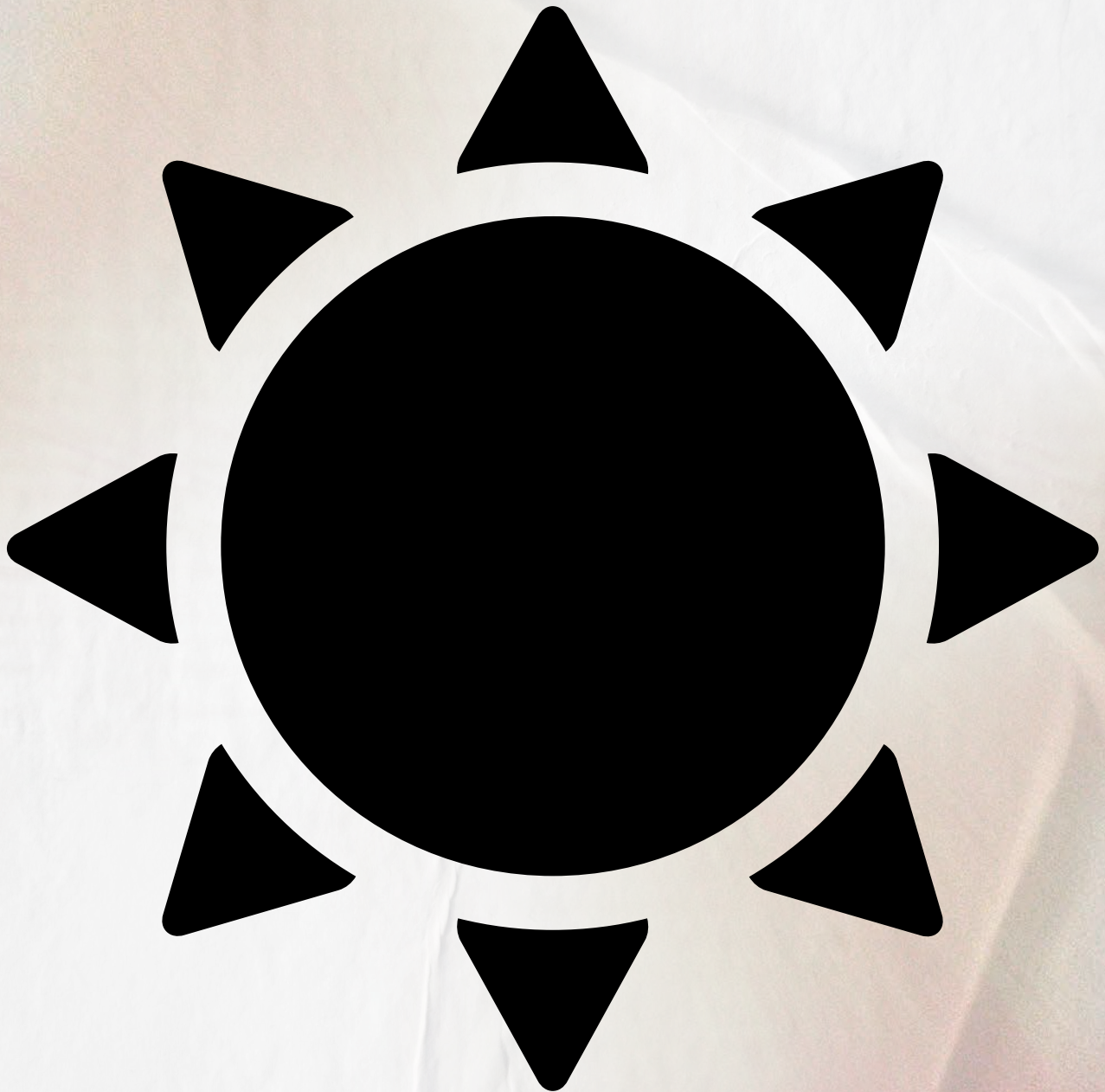




SANDYPINES
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY

FOOTPRINTS

IN THE SAND



AUGUST 2026

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Lake Monterey Golf 616.896.8118

Dave Ingles, Manager
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Laundromat Hours – Open 24 Hours

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff SweitzerPark President
Kimberly Williams Finance & Accounting
Steve Deyarmond Emergency Services
Ben Fifelski Maintenance
Dave Ingles Lake Monterey
Golf Course

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Janele Tomes Camping
Ian Mitchell Communications
Chet Ryan.....Park & Garden Manager
Dale Yoder Food Operations Manager
Jim Buchanan.....Park Inspector
Paul Schaaf Security Services
Abby Greenfield..... Recreation

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager
Golf Course Joe Zomerlei
Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager
Rules Holly Malewski
Safety & Security..... Rick Ives
Lake Study..... Valerie Troschinetz
Library.....Patience Pike

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Dairy Dip 616.405.5643
Park & Garden Store 616.896.9334
Park & Garden
Rental Office 616.896.9888

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cory Berens.....(2028)
Rick Day, Secretary(2026)
Kolyn Giebel(2028)
Ginny Hager, Treasurer(2027)
Kelly Johnson(2028)
Larry Munger(2027)
Craig Van Beek, Chairperson.....(2026)
Scot Wyman, Vice Chairperson.....(2027)
Paul Peppel(2026)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Sandy Pines Board of Directors
will provide positive leadership and
management direction so as to ensure
the long term viability and success of
Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc.



PARK PRESIDENT NEWS

BY JEFF SWEITZER

Jeff@SandyPines.com

What an incredible summer we've enjoyed at Sandy Pines! After a cool start in April and May, the heat waves of June and July brought us the warmth we've been looking toward while settling into the perfect summer weather. Now it's August, and you know what that means—another weather change is probably just around the corner! After all, it's Christmas in August at Sandy Pines! Time to break out those Christmas inflatables and lights to display.

The park continues to be full of activity, with plenty of fun events and exciting happenings for everyone to enjoy. Be sure to check out some of this month's highlights below. We look forward to seeing you around the park as we make the most of the final weeks of summer!

2026 Annual Election and Meeting

Our annual Sandy Pines Election and Member Meeting is just around the corner! Please take a few moments to review the sample ballot included later in this edition of The Footprints. This year's ballot includes two important proposals, along with the election of members to the Board of Directors. Your vote matters! Don't forget to vote!

Proposal A: Capital Investment Fund

Proposal A would establish a new 15-Year Capital Investment Fund, replacing the current 10-Year Capital Investment Reserve when it expires on September 30, 2027.

