

Block #: _____
09/2023 Herald

Date: _____

Kings Park West Civic Association

— 2024 Membership Form —

STEP 1: MEMBER INFORMATION

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to receive email updates from KPWCA? Circle: YES or NO

STEP 2: ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

Kings Park West Civic Association Activities

- | | |
|------|-------------------------------|
| \$25 | 1. Membership Dues (Required) |
| | 2. Herald Newsletter |
| | 3. Common Grounds Maintenance |
| | 4. Parks & Lake |
| | 5. Scholarships |
| | 6. Scout Packs & Troop |
| | 7. Halloween Fall Festival |
| | 8. Spring Egg Hunt |
| | 9. Unrestricted Community Use |

Other Community Support

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| | 10. Volunteer Fire Department |
| | 11. Robinson All Night Grad Party |
| | 12. Pools in Our Community |
| | 13. Braddock Nights |
| | TOTAL DOLLAR AMOUNT |

I'm Interested in Volunteering:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain/Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Committee |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Herald Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Streets & Signboards |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Lake | <input type="checkbox"/> Dumpster Day |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Egg Hunt | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Festival |

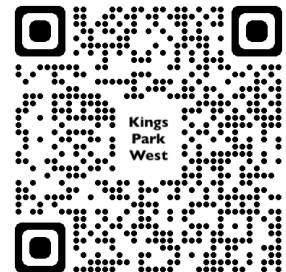
Paying Online?

You can complete this form and pay via PayPal using the QR code or at kpwca.org

Paying by Check?

Please make checks payable to KPWCA and return to your Block Captain or mail to:

KPWCA, P.O. Box 7114
Fairfax Station, VA 22039



STEP 3: PAYMENT TYPE

Cash Check (# _____) Online (PayPal Payer's Name: _____)

Contributions to KPWCA are not deductible for federal income tax purposes as charitable contributions.



Kings Park West Civic Association October Membership Drive!

Fall is here, which means it's time for pumpkin spice lattes, sweatshirts, and the Kings Park West October Membership Drive! Please renew your membership for 2024 today!

The KPW Civic Association serves all of Kings Park West and membership in the Civic Association is for everyone! Whether you're an original owner or new to the neighborhood, whether you plan to stay for decades or just a couple of years, whether you rent or own your home, and whether you live in an HOA section or not, you benefit from the work of the Civic Association.

The KPW Civic Association is not an HOA. Membership is voluntary, but for just \$25 | each year you can connect with your neighbors and help us build a better community for all. Here are some of the many benefits sponsored or brought to you by the KPW Civic Association:

Community Services & Events

- Spring Egg Hunt
- Halloween Fall Festival
- Spring & Fall Dumpster Days
- College Scholarships
- Scouting Troops
- Park Restrooms & Dog Waste Stations

Keeping KPW Beautiful

- Entrance & Common Area Landscaping
- Royal Lake Community Clean-ups
- Sidewalk & Trail Maintenance

Neighborhood Communications

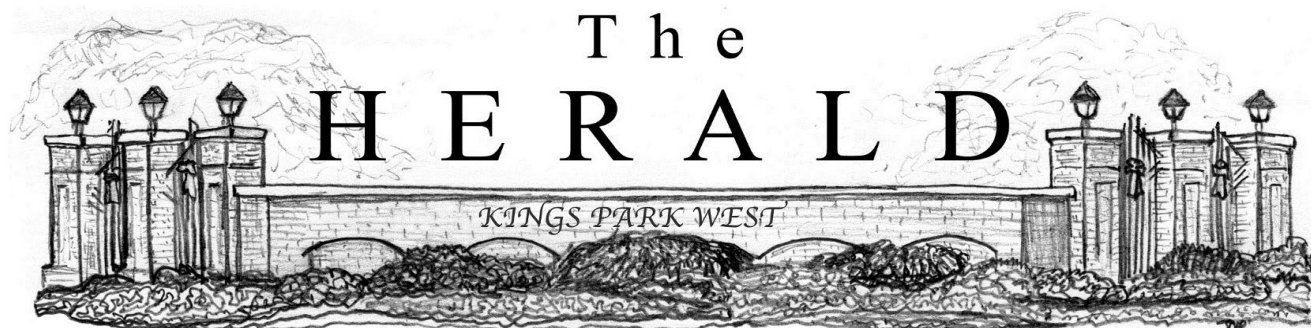
- The *Herald* Newsletter
- Neighborhood Signboards
- KPWCA Website (kpwca.org)



Scan this code or visit www.kpwca.org to learn more about the Kings Park West Civic Association and to join or renew your membership today!

