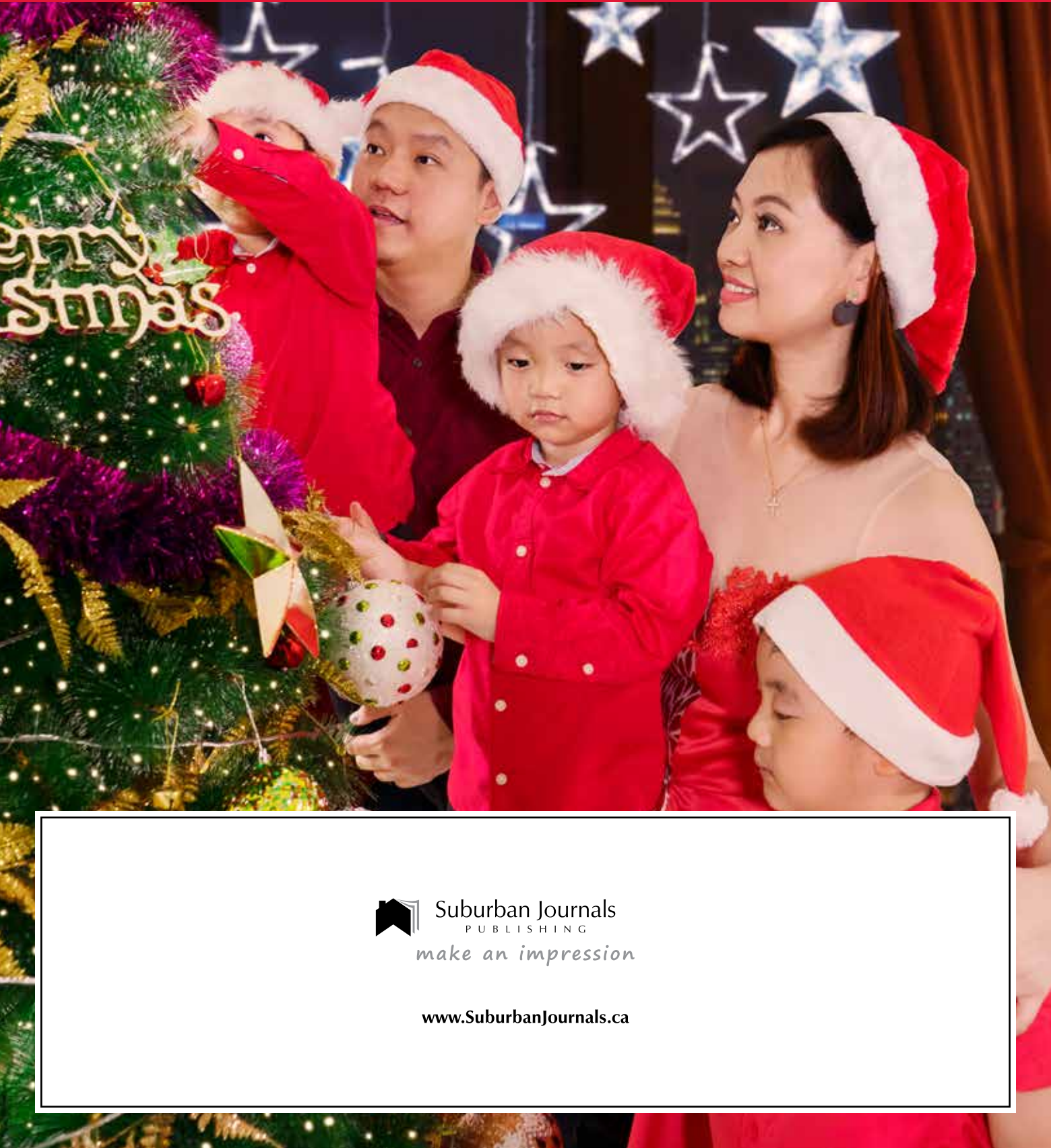


# TUSCANY SUN



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## Tuscany Community Association

P.O. Box 27054 Tuscany RPO  
Calgary, Alberta T3L 2Y1

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**Past President:** ..... Erik McRitchie  
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#### Associate Editor: Peter Clarke

Submission deadlines for this monthly publication are the 5th of the month, prior to the distribution month.