As Sandy Pines continues to grow, so does the need to maintain and improve our aging infrastructure. Many of our buildings are now more than 50 years old, and several amenities require renovation or replacement. This proposal is the result of more than three years of planning, involving multiple committees, a cross functional team, independent expert evaluations, Board of Directors reviews, and valuable member input gathered through surveys.

If you still have questions about this proposal, we encourage you to stop by the Administration Office. Our staff are always happy to provide accurate information and answer your questions. We believe members should have the information they need to make an informed decision about the future of Sandy Pines and the continued protection of your investment in the park. Not everything you hear on social media is truth. Please note that this proposal is for a 15-Year Capital Investment Fund, not 25-years. The final 10-years will be reviewed, adjusted, changed as needed and re-voted on by the membership.

Proposal B: Board Eligibility Requirements

Proposal B would update the Board of Directors eligibility requirements by aligning our bylaws with current Michigan law while establishing higher standards for future board service.

This proposal does not remove members' right to elect Board members during the annual election, nor does it change the existing process for members to remove Board members through the voting process when permitted under the bylaws. Instead, it establishes eligibility standards that future Board candidates and directors would be expected to meet.

This proposal does not affect any current Board members or candidates, and park operations, including the Park President, are not involved in this process.

We encourage all members to educate themselves on both proposals by reviewing the facts and supporting information available through the 2026 Annual Election Hub.
<https://sandypines.com/2026-annual-election/>

Board of Directors Election

This year's ballot also includes three (3) open positions on the Board of Directors. We have five (5) outstanding candidates who have each worked hard to earn your support and deserve your consideration.

If you were unable to attend the Meet the Candidates event on July 11, 2026, you can watch the recorded presentation on our website by clicking the YouTube channel icon. Candidate biographies are also available in the July edition of The Footprints.

Voting Information

Absentee ballots remain available through Member Service for members who are unable to vote on Election Day, August 15, 2026. Please remember to bring proper identification when requesting an absentee ballot. One ballot will be issued per membership.

In-person voting will once again take place at the lower level of the North Shore Building from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Our Election Committee will be available throughout the day to answer questions and assist members as needed.

Annual Membership Meeting

The Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, August 15, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Chapel.

As in previous years, members will receive an update on Sandy Pines from the Park President and an update on Lake Monterey Golf Course from the General Manager. Members will also have the opportunity to ask questions of staff and the Board of Directors.

We look forward to sharing highlights from the 2026 season, discussing priorities for 2027, and hearing your comments and ideas. We hope to see you there!

2026 / 2027 Budget

This month, the Board of Directors will vote on the 2026/2027 Operating and Capital Budgets for both Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course. Developing these budgets is a collaborative effort that involves many hours of work by our staff, Finance Committee, and Board of Directors.

The budgeting process begins each April and continues throughout the season to ensure every aspect receives careful review. By focusing on specific sections of the budget each

Continued on Page 4

Park President / Continued From Page 3

month, we are able to thoroughly evaluate financial information, discuss priorities, and make informed decisions that support the long-term success of both organizations.

We are pleased that the 2025/2026 fiscal year is trending toward another positive financial performance, helping to ensure the continued financial stability of both Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course. This success is made possible through the careful day-to-day management of departmental budgets by our staff, along with the oversight and guidance provided by the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors.

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone involved for their dedication, stewardship, and commitment to the financial health of our community.

Christmas in August – The Happiest Time of Summer!

There's something truly magical about Christmas in August at Sandy Pines! From festive golf carts and cheerful decorations to the sounds of Christmas carols filling the air, this beloved tradition brings our community together in a celebration of fun, laughter, and happiness.

Whether you're decorating your site, singing along to your favorite holiday tunes, or simply enjoying the smiles of family, friends, and neighbors, Christmas in August is a wonderful reminder of what makes Sandy Pines so special. It's one of our signature end-of-summer events and a time to create lasting memories before another great season comes to a close.

Join us as we celebrate the joy of the season—Sandy Pines style—and help make our golf cart community the happiest campground on earth this August!

Other Important Updates

Final 2026 Town Hall – Capital Investment Fund

This will be on Saturday, August 8th from 9:00am to 10:00am. We encourage you to stop in to hear the facts and ask any additional questions you may have regarding this important topic facing Sandy Pines.

Keystone and Endeavor Propane Services

A reminder to our membership that individual contracts with Keystone / Endeavor Propane are expiring this month. The park did negotiate an extension of the Keystone/Endeavor tank pick up deadline from May 2026 to August 2026. Members are encouraged to switch their service from Keystone/Endeavor this month if they have not already.

The park and board of directors reviewed options to venture into the propane service business as well as contract with a sole source for supply of the entire park. None of the options were viable options for our members or the park. Members are encouraged to continue to enter into their individual contracts with the best propane provider they choose. If the need arises again, we will revisit options for our propane needs.

Lastly, Thank You for allowing our staff and me to serve you. Everything we do, we do for the betterment of this wonderful park. We are truly blessed to be at Sandy Pines.

God Bless!

"My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry."

James 1:19



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MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICHOLE MILBOCKER MemberService@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8 am to 4 pm

Saturday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm (through Labor Day Weekend)

Sunday: Closed

Important Dates

AUGUST 1 Color Run 10am-12pm Begins at Chapel
AUGUST 1 Blood Drive 10am-3pm North Shore Center
AUGUST 1 Poker Run 2pm-4pm Craft Show Area/Pancake Shelter
AUGUST 1 Color Foam Party 6pm-9pm Craft Show Area
AUGUST 3 Music Bingo 7pm-9pm at LMGC
AUGUST 7-9 Christmas in August Weekend
AUGUST 7 Costume Showcase 2pm-4pm North Shore Center
AUGUST 7 Christmas Ornament Making 6pm-8pm Recreation Station
AUGUST 7 Luminary Decorating & Lighting 6pm-9pm Recreation Station
AUGUST 7 Night Light Bike Parade 9pm-10pm Begins at Chapel
AUGUST 7 Trivia Night 6pm-9pm at LMGC
AUGUST 8 Town Hall 9am-10am at North Shore Center
AUGUST 8 Craft/Vendor Show 12pm-6pm Craft Show Area
AUGUST 8 Night Light Golf Cart Parade 9-10pm Begins at the Chapel
AUGUST 9 Christmas Bingo 1pm-3pm Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion
AUGUST 14 Absentee Ballots Due by 4pm at Member Service
AUGUST 14 Board of Directors Meeting 6-7:30pm at North Shore Center
AUGUST 15 Annual Election 10am-2pm at North Shore Center
AUGUST 15 Sandy Pines & LMGC Annual Meeting 10am-11:30am
AUGUST 15 Winterization Sign-up Begins (first 500)
AUGUST 17 Music Bingo 7pm-9pm at LMGC
AUGUST 22 Join us for Phase Olympics 11am-4pm Craft Show Area
AUGUST 25 Member Account Balance Due

Absentee Ballots

Absentee ballots are available at the Administration Office now through **August 14th by 4pm**. Members, please bring a photo ID card with you to receive your ballot. Your account balance must be in good standing in order to receive a ballot. One vote per membership is permitted.

