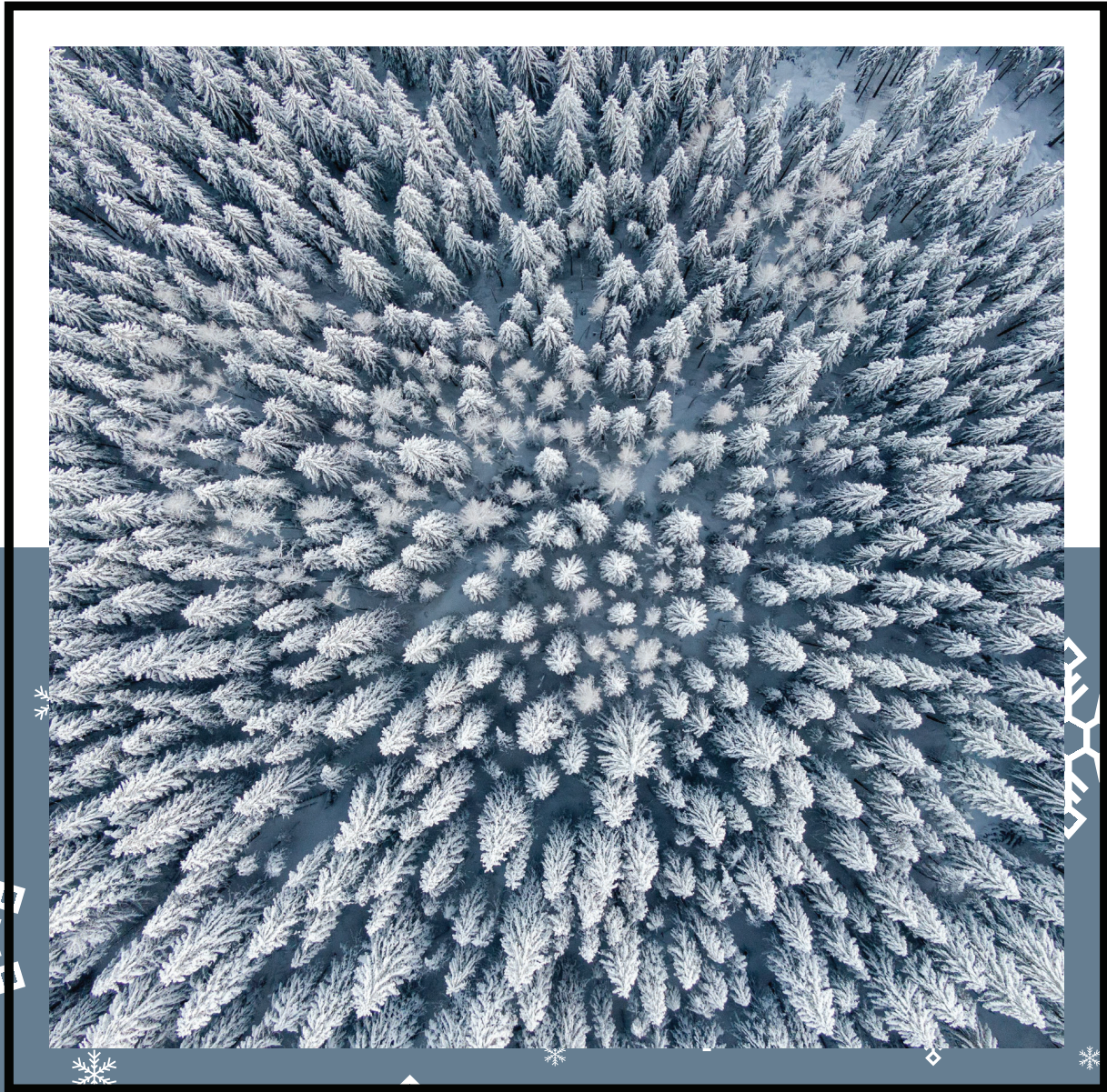


# FOOTPRINTS

DECEMBER 2023

IN THE SAND



  
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RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY  
READY, SET, RELAX.

