

# Normandy Park CityScene

FALL 2024

## *Leaf-ing a Legacy*



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Est. 1953

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Permit No. 1

ECRWSS  
Postal Customer

Solutions in  
My Back Yard

Martini Gates of  
Normandy Park

Generations of  
Gratitude & Giving





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15



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Cover: At City Hall Park, a memorial bench is located near the Blue Star Garden. Memorial benches are situated throughout the city and are another way to honor the legacy and memory of loved ones. For more information on how to purchase a memorial bench email: [alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov).

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## Mayor's Message

Eric Zimmerman EZimmerman@NormandyParkWA.gov



Normandy Park's *City Scene* magazine is not where you'd expect to find the name of meteorologist and mathematician Dr. Edward Lorenz. Many who don't know the name know the part of his work involving seagulls before he shifted to the less offensive butterfly. Dr. Lorenz

popularized thinking about the way a small change can alter the trajectory of something in a very major way: the 'butterfly effect'.

Some of the best memories I have of the first few years of my son's life (he'll have just turned three by the time you're reading this) have been in our local parks. For me, these are a collection of moments I'll hold onto for the rest of my life, and I can't put a value on the first squealing laugh my son did on the swing set at E.J. Nist Family Park. For the most part, parks in Normandy Park are the result of someone deciding to donate their land. It's no exaggeration to say our city would look very different if those folks had decided differently, too.

The E.J. Nist Family Park was created after the will of longtime resident Emmet Nist left the land to the city – as long as the city promised to keep it forever a park. Emmet served in the Marine Corps in World War II before coming home to work in his family's lumber company. The company still exists as the Seattle-Tacoma Box Company and has been family-owned since 1889. Emmet's career was trees and timber, and as a part of his legacy he wanted to ensure the trees and land he loved in Normandy Park were protected for others to enjoy.

Normandy Park's large and outstanding Walker Preserve is also part of the legacy of Ron and Sally Walker. In the 1930s Ron built some of the neighborhoods that would become Normandy Park, including the Shorebrook and Riviera developments. Ron and Sally built their house near the Cove in 1931, then moved

away in the 1960s after helping Normandy Park incorporate as a new city in 1953. Ron had a rule against cutting down trees and would only sell new homes to buyers who promised they wouldn't cut theirs down either. Ron and Sally worked with the city to establish the Preserve, expecting we'd protect the water and trees that make it special. If you live on a property with trees, it'll often be the case that your biggest trees trace back to Ron's forbearance and those who followed his example.

Emmet, Ron, and Sally never knew most of us who use their parks, but the decisions they made to work with the city and preserve their land created a legacy that has doubtless grown beyond what they could have pictured. There was a possible future where the land was a couple dozen houses, but creating parks has cut across many of our lives to help create memories and moments – here at home in Normandy Park – that we wouldn't ever want to erase. Some of the memories we'll still think about fifty years from now. That's quite a lot of gravity put out by the Nist and Walker families pulling all our orbits slightly more parkward.

If I had to put a number to how many people have meaningfully enjoyed Emmet, Ron, and Sally's parks, I'd guess somewhere above ten thousand. It's a lot of people and a lot of memories for two decisions made long ago, and the number climbs higher every day. Eventually I suppose that number will cross a million, because as long as we're a city our parks will remain parks into the far future.

In a small city like Normandy Park we each affect the lives of those around us far more than we realize, and some of the things we do and decisions we make in 2024 will still have meaning fifty years from now (and beyond, truly). If you have ideas for doing something – volunteering, getting involved, planting a tree, or creating a new park of your own – please let me know and I'll be glad to help. Email me at ezimmerman@normandyparkwa.gov.

—Mayor Eric Zimmerman



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# Normandy Park

Est. 1953

### CITY HALL

801 SW 174th St SW  
Normandy Park WA 98166

### CITY HALL HOURS & CONTACT:

8:30am–4:30pm  
Closed for lunch 12–1pm  
Permit appointments are strongly recommended.  
[www.normandyparkwa.gov](http://www.normandyparkwa.gov)  
206-248-7603

### SERVICES PROVIDED AT CITY HALL:

- Building Permits
- City Administration
- Citizen Requests
- Code Enforcement
- Pet & Business Licensing
- Recreational & Facility Scheduling
- Request for Records
- Stormwater & Street Repairs

### STORM DRAIN & POLLUTION HOTLINE

206-248-8278

### NATIONAL OIL SPILL HOTLINE

1-800-424-8802

### NORMANDY PARK PRESCHOOL

19247 1st Ave S.  
Normandy Park, WA 98148  
Enrollment Information: 206-248-8249  
Email:  
[dbrissenden@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:dbrissenden@normandyparkwa.gov)

### POLICE DIRECTORY:

Non-Emergency Police Number:  
206-248-7600  
Police Records Manager can be reached during the hours of  
8:30am–4:30pm, Monday–Thursday

### NON-EMERGENCY POLICE SERVICES:

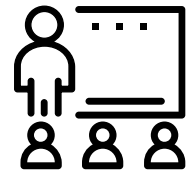
- Concealed Weapon Permits
- Fingerprinting
- House Checks
- Lost Pet

For Emergencies please dial 911

# City Council Quarterly Review

The Normandy Park City Council meets monthly to address City business. The City understands that the action taken at these meetings impacts your daily life, so we want to keep you informed. Here is a summary of the highlights of the City Council meetings from June through August 2024.