Annual Election-August 15th

If you were unable to vote absentee, please stop and vote on August 15th. Prior to voting, please make sure your account is paid current, if not you will be asked to do so before you may vote.

Winterization

Winterizations are now open for the season beginning **August 15th**. Sign up early as space is limited to the first 500 members. Print or pick up your form at the Member Service Office, return completed form here as well.

Please NOTE: you MUST bring in a key when turning in form if we do not have one on file for you.

Laundromat

Members, when putting in a ticket for service on any of the laundry machines, please include which laundry room the machine is in. This will make it easier for the technician to serve the machine. Thank you in advance for your continued support and assistance with this process.

Little Red Express Train Rides

August 14th 12-2pm

August 29th 9am-11am

Get your tickets in advance at Member Service, tickets are \$3 each. Or purchase during ride time at the Train Station.

Mailroom

Departure reminder-be sure to forward all mailings two weeks prior to leaving for the season. USPS usually requires a two-week notice to complete those changes in their system. PLEASE check the mailroom before leaving to ensure all mail/packages have been picked up. **MAIL ROOM WILL BE LOCKED AT THE END OF THE SEASON**

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FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS

Kim@SandyPines.com

The most recent June 2026 financial statements for both Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails and Lake Monterey Golf Course have been approved and posted on the Finance page under www.sandypines.com.

Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails: June 2026 Financial Summary

- Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails reported June 2026 total revenue of \$7,898,819 and total expenses of \$5,997,339.
- Net income was \$1,795,711, up \$320,347 compared with June 2025.
- Total revenue increased by \$157,088 year over year, led by higher resort income, maintenance income, and retail income.
- Sales income declined by \$110,958 compared with June 2025.
- Total expenses decreased by \$132,032 year over year, helped by lower maintenance and upkeep, payroll and benefits, and supplies expenses.
- Utilities and insurance, property tax, and depreciation increased compared with the prior year.
- Cash position was \$5.05 million, down \$733,000 from May.
- Cash reserves equaled approximately 220 days based on daily expenses of \$22,976.

Lake Monterey Golf Course: June 2026 Financial Summary

- Lake Monterey Golf Course reported June 2026 total revenue of \$489,407 and total expenses of \$374,829.
- Net income was \$57,737, down \$89,527 compared with June 2025.
- Total revenue decreased by \$78,931 year over year, mainly due to lower membership assessments, green fees, and pro shop sales.
- Membership assessments were the largest revenue source at \$216,300, down \$54,075 from June 2025.
- Green fees totaled \$167,275, down \$22,358 year over year.
- Memberships and food and beverage revenue increased compared with June 2025.
- Total expenses were relatively stable, increasing by \$1,633 year over year.
- Payroll and benefits and food and beverage cost of goods increased, while course maintenance expenses decreased.
- Cash position was \$966,000, down \$14,000 from May.
- Cash reserves equaled approximately 598 days based on daily expenses of \$1,614.

FY2027 Budget Review

During July, significant attention was given to capital infrastructure planning and evaluating the park's long-term needs in support of the proposed 2026 Capital Investment Proposal.

As part of the FY2027 budget process, the Finance Committee and Board of Directors continued reviewing the projected operating budget and the financial challenges created by rising costs. Even after applying the 3.3% Midwest Consumer Price Index (CPI) adjustment allowed under the bylaws, the proposed FY2027 Sandy Pines budget still reflects an estimated operating shortfall of approximately \$275,000 and a cash flow deficit of about \$165,000.

Like many organizations, Sandy Pines continues to experience increasing costs due to inflation. However, the CPI-based limitation on annual dues increases restricts the organization's ability to fully recover those added expenses. One of the most significant budget pressures for both Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course remains the continued increases in minimum wage requirements for seasonal employees to comply with Department of Labor regulations.

With operating dues no longer keeping pace with the growth in fixed operating costs, the Administration, Finance Committee, and Board of Directors are reviewing the overall funding structure to better align revenues with expenses. This includes evaluating fees that are directly impacted by inflation and rising operating costs while continuing to maintain fairness across the organization.

This financial review, along with the proposed operating and capital budgets, will be finalized and presented to the Finance Committee and Board of Directors for consideration and approval at the August 14, 2026, Board of Directors meeting.

