



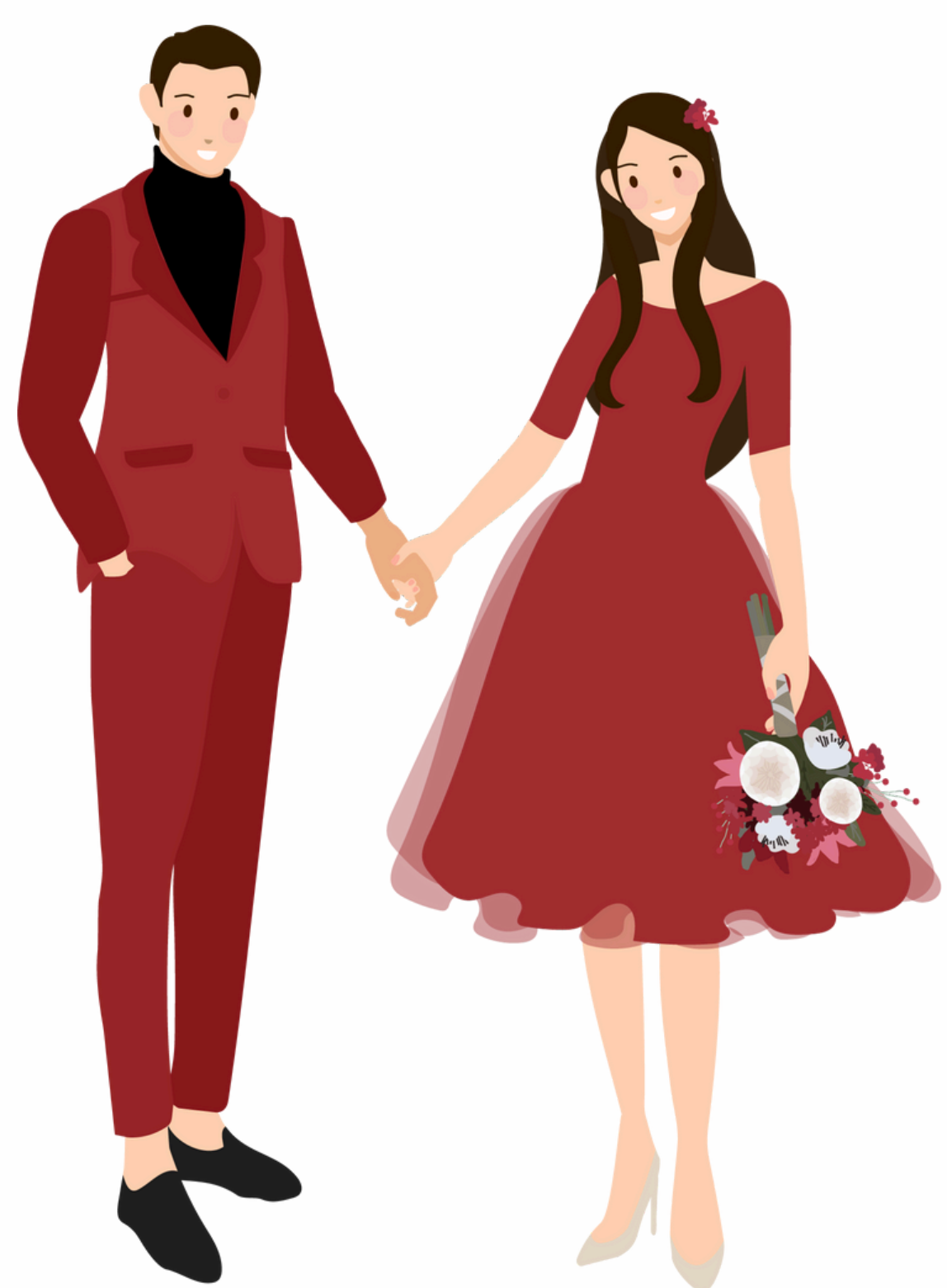
JUNE 2025 **NEWSLETTER**

SNEAK PEAK



President's Note

Welcome Summer and
July Jamboree!



