



The Village eView

December 21, 2016

Colette Hoff, Editor

Coming Up:

Christmas Day at Sahale

New Year's Eve at Sahale

Pathwork – Sunday, January 8

Council – Monday, January 9

Friends of Sahale Weekend – Friday,
January 13 to 15

Happy Winter Holy Days!

The above symbol of the diversity of the six world religions has been used at our True Holidays for a number of years. With Christmas all around us this month—lights, decorations, gifts being bought, preparations being made for feasts and traditional meals, family gatherings—let's take time to reflect on the major celebrations of the other world religions.



Hanukkah is the annual Jewish Festival of Lights that starts on the 25th day of Kislev as per the Jewish calendar. It is an eight-day festival of religious observance by Jews across the world. Hanukkah celebrates the victory of Jewish troops led by Judah Maccabee over the Greek soldiers, the miracle of purified oil, which lit Menorah for eight days continuously, and the rededication of Holy Temple in Jerusalem.



All the members of a Jewish family together chant Chanukah blessings, before lighting the candles, to mark the celebrations of the Festival of Lights.

On-Line News of the Goodenough Community System:

The American Association for the Furtherance of Community

Convocation: A Church and Ministry

Mandala Resources, Inc.

Sahale Learning Center

The EcoVillage at Sahale

A Message from Rabbi Michael Lerner

Submitted by Kirsten Rohde

This Chanukah (which begins on Saturday night, December 24th this year) and Christmas can be turned into occasions for the spiritual progressives in these religions to unite, affirm their shared message of hope and insist that all our friends and families stop wallowing in despair and cynicism and instead join us in challenging the forces of fear that have led so many people to embrace militarism and xenophobia. Let them hear the voices of those who raise high the banner of love, kindness, generosity, social and economic justice, environmental sanity and awe and wonder at the grandeur of the universe -- and let that message be prominently and explicitly articulated by YOU, dear reader, throughout this holiday season. It's a spiritual progressive approach -- and you can be a militant atheist, agnostic or secular humanist and still be a spiritual progressive -- you don't have to believe in God or be part of any religious community, you only have to be willing to commit your energies to building a world of love, justice and environmental sanity.

Rabbi Michael Lerner www.tikkun.org/covenant www.spiritualprogressives.org/join

The Bahá'í Faith



The teachings of the **Bahá'í** Faith inspire individuals and communities as they work to improve their own lives and contribute to the advancement of civilization. Bahá'í beliefs address such essential themes as the oneness of God and religion, the oneness of humanity and freedom from prejudice, the inherent nobility of the human being, the progressive revelation of religious truth, the development of spiritual qualities, the integration of worship and service, the fundamental equality of the sexes, the harmony between religion and science, the centrality of justice to all human endeavors, the importance of education, and the dynamics of the relationships that are to bind together individuals, communities, and institutions as humanity advances towards its collective maturity.

Based on the understanding of Christmas as a commemoration of the birth of Christ, the day is clearly of significance to Baha'is, who believe that Christ was a Manifestation of God. Baha'is do not, however, celebrate Christmas within their communities as one of the Baha'i Holy Days.

While the principle of progressive revelation means that Baha'is believe in the divine origin of the other world religions (and consequently, the significance of each of their Holy Days), the Baha'i Faith is an independent religion with its own Holy Days. Baha'is – while believing in the divine origins of all other world religions – follow the teachings of Baha'u'llah, whom we believe to be the latest in the line of Messengers sent from God with laws to address the needs of humanity in this day and age. That being said, however, Baha'is are free to

participate in the celebrations observed by their friends and family who adhere to other religions.



Scholars describe **Hinduism** as the product of religious development in India that spans nearly 4,000 years, making it perhaps the oldest surviving world religion.

The broad term "Hinduism" encompasses a wide variety of traditions, which are closely related and share common themes but do not constitute a unified set of beliefs or practices. Hinduism is not a homogeneous, organized system. Many Hindus are devoted followers of Shiva or Vishnu, whom they regard as the only true God, while others look inward to the divine Self (atman). But most recognize the existence of Brahman, the unifying principle and Supreme Reality behind all that is.