If you have any questions, please contact us at membership@kpwca.org.





October 2023

Vol. 53, Issue 7

Kings Park West Civic Association

"If you can be anything, be kind."

Hey neighbors!

Happy Fall and all the fun and beauty that accompanies the change of season. As I write this, I'm looking out to the woods behind my house enjoying the colors of the leaves with a crisp breeze stirring.

We saw a great turn-out for the Fall Membership meeting in late September and successfully elected new board members: Merideth Manella, VP, Pamela Thibodeau, Secretary, and Dan Joyce moved from Secretary to Treasurer. Thanks to all of them for their community spirit and willingness to volunteer! A HUGE shout-out to Mike Stonkey and Karen Emmons who served the community as VP and Treasurer, respectively. I noted at the meeting that my term as KPWCA President will come to an end in September 2024, and asked that folks start thinking now about a possible successor; -I know I am!

At that meeting, I provided a summary from the recent Community survey regarding community priorities and perspectives, which led to a lively and informative discussion regarding ways to improve the Civic Association's bottom line. This included possibly raising the annual KPWCA dues for **2025 to \$30**, charging for activities or asking for donations at the community events, eliminating the scholarships, and seeking local business sponsorships of the Halloween festival.

Speaking of the Halloween festival, I want to thank Cathy Deloach and her amazing team for partnering with us for this year's Festival that took place on October 22. Thanks to their generous donations and energy, the Festival featured some fun activities from years past.

October heralds the start of our Membership Drive for 2024. Since we have eliminated the Directory, the form is simpler than ever. Click here for the online form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe46i8KodZrpJkoil2pvGBdOYOyX-4iGffW1mfcCQP802IZJQ/viewform>

Out of the ~1800 homes in the KPWCA community, fewer than half pay the nominal, **yet vital**, membership dues. \$25 is less than buying a cup of coffee every day for the year, and you get a lot more bang for the buck from your membership dues! Once again, I ask each and every Civic Association member to find just ONE person, in some club or group, or on your street, and explain to them why YOU support the KPWCA, and encourage them to join. That personal connection can make all the difference.

Thanks, and as always, I am eager to hear your ideas, so you can email me at president@kpwca.org or message me on Facebook. See you around the neighborhood!

Sarah G.J. Lennon
President, KPWCA

Community Calendar

Herald Online – October 31
 Veteran's Day – November 11
 KPWCA Board Meeting – November 21
 Herald Content Deadline – November 22
 Thanksgiving Day – November 23
 Herald Delivery – December 16
 KPWCA Board Meeting – December 19

Kings Park West Civic Association P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114 General Information: info@kpwca.org Community Association: kpwhoa@yahoo.com Website: kpwca.org			
Officers		Email	Phone
President	Sarah Lennon	president@kpwca.org	(703) 978-5608
Vice President	Merideth Manella	vp@kpwca.org	
Secretary	Pamela Thibodeau	secretary@kpwca.org	
Treasurer	Dan Joyce	treasurer@kpwca.org	
Members-at-Large	Kaycie Blaylock Donna Thomas Jonathan Reiser	boardmember2@kpwca.org boardmember1@kpwca.org	
Committees			
Common Grounds	Laura Hall		(703) 978-6641
Maintenance	Linda Reamy		(703) 978-1564
Community Support Services			
Consumer Affairs	Mary Hovland		
Dumpster Day	Mary Hovland		
GMU Student Liaison	Vacant		
Neighbor Assist	Bruce Wallachy	KPWNeighborAssist@gmail.com	
Welcoming	Natalie Croitoru	welcome@kpwca.org	
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Herald Communications Editor	Rose Luczak	editor@kpwca.org	
Herald Advertising and Classifieds	Gayle Ostrom	classified@kpwca.org	
Signboards	Jonathan Reiser	boardmember3@kpwca.org	(571) 423-8030
Web Admin	Tim Hartle	website@kpwca.org	(703) 200-8375
Membership	Nick Schumaker	membership@kpwca.org	
Parks and Lake	Tom McCook	parks@kpwca.org	
Invasive Species	Greg Sykes	greg@grsykes.com	
Special Activities			
Spring Egg Hunt	Pack 1967	vp@kpwca.org	(703) 509-9725
Halloween Festival	Keith Jodoin	kjodoin@gmail.com	
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	geestrom@gmail.com	
How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association? Send your name, address, and phone number, along with a check for \$25 to KPWCA, P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114, or visit kpwca.org and pay via PayPal. Members receive the Community Directory and support from community programs like Scholarship Awards, community school activities, parks and lakes clean-up, and a free subscription to The Herald.		How do I get my news in The Herald? The easiest way to get your news items in The Herald is to email the editor at editor@kpwca.org . We invite items on neighborhood schools, churches, organizations, and other noteworthy neighborhood news. News items and letters will be published if deemed suitable and as space permits. We reserve the right to edit any item submitted to The Herald. Acceptance of news items does not constitute an endorsement by the KPWCA.	
The Herald Published eight times a year by the KPWCA. Next deadline: October 4 2023, for online publishing in the website. Note: Acceptance of articles and advertising does not constitute an endorsement by the KPWCA nor liability for products or services advertised in its publications. Subscriptions: If you are moving out of the neighborhood and want to keep in touch with community news, get a subscription. Send \$25 per year to: Kings Park West Civic Association, P.O. Box 7114, Fairfax Station, VA 22039-7114.		How do I advertise in The Herald? Classifieds: Classified ads for the January issue must be received no later than October 4, 2023, to Gayle Ostrom, 4912 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032, or at classified@kpwca.org . Please print clearly and include payment to KPWCA. Provide your name, address, and phone number. Rates: \$5 per issue for 35 words or \$40 per year (8 issues/35-word ad). Found items listed free. Advertisements: Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email classifieds@kpwca.org for rates.	