## Presentations made to the City Council



- **Parks Commission Annual Presentation.** Normandy Park Parks Commission represents the City’s interest in developing and maintaining its parks. It has seven resident members who are appointed for 7-year terms. The Parks Commission annually summarizes its past and upcoming works to the City Council. This year, Chair Rob Ebbers reported on all the community activities and works in the parks supported by the Parks Commission.

## Appointments



- **Resident Bryan Tomich was reappointed to the StART Committee.** The StART Committee was formed to allow cities immediately impacted by the airport to engage with the airport in a new way. Meetings encourage dialogue on airport activities, inform decision-making, and increase knowledge about the airport and surrounding cities. The member cities surrounding the airport can appoint two citizens to serve on the committee.

## Approved Resolutions, Ordinances, and Contracts



- **Ordinance No. 1062 was approved, adopting the PROST (Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails) Plan.** This document serves as our guide for future improvements to our parks and increases our eligibility for specific grants that will help us make the proposed projects in this plan a reality. If you are interested in reviewing the improvements that have been approved, take some time to review the PROST Plan on the city's website.
- **Ordinance No. 1065, amending the salary ranges of certain employees, was approved.** Based on a salary survey, these changes will help the City be competitive in its retention and recruitment of staff members.
- **Resolution No. 1013 was approved to accept the South King Housing and Homelessness Partners (SKHHP) 2025 Work Program and Operating Budget.** SKHHP was established through an interlocal agreement to collaborate and share resources to increase the available options for South King County residents to access affordable housing and preserve existing affordable housing. Members must annually approve the SKHHP work plan and budget as part of our agreement.
- **Resolution No. 1010, adopting the 2025-2030 Six-year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), was approved.** This plan is a six-year financial program that lists the projects we would like to accomplish over the next six years for our transportation infrastructure. Like the PROST Plan, it also improves our eligibility for grants supporting the planned projects. The first couple of projects in the TIP include street resurfacing and pedestrian lighting on Normandy Road.
- **A contract was approved for a pavement evaluation and rating study.** The City has not done a complete road survey since 2015. The repairs identified in that survey are either complete or in progress. A new survey will assist in planning road and utility maintenance and improvements in future years. To minimize the cost of this work, the City will not review any road segment that has been rebuilt or overlaid in the previous six years. This contract will evaluate 16.7 miles of roadway and will cost \$29,800.

## Other Items of Interest



- **An Automated License Plate Reader Grant Program was approved.** The City Council approved a grant program encouraging larger commercial properties (10 tenants or more) to install automated license plate readers. Grant awards can be up to \$10,000 and are intended to fund cameras for the first year, with the property owner committing to at least one additional year. These cameras will automatically capture an image of a license plate and compare the plate number to a database of vehicles of interest to law enforcement, such as a stolen car or a missing person. If there is a match, law enforcement officers are alerted that a vehicle of interest has been observed and what camera it just passed. The camera system selected by the City is the Flock System, so if talking with the Police Officers, you will hear it referred to as the Flock Cameras.
- **The City Council approved a letter opposing the Kroger-Albertsons Merger.** The Council is concerned about this proposed merger's impact on Normandy Park residents. Accordingly, the Council approved a letter that will be sent to the Attorney General opposing the merger.



## Contact Your City Council



**POSITION 1**  
 Sheri Healey  
 206-248-8286  
 Sheri.healey@normandyparkwa.gov



**POSITION 2**  
 Susan West  
 206-248-8289  
 Susan.West@normandyparkwa.gov



**POSITION 3**  
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 206-248-8291  
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**POSITION 4**  
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 ezimmerman@normandyparkwa.gov



**POSITION 7**  
 Sue-Ann Hohimer  
 206-248-8292  
 Sue-Ann.Hohimer@normandyparkwa.gov

### MONTHLY MEETING CALENDAR

- Arts Commission  
1st Tuesday, 7pm
- Council Meeting  
2nd Tuesday, 7pm
- Metropolitan Parks District  
2nd Tuesday, 6:30pm (if necessary)
- Civil Service  
3rd Tuesday, Noon (if necessary)
- Park Commission  
3rd Wednesday, 7pm
- Planning Commission  
3rd Thursday, 7pm
- Council Study Session  
4th Tuesday, 7pm

## Council Corner

BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACK LAMANNA

This is my first time in the Council Corner, and I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself and talk about our wonderful city. I am husband to Courtney and father of two sons Leo (3) and Oliver (12 weeks). I also can't forget about our two dogs Emmie and Charlie. Courtney and I moved to the heart of the city in 2021. While I am new to the city, some of you may know my wife Courtney (Cherry) who grew up in Normandy Park. She has fond memories of going to the pool, beach and went to Marvista Elementary School where she made some of her lifelong friends. Moving to this city during the pandemic was made easy by the welcoming community and small-town feel. Our neighbors quickly became friends and Leo quickly found little buddies to hang out with at our beautiful parks.