Diwali

Hindu Festival of Lights

Diwali is a five day Hindu festival which begins on the fifteenth day of Kartika, in late fall. Diwali means "rows of lighted lamps" and the celebration is often referred to as the Festival of Lights. During this time, homes are thoroughly cleaned and windows are opened to welcome Lakshmi, goddess of wealth. Winding rows of flickering earthen lamps are lit as a greeting to Lakshmi. Gifts are exchanged and festive meals are prepared during Diwali. The celebration means as much to Hindus as Christmas does to Christians.



The Islamic calendar is lunar, like the Jewish calendar, but it has no corrective system to align it with the solar calendar so Islamic holidays do not always fall in the same season.

Al-Hijra, the Islamic New Year, is celebrated on the first day of Muharram, the month in which Muhammad emigrated from Mecca to Medina in 622 CE (the Hijra).

Ramadan is not a holy day to Muslims but a holy month. It is the ninth month of the Muslim year, in which "the Quran was sent down as a guidance for the people"

'Id Al-Fitr or Eid al-Fitr (Arabic for "Festival of the Breaking of the Fast") is one of Islam's two major festivals. It marks the end of Ramadan, the holy month of fasting, and is celebrated during the first three days of the month of Shawwal.



Buddhism

There are many special or holy days held throughout the year by the Buddhist community. Many of these days celebrate the birthdays of Bodhisattvas in the Mahayana tradition or other significant dates in the Buddhist calendar. The most significant celebration happens every May on the night of the full moon, when Buddhist all over the world celebrate the birth, enlightenment and death of the Buddha over 2,500 years ago.

It has become to be known as Buddha Day.

Buddhist Festivals are always joyful occasions. Typically on a festival day, lay people will go to the local temple or monastery and offer food to the monks and take the Five Precepts and listen to a Dharma talk. In the afternoon, they distribute food to the poor to make merit and in the evening join perhaps in a ceremony of circumambulation a stupa three times as a sign of respect to the Buddha, Dhamma, Sangha. The day will conclude with evening chanting of the Buddha's teachings and meditation.

Some holy days are specific to a particular Buddhist tradition or ethnic group (as above). There are two aspects to take into consideration regarding Buddhist festivals: Most Buddhists, with the exception of the Japanese, use the Lunar Calendar and the dates of Buddhist festivals vary from country to country and between Buddhist traditions.

Buddhist New Year

In Theravadin countries, Thailand, Burma, Sri Lanka, Cambodia and Lao, the new year is celebrated for three days from the first full moon day in April. In Mahayana countries the new year starts on the first full moon day in January. However, the Buddhist New Year depends on the country of origin or ethnic background of the people. As for example, Chinese, Koreans and Vietnamese celebrate late January or early February according to the lunar calendar, whilst the Tibetans usually celebrate about one month later.

Buddhists celebrate New Year's Day in certain countries such as Thailand, Burma, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, and Lao. The new year is celebrated for three days after the first full moon of April. In Mahayana countries, the new year starts on the first full moon day in January. The time it is celebrated depends on the country and people. As for example, Korean, Chinese and Vietnamese celebrate late January or early February according to the lunar calendar. The Tibetan New Year is called "Losar". It also lasts for three days. On the first day, they celebrate with their families, on the second and third days, they celebrate with friends. On these days, people clean their towns, get new clothing and refresh themselves.

Happy Holy Days in your traditions. May you receive many blessings!



A Winter Solstice Prayer by Edward Hays from Prayers for a Planetary Pilgrim
(Sent to Kirsten by Katie's partner Billy Rixon)

We are mindful that the darkness of greed, exploitation, and hatred also lengthens its shadow over our small planet Earth.

As our ancestors feared death and evil and all the dark powers of winter, we fear that the darkness of war, discrimination, and selfishness may doom us and our planet to an eternal winter.

May we find hope in the lights we have kindled on this sacred night, hope in one another and in all who form the web-work of peace and justice that spans the world.

In the heart of every person on this Earth
burns the spark of luminous goodness;
in no heart is there total darkness.

May we who have celebrated this winter solstice,
by our lives and service, by our prayers and love,
call forth from one another the light and the love
that is hidden in every heart.

Amen.

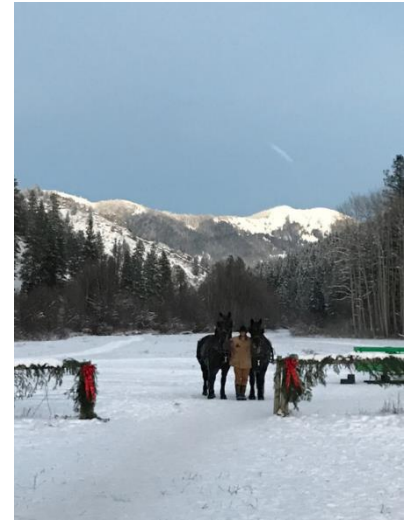


Winter Solstice Bus Trip
- Saturday, Dec 17

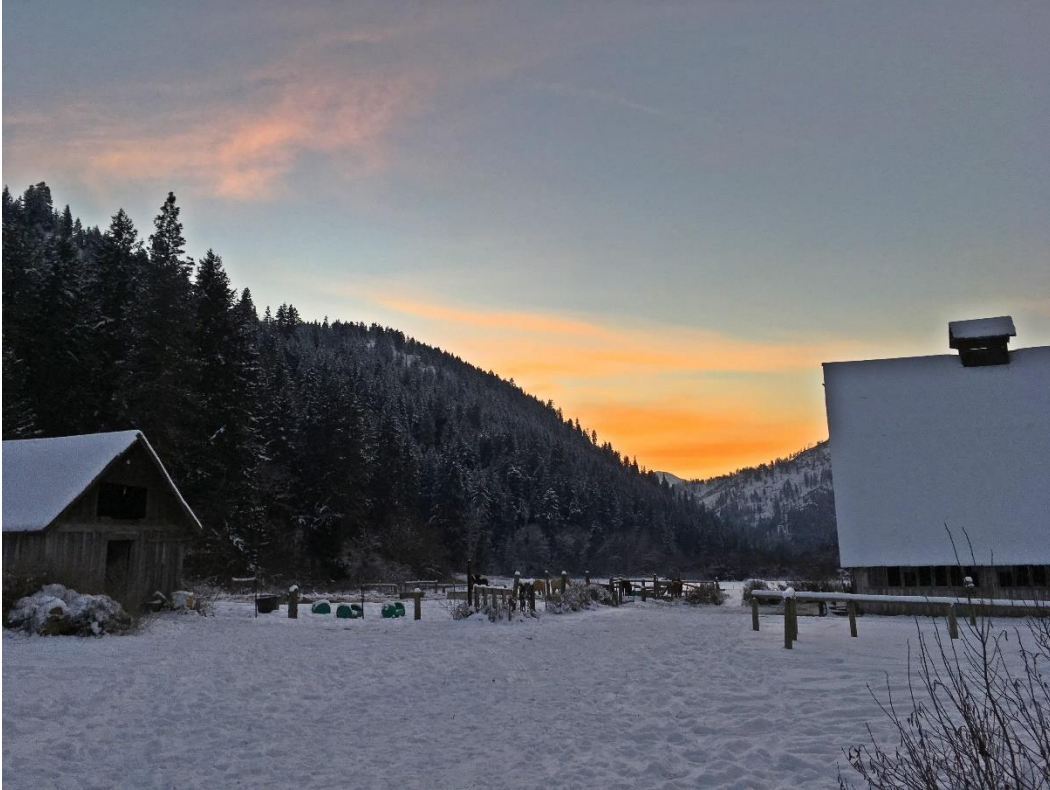
The following pictures speak to the great day had by all as we played in the snow, had a horse drawn sleigh ride followed by our banquet and an evening trip to Leavenworth with amazing light displays. Mike DeAnguera includes his version of the trip as well. Thank you Monica, Pam and others for the pictures!

Mark your calendar for next year: Saturday December 16, 2017









Eagle Creek Ranch



The deAnguera Blog: Solstice Bus Trip 2016



Our usual Solstice Bus Trip had all the right ingredients: the Blewett Pass Snow Park, Leavenworth Christmas Shopping, and the Eagle Creek Ranch sleigh ride.

This year though contained a big surprise. Our bus was over 1 hour late due to a misunderstanding at the bus company. These things happen from time to time. If everything worked out just fine, life would not be the adventure it is supposed to be.

Adventure includes the possibility of things not working out. We get challenged. How do we adapt? That's where story gets created.

Things worked out fine in the end and we were really happy with our driver, Mike and mechanic Paul. I always admire what our bus drivers have to do to get us safely from one place to another. That includes putting chains on the bus wheels when needed.

