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1971-2021

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW
FEBRUARY 2021



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PHONE NUMBERS

Member Service 616.896.8315

Fax Number..... 616.896.7409

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Member Service Ext. 101

memberservice@sandypines.com

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Kimberly Ext. 109

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Recreation Department..... 616.896.8318

Nikki Hoogewind, Director/Adult Rec.

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Lake Monterey Golf616.896.8118

Gary Peters, Manager

www.lakemontereygolf.com

Golf@golfimgc.com

Laundromat Hours – Open 24 Hours

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer Park President

Kimberly Williams Finance & Accounting

Steve Deyarmond Emergency Services

Keith Garvelink Security Services

Ben Fifelski Maintenance

Gary Peters Lake Monterey Golf Course

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Kathy Brott Executive Assistant & Camping

Sue Flowers Member Service

Nikki Hoogewind..... Recreation

Josh Janowiak Communications

Jamie Bogema..... Human Resources

Jack Schmidt Park & Garden

Jeff Hopkins..... Park Inspector

Liz Robins..... Sales & Events Manager

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager

Golf Course Bill Reynolds

Grounds/Maintenance Kel Kronemeyer

Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager

Policy Joel VanKolker

Rules Michelle Bengsch

Safety & Security Rod Burch

Technology Bob Powers

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Larry Munger (23)

Paul Peppel (22)

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

Happy Valentine's Day and welcome to February 2021! We are less than 90 days away from an exciting 50th Anniversary season opening. We hope all of you are as excited about this year as we are. We still have lots to work on before the park fills with fun, splashing water, laughter, campfires and gatherings at everyone's Happy Place. I would like to thank all our members, Board of Directors, and staff for your patience, grace and flexibility (again) while we deal with COVID-19 orders limiting our operations. The staff did an excellent job keeping up with operations working remotely 4 days and on-site 1 day a week. The middle of January the remote work order was extended to February 1, 2021 unless work could no longer be completed remotely. Since we have been working remotely since November 2020 when the first orders were communicated, we have fallen behind on our strategic planning and executing our plans to be ready for a regular season opening. This results in the current operations schedule announced that staff will be working 3 days remotely and 2 days on-site. The team continues to do an excellent job "rolling with the punches" and adapting to the many, late developing changes by the state.

Communications & Sales Staff

Before we dive into the upcoming items the team will be focusing on this month, we would like to express a huge Thank You to Josh Janowiak our Communications Director. As many of you know, Josh and his lovely wife Courtney welcomed their first child Rosemary into the world this past summer. We are losing a dear friend and co-worker as Josh has announced he will be leaving Sandy Pines to focus on his number one priority, Rosie. Josh has done an excellent job setting a great foundation for our marketing and communications here at Sandy Pines over the last several years. His focus and dedication to improving communications and taking it to the next level has benefited our entire community. Josh will continue in a part-time capacity until we have a new Communications person on board and fully transitioned. We thank Josh and wish him the best in raising Rosie full time! We will miss you Josh!

While we are wishing Josh, Courtney, and Rosie good luck, we are welcoming our new Communications Manager to Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course. Please welcome Ian Mitchell to our community and family. Ian started January 25, 2021. He comes to us with much experience in design, communication, and marketing. Ian is accepting the challenge to build on the foundation Josh started and take it to the next level. We are excited to have Ian. Josh and Ian will be transitioning the entire month of February.

We are also excited to communicate a new Salesperson and changes taking place in our Sales Department. Be sure to read Liz's article for these exciting changes taking place in time to better serve you in 2021.

Strategic Planning

Strategic Planning was complete at the end of January with a focus on goal setting and highlighting projects, processes and procedures that need to be completed this year.

The team identified over 40 Things To Be Done this upcoming season. Most of the focus centered around our IT system upgrade, improving our processes and procedures as well as delivering on many identified projects such as the Cart Bridge, Lake Study Committee Projects, more PSO patrolling, lake safety patrolling, relaunching the Sales Department and delivering on our 50th Anniversary celebration.

While identifying those things we need to do in 2021, the team also discussed what we need to

Stop Doing in 2021. Here the team identified 17 things such as stop making exceptions to rules in our Handbook, stop being pulled down by negativity or rumors and stop being inefficient. The last item will focus on reducing the vast amount of paper pushing being done throughout the various departments. The team is excited to see a new IT solution to help avoid the paper!

Lastly, we focused on keeping the team motivated, staying positive and remaining a team. We are blessed with an excellent team that spends more time with each other than we do with our own families during the season. We discussed ways to improve our work environment which will spill over to improving how we service our members. I was proud of our team addressing these topics as well as having hard discussions at times on what we need to do to stay together. Next steps will be official goals being set this month.

North Shore Center

Our FEMA Building continues to progress nicely. Walls are painted, landscaping is in process and we are still targeting the end of March 2021 for occupancy. In January our FEMA committee reviewed furniture supplier options, designs, products and costs. The team selected Kentwood Office Furniture to supply our furniture. We expect to have furniture in place end of March or the beginning of April just in time for our season opening. Stay tuned for a Grand Opening event.

Cart Bridge Project

The Cart Bridge Project is also proceeding. A design is complete with the board reviewing this

Continued on Page 4



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month. Once reviewed by the board and our Sandy Pines project team, we will submit the design for county approval. Consumers Energy was notified to begin adjusting power lines and poles near the crossing area in prep for the bridge placement. We are planning on making a supplier selection this month to complete the project to meet the MDOT and County approved design. Our target completion remains May 2021. However, steel supply and available contractors may push our project later into the season or even past our 2021 summer season. If

the project pushes into the midst of our season, we are reviewing alternative cart path routing from Phase 3 to Phase 6.