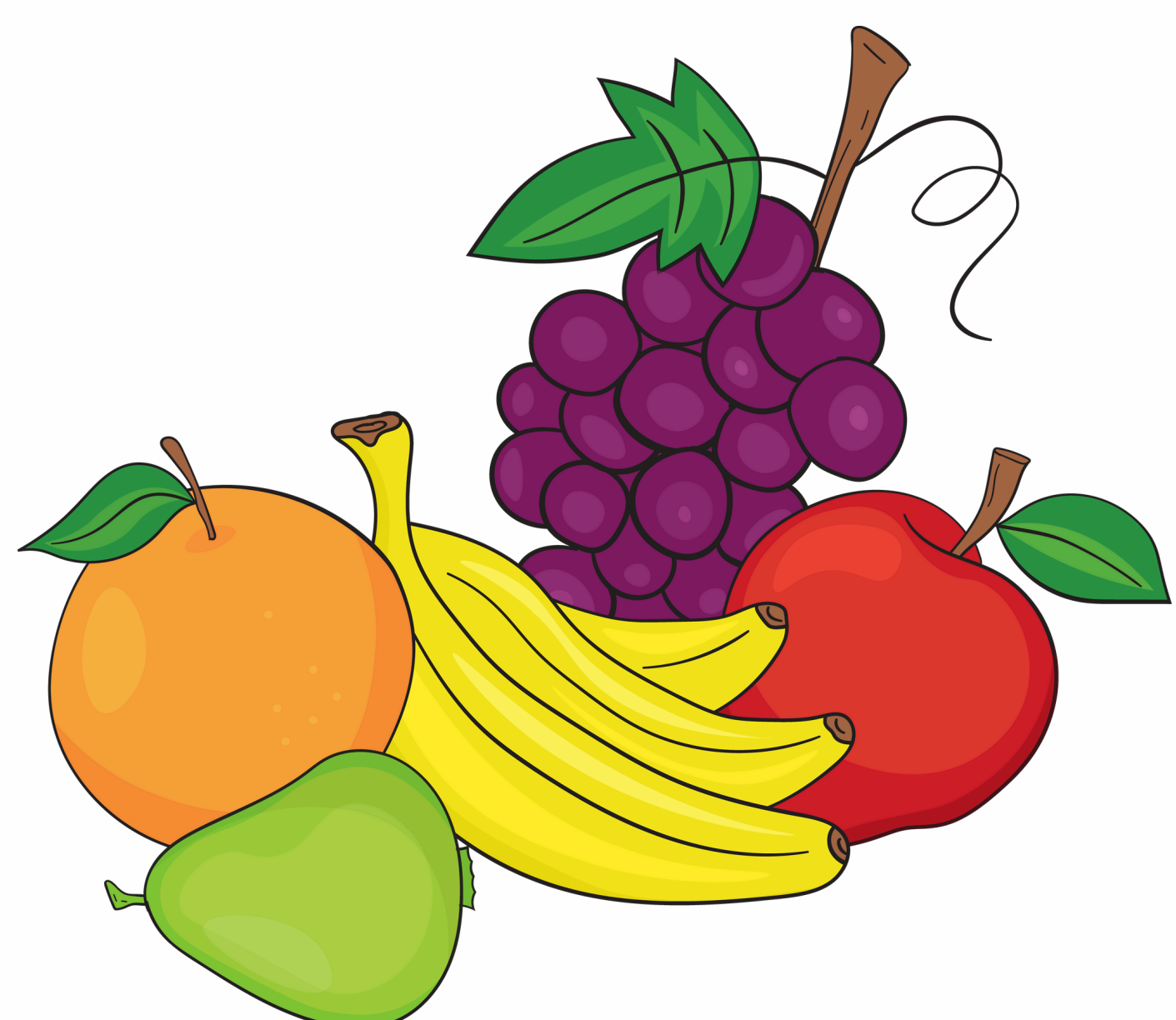
Member Spotlight

Story of best friends who would always
twin up & show up as peas in a pod!



