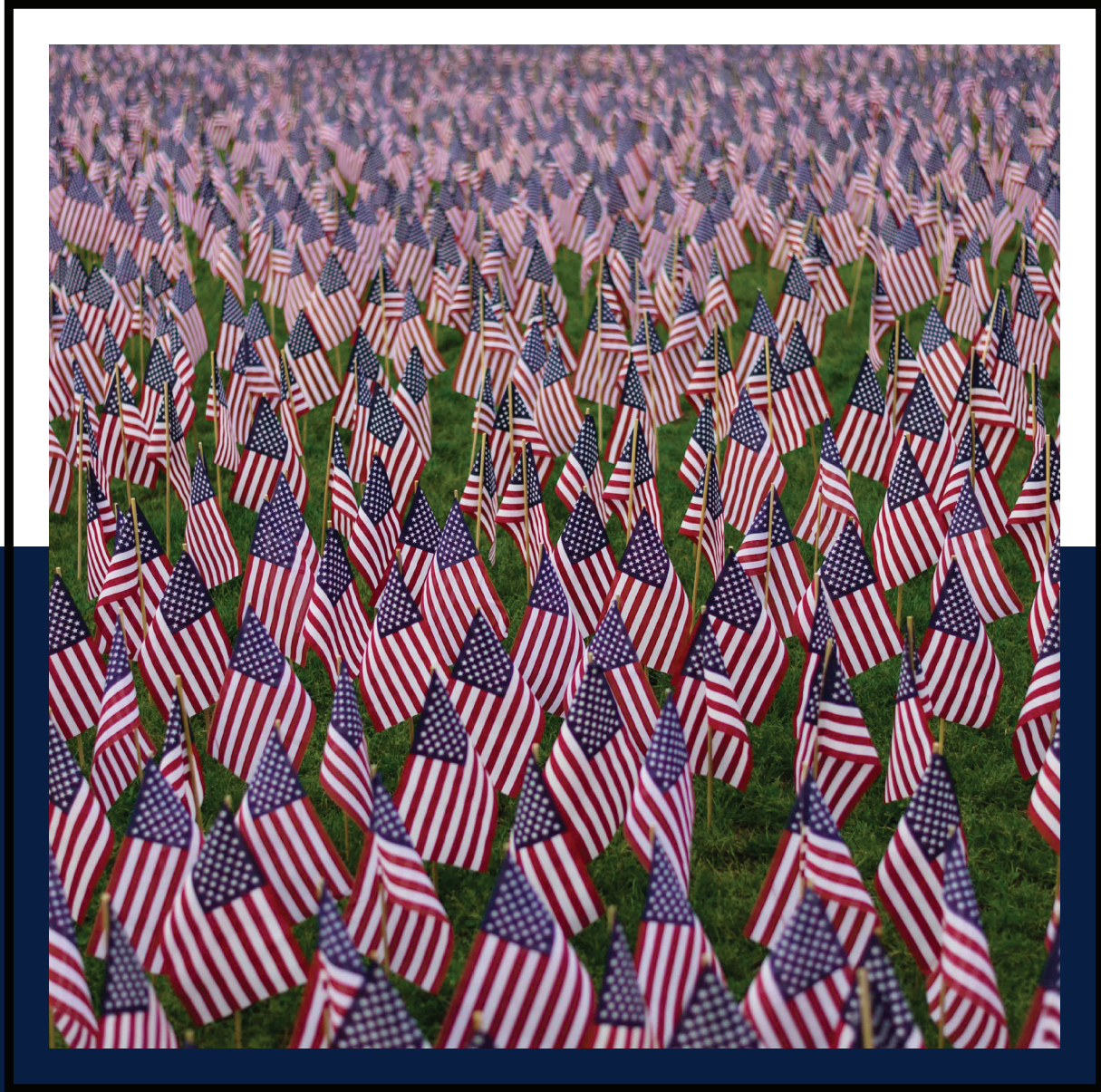


FOOTPRINTS

MAY 2023

IN THE SAND



SANDYPINES

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

Administration

Jeff..... Ext. 105
jeff@sandypines.com

Kimberly Ext. 109
kim@sandypines.com

Park Inspector

Jeff Hopkins..... 616.896.7286
inspector@sandypines.com

Pumpouts-Emergency..... Ext. 111

Sales Office... 616.896.8315 Ext. 118

Kent Livingston..... Ext. 114
kent@sandypines.com

Camping Office..... 616.896.8315
Janele Tomes Ext. 103
janele@sandypines.com

Communications 616.896.8315
Ian Mitchell Ext. 107
ian@sandypines.com

Maintenance 616.896.8317
Ben Fifelski, