

NORMANDY FOREST



March 2018

Official Publication of the Normandy Forest Homeowners Association

Volume 7, Issue 3

NORMANDY FOREST HOA *2018 Easter Egg Hunt*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR
SATURDAY, MARCH 24

We need at least 10 volunteers in order to host this annual event. Volunteers will help stuff and hide eggs and be able to help out during the event. If you are interested in working with the Board to make this event a go, please contact Lindsey at lrguthman@yahoo.com.

We can't do this without you. Without the needed volunteers this event will, unfortunately be cancelled.

REGARDING THE WALL CONSTRUCTION

I am glad to inform you that things are moving along well with the construction of the wall project thus far. We have executed the bond that was voted on, and have commenced the bond sale. In doing this we took a risk to have our bond professionally rated. This risk paid off tremendously saving the district about \$100,000 over the life of the bond.

We are moving into the process of accepting the bids, and we would like to meet with perimeter homeowners to help prepare you for what lies ahead. We hope to have these meetings in phases as each section of wall has its own unique challenges. The first meeting is scheduled on MARCH 15, 2018 at the Clubhouse, 7:00pm. Please bring your questions -photos of particular concerns about your property, etc.-so that we can discuss them.

With this in mind, and as nice Spring weather approaches here are things that you as a homeowner can do to help prepare your lot for construction.

- Remove anything located in the back 5 feet of your property.
- This is an easement area and there should not be anything built or planted in it.
- Ensure your drainage plan is still working as designed.
- Lots in the neighborhood were designed to drain to the street. The wall is specced for pier and beam construction, but it may interfere with water egress to the rear of your property

As always, I am glad to be able to serve our community and look forward to seeing this project through to its completion.

Dwight Osteen
President NWHCMUD28



NORMANDY FOREST

NORMANDY FOREST COMMITTEES

THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Brian Badger 281-353-1972
Cecil Mixon 832-663-5200

The Association has an active Architectural Control Committee that approves or denies all construction and any improvements. You may request an ACC form by contacting Chaparral Management 281-537-0957 or the association website. Please keep in mind that the Association has thirty days (30 days) to approve or disapprove any ACC and verbal approvals or disapprovals are not given.

SECURITY COMMITTEE

In the event of an emergency please call "911" or for Precinct 4 please program your cell phone with the number below.

Precinct 4 281-376-3472
Jim Norris 281-924-5828

POOL MAINTENANCE & LIFEGUARDS

Jeffery King 281-655-8675

CLUBHOUSE RENTALS

Chaparral Management / Valerie Overbeck 281-537-0957

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

John Nemec 281-651-8606 | jnemec@normandyforest.org
Paul Diaz 281-687-2045

POOL TAG COMMITTEE

Lindsey McPherson 713-898-9878
Chaparral Management 281-537-0957

BLOCK CAPTAIN

Sherri Cabrera 512-709-8476

NEWSLETTER INFO

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Judy Doll txcardlady@sbcglobal.net

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Advertising advertising@PEELinc.com

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IMPORTANT CONTACTS

HOA DIRECTORS

John Nemece | President 281-651-8606
Paul Diaz | Vice President 281-687-2045
Willmarie Muniz | Secretary 973-930-4839
Lindsey McPherson | Treasurer 713-898-9878
Jim Norris | Director 281-924-5828

MUD #28 BOARD

Dwight Osteen | President 832-527-6289
Thomas Pratt | Vice President 832-515-4199
Rich Doll | Secretary 281-528-9110
Denean Bennett | Director 281-350-6360
Troy Zuckero | Director 832-607-3697

BALLPARK RESERVATIONS

John Nemec | Coordinator 281-651-8606

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Gas | Centerpoint Energy 713-659-2111
Call Centerpoint for street light repair or outages
Electric | Reliant Energy 713-207-7777
Phone | AT&T www.att.com
MUD #28 Meet 4th Tuesday of the Month @ 6:30pm
Hayes Utility South (Water & Sewer) 281-353-9756
Trash | Republic Waste 281-446-2030
Heavy Trash 2nd Friday of the Month
Fire Department | Spring VFD 281-355-1266
County Commissioner | Jack Cagle 713-755-6444
Constable 281-376-3472

MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Chaparral Management Company, AAMC
6630 Cypresswood Suite 100 | Spring, Texas 77379
281-537-0957 phone | 281-537-0312 fax
Valerie Overbeck | Association Manager
voverbeck@chaparralmanagement.com

OFFICE HOURS

9am to 5pm | closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:15 pm

GARDENING IN SPRING

Preparing your garden after the last frost of the season can be a challenge.

First, cut back all dead and dried out branches of scrubs and plants. Some plants may be cut down to their base to allow new growth. A rake or hoe should be used to till the soil since it may be compact and hard after the cold weather. Plants cannot live by soil alone. They will benefit from a good fertilizer. There are 12 elements that are essential. They are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, manganese, boron, molybdenum, magnesium, sulfur, iron, copper, and zinc. The three essential elements plants use in the greatest quantities are nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, in that order, they correspond to the numbers printed on a typical bag of fertilizer. 5-10-5 indicates 5% nitrogen, 10% phosphorus and 5% potassium. Inert materials make up the other 85% of the bag.

