



# NORMANDY FOREST

October 2019

Official Publication of the Normandy Forest Homeowners Association

Volume 8, Issue 10

## Spotlight on Normandy Forest Homeowners Association

As of October 1st, our new management company will be Principal Management Group of Houston – An Associa Company. After numerous neighbor complaints and the lack of support from Chaparral Management, the HOA has decided to terminate their contract. Find contact information for Associa on page 2 of the newsletter. Associa will be sending an announcement letter to all residents in October.

The purpose of a homeowners association (HOA) is to help ensure that the neighborhood looks its best and functions smoothly. Usually common areas and amenities (i.e. swimming pools, playgrounds, etc.) are areas maintained by an HOA. Normandy Forest HOA President, Paul Diaz, answered a few questions to educate residents about the Normandy Forest HOA.

1) *What is the overall purpose of the Normandy Forest HOA?*

Paul: Our HOA upkeepes deed restrictions, maintains neighborhood amenities, and works with a management company to preserve the integrity of the community. The HOA hosts five social events annually: Easter Egg Hunt, Memorial Day Pool Party, National Night Out, Movie Night, and Cookies with Santa.

2) *What neighborhood services are provided by the HOA?*

Paul: Upkeep of the park, pool, entrances, club house, pay for street light electricity; as well as the sprinkler systems within two parks and the three medians.

3) *How are the HOA Board of Directors selected? What is the length of term in office for elected members?*

Paul: Elected board members serve a two year term. There are a total of five seats on the board. During odd years, three board members are voted onto the board. During even years, two members are voted onto the board. Board elections take place in November. Any Normandy Forest homeowner can run

for the board. Members are required to attend six meetings during the year. Emergency meetings may occur, for example, board members met after a severe storm knocked down multiple trees in the neighborhood park.

4) *Are HOA board members paid for their service?*

Paul: No, these are volunteer positions. Board members must be willing to donate time to the community via meeting participation (must be available to attend five out of six meetings per year), participate in activities, and oversee maintenance, pool, etc.

5) *How is the HOA funded?*

Paul: Each Normandy Forest homeowner pays an annual assessment fee of \$500.

6) *What entity oversees Normandy Forest HOA Board transactions?*

Paul: Our new management company, Associa, has been hired to oversee the board transactions. Their responsibilities include: locating vendors for repairs, conduct monthly exterior home inspections, manage deed restriction letters, as well as attend meetings.

7) *When are HOA meetings held?*

Paul: Meetings take place on the third Tuesday of every other month. Meetings are scheduled to be held in January, March, May, July, September, and November.

8) *How can a resident present suggestions or concerns to the HOA Board?*

Paul: All residents are welcome to speak during HOA meetings. Please sign in upon arrival and indicate to the board that you would like to speak. Each resident that would like to speak is granted a five minute time limit.

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# NORMANDY FOREST

## NORMANDY FOREST COMMITTEES

### THE ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

Cecil Mixon ..... 832-663-5200  
Steve Miller ..... 281-723-2148

*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

Aquatic Management of Houston ..... 281-446-5003

### CLUBHOUSE RENTALS

Associa Management ..... 713-329-7100

### MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Paul Diaz ..... 281-687-2045

### POOL TAG COMMITTEE

Willmarie Muniz ..... 973-930-4839  
Associa Management ..... 713-329-7100

### NEWSLETTER TEAM

Sherri Cabrera ..... 512-709-8476

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. .... www.PEELinc.com, 512-263-9181  
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## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

### HOA DIRECTORS

Paul Diaz | President ..... 281-687-2045  
Willmarie Muniz | Vice President ..... 973-930-4839  
Triana Sanches | Secretary ..... 917-328-2941  
Jim Norris | Director ..... 281-924-5828  
Mishelle Leon | Treasurer ..... 516-305-3665

### 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  
Hal Walker | Director

### BALLPARK RESERVATIONS

Paul Diaz | Coordinator ..... 281-687-2045

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

Gas | Centerpoint Energy ..... 713-659-2111  
*Call Centerpoint for street light repair or outages*  
Electric | Reliant Energy ..... 713-207-7777  
..... www.powertochoose.org  
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 & Recycle | 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 Precinct 4 ..... 281-376-3472

