

Block #: _____

Date: _____

Kings Park West Civic Association — 2025 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"/> Signboards
<input type="checkbox"/> Herald Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Dumpster Day
<input type="checkbox"/> Parks & Lake	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall Festival
<input type="checkbox"/> Spring Egg Hunt	

Paying Online? You can complete this form and pay via PayPal using the QR code or at www.kpwca.org
Paying by Check? Please make checks payable to KPWCA and return to your Block Captain or mail to: KPWCA, 5616i Ox Rd #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 Civic Association
General Membership Meeting
September 2024**

PROXY FORM

Each active Civic Association member as listed in the membership database may vote on Association business. Any current member wishing to vote by proxy must complete this form. This form may be given to a KPWCA member who will attend any time prior to a regular or special meeting of the Association. Forms may be dropped off at 4782 Catterick Court as well. Proxy forms received after the meeting will not be accepted.

Name: _____

Address: _____

I assign _____ the authority to vote on my behalf regarding Association matters.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Note: *Membership Status of all parties will be verified upon presentation of a proxy. No individual may serve as proxy for more than two (2) members. Please contact president@kpwca.org to obtain another proxy form or to drop off a form.*



October 2024

Vol. 54, Issue 8

Kings Park West Civic Association

"If you can be anything, be kind."

Ciao vicini!

I'll admit that I sat here for more than a little while, stumped. It's always tough to follow a class act like Sarah Lennon, who has volunteered with the civic association for the last 20 years and left an incredible impression on this community over the last four years in her tenure as president. That's quite a legacy—thank you, Sarah, for your dedication to this community!

Just as Sarah was getting started as President in 2020, I was settling into the neighborhood with my husband and two cats. We had been looking for months for a place to call home. Finding a house was hard enough, but finding a home? Almost impossible. After viewing close to 60 houses and losing out on four of them, I was about ready to give up and continue life in our 500 square foot apartment in Arlington.

And then... one day, we came across a listing for a beautiful home on Ward Ct. We almost didn't put it on our viewing list, but at the last minute, I requested a showing. As we approached the neighborhood, I knew – this was home.

I'm happy to say that my gut feeling was 100% correct! Over the past four years, I have experienced firsthand the kindness and tight-knit community that this neighborhood has fostered. I am beyond grateful for the chance to continue fostering that community feeling and kind spirit as the president of the civic association.

My first order of business as President is to listen – listen to your ideas, your perspectives, your passions. From municipal issues – like trash providers! – to new community events, I want to hear what would serve you best and effect positive change in the areas that are most impactful and important to you.

So, I will leave you with this question: What makes this community feel like home to you? You are invited to drop me a line at president@kpwca.org with your stories and musings on what makes this place a home for you. I look forward to reading your responses as your neighbor and civic association president. I'll share a few in the next edition of the Herald to brighten our winter days.

Stay spooky! 🎃

Helen Santoro
President, KPWCA
 pp

Help us continue to provide fun activities to all. Join at www.kpwca.org

OR

Scan the QR code to make the membership process even easier!



Community Calendar

- Community Yard Sale - November 2
- Veterans Day – November 11
- Dumpster Day - November 16
- KPWCA Monthly Meeting – November 19
- Thanksgiving Day – November 28
- Free Share Saturday! – November 30
- KPWCA Monthly Meeting – Tuesday December 17

Curious to know more about me?

🌻 A homegrown NOVA native: My family has been operating small business in northern Virginia since the early 1900s. My roots run deep!

🎹 A small business owner: I've been teaching kids piano for over a decade. At this point, I've taught 100+ kids between Manassas, Clifton, and Alexandria – most recently I got to see my first student, a 5-year-old at the time, graduate high school!

🗣️ A community advocate. From my day job as a strategic initiatives lead to my side of desk work as an arts advocate, I bring my passion for building community to every role.