THE GARDEN CORNER

By Charlie Boring

Okay, winter is approaching and urban gardeners are wondering if there is something that can still be planted. As it turns out, there is something that does better when planted in late October in our zone 7a area. It is time to plant your garlic.

When I discussed growing garlic with my spouse, she said that she could buy garlic at the supermarket for less than a dollar a bulb. She also asked the question that if we grew our annual requirement of garlic, how could we preserve it for use during the entire year.

Extending the preservation time of garlic can be achieved in several ways. After harvesting my 2017 garlic crop in July, I braided the garlic bulbs together in bunches and hung the them in my unheated shed to cure. The shed is well ventilated and not too hot in the summer. I do not normally experience a hard freeze in the shed during the colder weather.

Okay, the first step in planting a garlic bed is to decide the type of garlic to plant. The garlic typically sold in supermarkets is soft-neck garlic, which is best suited for warmer climates. You could also plant elephant garlic, which is really not garlic, but taste like garlic. I like to grow hard-neck varieties that have a stronger flavor. Some years I have planted Bavarian, German White, Romanian Red, Silver Skin and Korean Mountain. This year I am restricted to planting late; so, I will plant whatever cloves that I am able to buy. Order your garlic cloves early enough to receive them by mid-October, if possible. Planting needs to be done before the ground freezes.

For your next step, you need to prepare your soil. Garlic benefits from a full day of sunlight, so select a spot that is sunny for at least six hours a day. Till the soil to a depth of eight to ten inches and level it off. Mark your rows so that you plant in a straight line. I use a string tied to two sticks and drive the sticks into the soil at each end of the row.

The next step is to plant your garlic. Use something like a broom handle to make your holes about four to

six inches deep and six inches apart. Your rows should be separated about one foot apart. Separate the cloves from the bulb and drop one clove in each hole with the pointed end of the clove up and the end with the root nub down. Cover with soil and ensure that the air pockets around the clove are filled in. Water until the entire bed is damp, but not soggy. Cover with about four inches of good mulch; I use composted cow manure that also adds nutrients to the soil. Composted leaves also work; so make sure you save your leaves for your compost pile.

Remember, there are some tasty reasons for growing your own garlic. If you do not plant your garlic in the fall, it will be okay and not be too late. Plant it in early spring, as soon as the ground has thawed. The bulbs will not be as large as they would be if planted in the Autumn, but they will be an acceptable size.

One word of advice, I have found that if you wear a clove of garlic around your neck, vampires will leave you alone. Since I have never been attacked by a vampire while wearing garlic, the caution must be true! Happy gardening!



KPW Recommends

www.facebook.com/groups/kpwrecommends



by cathy deloach

Handyman Recommendations Needed

We are looking for handyman (or handywoman!) suggestions for our neighborhood. This would be the person you call to install a ceiling fan or patch a hole your wall. Maybe fix a sagging gutter...the smaller jobs that some homeowners cannot or do not have the time to do. A reliable handyman is a treasure - will share yours with KPW?

