

# NORMANDY PARK CityScene

WINTER 2023

## This Is The Year...

*Celebrating Our 70 Year History*



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# Winter 2023



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Sue-Ann Hohimer  
Mayor

## This Is The Year

This is the year that our city turns 70 years old. The City of Normandy Park was incorporated on June 8th of 1953. We have endured and accomplished a lot in the past seven decades. All quarterly issues of City Scene magazine this year will help us reflect on where we've been and help us lean in, to what we intend to become over the course of this next decade. This is the year to set intentions, plan and strategize so that we can be prepared to meet the challenges of this next decade and beyond. One of the coming challenges already being reported on is the mental health and well-being of young people. New CDC data shows that 44% of teens in the United States report feeling persistently sad and hopeless. Normandy Park has consistently been a fabulous place to raise kind, capable, contributing humans. Though we have never directly measured levels of hope, the fact that so many young people choose to move back here to start their own families,

is a positive indication that we cultivate hopefulness here, as well. Every resident contributes in some way, either consciously or unconsciously, to helping raise the next generation. Something as simple as displaying holiday lights, can create a sense of hope in the darkness.

My encouragement to us is to make this the year that we each get intentional about really connecting intergenerationally. People need people. We always have. Children and young people are up against many obstacles in today's chaotic culture that make connection a real challenge, and yet experts agree that connectedness is one of the main keys to combatting hopelessness at any age. Finding ways to connect is beneficial for all of us.

As you read through this edition of City Scene, notice the many opportunities to get involved and connect with others over shared areas of interest. The Horse History stories could serve as fun conversation starters with young

people, encouraging them to share what kind of stories they'll want to pass along someday about their own childhood (And a chance to explain why we have so many horse fences, here). This is the year to engage our young residents in conversations about how they might like to experience Normandy Park in this next decade. How might they contribute to caring for the environment, what programs, kinds of open spaces and experiences do they want to have? Read about our PROS plan process and ways to participate in Parks planning. This edition also offers initial opportunity to connect with some of our newest staff and Council members by reading a bit about them as well as an important personal update from Councilmember Michelle Sipes-Marvin. All in all, the City of Normandy Park is committed to being here for you, but This is the Year you make it! Read on for inspiration on making this the best decade yet...



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## Contact Your City Council



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### MONTHLY MEETING CALENDAR

#### Arts Commission

1st Tuesday, 7pm

#### Economic Development Committee

1st Wednesday, 6pm

#### 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 (if necessary)

# Council Corner

BY MICHELLE SIPES-MARVIN, CITY COUNCILMEMBER



*This is the Year* of new beginnings. With new beginnings comes change. We have our new Councilmember, Sherry Healy, who replaces Councilmember Ernest Thompson, who suddenly passed away in 2022. The New Year of 2023 will continue to show how strong and wonderful our community is.

We are looking to further the progress of a new Civic Center, even after our bond failed in 2022.

With the goal to build a new Civic Center, the city looks to provide a warm, safe, and community-driven meeting place for all ages. In 2023, we look towards working closely with Highline School District's new Superintendent, Dr. Duran, to build safe, healthy, and learning-driven schools for our students. In the new year, we look to both new businesses and our current business to provide economic stability and growth for our city.

In 2023, *This is the Year* that, after many sleepless nights and long, difficult conversations, I have decided to step down

from City Council to focus on my family, education, and career. Since 2020 I have been traveling across our country providing COVID testing and COVID contact tracing for multiple sports productions, television productions, and other countrywide contracts. It has become challenging for me to be present in the ways that I was before 2020, as I am frequently

attending City Council meetings by Zoom from a different city each meeting. I look forward to a new City Councilmember being chosen to step in and represent our

city in the way I no longer can

*This is the Year* that I can focus on my family. My family has been incredibly gracious for the past seven years as I have missed many school events, sporting events, and family gatherings to be part of the City Council and I could not be more grateful for the love and support they have shown me and the city.

I am excited to welcome a new City Councilmember who will bring new energy, passion, and ideas to our incredible community. I cannot wait to see what the future and 2023 will bring to Normandy Park.

*With love and gratitude,  
 Michelle Sipes-Marvin*

*This is the year that I can focus on my family... I could not be more grateful for the love and support they have shown me and the city.*



## CITY DIRECTORY

### City Hall Address:

801 SW 174<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Normandy Park, WA 98166

### Hours and Contact Information:

8:30am–4:30pm  
Closed for lunch 12–1pm

Permit appointments are strongly recommended.

### City 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

### Preschool

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

# THIS IS THE YEAR THAT...



This is the year that presented new opportunities and challenges. This is the year that I left a career of 30 years not knowing what was next. This is the year that allowed space to explore, create and serve. This is the year that I gained two future son-in-laws. This is the year that offers many new beginnings.

—*Sheri Healey*

This is the year that we will come together as a community and resume in-person meetings to brainstorm on ideas for supporting our city including enhancing communications, identifying revenue opportunities, and exploring next steps for the civic center.

—*Susan West*

This is the year that we finally get to move to normal and start moving forward on our futures. For too long it seems, we've had to wait for a return to normalcy. For too long we've had to put off our plans and dreams. Let's change that. This is the year we're going to move up and move on, the future is straight ahead!

—*Shawn McEvoy*

This is the year that Normandy Park turns 70! As we enter our 8th decade as a city, this is the year that we work together to set intentions for the next decade. Who are we? What makes us unique? Why do we do what we do? How do we create the future we want here? This is the year we answer these questions and more. Please participate on surveys and wherever else you can. Good times await!

—*Sue-Ann Hohimer*

This is the year that our toddler will start walking and start talking!

—*Eric Zimmerman*

# City Council Quarterly Review

BY AMY ARRINGTON, NORMANDY PARK CITY MANAGER

The City of Normandy Park City Council meets at least on a month 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 October through December 2022.