IT Assessment

Sandy Pines partnered with DPT Solutions to develop an IT Roadmap for cost, timing and system upgrade needs. The Discovery Phase is complete with DPT having met with all departments on their needs, wishes, process and suggestions on how to improve member experience and staff efficiency. This month DPT will present their roadmap to be reviewed by the administration team, IT assessment team and Technology Committee. Once reviewed by this group, it will be forwarded to the Board for review. We plan to communicate during our March 2021 Board of Directors meeting.

Finances

During the month of January, Kimberly Williams and I completed a review of our Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course financial statements with our external Beene Garter team. We had an excellent 2020 despite a global pandemic.

We thank our members, staff, board and all who made this possible. Please review Kimberly Williams' Finance article for more information.

50th Anniversary Sponsorships

Lastly, we are excited about all the above activity that is taking place here at Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course. We are really excited about our 50th Anniversary celebration events. The committee is kicking into high gear to give us a season to remember. Our sponsorships increased from last month's \$17,000 (22.6%) to \$26,000 (34.7%) of our goal of \$75,000. Please see Josh's section on sponsorships and the special Thank You to members, contractors and suppliers of Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey Golf Course who are subsidizing these events to make it happen for our community.

We are counting down to an exciting 2021 season. We thank God for all He continues to do for us at our Happy Place! All things are through Him!

God Bless!

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY PAUL PEPPER BoardOfDirectors@sandypines.com

Greetings fellow Sandy Piners! How about some good news?! At this juncture of the off-season, we are actually closer to opening day 2021 than we are away from closing day 2020! We could all use a boost right now, and that little tidbit helped me smile a little brighter.

Your board meets again in March 2021 and a big part of this year's plans include an in-depth look at recommendations presented last fall by the Lake Committee. Their efforts have offered a solid foundation for preservation of our most valuable asset. The suggestions outlined below are a capsule of the ideas. As an aside, if you're able, the presentation in its entirety can be seen on the Sandy Pines YouTube channel.

Safety on the lake is of the utmost importance and having personnel available to observe, monitor, and assist was at the forefront of many committee discussions. That desperate need was fulfilled recently with the hiring of an experienced and qualified marine officer. The board thanks Keith Garvelink for his tireless efforts in successfully making this a top priority.

Though most are aware of the 100' buffer between shore/docks and waking boats (which is required by state law), it is nearly impossible to accurately gauge this distance over water. The committee is suggesting the possibility of using buoys uniformly spaced around the areas where speeding boats are permitted. Also, these could be used as perimeter markers for non-motorized craft like kayaks, paddle boards, and pedal boats to help them more safely navigate around the lake. Ideally, they would be lit for safety during nighttime cruises.

As the late summer approaches each season, lake levels fall resulting in higher particulate concentration (especially phosphorous and nitrates, detrimental to our lake if levels are elevated). This results in an increasingly poor fish habitat, extreme water cloudiness, and, when coupled with water warmth and stagnation in calm areas, the appearance of surface algae. The committee is suggesting two more fresh water wells and pumps (there are four currently) that would hopefully relax some of these threats.

Though many boaters are familiar with boating laws, not only do the state laws change periodically, but Lake Monterey also has some rules and regs that are unique. And required by all. To keep everyone well informed, the committee is proposing a boaters' packet for both current and in-coming users. This would be an abridged version of those set forth in the handbook. These would be sent out to all watercraft owners with a return requirement prior to lake sticker registration.

Storm water runoff is an area that few are aware of or, frankly, care about. But it's an issue that results in many impurities spilling into the lake unimpeded. The committee is looking for a type of bypass or filtration system to prevent this influx of contaminants, the result of which would benefit aquatic life and vegetation.

Motorized watercraft are utilized by many however they are some of the largest contributors to lake erosion and water quality. The committee believes that the biggest culprit is the use of ballast in boats, which gives them the ability to produce larger waves than other boats, especially beneficial to surfing. The unusual downward motor angle focuses thrust toward the lake bottom disturbing delicate surfaces and vegetation while increasing water cloudiness. Our lake depth is far too shallow to absorb or cushion this abuse,

a fact confirmed by manufacturers of these types of boats. Significantly higher wave heights also present challenges for other watercraft while adversely contributing to shore erosion. Banning the use of ballast (not the boats themselves) is a recommendation the committee is suggesting after lengthy discussions.

It should be noted that there are many other areas the committee discussed but lacked the time to formulate ideas to share. These include, but are not limited to, erosion control, fishing improvement, lake capacity, boat stakes, better launch signage, and improved member communication. Because of this, the board has agreed to change the Lake Committee's ad hoc status to full-time. Thus, the group will be meeting at regular intervals for the foreseeable future.

It must be stressed that all suggestions presented above are just that - suggestions. They have not begun to reach the bargaining table. Transparently, the board discusses issues at meetings at minimum one month before voting to implement. This gives members time to join in the discussion. Please do so if you have any questions related to the above, or of any nature. Boardofdirectors@sandypines.com. Thanks for reading and see you very soon.