In order for us to do all the things we wanted to do, some things needed to get switched around. We went straight to Eagle Creek Ranch right after the Snow Park. That was the one event we had a deadline for. So we got to do our sleigh rides during an earlier, brighter part of the day.

The Snow Park is a good place to be a kid sledding down a snowy slope. Even some of us older folks had fun on the slope. As usual I got to eat snow on the way down.

I got to ride a three person sleigh along with Josh DeMers and Evelyn Cilley. A two horse open sleigh. As the two huge French Perchon horses pulled us through the snow they would break into a gallop every so often. I learned from the driver that sleigh bells on the horses were originally intended to warn people of an oncoming sleigh. We even got to pet the horses on their muzzles and necks after words. The horses kept trying to get closer and closer to me pulling the sleigh a few feet forward.

Later we stopped in Leavenworth in the evening. The Christmas lights in town were so much brighter and more beautiful at night. I actually got into the Hat Shop this time. There was no line. Usually the line to get in stretched out into the street. What did I see? Lots of Halloween type costume hats. I didn't buy anything but Pam Jarrett-Jefferson came away with a white elfin hat. It will look good on her when she tends bar at the Swamp along with Elizabeth during our next Lab.

When we returned to Seattle, we got to see three movies on the bus. The first two we often see: The Snowman and Santa on Vacation. The third DVD was a full length movie contributed by a passenger. It was a hilarious story of a human brought up as an elf working in Santa's Toy Shop. What a special treat!

Would you like to come on our bus trip next year? It is always worth it and is one of the Holiday Season events we include making Christmas a really good time for us all.

There will be a dinner here at Sahale on Christmas Day and of course we will have our New Year's Eve Gathering where we reflect on the year just passed.



I finally got into the Hat Shop in Leavenworth for the first time ever! This picture was included by popular demand.



Christmas Day Open House at Sahale

Colette Hoff

Join us at Sahale on **Christmas day** in the afternoon and welcome others to join. We will provide food and drink and invite any one coming to bring a dessert or a side dish. Please RSVP at hoff@goodenough.org. You are welcome to spend the night. **RSVP!**

This year at **Sahale we will host a fun gift exchange** full of surprises that everyone can join in, regardless of age or economic means. If you are planning to come to join us for **Christmas at Sahale**, please bring a creative gift that is wrapped but doesn't need any tags. Just a wrapped gift. We will have a game for exchanging these gifts. Each person will pick a gift from the group of wrapped gifts and there will be a fun discovery process of finding out what was put into the gift pile. There is no need to spend anything, you are encouraged to make something as a gift! If you do purchase a gift, please limit spending to under \$15. Guaranteed to be fun and you'll learn more about your friends and what kinds of things they are drawn to when the game play begins! =



New Year's Eve Weekend at Sahale, Saturday December 31

We enjoy spending the turning of the year in the quiet of the country, creating our own event, with good meals, hot tubs, walks, peaceful sleep, good conversation, and times to reflect together on the year that was and the year to come.

Josh DeMers and Evelyn Cilley will be our host for New Year's Eve on Saturday night. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m.

You are welcome stay over on December 31 or come for the weekend. A donation is requested for meals and room. Please RSVP to Evelyn: cilleyevelyn@gmail.com





Pathwork Circle will study Islam, January 8

With an organized social response to the times we are in, the members of Convocation: A Church and Ministry have chosen to offer a series in which we will study Islam. Islam is a monotheistic religion articulated by the Quran, a text considered to be the verbatim word of God or Allah. The Arabic word Islam implies the attainment of peace through submission to Allah. The word Muslim is an adjective derived from the noun Islam, and implies one who has peace within from submission to Allah.

Muslims practice the five pillars of Islam, which are obligatory acts of worship, and follow Islamic law. Islam believes that people can come to know Allah and feel close to Him by means of proper prayer, fasting, charity, pilgrimage, and righteous deeds. The very practice of Islam is meant to purify the believer's soul and to bring him/her closer to Allah.

Come join the Pathwork Circle of Convocation on Sunday evenings beginning January 8. We will experience and experiment with practices of Islam and will work to understand the fastest growing religion in the world using a variety of resources including readings, videos, and invited speakers.