Our city is truly a hidden gem. I like to think about what makes our city so special and you could argue it's the trees, beaches, parks, views, safety...the list goes on. Just read any description found on a realtor listing trying to capture the feeling of our city and it truly sounds idyllic. While Normandy Park is all those things, it is more than just a beautiful place to live. It's where we raise children, form lifelong friendships and grow our legacies.

My admiration of this city sparked my interest in joining city council. I now represent Normandy Park on regional committees which help us stay ahead of issues and capitalize on opportunities. There is a lot of opportunity in our small but mighty city and I'm grateful to be a part of it. I am looking forward to meeting and collaborating with more residents, both young and old, to help maintain our great city.

## *In and Around the Park*

AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO BUSINESSES  
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# A New Path for the Future

In 2015, the city completed a report that provided an evaluation of the streets in Normandy Park. The scope of that project included the visual examination of all the streets throughout the City; to calculate a condition score for each street segment; to develop a rehabilitation schedule and multi-year budget plan for their maintenance.

Over the course of the last 9 years, the city has repaired the majority of the roads identified in the 2015 report. In 2024, the city is working with a consultant to perform a new pavement rating survey based on the current condition of city streets. Similar to the past decade, staff will utilize the survey to plan upcoming pavement preservation projects. Every attempt is made to coordinate with various utilities to make the legacy of the newly paved roads last as long as possible.

Pictures display the new curb and gutter completed prior to the 2024 pavement preservation project. Several stormwater projects were also successfully completed. For a list of past and upcoming public works projects, visit our website at [www.normandyparkwa.gov/public-works](http://www.normandyparkwa.gov/public-works).



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# 2024 Resident Survey is Complete!

**T**hank you to all the residents who took our 2024 Citizen Survey. The City is happy to report it closed with 392 responses. Some quick facts about the survey:

- 384 of our survey responses were submitted electronically.
- No question received 100% response. Every participant either skipped or missed at least one question.
- Almost 50% of respondents answered, “Do you have any suggestions to help us improve city services.” During their review of the survey, the City Council commented on how valuable this information was to them.
- The survey took residents approximately 3 minutes to complete.

Using the survey analysis tool, the top five words mentioned in the comment section were need, parks, street, police, and sidewalks. Survey results showed strong satisfaction with the police, parks, and the City’s efforts in protecting the environment. It also highlighted some areas that we want to work on improving.

Your feedback was invaluable! The City Council used this information at its April Retreat to help develop City goals. If you want to see the results and read the comments, use this QR code to review the result on the City’s website. Let us know what you think. And remember that we plan to conduct this survey on an annual basis. Thank you again to all the residents who took the time to respond.



Scan the QR Code above to see results of the survey and review comments from your neighbors in Normandy Park.



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*To all our regular guests, and to all the new ones we hope to meet soon:*

***Gracias, and welcome to the family!***

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**Buy one Combination meal and get one Combination meal  $\frac{1}{2}$  off.**

*Expires December 15, 2024.  
Valid only at the BURIEN Azteca location.  
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Not valid with other discounts.*



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## HOME RENOVATIONS

# Why Real Life Should Be Better Than TV

When thinking of a home renovation, it's easy to picture dramatic reveals and instant transformations, just like on TV. But here's a secret: the best renovations are often the ones that don't make for exciting television.

In the world of custom renovations and new home construction, the real excitement should come at the end, not during the process. Challenges like electrical issues, dry rot, or ill-fitting windows may be entertaining on screen, but in real life, they're expensive and frustrating. An experienced builder has systems in place to avoid these surprises before work even begins.

Drama during the project means unexpected obstacles—and those always cost more.

*Here's why working with a top-notch renovation company helps you rest easy:*

## Process Makes Perfect

A well-managed renovation firm follows a time-tested process for every phase of the project. From initial consultations to construction and project management, everything follows a proven method. This prevents the surprises that leave homeowners stressed.

## The Devil in the Details

While newer companies may focus on the “wow” factor of the final product, experienced builders know real quality lies in the details you can't see. Perfecting those elements requires experience, careful planning, and ongoing refinement—often the unglamorous side of construction.

## Beyond the Build

The best companies invest time in less exciting tasks like vetting subcontractors, maintaining strong vendor relationships, and staying updated on industry innovations. These efforts help improve efficiency, protect your budget, and ensure quality work.

## Culture Counts

A company with a positive culture means happy, experienced employees who work well together. A team that feels valued will bring that commitment to your project. It's not as thrilling as TV drama, but it's the foundation of a successful renovation

## Caleb Quick

CEO, President

Caleb Quick is President and CEO of Space|Craft, a builder of custom homes and renovations specializing in Normandy Park. SpaceCraft has decades of experience delivering seamless, efficient projects that are predictably perfect. Their promise is to make your dream home a reality—without any drama.