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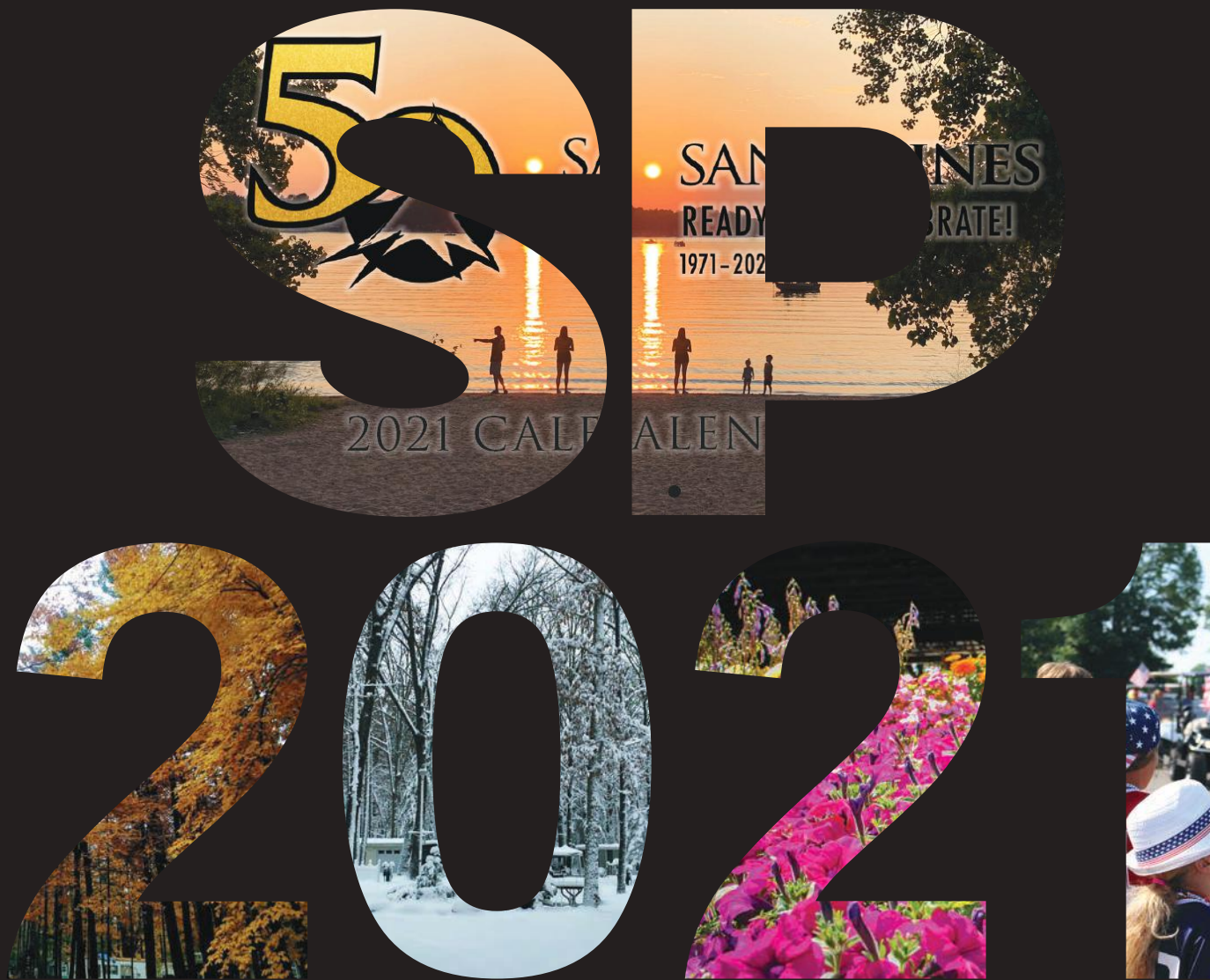
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Calendars

All of our favorite and new 50th Anniversary events in 2021. They are available for purchase now at Member Service, Public Safety, online at SandyPines.com/WallCalendars and in our November online store at SandyPines.com/Merch!

COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY JOSH JANOWIAK josh@sandypines.com

Love, Love, Love

February brings us Valentine's Day and I believe no matter your current relationship status, we could all use a little more love these days, so feel free to spread it (responsibly, due to COVID) to those around you.

While we're on the topic, I do have a new love in my life, that of our daughter Rosemary Joy. She arrived two and a half months early this past June (at 2lbs 10oz) and spent 90 days in the NICU. Since her release, she has been a little rock star packing on the pounds. She's super chubby, sensationally squeezable, and amazingly cuddly. As two full time working professionals, my wife and I have been talking for months about how we could swing caring for her at home to avoid putting her into childcare during the pandemic. Since I have always secretly wanted to be a stay-at-home husband, this looked like the best opportunity to realize my dream.

I met and conversed with Jeff at length about our plan. We even came up with few possible part-

time options for me to remain on the staff, but in the end, we decided it was in my best interest to stay at home and for Sandy Pines to find a full-time replacement for my position. I cannot thank Jeff enough, along with Gene, Kim, Jamie, and all our team that has been accommodating with my wife and I during this journey. Two years ago, to the date, my wife and I also fostered a pair of two-year-old twins. Again, the entire team was supportive of our journey and worked with us being flexible when needed. Sandy Pines Mission is focused on family and I can proudly say those values carry through to our company culture and our staff.

For my next chapter, I'll continue working in the communications and marketing field as a freelance/contractor until little Rosie goes off to school. As a passionate podcaster, I recently started a podcasting, voice over, and marketing consulting business called Podcast Story Pros. If you're ever curious what I'm up to, check out PodcastStoryPros.com. I have also offered to assist Sandy Pines when and if needed on a

project basis, so this may not be the last you see of me.

I will miss but will never forget my time at Sandy Pines. From my start at Member Service to pioneering the start of a new Communications Department. I'm proud of the professional accomplishments but most appreciative of the friendships that were made with so many on our team and in the community. Thank you to all of you that make Sandy Pines such a wonderful community in which to play and work!

Ready, Set, Celebrate!