## PHONE NUMBERS

**Member Service** ..... 616.896.8315  
 Nicole Klinge.....Ext. 101  
 Nichole Milbocker .....Ext. 100

Fax Number..... 616.896.7409  
[MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

### Administration

Jeff..... Ext. 105  
[jeff@sandypines.com](mailto:jeff@sandypines.com)

Kimberly ..... Ext. 109  
[kim@sandypines.com](mailto:kim@sandypines.com)

### Park Inspector

Jeff Hopkins..... 616.896.7286  
[inspector@sandypines.com](mailto:inspector@sandypines.com)

Pumpouts-Emergency ..... Ext. 111

**Sales Office**..... 616.896.8315 Ext. 118

Kent Livingston.....Ext. 114  
[kent@sandypines.com](mailto:kent@sandypines.com)

**Camping Office**.....616.896.8315

Janele Tomes .....Ext. 103  
[janele@sandypines.com](mailto:janele@sandypines.com)

**Communications** ..... 616.896.8315

Ian Mitchell .....Ext. 107  
[ian@sandypines.com](mailto:ian@sandypines.com)

**Maintenance** ..... 616.896.8317

Ben Fifelski, Supervisor  
[maintenance@sandypines.com](mailto:maintenance@sandypines.com)

### Emergency/

**Public Safety** ..... 616.896.9006  
 Steve Deyarmond, Emergency  
 Services Director  
 Paul Schaaf, Security Services Manager

Fax Number..... 616.896.9182  
[security@sandypines.com](mailto:security@sandypines.com)

### Park & Garden

Dale Yoder.....616.896.9334  
[parkgarden@sandypines.com](mailto:parkgarden@sandypines.com)

### Recreation

**Department**..... 616.896.8315  
 Abby Greenfield.....Ext. 800  
[Recreation@SandyPines.com](mailto:Recreation@SandyPines.com)

**Lake Monterey Golf** ..... 616.896.8118

Dave Ingles, Manager  
[www.lakemontereygolf.com](http://www.lakemontereygolf.com)  
[Golf@golflmgc.com](mailto:Golf@golflmgc.com)

**Laundromat Hours** – Open 24 Hours

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer ..... Park 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  
 Dale Yoder ..... Park & Garden  
 Jeff Hopkins ..... Park Inspector  
 Paul Schaaf ..... Security Services  
 Abby Greenfield ..... Recreation

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager  
 Golf Course ..... Joe Zomerlei  
 Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager  
 Rules ..... Drew Torres  
 Safety & Security..... Dennis King  
 Technology ..... Bob Powers  
 Lake Study..... Jim Buchanan  
 Library..... Valerie Troschinetz

## OUR MISSION

We are dedicated to providing  
 a fun and safe environment  
 where families and friends  
 create a lifetime of memories.



## RETAIL SERVICES

Dairy Dip ..... 616.405.5643  
 Just Your Style ..... 616.669.6788  
 Park & Garden Store ..... 616.896.9334  
 Park & Garden  
 Rental Office ..... 616.896.9888

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ellen Carpenter, Chairperson .....(2025)  
 Rick Day, Treasurer .....(2026)  
 Bob Deckinga .....(2025)  
 Pat Doezema.....(2026)  
 Kelly Johnson, Vice Chairperson.....(2024)  
 Paul Peppel, Secretary.....(2025)  
 Stephanie Saypanha .....(2024)  
 Craig Van Beek.....(2026)  
 Scot Wyman .....(2024)

## 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](mailto:Jeff@SandyPines.com)

December is one of our family's favorite times of year. The gathering of family and friends to celebrate Christmas and the birth of our Savior Jesus, the placing of decorations around the house, the falling of snow, and the outdoor campfire during that lightly falling snow is the best! Especially with a warm beverage and blanket! This is a time of year to pause, spend time with those who are important in your lives, and give Thanks, no matter what your religious beliefs are.

For those of you who have a family member, friend, or someone close to you serving our country during our holiday season, we extend our prayers to them that they also will be blessed this Christmas. We pray for their safe return to their loved ones! Please say Thank You on behalf of Sandy Pines for their service to this country we all love.

We want to give special Thanks to our excellent staff. They are the backbone of our park and golf course. They are also extremely caring and generous. In November, our team donated enough funds to sponsor five families in need for Thanksgiving. Thank you to our HR Specialist Amanda Griffin who led this activity, shopped for each family, and delivered Thanksgiving Day groceries to Hope Network in Allegan. We are truly blessed to be a part of this wonderful place called Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course!

Here's what's happening this month at our Happy Place.

## Board of Directors Meeting

We will be having our regularly scheduled December Board Meeting in the administration building conference room. Members are encouraged to attend if able. We know many of you are at your off-season warm place. No worries as our board meeting will be recorded as usual and placed on our official Sandy Pines website. Our agenda will focus on our end of year September and October 2023 financial statements. We will also be discussing the status of off-season projects which may drive some potential rule changes.

## 2023 Off-Season Projects

Our Phase 2 Pool Project is progressing on schedule and close to budget. If you have not seen pictures of this project, please visit our website at [SandyPines.com/Phase-2-Pool](http://SandyPines.com/Phase-2-Pool). Our regular bi-weekly reviews with FCC Construction, Pool Committee representatives, and administrative staff continue to take place to ensure this project meets our members' expectations. This month will focus on completing the buildings containing our restrooms, lifeguard storage and break area, and our mechanical room. Stay tuned for more information on this exciting project set to open Memorial Weekend 2024.

Lake projects continue to be focused on during this off-season as well as moving forward into the 2024 season. We

will have updated quotes from vendors for projects targeted at our Phase 2 point and Phase 6 Chapel point. Both of these areas are targeted due to the high level of erosion taking place. We will also review the improvements quoted for our Lake Monterey dam. Our Safety Director Steve Deyarmond is working with the state to try once again to secure grant monies to support the increasing cost for this project. Lastly, we utilized the extended warm weather in November to do some work on the shoreline.

Boat stake locations in Phase 6 and Phase 5 have been updated with galvanized steel posts to identify the proper boat stake locations. These will be used moving forward to locate docks and your boat stakes as they have been coordinated with the proper GPS and map locations. We have seen boat stakes move over the years. This is getting them back to the proper location(s).

Boat registrations are also being audited this month with communications going out to members in preparation for upcoming 2024 Renewals in January. Your boat registrations are critical to ensure your ability to place your boat on Lake

*Continued on Page 4*



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Monterey as well as hold your boat stake. Due to the lack of boat registrations and/or having a boat on file to hold your boat stake, some members have already lost their boat stake.

Our Park Inspector and PSO have walked the shoreline identifying items such as boats, kayaks, bins and other items on the shoreline and in the greenspace that must be removed. This does NOT include docks which were granted to be stored in the green space or shoreline this year. Communications are going out individually to members to remove these items to avoid fines.

Lastly, we met with Restorative Lake Services (RLS) who provided our 2019 survey of Lake Monterey. We developed a scope of work to have them provide estimated costs to provide a current survey of our lake as well as provide expert opinion and direction of our targeted projects. All of the above related to our lake projects were areas of focus coming from our September 2023 Lake Town Hall with our members. The expectation is to kick off projects yet this off-season in preparation for completion prior to 2024 season opening if possible. We will continue to keep you updated.

**Merry Christmas**

Tis the season to celebrate and be thankful for our blessings! We will be holding our annual Christmas celebration with our staff and board members. Food, fun and celebration will once again be held at the North Shore building. This event is special as we get to celebrate work anniversaries and mingle with our staff's spouses or significant others who we don't normally get to say, Thank You! We are blessed to have a very supportive board of directors and talented, caring staff.

"What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more." – Dr. Seuss

"It's not what is under the tree that matters! It's who's gathered around it!"

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given" – Isaiah 9:6-7

Merry Christmas from my family to yours! God Bless.

.....