Azaleas, if provided with water drainage, a slightly acidic soil rich in organic matter, and protection from the hot afternoon sun is easy to grow. Flowers can last for several weeks and some Azaleas will bloom in both Spring and Fall.

Oleanders need only sunshine to flourish. Several applications of fertilizer during the year will accelerate growth and flowers.

Oleanders flower about the end of April and by May the plant will be covered with blooms. They will also flower sporadically during the summer and fall.

Vines and climbing plants are very popular in our area. They are good for screening and some have flowers to attract honey bees, butterflies and Hummingbirds. As delicate as vines may look, they can withstand the hot afternoon sun of summer. Vines can also be pruned to stay in a area as an accent or to rid a garden of a "naked" wall or ugly fence.

A vine should become part of your landscape, so keep the size and flower and foliage color in mind when deciding on where you will plant it.

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to the *neighborhood*

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Questions: FFPS.org / 281-347-KICK (5425) or 800-828-PLAY (7529). To Sign Up: FFPS.org

FFPS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

- Practices: One per week
- Games: First Game: April 7
- Last Game: May 26
- All 8 games played on Saturdays locally - 22 locations

NORMANDY FOREST

IT'S BASEBALL SEASON

Make Your Reservations to Reserve the Practice Field

If your baseball or softball team plans to use the Normandy Forest field for your practices, please reserve your practice dates and times by emailing John Nemec at Michael010597@yahoo.com. Remember, a NF resident must remain with the group at all times and is responsible for the group's actions. Those teams that chose not to make reservations may be asked to leave the park.



ZUBE PARK TRAINS



The third Saturday of each month, beginning in March through November you and your kids can ride the miniature steam and diesel trains in Zube Park. They are free of charge for as many times as you would like to ride. You can however, put some money in their donation jar or purchase a t-shirt to help them offset the expenses of running the trains. Families are invited to bring a picnic or tail gate after their train ride. For more information and directions to the park go to www.hals.org

Did You Know?

SOME USES OTHER USES FOR PRODUCTS IN YOUR CUPBOARD.

Make Play Dough: 50 drops of food color added to 2 cups water, 2 cups flour, 1 cup salt, 1 tsp Cream of tartar, 2 tbs corn oil. Mix well and cook over medium heat three minutes or till mixture holds together. Place on cutting board and knead to dough consistency. Store in airtight container.

Clean Copper or Brass: Equal parts flour and salt. Add 1 tsp White Vinegar and make paste. Spread on brass or copper and let dry. Wash off paste and rinse well. Dry with soft cloth.

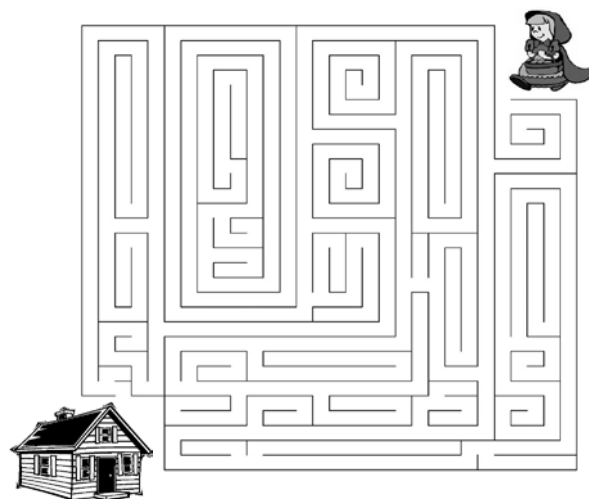
Repel Ants: Fill cracks and make a line with flour where ants enter. Ants will not cross.

Kill Unwanted Grass: Pour white vinegar in cracks and crevices (on driveways) to kill weeds and grass.

Clean Washer of Soap Scum: Pour 1 cup white vinegar into empty (no clothes) washing machine and run through small load cycle to clean soap scum out. Can also be used to clean automatic coffee makers of lime and clean bathroom tile. Vinegar mixed with water in a spray bottle (one part water to one part vinegar) till kill bacteria on counters and fixtures. Azaleas occasionally love to be watered with a mixture of 2tbs vinegar to 1 quart of water. They grow best in acidic soil.

Kidz Maze Mania

Little Red Riding Hood has lost her way to Grandma's house. Please hurry and help her get safely to Grandma's House before it gets too dark.



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YOUR HEALTH

Research now shows that gluten is good for most people and that going gluten-free can actually harm your health.

Several brands of buttery spreads contain palm oil, which can be as bad for your heart as hydrogenated oil, if not worse. Many people who ate them saw their "bad" cholesterol rise!



REGISTER FOR LOCAL SENATE DISTRICT DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

The 2018 Senate District 17 (Harris County) and Senate District 7 Democratic Convention will be held on Saturday, March 24th at Northbrook High School (Spring Branch ISD), located at 1 Raider Circle South, Houston TX, 77080. (Senate District 17 and Senate District 7 will be holding a joint convention).