If you have a suggestion, head to [KPW Recommends](http://www.facebook.com/groups/kpwrecommends) and look for this picture. Post your recommendation in the comments section.



Community Awareness Is Only A Ride Away – The Fairfax County Police Ride Along Program

Have you ever wondered what is going on in the community from a law enforcement perspective? Well, there are two avenues for you to learn about your community. One way involves the Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) Ride Along Program. Interested community members accompany sworn officers during their patrol duties to provide community insight into police operations and procedures. It is a voluntary program conducted in the interest of public enlightenment of police operations.

Community members must submit a Ride-along Program application which is available at the FCPD website. Applicants must be residents of the District Station to whom they are submitting applications. The District Station that provides law enforcement support to KPW is the West Springfield District Station located on Roling Road. Applicants can ask for daytime, evening or night-time ride alongs.

Another way to find out what's going on in the community is to attend the West Springfield Citizens Advisory Committee (WSCAC) meetings hosted by the West Springfield District Station. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month, and are attended by interested community members from several developments.

The civic association is currently looking for an interested volunteer to act as a community liaison with the West Springfield District Station Community Policing Officer. If interested, please contact Tony Vellucci at ajvellucci@gmail.com.



West Springfield Police Thanksgiving Dinner

This year the West Springfield Citizen's Advisory Committee (WSCAC) celebrates Thanksgiving with the Fairfax County Police Department West Springfield District Station officers on Wednesday November 22, 2023 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm and welcomes your help in making the meal memorable for our officers on duty.



If you would like to help, please send your contact information to this year's point of contact, Phyllis Schwartz, Phyllis.schwartz@verizon.net She will reach out.

Please take a look at the desired menu below and let Phyllis know what you might like to bring to the station, on November 22nd before 2:00 pm. The number of officers WSCAC hopes to serve is 50.

This year's menu, and appreciated donations, are as follows:

- Baked sliced ham
- Sweet potato casserole
- Green bean casserole
- Scalloped potatoes
- Sautéed carrots
- Mac and cheese
- Pies (pumpkin, pecan, apple)

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Simple Steps to Help the Environment

By Greg Sykes (greg@grsykes.com)



Many people love nature. Actions, such as picking up trash and reducing energy usage, are great ways to help neighborhoods and the planet. Folks may be shocked to learn that some of their other activities are akin to loving nature to death. This non-technical article shows ways that people can improve their behaviors while helping the environment and community. Let's walk that path to redemption!

Leave no trace. It's as simple as that. When visiting natural areas, nobody afterwards should know you were there. Respect nature. Most parks have rules that forbid disturbing animals, plants, and even deadwood, leaf litter, soil, or stones. If you already dumped or otherwise encroached on public land, clean it up and properly dispose of that junk and debris. It's the right thing to do. More is at <https://Int.org/> and <https://americanhiking.org/resources/leave-no-trace/>.

Stay on official park trails. When visiting natural areas, never stomp new routes or continue using unauthorized paths. With many factors to consider, new trail design and approval must go through park management. Some resources:

<https://www.wta.org/news/signpost/7-signs-your-trail-is-in-trouble-what-to-do-about-it>

https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/idkt_bootbrush.htm

Place your trash into garbage cans or recycle bins. When no receptacles are present, you bring it in, you carry it out, including tissues, cigarette butts, food and drink containers, fishing gear, and diapers. If you drop something, pick it up. Even better, pick up trash on your walk and make a positive impact.

Clean up after your pet—and you! Leaving dog or human poop is gross, unsanitary, and detrimental to the environment. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/soil-water-conservation/dog-waste-scoop-poop/>

Keep pets on leash. Set a good example and follow the law, § 41.1-2-4. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/code/animals-and-pets>

Recycle correctly. The rules changed over time and have regional differences across the nation. In Fairfax County, single-stream recycling is where the following materials are collected in a single bin and sorted later

at the processing facility. Here, single-stream recycling accepts loose:

- Plastic #1 and #2 bottles, jugs, and jars only. The neck must be narrow. Other plastics such as yogurt containers, cups, and clamshells should go to household trash.
- Aluminum and iron-based food and beverage cans.
- Flattened cardboard and clean paper.