- **New City Councilmember Sheri Healey was sworn in as a City Councilmember for Position #1.** Councilmember Healey has been a resident of Normandy Park for over 24 years and will bring a historical aspect to the table and the ability to see both sides of an issue. She is interested in maintaining a positive police presence in the community, civic center development, and providing essential community self-supported programs.
- **Ordinance #1043 was adopted to amend the City’s Code to clarify the rules on dangerous dogs.** This new code will better

conform to current State law and provide a straightforward procedure for appeals making our process more defensible.

- **Resident Jennifer Ng was appointed to serve on the City’s Art Commission.**
- **Residents Kelly Steffen & Mike Miller were both appointed to serve on the Parks & Recreation Commission.**
- **Ordinance #1045 was adopted** to designate the Parks Commission as the City’s Tree Board and established oversight of all trees on public property to city staff. This ordinance will also meet one of the requirements needed for the City to qualify for a Tree City USA designation.
- **Des Moines Senior Center made a presentation on upcoming programs for 2023.** This is an annual presentation since the City helps fund the Des Moines Senior Program.

- **The City’s Stormwater Fees were amended to better support the city’s Stormwater Utility system.** This utility is essential to our community since Stormwater runoff is the leading threat to Washington’s urban waters, streambeds, banks, and habitats.

- In December, the **City Council recognized and celebrated the last debt payment to the General Fund’s bond debt.** The City’s General Fund is now debt free!
- **The City updated its Interlocal Agreement with the Highline School District.** This is a friendly agreement between cities in the Highline School District and District to itemize facility spaces that either entity could use. There is no cost associated with this agreement.
- **The City’s 2023-2024 Budget and levy rate were approved.** The biennial budget document presents the overall plan for allocating city resources to the variety of programs necessary to provide for public safety, enhance the quality of life and natural resources, and maintain and develop the city’s facilities and infrastructure, and places the city in a solid financial position.
- **2023 Consolidated Fee Schedule was updated.** The City reviews all its fees annually, and the prices are adjusted when appropriate. The goal is for these charges to reflect the total cost of providing the related service and never to “make money.” The 2023 fee increases were limited to some building permit fees and the tuition rate for the 2023-2024 school year of the Normandy Park Preschool.



*Sheri Healey being sworn in this fall as the newest City Council member.*



Debt-free cake!



Normandy Park City Council members celebrating being debt-free in December!

- **The City Council adopted its 2023 Legislative Agenda.** This document reflects the policies that support the city’s strategic goals and focus on what the city can ask other legislative bodies to do to help Normandy Park. Areas focused on include public safety, behavioral health, environmental issues, and transportation.
- **Ordinance #1050 was adopted,** which allows City Councilmembers to participate in Council Meetings remotely if they choose.
- **Walker/Sequoia Creek Project Purchase and Sale Agreement was approved.** The goal of the property acquisition is to create a new open space park that will provide the only public access to salmon spawning within Normandy Park. In addition, this project will include the installation of a newly designed fish-passable culvert. Because of this project’s environmental impact and benefit, the City has received strong support in grants and funding to help us move forward. In fact, the City has secured almost \$2,000,000 in funding for this project, with the City contributing approximately

\$212,000. The plan is to focus on demolishing the existing structure in 2023, with creek realignment, site restoration, construction of bridges, and other improvements occurring between 2024 and 2026. Final restoration and project completion should be finalized by 2026.

If you are interested in learning more about any of these items, the agenda packets and videos of the full City

Council meetings can

be found on the City’s website. Residents are always welcome to attend City Council meetings, in person or remotely, on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. You are encouraged to stay informed and let us know your thoughts on the issues that are important to you!

**Dr. Bae has been named a “SEATTLE TOP DENTIST” by her peers and recognized in the *Seattle Metropolitan Magazine***

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# WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK



## You Tell Us!

In August, a proposition needed to fund the construction of a proposed Civic Center failed.

To help us better understand the “why” behind your vote, whether you supported or opposed it, we are asking residents to take a brief survey on this issue. Your participation is essential and will help us determine and communicate a plan moving forward.

**TO TAKE THE SURVEY:** Scan the QR code with your iPhone camera or visit the link below. Paper copies are available at Normandy Park City Hall.

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/B8D23LK](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/B8D23LK)

### Questions about the survey?

Email Amy Arrington, City Manager at [aarrington@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:aarrington@normandyparkwa.gov).

# FAMILY FORESTERS



SECOND SATURDAYS 2023: 1/14, 2/11 & 3/11

10AM - 1PM

## PLANT TREES AT MARINE VIEW PARK

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# City Council Approves the 2023–2024 Budget

BY AMY ARRINGTON, NORMANDY PARK CITY MANAGER

At its December regular meeting, the City Council approved its Biennial (two-year) Budget for 2023-2024. This is an important document since it presents the plan for allocating City resources on the variety of programs necessary to provide for public safety, enhance the quality of life and natural resources, and maintain and develop the City’s facilities and infrastructure. We are committed to providing the highest quality municipal services possible with the limited resources available. Some of the highlights of the approved budget include:

- **An additional Police Officer position has been added to the Police Force.**
- **The city will be establishing a Building Replacement Fund.** This fund will support the construction of new buildings in the future, such as a new City Hall. Starting in 2024. The city plans to transfer funds regularly every year to build this account.
- **The city’s Strategic Reserve is maintained at \$2,000,000.**
- **Funds to support community partnerships** (i.e., special events and programs) have been added.
- **Funding for recreational programs**, in the amount of \$12,000, has been included.
- **The Behavioral Health Services Fund now includes funding for social services.**
- **The City’s Public Works Supervisor position has been reinstated.**
- **Roadway resurfacing improvements continue to be funded** at \$300,000 annually.
- **A section of sidewalk will be installed on First Avenue.**

Overall, the city is in a very healthy fiscal position. This would not be possible without the support of the Normandy Park residents and the approval of the levy lid lift. If you are interested in learning more about the budget, visit the City’s website.