**Call or write Caleb today to discuss your project!**

[spacecraft-homes.com](http://spacecraft-homes.com)

(206) 818.9653

[caleb@spacecraft-homes.com](mailto:caleb@spacecraft-homes.com)



Space | Craft

# Leaf-ing a Legacy

Answers  
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- NORMANDYPARK
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 R O H D K J R M I Z U W V T J X N O R M A N D Y P A R K Z Z



# Thank you for a successful National Night Out!

On Tuesday Night, August 6th, the Police Department hosted our sixth National Night Out. National Night Out is a nationwide program that allows residents to get to know their neighbors and the Officers of their Police Department. It always occurs on the first Tuesday in August. This year's event had our largest attendance ever, with approximately 200 people showing up to interact with their officers and greet their neighbors. We hope to have an even bigger turnout next year!

This event was more than just a gathering—it was a platform for residents to ask questions, share concerns, and build a stronger bond with their local police. It also allowed our newer Officers to get to know the residents they serve even better. The Police Department provided pizza and water, and for the first time ever, we had no leftover pizza. This was a great family event which will hopefully continue to grow in coming years. We had several local nonprofit groups with booths to share information on what they do in the community. If you have any suggestions on what we can do to make next year's event even better please contact Chief Dan Yourkoski at [dyourkoski@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:dyourkoski@normandyparkwa.gov).



From top left: King County Library Service, Ofc. Erynn Mast, Ofc Brian Norris and Councilmember Sheri Healey, Councilmember Susan West and Friends of Normandy Park Foundation member Michael Graham, Ofc. Norris and City Manager Amy Arrington, Bottom right: Police Foundation member Patti Gifford.

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schedule your consultation!

# 2024 Events



Visit the City of Normandy Park's Recreation & Community Page

Stay connected...check the website for more recreation updates!

## Autumn Art Fest

Enjoy performances by aerial acrobatics from Vertical Axis along with swing music from Ranger and the Re-Arrangers.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024**

**1-5PM – THE COVE**



## Blood Drive

Local blood banks are in desperate need of life-saving blood and you can help! Support local blood banks by donating blood at City Hall in Normandy Park through our partner, Bloodwork Northwest. Bloodworks will be here on the following dates:

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2024**

**9:30 AM – 4:30 PM**



Register through the QR code for upcoming blood drives.

## Miller-Walker Community Stewardship Work Party

Remove ivy, plant and care for trees and shrubs with your neighbors to help the wildlife habitat at Walker Preserve Park. Tools provided!

**WALKER PRESERVE PARK**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

**9:30 AM – 12:00PM**

## Fall Frolic

Enjoy a free pumpkin, warm drinks and music at the Marvista Park Pea Patch to celebrate fall in Normandy Park!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024, 1-4PM**



## Owl Prowls

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024 - WALKER PRESERVE**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2024 - MARINE VIEW PARK**

## Boat America

Fall is a great time to gain knowledge and confidence to set you on a course for safe boating! Members of the local U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary are offering an 8-hour Boat America course right here in Normandy Park. Successful completion of this course, including a passing score on the exam at the end of the day, qualifies participants to get a Washington State Boater Education Card.

*Course fee includes a reference book to keep (one per family) Please pre-register in person at Normandy Park City Hall.*

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2024**

**8:30 AM TO 5:30 PM (WITH BREAK FOR LUNCH)**

**NORMANDY PARK CITY HALL**

**FEE: \$20 PP/\$30 FOR A FAMILY**

## Town Hall

The Future of Normandy Park! An open Town Hall meeting with your City Council member and City Staff. This is a special town hall geared towards discussing the future and putting our best foot forward for a sustainable financial outlook that will withstand the test of time. Stay tuned for more themed town hall events and join the fun with City staff and Council Members. All Block Watch Captains are encouraged to attend.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH**

**CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**7-9PM**

**ELECTION DAY 2024 IS NOVEMBER 5**



**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!**



# Build Your Calendar of Normandy Park Activities

## A Walk With Plants

Come along for a saunter through some of Normandy Park's pristine green spaces to identify and learn about our medicinal and herbal plants.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2024 –  
WALKER PRESERVE**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2024 –  
NATURE TRAILS**

## Community Foresters

Join us in Marine View Park on the first Friday of every month. Volunteers will help to restore Marine View Park. Just bring your enthusiasm. We will teach you about Forest Restoration.

**FRIDAYS; OCTOBER 4TH AND  
NOVEMBER 1ST FROM 10-1PM**

## Veterans Day Open House

Enjoy visiting with other veterans and neighbors in advance of the holiday. City Hall will be closed Monday, November 11, 2024 so we will celebrate Friday! Join us on the lawn near the Blue Star Memorial Garden.



**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH, 2024**

**CITY HALL PARK**

**10-12PM**

## Solstice Soiree

You're invited to save the date for our second-annual Solstice Soiree! Join your neighbors and the Normandy Park Arts Commission for an evening of music and art, presenting a handbell choir performance by Grace Lutheran. The doors open at 6:00 pm. Light appetizers will be served with a no-host wine bar from the Friends of Normandy Park Foundation. All ages are welcome.

