by filling out and returning the form below. We deeply appreciate your consideration and continued support.

Thank you for being a part of our community.

James Slonoff
Publisher

Pamela Lannom
Editor

Yes, I wish to support community journalism by making a voluntary contribution to The Hinsdalean. Please fill out the form below and mail it with your check in the enclosed return envelope or use the QR code provided.

- \$100 \$75 \$50 Other

Name: _____

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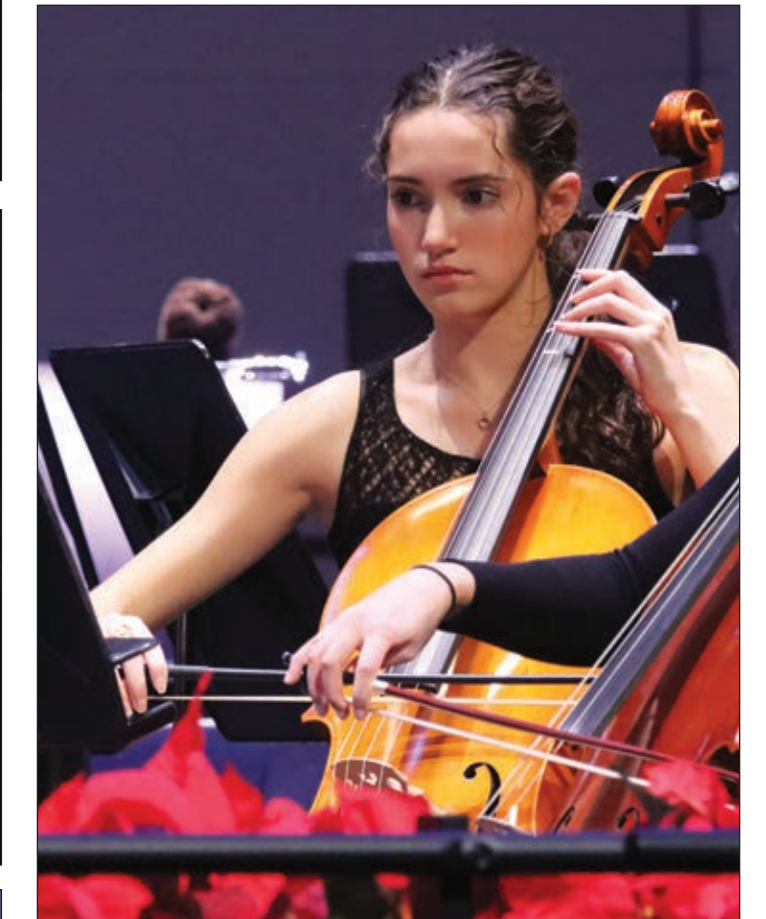


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Sounds of the season

The Hinsdale Central music department presented its Holiday Concert Dec. 12. The program included performances by D Major & The Minors, Wind Symphony, Jazz Ensemble, Chamber Orchestra, Jazz Lab, Concert Band, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, Combined Choirs, Symphony Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Chorale, Concert Orchestra, Chamber Choir and the Philharmonic Orchestra. The musicians were directed by Matt Kurinsky, Jennifer Burkemper, Serge Pensik and Grace Adduci. (Jim Slonoff photos)



Pet pic of the week

Howie is a staff favorite, and it's easy to see why. With boundless energy and a toy-chasing spirit, this playful guy knows how to make every day brighter. What happens when playtime is over? Howie is ready for couch time and belly rubs. This handsome boy is looking for a fun-loving home where he can bring his signature charm and personality. His ideal family would include adults and children over the age of 14. For more information, stop by the Hinsdale Humane Society Tuthill Family Pet Rescue & Resource Center, visit www.hinsdalehumane-society.org or call (630) 323-5630. (photo provided)



Continued from Page 20

sign up their child for one day during each week. Times: 9 to 11:30 a.m. for grades one to three, 12:30 to 3 p.m. for grades four to six. Cost: \$60 per day.

■ **Winter Break Camp**

Weekdays through Jan. 3
The Community House
415 W. Eighth St.
www.thecompanyhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Kids in kindergarten through middle school will enjoy arts and crafts, group games, cooking projects and STEM activities along with a field trip on Wednesday of each week. No camp Dec. 24, 25, 31 or Jan. 1. Register for one day or all seven. Extended care is available for an additional fee. Time: 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost: \$90 per day, \$510 for all six days. RR, MD

■ **Pee Wee Sportsters Camps**

Dec. 30 & Jan. 2-3
The Community House
415 E. Eighth St.

www.thecompanyhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

Kids ages 3-5 will be introduced to football, basketball, soccer, baseball, floor hockey, kickball, running games and more, with an emphasis on teamwork and sportsmanship. Time: 10 to 11 a.m. Cost: \$52. RR, MD

■ **5 Star Winter Soccer Camp**

Jan. 2-3
Hinsdale Central Fieldhouse
5500 S. Grant St.
www.thecompanyhouse.org
(630) 323-7500

This co-ed program for ages 5-12 presents a curriculum focused on developing fundamental technique while creating an atmosphere that unlocks the game within each child. T-shirts are included, and participants should bring a ball. Time: 1 to 4 p.m. Cost: \$114, RR, MD

Key
RR - registration required
MD - member discount



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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.