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## In Our Community

# President's Message

Here we are, nearing the end of 2024. I love seeing how Tuscany gets into the holiday spirit. There are so many lights and displays, and neighbours come together to eat, drink and be merry! Candy Cane Lane along Tuscany Vista Crescent is known across the city for its holiday spirit.

Another highlight for me is what is becoming an annual tradition of lighting the big evergreen tree that sits along the pathway between Tuscany Market down toward St. Basil School. A few years ago, neighbours began decorating the tree to bring people together in a safe way during Covid restrictions. Now the lights are electrified and in mid-November there was a community lighting ceremony. Anyone is free to hang ornaments. It is this kind of initiative that makes Tuscany such a unique neighbourhood.

This year has been a very busy one for the Tuscany Community Association. We've had several new members join our Board, for which we are very grateful. Our Planning and Traffic file has been quite busy this year, and it's good to have someone dedicated to representing our community's interests on those matters.

Thank you for making 2024 such a wonderful year for our community. I wish you and your loved ones nothing but the best in 2025!

*Erin Chrusch*  
*President, Tuscany Community Association*



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## DID YOU KNOW??

"Jingle Bells" was the first song played in space. NASA's Gemini 6A space crew played "Jingle Bells" on December 16, 1965. It was the first song ever played in space.



## École Tuscany School Happy Holidays and Seasons Greetings to all!

Thank you to the school and community members who helped make our Jacket Racket drive a huge success this year. Your generosity shows no limits, and we were able to support many less fortunate families in the Calgary area. A big thank you as well, to all those who were able to support our Veterans' Food Bank drive in early November. We are grateful for the support our school has shown to those who have served our country.

Our Teacher Appreciation team has been very busy this year, showing not only Tuscany teachers our love and appreciation, but also our facility operators, cleaning staff and support staff members. There are more delightful surprises coming their way for December!

Our upcoming FUNdraiser Treat Day is Friday, December 6 (Tim Hortons). The next Fun Lunch (Panago) for Grades 1-6, as well as Kinder Snack Day, is on Thursday, December 19. Please log into [www.healthyhunger.ca](http://www.healthyhunger.ca) (Grade 1-6 students) and submit your orders by the Friday before, to ensure your child can participate. Don't forget to wear your Spirit Wear! A big thank you to our fabulous volunteers who make these Fun Lunch and FUNdraiser Treat days possible for our kids. To volunteer for upcoming dates please sign up using our sign-up genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094CA4AF2EA3FB6-tuscany3>

Thank you to everyone who supported the 3rd Annual Purdy's Chocolate Campaign. This delicious fundraiser will allow our School Council to fund numerous initiatives such as in-school resources and materials for our children, grocery cards for families in need within our school community, naturalization to assist with the school grounds and events like our student farewell event and the school year end BBQ! Chocolate pick-up will be in the first week of December; specific information regarding date and time will be emailed out shortly. Please remember to pick up your order at the school on the date provided.

### A few other upcoming activities to look forward to:

- Spirit wear items ordered in November will come home with your child before winter break.
- Students are excited to gather and sing winter songs the week prior to the winter break. Please keep an eye out

for emails from your teacher(s).

- Last day of classes is Friday, December 20.
- Classes resume Monday, January 6, 2025.

Registration for fall kindergarten will begin mid-January 2025. Please help spread the word to your neighbours and friends. More details will be available on the Tuscany School website soon: [school.cbe.ab.ca/school/Tuscany](http://school.cbe.ab.ca/school/Tuscany)

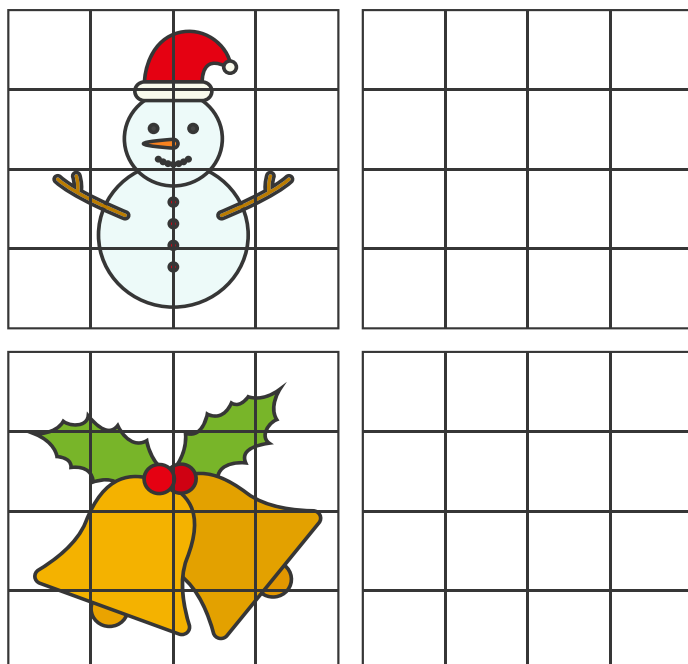
Please check the school lost and found prior to the start of winter break for any misplaced items; all unclaimed items will be donated.

The Tuscany School Council will not hold a formal council meeting in December. Hybrid in-person/Zoom meetings will resume in January. Please check out our website at [www.tuscanyschoolcouncil.ca](http://www.tuscanyschoolcouncil.ca) for up-to-date info, and follow us on social media: Facebook [www.facebook.com/tuscanyschoolcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/tuscanyschoolcouncil), Instagram @tuscanyschoolcouncil and X @TuscanyCouncil for reminders and photos of our adventures together. If you have any questions about becoming involved with the School Council or volunteering for a committee, please email [tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com](mailto:tuscanycouncilchair@gmail.com). You can also follow Tuscany school on X @Tuscany\_cbe

We wish you all a healthy and happy holiday season and good wishes for the New Year.

## Fun for Kids

### Copy The Picture



## Tuscany Scouts

The 243 Tuscany Scout Group thanks the community for your wonderful support of our October bottle drive and 50/50 draw! Funds raised go towards enabling youth-led adventures!

The youth have continued to build on their skills. The beavers (aged 5-7) are learning vertical skills and then practiced at the Climbing Centre. They also got to experience the Polar Express Train Ride! The cubs (aged 8-10) practiced shelter building and visited the Rothney Astrophysical Observatory. The scouts (aged 11-14) practiced their camp cooking skills and are hoping for enough snow for the snowshoe day trip they planned for early December. The venturers (aged 15-17) participated in a southern Alberta all-night laser tag event and refreshed their mountaineering and skills with a hike at Nose Hill. All sections will get together in December for a swim night to present skills and socialize before the holiday break.

For those interested in joining our beaver section, we are expanding! We will be opening a Friday night option for beavers in the new year. If you're interested, please join our waitlist to get communications. Visit [www.scouts.ca/join](http://www.scouts.ca/join).

## Facts About December

- The birthstone for the month of December is the turquoise.
- There are two zodiac signs for December: Sagittarius (November 22 – December 21) and Capricorn (December 22 – January 19).
- The narcissus is the birth flower for December.
- December is named for the Latin term for ten. In the Roman calendar, December was the tenth month until the addition of January and February at the beginning of the year.
- Kwanzaa is celebrated on December 26 - January 1 every year.
- On December 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers made their first flight.

## Councillor Report

Hello, Ward 1! The holiday season is just around the corner, and I want to wish you and your loved ones a joyful and restful time as we close out the year. Whether you're celebrating with family, friends, or spending time reflecting on the past year, I hope this season brings peace and warmth to your home. Here's a look at what's happening in our community this December.

### Budget Update

City Council recently wrapped up deliberations on the 2025 budget. We've been hard at work balancing the need to maintain essential services with keeping taxes affordable for residents.

### Winter Weather Tips

With colder temperatures settling in, remember to prepare for winter driving conditions. Keep an emergency kit in your car and ensure your vehicle is winter-ready. City crews are continuing to prioritize snow clearing on major routes within 24 hours, but please allow extra time to get where you're going.

For those enjoying the outdoors, make sure you're layering up properly and keeping walkways clear of snow and ice, as residents are responsible for snow clearing from sidewalks next to their property within 24 hours of snowfall. If you can, help out a neighbour by shovelling their sidewalk – a simple way to spread holiday kindness!

You can stay informed on updates regarding parking bans and snow removal by visiting [calgary.ca/snow](http://calgary.ca/snow) or calling 311.