*Suggested attire: Sparkly Solstice Wear*

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024**

**THE COVE, 6-9PM**



**Winterfest Tree Lighting Ceremony—Save the Date!**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024 • NORMANDY PARK TOWNE CENTER • 4-7PM**

**Normandy Park Winterfest**

**SATURDAY, DEC 7, 2024  
4:00 - 7:00 PM**

**12th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony & Arrival of Santa**  
FREE Santa hats, music, scavenger hunt with prizes, crafts & SNOW

Normandy Park Towne Center  
19805 1st Ave S, Normandy Park, WA 98148

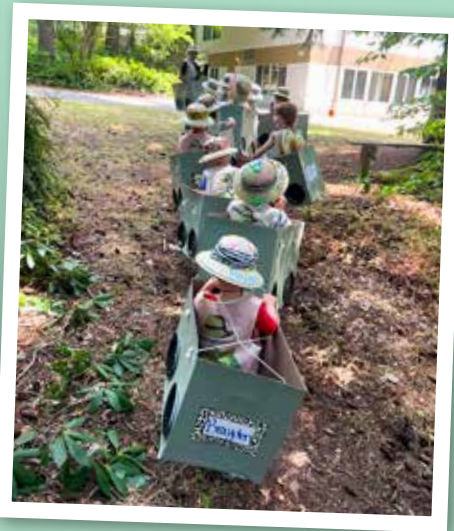
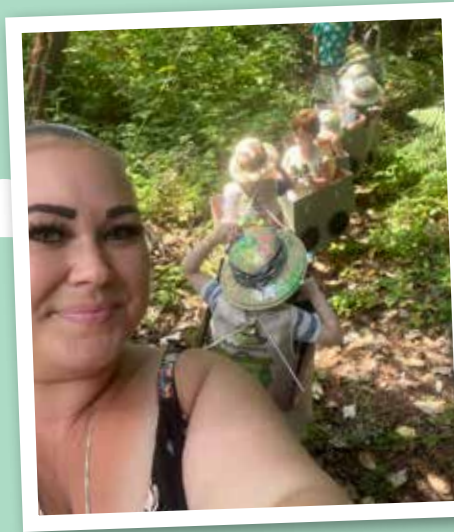
**Normandy Park QFC, Santa Visits, carolers and more**  
**10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

Want to volunteer, sponsor, or have booth space?  
Contact Susan West at 206-818-6945  
Help keep our event low cost, donate to our venmo!

Email: [info@friendsofnormandypark.org](mailto:info@friendsofnormandypark.org)  
normandyparkwinterfest

# Normandy Park's Summer Camps: Creating Lasting Memories for Preschoolers

This summer, Normandy Park offered three weeks of summer camps in July covering topics from oceans, safaris, to art. The kids had a wonderful time, and so did the teachers. We plan to bring them back again in summer 2025. Keep an eye out for more information on next year's summer programs in the coming year. Join us for another year of exploration and fun, featuring safaris, oceans, and the arts in the city!



Teacher Ashley leads the summer campers on a safari during the 2024 Safari Camp!



On their safari, the children spot a lion!



Summer students practice balance and turn taking.





# Halloween Safety Tips

- ✓ Adults should accompany young children.
- ✓ Make sure to carry a flashlight since it will get dark early.
- ✓ Stay within the neighborhood and only visit well-lit homes you know.
- ✓ Make sure children can see well through face masks.
- ✓ Watch for traffic!
- ✓ Only give and accept wrapped or packaged candy.
- ✓ Examine all candy before allowing children to eat it.
- ✓ Wear light-colored clothing that is short enough to prevent tripping, and add reflective tape to the costume's sides, front, and back if possible.
- ✓ Keep costumed children away from pets. The pet may not recognize the child and become frightened.
- ✓ Avoid hard plastic or wood props such as daggers or swords. Substitute with foam rubber, which is soft and flexible.
- ✓ Most importantly, have fun!

*Neighbors throughout The Park will be back out in full force, celebrating the spooky season again this year. Before you set out on a Trick-or-Treating adventure on Halloween night, follow these safety tips to help make the night fun and safe. This year, Halloween is on a Thursday night!*



# Swimming isn't seasonal

**While outdoor pools have closed due to weather, we're open year-round**



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- Check out our new schedule page
- Discounts on swim passes, water exercise, and lessons for Des Moines/Normandy Park residents
- 90/10 scholarships for Des Moines/NP residents

# SOLUTIONS NOT IN MY BACK YARD (SIMBY)

BY ALFREDO CORVALAN, ASSISTANT PLANNER

Normandy Park’s 2044 Housing survey daylighted affordability concerns. More than 76 percent of Normandy Park homeowners and 59 percent of renters said affordability is an important but complex local issue. However, 47 percent of total respondents also believe that accessory dwelling units (ADUs) or some variation are one of the answers in the affordability toolkit.