Business Hub

Check out VOC member-run businesses
and the discounts waiting for you!



Game Center

Scrabble with a twist- can
you guess the names?

PRESIDENT'S NOTE



We are just a week away from Summer but what a nice way to bid farewell to Spring on the last day of May at the iconic Peace Arch Heritage Hall. So what if it rained? So what if Bocce Ball & Tug-of-War got washed out? Our ultra vibrant Ladies led by Sabrina Berry & Chhaya Shahi had lots of games up their sleeves as the rain subsided - the participation was infectious!

Indoors, some serious professional matters took center stage for a few minutes. Col Gurprit Singh gave a crisp talk on how Army Air Defence performed alongside IAF in bringing glory on the battlefield. Gen Viru Budhwar in his usual inimical style gave insights on the operations.

Building a good appetite before dinner always helps! There was a great fare laid out that was done justice to. Our all-rounder, Randhir Mehrotara, while donning his Bar Manager's hat observed that liquor consumption was abysmally low - he blamed this 'catastrophe' on the very addictive Masala Chai that was there! Weeks earlier, our 'Busy Bee' Misha Lidder carried out an online survey to find out what lay hidden in the hearts of our members. So on the sidelines of the May party, VOC BOARD had a meeting to review the feedback and took decisions to meet the aspirations of VOC Members.

We are looking forward to the next event. Our Core Team tells us 'July Jamboree' is going to be very special!

Warm regards to all.

Maj Gen Harwant Krishan

President, VOC



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

MRS. SABRINA BERRY

Growing Boldly: A journey of love, learning and Laughter

When I look back at the tapestry of my life, it's woven with vibrant threads of love, laughter, and lessons—many of which began the day I married Sundeep. Like many of us, I was a young bride, full of dreams and innocence, stepping into a world I barely understood but was eager to embrace.

Sundeep, my anchor and my guide, shaped me in ways I only came to appreciate overtime. With his quiet strength, endless patience, and unwavering support, he nurtured the woman I am meant to be. He never imposed, only encouraged. He molded me gently, never stifling my spirit but helping it soar. The early days were filled with discoveries, some



hilarious in hindsight. I still chuckle at the memory of calling the Commanding Officer "Uncle," much to Sundeep's horror. And walking into IMA hall where everybody stood up thinking the Commandant was entering only to see Sundeep and me sauntering in (no backdoor entry), followed by the General!! Good Lord!!

And then there was the infamous chole dinner, lovingly cooked by me, praised by his course mates, to realize later that I hadn't boiled the chana. Coming from a non-vegetarian household I didn't know it needed to be put in a pressure cooker after soaking overnight. But today, I can cook just about anything under the sun. Public speaking, a must do as an Army wife. From Ladies Club meetings to AWWA events and school functions, I found my voice. I may still put my foot in my mouth now and then, but I speak with confidence, something Sundeep always encouraged. He taught me to stand my ground, to speak my truth, and assured me he'd always be by my side (he might have regretted this later!!)

Sundeep was deployed in the Kargil War. He came home a warrior, battle scarred but strong, his spirit unshaken and yet, when he held my hand again, he was simply my husband. The man whose strength wasn't just measured in resilience, but in the quiet way he loved, in the steadiness of his presence. Yet another battle awaited him, one without weapons, one without uniforms. This fight was longer, harder, more relentless than anything before... Cancer is merciless, but so was his determination.

Seven years, filled with pain, hospitals, chemo, radiation, love, laughter, and defiance against time itself. He never once complained. Not when the weight of exhaustion settled into his bones, not when the treatments chipped away at his



body. Instead, he embraced every moment. He chose life, not in its frailty, but in its fullness. We traveled, we gathered friends and family, we refused to let the ticking clock dictate the way we lived. I stayed by his side as he had always been by mine. Through every trial, through every moment of strength and vulnerability, he remained unwavering. And when the fight finally ended in June 2023, he did not lose—not truly. Because how could someone lose when they had lived so fully, so fiercely?

