

Anniversaries, Memories And Thank You!

Since it is THANKSGIVING and I am trying to honor mom's rule of "No Thanksgiving Dinner Until Your Haseley Herald News Is Written", I decided what better time to write our news AND list a few special MEMORIES and things we are THANKFUL for.

68 Years Of The Haseley Herald - THANK YOU Mom and Dad!

I recently read all the Haseley Heralds. The older you get, the more you will appreciate the value of the Haseley Herald. If you have not had a chance to go back and read your family's news, you should. Great Memories! In today's world of Texts, Facetime, Pictures and Videos, there is much less "written" history and stories. A few years ago, when mom was sick, we were able to digitize all past years of the Haseley Herald, so even though the "official" deadline is by Thanksgiving to submit your news, you can still submit it and it can be added to the website at any time. THANK YOU, mom and dad (and now Karen), for "forcing" us each year to take just a few hours out of our year to write our news that will be remembered, and written, forever!

35 Years Of Marriage - THANK YOU Kelly!

In addition to reading all the past Haseley Heralds, we also recently looked at our wedding album and pictures from 35 years ago. It is amazing how young everyone looked and sad of how many people in attendance are no longer with us. Great Memories then, now and we look forward to many more in the future. THANK YOU, Kelly, for putting up with me!



30 & 27 Years Of Birthdays - THANK YOU Erin & Emma!

Erin turned 30 and Emma turned 27 in January. Erin continues to live in Cary with her husband, James, and their two cats. Emma continues

to travel with her boyfriend, Logan, and will be moving to Portland, Oregon, after Christmas for at least a year. THANK YOU for being great daughters!



30 Years Of Sports Connection - THANK YOU To Family, Friends And Customers!

December 2025 will mark the 30th Anniversary of starting Volleyball Unlimited (Sports Connection). It is hard to believe what started as a hobby and fun project has turned into a business with multiple locations, hundreds of employees, and thousands of customers each day. If you are interested in reading the "brief" history of the last 30 years, you can visit our website at [https://sportsconnectionnc.com/the-](https://sportsconnectionnc.com/the-history-of-sports-connection)

[history-of-sports-connection](https://sportsconnectionnc.com/the-history-of-sports-connection). (It is only 91 pages long...but lots of pictures and large font.)

THANK YOU To All Of You For Being Great Friends And Family!

Love,

The Haseleys



2025 Wrapped

Another year, another *Haseley Herald*, and a lot more to be thankful for. I couldn't imagine that this year would be more hectic or filled with adventure than the last, but here we are in December and I am pooped!

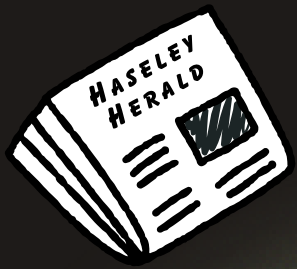
For the first time ever, I am late in turning in my *HH* news (Aunt Karen should fact check this – it is probably not true– I always wanted my own kuchen!). I have always tried to be creative with how I format my *Haseley Herald* news (like my dad). This year I was struggling with what to do. Unfortunately, AI has exploded this year and has caused me to become quite lazy in my work, especially in my writing. Because it doesn't seem like it is going away any time soon, I am committing now and forever that I will never use ChatGPT or any AI to help write my *Haseley Herald*! Luckily, I have my boyfriend Logan who helped me come up with a format idea for this year's news. So, without further adieu, here is my 2025 Wrapped! (keep scrolling!)



EMMA HASELEY

2025

WRAPPED



My Top Physical Activities

1



Cammino Minerario di Santa Barbara

In Sardinia, Logan and I hiked for three days and 35 miles along this historic mining route.

2



Triathlon

I completed my second sprint triathlon in April with my friend, Lindsay! We swam .5 miles, biked 15, and ran a 5k.

3



Bikepacking

In May, Logan and I biked along with two of our friends from D.C. to Harper's Ferry, West Virginia – almost 120 miles in total!

4



Backpacking

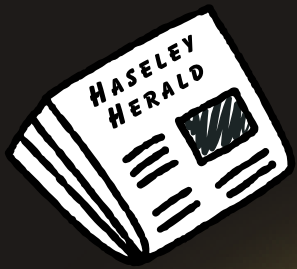
Logan and I went on our first overnight backpacking trip with friends in West Virginia.

5



Gralley Cat

Lindsay and I did a 20-mile bike scavenger hunt race in Virginia, followed by a night camping in Flat Vanley.



My Top Hobbies

1



Competitive Puzzling

I competed in two jigsaw puzzling competitions with my team, PLEJI! We didn't win, but we were the only team with custom matching hats.

2



Farmer's Market

I worked in the winter and spring at my neighborhood farmer's market. We sold delicious eggs, microgreens, and bok choy.

3



Baking & Cooking

Baking/cooking with friends was a major highlight of this year. Some fun things I've made with pals: croissants, bagels, & sushi.