# PHASE 2 POOL PROGRESS



SCAN QR CODE TO  
VIEW ADDITIONAL  
PHASE 2 POOL  
INFORMATION





# MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICOLE KLINGE & NICHOLE MILBOCKER [MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

## Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

## Contact Information

Phone: 616-896-8315 x 0  
Fax: 616-896-7409  
Email: [MemberService@SandyPines.com](mailto:MemberService@SandyPines.com)

## Important Dates

12/22 – 1/2	Closed for Christmas & New Year's
12/25	Member Statements Due
2/10	Winterfest

## Christmas

As the off-season unfolds, we extend our sincere wishes for your continued well-being and safety, wherever you may find yourself during this time.

Please be advised that our Administration, Camping, & Sales offices will be closed from December 22nd to January 1st in observance of the Christmas holiday. Normal business operations will resume on January 2nd, allowing everyone the opportunity to enjoy the holiday season with their loved ones.

## Public Safety

Should you find it inconvenient to visit the administration office during regular office hours, rest assured that our Public Safety Office at the Main Gate remains open 24/7. Our dedicated team is available to assist you with any inquiries, payments, or concerns you may have. Notably, there is no additional fee for in-person credit/debit card payments. However, a 3% fee applies when paying over the phone via credit card or through your online portal.

## Dues

For those not settling their dues in full, the breakdown is as follows:

Monthly payment: \$420.22 (plus 1.5% interest on the unpaid monthly balance)

Monthly Maximum Balance:

October 25: \$2,039.93  
November 25: \$1,644.00  
December 25: \$1,242.14  
January 25: \$834.25  
February 25: \$420.24  
March 25: \$0.00

Additionally, please be mindful that in January, quarterly electric and tax payments of \$9.50 will be due, along with the regular monthly payment.

## Portal

If you have not accessed your Sandy Pines Portal or set it up yet, please contact Member Service. This step is crucial, especially with upcoming renewals in January. The portal will be the primary platform for making any necessary changes, such as adjustments to pumpout plans, proximity cards, boats (motorized or non-motorized), and golf cart stickers.

Additionally, through the portal, you can schedule guest passes for \$5.00. In cases where public safety assistance is required, the fee will be \$10.00. The portal also facilitates the scheduling and review of pumpouts, checking electric meter readings, updating addresses and personal information, making payments, and reviewing bills.

While we are always available to assist you, we encourage you to utilize the Sandy Pines Portal for these tasks at your convenience. Ensuring that you have the capability to manage these aspects outside of Sandy Pines is important to us!

Kindly update all boat registrations at your earliest convenience to facilitate a smoother sticker pick-up process

**Continued on Page 6**

## Follow Us on Social Media!

GET CONNECTED FOR ALL OF OUR LATEST NEWS & UPDATES!



on Facebook @SandyPinesWildernessTrails



on Instagram @SandyPinesOfficial



on YouTube @SandyPinesWT



on Twitter @SandyPinesWT

## Member Service News / Continued From Page 5

in the spring, and to avoid loss of your boat stake if you have one.

### Winterfest

Looking ahead, we are excited to announce Winterfest on February 10th, featuring a myriad of activities! Further details will follow as the event approaches.

### Off-Season CC Schedule

During the off-season, the following convenience centers will remain open:

CC 2, CC 6, CC 11, Water Park, North Shore Convenience centers operational until the arrival of snow will include CC 4, 7, and 8.

“The Holiday season is a time for giving, a time for Joy and a time for spreading love to those who matter.”

.....

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY PAUL PEPPER [BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com](mailto:BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com)

The immortal Lou Gehrig, during a speech at Yankee Stadium in 1939, uttered the famous phrase, “Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the Earth.” He was forced to retire from pro baseball due to an illness that would claim his life less than two years later at the age of 37, an illness which bears his name and, to this day, has no cure. Yet, despite insurmountable odds, he considered himself lucky. Wow, there’s an attitude we should strive to achieve, right? Especially when we’re so lucky to all have a place called Sandy Pines.

How many of us had never heard of Sandy Pines before stumbling onto our little slice of paradise via a friend, co-worker, or relative’s recommendation? Pretty lucky, right? And you can’t pick your neighbors but, wow, how lucky so many of us are to benefit from the smiles and openness of those living close by. Everyone appreciates feeling safe, and how lucky we all are to have an attentive and helpful PSO team that watches over us 24/7/365.

Ever have a Park problem that no one seems to be able to solve? The ladies in Member Service are superb to work with, the only unlucky part being they have the same name. Regardless, you won’t be disappointed. And, as luck would have it, the Park hums along mechanically and aesthetically due to thankless efforts from our maintenance team. Our lucky streak continues with kudos to the recreation staff, ever creative giving us ample opportunities for organized fun with a helpful and enthusiastic staff. Could we be any luckier?

Potential new members of the Park are in excellent hands as we’re super lucky to have a friendly, helpful, and eager team to welcome those looking to camp or shop. Need some last-minute supplies for that project you’ve been putting off? Save the hour round trip to a big box and check out the wide variety of wares at Park and Garden, could be your lucky day. If you’re reading this article electronically, it’s a stroke of luck to have a communication expert on staff to make this happen. Ever have a minor tiff with a neighbor over who “owns” that bush or tree? You’re in luck as we have the technology and the staff to address and correct as necessary. And the epitome of luck could be having an administrative and finance team that holds it all together. Can you imagine how lucky we are to have all these individuals in place to watch over and take care of us?

The Board also feels very lucky to have the opportunity to serve you, not just hearing, but listening to your needs, hopes and wishes. We, as all of you, are blessed to be able to call Sandy Pines home. I call that just good old-fashioned luck. Here’s hoping you have a safe holiday season and we all look forward to seeing you again in the spring.

.....

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# INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JEFF HOPKINS [Inspector@SandyPines.com](mailto:Inspector@SandyPines.com)

I trust this message finds you and your loved ones in good health and anticipation of the forthcoming holiday season. The current off-season has been marked by considerable activity as we diligently strive to accomplish essential tasks in preparation for the impending winter conditions.

We have been working in Phases 5 and 6, using Global Positioning System (G.P.S) technology to precisely identify boat stake locations. Once boat stake locations are identified, we will securely affix a 6-foot galvanized pipe, ensuring its permanence at a depth of 18 inches to serve as a lasting marker for each stake. A distinctive, permanent tag bearing the stake number will be affixed to the pipe. The galvanized pipe will serve as the central reference point for the boat stake, maintaining a standardized distance of 20 feet to both the right and left. This strategic approach is designed to

eliminate any confusion that may have been encountered in previous years.

It is imperative to note that the positions of these markers are non-negotiable and subject to strict adherence. There will be fines/points issued if we have found any attempt to relocate these markers. The decision to implement this approach stems from extensive discussions involving the Lake Committee, Board of Directors, and myself. We are confident that this initiative will substantially enhance the overall well-being of our lake and its shoreline. Thank you for all of your support throughout this project!

Wishing you a joyous holiday season and a Merry Christmas!

.....

# FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAM [Kim@SandyPines.com](mailto:Kim@SandyPines.com)

We would like to extend our warmest Christmas blessings to our Sandy Pines family!

The administration has been using these past few months to prepare and finalize the fiscal year-end financial statements as of September 2023 for both Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails and Lake Monterey Golf Course. The year-end financials are currently in review by the external accounting firm during this month of December and a full review will later be shared with the combined Finance Committee and Board of Directors.

The unconsolidated financial statements for the fiscal-year-end September 2023 and October 2023 for both SPWT and LMGC are scheduled for review and approval by both the Finance Committee and Board of Directors at the December 8th scheduled Board meeting. Presentation of the financial statements will be provided to members after this review and approval. Statements can be found in the Administration Office and on the Sandy Pines webpage under Finance.

For your reference and information, below is the payment plan schedule if you have elected to make monthly installments to pay for your Annual Dues and Assessments. Your monthly payment this year is \$420.22, and is payable on the 25th of each month, from Oct 2023 thru March 2024. This payment plan is allowed for dues and assessments only. To stay current within the payment plan, your balance owed at the end of each month for 2023-2024 must equal the following on each date listed below:

▪ October 25	\$2,039.93
▪ November 25	\$1,644.00
▪ <b>December 25</b>	<b>\$1,242.14</b>
▪ January 25	\$ 834.25
▪ February 25	\$420.24
▪ March 25	\$0.00— All dues and assessments paid.