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LAKE COMMITTEE NEWS

BY PAUL PEPPEL

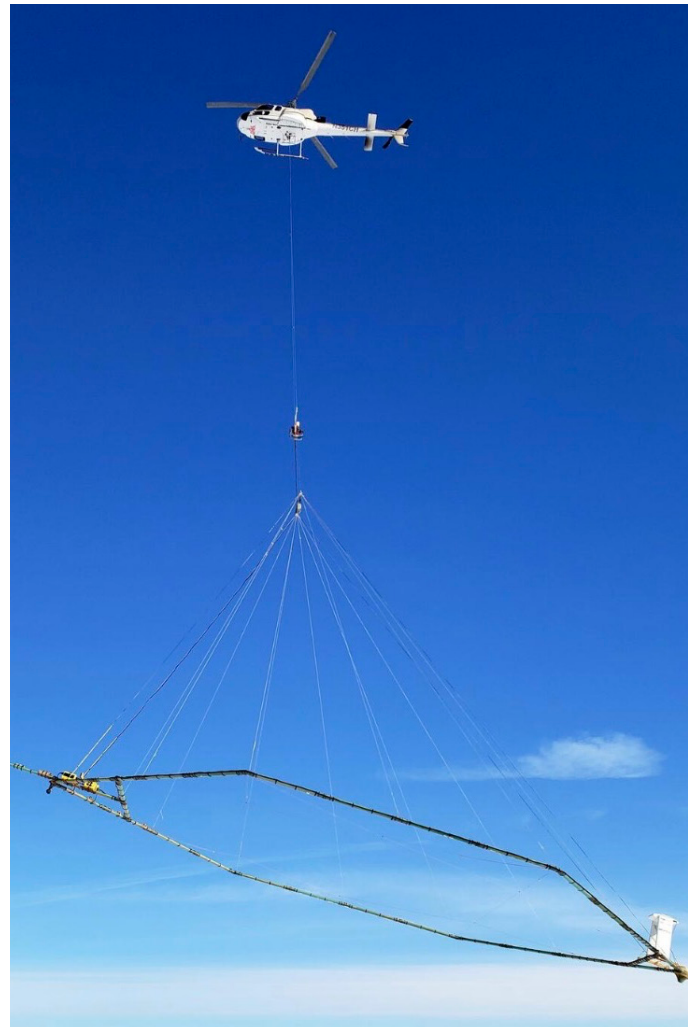
Keeping the water level as consistent as possible on Monterey Lake is extremely important for several reasons. Boaters appreciate the ease in motoring and docking, while deeper water also benefits fishermen thanks to cooler water. Weed growth is lessened as increased depth hampers sun ray penetration. And although many are not aware, a consistent lake level also helps build a hardened edge, resulting in less erosion of our sandy perimeter.

The challenge is to try and overcome Mother Nature as she evaporates far more water from the lake than we are able to replenish, especially on the hot, sunny days that we endured during some brutal stretches this summer. Even with our four pumps running at full efficiency, it's not enough.

So just add more pumps, that'll do the trick, right? Well, in theory yes, however, in reality, it's not that simple. To underscore this, the Park had a painful experience several years ago, relying on supposed expert advice to drill for water in Phase 3 adjacent to 26th St. While expecting (hoping) for Old Faithful, what we actually got couldn't fill a bathtub in an hour. The company was kind enough to refund some of our money, but it was still a significant dent to the lake budget. Point being is it isn't an exact science and experimentation is costly, not only financially but can also be a time waster.

The Lake Committee looked deeper into this matter and some valuable information may be available to us soon. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) is in the process of conducting an Airborne Electromagnetic Survey (AEM) in our area. Data is being gathered via helicopter with a towing survey hoop attached (see photo). It will fly a pre-determined grid pattern throughout SW Michigan, skipping flyovers of the major cities. This is being used to better understand groundwater resources by using cutting-edge technology to assess below-ground properties under the auspices of the Michigan Water Use Advisory Council. This will hopefully provide answers as to the potential viability of untapped aquifers in our area. Will we be able to tap into this data? An unknown at this point but fortunately there are several means of contact and, if there's an information path, the LC will figure it out.

It should be noted that the Board recognizes the need for lake improvement and maintenance overall and the value of having a consistent lake level, thus they have added two new wells in year 1 with two more wells slated for year 5 of the Capital Investment Project that we'll be voting on later this month. Make sure and gather information from trusted sources so that you can make an informed decision. Thanks for reading and have a happy balance of the season!



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Sandy Pines Election August 15, 2026

Proposals to be Voted on by the Membership

Proposal A: Capital Investment Fund

The following ballot proposal, if approved, will replace the present \$200.00 Capital Reserve Fund Assessment expiring on September 30, 2027:

Shall the membership approve the amount of \$650.00 per membership for the first 15 years of the 25-year Capital Investment Fund plan. The assessed amount will contain an annual inflation escalator of 3.5% per year for the 15-year period. Collection of annual assessments will be quarterly for each membership throughout the fiscal year over the 15-year period.

The resulting accumulated Capital Investment Fund assets shall be dedicated to capital expenditures, as listed and reviewed annually, on the Capital Budget estimate, beginning fiscal year 2027/2028 over 15 years, for the purpose of making capital improvements to common area depleting infrastructure and amenities in such a way as to maintain the use and financial stability of the park. Projects are identified on document: 25-year Identified Project List 06.19.2026.pdf.

All funds collected shall be maintained in a separate account earmarked for capital expenditures and shall not be comingled with the general funds or any other funds. Amounts not expended for the projects indicated shall only be expended for capital projects approved by the board.

_____ YES

_____ NO

Proposal B: Board of Directors Eligibility

The following ballot proposal, if approved, will replace Article VIII, Section 1 of the Bylaws so that it shall read as follows:

Section 1, Number of Directors / Eligibility for Office: There shall be nine (9) directors. In order to be eligible to serve as a Director, the following requirements shall be met:

- A. The Director shall be a member in good standing, with no money or fees past due to Sandy Pines throughout the tenure in office;
- B. The Director shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age (as required by the Michigan Nonprofit Corporation Act); and
- C. During or before the annual September Board of Directors meeting, all Directors shall annually sign the Sandy Pines' Board of Directors Code of Ethics Policy, as it may be amended from time-to-time.
- D. The Director shall not have been cited for any violation of Article VI (Conduct Rules), Section (G)(3), which prohibits verbal or physical abuse, harassment, threats, domestic violence or abuse and stalking, of member, staff or guests, during a term of office or in the preceding five (5) years of a term in office.

A Director who does not meet all of these requirements shall be automatically removed from office, with the vacancy to be filled, if at all, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 7 of the Bylaws.

_____ YES

_____ NO

Board of Directors

Vote for no more than three (3) candidates

☐ Jill Grung

☐ Brad Hutchins

☐ Angie Kuppler

☐ Patience Pike

☐ Craig Van Beek

I voted for (number of candidates)_____

2745 136TH AVENUE - HOPKINS, MICHIGAN 49328
PHONE (616) 896-8315 - FAX (616) 896-7409 - WWW.SANDYPINES.COM

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Jill Grung



My name is Jill Grung and I am running for a seat on OUR Board of Directors.

I am a retired CPA with 30+ years of auditing nonprofit organizations. My work focused on the financial side of looking at an organization and how that organization spends responsibly and plans for its future.

This is my 3rd season here at Sandy Pines. I spend the entire summer right here in phase 5 enjoying everything Sandy Pines has to offer. In the off-season I live locally in Jenison.

I meet so many new and interesting people here in the park. I have developed an understanding of many issues on the minds of the membership. I believe I can offer a new, clean and refreshing perspective to “business as usual”.