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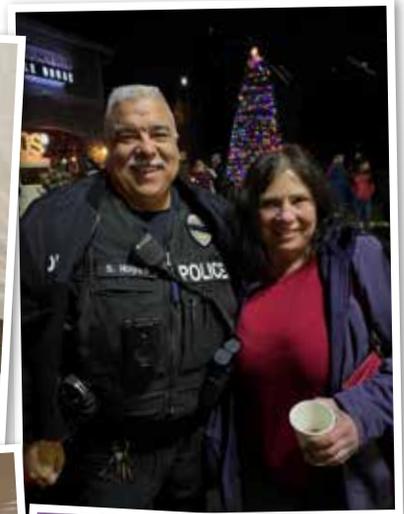
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# Out & About During the Winter Season

The Normandy Park Police Department were happy to play a part in this year's *Shop With A Cop*. It was such a sweet morning with first responders and community families! Thank you: Normandy Park Police Foundation, Fred Meyer, Des Moines, WA Police Department, Port of Seattle Police Department, South King Fire & Rescue, Rotary Club of Des Moines/Normandy Park, WA, Des Moines Police Foundation.

Each year the Normandy Park Police Department gives Santa a ride to the Winterfest Tree Lighting Ceremony in a police motorcade. Santa then visits with families and walks the red carpet to kick off the event. Thank you Normandy Park Police Department for getting the special guest to the event for the 10th year of celebrating the Tree Lighting!

**For more Winterfest pictures visit the Winterfest Facebook page @normandyparkwinterfest**



*Clockwise from top left: Michael Graham, Santa & Kathleen O'Grady Graham at Winterfest; Sargeant Hayes & City Manager Amy Arrington at Winterfest; Seattle Thrillers at Winterfest; Chief Dan Yourkoski, Tad Doviak & Officer Enrique Washington at Shop With A Cop in December.*



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# Gathering by the Blue Star Garden to Honor Our Veterans

In November, the City of Normandy Park and the Parkside Garden Club hosted a gathering to honor veterans and invite them and their families out to enjoy free donuts and coffee. The celebration happened next to the Blue Star Memorial Garden, tended by Parkside Garden Club volunteers.

Decades ago, the Parkside Garden Club purchased a Blue Star Memorial marker to celebrate and honor all veterans who have served or are currently serving our country. This marker is placed at a memorial garden located near the flagpole at City Hall Park. We were so happy to gather together by the Blue Star Memorial Garden and to visit with our resident veterans to honor their service. Thank you to everyone who stopped to join us for coffee, donuts, and conversation, and thank you to the Parkside Garden club for maintaining a lovely memorial flower garden. For more information about the Parkside Garden Club email: Nancy Riedel ([nancyriedel@comcast.net](mailto:nancyriedel@comcast.net)) or Carolyn Keneipp ([cbkeneipp@earthlink.net](mailto:cbkeneipp@earthlink.net)).



Left: Parks & Recreation Manager Aimee Lloyd, Mayor Sue-Ann Hohimer, Anna Butler & Carolyn Keneipp. Right: Patrice Bonney and Christine Terry next to the Blue Star Memorial Garden.

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# Parks & Recreation Open Space Plan Update Coming Soon

BY AIMEE LLOYD, PARKS & RECREATION MANAGER

The City of Normandy Park and its Parks Commission are embarking on a Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) plan update as part of their work plan for the years 2023 and 2024. This meaningful plan helps the City prioritize, long term and short-term projects and programming through resident feedback.

Residents throughout the City of Normandy Park are encouraged to participate in the next years' worth of outreach, by engaging in surveys, attending public meetings, sharing ideas, and helping guide

the city plan. As you're out and about in the city parks, take some time to mull over what you like about the parks, the playgrounds and open space, and what you could see being improved to enhance your experience and engagement with the parks. This is an opportunity for us all to work together and prioritize our needs for the next 20 years. It's also a chance to celebrate our accomplishments since we started our first version of the plan in 2017 (roughly 6 years ago).

- The PROS Plan fulfills the Growth Management Act planning requirements from the Washington State Department of Commerce (RCW 36.70A).
- The updated PROS Plan enables Normandy Park to be eligible for certain federal and state grants, especially through the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office.
- Citizen input is crucial in assuring that program goals and priorities are consistent with community needs.



## 2023 January Normandy Park Mixer

Economic Development Committee-sponsored engagement & outreach for Normandy Park businesses!

January 25th, 2023  
4:00-6:00 PM  
Bistro Baffi Restaurant  
19987 1st Ave S suite 101.  
Normandy Park, WA 98166

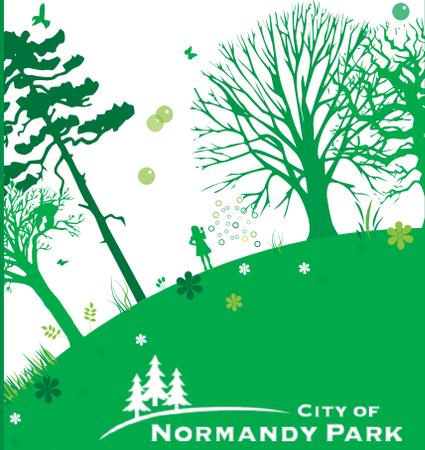


Residents, businesses, and stakeholders in the park build innovation into our DNA. It's one of the values that define us here. Innovation means Normandy Parkers are more effective and efficient; improving, inventing, and simplifying. We are reimagining home as a creative space for adding personal income while innovating in a post COVID-19 environment. We are innovating in response to new needs of customers, whether home-based or scaling into retail space. We have figured out how to do things in a new way. Come join and mingle with other innovation entrepreneurs at the next Normandy Park Economic Development Implementation mixer from 4:00-6:00 PM on January 25th. But mostly, come to chat and celebrate with your fellow Normandy Park businesses!