### MANAGEMENT COMPANY (AS OF 10/01/2019)

Principal Management Group of Houston  
-An Associa Company  
11000 Corporate Centre Drive #150  
Houston, TX 77041 | 713-329-7100  
Amy Ballard | Subdivision Manager  
ABallard@pmghouston.com

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm



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# NORMANDY FOREST

*(Continued from Cover)*

Residents who need to discuss deed restriction letters must contact the new subdivision manager, Amy Ballard, at [ABallard@pmghouston.com](mailto:ABallard@pmghouston.com) 10 days before the meeting to be added to the meeting agenda. Deed restriction discussions will take place after the public portion of the HOA meeting.

9) *What HOA projects were completed in 2019 to benefit the Normandy Forest neighborhood?*

Paul:

- Polycarbonate roofing was added to the large pergola by the pool.
- Two pergola columns were replaced due to termite damage (one on each pergola). Both pergolas were re-stained.
- New pool chairs, lounge chairs, side tables, and umbrellas were added.
- Pool deck was power washed and painted.
- New granite sink tops, bath stalls, and mirrors were installed in both pool bathrooms.
- Pool lights were repaired and updated to LED lighting.
- Bike rack added to the Normandy Forest Park.
- New sidewalk installed at the gas pipeline near the intersection of Normandy Forest Drive and Deauville Drive
- New durable Bend-A-Board installed around the Normandy Forest Park trail and crushed granite was refilled.
- Previously open areas under the new back fence of the Normandy Forest Park were closed.
- Partnered with the MUD #28 Board to install a new drinking fountain near the Normandy Forest Park trail.
- Little Free Library book-sharing box added to the entrance of Normandy Forest Park.
- Drainage was addressed at both the Normandy Forest Park and the La Cote Circle Park.
- Boom box purchased in September for future use at the pool. Residents are welcome to use it. First come, first serve.

10) *What future HOA projects/plans are in place for 2020?*

Paul: Currently on the September agenda and pending board approval:

- Replace coping around edge of pool (the white edging)
- New pool tile
- Replace entire decking surrounding the pool
- Relocate current small playground at Normandy Forest Park to the La Cote Circle Park. Monkey bars would be installed to replace the small playground.

**NOTE: Project approval took place after the October Newsletter submission deadline.**

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## *First Impressions Matter*



Meet Normandy Forest resident, Anderson Castillo. Anderson purchased his La Arbre Lane home in 2018. As an Interior Designer, Anderson saw the potential in his “new, but tired” property. He has been busy transforming his home into a personal domain that is aesthetically pleasing, comfortable, and has the “wow” factor worthy of a newly built model home.

**Below, Anderson shares a few tips on how to add curb appeal to “tired” homes.**

### *1. Show off your actual home*

- Let the architecture shine, allow the foundation to show, it will give your home a presence. Overgrown trees covering your home “gots to go!”

### *2. WOW! By updating/adding window shutters*

- Custom window shutters will bring a lot of attention to the architecture of your home. Trust me, it will make a difference.

### *3. Accessorize the right way*

- Add a wreath to your front door. Go BIG! Trust me it works. It will definitely command attention.

### *4. Design a pretty pathway*

- A pathway adds a bit of mystery and makes your home inviting. Placing a container garden at your door step is a quick and affordable way to liven things up.

### *5. Give your garage door a facelift*

- A new coat of paint can do wonders for your garage doors. You can also glam it up by adding decorative hardware accents.

### *6. Add some fun to your light fixtures*

- Replacing exterior light fixtures is another curb appeal must. Consider wall sconces, overhead lighting, and path lights for maximum impact.

### *7. Paint*

- A simple paint job can work wonders. Find the combo you love most and go for it.

**Reminder!** Be sure to seek approval for exterior updates (i.e. paint colors, roofing, front door replacement, etc.) with the Normandy Forest Architectural Committee prior to beginning the work.

### **ANDERSON'S HOME BEFORE...**



### **ANDERSON'S HOME AFTER!**





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# NORMANDY FOREST



## Memorable Family Moments

**EDUCATIONAL  
ACTIVITIES IDEAL FOR  
MAKING MEMORIES  
TOGETHER**

Photo courtesy of Getty Images

**E**ducational activities and plans that allow kids to flex their brain muscles in fun and creative ways can be ideal ways to spend family time that makes lasting memories.

