NOVEMBER 2026

Parkwood Press

The Parkwood Association Neighborhood Newsletter



Vandalism at Sedwick Park



We, the Parks, Lawns, and Ballfield Committee Members, have spent the past 6 month evaluating the influx of vandalism at Sedwick park.

Our Parkwood executive committee has already contacted the local police department to get input on complaints, and has established a meeting on November 5th at 7 pm.

We encourage residents to register for the meeting to help with input.

In the Meantime...



We are sad to say that due to the excessive and frequent puncture of tetherballs we will be discontinuing their replacement temporarily, so that we can evaluate how to better monitor the area and prevent this type of vandalism.

There are also several pieces of equipment at Sedwick that have gone missing. We are working to replace them, and hope to incorporate advice from Durham PD into our plan to monitor, and hopefully stop, this increase in vandalism.

Watchful neighbors help parks

We encourage users of Sedwick park to report any suspicious activity to Durham One Call or the non-emergency police line at 919-560-4600

We hope to have the full usage of equipment back in a short time, but daily monitoring is best done by park users.

CITY OF DURHAM | Durham ONE CALL 919.560.1200

Keep an eye on Parks & Lawns Committee minutes for more information.

Thank you for your understanding. We are working diligently to make sure our parks are safe for all.

Parkwood Events Survey

What would you like to do with your neighbors?

The Events Committee is planning more small, casual get-togethers at the Parkwood Community Center—things like game nights, craft groups, book clubs, gardening meet-ups, coffee, and more.

Survey in English

Encuesta en español

Use the QR codes or the links above to Take our short survey and tell us what sounds fun! Your feedback will help shape activities for the coming year.

Parkwood Board

2026 - 2027

Marie Dean, President, Dist. 8
Felipe Rodriguez, Vice Pres. Dist. 7
Liz Scisco, Secretary, Dist. 8
George Greene, Treasurer, Dist. 5

Dist 1: Debra Krahling	Dist 5: Mary Garrison
Dist 1: Sylvia Millis*	Dist 5: George Greene*
Dist 2: Vickie Wheeler	Dist 6: Janet Foreman
Dist 2: Chris Classen	Dist 6: OPEN
Dist 3: Richard Evert	Dist 7: Felipe Rodriguez
Dist 3: Joshua Hankins	Dist 7: Maya Almasy*
Dist 4: Janie Long	Dist 8: Marie Dean
Dist 4: OPEN	Dist 8: Liz Scisco

*Serving At-Large
The PA Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm via Zoom

Parkwood on Social Media

ParkwoodNC Google Group
https://groups.google.com/g/parkwoodnc

Parkwood on Facebook:
https://www.facebook.com/ParkwoodNC

Parkwood on Instagram:
https://www.instagram.com/parkwoodnc/

Parkwood's Website

Familiar Parkwood Resources and more can be found at our website,

https://parkwoodnc.org/

The next meeting of the Parkwood Association Board of Directors is scheduled for November 12, 2026 at 7 pm via Zoom

If you would like to attend as a guest, please email the office, pa.office@parkwoodnc.org no later than Nov. 10th.

Parkwood Office

Parkwood Association
1417 Seaton Road
Durham, NC 27713

Phone: (919) 544-2161
Email: pa.office@parkwoodnc.org
Website: parkwoodnc.org

Office Hours: Wednesday 2:30 - 5:00 pm

Laura Denny, our office administrator, is available by email or phone.

Please note:
Laura will not have office hours on Wednesday, November 25th.

If you need assistance that week, please email Laura at pa.office@parkwoodnc.org.

Mailing Payments

If you mail payments for Parkwood Association dues, including via your Bank's Bill Pay, please take note of these critical reminders:

- All payments go to PPM, not to our Parkwood Office.
- Mail checks to PO Box 1379 Commerce, GA 30529
- Do not mail payments to PPM's physical office. Doing so will delay processing, which can result in late fees.
- Make checks payable to Parkwood Association. Do not make checks payable to PPM.

These are important to avoid delays and to serve you more efficiently.