THE CITY OF  
NORMANDY PARK'S  
SECOND ANNUAL

## ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION SAT., APRIL 29TH

10:00AM - 12:00PM  
MARVISTA PARK

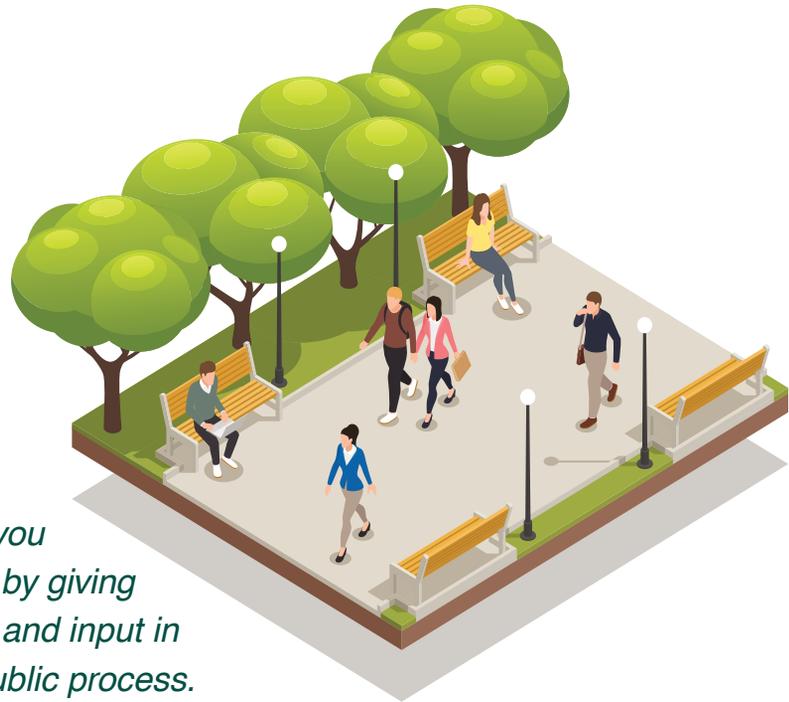


CITY OF  
NORMANDY PARK

There will be several opportunities for residents to participate. The Parks Commission will hold several public meetings to facilitate community input. This process will help assure that we have identified the best ways to serve the recreational needs of our dynamic community for the next 20 years.

When we have our wish list and needs identified in the pros plan through public engagement and feedback, it can help the grant writing process and the success of the grant because the needs

are documented through an open public process and community engagement.



*We hope that you will participate by giving your feedback and input in our future in public process.*

*Stay tuned to the calendar for upcoming PROS Plan meetings and updates.*

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**COMING THIS WINTER**

- New, resident-focused, Swim Lesson Registration System
- Expanded hours and services
- New scholarship program
- PTSA events
- Saturday Special Swims

# Heritage Tree Program

The City of Normandy Park has successfully launched its new Heritage Tree Program, a component of completing our application to become a Tree City USA.

The Heritage Tree program will offer a new way to recognize the beautiful trees found on private and public property. The program aims to continue increasing the public's awareness of trees by drawing attention to our unique and significant heritage trees in the city. A "heritage tree" is a tree or collection of trees that is acknowledged and valued for

the unique characteristics that set it apart from other similar trees. A tree can be recognized as a heritage tree if it has historical significance, significant size, or other unique aesthetic qualities for its species.

This program had its first Heritage Tree nomination. It's a beautiful Oak Tree located on private property near Wilson Park and Walker Preserve. The tree has been estimated to be at least 70 years old and

is a treasured tree for the neighbors and park visitors nearby. It's viewable along 2nd Ave SW from the corner of 171st at Wilson Park all the way to Walker Preserve. We hope to see this program expand and help educate residents about the importance of trees.



*If you have a significant tree on your property that you would like to nominate for the Heritage Tree Program, please contact Parks and Recreation Manager, Aimee Lloyd at [alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov)*

# Rooting For Our Parks!



In October at Nist Park, volunteers planted over 60 shrubs and trees between the tree line and the play equipment on the south border of the forest.



In November, a total of 140 trees and shrubs were planted at Nature Trails Park.

In November the volunteer group Family Foresters, in partnership with the Friends of Normandy Park Foundation installed 75 trees and shrubs at Marine View Park.



SEATTLE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

# OPEN HOUSE

FOR PROSPECTIVE FAMILIES

FEBRUARY 2

6:30 - 7:30 PM

**REGISTER TODAY!**

SERVING SOUTH SOUND K-12 FAMILIES FOR OVER 75 YEARS

# Source Control—Business Inspection and Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program

BY JESSIE MEDROW, STORMWATER COORDINATOR

The City of Normandy Park is launching a Business Inspection and Stormwater Pollution Prevention program to help prevent stormwater pollution from businesses and government properties. This program implements federal and state requirements, but more importantly, it helps keep our streams, lakes, and groundwater healthy for residents, businesses, and wildlife.

## What is Source Control Stormwater Pollution Prevention?

Spills or improperly stored materials outdoors can get washed into lakes and streams when it rains. This creates polluted stormwater runoff that can harm the water, the ground, and wildlife habitat. Pollution Source Control is accomplished by business practices that keep pollution out of contact with rainwater and prevent unauthorized stormwater discharges. In the simplest of terms, source control is controlling pollution to stormwater at the source. Examples of source control are covering dumpsters, proper use and storage of hazardous materials, and training of staff, which are referred to as Best Management Practices, or BMPs. Examples of some specific common pollutants and BMPs include the following:

- *Pollutant:* oil, fuel, solvent, automobile liquids, and other petroleum products and their wastes

- *Pollutant:* commercial discharge from cleaning activities or restaurant waste
- *Pollutant:* institutional discharge, such as from materials stored outdoors and from dumpsters and compactors

## Free Technical Assistance

The City will provide free technical assistance to businesses that have the potential to cause stormwater pollution, even in small amounts. The technical assistance will be provided through inspections at qualifying businesses and advice on the use of BMPs for pollution prevention.