Our 50th Anniversary Year is officially underway, and our theme is Ready, Set, Celebrate! In case you haven't noticed, our logo and colors have changed to gold & black in honor of our Golden Anniversary. While many events won't happen until the 2021 summer season, we'll be celebrating virtually online with some new videos, vintage photos, stories, history, and more.

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HAPPY CAMPER TEXT ALERTS

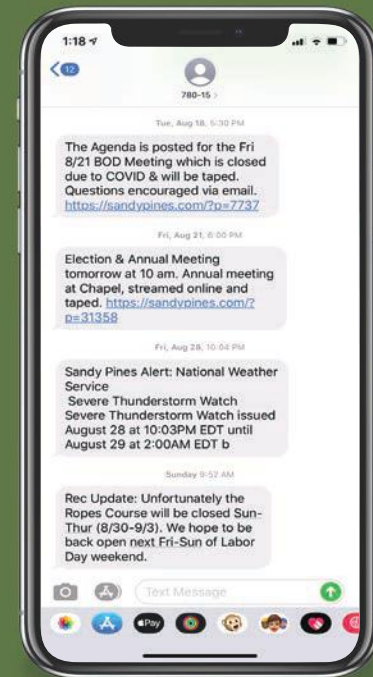
New SMS text opt-in for Members, Associate Members, Guests, and Campers

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

Park news, event updates, weather alerts, cancellations, and closures.



More information at SandyPines.com/Sms-Text-Opt-In



Keep an eye out on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube for vintage photos, videos, memories, and contests celebrating our history.

Online Store

We have many limited edition 50th Anniversary items for sale in our Online Store which is open the first two weeks of every month. We also have many of our standard Sandy Pines logo wear items and soon we'll have some items for sale with our vintage logo. Don't forget our special 50th Anniversary Edition 2021 Calendars that come complete with all our events already scheduled for you.

All Online Store profits for 2020 & 2021 will go toward 50th Anniversary fundraising efforts so when you shop in the store, you're supporting the 50th Anniversary Celebration. Shop now at SandyPine.com/Store



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50th Anniversary Fundraising

Jeff mentioned our goal of raising \$75,000 to subsidize all the great events we have scheduled for our 50th Anniversary. Without these funds, all our 50th events simply won't be possible. The majority of that goal is intended to come from business sponsorships and donations.

Sponsorship Packages

- Headliner Sponsorship Packages range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and offer amazing exposure for organizations including name & logo recognition online, in print, and at events. Gold & Platinum Sponsors also get TV ads and onsite exposure opportunities at all 50th Anniversary Events.
- Individual Event Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$550 and offer similar exposure at the single event of your choice. Member affiliated and nonprofit organizations also get a 20% discount on sponsorships. These are great rates for exposure to our highly engaged and active community members.
- You can also make a donation or purchase a sponsorship on behalf of yourself or your family. We'd love to thank you publicly for your contribution, but we'd glad to keep you anonymous if you'd prefer.

Thank You Sponsors!

Our sponsorships increased from \$17,000 in January, to \$26,000 in February. Thank you to all our new partners for your support! We're now at 34.7 % of our goal.

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Gold Event Sponsors

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The Dairy Dip

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For sponsorship packages and additional information, visit SandyPines.com/Partnerships. For questions, to reserve your sponsorship, or make a donation, contact communications@sandypines.com or by calling 616-896-8316 x112.

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50th Anniversary Sponsorships

Our 50th Anniversary Events won't be possible without the help of sponsorships and donations.

- Headline Sponsorships range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and offer amazing year-round exposure including all our signature events.
- Individual Event Sponsorships range from \$100 to \$550 and offer great exposure at the single event of your choice.
- Member affiliated and nonprofit organizations also get a 20% discount on sponsorships.
- You can also make a donation or purchase a sponsorship on behalf of yourself or your family.

Thank You Sponsors!

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- Vacationland Sales

Gold

- FCC Construction

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- West Michigan Community Bank

Silver

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Event Sponsors

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- The Dairy Dip

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- West Michigan Community Bank
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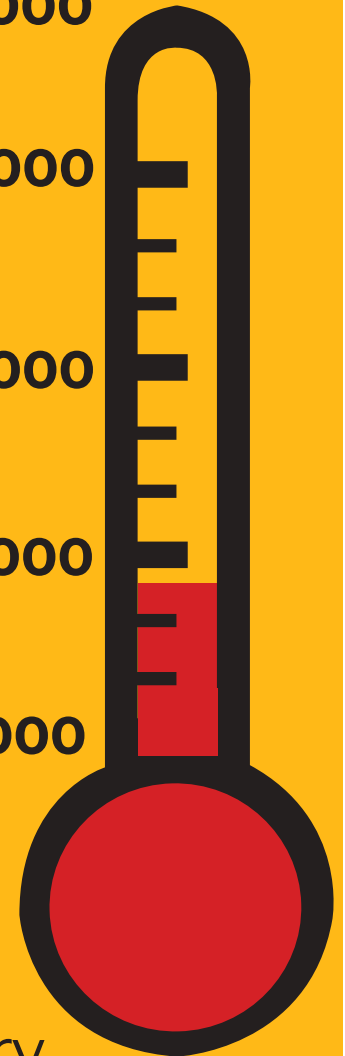
\$75,000

\$60,000

\$45,000

\$30,000

\$15,000



Donate at SandyPines.com/50thAnniversary

EMERGENCY SERVICES NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND steve@sandypines.com

Membership Cards

Sandy Pines has utilized various forms of membership cards as a means for members to gain access into the Park. Originally barium ferrite cards were provided to a Member owner of a campsite. The spouse was given a paper membership card and children of the members were provided a paper membership card. The paper membership cards permitted the holders to enter through the main gate. As the population of the Park grew it became a very inefficient system getting persons into the Park. Administration staff would work from fall to the next year spring opening in April to punch the name and site numbers on the barium ferrite cards. These barium ferrite cards were not connected to any computer

system and at the time, personal computers were very few in numbers. As computer systems became available, over 30 years ago, the Park transitioned to a Magnetic Stripe card access system. This reduced the many hours that staff had to punch out each letter of persons names on cards. This also permitted the park to have a more secure system and control of access. Now, magnetic card stripe access card systems are outdated, and as manufacturers phase out old technologies, the magnetic card equipment becomes more costly and will not be supported in the future.