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
President	Helen Santoro	president@kpwca.org
Vice President	Merideth Manella	vp@kpwca.org
Secretary	Pamela Thibodeau	secretary@kpwca.org
Treasurer	Alan Morris	treasurer@kpwca.org
Members-at-Large	Kaycie Blaylock Donna Thomas Jonathan Reiser	boardmember2@kpwca.org boardmember1@kpwca.org
Committees		
Common Grounds Maintenance	Laura Hall / Linda Reamy	
Community Support Services		
Consumer Affairs	Mary Hovland	
Dumpster Day	Mary Hovland	
Neighbor Assist	Bruce Wallachy	KPWNeighborAssist@gmail.com
Communications		
Herald Content Editor	Monica Grover	editor@kpwca.org
Herald Communications Editor	Rose Luczak	editor@kpwca.org
Herald Advertising and Classifieds	Gayle Ostrom	classified@kpwca.org
Signboards	Jonathan Reiser	boardmember3@kpwca.org
Web Admin	Tim Hartle	website@kpwca.org
Membership	Nick Schumaker	membership@kpwca.org
Parks and Lake	Kelley Newsad	parks@kpwca.org
Invasive Species	Greg Sykes	greg@grsykes.com
Special Activities		
Spring Egg Hunt	Pack 1967	vp@kpwca.org
Halloween Festival	Keith Jodoin	kjodoin@gmail.com
Scholarships	Gayle Ostrom	geestrom@gmail.com

<p style="text-align: center;">How do I join the Kings Park West Civic Association?</p> <p>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.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do I get my news in The Herald?</p> <p>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.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">The Herald</p> <p>Published eight times a year by the KPWCA. Next deadline: November 20, 2024 for delivery about December 11, 2024. Note: Acceptance of articles and advertising does not constitute an endorsement by the KPWCA nor liability for products or services advertised in its publications.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">How do I advertise in The Herald?</p> <p>Classifieds: Classified ads for the June issue must be received no later than November 20, 2024, 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.</p> <p>Advertisements: Advertisements are received by Gayle Ostrom; please email classifieds@kpwca.org for rates.</p>

KPWCA MEMBERSHIP MONTH

By Tim Hartle

Hello KPW Neighbor! Tim Hartle here. It's that time of the year again. The 2024-2025 KPWCA "Membership Month" started, 10/1/24, which coincides with the start of the KPWCA's fiscal year.

To join or rejoin the civic association this year, go to the KPWCA homepage, www.kpwca.org, and use both the Google Membership Form and the PayPal secure hyperlink near the top of the page. This is the preferred, quickest, and easiest way to join. (You don't have to have an existing PayPal account to pay by credit card.) When you use this method, immediate confirmations will be sent, and the membership database will be updated within a day or so. It's important to complete the membership form too. Without it, we wouldn't know how to allocate your donations or be able to update your contact info.

To join using pen and paper, use the membership form from the Herald or print out a copy from the homepage (above) and write a check to "KPWCA" with "Membership Dues" in the comment. If you take this route, be sure to print clearly. You can either mail the form and check to the PO Box listed on the form or save a stamp and drop it off in the KPWCA mailbox on the front porch

of our brand-new Membership Chair (Amber Fernandez) at 5030 Swinton Dr.

You can check your 2024 membership status by using the "Use this link to check if you've paid your dues..." link, also near the top of the homepage. Paper forms and checks take much longer to process, so allow more time before expecting them to be displayed.

If you're on the fence about joining, check out <https://kwca.org/membership-benefits/>

And remember, **the Kings Park West Civic Association (KPWCA) is voluntary, unlike the Kings Park West HOAs.**

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to let us know.

Thanks,

Tim

KPWCA Membership Committee

THE GARDEN CORNER

By Charlie Boring

Late Autom has arrived and the urban gardener must turn his/her attention from growing your favorite plants to preparing the soil for winter. This article will explore some activities that need to be completed to make our gardens more "green." Such projects are making a comeback with the organic gardening movement.

If you had an active garden during the spring and summer, your soil may be depleted of much of its nutrients and, since the soil in much of Virginia has a high clay content, it can benefit from adding organic matter. Additionally, during the winter when there are no plants and their roots to protect the soil, adding compost on top of the soil will provide protection from erosion and depletion of nutrients. This will also attract those beneficial organisms such as earthworms and when it decomposes will add needed nutrients to the garden soil. A gardener can purchase organic compost, or compost plus manure that will improve your soil, but it is much more enjoyable, frugal and green to make your own compost.

There are many ways to make your own compost pile, bin, or container; but in an urban environment, we are often concerned with making the compost bin esthetic. You can purchase a compost bin on line, or at a local garden supply store that will be esthetically acceptable. I have been composting our kitchen scraps, mixed with shredded leaves that I saved from last fall and I now have a good compost tumbler full of beautiful compost. However, that will not be enough; so, I have two wire cages that I made that contain some beautiful leaf mold that I can use. Leaf mold takes longer to produce than compost, since it contains less nitrogen and does not heat up.