*Continued on Page 8*

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The best way to determine the amount owed on your account when following the payment plan is to take the current month's balance invoiced to you and subtract the correlating maximum monthly balance as highlighted above. For example, if your statement sent out on December 1st is \$1,300.00, subtract the amount highlighted above for Dec 25, \$1,242.14 and pay the difference of \$57.86.

If a monthly payment is missed, you will no longer be eligible for the monthly payment plan program and your account will go into delinquent status, and a fee will be assessed per membership card to reactivate. If you have any concerns regarding making payment on your account, please reach out to myself or our Park President, Jeff Sweitzer.

As a reminder: All other member fees and charges billed to your account (outside of the annual dues and assessments) are due by the 25th of the subsequent month after being billed. You must add all other charges for services, electric, state unit tax, etc. to the monthly installment amount to stay within the balance plan displayed above.

Payments can be made the following ways:

- In office with Member Service Mon-Fri 8am-4pm or Public Safety 24/7 – (*live payment posting*)
- Directly with your bank through online bill pay (your 4-digit site number and last name are your account number; Sandy Pines is the vendor, mailing address is the address on your statement) – (no additional fee) – (*includes processing time*)
- Through USPS mail by mailing a check (no additional fee) – (*includes processing time*)
- Online through our website (includes 3% fee) – (*live payment posting*)
- Over the phone with Member Service or Public Safety (includes 3% fee) – (*live payment posting*)

**Please note a 3% convenience fee is charged for credit card payments made online or over the phone.**

Thank you all for being a part of the Sandy Pines Community and we wish you many blessings through the Holiday season and into the New Year.

.....

## RECREATION NEWS

BY ABBY GREENFIELD [Abby@SandyPines.com](mailto:Abby@SandyPines.com)

### Winterfest

Winterfest is going to be February 10th this year. While the event is still in the works of being planned, the main events – polar plunge, dog sled demonstrations, and hot chocolate bar – will be there. If anyone has any ideas of activities or games, please reach out, we are always open for suggestions. Additionally, we will need volunteers for this event. If you are interested, please visit the Winterfest Event page on the website to sign up.

### Mini Golf & Weight Room

Just a reminder that mini golf and the weight room are open year-round. To access the building, you will need your member card. We appreciate your cooperation in maintaining cleanliness, as there may not always be staff available for cleaning.

Additionally, we did get new putters that will be put out at the beginning of next summer in all sizes. Now everyone will be able to enjoy the game again.

### Online Calendar

The online calendar with all the events and activities for the new season will be rolling out soon. There are a lot more activities planned than in years past. As well as things for the youth to do throughout the week.

### Adult Activities

There are a ton of card games, board games, and lessons already organized for adults only. While we are also creating some events for adults, we are always looking for ideas. We

need volunteers to lead or help with adult events, since our staff is already stretched thin with everything else planned. If you are interested in helping or have ideas of events, please reach out.

We will need a few volunteers throughout the summer. We are hoping to find someone that can help consistently with the following:

### Sunday Cornhole

-1-2 adults that will help set up and run brackets for Sunday Cornhole (12:45pm-3:15pm)

-Volunteer would oversee the brackets, boards and bags will be set up and taken down by rec employees

### Summer Concert Series Bands

-1-2 adults that will bring cooler of water to the bands and pick it up (every other Saturday 7pm & 9pm)

-Volunteer would pick up and drop off the cooler with waters from the rec station

### 4th of July Parade

-2-3 adults that will assist in lining up vehicles, floats, and golfcarts (8:15am-10am)

-3-4 people (ages 12+) that will create panel of judges (8:30am-9am)

.....



# COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL [Ian@SandyPines.com](mailto:Ian@SandyPines.com)

## Advertising

If you own a business and are looking for a prime opportunity to showcase your products or services to the community of Sandy Pines Members during the 2024 season, we invite you to get in touch with us. At Sandy Pines, we value and support local businesses, and we offer advertising opportunities that can help you reach our engaged and active membership base. To discuss how you can promote your business within

our community, please reach out to us at [Communications@SandyPines.com](mailto:Communications@SandyPines.com). We look forward to exploring how we can collaborate and make the upcoming season a memorable one for our members and your business alike. You can find our 2024 advertising packet here: <https://sandypines.com/wp-content/uploads/media-kit-partnerships.pdf>

.....

# SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON [Kent@SandyPines.com](mailto:Kent@SandyPines.com)

We have been officially into the off-season for a little bit now. Sales have diminished to almost zero, but still have some folks reaching out asking questions and scheduling appointments for tours preparing for a spring purchase. The sales team has taken on a few listings as well. We had an abnormal week late in October that generated several accepted offers and closed sales. If you have any friends or family looking to join the Sandy Pines community, our sales team is here for you all winter. If you are looking to move onto a different phase of life and are considering selling, we would love to work hard for you. Don't take our word for it, here's a testimony from one of our recent sellers.

"I am thrilled to share our exceptional selling experience with the sales department at Sandy Pines. From the moment we stepped into their office as buyers, we were greeted with warmth and professionalism that immediately put us at ease. Kent was so easy to work with and helped through the buying and selling process. He has a profound understanding of the market and the unique offerings of Sandy Pines, making us feel confident in our decision to invest in their property. Due to some personal financial decisions, we had to sell. Putting our place up for sale by the owner didn't give us nearly the amount of interest due to our busy lifestyle and difficulty in demonstrating how wonderful our dream place was to us.

One of the most remarkable aspects of our experience was the ease of closing our sale. The entire process was streamlined and efficient, thanks to the dedication and expertise of the sales team. They worked with our schedules and kept us informed through every decision. They guided us through each step, ensuring that all our questions were answered promptly and thoroughly. Their attention to detail and willingness to go the extra mile made the entire transaction seamless and stress-free.

What truly stood out was the sales department's flexibility and willingness to work with us. They understood our specific needs and preferences, tailoring their approach to match our requirements during the purchasing and selling process. We were not successful in displaying our Sandy Pines home for others to see its full potential on our own, but Kent was able to show all the qualities and future possibilities of our place. We felt heard and valued throughout the entire process, which is what makes one's decision to purchase at Sandy Pines even more satisfying.

Our buying and selling experience with the sales department at Sandy Pines was nothing short of excellent. Their exceptional customer service, coupled with their ease of

*Continued on Page 10*



# VACATIONLAND SALES

616-896-8371 | [Sales@VacationlandSales.com](mailto:Sales@VacationlandSales.com)

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AND WILL REOPEN ON MARCH 1ST!**

**ALL QUESTIONS & CONCERNS WILL BE ANSWERED VIA OUR E-MAIL WHILE AWAY!**



## Sales News / Continued From Page 9

closing and flexibility, made this journey a truly pleasant one. We are grateful for their dedication and expertise, and we wholeheartedly recommend Sandy Pines to anyone looking for a property investment accompanied by a top-notch sales team. We will indefinitely be back as purchasers in the years to come.”

-Jordan and Jill T.

Our sales team wants to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We pray for God’s blessings over you during the off-season.

.....

## SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF [Paul@SandyPines.com](mailto:Paul@SandyPines.com)

### Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

### CALLS FOR SERVICE

Public Safety responded to 36 calls for service in October 2023. The breakdown of calls is:

Assist.....	7
Damage to Property .....	3
Health and Safety .....	1
Illegal Dumping.....	1
Illegal Entry.....	2
Lost/Found.....	2
Medical .....	6
Noise .....	1
Open door.....	6
Power Outage.....	1

Suspicious .....	3
Traffic Violation.....	2
Welfare Check .....	1

### RULES

During the off season, there are still members in the park. Please remember that the rules still apply and are being enforced. The speed limit is 10 mph during the summer and winter.