I do come with experience of sitting on a large Board of Directors. I spent six years as a member of the Community Unit School District 300 Board of Education in Illinois, and for many of those years, I was an officer on the board. This governing body was responsible for a \$90 million budget and approximately 15,000 students. I learned there are times when hard decisions are necessary to protect the masses and that you can't please all the people all the time. However, I found that being transparent with information and educating your constituents on the reasons behind certain decisions, can gain the respect of all parties.

I would appreciate and consider it a privilege if you allowed me the opportunity to represent YOU, the membership, on OUR board.

Thanks Jill Grung, CPA

Brad Hutchins



Hello, my name is Brad Hutchins. My wife and I are in our 10th season at Sandy Pines, a place we discovered through my sisters and niece, all of whom have places here. We have two adult children who enjoy visiting when their schedules allow. I grew up in Holland, Jackson, and Ann Arbor, Michigan, and after college, we moved to a Chicago suburb where we've lived for over 35 years.

I'm proud to be part of this vibrant community. Sandy Pines offers a unique environment with activities focused on family, recreation, and social bonds, all of which keep us coming back year after year.

I've always believed in giving back. I've served on several Sandy Pines committees, including the Long-Range Planning Committee for five years and the cross-functional Capital Reserve Master Plan team for the past year and a half. Many members may also recognize my name as the instructor of the Fused and Stained Glass Classes here. This experience has allowed me to connect with many members, many of whom I now consider friends.

My professional background is in healthcare, beginning as a Speech-Language Pathologist and later as a Hospital Vice President of Clinical Programs. The second half of my career was spent as a Chief Development Officer, notably at the American Academy of Pediatrics and the national Easter Seals organization.

In addition to my roles here at Sandy Pines, I have extensive experience serving on various Boards of Directors, including Our Children's Homestead, a foster care organization focused on helping adolescent children in foster care, and the International Pediatric Association Foundation, which promotes education and pediatric healthcare worldwide. Additionally, I also served on two school Boards in Glen Ellyn.

All these experiences have taught me the importance and role of Board Members in strategic oversight, fiduciary responsibility, active listening, effective communication, and respectful collaboration—key qualities for a Board Member. I believe in

Continued on Page 12

Candidates / Continued From Page 11

offering relevant insights and being open to discussions on important topics.

I hope to serve as your representative on the Sandy Pines Board of Directors. My background and experiences have prepared me to help guide Sandy Pines' growth today and into the future.

Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts, concerns, or goals for Sandy Pines as you decide your vote.

All the best, Brad Hutchins, M.A.

Angie Kuppler



My name is Angie Kuppler and I am running for a seat on the Sandy Pines Board of Directors.

My husband Kurt and I have been married for 34 years. After purchasing our Sandy Pines site in 2022 and later purchasing a condo in 2024, we chose to make Sandy Pines our year-round home. We are fully invested - emotionally, financially and wholeheartedly in the future of this community. I want to ensure that the decisions made today will sustain the Sandy Pines experience and to continue making Sandy Pines a place everyone can enjoy.

Prior to moving here we lived in Texas Township, near Kalamazoo, and raised our three children. Today, our family includes four grandchildren, and some of our greatest memories are made right here at Sandy Pines. Family, community, and creating lasting traditions are at the heart of why I am running.

Professional & Leadership Experience

I founded and operated three successful service businesses, including a 440-customer cleaning company, along with window cleaning and mosquito/pest control businesses. Through those experiences, I developed strengths in budgeting, financial oversight, operations, staff leadership, long-range planning and customer service.

I have also served in numerous volunteer leadership roles. I was PTO President for two different elementary schools, sat on a committee when the school system expanded, President of a little league - 750+ player little league program and managed my sons travel soccer team. Given that one of those tenures as President of a PTO involved starting a new school - I have also

had involvement with drafting governing by-laws to support long-term organizational success. I know what it means to lead, to collaborate, and to make decisions that stand the test of time.

Currently, I serve as Secretary on the Sandy Pines Condo Board of Directors. In this role, I work closely with fellow board members on governance, communication, meeting administration and representing condo co-owners' interests while balancing responsible stewardship of community resources. This experience provides current hands-on insight into board operations, decision-making, and serving the broader Sandy Pines membership.

My Vision for Sandy Pines

Sandy Pines should continue to improve without losing the character that makes it unique. I support thoughtful growth, strong stewardship of member investment and preserving the traditions that bring families together. We need to remember that the foundation of this community started based on camping, camp fires, enjoying friends and family, safe spaces for children and being budget friendly. While we can add new additions to the park-like pickle ball courts, tennis courts, new pools and various other items that we would enjoy, I would like to see the park stay like a park - open, natural and family centered. No big structures with restrictive guidelines that would block the lake or take away from the family camping experience.

I feel like I "check all the boxes" required for someone in the role of a board member. In addition to my past experiences:

- ☒ We have a condo and a trailer so I am invested in both places. I pay two sets of dues and want to keep them reasonable while protecting your investment.
- ☒ We own a boat with a boat stake - so I care deeply about the lake and the infrastructure that supports it.
- ☒ Our grandchildren love to come out and play on all the different playgrounds - each playground is unique. They love the water park and going to the pools. They enjoy all of the kids activities that the Recreation staff provides. These are things that we need to make certain we maintain and keep in good repair.
- ☒ I play tennis and pickle ball and my husband loves to golf.
- ☒ We enjoy Karaoke, Music Bingo and clubhouse events, and feel we can expand these offerings while keeping costs down.

With all the above being said I will most definitely fight to keep this park "open" for 6 months and not just the 4 months like we seemed to have morphed into this past season. Sandy Pines should be enjoyed for the full season it was designed for.

I would be honored to earn your vote and the opportunity to serve Sandy Pines with thoughtful leadership, fiscal responsibility, common sense, and a long-term commitment to preserving the community we all love.

Continued on Page 13

Candidates / Continued From Page 12

Patience "Pat" Pike



Hello Sandy Pines Neighbors,
I am Patience "Pat" Pike, and I am honored to announce my candidacy for the Sandy Pines Board of Directors.

Family & Community Roots

My husband, Dean, and I have been happily married for 34 years. Together, we raised four wonderful children—three boys and a girl. Our journey began in Plainwell, Michigan, before we relocated to Fulton to be closer to my parents. Watching our children grow up alongside their grandparents was a gift, and the lessons my parents taught us about family have shaped exactly the kind of grandparents Dean and I strive to be today. A Lifelong Dedication to Education

Education and community service have always been at the core of who I am. I earned my undergraduate degree in Mathematics from Grand Valley State University, followed by a Master's degree in Special Education from Western Michigan University.