Customers can sign up for automatic draft by visiting PPM's website, https://ppmral.com/ppm-automatic-draft-form

Holiday Crafts & Bake Sale

Saturday, November 14
9:00 am - 2:00 pm



Cake Walk at
10 am, 11 am & 12 pm



Cakes, Pies, Cookies, Candy, Other Holiday Goodies
Hot Dogs available for lunch.

Christmas Ornaments, Christmas Wreaths,
Christmas Decor, Gifts for Kids and
Grownups. Stocking Stuffers.
Something for Everyone!

Parkwood United Methodist Church
5123 Revere Road Durham, NC 27713

What's Going on at Parkwood United Methodist Church

Grief Conversation and Friendship Group: Mondays at 2 PM in the fellowship hall
Craft and Bake Sale: Saturday, Nov. 14th, 9 AM—2 PM
Listening Circle Fellowship and Dessert Group: Monday, Nov. 16 at 6:30 PM (3rd Monday, each month)
Exercise Group: 9:30 AM in the fellowship hall on every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
Adult and Children's Sunday School: 9:30 AM
Children's Choir: 10 am on Sundays
Worship: 10:30 AM on Sundays in the sanctuary
Prayer Beyond Words Small Group: a hybrid (in-person and Zoom) meeting where we discuss and learn about how to pray without using our words on Thursdays at 12 PM.

Contact Pastor Adam Benson for more information or if you have questions on any groups or opportunities via email: adam.benson@nccumc.org.

Advent and Christmas with Parkwood United Methodist Church

Adult Class at 9:30 AM on Sundays
Worship at 10:30 AM on Sundays
Lectio Divina at 8 AM on Tuesdays on Zoom
(contact Pastor Adam for Zoom info: adam.benson@nccumc.org)

Prayer Beyond Words Small Group Study: Thursdays, December 3, 10, and 17 at noon hybrid (Zoom and in-person). Please contact Pastor Adam for more information.

Christmas Caroling with Christus Victor Lutheran Church on Friday, December 19 at 6 PM (meet in parking lot in front of Parkwood UMC)
Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 4:30 PM





Summary of Minutes from October 8, 2026 Board Meeting

Call to Order at 7:05 pm

Attendance: Debra Krahling, Sylvia Millis, Vickie Wheeler, Chris Classen, Richard Evert, Joshua Hankins, Janie Long, Mary Garrison, George Greene, Janet Foreman, Felipe Rodriguez, Maya Almasy, Marie Dean, Liz Scisco

Minutes from previous Meeting of the Board of Directors

Motion to approve the minutes from the September meeting of the Board of Directors. Second. Motion passes.

Election of Officers

President
Nomination - Marie Dean
Motion to elect Marie Dean president. Second. Motion passes

Vice President
Nomination - Felipe Rodriguez
Motion to elect Felipe Rodgriguez vice president. Second. Motion passes.

Secretary
Nomination - Vickie Wheeler, Liz Scisco
Liz Scisco elected secretary for the Board.

Treasurer
Nomination - George Greene
Motion to elect George Greene treasurer for the Board.

Committee Roundtable

Executive Committee - M. Dean
Executive Committee Minutes 30 September 2026

Marie Dean, President
Janie Long, Vice President
Vickie Wheeler, Secretary
George Greene, Treasurer

1. The next EC meeting will be 4 Nov at 7:00 pm
2. Handling vendors & insurance, pending contracts. This process is improving. Will still monitor for a while.
3. Follow up procedures/actions for cars still parked on lawns after the letter that went out will be finalized as soon as the Annual Meeting/ prep and budget are complete.
4. Girl Scout Silver Award Project proposal. Letter and agreement form was sent to the girls and their parents.
5. General budget discussion budget proposal for the Office/Community Center maintenance and a budget meeting tentatively scheduled for 24 Oct @ 4:00 were discussed.
6. Always attempt to secure 3 bids on motions being made.
7. Meeting with Committee Chairs. The EC has decided to schedule the meeting with Committee Chairs as soon as possible after the start of the 2027 year. This way all new board members and/or committee chairs will be in place.
8. Monthly new or updated complaints/inquiries. Reviewed the following issue received during the past month.
   a. Damage done by RLC to homeowner's fence at 4926 McCormick during grass cutting. Jay at RLC has been contacted and will meet with Parkwood rep.
   b. Sewage leak at 1316 Clermont reported done during road work. Laura has contacted the City of Durham.
9. Homeowner's requesting community meeting, Homeowners concerned with safety in our community have requested a meeting with our local police department. Marie will contact Lt Nicholas M. Schneider to see when we can schedule a meeting with them either live or through Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm

Marie Dean reported to the Board that the Safety Meeting with homeowners and Lt. Nicholas Schneider of the Durham Police Dept. has been scheduled for November 5th at 7 pm in the Community Center. A registration procedure will be shared with Parkwood homeowners. Registration will be required.