This year as the fall leaves begin to drop, plan on making your own leaf mold. Here is the way I do it. First, using chicken wire, or any other kind of wire that does not have holes larger than three-inches in diameter and is about 4 feet wide, roll out and cut a section of wire that will be 10 feet long and 4 feet wide. Form the wire into a cylinder, tying the ends together. You can use wire, but I prefer to use quick ties to allow easy opening when you harvest the leaf mold.

When my lawn is covered with leaves, I get out my trusty lawnmower and place the leaf catcher bag on it. I mow the leaves and a bit of grass and fill the bag up. Then I dump the leaf-grass mixture into my wire enclosure. After each bag is dumped, I push it down to remove as much air as possible. You should know that this 4-foot-tall pile of leaves will shrink down to about a 1-foot-tall pile by spring.

In addition to spreading the compost and leaf mold on my now dormant garden soil, I like to spread a 1-inch layer of composted cow manure on top of it. Now your soil is ready for the winter.

During the fall and early winter, I also like to employ another composting method called the direct dig, dump and cover method. During the winter when my compost bin is not working efficiently due to the temperature, I dig trenches in my garden, dump in my kitchen scraps and covered them up. It helps avoid attracting animals by sprinkling a little lime on top of the kitchen scraps before you cover them. I only continue this process until about January 15. This allows the scraps to compost for about 3 months. This is plenty of time before spring planting. When you turned over the ground during the spring, the soil will be dark and rich.

Don't forget – Fall is the best time to plant your garlic! Here is the way I do it. Decide on what type of garlic you want to grow. I grow hard-neck garlic and I plant whatever variety that I can find. I till my garden plot well, smooth out the tilled soil. My plot is four feet by eight feet and I plant four rows with about 5 inches between plants. I select the largest cloves to plant and save the smaller ones for eating.

Using a broom handle I make holes in the soil about 4-6 inches deep and drop a clove of garlic in each hole with the pointed end up. I collapse the soil around the holes and water. I also cover the bed with about two inches of compost, leaves, or straw.

Now sit back and wait until late June of early July to harvest your garlic. I can wait until spring!

Parks & Lake Update

The KPW Road Raiders kicked off the new cleanup season on Sept 14th at Monticello Park. A small group of volunteers cleared 5 large trash bags of garbage from the park and its neighboring woods, preventing it from further contaminating our parks and streams. I think it's safe to say, we accomplished a lot in 30 minutes and would love to see more community members participating.

Our next Road Raiders event will be held on October 14th from 9-11a.m. on the Shane's Creek trail. There have been some complaints about the overgrown trail and trash near Roberts and on the south side of the creek. Our goal is to cut back the overgrowth and clean up the trash, but we cannot

do this without YOU! **We need volunteers to support our plans!** And don't forget, the time provided can count as volunteer service hours.

If you are not on our email information distribution lists and would like to be, please send an email to **Kelley Newsad at Parks@kpwca.org**

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

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<input type="checkbox"/> Lawn Renovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Driveway Dumpster
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KPW Recommends

www.facebook.com/groups/kpwrecommends



by cathy deloach

Neighbors Seeking Bathroom and Tile Contractors. Can You Help?

KPW neighbors Lisa McPerson and Sara Trigo recently asked for bathroom and tile contractors on the KPW Recommends Facebook page. Two contractors were suggested immediately. See the recommendations below.

The KPW Recommends Facebook page is a fantastic resource for contractor and service suggestions from your neighbors. Make sure you check it often to see if you can help, or to request ideas for your own needs.



Blue Sky Exteriors

(571) 259-0408

Email: mikedinwoodie@blueskyexteriors.com

Website: www.blueskyexteriors.com

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-Heather Larson

"...we have used Mike's company for two bathroom remodels. Reliable, easy to work with. Highly recommend."

-Natalie Bohuslaw



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"KPW resident. Did a great remodeling job for us. Highly recommend."

-Sandy Glotfely





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What Impact Will Fed Interest Rate Cut Have on Kings Park West Real Estate?

On September 18, 2024, the Federal Reserve revealed a half-point interest rate cut, marking the first reduction in four years. This move indicates that inflation might be coming under control. However, most experts do not anticipate that this reduction will lead to an immediate real estate frenzy. Instead, mortgage rates are projected to gradually and slightly decrease into 2025, potentially reaching around the 5% mark, though many industry insiders predict that it will be closer to 6%. Alongside the ongoing inventory shortage, home prices and mortgage rates will likely remain higher than many would-be buyers would prefer.