For 24 rewarding years, I served with Battle Creek Public Schools, teaching everything from 6th-12th grade mathematics and accelerated middle school math to 8th-grade special education. Though I retired from Battle Creek last year, teaching is truly in my blood. After stepping in to teach part-time at Climax-Scotts High School this past year, I realized I'm not quite ready to step away from the classroom—I have happily accepted a full-time teaching position at Climax-Scotts for the upcoming school year.

Impact Beyond the Classroom: Athletic Coaching

In addition to teaching, my commitment to mentoring youth has always extended to the athletic fields and lanes. My coaching journey began right at home, supporting my own children as a coach for their Little League baseball and soccer teams. Over the years, I expanded my involvement to school athletics, coaching at multiple levels:

- High School: Varsity soccer and bowling.
- Middle School: Tennis and soccer (coaching both the girls' and boys' programs).

Whether on the field or in the classroom, my focus has always been on fostering teamwork, confidence, and dedication in our youth.

Our Sandy Pines Story

Dean and I became a part of the Sandy Pines community in the Fall of 2018, and it is easily one of the best choices we have ever made. Whether spending our summers here or planning for retirement, this park has given us priceless family memories and some of our absolute closest friendships.

Sandy Pines is a family community through and through. Our grandchildren absolutely love the recreational activities here, and watching two of them learn how to swim in the park are memories I will cherish forever. This community holds a very special place in our hearts.

Leadership & Proven Involvement

I believe that the best way to understand and care for a community is to roll up your sleeves and get involved. Over the years, I have sought out opportunities to serve Sandy Pines by volunteering for park activities and dedicating my time to key committees:

- Finance Committee (5 Years): Served actively as a committee member and as the committee's Secretary, working to ensure responsible financial oversight for our park.
- Library Committee: Recently appointed as the Committee Chair, working to protect and enhance our community resources.
- Public Safety & Securities Committee: Newly joined to advocate for a safe, secure environment for all residents and guests.

Continued on Page 14



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Candidates / Continued From Page 13

My Vision for the Board

I deeply believe in everything Sandy Pines stands for and am dedicated to ensuring it remains a vibrant, safe, and welcoming community for generations to come. As a member of your Board of Directors, my commitment is to represent your voice, preserve our wonderful traditions, and responsibly manage the amenities and activities that make our park so unique.

Throughout my final years in education, I was deeply involved in service-learning programs—initiatives designed to enrich our community by encouraging active, meaningful contribution. This passion for giving back is what drives my candidacy for the board. I would be incredibly grateful for your vote and the opportunity to serve you.

Warmly,

Patience “Pat” Pike Candidate for Sandy Pines Board of Directors

Craig Van Beek



My name is Craig Van Beek, and I am asking for your support as I run for the Sandy Pines Board of Directors.

Sandy Pines has been part of my life for as long as I can remember. My grandparents and my parents were members of the park, and many of my childhood memories were made here. My parents even operated the Golden Onion Restaurant during the late 1970s and early 1980s, making Sandy Pines not just a campground, but a place our family has proudly called home for generations.

I had the privilege of working in the Sandy Pines Maintenance Department for 25 years before accepting God's call into ministry as a local pastor. Those years gave me a firsthand understanding of how our park operates, the challenges it faces, and the importance of caring for this special community. Today, my wife Laura and I are members of Sandy Pines and enjoy spending our summers in Phase 4 with our three daughters. We love the friendships, traditions, and sense of community that make this place so unique.

I have always believed that serving others is one of life's greatest responsibilities. Along with serving as a local pastor, I currently serve as an Allegan County Commissioner and as the Vice Chair of the Allegan County Board of Commissioners. These roles have given me valuable experience in leadership, budgeting, long-range planning, listening to diverse

perspectives, and making thoughtful decisions for the benefit of an entire community.

I believe my lifelong connection to Sandy Pines, combined with my experience in public service and leadership, has prepared me well to serve on the Board of Directors.

If elected, I will work hard to represent all members with honesty, integrity, transparency, and respect. I will listen carefully, communicate openly, and strive to make decisions that preserve the traditions we cherish while thoughtfully preparing Sandy Pines for the future.

Thank you for your time, your trust, and your consideration. I would be honored to earn your vote and serve our Sandy Pines community.

Blessings,
Craig Van Beek



COMMUNICATION NEWS

BY Ian Mitchell ian@SandyPines.com

Summer always moves quickly at Sandy Pines, but between packed weekends at the park and a little less sleep at home, this one has truly flown by! The weekly themes have been an absolute blast, and it has been great to see members and staff embrace them through costumes, decorations, activities, and plenty of enthusiasm. Thank you for helping turn a new idea into such a fun addition to summers at Sandy Pines.

My wife, Darci, and I welcomed our first child, Oliver, in April, making this our first summer as a family of three. Becoming a dad has given me a new appreciation for all the families I see creating memories and traditions together at Sandy Pines. I can't wait to share those same summer moments with Ollie as he grows!

Thank you to everyone who has asked about him, offered congratulations, or shared a little parenting advice. We really appreciate it!

Help Shape Next Season

As we enter the final stretch of the summer season, offseason planning is already beginning.

Over the next several weeks, I will be working with individual departments to gather information about the new programs, services, and additions introduced this season. Together, we will create surveys designed to collect your feedback and help guide each department's offseason planning.

We want to hear what worked well, what could be improved, and what you would like to see in the future.

Please keep an eye on official Sandy Pines communications for opportunities to share your thoughts. Even a few minutes of your time can provide valuable insight!

Looking for an Event? Let Google Do the Work!

We frequently receive questions about when and where specific events are taking place. As a reminder, all Sandy Pines events are posted on the online Sandy Pines Calendar. There are several easy ways to find the information you need:

- Browse the full calendar on the Sandy Pines website.
- Use the search feature on our website.
- Search Google using the event name followed by "Sandy Pines."

For example, searching "Color Run Sandy Pines" should take you directly to the event page. Event pages include available information such as dates, times, locations, costs, age guidelines, registration links, and other important details. The Sandy Pines Calendar is one of the fastest and easiest ways to find answers and plan your time at the park.

Thank You for Staying Connected!

Thank you to everyone who reads our emails and publications, watches our videos, shares our posts, leaves comments, and helps spread the word throughout the community. Every interaction helps us reach more members and keep the

Sandy Pines community informed.