Normandy Park permit application data backs this up.

In the last five years, Normandy Park property owners have been submitting permits for the construction of guesthouses, Normandy Park’s uniquely regulated form of ADU, at an increasing rate.

Whether downsizing from larger homes, having younger or older family members who wish to live nearby, or whatever reason owners may have, this growth in permitted applications shows demand for this type of housing in Normandy



A modular project in-progress in Normandy Park shows a new method of residential building.

Park’s housing supply.

Building construction types are evolving as well. A recent modular guest home installation in Normandy Park stands out for its innovative construction, compliance with building codes, thoughtful site design, and harmony with its surrounding environment, demonstrating an affordable alternative to the traditional “stick-built” construction process.

One of the coolest things about this project was the live entertainment factor of its assembly. In a matter of hours, a home that did not previously exist came into existence, with crane operators, engineers, and carpenters coming and going all on a sunny Tuesday morning.

From a regulatory perspective, it was satisfying to see the process culminate and deliver in different areas, such as land use regulations and stormwater management. It was also uplifting to see the community engage as kids,

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## Comparisons of Stick-Frame Construction vs. Modular Construction\*

	Average Dollars per Square Foot Cost	Average Total Square Feet of Guesthouse*
<b>Stick-Built construction</b>	<b>\$181</b>	<b>774 s.f.</b>
<b>Modular (pre-fabricated) construction</b>	<b>\$147</b>	<b>1,695 s.f.**</b>

\*Data is based on submitted permit applications for detached guesthouses; attached guesthouse applications were excluded from this cost analysis.

\*\*Data is from the single current example discussed in this article

neighbors, and other residents watched. In comparison to other guest house projects, everything quickly came together, with the city’s building inspector approving the final site assembly by the following Thursday.

Entertainment and onsite building construction efficiency aside, the differences speak for themselves in construction type. First, the traditional stick-built review process takes an average of 73 days from submittal to issuance, in addition to 15 months of construction to complete. In comparison, this modular project, with its review process, took 47 days and 35 days of construction to complete.

Second, the modular delivered more square footage than the stick-built guesthouse equivalent, staying within the NPMC’s maximums for GFAR and impervious surface and at a slightly lower cost per square foot. This ‘more bang for less buck’ approach shows how homeowners can have returns on their investments on the average dollar per square footage cost (see below).

Finally (and full disclosure), although the review times were less, the total permitting fees for the modular construction project were higher (\$6,142 compared to \$5,157) than for a similar stick-built

construction project. This variation is due largely to the permit valuation and degree of “pass-through” review. Fees collected will vary as site conditions and levels of review are tailored to unique project circumstances.

Whatever the project scenario, the permitting process has so far shown that modular construction

is a convenient and approachable option for guest home/ADU construction.

With regard to affordability, this demonstrates adaptability and flexibility in the permitting process, adding to the toolbox, while preserving Normandy Park’s “hidden gem” character and natural beauty.

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THE RIGHT AGENT CAN LEAD THE WAY



# Enchanted Trail in Nature Trails Park

BY JOHN BENSCHIEDT, PARK COMMISSIONER

**N**ormandy Park is excited to announce the upcoming opening of our very own enchanted trail, a unique addition to the city’s network of green spaces. This new trail, nestled among the trees in Nature Trails Park, is designed to spark the imagination and creativity of the community. The enchanted trail offers a whimsical opportunity for residents of all ages to participate in the creation of a magical habitat. This trail is located in the eastern portion of the park. There are signs pointing the way!

As part of this enchanting experience, community members are invited to contribute their own gnome, fairy, or other forest creature dwellings along the trail. The only requirement is that everything is constructed entirely from natural

materials. Whether it’s using twigs, leaves, stones, or other elements found in the local environment, residents are encouraged to let their creativity run wild, while keeping the habitat eco-friendly and harmonious with the surrounding forest.

The Parks Commission sees the enchanted trail as more than just a recreational addition; it’s a way to foster community engagement, promote environmental stewardship, and provide a space where nature and imagination can coexist. The trail promises to be a delightful destination where families, artists, and nature enthusiasts can come together to create and enjoy a whimsical world. Join the fun and visit the Enchanted Trail to make your own wonderful creation.



# FAMILY FORESTERS



**SECOND SATURDAYS 2024: 9/14/24, 10/12/24, 11/9/24**  
**SECOND SATURDAYS 2025: 2/8/25, 3/8/25**

**10AM - 1PM**

## PLANT TREES AT EJ NIST PARK

242 SW Normandy Rd.  
Normandy Park, WA 98166













REGISTER AT:  
[www.friendsofnormandypark.org/programs/familyforesters](http://www.friendsofnormandypark.org/programs/familyforesters)



# Call for Volunteers

The City of Normandy Park is seeking volunteers to help with upcoming events. If you enjoy outdoor work and want to contribute to the well-being of the forest, consider volunteering at Family Foresters in Nist Park from 10 am to 1 pm on Saturday, October 12th, and November 14th. All necessary tools will be provided, and volunteers will earn three hours of volunteer time. This work party is an excellent opportunity for students to earn volunteer hours for high school.