## TIMELINE

### May 2022

update policy

### August 2022

develop inventory of qualifying businesses

### January 2023

begin business inspections and provide technical assistance

### Ongoing

annual or semi-annual inspection and technical assistance at qualifying businesses

## What Types of Businesses Qualify?

The City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES, Permit provides guidance for what types of businesses should be included in a source control program. Business types that qualify for the program include, among others:

- automobile and equipment repair and rental, auto body
- gasoline stations, car washes, auto detail
- restaurants, cafes, bars, bakeries, food trucks
- veterinarians and pet shops
- dentists and medical laboratories
- institutions, schools, and municipal sites
- mobile businesses that provide on-site services
- landscapers, storage yards, and sites with outdoor operations

## Why We Have this Program

The Washington State Department of Ecology, through the City's NPDES Permit, requires Normandy Park and other jurisdictions to have a Source Control Program beginning in 2023. Municipalities over a certain size throughout the state are required to have source control programs by the Department of Ecology.



BY JESSIE MEDROW,  
STORMWATER COORDINATOR

## Council Adopts Comprehensive Stormwater Plan

The City of Normandy Park has adopted the Comprehensive Stormwater Plan. The plan will guide where the City focuses its efforts to reduce urban flooding and protect water quality in Miller Creek, Walker Creek, and Puget Sound.

In part, the Comprehensive Stormwater Plan helps assess the staffing and budget resources needed to comply with stormwater regulations from the State. The City expects the Washington Department of Ecology to issue a new municipal stormwater permit in 2024. Anticipated changes to the permit would require the City to do more to protect the quality of our valued surface waters.

The Comprehensive Stormwater Plan also includes a Stormwater Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to select the most important or effective capital projects that will address flooding, drainage, erosion, or water quality related to stormwater runoff throughout Normandy Park.

City staff and the public have continued to observe and document additional locations

of concern for poor drainage, stormwater maintenance needs, or erosion. The plan prioritizes which of these newfound issues are the most important to resolve. Find out more, get involved, and help make the commitment

to clean water. Your input is important. Here are ways you can learn more and get involved: Attend public meetings, sign up for weekly emails, or contact the City Stormwater Coordinator at [jmedrow@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:jmedrow@normandyparkwa.gov).



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# Miller-Walker Basin Stewardship



## 2022 by the numbers

*Thank you for a great year!*



**8000**

square feet of English ivy and Himalayan blackberry cleared. Volunteers worked at Walker Preserve and Miller Creek Trail to remove these invasive species. We had help from King County's Green Start crew!



**2474**

native trees, shrubs, and groundcover planted at Walker Preserve and Miller Creek Trail! Native plants help keep streams, salmon, and other animals healthy.



**121**

people volunteered to remove invasive plants, clean up litter, plant and mulch native plants, and conduct salmon surveys.

## 274 salmon...and counting!



Many rivers in Puget Sound are experiencing higher salmon returns this year and Miller and Walker Creeks are no exception. Volunteers are in the stream every day counting fish. In 2022 we counted the most coho since 2012!

We all can be good stewards of Miller and Walker Creeks! Whether you live right next to the streams or a mile away, your actions can help improve water quality and reduce stormwater in the creeks and beyond. Remember,

**Puget Sound Starts Here**

**Sign up for Miller-Walker emails**

**Subscribe**



Sign up to get basin stewardship tips and opportunities to volunteer! Visit [www.kingcounty.gov/miller-walker](http://www.kingcounty.gov/miller-walker) and enter your email to subscribe.



Miller-Walker Basin Local partners working together for clean water and healthy streams

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

winter in the park

- |           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Fireplace | Cocoa    |
| Blizzard  | Scarf    |
| NewYear   | Boots    |
| Snowman   | Normandy |
| January   | Earmuffs |
| Chilly    | Snowing  |
| Parka     | Icicle   |
| Shiver    | Frozen   |
| Holidays  | Winter   |
| December  | Sleigh   |
| Sweater   | Bells    |
| Mittens   | Park     |
| Sledding  |          |

answers on page 29



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# Normandy Park Preschool: Where Children Grow, Memories are Made, and Community is Formed!

BY DIANE BRISSENDEN, NORMANDY PARK PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

Normandy Park Preschool is celebrating 23 years of operation and going strong in our new location! We have moved just a few miles South of Normandy Park City Hall. We are located at the United Church of Christ 19247 1st Ave. S. Our new space was built for young children! The preschool classroom has all the comforts and necessary spaces including a children's bathroom, classroom sink, natural sun light, lots of room for learning centers and a large outdoor green space with natural landscaping and

trails for running, exploring, playing and imagining.

Our program is based on research that children are at their finest and learn best when engaged in rich and stimulating play environments.

Our classroom is a happy place designed to teach skills through play! Our program is consistent with Washington State Early Achievers Goals and objectives



as well as standards set forth by The National Association of Young Children.

Every child in our program is seen as unique and amazing, ready to learn about themselves and the world around them as they gain independence, imagination, self-control and cooperation. Language, art, number sense, phonological awareness, literacy, science, technology, math and engineering (STEM) are part of the curriculum designed to meet individual needs and interests while building skills that ensure academic success in elementary school.

## **Our Classes & Teachers**

We offer 3 classes. Each class has 2 teachers. Our teachers have years of experience, training and ongoing professional development in Early Childhood Education.