Finance Committee Report - G.Greene

Parkwood Association Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes – October 6, 2026
Attendance: George Greene, Marie Dean, Felipe Rodriguez
Call to order: 7:08. Adjourned: 7:30.

The Finance Committee met and discussed the following:
1. Collections: Reviewed and discussed the current collections report and status of accounts with the Association's collections attorney.
2. Attorney Invoices: Reviewed the October invoices from Bagwell Holt Smith for services rendered. The Committee found the invoices satisfactory for processing.
3. Financial Reports: Reviewed and discussed the Association's available financial reports, including the closed financial report from the prior month.
4. 2027 Budget: Discussed preparation of the 2027 budget. The Committee scheduled a dedicated budget meeting for October 24, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Committee Motions: None.
Motions Passed to Board of Directors: None.

Parks, Lawns and Ballfield - L. Scisco

PARKWOOD HOA
PARKS, LAWNS, & BALLFIELD COMMITTEE
October 5, 2026: 7:00 pm (Liz Scisco, Meeting Chair)

Meeting Time: October 5, 2026 @7:00pm
Call to Order: 7:00 pm
Adjourned: 8:30pm
Attendance: Bill Mitchell, Steven Berkowitz, Michael Brooks, Rob Shoaf, Marie Dean, Chris Classen, George Greene, Liz Scisco, Matt Kollman, Wray Dean

Business for Committee Discussion

1. Plantings (Landscaping): (Rob/Chris/Jeff)
    a. Goodyear Circle Review
        i. Tree Trimming/Fertilizer: Waiting on estimated cost after contractor walk-throughs
        ii. *Will consult with Leaf & Limb and 1st Choice to determine which plants need to be replaced. RLC has agreed to replace those arborists suggest.
    b. New Project Plantings: Quotes requested from 2 landscapers
    c. Plantings Google Survey
        i. Check with RLC about substituting grasses for annuals, pruning of large
        ii. Survey respondents meet. When?
            1. Target native, drought-resistant plants
2. Maintenance (Grounds)
    a. Tree Maintenance: Magnolia Mulching: Waiting on Poison Ivy treatment and vine removal.
        i. Every other year as a schedule: Contract Amendment proposal from RLC requested.
        ii. Grass maintenance under mulch: confirmed mulch barrier is enough
    b. Preventing parking on circles: Waiting on Fence Costs from Contractors
3. Playgrounds:
    a. NEED to address vandalism at Sedwick: Tetherball punctures, swings knotted, benches in lake.
        i. Executive Committee contacted sergeant in our area about several complaints, waiting on response. They will add vandalism to the list.
            1. Committee members can report vandalism as it occurs, Liz to submit report for past vandalism
        ii. Community Engagement/Tipline: Use current system of contacting office.
            1. Article for Parkwood Press about vandalism, list Durham PD: Non-emergency number 919-560-4600 or Online Report, and One call. committee members can report
        iii. Signage about vandalism: Liz to work with Laura, Temporary stop of Tetherball replacements
        iv. Future Actions possible: Lighting Upgrades (PPC), Routine Inspections, security personnel for random stop-bys
        v. Rings Missing from monkey bar set: Marie & Wray to follow up
    b. TPC Inspection Report: Establishing Subcommittee with PPC to review.
4. Pond & Lake Maintenance: (Steven & Bill)
    a. Dredging Followup (Sept): Not able to adequately dredge with rented equipment, scheduled to finish at the end of October. Payment will be withheld.
5. Drainage: (see Dredging notes above)
6. Trail Maintenance (Steven)
    a. Potential Trail from Newhall to Sedwick: (George) Sent to PPC for Review
    b. Lotus Pond Deck: RBEngineering to visit/evaluate the Lotus Pond Deck and make a recommendation (See motion below)
        i. If they agree that the structure is ok, they would give us a sealed report.
        ii. If they think a re-design is needed, they would quote the re-design plans. Re-design would require a Durham permit.
        iii. Steven will meet with Tom Konsler prior to evaluation.
7. Tree Report (Bill)
    a. Deferred discussion of contribution to remove the fallen tree from part of Parkwood property next to 1453 Clermont pending documentation.
    b. dead tree on Braddock Cir to be reviewed 10/6
8. October Volunteer Day Activities:
    a. Signage needs for volunteer day (Steven)
    b. Spreading debris from Dredging on Lotus pond trail.
9. Summary Motions to be presented to Board:

    Motion to Approve RBEngineering to visit/evaluate the Lotus Pond Deck and make a recommendation for up to $750 using GL Code #00589. Second. Motion passes.

    Motion to close the deck at Lotus Pond pending evaluation, using caution tape to block the entrance to the deck and a sign indicating safety concern. Second. Motion passes.

Garden Committee - C. Classen

No Garden Report for October.

Parkwood Press & Social Media - L. Denny

Reminder, the deadline for the November issue of Parkwood Press is the 15th.

Parkwood on Social Media

Facebook

Our Facebook presence stands at 901 Followers. Our posts were viewed by 455 individuals and we had 392 page visits in the past 28 days.

Instagram

Our Instagram account, parkwoodnc, now has 133 followers.

ParkwoodNC Google Group

Our group has 871 members. There have been 21 new posts/conversations since our September Board of Directors meeting.

Parkland Planning Committee - P. Eisenmann

Parkland Planning Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: September 15, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM - 7:53 PM Eastern
Location: Zoom
Participants: Wray Dean, Rob Shoaf, Marie Dean, Pete Eisenmann, Mike Brooks, Steven Berkowitz, Chris Classen
Duration: Approximately 57 minutes

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Marie moved to approve the August 18, 2026 minutes. Wray seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with Pete, Marie, and Wray in favor and Rob abstaining.

Landscape Budget Update and Plant Selection

Pete referenced Steven's budget update showing approximately $230.87 remaining from the approved $800 landscaping budget for new entrance sign beds.

Entrance sign planting options were discussed with a focus on cost-effectiveness, drought tolerance, and keeping plant height low enough to avoid blocking the signage. Perennials were favored over annuals, and several low-growing plant options were reviewed. The remaining budget is approximately $230. Payment can be handled through the HOA once the approved amount and purchase plan are provided.

Trail Sign Maintenance - Work Completed September 12

Trail and park signage work was completed across Sedwick Park, Newhall Trail, Hidden Park, Emerald Pond, and Euclid Pond, including replacement maps, refreshed faded signs, reinstalled posts, new trail signs, and updated park hours signage. A resident expressed support for the proposed Newhall-to-Sedwick Park trail connection because of safety and convenience. One Parkwood Pathways sign at the north end of Hidden Park remains severely faded and still needs replacement. An updated final sign inventory will be compiled. Signage for the Pelham-to-Sedwick Park trail will be installed.

Automotive Clear Coat Test for Sign Preservation

Wray proposed testing automotive clear coat spray on selected trail signs to reduce UV fading.

Lotus Pond Dock Assessment and Repair

Steven provided an update on the closed Lotus Pond dock, which requires decking repairs and an assessment of structural condition.

The dock requires further assessment before repairs proceed. Three 10-foot decking boards need replacement, and one side of the dock is sunken by approximately two inches. Although the visible framing appears sound from the ends, the shaded and moisture-prone location raises concerns about possible rot. The recommended next step is to remove one board and inspect the joists before replacing the decking.

Bench Construction - Motion and Vote

The committee discussed building two Aldo Leopold-style benches for Parkland areas, particularly near Pelham and Newhall.

Wray proposed building two Aldo Leopold-style benches using 10-foot 2x8 lumber cut in half and noted that he already has much of the needed hardware. Suggested locations included one bench near the curb on Pelham by the kayak access deck and a possible second bench along Newhall.