Have availability on a Friday? You can join Community Foresters on the first Fridays at Marine View Park from 10-1 pm. There are also opportunities to help at popular events, such as the Autumn Art Fest at the Cove on October 6th and the Fall Frolic at Marvista Park on October 19th.

If you're interested in participating in any of the events, please get in touch with Aimee Lloyd, Parks and Recreation Manager, at [alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov) or call 206-248-8258 for more information.



Family Foresters smile through their hard work of removing ivy.

*Get involved and leave a positive impact on the City! Join us in our efforts for forest restoration and upcoming events!*

**Kennedy Catholic High School**

**Open House**

Oct. 9 | 5:30-8pm  
Dec. 14 | 10am-Noon

**RSVP NOW!**

[www.kennedyhs.org/openhouse](http://www.kennedyhs.org/openhouse)

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This gate connects grandparents to their children and grandchildren for one local family.

## The Martini Gates of Normandy Park

BY SUE-ANN HOHIMER, DEPUTY MAYOR

The 1914 poem, “Mending Wall”, an early masterpiece of famed poet Robert Frost, is where the proverb, “Good fences make good neighbors” may have become popularized. Rather than allowing the statement to be declarative, however, the poet wonders and perhaps casts doubt on the statement’s validity as the poem concludes. Do fences merely divide or could good fences potentially bring community together?

If indeed, good fences *do* make good neighbors, perhaps the best question is, *what makes a good fence?*

It seems, original settlers to Normandy Park may have come

up with some clever ideas about designing “good” fences that bring community together. Local Lore refers to this special adaptation in the lot-line fences between many Normandy Park homes as, Martini Gates.

Do you have one in your yard? They are not always easy to detect. Like many gems of Normandy Park, they are intentionally hidden. At first glance, most fences appear to extend the length of the property

line uninterrupted. Closer examination, however, may reveal a latch on one side and hinges to a gated section that opens the fence to the other side.

As the story goes, many of these fences were constructed during the housing boom

of the 1950’s, when husbands often took the only family car to work for the day leaving the wife at home to tend to children and the household. Upon his return and enjoying dinner at 5:30pm around

*If indeed, good fences do make good neighbors, perhaps the best question is, what makes a good fence?*





This gate provides passage for a friendly neighborhood cat.

the kitchen table, mom was ready for a reprieve. She'd pour herself a martini and duck out for a bit to sip it with her neighbor friends. It was not considered appropriate to have one's wife walking down the middle of the street with her martini glass splashing about for

all to see and thus martini gates were constructed. We've found no record of whose gate was the original, but once the first devoted husband adapted his fence, we imagine it didn't take long for the trend to take off. They're everywhere!

Eventually, the kids discovered them as well and trails have been worn throughout Normandy Park to and from some of the most popular hangouts. So, legend has it that Martini Gates are just one of many ways the good neighbors of Normandy Park have woven a tightly knit community.\* Let us know if you have any personal anecdotes about this lore.

Here's to Good Fences, Good Neighbors and Great Communities! Cheers!



A stepping stone path leads up to a martini gate (also called a neighbor gate).

*\*Normandy Park also hosts many successful programs promoting sobriety...there are lots of great zero-proof drinks out there...Please socialize in ways that benefit your health!*



*Let's double the delight!*

Grand opening November 1<sup>st</sup>

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## Generations of Gratitude & Giving Shape Normandy Park's Enduring Legacy

In Normandy Park, a legacy of gratitude and giving has shaped the community for many generations. From the early days pre-dating the city's establishment (or cityhood) through the present, the residents of Normandy Park have made large and small impacts that have helped shape the city, its park system, its livability, and its micro-neighborhoods.

An example that the mayor referenced at the beginning of this issue is also one of the most beautiful green spaces in the city: Walker Preserve. Walker Preserve is where Miller Creek and Walker Creek meander alongside primitive walking trails and is a park whose former caretaker Ron Walker valued trees. Those trees still stand today as a legacy of his love of nature. But, did you know there's also another park nearby, located just down the street with its own history and legacy?

In 2001, Grace and T.A. Wilson bestowed a property to the city to create a small neighborhood park so that it could remain a park or open space to be enjoyed by everyone for years to come. Grace and T.A. Wilson Park is highly visible from adjacent streets and offers open lawn space, mature trees, picnic tables, and benches. This park serves as a trailhead to Walker Preserve, and many people park here and then continue to Walker Preserve to hike the primitive trails inside the park. Donations of land are another shining example of the transformative power of giving back to a community that has given so much.

Heading to the city's south end is a park called Marine View Park. This park is a 27-acre park with paved trails that lead down to the beach. Often, what we see happen with the parks, is that nearby neighbors tend to adopt the park

they live next to, and in the early days when this park was getting established, a neighbor named Tom Deschner visited Marine View Park and cared for it. His trailblazing in the park began the primitive trail network we have today. The trails are an alternate and rugged route to the beach, offering a great workout and more challenge to those who wish to hike a rugged trail. Those trails are his legacy and will be enjoyed for years to come.