### Supporting Local Businesses

This holiday season, I encourage you to support the many incredible small businesses right here in Ward 1. Whether you're shopping for gifts, dining out, or looking for festive experiences, our local businesses depend on your support, especially during this busy time of year. By shopping locally, you're helping keep our community strong and vibrant.

*Sonya Sharp, Councillor, Ward 1*



# A Message from Eric Harvie School Council

The holiday season is almost upon us, and with it our first Fundraising Campaign of the school year has wrapped up! Thanks to everyone who supported our Growing Smiles Fundraiser and bought the gorgeous wreaths, poinsettias and other indoor and outdoor arrangements. We sure felt in the festive spirit as these lined the school halls before pick-up! Money raised from this fundraiser will go toward our wish list of educational resources, field trips and other experiences for our students.

On Thursday, December 5 our school will be holding a Literacy Night. Parents and caregivers are invited to this adult-only event to learn about literacy development in young learners. Mrs. Tait and Mrs. Zwack will take us through a typical progression of reading and how to support our readers at home. After a general introduction, they will split into two groups one focussed on young and then more advanced readers. If you have not yet RSVP'd to the event, we invite you to do so with the link found in our weekly messages.

Starting in October a large group of students have been meeting once a week at lunch for Choir. We look forward to their production of Flakes on December 12! We are so thankful for the time and effort put in by Mrs. Coulson, Mrs. Johnston and other staff and parent volunteers to make performances like this a success at our school.

We do not have a School Council meeting in December, but we look forward to seeing everyone on Wednesday, January 15 at 6:30pm for our next meeting. It is our intent to offer a hybrid online/in person meeting during the winter months. Details will be sent out in early January.

Since winter is now upon us, the roads are slippery, and traffic volumes have increased around our school. Please remember to give yourself extra time in the morning! Also, please remember to follow traffic and pedestrian bylaws and refrain from jaywalking or making U-Turns, as this creates additional safety concerns for motorists and pedestrians. As a friendly reminder, the front of the school is now a bus zone! Please obey signs and leave space for our school bus.

### Important Dates in December:

- December 5 ~ Fun Snack (Chaos Cookies), order by Nov 30
- December 5 ~ Literacy Night event 6-7pm
- December 19 ~ Fun Lunch (Papa John's Pizza), order by Dec 14
- December 21 to January 5 ~ Winter Break
- Classes resume Monday, January 6, 2025

Please stay up to date with Council by following us on Facebook and Instagram, or by joining our email list at <http://tinyurl.com/ehsschoolcouncil>. If you have any questions about becoming involved, please contact [ehscouncilchair@gmail.com](mailto:ehscouncilchair@gmail.com).

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

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# Tuscany Children's Book

Tuscany residents will be proud to know that two sisters, Danielle Gillard and Nicole Croft, have teamed up to publish their first children's book, *There Are Some Things Love Can't Buy*. Danielle, who lives in Tuscany, illustrated the book, while her sister Nicole, who lived in Tuscany for several years before returning to Vancouver Island, authored the story. Together, they've created a heartwarming book that emphasizes the importance of love, kindness and community support.

The book shares stories about families facing everyday challenges, like affording groceries, clothes and toys, while highlighting the role of local resources like food banks and libraries in helping communities thrive. With

its focus on themes of diversity, empathy and resilience, the book is ideal for early childhood educators, including preschool, daycare, kindergarten and grade one teachers.

Nicole and Danielle's collaboration reflects their shared passion for children's literacy and community values. With Nicole's background as an early childhood educator and Danielle's artistic talents, *There Are Some Things Love Can't Buy* is a touching story for both children and adults alike.

*There Are Some Things Love Can't Buy* is available now, and Nicole and Danielle are excited to share their story with the Tuscany community.

# Cold Weather Safety

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) responds to many cold weather emergencies each winter. You can reduce your risk of sustaining a cold weather emergency by taking a few precautions. Dress by wearing warm, insulating layers close to the body covered with wind and waterproof layers on the exterior – cover as much skin as possible. Carry an emergency roadside kit in your vehicle containing extra clothing, blankets, and emergency supplies and ensure your mobile phone is fully charged.