2 ½ - 3 ½ year olds meet 2 days/ week– in this youngest class,

## When asked the question "What will next year bring?" Normandy Park Preschool Pre-kindergarteners answered:

I will be sledding in the snow, going to the park and swimming in the summer.  
—Mia

I will play in the snow and plant flowers in the spring and Quin will be turning 2.  
—Grant

I will be with my mom and giving her kisses. And I will exercise more and run with my mom and dad.  
—Johnny

I will go to school and ride a Ferris wheel.  
—Annie

I will go to the park with my mom and exercise, run, play baseball and learn to read.  
—Delaney

I will go on an Easter egg hunt where the candy is inside the Easter eggs.  
—Remy

I will play in the park with Daddy.  
—Marlena

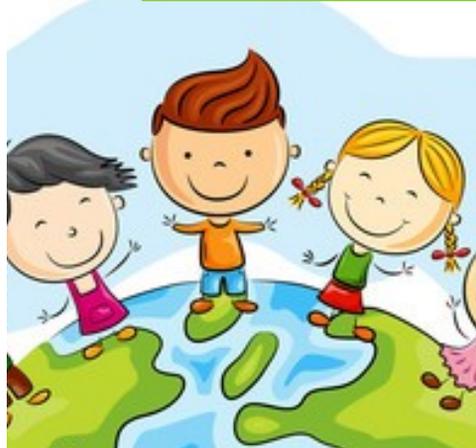
children begin their first journey in preschool as an enjoyable and fun experience while gaining confidence in becoming independent and motivated learners, developing pro-social behaviors and expressive language skills.

3 ½ - 4 ½ year olds – meet 3 days/week - Here children learn how to use their newly discovered sense of independence in a group setting, making friends, learning about expressing feelings and emotions, taking turns and conveying needs and wants successfully. All the while, children are building skills in a happy environment where teachers have created intentional and engaging lessons plans for all areas of childhood growth including social/emotional, language & literacy, mathematics, physical development, science, art & music.

Pre-K – meet 4 days/week - In pre-K, children sharpen their confidence, enthusiasm, independence and developed skills to soar in cooperative and imaginative play! They expand their knowledge of the world



COME EXPLORE WITH US!



WHERE CHILDREN GROW!

Normandy Park Preschool

will be

opening enrollment for the 2023/2024 school year soon.

Sign up for your visit today by contacting Diane Brissenden at 206-248-8249

around them and get set for academic success in elementary school & beyond. All areas of early childhood education are taught with intentional lesson plans in our pre-k curriculum.

**Call us to learn more!**

Registration is taking place now! Call 206-248-8249 for more information and schedule a time to come see the classroom. Normandy Park Preschool is a great place to grow!

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# Become a Normandy Park Community Forester!



Normandy Park Community Foresters is a stewardship program that will focus on forest restoration in **Marine View Park.**

Join us in the park on the **First Friday** of every month from **10am to 1pm!** Community Foresters will receive training in restoration ecology while restoring the upper forested section of Marine View Park.

---

To sign up, and for further information, email **[community.foresters@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:community.foresters@normandyparkwa.gov)**



Restoration Analytics & Design LLC (RAD) works with the City of Normandy Park through a grant funded by the King Conservation District (KCD) to make this program possible.

# Welcome New Staff!



**Nate Meyer, Public Works**

**Where are you from?**

I am from Des Moines WA, I've lived in the same house for my whole life (20 years)

**What is your favorite part about working for the city so far?**

I really like how friendly all of the residents are. They always have a smile on their face and don't hesitate to give a wave when they see the logo on the side of the truck!

**What do you enjoy doing outside of work or as a hobby?**

I love fishing for Salmon, whether it's in the saltwater and they're beautifully chrome, or in the rivers and they're all colored up and getting ready to spawn.

**What is one thing that you'd like the residents to know about you?**

I grew up playing baseball at City Hall, and with friends living in Normandy Park. I always loved how nice everything was every time I came to town, and it feels great to help maintain this beautiful town.

**Abdi Ahmed, Planning and Community Development**

**Where are you from?**

Originally, I'm from East Africa (Somalia). But raised in Seattle for the past 20 years.

**What is your favorite part about working for the city so far?**

I appreciate having an opportunity to do work that has direct impact on the community.

**What do you enjoy doing outside of work or as a hobby?**

Whenever possible I try to go and play basketball, workout, and occasionally go diving.



**What is one thing that you'd like the residents to know about you?** Here at the planning department, we strive to make a positive difference.

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# New Year, New Art!

BY RAYMOND STREET

The end of 2022 was celebrated with a reception for Dona Lewinger and her pastel class. On November 15th, over 45 people gathered to view the artwork in Normandy Park City Hall. It was a potluck filled with food brought by the artists and their friends and family.

It has been 3 years since there was a reception at City Hall for artwork. This is a welcome return to the celebration and acknowledgement of talented and skilled artists in our community.

With 2023 on the horizon, the Art Commission is looking for artists to fill the walls of council chambers. We are also looking for sculpture artists for the display case in the hallway. An exhibition is up for 3 months and comes with a modest exhibition compensation.

One of the next upcoming artists to be featured in Council chambers is Mitchell Crenshaw and his oil paintings. Over his career he has done technical illustrations, photography, technical writing, and desktop publishing, and pastel drawings. He also designed and fabricated stained-glass windows. In the late 1990's Mitchell created an online comic titled "Comics Outa Left Field", inspired by Gary Larson's "Far Side". After retiring in 2018 he has focused on his love for oil painting. His artwork will be up during the months of January, February, and March.

The Display case will also be featuring an artist named Babs Fulton. She focuses on sculpture inspired and created from recycled computer parts, and objects discovered in thrift stores. She is inspired by space exploration, planets, robots, and the mystery of the unknown. Her artwork will be featured in February, March, and April.

So, keep an eye out for new receptions, new artwork on the walls, and new sculpture in the display case.