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- Cartons.
- Plastic bags and film #4 clog single-stream recycling but can enter a segregated recycling flow, starting at supermarket collection sites. <https://bagandfilmrecycling.org/view/fdod>
- Glass is another material that enters a segregated recycling flow at purple bin locations. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/glass>

When in doubt, keep it out.

Help recycling thrive, ditch the filthy five: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/sites/publicworks/files/assets/documents/pdf/publications/filthy-five-factsheet.pdf>.

Illustrated recycling resources are at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/sites/publicworks/files/assets/documents/pdf/publications/always-never-flyer.pdf>.

Leave the leaves. Keep those autumn leaves for wildlife, garden mulch, and soil nutrition. <https://www.nwf.org/Magazines/National-Wildlife/2015/OctNov/Gardening/Leave-the-Leaves>

- Use curbside recycling for woody branches and vegetable garden husks. Have this debris tied with biodegradable rope, placed in compostable paper lawn bags, or in a reusable container marked “Yard Debris” but not in plastic bags or tied with nylon twine. More tips are at <https://wcmacc.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/recycling-trash/yard-waste>

Keep wildlife wild. Never feed or disturb wildlife. Details are at <https://www.fws.gov/story/2015-01/keep-wild-wildlife-dont-touch-or-feed> and <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/wildlifedamage/dontfeedwildlife/dont-feed-wildlife>

When a vehicle is parked, turn off the engine. In general, leaving an engine idling for long periods is bad for it and contributes to air pollution. <https://despairrepair.com/long-idling-5-most-common-questions-and-answers/>

Discontinue using synthetic lawn chemicals. Best place to dispose of them is the Household Hazardous Waste collection at the I66 Transfer Station. In the long run, organic gardening has lasting benefits <https://gardenmadesimple.com/benefits-of-using-organic-fertilizer/>.

- Before adding any soil amendments, don't guess, soil test! Quick, easy, and inexpensive soil testing is at <https://www.soiltest.vt.edu/>

- Problems with overusing lawn chemicals: https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/files/marc_lawnchemicals.pdf
- Depending on the type and exposure, pesticides and herbicides can be harmful to people, pets, and the environment. A good summary is at <https://extension.psu.edu/potential-health-effects-of-pesticides>. Too many toxicology studies only look at the active ingredients, but the “other ingredients” may contain chemicals that can also be harmful even though those substances are not listed. <http://npic.orst.edu/factsheets/inerts.html>

Remove invasive plants from your yard. Doing so is key to a healthy environment. It is more important than planting natives because those invasive weeds generate seeds that spread to neighbors and natural areas, thereby overwhelm native populations. Find out more about the Mid-Atlantic's worst plant invaders and how to spot them at:

- <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/publicworks/invasive-species/recognize>
- www.invasive.org/midatlantic/fieldguide/index.cfm
- Join an Invasive Management Area workday and pull those invasive targets firsthand: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/invasive-management-area>

Learn to identify plants. It is key to telling native friends from invasive foes. Plant knowledge helps people become more connected to nature and saves time when deciding to pull or keep that garden plant. Start with a few plant names and keep building those lists and identification techniques. Include trees, shrubs, vines, grasses, and leafy ones that die back every year. Here are some of the many resources at varying skill levels:

- The Green Spring Gardens Park horticultural library <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/greenspring>
- <https://diynatural.com/plant-identification-tips/>
- <https://nature-mentor.com/plant-identification-cheat-sheet/>
- <https://vnps.org/potowmack/>
- Buy native plants at sales and study your own specimens: <https://vnps.org/native-plant-sales/>

Check out your local bookstore and see which hard copies are a good fit for you!

Join a volunteer workday! Many sanctioned activities help the community and natural areas—from watershed cleanups to habitat restoration and more! <https://www.volunteerfairfax.org/>

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Purchase your Kings Park West Ornament and help support your local KPW Cub Scouts. Only \$20 each.



A beautiful brass ornament celebrating our favorite neighborhood - Kings Park West. Measuring 3" wide by 2" tall, the ornament is solid brass with full color featuring our iconic neighborhood sign on Commonwealth and Guinea, and adorned by many of our neighborhood friends including a fox, cardinal, Dogwood flowers, Azaleas, and plenty of trees.

To purchase, visit: <https://www.pack1967.org/ornament>



Eagle Scout Project Completed

Greetings. I'm Aidan Murphy, a Life Scout in the Boy Scouts of America with Troop 1966. Throughout my life I have walked Royal Lake many times, noticed many things, but one stands apart from the others.