In

The Pathwork Circle meets at 3610 SW Barton St. at 7:00 p.m. — January 8, January 22, February 5, February 19, March 5, March 19, April 2, April 16 and April 30. All are welcome!

Contact Colette Hoff (hoff@goodenough.org) for more information.





The Second Annual Friends of Sahale Weekend,

January 13 to 15, 2017

Dear Friends,

This second annual weekend is a time for appreciation as well as sharing information and continuing to envision the future at Sahale. We want to gather all who are connected to Sahale for a good weekend together.

We will have time to share about Sahale: past, present and future. We will have the opportunity to be informed about the various aspects of Sahale: the EcoVillage, the finances of running Sahale, residents and future residents, the retreat business, land use and restoration, food production, educational programs, and more.

We will review what we have learned this year and the status of various projects we agreed to at last year's gathering, including fundraising.

Together we will engage in shared visioning for the future and put some directions, priorities, and plans in place.

Bruce, Irene, Kirsten, Colette and John hope you will join us this weekend. Let Colette know if you are interested. hoff@goodenough.org

Got some bottles?

Out at Sahale, we're beginning to bottle cider and cyser. We would appreciate any used wine or large (**22oz**) beer bottles. Please email us and

we'll be happy to coordinate a pick up or a drop off. Thank you!

Evelyn & Josh



A bit beyond perception's reach I sometimes believe I see that life is two locked boxes each containing the other's key. ~Piet Hein, poet and scientist, 1905 -1996

Save the date

A Weekend for Men and Women . . .

February 24 to 26, 2017

Men and Women Together: A New Relationship

Join a deepening intergenerational conversation about:

- Maleness and femaleness
- Power and love and energy
- Past and future
- Cultural influences
- Tradition and transformation
- Healing and understanding
- A vision of integration of maleness and femaleness

We think the Fantastic Mr. Fox may have something for this weekend. The team planning this weekend will appreciate your input. What are your questions, issues, resources? Send suggestions to Bruce Perler: bruce_perler@hotmail.com



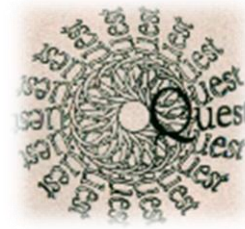
Birthdays and Anniversaries

- ☐ **Happy birthday - Jeni Hogenson - December 20**
- ☐ **Happy birthday - Keegan Harshman - December 21**

Quest: A Counseling and Healing Center

Our belief is that mental and emotional health is a prerequisite for spiritual well-being, collaboration, and the expression of compassion. Quest's counseling and education programs, open to all interested individuals, focus on empowering individuals, couples, and family groups to be happier and be more effective in relationships.

Call John or Colette (206-755 8404) or Colette and John at Sahale – 360 275-3957. In Seattle, John and Colette meet with clients at the community center, 3610 SW Barton Street, Seattle 98106, as well as at Sahale.



Contra Dancing Schedule

Our dear Sherry Nevins who has called our contra dances for many years, is calling our attention to the Lake City Contra and Old Time Country Dance

- Thursdays, 8:00-11:00 Lake City Community Center, 12531 28th Ave NE, [Lake City Contra/Old Time Country Dance](#), Local & Touring Bands, Sliding scale \$8.00-\$12.00, (kids & first-time contra dancers free).
- Fridays, 7:30-10:00, [Emerald City Contradance](#) at Phinney Neighborhood Center Community Hall (Lower Building), 6532 Phinney N. \$9.00. Beginners workshop at 7:00pm. First time contra dancers receive a coupon for free admission to a future dance.
- 2nd Saturdays, 8:00-11:00, Eastside Contra dance at Juanita Community Club Dance Hall, 13027 100th Ave NE, Kirkland, \$9 (students \$5), lesson at 7:30p. Promoted by [Folk Horizons](#)

[Open Band, Open-caller dance](#). Free dances are held outside at Green Lake every summer, with pick-up band and open mic for callers. 2016 dates are June 29th, July 13, August 3 The regular (year round) monthly dance is in need of new volunteers to organize!

Interested?



NHT ("Now Hear This" brand) high end surround sound speaker system in excellent shape. The speakers work perfectly. The speaker cabinets are in great shape with a few scuffs here and there.