While children typically gain invaluable knowledge and experience in the classroom, purposeful activities done outside of that setting can help encourage kids to keep learning and make family moments more enjoyable for everyone involved.

From planning trips that celebrate animals and the great outdoors to rainy day activities at home that inspire creative expression, these ideas can produce some family moments worth remembering.

1. Go on a scavenger hunt. From native species of plants, animals and insects to neighborhood landmarks, there are plenty of interesting things that can be found right in your own backyard. Organize a scavenger hunt and work together in teams of family members to search for each item on the list, then do more research on the things you found once you return home. For a real challenge, expand your hunt to the city limits of your hometown and make a day trip of the adventure.
2. Hang out with wildlife. Learn about different species of animals, how to help protect them and the importance of eco-friendly everyday practices by visiting a destination like an Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA)-accredited zoo or aquarium. You can explore the challenges facing endangered species, discover how community programs are spurring positive change for conservation and learn more at [aza.org](http://aza.org). After learning about animals that need help, you

can visit [zebrapen.com/aza](http://zebrapen.com/aza) for fun kids games, coloring pages and other activities that encourage creativity. Many animal sanctuaries and wildlife recovery centers also have endangered species and offer educational information about them.

3. Visit a national park. Many park ranger programs provide opportunities to interact with the animals that live in the area, as well as information about any endangered animals and how you can help with conservation efforts. While in the park, you can also enjoy a nature hike, have a picnic lunch and view the different species of plants in the region.
4. Enjoy an arts and crafts day. Spending time doing an art project is a hands-on way to help introduce kids to new ideas and ways of learning. Engage the entire family by creating crafts with different subjects of interest. This can help create conversations and opportunities to further explore what your children are interested in.
5. Organize a game day. A play day can be just as fun as it is educational. Choose from a variety of games that can allow players to get extra creative. Options like Pictionary or charades tap into different types of creative skills, which can keep everyone engaged while they're learning to express themselves effectively in new ways.

*(Continued on Page 7)*

("Memorable Family Moments" - Continued from Page 6)

## Capture Moments That Matter

Make your family's learning adventures more memorable by encouraging kids to capture their experiences on paper. The practice of communicating on paper can help lock in memories, plus it's a clever way for kids to practice practical skills in an engaging and productive way.

Adjust these ideas as needed to match the ability level of each child so the whole family can participate.

1. Write about experiences in a journal or diary. For older kids, encourage them to use words to describe their adventures. Ask younger kids to draw a scene or image that captured their attention or excited them the most.
2. Design a diorama about your family's adventures to display in your home to show extended family and friends. Make it a conversation piece by asking kids to think about an endangered species and depict its living environment. Available in standard, glitter, neon, metallic and pastel colors, tools like Zebra Doodler'z<sup>®</sup> allow little designers to explore the nearly endless possibilities for color coding, sketching, journaling and embellishing.
3. Take photos to share with friends and family both online and in-person. Get creative with your photo-taking by encouraging kids to think about the story they'll tell through the images. It might be a series of selfies tackling exciting new activities or documenting a sibling's first experience at the petting zoo. Another way to capture photographic memories is a photo treasure hunt, where kids have a list of items to search for and photograph during each outing.
4. Create a family calendar to plan your summer activities together. Anticipating upcoming adventures is part of the fun. Let kids help you keep track of what's coming up and build excitement with a personalized calendar. Make it a work of art by asking kids to draw icons or small images that depict



upcoming activities with an option like Zebra's Sarasa<sup>®</sup> Fineliner Pens, which are available in 12 vibrant colors.

5. Share experiences on social media. Let friends and family in on the fun by sharing your photos, drawings, dioramas and other creations online. Seeing the positive interaction and praise-filled comments from loved ones can help reinforce the value of creative expression to impressionable young minds.
6. Create scrapbooks to help remember family moments. Keep the pace of life from fading those precious memories by assembling scrapbooks to commemorate family adventures. Make the scrapbook a family affair with everyone contributing their own creations.

Find more ideas for capturing and sharing experiences at [zebrapen.com](http://zebrapen.com).



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