Fishing lines are scattered everywhere, in the water, on the trails, and in the forestry. This issue was brought up to me with the help of Mr. Tom McCook, and I decided to act upon it.

As of September 30, my troop and I have installed four fishing line disposals around Royal Lake for all fishermen to use. They are placed in spots I saw as major fishing locations. These locations are: the former boat ramp near the playground parking lot, at the bottom of the peninsula at the end of Chatsworth Court, at the south west end of the dam, and lastly, near the tennis court parking lot, down by the boat launch.

I did this project in hopes of helping the environment around Royal Lake, and also giving fishermen a place to put their fishing line when they're done. I've always loved this lake and it saddens me to see fishing line littered throughout the Lake and Park. I saw that many were happy to hear this project was coming, and now it's here for the fishermen of Royal Lake to use!

I am thankful to the members of Friends of Royal Lake, FCPA, KPWCA, and especially Tom McCook for helping me through the project. I greatly appreciate your financial support, as well as assistance in finalizing the locations for these disposals. Without their help this project may not have been such a success.

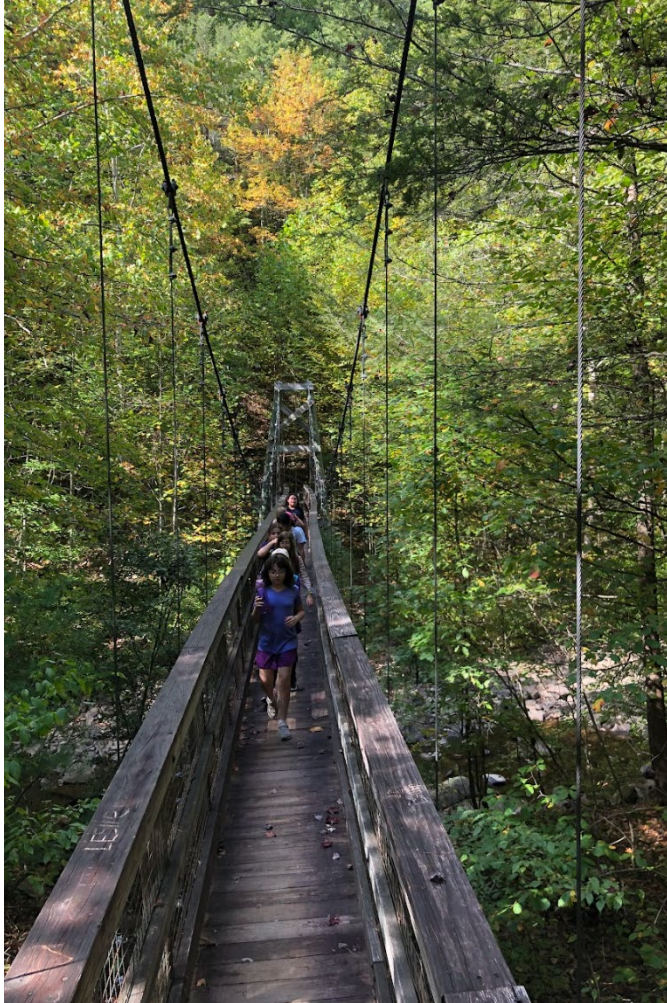
Yours in Scouting,
Aidan Murphy
Life Scout, Troop 1966



Girl Scouts Go Spelunking

Girl Scout Troop 54068 went spelunking! Eleven Girl Scouts attended a two-night Core Camp at Camp May Flather in Mount Solon, Virginia, and spent the day exploring caves, hiking, and making new friends.

If you have a potential Scout that is interested in getting dirty, trying out some new crafts, increasing confidence, and giving back to the community, contact SU5415info@gmail.com.



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Give Back with Socktober!