MLS currently reflects a mere six available properties in Kings Park West. This incredibly low inventory is promising for anyone seeking to sell this fall. Buyers tend to want to be completely moved in prior to the winter holidays so fall home transactions tend to move quickly! If you're thinking of listing this fall, be sure to present as move-in ready!

YTD SOLD PROPERTIES

Model	Address	Price	DOM	Model	Address	Price	DOM
Queen	5202 Sterne Ct	\$1,127,000	2	Duke	5321 Stonington Dr	\$850,000	9
Baron	10214 Dundalk St	\$1,074,500	5	Prince	9814 Covent Ct	\$850,000	9
Regent	4976 Swinton Dr	\$1,069,500	13	Queen	5080 Coleridge Dr	\$850,000	12
Queen	9719 Commonwealth	\$1,025,000	11	Regent	10176 Wavell Rd	\$845,000	19
Baron	4788 Tapestry Dr	\$1,025,000	12	Duke	5304 Orchardson Ct	\$840,000	18
Regent	5224 Gainsborough Dr	\$1,010,000	5	Cromwell	10307 Nantucket Ct	\$830,000	2
King	5109 Richardson Dr	\$1,010,000	7	King	5406 Chatsworth Ct	\$825,000	13
Baron	5313 Kaywood Ct	\$965,000	6	Duke	5219 Pommeroy Dr	\$805,000	20
Baron	10109 Dundalk St	\$965,000	0	Queen	10027 Whitefield St	\$800,000	80
Duchess	9803 Lord Ct	\$950,000	5	Queen	9809 Bacon Ct	\$799,000	2
Queen	9818 Covent Ct	\$905,000	10	King	5120 Swift Ct	\$782,000	37
Queen	5211 Claridge Ct	\$905,000	6	Queen	5217 Richardson Dr	\$780,000	14
Queen	5400 Gainsborough Dr	\$893,000	12	Prince	10302 Rodney Ct	\$775,000	8
Regent	10403 Collingham Dr	\$885,000	14	Regent	10027 Black Ct	\$760,000	8
Regent	9813 Covent Ct	\$885,000	3	Cromwell	10336 Commonwealth	\$760,000	2
King	10026 Black Ct	\$885,000	5	Duke	5203 Gainsborough Dr	\$751,500	1
Baron	10302 Collingham Dr	\$881,275	6	Duke	5305 Gainsborough Dr	\$750,000	4
Queen	5118 Pommeroy Dr	\$875,000	10	Duchess	9717 Galsworth Ct	\$742,000	4
Regent	4796 Tapestry Dr	\$875,000	5	Prince	9716 Commonwealth	\$740,000	12
Regent	10021 Commonwealth	\$875,000	4	Cromwell	5228 Nottingham Ln	\$735,000	10
Queen	5076 Dequincey Dr	\$870,000	16	York	5312 Kaywood Ct	\$700,000	30
Duchess	5381 Gainsborough Dr	\$863,456	6	Prince	5010 Gainsborough Dr	\$691,500	5
Queen	5322 Stonington Dr	\$860,000	5	King	10181 Wavell Rd	\$660,000	6
Regent	9826 Covent Ct	\$854,000	18	Duke	10007 E Constable Ct	\$655,000	0
Queen	5229 Richardson Dr	\$852,000	7				

Current* KPW Statistics (as of October 3, 2024)

Number of Properties Sold YTD: **49**
 Average Sold Price: **\$856,341 (\$655,000 to \$1,127,000)**
 Average Days on Market: **14**

Active/Coming Soon: **6**
 Under Contract/Pending: **2**

September Highlights from Scout Pack 1967

September was an exciting month for Scout Pack 1967, packed with adventurous activities and opportunities for skill-building. One of the standout events was the District Cub-O-Ree, where scouts enjoyed a thrilling day camp filled with archery, BB rifles, a climbing wall, STEM challenges, slingshot competitions, and lively games of GaGa Ball. It was a special day of camaraderie and learning, showcasing scouting at its best.

Our pack officially kicked off the season with its first meeting at Royal Park on September 21st. Scouts

enthusiastically dove into knot construction, mastered tent assembly techniques, and even tried their hand at campfire baking—skills that are fundamental to outdoor adventuring.

Looking ahead, Pack 1967 has a bounty of exciting activities planned this year, promising even more opportunities for fun, growth, and making memories. Whether you are new to scouting or looking to join our thriving community, we invite you to visit our website to learn more about how you can get involved!





Interested in Girl Scouts for Your Girl!