***To learn more or have your artwork featured in our quarterly displays contact Aimee Lloyd, Parks & Recreation Manager at [alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov](mailto:alloyd@normandyparkwa.gov)***

*Kirby Lautman, Kerry Lautman, Patty Travers, & Louise Chandler-Homes*



Artwork: Babs Fulton



Sculpture: Babs Fulton



# In and Around the Park

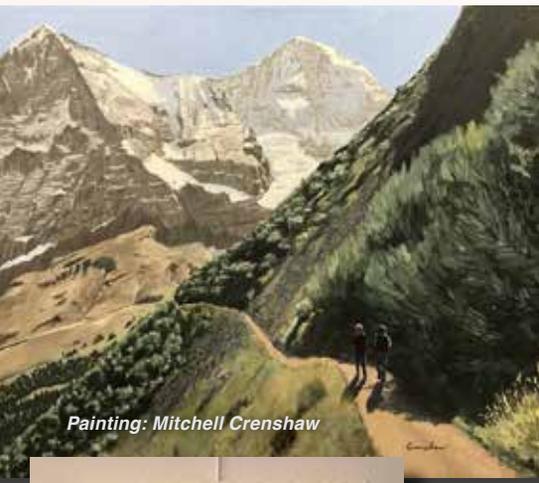
## AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO BUSINESSES IN AND AROUND NORMANDY PARK

*Normandy Park is a wonderful community centered in a larger family of communities with a multitude of restaurants, cafes, unique shops and other businesses catering to local residents.*

*To honor the 70th anniversary year of the city's founding, Normandy Park City Scene will run a special advertising section dedicated to businesses in and around the park that have contributed to the quality of life here in our little community.*

*This 'insider's guide' is intended to help you find iconic businesses that have been serving us for generations, and new businesses bringing foods, specialty items and experiences for us to enjoy.*

***If you are a business serving local residents, this an opportunity for you to share with the community what you contribute to our enjoyment of this neighborhood.***



Painting: Mitchell Crenshaw



Artist Dona Lewinger and Mayor, Sue-Ann Hohimer



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**CONGRATULATIONS, NORMANDY PARK!**

Our mission is to collect, preserve and tell the stories of the Highline area and its people.

[HighlineMuseum.org](http://HighlineMuseum.org)

EXHIBITS · COLLECTIONS · EVENTS · EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES WITH OUR YOUTH

# Normandy Park Rides in Style Through its Horse History

*Stories from residents and former residents about Gotcha, Limeage, Honey and more*

**Over the nearly 70 years since the city was founded on June 8, 1953, the neighborhood has gone through many changes.** In the early days, if you were to drive through the city, you would have seen homes with large acreage farm pastures surrounding the dwellings. During that time from 1950's through the early 1980's children and families used to tend horses, participate in 4-H Club and many grew up riding horses.

In this issue we've collected several short retellings of that brief time in our city's history where horses reined in Normandy Park. We hope that you enjoy the pictures and stories.

## Claire Drosdick

When we moved to NP the cul-de-sac near the Province did not exist. We lived in the small ranch through the trees just beyond the concrete pad at the end of the cul-de-sac. We put that there as parking for our horse trailer. Our property was an acre and had a garage back there that we set up as a barn and paddock for my horse, Gotcha. There were many such horse properties in NP like that. The Province was "the Farm", a 26-acre piece of surplus property owned by the school district. It had a barn and lighted riding arena with assorted ramshackle horse shelters around it and people could house horses there for \$8/month. There was a long waiting list as it was limited to 26(?) horses. The kids were in 4H and just had fun with horses. It was just so much fun, and my biggest memory is that if the horses got out, everyone seemed to have a halter to get the horse back to the Farm and would just guide them home.



*Top and Middle: E.J. Nist property before it became Nist Park. Bottom: Leslie Wold and her horse. They would often pack a lunch and ride down to the beach.*

### Linda Cole • The Horse Kids of Normandy Park

I was born in Normandy Park in 1953. My parents Tom and Clare Mitchell started building our home in 1951. We had many animals. My first was a lamb, then a donkey named Fuzzy. I would ride him to city hall. After that my parents would get wild horses and break them in our yard. At one time we had eight or more horses at the house. We would hobble them in the school field commonly known as Normandy Park City Hall. The other place was The Cove, at that time the membership allowed horses to graze as long as they were hobbled. We would ride our horses to QFC to buy candy, or we would tie them up behind Manhattan Drug Store and buy milkshakes. Shawn Mc Evoy, Kari Miller, Susie Hardstad, James Hitchcock and I would play along the Bridal Trail located on what is East Brook. We would ride and pretended to fish and camp on the trail that lead to 1st Ave, by the adult care center. We left at 5:00AM. Only good campers left early in the morning. My first horse was a retired racehorse. His name was Sundown. He was thoroughbred. Shawn and I one day thought it would be a good idea to race him around the school yard. We would race around until one day my father saw us. Because he was a racehorse he would stay inside the fence. Kari, Susie, James and I had lots of fun running and swimming the horses along the beach to Saltwater State Park. Shawn and I would sometimes forget and race Sundown. As long as we were home by dark "dinner time" all was well. My children rode Honey the last horse we had at the house in Normandy Park and the bridal trail until 1998.

### Tom Munslow

In addition to Anthony Lombardo's horse that lived in a small corral near our house, I remember the old horse that was in a pasture west of 4th Ave SW and SW 189th. I was building a house next to the pasture and noticed that the horse had eaten all the apples off the lower branches of the tree. I climbed thru the fence, walked over to the tree and the old horse seemed to know that I was after his/her apples. Rather than try to protect the apples, the horse let me climb onto its back so I could reach apples that were too high for either of us. The horse stood still enough for me to stand on his/her back and pick the high apples; HOWEVER it would look around at me from time to time which I knew meant "give me an apple". Smart horse!

### Jordan Orosdick

One anecdote which is quite funny is that the Province was never called "the Province" in our family, it was always called "The Horse Pasture" or "The Farm" because that is what they used it as before it was built!



Top: Sisters Susan West and Lisa Cowden in their backyard along Marine View Drive SW with their horse pals Patches and Muffy.

Middle: Jan Huntley's horse, Peaches (right) at "The Farm" or "The Horse Pasture".