4



Pickleball & Volleyball

I hosted a pickleball tournament for my friends in D.C. Like father, like daughter! I also enjoyed playing in a rec volleyball league.

5



Board Games

I love playing board games and card games. New favorites from this year are Crokinole, Bohnanza, and Harmonies.

My Top Meals

1



New Years Beans 'n Greens

As per Southern tradition, I made black eyed peas, collard greens, and cornbread for my friends to ring in a new year of good luck and fortune.

2



Bánh mì

Homemade with fresh farmer's market daikon and carrots that I pickled. I also had a delicious one in NYC in the summer.

3



Salmon Patties

One of my comfort foods. Must be served with French peas and creamy, smooth mashed potatoes. Preferably made by my mom and grandma Pat.

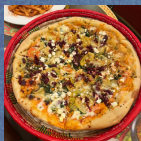
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Ramp Pie

One of the best pizzas served for only a few weeks at Martha Dear in D.C. Made with fresh picked ramps from my favorite park in the city. Best with garlic dip.

5



Ethiopian Pizza

A friend and I discovered this amazing Ethiopian place in D.C. making this beauty- a chewy pizza loaded with veggies and lentils. Fusion cuisine at its finest.

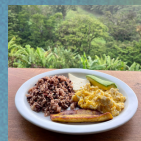
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Fish & Chips

Although I eat mostly a vegetarian diet, I have recently become obsessed with a good fish and chips, like these that were my reward after a long bike ride.

7



Gallo Pinto

A new favorite for me is this Costa Rican staple of beans, rice, plantains, and eggs. Served best in the rainforest!

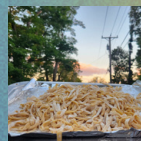
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Summer Veg

Nothing says summer like fresh veggies. My favorites are corn, okra, and butter beans. Pairs well with lake views and family games.

9



Homemade Pasta

My friend Jes and I made fresh pasta while she and her husband were visiting us in R'Ville in September.

10



Two Thanksgivings

Although I was sad to miss thanksgiving in New Bern, I got two Thanksgiving meals again this year – one in Charlotte and one with Logan's family in Asheville.



My Top Meals: Sardinia

1



Culurgiones

These are traditional Sardinian pasta, stuffed with potato, Pecorino cheese, mint, and garlic. I probably ate 100 during our three week trip.

2



Pistachio Gelato

Gelato is perfect in all forms and flavors, but especially pistachio in a cone. It is nutty, creamy, and earthy. Perfetto!

3



Zucchini Pasta

This is one of the dishes from a tasting menu we did in Cagliari. It is spaghetti with zucchini sauce and perfectly cooked green beans on a bed of ricotta.

4



Caprese

The tomatoes and buffalo mozzarella were flawless everywhere we went. Not featured - the incredible green olives we ate with most meals.

5



Pizza

You can't go wrong with a fresh Italian pizza. Especially this one covered in fresh summer arugula and tomatoes.



EMMA HASELEY
WRAPPED **2025**

Number of States Travelled to

14

Biggest travel month was September - I drove from Massachusetts to Wisconsin and back to North Carolina, with many stops along the way.



My Top New Places Travelled

1



Sardinia

Logan and I went to Sardinia, Italy for three weeks in June. We hiked, ate, and drank so much wine and Aperol Spritz. I can't wait to go back.

2



Costa Rica

We went to Costa Rica in July to celebrate our friend's wedding. We spent almost two weeks there, first on the coast and then in the Monteverde Cloud Forest.

3



Brooklyn

Although I've been to NYC many times, this was my first time in Brooklyn. We went to Coney Island and rode the Cyclone!

4



Virginia Beach

We spent a weekend with our friends in Virginia Beach in the fall. Porch time, games, and the botanical gardens.

5



Niagara Falls

After R'Ville, Logan and I visited Niagara Falls – both the U.S. and Canada sides. Beautiful!



My Top Re-Explored Places

1



Rensselaerville

Logan and I spent about three weeks in R'Ville in August. We loved hanging with Tony and Aunt Karen and eating all of the fresh garden tomatoes!

2



Bear Den

After a 10 year hiatus, we re-convened the crew for our annual Labor Day Camping Trip in Spruce Pine, NC.

3



Madison

Erin, James, Logan, and I visited our friends Caroline and Raymond in Madison, WI. Lots of cheese curds and laughs!

4



Iowa

Logan and I joined our friends in Iowa City for a homecoming weekend football game. This was my second trip to Iowa – my first was for Odyssey of the Mind when I was a kid!

5



Lake & Mountains

I was happy to get to spend about a week each at Lake Tillery and Beech Mountain. I loved wakeboarding, blueberry picking, and hiking at Grandfather Mountain.



EMMA HASELEY
WRAPPED **2025**

Longest Road Trip **50 hours**

Logan and I will be officially moving out to Portland, OR a few days after Christmas. We will be driving our van from NC all the way out to Oregon. Please plan to visit us if you are on the West Coast!