Back in the day, this complete setup cost upwards of \$2K. The complete setup includes one pair side tower speakers; one pair bookshelf speakers; center speaker; sub-woofer plus sub-woofer amp (seven pieces total plus documentation.) \$450.00. Contact Colette to arrange a viewing or to pick up.

Love,

Douglas douglas@douglasdemers.com
509.429.4104 (cell)



Cultural Programs in the Goodenough Community are created for visitors and they are developed as opportunities for our members and friends to practice our lifeways and apply them to contemporary issues and problems in our lives. For instance, the men's program must be an expression of the best wisdom men have gathered from their life together—about what is a good man and how he could best express that in his own life. Similarly, women must return to the essentials of being a good woman in this day and age.

Calendar of Programs and Events, 2016-2017

What makes community meaningful and fun?

The richness of life in community comes in many ways – getting together informally over a meal ... celebrating a significant birthday with long-time and newfound friends ... working together in a creative endeavor ... collaborating in a work party ... thinking deeply with others about what it means to be fully alive and connected with ourselves, each other, and Spirit ...

In the Goodenough Community, we recognize such ways to connect as expressions of **community culture**. Throughout the year, we offer **cultural programs** so that you can engage with the community, participate in your own development, and have a good time. We **welcome your interest** and your participation, and hope that you will join us at any – or many! – of this year's events.

New Year's Eve Weekend at Sahale

New Year's Eve at Sahale!

This year New Year's Eve is on Saturday night. We plan to continue our tradition of good conversation, winter walks, hot tubbing, making meals together, and celebrating the change of year. Dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Time will also be given for some personal and shared reflection and for joyful celebration.



**The Second Annual Friends of Sahale Weekend,
January 13 to 15, 2017**

A Weekend for Men and Women . . .

February 24 to 26, 2017

Men and Women Together: A New Relationship



Men's Culture will be joining the women's culture for creative conversation

February 24 to 26, 2017. A weekend for men is being planned for the spring.

Focal Person: Bruce Perler, bruce_perler@hotmail.com

Women's Culture

Next Saturday gatherings are January 21 and April 8, 10 am -2 pm, at the community center in West Seattle

Women's Weekend, May 5-7, 2017 at Sahale

Women of the Goodenough Community have been gathering intentionally and regularly since 1983 to discover in themselves and each other the essence of womanhood at any age and the presence of the Divine Feminine.

Focal Person: Hollis Guill Ryan, hollisr@comcast.net



Third-Age Gatherings

Next gatherings will be Friday evenings, January 20; March 31 and May 12 at the community center in West Seattle. Focal Person: Kirsten Rohde, krohde14@outlook.com

Annual Goodenough Community Memberships Meeting: March 10 to 12 at Sahale. It's a good time to support the organization that surrounds all our activities. We will share accomplishments in the prior year and join in visioning the future. Anyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Kirsten Rohde 206 719-5364 for more information. And RVSP to??.

Work Parties throughout the Year

Traditionally, the Goodenough Community sponsors work parties over Memorial Day weekend (**May 26 to 29, 2017**), as well as other times throughout the year, to express gratitude for the presence of our beloved retreat center, Sahale, and to experience the satisfaction of playing and working together.

Focal Person: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org

Summer Camp for Youth, June 25 to July 1

A wonderful opportunity for children 9 to 12 to have a full camp experience in a beautiful setting with loving leadership.

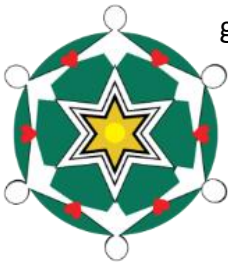
Focal Person: Irene Perler, Irene_Perler@hotmail.com



Human Relations Laboratory, August 6 to 12, 2017

This intense and joyous week-long event is a communal experience of personal growth, and has been presented annually and is now in its 48th year!

Focal Person: Colette Hoff, hoff@goodenough.org



True Holidays Celebration, Saturday, December 3, 2017

Be part of this fun-filled family-oriented evening, and prepare yourself for a holiday season (whatever faith tradition you follow) that fills your heart.

Focal Person: Kirsten Rohde, krohde14@outlook.com



Winter Solstice Bus Trip, Saturday December 16, 2017

Board a bus, play in the snow, shop in Leavenworth, have a horse-drawn sleigh ride and enjoy an abundant dinner

Focal Person: Colette Hoff