### HOLIDAY SEASON

The Holiday season is upon us. Have a safe and wonderful Christmas and New Year. Enjoy your time with family and friends and make wonderful Holiday memories.

.....

## SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND [Steve@SandyPines.com](mailto:Steve@SandyPines.com)

By 2034 the Census Bureau predicts that people over the age of 65 will outnumber persons under the age of 18. That’s good for us folks that are getting a little older. People 60 years and older are very diverse in activities and generally participate and are active in their communities. Needs and experiences differ greatly. 2034 is not far off.

FEMA and AARP suggest that County and State Emergency Managers should look further than nursing homes and assisted living facilities to manage older people in events of disaster. Less than 3% of the population of our seniors live in these facilities. Most of these adults live in our communities, sometimes alone, and continue to work and/or volunteer.

Older adults have been disproportionately affected by natural disasters. Extreme heat and natural disasters have a history of causing the greatest number of deaths in the older population. Three out of four adults during Hurricane Katrina were persons older than 60 years, most of the victims of the 2018 Camp Fire were over 60 yrs., and two out of three people in Hurricane Florence were over 60 yrs. old and half were over 70 yrs. Although 16% of the population is over 65 years 80% of covid deaths were from this age group.

What does this mean for the rest of us? If you are under 60 and have family, friends, and neighbors that are 60 or over please be the person that provides oversight, concern, and help when events or disasters occur.

Older people do not fare well in natural disasters. A higher proportion of older adults have multiple medical issues and events can overwhelm their body systems and their bodies do not recover. Extreme heat and natural disasters have a higher morbidity rate for this segment of the population. Trauma to older individuals can have devastating injuries, are not recoverable, and can cause loss of life.

Community Lifelines – commonly but not limited to food, shelter, water, health medical, and transportation. Sandy Pines has implemented storm shelters and has opened buildings as cooling centers during extreme heat. These facilities do have power backup generators. Power generators have been installed at park buildings so the park can continue to be operational during outages. Power backup generators have been installed in some phases to operate well pumps. Grant proposals are presently being written for additional

**Continued on Page 11**



## Safety News / Continued From Page 10

dual-purpose storm shelter bathrooms in Phase 1 and Phase 5. Power backup generators are included in these proposals to supply water to campsites.

Going forward just as the State, local, and Federal authorities look at the older population segment and vulnerabilities

so should the Park. If you are a person in this population segment, take additional care to heed the warnings and talk shelter. If you are younger and not as vulnerable, please watch over and provide assistance to your friends, family, and neighbors.

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## CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES [Janele@SandyPines.com](mailto:Janele@SandyPines.com)

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Happy Holidays Sandy Pines members! If you are looking for Christmas ideas for your loved ones consider booking them a campsite or rental unit, what a fun and unique gift! I would

love to help, please give me a call! We are so excited about our newest feature at Sandy Pines, a new pool overlooking Lake Monterey in Phase 2; currently being built and will be ready for the upcoming season! We have many planned activities, garage sales, two weekends to enjoy Christmas in August, fireworks in July and September, and Halloween in July. Please check out our online calendar! Sandy Pines offers camping in two-week blocks with a week off in between for those campers looking for a lengthier stay. We do offer a 10% associate discount for our associate members, and we also offer a 10% military discount for anyone who has served or is serving in the military. Thank you for your service! You will need to contact the camping department to have the discount applied, which you can do after you make your reservation online. Your refunded amount will go back onto the card you used at the time of purchase. Reservations can be made directly from our website at [www.SandyPines.com](http://www.SandyPines.com). If you have any questions or would like me to book a reservation for you, please give me a call at 616-896-8315 ext. 103. I would love to help and look forward to hearing from you! Many blessings to you and your family and Happy Holidays!

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## HAPPY CAMPER TEXT ALERT

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE SMS ALERTS & STAY  
UPDATED ON PARK EVENTS INCLUDING ALERTS,  
CANCELLATIONS, UPDATES, & MORE!

To Opt-In: Text "SANDYPINES" to 67283  
To Opt-Out: Text "STOP" to 67283

YOU MAY SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE AT ANY TIME







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