Mike moved to purchase materials for two benches. Marie asked for clarification on the funding source before the vote, and Pete confirmed the expense would come from the PPC committee budget under GL code 05527. Steven seconded the motion. Rob then moved to close discussion and call for a vote.

Motion passed unanimously. Materials for two Aldo Leopold-style benches will be purchased under GL code 05527, PPC Projects. Placement will be determined, with Pelham near the curb and a Newhall location as primary candidates.

Picnic Table Proposal for Newhall Cove

The committee discussed a possible picnic table at an underutilized Parkland location. Wray estimated the cost at approximately $369 for a metal frame kit plus 55–60 for lumber.

Concerns were raised about whether adjacent neighbors should be notified, whether additional trash service or future dog waste stations would be needed, and whether a picnic table would create more activity and infrastructure needs than a bench. Wray acknowledged those concerns and suggested that a bench may be a simpler, less contentious starting point.

No motion was made. The picnic table proposal was tabled pending further review. Steven will contact adjacent property owners for feedback. The issue will be revisited at the next monthly meeting.

Playground Discussion

Pete briefly noted that new information had been shared regarding a playground project and indicated the playground discussion would not be covered in depth at this meeting. The topic requires coordination with Liz and others she has contacted regarding PPC's potential role. Pete will coordinate with Parks, Lawns, and Ballfield Committee

Meeting with Parkwood Elementary Principal

Pete and Janie met with the Parkwood Elementary principal. The principal was described as open, supportive, and willing to participate in traffic safety efforts, including possible advocacy for speed cameras near the school. Community volunteer opportunities were also discussed, and the principal confirmed that volunteers are welcome, with the school identifying appropriate tasks.

Difficulty reaching Leslie Tracy was noted, with plans to try adjacent city contacts in her department. Outreach to Leslie Tracy or related city contacts will continue regarding traffic safety near Parkwood Elementary. Volunteer opportunities at Parkwood Elementary may also be shared with the broader community.

Next Meeting date and time – Oct. 20, 2026, 7pm

Events Committee - V. Wheeler

Events Committee Minutes 21 September 2026

This meeting was held virtually through Zoom at 7:30 pm. Attending were Mamie Parker, Amanda Tencza, Emily Silverman, Ashley Teatum and Vickie Wheeler. Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Fall Flea Market - 3 Oct

- Mamie reports that everything is ready and on schedule.
- There are a few spaces left and expect them to be gone before the 3rd.
- Signs will be put up at the entrance this week and yard signs the following week.

Fall Festival - 14 Nov

- Amanda updated progress for the Festival.
- The Mediterranean Grill and Grocery has committed to providing food for purchase.
- Initial contact has been made to many of the vendors and participants from last year with follow ups being made since 1 Sep.
- SDLL, Carolina Roller Derby, Soccer Shots, Native Plant Giveaway! with Jeff Hawkinson and Parktown Food Hub are some of the awesome groups that have been confirmed for this year.

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Other items

- Food drives for the Parktown Hub are held on the first weekend of the month starting Friday morning, ending Sunday afternoon. 4 host families and the Parkwood Office provide dropoff points.
- Amanda has created a survey looking for interest in activities to be held in the upcoming year.
- Some ideas were presented for a small Christmas activity like caroling or cider and an ugly sweater contest.
- Budget discussion.
- We welcome our newest member Ashley Teatum. (Sorry Amanda, you're already considered old-timer status in this group).
- The next Events Committee Meeting will be held 19 Oct at 7:30.

We invite all to join us in the planning and hosting of upcoming events as well as sharing ideas for future events.

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New Business

Plan to have the December Meeting in person.

Minutes Review

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Second. Motion passes.

Board Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Kids' Corner

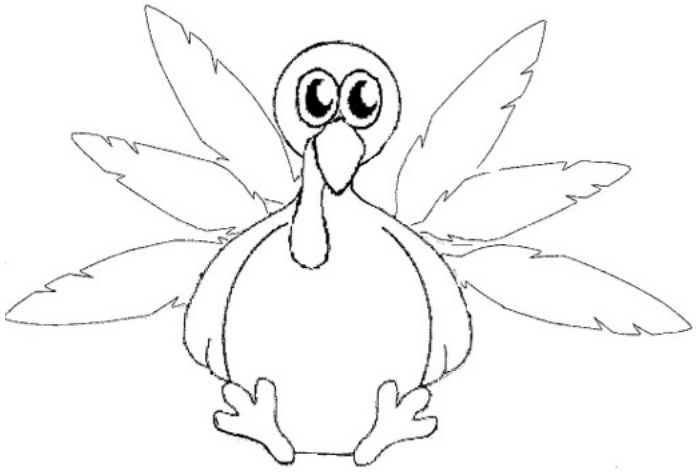
by: Isabel Cruz Rodriguez, Author-Illustrator