Girl Scouts become leaders by making new friends, building skills, and discovering the world around them. Call us or go online to learn more about how your family can become a Girl Scout family.

To learn more about Girl Scout opportunities for girls

Jennifer King and Nina Cox
Laurel Ridge Troop Organizers
SU5415info@gmail.com

OR

Eric Schwartz
Membership Specialist
703-372-4345
eschwartz@GSCNC.org



<https://bit.ly/girlscouts-5415>

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Para más información sobre las oportunidades para niñas de K-12 grado,

Texto o email:
Eric Schwartz
703-372-4345
eschwartz@GSCNC.org

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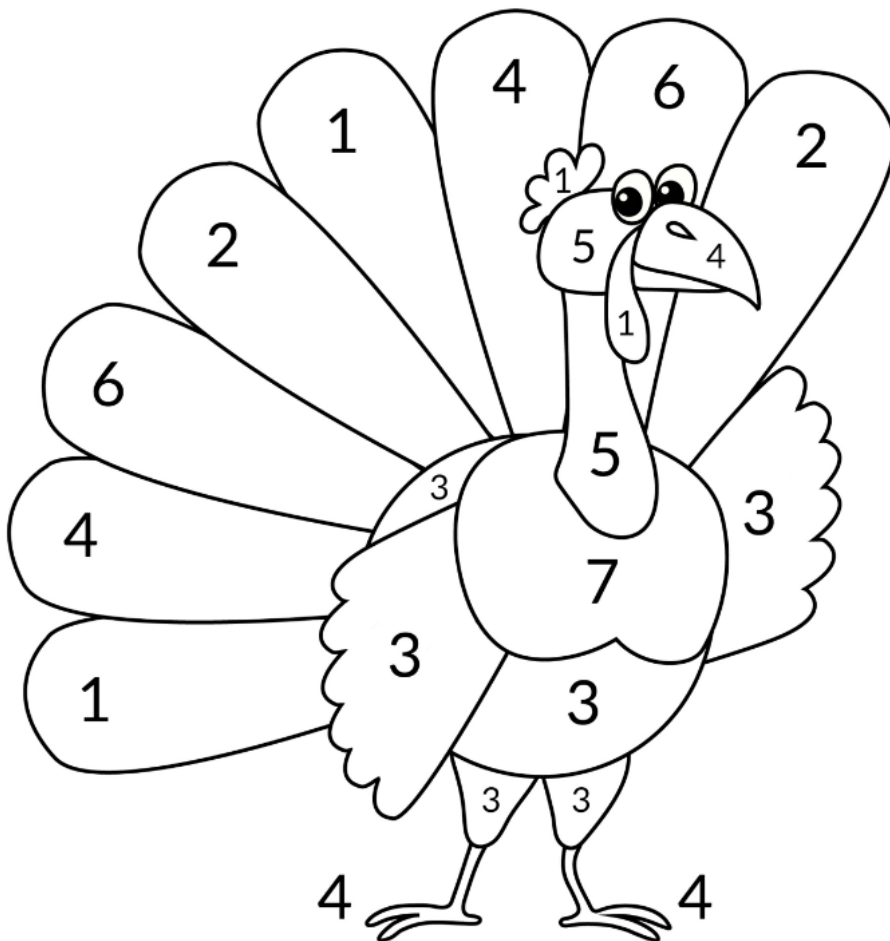
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Sudoku

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

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

Paint by Numbers



1. Red
2. Green
3. Brown
4. Yellow
5. Pink
6. Orange
7. Light brown

HALLOWEEN



X B
B B K T
V A O Y
C T F V
S D I O

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



AMUSEMENT
BATS
CANDY
DRACULA
FRANKENSTEIN
GHOSTS
HARVEST
MONSTER
OCTOBER
PRANK
SCARE
SPIDER
WITCH

APPLES
BLACK
CAT
EERIE
FRIGHTEN
GOBLIN
HAYRIDE
MUMMY
ORANGE
PUMPKINS
SHADOWS
SPOOKY

AUTUMN
BOO
COSTUMES
EXCITEMENT
GAMES
HALLOWEEN
MASK
NIGHT
PARTY
SAFE
SKELETON
TRICKORTREAT



Activity Page



SEEK & FIND Haunted House



Find and color all the Haunted House hidden pictures.



witch



owl



skeleton head



bat



cat



jack o'lantern



mummy



lollipop



spider



candy corn



hat



spiderweb



candy



ghost



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vampire

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