Christmas isn't a season. It's a feeling.
Edna Ferber

Public Notices

CERTIFICATE NO. 79577 was filed in the office of the County Clerk of DuPage County on December 3, 2024 wherein the business firm of **THE DUPAGE HANDYMAN** Located at 2S.475 Barclay Pl., Glen Ellyn, IL. 60137 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: Jin Tai, 2S475 Barclay Pl., Glen Ellyn, IL. 60137; Kurt Lewandowski, 21W624 Kensington Road, Glen Ellyn, IL. 60137.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Official Seal at my office in Wheaton, Illinois, this 3rd day of December A.D. 2024.

Jean Kaczmarek
DuPage County Clerk

Published in The Hinsdalean
December 12, 19 & 26, 2024

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

Public Notices

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 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:
Kenneth Giordano
Address: 1807 W. Diehl Rd.,
Ste. 105
City/State/Zip: Naperville, IL.
60563
Telephone: 630-615-6380
Email:
mark@markmetzger.net

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.

The excellence of a gift lies in its appropriateness rather than in its value.

Charles Dudley Warner

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.



MIND GAMES

- ACROSS**
- 1 COSTA –
 - 5 CRIB CRY
 - 9 GAL. FRACTIONS
 - 12 COLORADO RESORT
 - 13 RUSSIAN RIVER
 - 14 MOTOR CITY LABOR ORG.
 - 15 ALIKE (FR.)
 - 16 EYELID WOE
 - 17 LYRICIST GERSHWIN
 - 18 SANTA'S RUNWAY
 - 19 SLY CHUCKLE
 - 20 PER PERSON
 - 21 BRITISH VERB ENDING
 - 23 RIGHT ANGLE
 - 25 EXAGGERATED PRIDE
 - 28 AFFLICTION
 - 32 LOOK OF DISDAIN
 - 33 EDITION
 - 34 AGREED SILENTLY
 - 36 GODDESS OF WISDOM
 - 37 HALF OF BI-
 - 38 MONT. NEIGHBOR
 - 39 ARMY TRANSPORT
 - 42 CAGERS' GP.
 - 44 TILL BILLS
 - 48 INTERNET ADDRESS
 - 49 EYE DROP
 - 50 BRYANT OF HOOPS FAME
 - 51 THREE, IN ROME
 - 52 SAHARAN
 - 53 JAPANESE NOODLE
 - 54 COMPUTER KEY
 - 55 PIXELS
 - 56 COOPED (UP)

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						52				53			
54						55				56			

- DOWN**
- 1 KOA PATRON
 - 2 SHAKESPEARE VILLAIN
 - 3 PISA FAREWELL
 - 4 SUPER-MOTIVATED
 - 5 URGES DOGS ON SNOW
 - 6 MUSEO DISPLAY
 - 7 CHAOS
 - 8 GINGER --
 - 9 WITTICISM
 - 10 POI BASE
 - 11 TRADE
 - 20 #1 ELVIS PRESLEY SONG
 - 22 AMBULANCE SOUND
 - 24 NON-CLERGY
 - 25 QVC ALTERNATIVE
 - 26 POPULAR CARD GAME
 - 27 NAP SITE
 - 29 ENZYME SUFFIX
 - 30 PRESS FOR PAYMENT
 - 31 VERILY
 - 35 MOOLAH
 - 36 PRIZES
 - 39 BURLAP FIBER
 - 40 MESSES UP
 - 41 POWER CO. SUPPLY
 - 43 LURE
 - 45 CENTRAL POINT
 - 46 BLACK, IN VERSE
 - 47 DISPATCHED
 - 49 SMIDGEN

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-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. Shine; 2. Origin;
- 3. Lucid; 4. Poison

Today's Word
OPINION

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Their meanings are listed below. Scramble the letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the grid.



"When I want your
I demand it."

- Given: ENSHI
- From: RIGONI
- Clue: CUDLI
- What: SNOOPI

TODAY'S WORD

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

HOROSCOPES

January 2025 Horoscopes • Week 1



CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, you've been waiting patiently to say something and looking for an opportunity to share your input. You might need to interrupt if you feel it is important enough.



ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
You are likely to question information you receive this week, Aries. Investigate things further, but remain receptive to what others are saying.



CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, this week you may be looking to clean house, so to say. You are tossing away old beliefs and habits and are ready to embrace something new. It might be an exciting time.



LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Do what you can to help others in need, Libra. Offer your services and insight, and be prepared to help in other ways as well.



AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Your mind feels as if it's going in a million different directions, Aquarius. One way to alleviate distractions is to direct your energy to an assortment of small projects.



TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, it is time to solidify plans and any grand schemes you may have; otherwise, you may not know which path to take. For now, start outlining your ideas.



LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, everything that you are going through right now is part of a cycle that has a beginning and an end. If you wait it out, you will find that patience pays off.



SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you are giving off an energy lately that others might be attracted to. Don't be surprised if your fan club increases in the next few days. Enjoy the attention.



PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, sometimes it seems like what you are saying is going in one ear and out the other. Don't let your frustration get the best of you. Keep trying to be heard.



GEMINI – May 22/June 21
Practice your communication skills, Gemini, as you are likely to need them this week. You may need to resolve a sticky situation and serve as a voice of reason.



VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, maintain openness of communication. Some may offer advice, while others may seek it. Be receptive to the former and do your best to accommodate the latter.



SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
Communication from a former friend or an old roommate may catch you by surprise this week, Sagittarius. Embrace this opportunity to reconnect.

SPORTS

Options to get back in shape for 2025

Residents can sign up for indoor fitness classes or head outside for a hike on a trail

Christmas suddenly is in the rear view window, and while holiday celebrations might not yet be over, thoughts turn to January and getting back to a regular routine.

Part of that routine for many might involve getting back in shape. Fortunately Hinsdale residents have plenty of options for indoor classes through the parks and recreation department and The Community House.

And when the weather is mild, a walk outdoors in a nearby forest preserve might do as much for mental health as it does for physical health.

Fitness classes

- Adult Ninjas

Beginners and advanced participants will enjoy this class, working to progress through each obstacle while building strength, balance and agility. Classes typically will include three circuits with five to eight obstacles each. Classes are from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Jan. 8 to Feb. 12 at Ultimate Ninjas, 684 W. Lake St., Elmhurst. The cost is \$169.

- Gentle yoga

This slower-paced class for adults at The Lodge and KLM Park uses yoga poses to maintain health and slow the effects of aging. The poses and breath control promote wellness for mind, body and spirit and help increase energy and improve balance, flexibility, joint stability and an overall sense of well-being. Classes are offered from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesdays Jan. 8 to Feb. 19 and 9 to 10 a.m. and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays, Jan. 9 to 20. The cost is \$75. Visit www.villageofhinsdale.org/pr.

- Latin Heat Dance Fitness

Take the hottest dance fitness class around with instructor Guillermo Rivera. Combination moves will strengthen the body through dancing. Innovate exercises will build muscle memory, muscle growth and burn calories. All fitness levels are welcome.

Classes are from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Saturdays at The Community House, 415 W. Eighth St., Hinsdale. The cost is \$86. Visit www.thecommunityhouse.org.

- Tai Chi Chuan & Chi Gong

This 90-minute class will

enhance balance, develop posture and alignments, strengthen muscles and ligament, improve mental equilibrium and transform challenges into strength and wisdom.

Classes are 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 2 to April 29.

A 10-card punch card costs \$125.

- Yoga Flow

This well-rounded Vinyasa-style yoga practice is designed to foster and grow flexibility, balance, strength and mindfulness.

Classes are from 9 to 10 a.m. Thursdays, Feb. 6 to March 13. The cost is \$90. Visit www.thecommunityhouse.org.

Head outdoors

DuPage Forest Preserves contain more than 175 miles of trails, some paved in crushed limestone or asphalt, others footpaths. Most are open to hikers and joggers and, weather permitting, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.

Below is information about the trails at half a dozen DuPage forest preserves. For more information and other locations, visit www.dupageforest.org.

- Fullersburg Woods in Oak Brook offers 2.3-mile and 1.2-mile limestone/asphalt trails, along with three shorter trails, that offer picturesque views of Salt Creek.

The main entrance to Fullersburg is at 3609 Spring Road.

- Blackwell Forest Preserve offers a variety of trails, the longest of which is a 4-mile limestone and asphalt trail. A 1.3-mile trail is paved in crushed limestone and a .8-mile trail is turf.

The main entrance is on the north side of Butterfield Road, 1/4 mile east of Winfield Road in Warrenville.

- Danada Forest Preserve's 2.8-mile limestone trail is part of the Danada-Herrick Lake Regional Trail, a U.S.-designated National Recreation Trail.

Entrances are on the east and west sides of Naperville Road 1 mile south of Butterfield Road in Wheaton.

- Herrick Lake's portion of the regional trail (see above) is a 2.7-mile limestone/asphalt path. The preserve also has 1.9-mile and



The DuPage County Forest Preserve District website offers maps of trails at all of its preserves, including Fullersburg in Oak Brook. Blackwell offers several trails, the longest of which is 4 miles. (art/photo provided)

1-mile limestone paths.

The main entrance is on the south side of Butterfield Road about 2 miles west of Naperville Road.

- Waterfall Glenn Forest Preserve's main trail is 9.5 miles and paved in crushed limestone. The second-longest is a 2.5-mile asphalt trail and there's also a 1.1-mile turf trail.

The main entrance is on the north side of Northgate Road

1/4 mile south of Cass Avenue in Lemont.

- Hidden Lake Forest Preserve offers a one-mile trail around Eagle Lake and a .9-mile trail around Round Meadow Lake. Both are paved in limestone.

The entrance is on the east side of Route 53 just south of Butterfield Road in Lisle.

The preserve typically are open daily from one hour after sunrise to one hour after sunset.

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HOUSE

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NEMO**

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2ND-8TH GRADE**

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by
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**MARCH 1ST
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Wishing you a joyful holiday and a happy new year!



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