His bravery was not just in fighting, but in loving, in choosing joy, in standing tall even when the ground beneath him trembled. Our life together has been a roller coaster,



but with more highs than lows. And for that, I am deeply grateful. Through every twist and turn, Sundeeep has been my constant—my partner, my teacher, my best friend and my love always. This month is hard. It carries the echoes of his laughter, the shadow of his absence. But if there's one thing he taught me, it's that love endures, strength is quiet but powerful, and



courage isn't just in facing battles—it's in the way we live despite them. And so, I carry him with me. In the stories, in the memories, in the way I continue forward. Because love, like his, never truly fades.

BUSINESS HUB

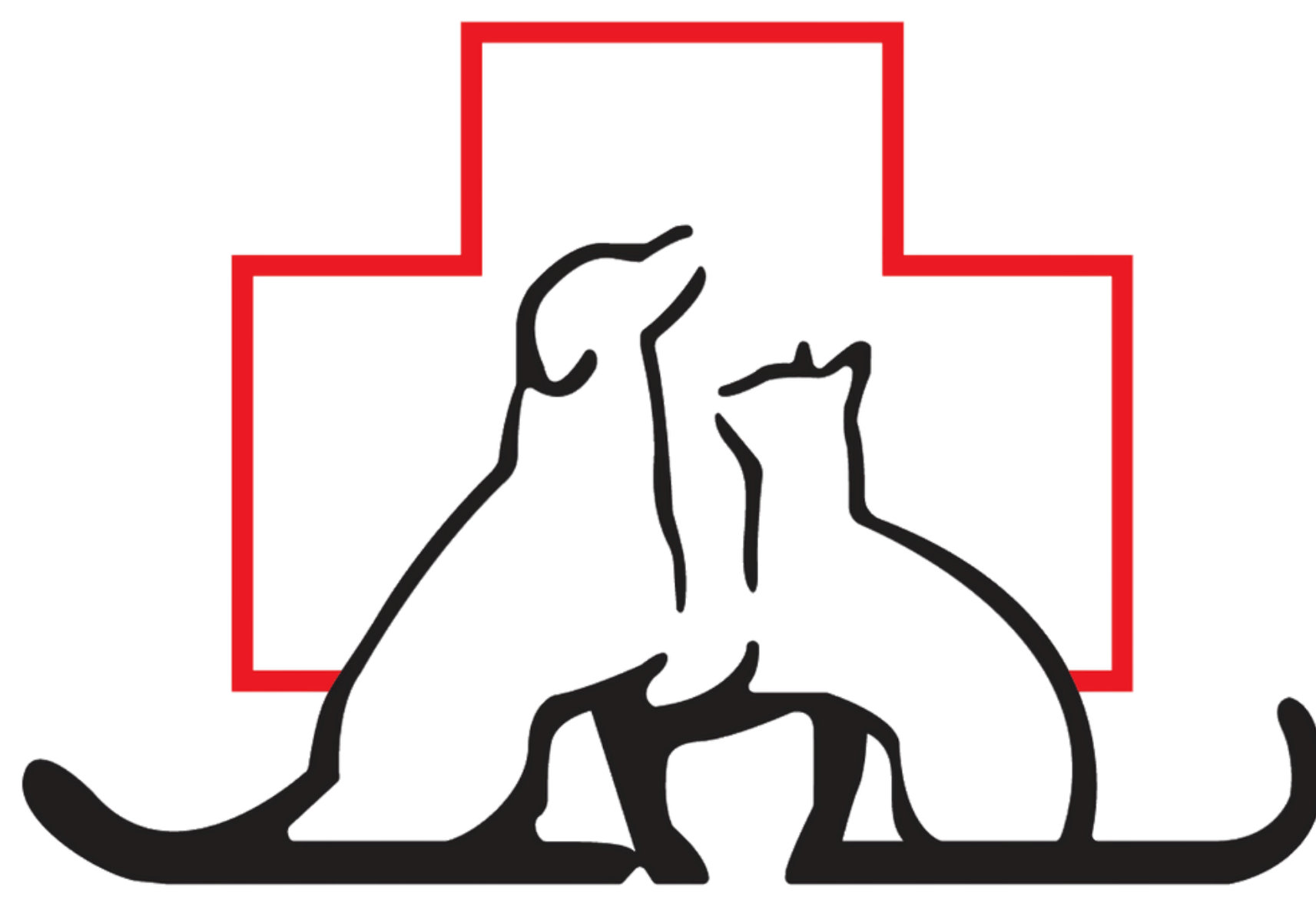
A big thank you to the trailblazers who trusted us in advertising their businesses in the VOC Business Hub space. Your support set the tone for a thriving platform that celebrates veteran-led ventures and community-driven services.