Additionally, Marine View Park was originally owned by Harold H. Heath. This park was a privately owned property whose original owner valued natural space, the environment, and trees. Thanks to Heath's foresight, this property became the park we have today.

Normandy Park will eventually open a new park near the Cove unofficially called Salmon View



Park. The property owner, Dahli Strayer, has worked with the city to apply for grants to help purchase the property and create a rich environment for salmon for future generations. That project is underway and will slowly turn into a park over the next few years, pending more grant funding.

Throughout the history of Normandy Park, countless other significant donations have helped shape the city into the thriving community it is today. From the smallest act of planting a tree in the forest to the grandest gesture of leaving behind a park for all to enjoy, each legacy has profoundly impacted the city and its residents, no matter how small. Regardless of size, every contribution is vital to our community's growth and prosperity. On September 14, thirteen volunteers of all ages

helped remove ivy and blackberry from EJ Nist Park. By removing the noxious ivy, they have prepared to make space for new trees and native shrubs in their future visits. The trees they plant will create a healthier forest and a more robust, more diverse assortment of native plants. This act of caring for the park is another example of how we can each create a legacy for the City of Normandy Park.

For Normandy Park and its residents, the legacy of gratitude and giving will continue to thrive for generations. Whether through raising a family, volunteering, or

*From the smallest act of planting a tree in the forest to the grandest gesture of leaving behind a park for all to enjoy, each legacy, no matter how small, has had a profound impact on the city and its residents.*

simply planting a seed of kindness, the people of Normandy Park have shown that leaving a legacy can be as simple as making a difference in the world around you. If you wish to discuss a donation of land, monetary or otherwise, with the city, kindly connect with Aimee Lloyd, Parks and Recreation Manager at [alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov).



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# Music in the Park 2024 Concert Series Surged in Popularity

BY RAYMOND STREET

**A**s the sunshine shone over the final summer 2024 days, The Normandy Park Arts Commission finished the 2024 Music in the Park season with a standing ovation for Marina Albero and her all-star quintet. There were many memorable performances this year, and the weather was clear except for a windy day.

The season opened with Rumba DB, who brought fancy toe-tapping afro-pop sounds. The next Sunday was Kiki Valera with Cuban guitar. There were dancers who traveled from distant lands just to dance for this show. BAT's theatre performance Fallen Angels premiered under the trees the following week. Then Chikiri and the Taiko drumming school performed a special concert. The coordination and excellence brought out deep rhythms from under the Zen McManigal gazebo.

Each week, a new musical group was welcomed to the park. We thank Ben Thomas, Nick Vigarino, Roosevelt Road, and RKO for their amazing presence and style this year. For the jazz finale on August 25, we hosted the wonderful songs of Marina Albero and her All-star Quintet.

Thank you to all the great folks who made this year happen! The Arts Commission looks forward to seeing you at their autumn and winter events!



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# Fall Frolic

FREE Pumpkins | Warm Drinks | Crafts & More

***October 19, 2024***  
***1-4pm***

Marvista Park Pea Patch  
19900 4th Ave SW  
Normandy Park, WA 98166



Normandy Park  
Est. 1953

# Fall Checklist – Protect Your House and Our Local Waterways

*Small actions can have a big impact. Here are a few tips to protect your home, your property, and the environment.*



## CLEAR LEAVES AND DEBRIS FROM GRATES

As leaves continue to fall, make sure they are raked up and disposed of with your yard waste. Leaves and lawn clippings can plug catch basins, ditches, and culverts, causing temporary flooding problems.



## CLEAN YOUR GUTTERS

Properly working gutters reduce the risk of clogged drains, water back ups, and damage to your roof or foundation.



## PICK UP AFTER YOUR PETS

Disposing of pet waste properly prevents pathogens and nutrients from contaminating stormwater runoff.



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



CLOSING VIEW



In the City of Normandy Park, you can 'leaf' behind your legacy in many ways.



**Normandy Park**  
Est. 1953



# NORMANDY PARK TOWNE CENTER



## YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, YOUR SHOPS

### SHOPPING, LOCAL DINING + PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

#### DINING

Bistro Baffi  
Empire Coffee  
Normandy Park Ale House

Papa John's  
Rose Pho  
Subway

#### RETAIL

Ace Hardware  
T-Mobile

Tobacco Studio & Vape  
76 Gas Station  
Friendly Normandy Market

#### HEALTH & BEAUTY

B-Town Eye Care  
BK Nails & Spa  
Desert Sun Tanning  
Mia Bella Salon

Normandy Park Kids Dentistry  
Steneker Family Medicine

*NOW OPEN:*  
Inclusive Aesthetics in The Park

#### SERVICES

Auntie's Playhouse Childcare Center  
Helena's Cleaners  
Normandy Park Executive Center  
Olympic View Animal Hospital  
The Soggy Doggy  
Washbox Laundry