Bottom: Liz (Thompson) Webber, and her horse Sisky.

# Our Normandy Park Arab Horse

BY CLARKE BRANT

Years ago I had promised my wife Nancy, that yes, she could one day get a horse. That day came in May 1995. She was helping set up the Kennedy HS stage for the annual Katch Auction. She brought home a picture and bio of a beautiful Arab horse that needed a new home due to an out of state job transfer. I agreed she could bid on it, not thinking that we would be the winner. We have lived in the Park since 1979 and had seen other horses here, esp. as there was the large multi horse pasture where the Normandy Province neighborhood now stands and a bit more of the land up the hill to the east. There were other pastures on private acreage also.

Sometime before we ended up getting Lillie (Limage), who had great blood lines from famous Arab horses, the shutting down of that very large province pasture had begun. It tended to serve many Park residences that did not have sufficient acreage to actually keep a horse. I do not know how that property was managed as horse pasturage or costs charged; but I had later learned that it was mostly owned and held vacant by the Highline School District as a future alternate site for a new high school. Eventually the District decided to surplus the land and sell it off- which became the Normandy Province “neighhhborhood”. At city

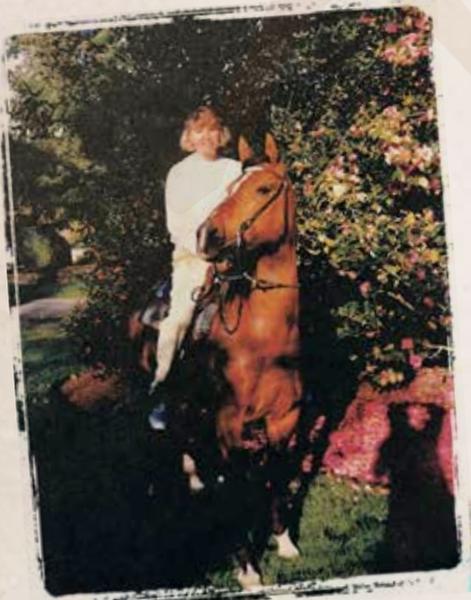
council meetings there was some interest at public comment in keeping the zoning as horse acres. The council ultimately decided that the appropriate zoning would be a bit denser to allow more homes to be built resulting in greater property tax revenue.

*Nancy and Lillie*



*Lillie (Limage)*

We decided to board our horse at a private large tract just south of the airport on Des Moines Way which had a large barn and stalls- even this is now gone to more urbanization and density. A Normandy Park resident, Leslie Hoag, who had boarded her horse at the Province pasture offered to help and even loaned some of her tack. This was only a short drive from NP, yet we learned we would have to go twice a day to check on, feed, brush, see Vets, clean stalls and hooves, etc., etc. While getting our horse settled in to her new pasture and beginning to ride her, Leslie was a big help. We shortly determined that Lillie was only green broke and need additional time. We loved caring for this beautiful Arab whose tail would rise as she ran allowing the horse hair to stream back. Sometime later my wife's back started having issues and she could no longer even hold the lead rope; thus, more responsibility fell to me. I really bonded with that horse and recall how she would come up behind me and rest her head on my shoulder. Later, I was transferred to international flying out of Portland and commuting. We then found a former Normandy Park resident, Suzie Osborne, who had moved to the Enumclaw plateau for new home, barn and fenced five acres and was interested in having Lillie, as her current horse was too young to ride. Our Normandy Park Arab then got to ride trails, even in Mt. Rainier National Park, as well as often providing rides to numerous local children and the carrots they brought were extra!



Shawn McEvoy

I grew up in Normandy Park. It was a great place to grow up and still is. When I was a wee lad it seemed, every girl had a horse and rode them every chance they could; on the roadside, at the beach, up the Bridle Trail or any other trail a horse could go.

My next-door neighbors, the Mitchell's, had horses, at least two horses but often up to twelve.

I'll never forget watching a 'foal' (baby horse) being born. Out it slid, covered in a membrane, but in a few short minutes raising up and standing on those skinny legs. Wow! Another incredible memory is watching cowboys "Bustin' a Bronc" (taming a wild horse by riding it until it stopped bucking) all 50' from my house.

Perhaps my most vivid memory was riding 'SUNDOWN' a retired thoroughbred Racehorse. That beautiful horse was tame and gentle as could be and loved kids to boot. One afternoon my neighbor Linda (8yrs. Old) and myself (6yrs old) decided to ride Sundown together, bareback (no saddle). It was so fun. We eventually wound up at the far end of City Hall Park and she said, "Do you want to go fast?" "SURE!" "I said. She kicked Sundown quickly- we felt like we were shot out of a cannon. Sundown immediately accelerated and soon reached full speed, just like at the Racetrack. It was absolutely exhilarating, it felt like we were flying over the ground! The ride seemed to last 'forever', in reality; it was probably a minute. Sundown then came to a gentle halt and paraded around a bit. She was proud, we were thrilled beyond belief "Wow,wow,wow!"

Unfortunately, her dad had driven by and saw the whole thing. Two kids riding bareback full speed on a Racehorse. Little did I know racing that horse, even with a saddle was expressly forbidden. Boy, did we catch Hell. We never raced Sundown again, but I sure wish we could have done it once more!



Top: Leslie Wold and her horse Kazak, an American Standard Appaloosa in April of 1972.

Bottom Left: Susan West on a winter horse ride.

Bottom Right: Warren Thompson with horse Siskyou.

winter in the park



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206-244-5900



# 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

#### HEALTH & BEAUTY

BK Nails & Spa  
Desert Sun Tanning  
Mia Bella Salon

#### SERVICES

Auntie's Playhouse  
B-Town Eye Care  
Helena's Cleaners  
Normandy Park Executive Center

Pier View Chiropractic  
Priceless Pet Clinic  
Steneker Family Medicine  
Soggy Doggy