Your questions and feedback also help me understand where we can communicate more clearly and what information is most useful to you. I am always looking for ways to make Sandy Pines communications easier to find, easier to understand, and more valuable to our members.

RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD Recreation@SandyPines.com

Thank You for a Great Summer So Far!

The Recreation Department has had an exciting season filled with weekly themes, weekend events, weekday programs, tournaments, lessons, and activities for members of all ages.

Thank you to our Recreation staff, instructors, volunteers, and everyone who has helped make these programs possible. We can plan an event down to the last detail, but your participation is what brings it to life. Whether you joined an activity, cheered on family and friends, or stopped by to see what was happening, thank you for being part of the fun!

There is still plenty of summer ahead. Keep watching the Sandy Pines Calendar and weekly communications for upcoming activities as we work to finish the season with the same enthusiasm members have brought all summer.

Pool Hours Reminder

As August continues, many of our seasonal Recreation staff members will begin returning to school. Because of these staffing changes, pool hours will adjust throughout the month.

The Recreation Department will work closely with the Communications Team to post updated schedules online. Before heading to a pool, please check www.sandypines.com/hours/ for the most current information.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility as we make these seasonal adjustments!

Looking Ahead to 2027!

Although there is still plenty of fun remaining this season, planning for the 2027 Recreation Calendar will begin soon.

If there is a new event, theme, or activity you would like to see at Sandy Pines, please send your suggestions to Abby@SandyPines.com. We also welcome feedback about this year's programs, including what you enjoyed, what could be improved, and what you would like to see return.

Your ideas help us continue creating fun and engaging opportunities for the entire Sandy Pines community. Thank you for helping make 2026 such a memorable season!

SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF Paul@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

June 2026 Call Stats

In June 2026, Public Safety responded to 161 calls for service. The breakdown of the calls are:

Abuse of Staff	1
Accident	8
Alcohol	6
Alarm	4
Animal	6
Assist	22
Conduct	4
Curfew	1
Damage	3
Disorderly	6
Dispute	2
Drugs	2
Harassment	4
Indecent Exposure	1
Illegal Entry	3
Larceny	1
Lost/Found	5
Medical	20
Noise	1
Open Door	16
Parking	2
Power Outage	1
Rules	4
Suspicious	8
Traffic	15
Tree Down	4
Trespass	2
Watercraft	10

Carts

We receive many questions about how many carts you can have per site. The rulebook allows for two carts per membership site. If you have a cart that you are trying to sell, that still counts as one of your carts. If you are test driving a cart for a weekend, that counts for one of your carts. You will need to take one of your other carts off property. This rule is to try and help limit how many carts are in the park.

Trailers

Trailers are not permitted to be parked in overflow parking overnight. It does not matter if it is attached to a vehicle or not. If you need to park a trailer overnight, it needs to be parked on your site or in a bullpen spot.

Campfires

As cooler nights and campfires come upon us, just a few reminders of the park rules:

All fires must be in Park approved fire pits, portable fire pits, or barbecue devices. Must be attended at all times. Fire must be controlled in a safe manner.

PARK INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JIM BUCHANAN Jim@SandyPines.com

Happy August Sandy Pines Members!

Thank you for all the questions and permit applications you have been sending our way. It has once again been a record-setting year for park improvements!

Permit Application Reminder

As we work to approve your requests, please remember that we handle many different responsibilities throughout the week. Allow at least five to seven business days for your permit to be reviewed and approved.

Seasonal Lot Maintenance

As many of you know, the June 10 cleanup deadline has passed. However, cleanup is not a one-day event. Lots must continue to be maintained throughout the remainder of the season until October 15.

Please scan the QR code below to view the list of items that must be maintained on your lot throughout the season. Our team will continue looking for these items as we drive through the park.

Boat Dock Reminders

As September approaches and members begin removing their boat docks before heading to their winter destinations, please remember the following:

- Boat docks may not be placed in the green space before September 15.
- Please securely attach a label to your dock identifying its owner.
- All docks must be removed from the green space by May 15 of the following year.

Thank you!

Your Park Inspector Department
Cindy, Steve, and Jim

SCAN ME



SITE CLEAN UP CHECKLIST

TO:
THE SANDY PINES COMMUNITY

SANTA NEEDED A SUMMER VACATION.

MERRY CHRISTMAS (in August)

FROM:
THE SANDY PINES TEAM!



SANDYPINES
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY



CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES Janele@SandyPines.com

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: Janele@SandyPines.com

August is here, bringing along sunny days, warm summer nights, and some of the best camping memories of the season. Whether you're spending time at the beach, enjoying park activities, gathering around a campfire, or simply relaxing with friends, there's no shortage of ways to make the most of these final weeks of summer. Soak it all in!

We have openings the remainder of the season for our rental trailers, cabins, and campsites. Please spread the word to your family and friends!

Regular season costs:

Campsites costs are \$80-\$90 per night

Cabin costs are \$125-\$140 per night

Trailer costs are \$190-\$275 per night

Sandy Pines offers a variety of accommodations, ensuring that every guest can find the perfect fit for their camping experience. They can easily reserve a campsite, rustic cabin, or park model trailer online through our website. With flexible dates and a range of options, booking your stay is quick and simple. Please spread the word to family and friends!

Sandy Pines offers spacious campsites designed for traditional camping. Whether you're bringing your own tent

or RV, these sites provide the perfect base for outdoor adventures and many memories.

If you're looking for a more comfortable camping experience, Sandy Pines rustic cabins provide the ideal blend of outdoor charm and indoor convenience. These cozy cabins feature all the essentials including comfortable sleeping arrangements, lighting, heat, air conditioning, and a mini fridge. The cabins are perfect for those who want to enjoy the camping experience without sacrificing too much comfort.

For those seeking an even more comfortable stay, Sandy Pines park model trailers offer a fantastic option. These fully equipped trailers include modern amenities such as air conditioning, and full kitchen and living area, ensuring that your stay is both comfortable and convenient. Park model trailers are perfect for families who want to enjoy all the benefits of camping with the added comfort of home.

We have a 10% discount for associate members and a 10% military discount for those who are currently serving or have served in the military. Thank you for your service! To apply these discounts, please contact the camping department directly. You can make reservations via our website at www.SandyPines.com, or give me a call at 616-896-8315 ext. 103

- I'd be happy to assist you.
See you soon!

SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON Kent@SandyPines.com

It has been another great season at Sandy Pines! It's hard to believe how quickly summer has flown by. The good news is there's still plenty of time to make lasting memories with family and friends. We have some of the biggest events of the season still ahead, including Christmas in August and Labor Day festivities. Whether you're spending time at the pools, enjoying the lakes, taking in community events, or simply relaxing around a campfire, there are still countless opportunities to get plugged in and enjoy everything Sandy Pines has to offer.

From the Sales Office, we've continued to see steady activity throughout the 2026 season. While the pace of sales has remained very similar to last year, we've noticed some softening in both demand and pricing. As a result, available inventory has remained higher than many members are accustomed to seeing. This creates an excellent opportunity for buyers, who have more choices and a little more time to find the right fit. Well-priced and well-maintained properties are still selling, and we're optimistic about the remainder of the season.

One of the things that truly makes Sandy Pines special is the sense of community. As new members continue to join our campground family, we encourage everyone to take a few moments to introduce yourself when someone new moves into your neighborhood. A simple welcome can make a lasting impression. While some new owners are experienced campers and quickly become familiar with their site, others

may be experiencing campground living for the very first time and appreciate a little guidance. Our Sales Team does its best to explain the ins and outs of each property during the buying process, but there are always things that can only be learned from neighbors who have lived and enjoyed Sandy Pines for years.

Thank you for helping make Sandy Pines such a welcoming place. We hope everyone enjoys the rest of the 2026 season, takes advantage of the exciting events still to come, and continues creating memories that will last for years to come.



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LAKE MONTEREY GOLF NEWS

BY DAVID INGLES David@GolfLMGC.com

It is hard to believe we have already moved into August! The summer is flying by so fast. The great news is that there is still plenty of time to come see everything Lake Monterey GC has to offer. Read on to see everything that is coming up this month...

Outings

Our Triple 6 Outing is August 8 with an 8:00am shotgun start. Sign-ups are in the clubhouse. In this event it is two person teams and you play 6 holes of scramble, 6 holes of best ball and 6 holes of alternate shot. It is going to be a lot of fun!

We will be hosting our 4th Annual LMGC Club Championship August 22-23. Saturday the 22nd will be the first round of play. Sunday the 23rd will be flight play and Championship Day. Your score on Saturday will determine what flight you play in on Sunday. We will have Men's, Women's and Senior Divisions (if we have enough interest). The overall champion will receive a golf membership for 2027! There will be cash prizes for 1st and 2nd in each division.

The cost is \$60 for a Sandy Pines Member, \$30 for a Golf Member and \$70 for Associate Members.

Call the course to get more information or to get signed up. It is first come first serve on tee times for that Saturday so don't

hesitate.

Music Bingo

The always popular Music Bingo will happen three times in August. The dates will be Monday, August 3, 17 and 31 at 7:00 pm. We offer food specials for each of these nights.

Jimmy Buffet Beach Party!!

It's time to bust out your Hawaiian gear and flip flops, we are having a Beach Party at LMGC! This will take place on Saturday, August 22 from 7-10pm. Tickets cost \$15 and will get you a food buffet, discounted drinks all night and more. We will have a DJ and dancing. Prizes for the best dressed. You won't want to miss this fun evening.

Golf Course Tee Times

Our 2026 season at LMGC continues to be busy and eventful. Many things continue to go well at the golf course due to our amazing staff and the members who continue to support us. How can we make this season even better? We are glad you asked...

- 1) NO SHOW for tee times: Although this issue has been better, we are billing the site of members and

Continued on Page 19

associates that do not give us 24 hour notice.

- 2) Slow Play: We love seeing everyone down here playing, but we ask that you be mindful of other golfers by keeping up your pace of play. To assist with this every player must have their own set of clubs, only two golfers per cart is permitted, please do not give lessons on the course (if someone does not know how to play, the range is the best place to teach them) and keep up with the group in front of you.
- 3) Bring your member and/or associate card. We are scanning everyone's card when they come in to play. If you do not have your card you may be charged the public rate.
- 4) DO NOT bring your own cooler or alcohol on the course. If you bring your own alcohol to the course, we will call Public Safety and you will be issued a citation.

Golf Lessons

Is your golf game not up to par? Maybe you're a beginner and want to learn the basics? Our very own David Ingles is available to help. He is offering lessons by the half hour or the hour. The people he has helped over the summer have been extremely satisfied. Call the clubhouse to set up your lesson.

Facebook

Follow us on Facebook and see everything that is happening here at Lake Monterey. We are posting new information and reminders daily. It is a great way to keep tabs on everything golf here at the course.

Golf Course Parking

Please be aware that parking at the golf course is for golfers only. Entry into the park through the gate at the golf course is for members and associates that have come down to visit the golf course. All others are subject to fines and/or towing of their vehicle. This rule will be strictly enforced.

Golf Course Rules

Please be mindful of the following rules of the golf course:

- Absolutely no personal coolers or bringing alcohol or beer to the course. Please check out our new selection of drinks that we are adding for everyone to enjoy.
- Always bring your Sandy Pines member or associate card to be shown.
- Knobby tires and six-seater golf carts are not permissible on the golf course.
- Proper golf attire is required. No tank tops allowed. Men's shirts must have sleeves. Women's tops must be golf attire.
- Groups of 5 players or more are not allowed without prior permission.

Let's make golf fun for everyone by following these rules. We appreciate your cooperation.

We are excited and looking forward to seeing everyone!

CHAPEL NEWS

BY DAVE VAN NOORD

August Schedule

Everyone Welcome!

Morning Worship at the Lakeside Chapel beginning at 10:00 AM

August 2: Our Vacation Bible School kids lead the service
August 9: Rev. Greg Vander Meer with communion
August 16: John Wagenveld
August 23: Rev. Dan Walcott
August 30: Jeremy Kreuze

Sunday Evening Concerts beginning at 6:00 PM at the Chapel

August 2: Tim Zimmerman and the King's Brass
August 9: The Hoppers
August 16: The Martins
August 23: Jim and Melissa Brady with Michael Booth
August 30: Endless Highway

Note the change: Gordon Mote was not able to make it on August 23. We are happy to welcome Jim and Melissa Brady with Michael Booth. These three are some of the top artists in gospel music. Ice Cream follows the concert. Come and enjoy.

Sincere Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

Ebelina King, site 6116, on the passing of her husband, **Marvin**, on June 6, 2026.



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