Registration/Check-in starts at 8:00 am with a Call-to-Order at 9:00 am. The Convention is expected to adjourn at 3:00 pm. The Convention is free and open to ALL Democrats but it is important that you pre-register for the convention. To register, visit TexasDemocraticConvention.com.

The Senate District Conventions are held every two years in preparation for the Texas Democratic Convention (to be held June 21-23 in Fort Worth). The purpose of the Senate District Convention will be to: Select delegates to the State Convention; Pass Resolutions that will be forwarded to the State Convention for possible inclusion in the Party Platform; Meet your fellow Democratic activists in your precinct and neighborhood; Hear from Democratic candidates and elected officials.

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SQUIRRELS

By Cheryl Conley, TWRC Wildlife Center



What do these three words have in common—grey, fox and flyer? If you guessed they are all in the squirrel family, you would be correct. Squirrels are the most widely known and recognized of mammals and inhabit all continents except Antarctica and Australia.

Squirrels have 4 front teeth, two on top and two on the bottom, that continue to grow throughout their lives. Constant gnawing helps to keep them short and sharp.

At TWRC Wildlife Center, we have two non-releasable grey squirrels that are used as Animal Ambassadors. These squirrels don't have access to the outdoors so TWRC must provide them with materials they would find in the wild to keep their teeth trimmed. One of the squirrels has a malocclusion, the result of a fall when he was a baby. Because of the injury, we must file his teeth every month. If not done, it would eventually cause his death because he would be unable to eat.

Grey Squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensis*)

- Predominantly grey in color with a whitish belly.
- They are about 14 to 20 inches long with a 7 to 10 inch tail.
- They have 22 teeth.
- Tend to give birth twice a year.

Fox Squirrels (*Sciurus niger*)

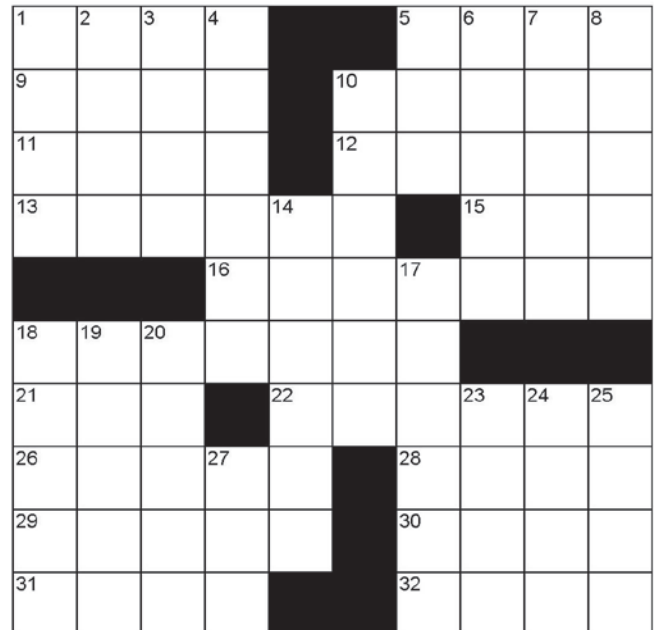
- This is the largest tree squirrel.
- They have a reddish-orange belly.
- They are 18-29 inches long not counting their tail which is about a foot long.
- They have 20 teeth.
- Can have two litters per year but typically only have one.

Flying Squirrels (*Glaucomys volans*)

- There is a membrane, called a patagium, between their front and back legs that allows them to glide from tree to tree. They can glide up to 150 feet.
- They are nocturnal. This is the reason so few people ever see one.
- They are about 9 inches long with a 4 inch tail and weigh about 3 ounces
- Their preferred den sites are holes in stumps and cavities in trees.

Spring babies are already being brought to TWRC Wildlife Center. If you find squirrel babies, we are here to help. During business hours, we're happy to answer your questions over the phone—713-468-TWRC. If it's after hours, go to our website for helpful information: www.twrcwildlifecenter.org.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



ACROSS

1. Blow
5. Green Gables dweller
9. Not there
10. Ask for legally
11. Smooth
12. Island nation
13. Fertilized cell
15. Ex-serviceman
16. Rovers
18. Covered in coarse hair
21. Single
22. Sacred songs
26. Scrimmage
28. Prophet who built the arc
29. Remove
30. Canal
31. Eye infection
32. Tear

DOWN

1. Virtuoso
2. Airy
3. "Ribbit" animal
4. Singing voices
5. Wing
6. Innocent
7. Meat curing ingredient
8. Gives off
10. Sharks
14. Man's wig
17. Less nice
18. Houses
19. Sluggish
20. Electrical device
23. Tenet
24. Water pipe
25. Cote
27. East southeast

View answers online at www.peelinc.com

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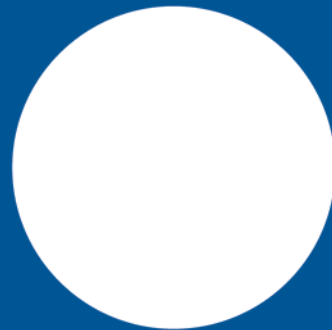
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