We're proud to showcase the talent, dedication and entrepreneurial spirit within our own VOC family.

We're excited to grow together, one spotlight at a time. Here's to building connections, boosting visibility, and supporting one another beyond the uniform.

Welcome to the VOC Business Hub- where service meets enterprise.

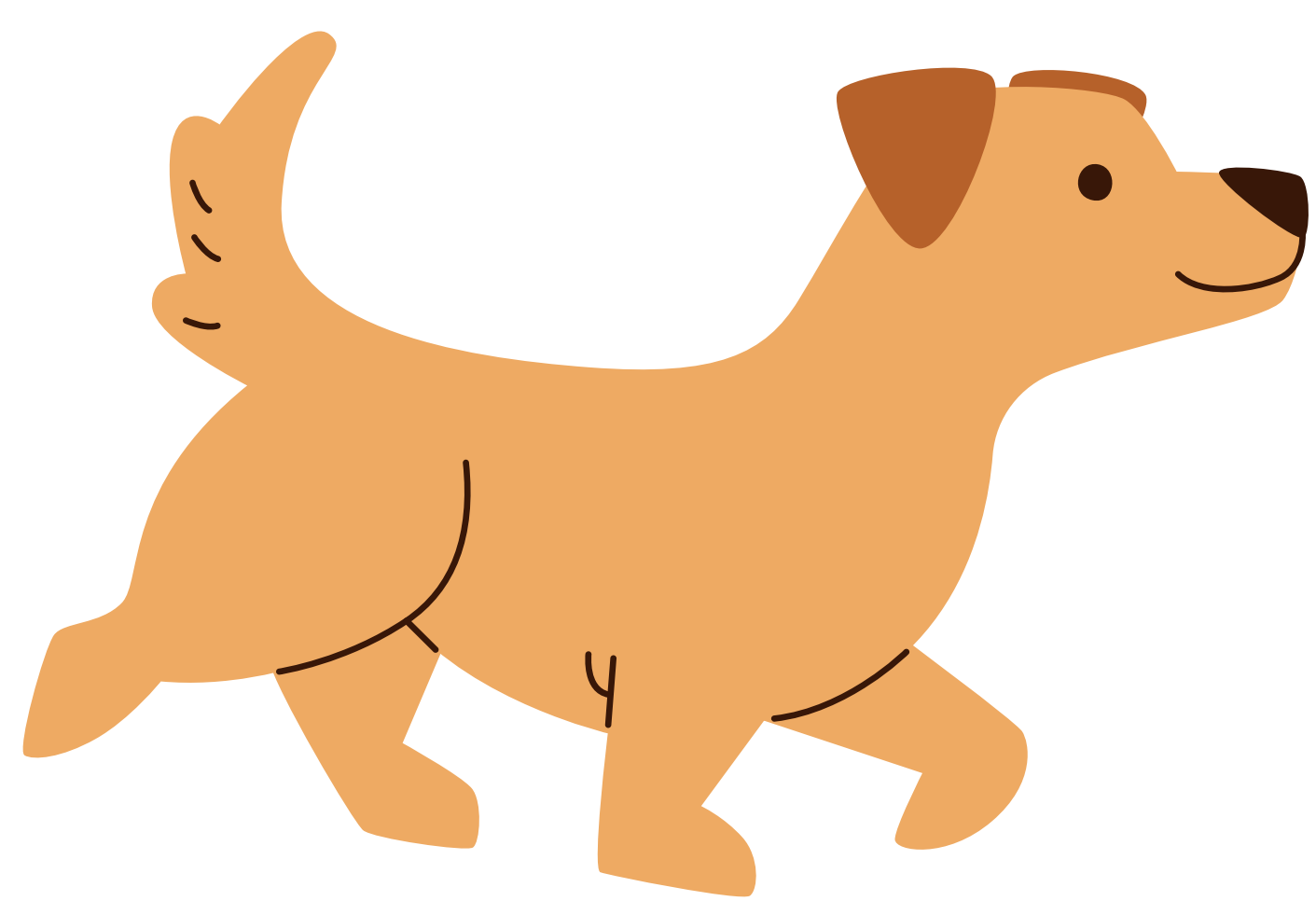




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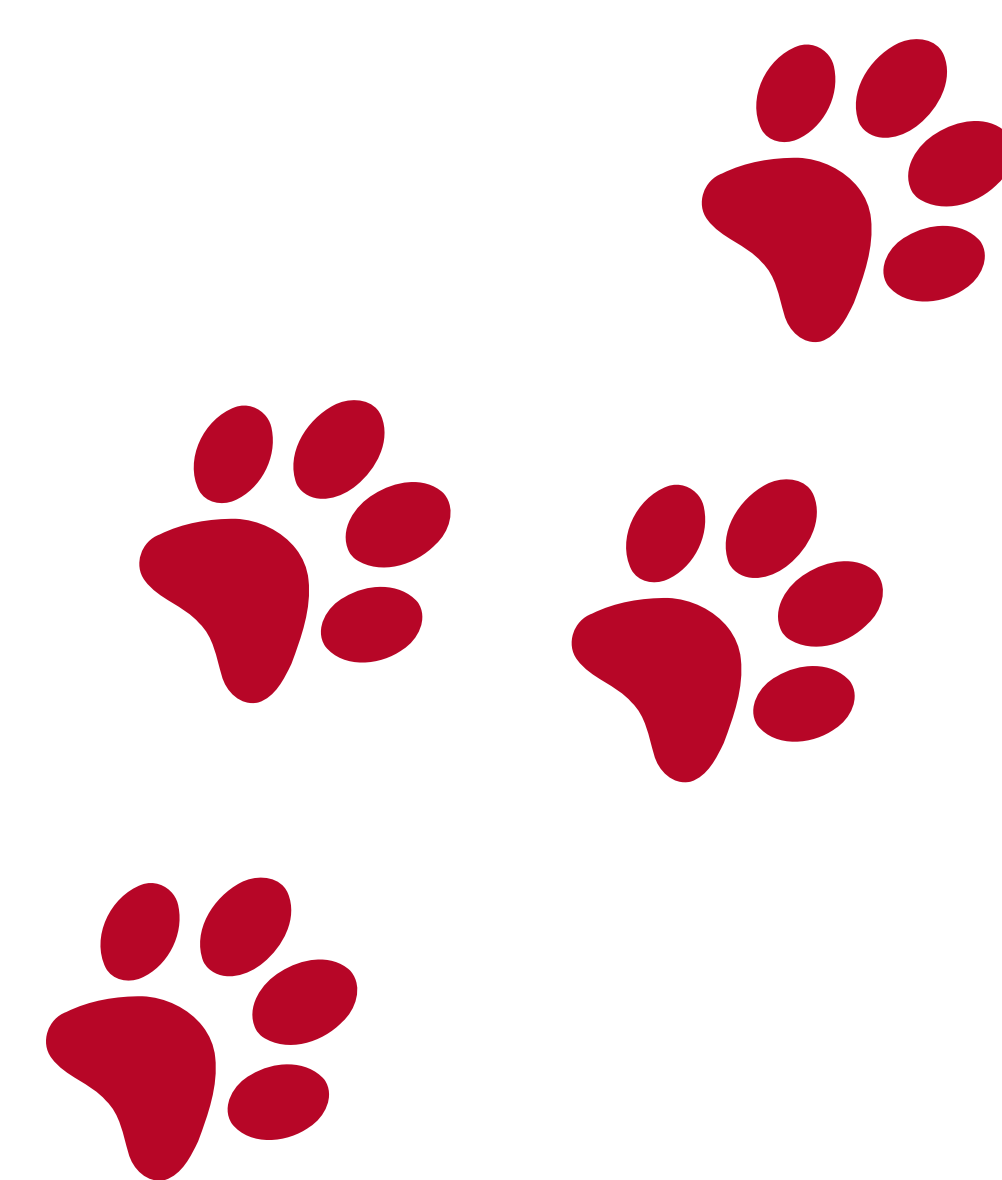
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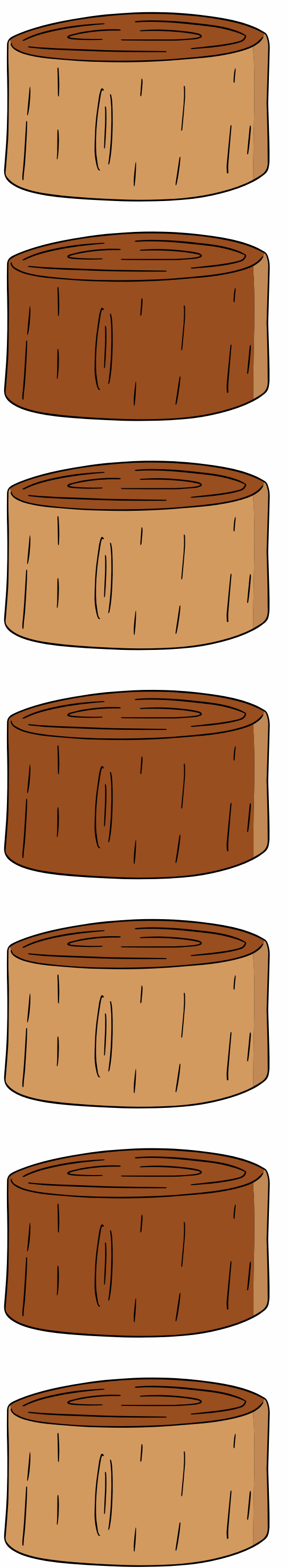
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GAME CENTER!



This month's game: Scrabble... with a twist!

- We're giving you the answers, but there's a catch! The letters in the answers provided are all jumbled up, and each answer has one extra letter hiding in plain sight.
- One answer is an English word (the easiest one!!!) the rest are hindi words, spelled out in English.
- Your mission? Unscramble the letters and toss out the intruder to reveal the correct word.

Post your answers in the Members' WhatsApp group, and stay tuned! Next month, we'll announce the quick-thinker who got them all right, the fastest!



This month's theme:

"Summer Fruits"

गर्मी के फल (Garmī ke phal)

1. Purple, tangy, stain-your-tongue summer delight

AMUJRN

2. Woody fruit used for cooling drinks and digestion

ELSB

3. Tiny, sweet-sour berries loved in North India

ADLAPSH

4. Elephant apple, used in pickles and curries in

Bengal & Assam

ATACLHY

5. Used in making achaar and shakes- yum!

NOAGMK

6. Small sour berry, used in chutneys, often

mistaken for cranberries

NAOAKRDF



LAST MONTH'S WINNER! DRUM ROLLS!

MRS. SABRINA BERRY!



Answers to last month's quiz!

	5	K								2	S			
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until next month!