## Frostnip

- Frost-nipped skin is extremely cold, but not yet frozen;
- It commonly affects the ears, nose, cheeks, fingers and toes;
- The skin may look red and possibly feel numb to the touch;
- When treated promptly, frostnip usually heals without complication;
- Move to a warm environment and immediately, but gently, re-warm the affected area through skin to skin contact (i.e. hand covering tips of ears).

## Frostbite

- Frostbite occurs when skin becomes so cold, the skin and underlying tissues freeze;
- Affected skin may look white and waxy and will feel hard to the touch;
- Move to a warm environment immediately and place the affected area in warm, not hot, water, until fully re-warmed;
- Seek further medical attention as required.

## Hypothermia

- Hypothermia is abnormally low body temperature, less than 34°C (as compared to normal body temperature of about 37°C);
- Early hypothermia may manifest as profound shivering; moderate hypothermic patients may act inappropriately: stumbling, mumbling, and fumbling, as their body temperature continues to drop resulting in severe hypothermia (<30°C);
- Left untreated, severe hypothermia may progress to unconsciousness or death;
- Early recognition and prompt medical attention is key. Don't forget to protect yourself from the factors that originally lead to the patient's situation;
- Initiate gentle re-warming as quickly as possible. Remove any wet or constrictive clothing; cover with blankets, or sleeping bags. Protect from further heat



loss: eliminate contact with cold surfaces, and shield from wind and moisture.

*Alberta Health Services*

## Sudoku Corner

The objective is to fill a 9x9 grid so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3x3 boxes contains the digits 1 – 9 only one time each.

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

Answer on Page 15



The Tuscany Club is operated by the Tuscany Residents Association (TRA) as a private recreation facility for the exclusive use of its members.

212 Tuscany Way NW, Calgary, AB T3L 2J6  
Phone: 403-241-6402

Email: [customerservice@tuscanyclub.ca](mailto:customerservice@tuscanyclub.ca)

Website: [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com)

 [www.facebook.com/yyctuscanyclub/](https://www.facebook.com/yyctuscanyclub/)

 [www.instagram.com/tuscanyclub/](https://www.instagram.com/tuscanyclub/)

## Regular Hours of Operation

### Current Park and Facility Hours:

Everyday 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily

## Access to the Tuscany Club

Are you new to Tuscany or have moved within the community?

- Register your home with the Tuscany Club to be eligible for TRA benefits (i.e., access to the park, participating in programs and events) by bringing in your land title certificate.
- Moving within Tuscany? Bring in your new land title and resident information to be added to your new address.
- If you are a renter, please have the homeowner complete a transfer of privileges form to obtain Tuscany Club privileges.
- Add your children to your account so they can enjoy our great programs.
- Update your email address to stay informed about Tuscany Club happenings.

## Tuscany Club Features

- Gymnasium
- Fitness and dance studio
- Outdoor basketball court & inline skating space
- Banquet and meeting rooms
- Permanent skate park
- Winter outdoor hockey rink and skating oval (opening soon)
- Summer splash park (closed for the season)
- Playground
- 2 outdoor tennis/4 outdoor pickleball courts (closed for the season)
- Outdoor volleyball court
- KinderCare/Out of School Care (currently full with closed waitlist)

## Rent Rooms at the Tuscany Club

Why not host your next event at the Tuscany Club? All rentals include tables and chairs. We have a variety of spaces to choose from including our banquet rooms with kitchen and BBQ access (perfect for weddings, family gatherings and meetings), studios (perfect for birthday parties and sports team gatherings) and specific weekend gym times. Email [rentals@tuscanyclub.ca](mailto:rentals@tuscanyclub.ca) for information on spaces to fit your needs. Available exclusively to TRA members for private events.

## Sponsorship Opportunities

Did you know that the Tuscany Club hosts 12+ events per year including our Stampede Breakfast, several children's events and an annual clean up? It is a great opportunity to promote your business and engage with our Community. For more information and to view our 2023/24 Sponsorship Guide visit [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com).

# December Updates

## Outdoor Rink Safety

- Sticks and pucks are only permitted on our hockey rink not on our skating oval at any time for safety reasons
  - All users under 12 years of age must be directly supervised at all times
  - Helmets are strongly recommended
- Please visit [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com) Facebook and Instagram for updated schedules once our surfaces open.