We currently utilize both a magnetic card stripe and a proximity card system. The Park plans to upgrade the card access system to utilize only proximity cards and installation of a vehicle license plate reader. Sandy Pines will no longer issue Magnetic stripe cards. A transition to all proximity cards will occur October 2023. Holders of Magnetic stripe card access cards will have to transition to a proximity card by October 2023.

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FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS kim@sandypines.com

We are nearing the start of a new season and the celebration of our 50th Anniversary! 😊

Financial Review

As stated in the January Footprints, an open Board meeting was held in conjunction with the Finance Committee to review the final FY2020 Financial Statements of the year. These reports are located online at SandyPines.com/Finance. Beene Garter was on-site early in January completing the annual review and tax filing for the September 2020 fiscal year. Beene Garter will provide a

report presentation and informational review to the Board of Directors and Finance Committee during the next scheduled meeting TBD.

September 2020, despite the challenges of handling things around COVID-19 restrictions and a global pandemic, SPWT and LMGC ended the fiscal year in a continued strong financial position and in great preparation for the celebration of our 50th Anniversary, and construction goals set for us in the month and years ahead.

Continued on Page 12

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Annual Dues Payment Schedule

For your reference and information, below is the payment plan schedule if you have elected to make monthly installments to pay your 2021 Annual Dues and Assessments. Your monthly payment this year is \$327.88, and is payable on the 25th of each month, from October 2020 thru March 2021. This payment plan is allowed for dues and assessments only. (Please note, your December billing statement does include your quarterly electric and state unit tax, which must also be accounted for in your payment). To stay current within the payment plan, your balance owed at the end of each month for 2020-2021 must equal the following on each date listed below:

October 25, 2020	\$1,591.64
November 25, 2020	\$1,282.72
December 25, 2020	\$969.16
January 25, 2021	\$650.90
February 25, 2021	\$327.87
March 25, 2021	\$0 – All dues and assessments paid

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 at left.

Within the current temporary shutdown of the Administration Office, per State guidelines, we want to note there are still multiple and feasible ways to make payments on your account. Payments can be made the following ways:

- 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)
- Through USPS mail by mailing a check (no additional fee)
- Directly at the Administration office through the exterior drop box; located in the back of the building. (no additional fee)

- Online through our website (includes 3% fee)
- Over the phone with Member Service or Public Safety (includes 3% fee)

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

Annual Renewal charges (per your individual membership) will be sent in early February and will be posted on your April 2021 Member statement, due April 25th, 2021.

Any updates to the Annual Renewal Summary must be sent to Member Service no later than March 15, 2021.

If you have any questions or concerns at any time regarding your Member statement, we are happy to assist and may be reached at 616-896-8315.

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LAKE MONTEREY GOLF COURSE NEWS

BY GARY PETERS gary@golflmgc.com

Well we are finally getting some snow on the course and the deer are running around again.

All the quotes for the bridge came in and the precast concrete was out of our budget. So we are going to install a new steel frame and put anew wood deck on the bridge. Most of the tree work on the course is to improve tuff conditions

on our tee boxes and to open up some rough areas to have more turf.

Getting ready to make more tee markers and repaint the ones we use. We will be having a spring cleanup this year again.

The well driller called and will be here today. Right after we got eight inches of snow. So I will

be out with tractor and start moving the snow out of the way for them. We are getting a smaller well put in for the back nine this winter. Which will allow us not to have to rely on the stream which has cause a lot of wear and tear on the irrigation system.

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MAINTENANCE NEWS

BY BEN FIFELSKI ben@sandypines.com

We are working on updating some of the signs around the park. We have also been working on the K422 cabin with improvements of a new steel roof and siding. We have been trimming trees throughout the park so larger campers can get through without brushing against the branches.

Maintenance has a full time position available. Also seasonal cleaning position. Please contact Ben 616-896-8317 if you're interested our know someone that is.

Hope everyone has a safe winter!

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MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY SUE FLOWERS memberservice@sandypines.com

Office Hours

Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed
(Saturday hours begin May 15)

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 0
Fax: 616.896.7409
Email: memberservice@sandypines.com

Important Dates

- 4/1 Annual Renewals, quarterly electric & state tax billed (Due in full 4/25)
- 4/15 Gates open and water is turned on for the season (weather permitting)
- 6/1 Boat registration deadline
- 7/1 Quarterly electric & state tax billed (Due 7/25)
- 10/1 Annual Dues, final adjusted electric, and state tax billed (Due 10/25)
- 10/15 Water is turned off for the season (weather permitting)

Happy Heart Month!

If you're looking for a focus for February, there is a lot to choose from. February is National... Fasting February, Self-Check Month, Enrolled Agents Month, Free and Open Source Software Month, American Heart Month, Affair to Remember Month, Black History Month, Canned Food Month, Creative Romance Month, Great American Pies Month, National Bake for

Family Fun Month, Bird Feeding Month, National Cherry Month, Children's Dental Health Month, Grapefruit Month, Hot Breakfast Month, Library Lover's Month, Snack Food Month, Weddings Month, Embroidery Month, Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, and last but not least, National Heart Month! Here at Sandy Pines, it's.... winter!

Renewal Period Ends March 15th

Members have until March 15, 2021 to make changes to their account data before Renewal fees are billed. If you haven't yet verified your information is correct, please do so before March 15th, as after this date, changes and credits are limited. Check your file in Member Web Access and contact Member Service with changes or additional information, or complete the online [Renewal Survey](#). Included in your summary for your review is boat information, including in/out service provided by Park & Garden; Boat Dock information/billing; Internet Service/billing; Bullpen info/billing (if annual); Mailbox info/billing; Pump Out Plan info/billing; billing for any moped or non-motorized boat stickers. Renewal fees will bill to your account the last two weeks of March and will be on your April Statement along with quarterly unit tax and quarterly electric.

Member cards cannot be canceled for credit after the March 15th deadline. Purchasing **new** Member cards is not related to renewals; new cards or replacement cards require a photo and

can be purchased in person by appointment at the Public Safety Office. For questions regarding Member cards, please contact the Public Safety Office directly at 616-896-9006.

Stickers are automatically mailed with your April statement to the current primary address listed in your Member Web Access Portal, unless you request we hold them. Once stickers are mailed, they become your responsibility and we must charge the full price for their replacement. If you find lost stickers or they finally catch up to your change of address, the deadline for crediting returned stickers is July 1, 2021. If your boat registration expires prior to April 1, 2021, your water sticker is not included with your April statement, however you are charged for the sticker. Once we receive your updated boat registration, we can provide your sticker. If for any reason you do not receive your April statement and stickers, log into [Member Web Access](#) and verify your mailing address; contact Member Service at least 10 days before the bill due date of April 25th. Renewal Stickers include Water, Land, Non-motorized boats, Golf Carts, and Mopeds. Bullpen and Handicap stickers are permanent and are not replaced with Renewals. Blue Tank (waste tote) stickers are annual and can be purchased at Member Service or Public Safety.

Continued on Page 15

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Member Service News / Continued From Page 14

Pump Out Plans: Pump out plan dates had only slight changes. Please review the pump out plans and choose which is best for you. Members do not have to have a specific plan. Pump outs can be individually booked in advance through Member Web Access or by calling Member Service. More Pump Out information can be found at SandyPines.com/PumpOutService. The 2021 Plan options are listed as follows:

Weekly Plans	Plan	# of Pumps	Price	
April 19 to Oct 22	Plan E	Full Plan	27	\$324.00
April 26 to Sept 10	Plan A	Labor Day	20	\$240.00
May 3 to Oct 8	Plan C	Flea Mkt Plan	23	\$276.00
May 24 to Sept 10	Plan G	Holiday Plan	16	\$192.00
Bi-Weekly Plans	Plan	# of Pumps	Price	
April 19 to Oct 22	Plan F	Full Plan	14	\$168.00
April 19 to Sept 24	Plan D	Sept Plan	12	\$144.00
May 10 to Oct 15	Plan B	Late Star	2	\$144.00
May 24 to Sept 17	Plan H	Holiday Plan	9	\$108.00

Boat Registrations

All Member boat registrations must be up to date by June 1, 2021. Your registration has the expiration date on it, or you can log into Member Web Access and view the registration information we have on file. Please let us know if you feel your recorded expiration date is in error. Those with motorized boats usually receive their SOS registration reminders in the mail and can renew online or at an SOS Kiosk; you can search their website to see if there is a kiosk near you. Unless we have an updated registration on file

before stickers are mailed, Members whose registrations are expired will not receive a boat sticker with their April statement. Once you have your new registration, you can mail a copy, scan/email, take a clear photo and send, or fax your registration to Member Service. Please do not send receipts or title applications. We need the actual current registration.

Mail Service Reminders

For those with Sandy Pines mailboxes, please remember to put in your forwarding 3 to 4 weeks

before returning to Sandy Pines. Only Members with mailboxes can receive mail and packages at Sandy Pines. All mail and packages are delivered to the mailroom located by the 28th Street park entrance. Proximity card entry is required. Kudos to our Maintenance Team for working to expand the mailroom, as all current boxes are assigned. For more information, please visit SandyPines.com/MailServices. Campers cannot have mail or packages delivered to Sandy Pines.

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End of Season Dates

See our online Calendar with these dates and more at SandyPines.com/Calendar.



September

- 8 Park & Garden closes Sunday-Thursday
- 12 Saturday Member Emergency Pump Outs & Member Service Hours End
- 20 Marina Closes for the Season
- 25 Member Account Balanced Due
- 26 Park & Garden Closes for the Season
- 28 2020 Cabin & Park Model Camping Rentals End

October

- 1 Annual Dues, Assessments & Quarterlies Billed
- 1 Camping & Flea Market Reservations Open for Next Season
- 15 Water Turned Off & Seasonal CCs Close
- 19-23 Last Week of Scheduled Pump Outs
- 25 Member Account Balances, Annual Dues, Assessments & Quarterlies Due (Adjusted Electric)
- 28 Last Pump Out of the Season (EPO Rate)

November

- 1 Boat Removal Deadline
- 1 Seasonal Gates Close
- 25 Member Account Balances Due
- 26-27 Admin Offices Closed for Thanksgiving



December

- 24-31 Admin Offices Closed for the Holidays
- 25 Member Account Balances Due

Merry Christmas!



January

- 1 Admin Offices Closed for the Holidays
- 4 Quarterlies Billed (Electric)
- 15 Annual Renewal Notices Sent
- 25 Member Account Balances & Quarterlies Due

Happy New Year!



February

- 13 Sandy Pines Winter Festival
- 25 Member Account Balances Due

Happy Winter Fest!