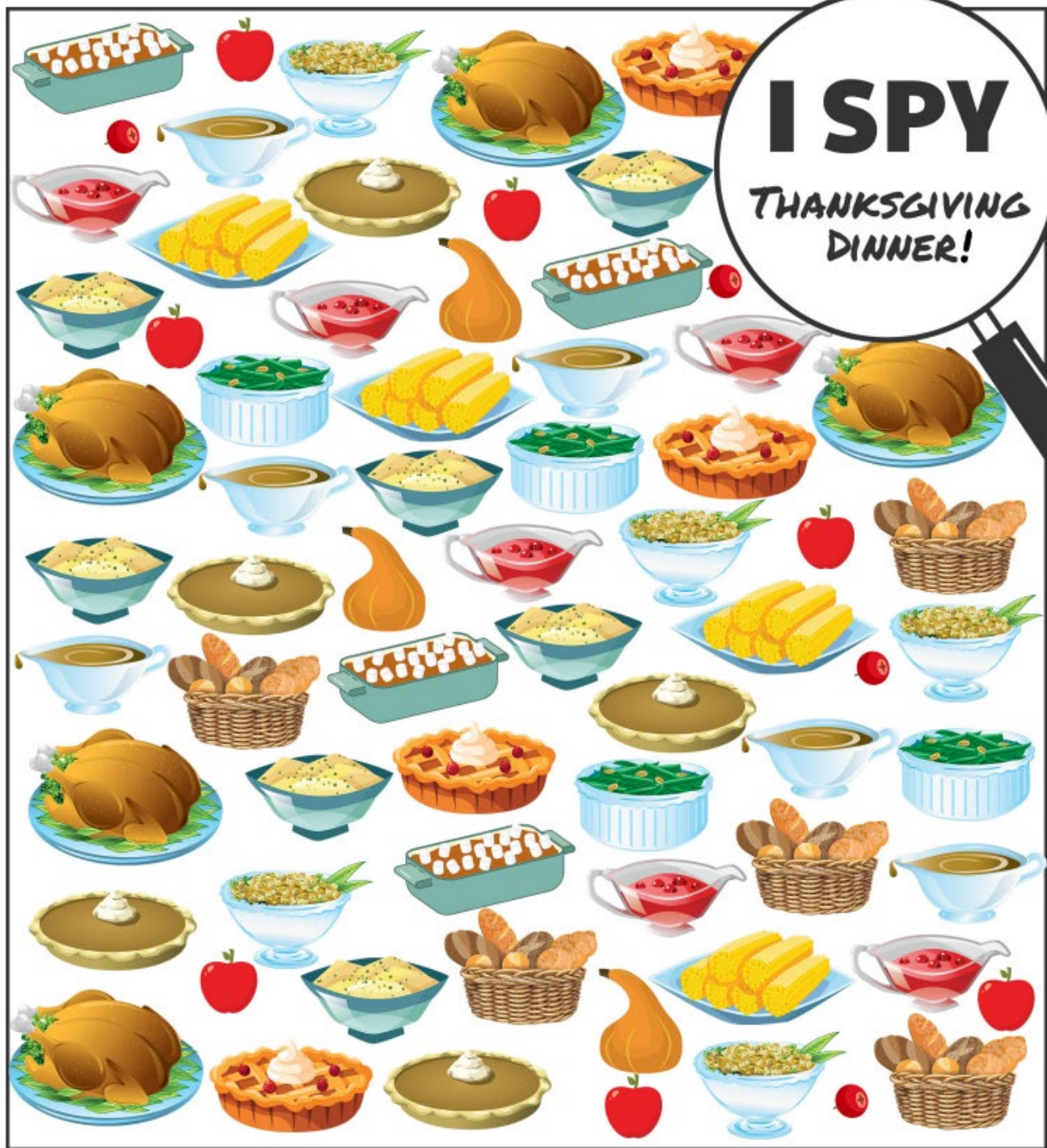
This October, Girl Scout Troop 4141 is hosting a sock drive called Socktober! We're collecting socks to give to those who may not be able to buy them.

If you'd like to donate, you can drop off any **new** socks or buy something off our Amazon Wishlist! Please support those in need this fall and give back with Socktober!

Shop on Amazon (<https://tinyurl.com/3rdpm4h6>) and direct ship to or drop on front porch of: 10308 Collingham Drive, Fairfax, VA 22032.

A poster for 'Socktober!' from Girl Scout Troop 4141. The background is a dark red color. At the top, the word 'SOCKTOBER!' is written in large, bold, orange, hand-drawn letters. Below it, in smaller orange letters, is 'FROM GIRL SCOUT TROOP 4141'. In the center is a cartoon illustration of a single sock with red and white horizontal stripes and a white cuff at the top. The sock is surrounded by a bright yellow starburst effect. Below the sock, the text 'HELP US PROVIDE 3,100 PAIRS OF NEW SOCKS TO PEOPLE IN NEED!' is written in orange. At the bottom left, it says 'DONATE BELOW' in orange. At the bottom right, it says 'OR DONATE VIA AMAZON WISHLIST ->' in orange. To the right of this text is a QR code.