## Winter Program Guide

### Registration Open Now

Our Winter Guide has a new look that includes more easily accessed information. We encourage you to view the guide online rather than printing and only take one of our printed guides if absolutely necessary. Child and youth programs include active camps, basketball, dance & theatre, film camp, karate, learn to skate lessons, taekwondo, tennis and more. We also have for adults cardio tennis, skate lessons, adult drop in programs and more.

## Adult Fitness Mash Up

### Schedule & Registration Available Online

Classes are registered for individually and drop-ins and non-members are accommodated if space permits, join us for functional HIIT, barre, vinyasa yoga, gentle stretch, body tuning and Zumba. Cancellations with 48 hours of notice or more will be credited to account. All levels welcome. Participants must bring their own mat to each class and be 16 years or older.

## Letters to Santa

### Sunday, December 1 to Friday, December 20

Starting December 1, we will have special letter writing stationary available at the Tuscany Club and at [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com). Completed letters can be dropped off to Santa's direct mail slot at the Tuscany Club just below the outside CSR window. Each letter dropped off by December 20 will receive a personalized response. Remember to include a return address with each letter.

## NW Parade of Holiday Markets

### Saturday, December 7 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

We are super excited to announce that we will be joining the communities of Rockland Park and Scenic Acres to offer The Northwest Parade of Markets on Saturday, December 7. Visit three amazing markets all on the same day. We will have a passport available so that attendees can get stamped at each location when they visit. Passports with all three stamps will be entered to win a prize supplied by our amazing vendors and sponsors.

## Children's Holiday Hoopla

### Saturday, December 7 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

This event is held in conjunction with our NW Parade of Holiday Markets. Children and their families can enjoy holiday crafts, music, photos with Santa and more.

## Tuscany Cup Classic Adult 3 on 3 Hockey Tournament

### Saturday, January 25 & Sunday, January 26

This two-day adult 3 on 3 tournament usually consists of 6-10 teams battling it out for the Tuscany Cup. Each 6-player team (1 goalie, 3 players, 2 subs) must consist of at least two Tuscany residents and players must be 18+ years. Registration packages will be available at [www.tuscany-connect.com](http://www.tuscany-connect.com) after December 1. Cost is \$50/team. Please email [recreation@tuscanyclub.ca](mailto:recreation@tuscanyclub.ca) if you do not have a Tuscany resident on your team as non-member teams may be accommodated.

# Winter is Coming!

**W**inter can be a time for family fun, but what happens when it's not? Knowing the risks ahead of time will help keep you and your family safe this winter.

Winter storms create a higher risk of car accidents, hypothermia, frostbite, carbon monoxide poisoning, and heart attacks from overexertion. Winter storms and blizzards can bring extreme cold, freezing rain, snow, ice and high winds. They can last a few hours or several days, knocking out heat, power and communication services.



Here are some ways to prepare for a winter storm ahead of time:

- Know the risks. Include your kids in the discussion about emergencies, how you will communicate and how to evacuate the house, if needed.

- Winterize your home. Insulate pipes and allow faucets to drip a little to prevent pipes from freezing. Cover windows with plastic. If you're using a space heater for added warmth, please be aware that they pose a fire hazard.

- Pay attention to weather reports and warnings from Environment Canada. Sign up for Alberta Emergency Alert or Alert Ready for notifications.

- Gather supplies in case there is a power outage. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets. Have extra batteries for radios and flashlights.

- Create a 72-hour kit for your car: include jumper cables, sand, flashlight, blankets, water and non-perishable food. Make sure to always keep your gas tank full!

Want to be prepared for other emergencies? Visit [calgary.ca/getready](http://calgary.ca/getready) to learn more.

*City of Calgary*

## Did You Know... These Facts About the well-known song, The Twelve Days of Christmas?

- The song *The Twelve Days of Christmas*' is very old, published in the year, 1780.
- While the song was published in England, it is believed to be of French origin.
- Many nationalities sing this song as part of the Christmas celebration, substituting native animals and gifts to represent their country. For example, the Faroe Islands have a similar rendition, which goes beyond the twelve, and includes 14 rounds of cheese.
- While there have been some variations on the tune, the now-standard melody was written by English composer, Frederic Austin, who added his own two-bar motif - the familiar, 'Five Golden Rings'.

*Larynda McKay*

## Sudoku Corner Solution

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