March

- 15 Annual Renewal Update Deadline
- 25 Member Account Balances Due

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



April

- 1 Annual Renewals & Quarterlies Billed
- 15 Seasonal Gates Open
- 15 Water Turned on for the Season (Weather Permitting)
- 15 Water Softener Deliveries Begin
- 17 LMGC Spring Clean Up
- 23 Member Account Balances, Renewals & Quarterlies Due

Happy Easter!



May

- 15 Saturday Member Service Hours Start
- 22 Park & Garden Store Opens (Monday-Saturday)
- 25 Member Account Balances Due
- 29 Marina Opens for the Season
- 31 Memorial Day Service

PARK & GARDEN NEWS

BY JACK SCHMIDT jack@parkgarden.com

Park & Garden Store

Phone: 616.896.9334

Email: parkgarden@sandypines.com

Online: sandypines.com/ParkGarden

Water Softeners

Hard water problem? Rust stains in the sink? We have an answer for you again this year.

If you ordered a softener before you left the park last year or had been a softener customer in the past year, you will be receiving an email from the Park and Garden Store for you to reconfirm the order of the softener and the date you would be looking for the install. Please be as accurate as possible with the date for install and make sure

your site is ready for the installation. We need your hoses available and your hook up at the riser well marked.

If you do not get the email and you still want a softener, please send an email to parkgarden@sandypines.com with your name, site, and the date you would like the softener either installed or your date of pickup. If you have not had a softener in the past but would like to order one, you can order by email or go to the Sandy Pines Member site, <https://sandypines.com/watersofteners/> for the 2021 order form.

Golf Cart Rentals

The online rental system is open, and you can make reservations for upcoming summer dates. REMEMBER: Carts are rented out quickly on the holiday weekends and Christmas in August so now is the time to make your plans for golf cart rental. The 4 passenger carts rent for \$50

per day. The 6 passenger carts will rent for \$70 per day. All carts will be returned each day by 10 am. Example: Rent Saturday at 9 am - return on Sunday at 10 am = 1 day or return on Monday at 10 am = 2 days.

We offer a special weekend rental with pick-up Friday night after 4 pm and return on Sunday morning at 10 am for \$85.00 (normally it would be a 2-day rental for \$100).

If you have seen the new 50th Anniversary merchandise on the online site, we will be carrying the same items in the Park and Garden Store this summer. We are looking forward to again servicing your needs in the 2021 summer season.

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PARK INSPECTOR NEWS

BY JEFF HOPKINS inspector@sandypines.com

Maintenance Hours

Monday-Thursday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Inspector Office Hours

Fridays 8:30 to 4 pm

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.7286

Fax: 616.896.7409

Email: inspector@sandypines.com

Hopefully, everyone made it through the holidays in one piece, and now we can take a deep breath and hope for a better year. With the halfway decent weather this winter, I see lots of projects

getting done out here. Please remember, which most of you have, that permits still need to be pulled even in the off season.

I am in the park every day working with Maintenance and every Friday as the Park Inspector through mid to late March. If you need a permit or anything else, send me an email or call the Member Service; they can get ahold of me at any time.

I have been working with the tree contractor this winter trying to get the tree removals caught up. We have also been trimming trees around the park and we will be trimming the limbs hanging over the roadways.

Please remember we will be celebrating our 50th year this season so let's all try and make our park look better than it ever has. Have a great rest of the winter and hopefully next month we will all be getting ready to talk about getting the park open and ready to go for a hopefully Super Fun 2021 season!

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Looking forward to seeing you all very soon. Have a great 2021!

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RECREATION NEWS

BY NIKKI HOOGEWIND nikki@sandypines.com

Contact Information

Phone: (616) 896-8318

Email: recreation@sandypines.com

February is the month of love. When I think of the things I love it includes: my family, my job, my faith, and Sandy Pines! I first visited Sandy Pines with a friend for garage sales. I later returned with my family for camping, and we all fell in love. We found a lot for sale and purchased it. As a family we love so much about Sandy Pines.

In this year, 2021, Sandy Pines celebrates 50 years! I encourage you to think of all the reasons you too love Sandy Pines. Send your favorite memories in an email and include a photo if available. I would love to fill our Facebook page in 2021 with all the reasons we all love Sandy Pines so much. I think it would be great to share one reason each week; we need your input! Please send to recreation@sandypines.com

Looking ahead, if you can volunteer at any event, big or small, please consider assisting at one event. We have many events planned that we need members to judge, pass out candy, work a game or station, sell tickets, etc. Age of help is around 13 and older. Please help make all events a success by volunteering! We appreciate all those who have helped in the past and we are looking for as many new volunteers as possible to learn from those nearing the age of "volunteer retirement". The older members have dedicated so much time to so many of the events and have so much knowledge that we need them to "train" those willing to volunteer at their favorite events to keep them going.

Staffing for 2021 will take place in early April for the Rec Dept. Please email nikki@sandypines.com if interested in employment. We have plenty of spots available this year. If you would like to be a lifeguard, please obtain certification by mid-

May. We have plenty of fun all summer and look forward to building a great team!

Mark Your Calendar

Memorial Weekend Tournaments	5/28, 29, 31
Kick off 2021 with a Water Light Show	5/29
Memorial Service	5/31
Decorate the Decades (New Event)	6/4,5,6
Garage Sales 1,2,4, condos	6/12
Kids Craft Sale	6/19

All events can be found online at SandyPines.com/Calendar and on our 50th Anniversary 2021 Printed Calendars SandyPines.com/WallCalendars.