Activity Page



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Sudoku

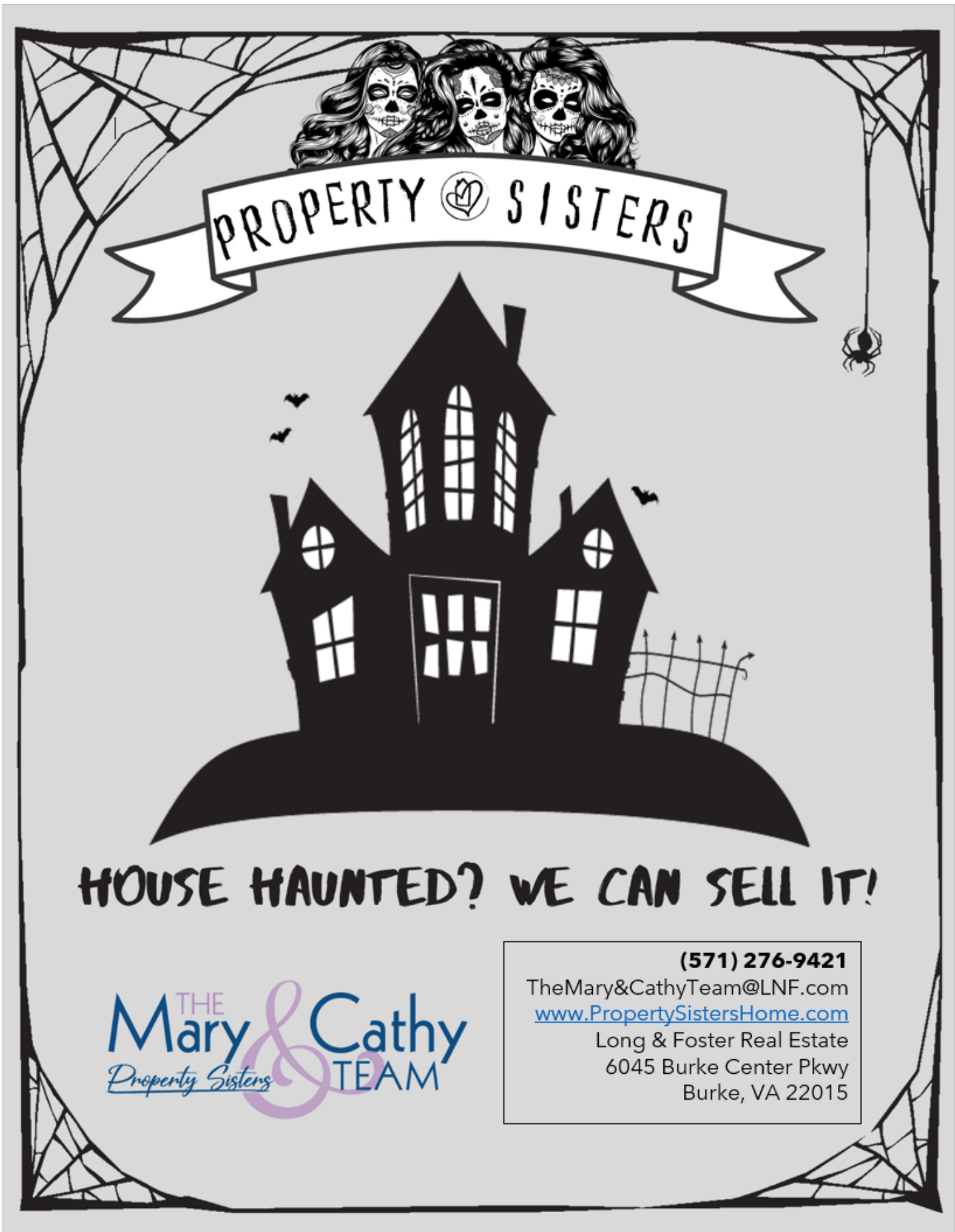
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Word Search Thanksgiving

F Y S L F X V E H P B S S Y L I M A F H
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 A J J W M J P T F Q A T H A N K F U L C

- NOVEMBER
- TURKEY
- STUFFING
- HAM
- PUMPKINPIE
- CRANBERRIES
- POTATOES
- PECANPIE
- PILGRIMS
- THANKFUL
- MAYFLOWER
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- DINNER
- FAMILY
- FOOTBALL
- FEAST
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