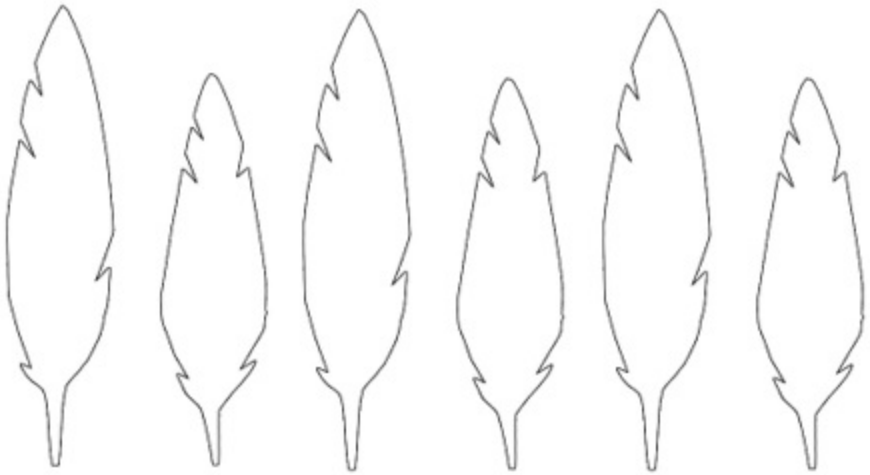
What am I Thankful for this Thanksgiving?
My Family? My Friends? My Healthy Living?
My Teacher? My Classmates? My Super School?
Learning to Follow "The Golden Rule"?

Thanksgiving Step-by-Step:

1. Color the Turkey
2. Cut the Turkey
3. Color the Feathers
4. Cut the Feathers
5. Write what you are thankful for on each feather
6. Paste the feathers on the turkey







CRAFT CIRCLE

Join Us on Tuesday Evening
November 17th, 6:00–8:30 PM
Parkwood Community Center • 1417 Seaton Rd, Durham

A little time to make things together
Whether you knit, crochet, draw, embroider, mend, scrapbook, hand sew, or have another portable project in progress, bring it along! Craft Circle is simply a relaxed place to work on your own project, chat, and get to know some fellow Parkwood neighbors.

What to Expect
No class, No planned project, No registration. Come for the whole evening or just drop in when you can. All experience levels are welcome!

What to Bring
Your current work in progress and any tools or supplies you need. Materials will not be provided, so bring everything you need to happily craft for the evening.

Grab your project bag and come make something with us!



Contact the Board

All Board Members: board@parkwoodnc.org
President & Officers: executive@parkwoodnc.org
District Reps: district1@parkwoodnc.org
(be sure to use your district number)

Parkwood Association Committees

Events Committee, events@parkwoodnc.org
Finance Committee: finance@parkwoodnc.org
Garden Committee: garden@parkwoodnc.org
Parkland Planning: possibilities@parkwoodnc.org
Parks Lawns & Ballfield parksandlawns@parkwoodnc.org

Visit our website at parkwoodnc.org

NOVEMBER 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 10 am Community Garden Meeting	2 7 pm Parks, Lawns & Ballfield Comm.	3	4	5 7 pm Safety Mtg with Durham Police Dept.	6	7
8 10 am Community Garden Meeting	9	10	11	12 7 pm PA Board of Directors Mtg.	13	14 9 am Parkwood Volunteer Day
15 Deadline for Parkwood Press	16 7:30 pm Events Committee Mtg.	17 6 pm Craft Circle 7 pm Parkland Planning Comm.	18	19	20	21
22 10 am Community Garden Meeting	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28
29 10 am Community Garden Meeting	30	1	2	3	4	5