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SALES NEWS

BY LIZ ROBINS liz@sandypines.com

Hours

Monday-Saturday 8 am-4 pm
Sunday Closed

Contact Information

Office Phone: 616-896-8315 x118

Email: sales@sandypines.com

2021 has started off with so many changes already. I am happy to introduce myself as the new Sales and Events Manager. The sales department is

excited to announce a few changes that have been made. We finished our internal and external interviews for our new Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails Membership Salesperson in January. We are pleased to announce Kent Livingston will be moving from our maintenance team to our new sales team. Kent has a great repour with our members, an excellent can do, positive attitude and he knows just about everything there is to know about our beautiful park. We are excited to have Kent as part of the sales team.

Please welcome him when you return for the season.

We heard your feedback loud and clear from past sales experiences and surveys. They have been very helpful. The reputation of the sales department is very important to us. We understand the ball has been dropped in the past with the lack of communication and follow up. The new team is dedicated to both new and current members. One thing we would like to share is a commission update. Sales commissions will be reduced from 7.5% to 6%. Once again, we heard your feedback to be more competitive. Sandy Pines is committed to a making the experience positive from start to finish. With the new season fast approaching we would love to introduce the new team and show how the office is being updated. There will be a virtual open house in March! If there is anything we can do please feel free to reach out to us. Happy 50th year Sandy Pines! Let's make 2021 a great year! We are excited about our Sales Department re-launch! We hope you will be also!

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Sandy Pines Member E-News

Our Member E-News electronic newsletter is sent weekly and features monthly departmental Footprints updates, ongoing park news, alerts, and reminders.

You can always subscribe, manage your contact details, unsubscribe at SandyPines.com/E-News.



SANDYPINES
RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY



SECURITY NEWS

BY KEITH GARVELINK keith@sandypines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

Call Numbers & Statistics

In December 2020 Security Services responded to a total of 67 calls for service. The call types appear below.

Assist Other Agency:	1
General Assist:	1
Larceny:	1
Damage to Property:	2
Health & Safety:	2
Miscellaneous:	2

Unauthorized Entry:	2
Security Alarm:	3
Lost/Found Property:	4
Rule Violation:	6
Unauthorized Dumping:	7
Open Door:	27
Suspicious Incident:	8

Security Services staff also performed 616 proactive site checks in the Month of December.

Unauthorized Dumping

We continue to have numerous incidents of persons bringing trash from outside the Park into

the Park for disposal. This is prohibited by rule. Violators may face fines and cleanup costs.

Golf Cart Plates

Security Services has received questions regarding when we will resume issuing golf cart license plates. This is weather dependent as outside temps need to be well above freezing for the VIN stickers to be applied. We will resume taking appointments for license plates as soon as the weather allows and will post this information.

•••

POOL COMMITTEE NEWS

BY BRIAN ELLING BoardOfDirectors@sandypines.com

What a blessing it is to revisit the topic of another Pool for us to enjoy at Sandy Pines! Last year, as a pool committee, we ended up putting on hold the topic of another pool amidst all the unknowns that we had to navigate. That said, many of you approached Board Members throughout the year desiring to keep this topic in motion and to ultimately get something before the membership for a vote.

As a refresher to the survey we conducted in the fall of 2019, we had a total of 1,932 responses with overwhelming support of a new pool. The goal of that survey was to truly get a guide to help us understand what the membership wanted. This would then help us to draft a proposal that could be voted on in the coming season if warranted. We learned a lot from that survey and the ability to allow for member comments created a huge educational experience for all of us to further hear your desires regarding this tremendous asset.

With the new season fast approaching and truly less than 90 days away for opening our wonderful park, we will begin investigating costs, long range maintenance and operational costs associated with bringing a new pool as

another amenity enhancing the value of our investments.

Again, many thanks to those who filled out the survey back in 2019 and shared so many wonderful comments to help us as a Committee and as a Board obtain the voice of the membership. For those that are new to the park and for ongoing updates, I would encourage you to visit [SandyPines.com/PoolPlans](https://www.sandypines.com/PoolPlans).

Our next step as a committee is to continue meeting and to formulate a plan to move forward with more information, possible artist renderings, details, and education to prepare a ballot proposal of some sort this coming year to allow for a Membership Vote to occur.

Pleasure to serve,

Brian Elling on behalf of the Pool Committee Team: Kelly Johnson, Ellen Carpenter, Brian Elling, Jim Huck, and Jeff Sweitzer.

•••

*With Sincere
Sympathy*

Sympathy is extended to:

Bill & Gail Braun, Site 374, on the unexpected passing of their granddaughter, **Heather Lynn Neuenfeldt**, on December 19th. Sympathy is also extended to her Uncle, **Scott Braun**.

Wayne & Anita Conn, Site K-313, on the unexpected passing of their daughter, **Natalie Conn**, on December 21st. Sympathy is also extended to Natalie's siblings, **Cheryl Conn**, Site K-314, **Larry & Waynette Howery**, **Cindy & Ed Murray** and **Steve & Vanetta Conn**.



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50th Anniversary Sponsorship Packages

Advertise with Sandy Pines for the celebration of our 50th Anniversary! It will be a great way to publicize your business while enriching our community. We're offering a variety of sponsorship levels for all budgets. If you are a park resident and want to advertise your business for this special event, you will get a 20% discount on advertising sponsorships. Act now, they are going fast!

Headliner Sponsorships

Our Platinum, Gold, Silver, and Bronze Sponsorships offer year-round exposure from January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021. These packages will give you exposure to thousands of people for the whole year.

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Offer great exposure for the single event of your choice. These are a great option if you'd like to align your business with a particular activity.

See the 50th Anniversary packages at [SandyPines.com/Partnerships](https://www.sandypines.com/Partnerships)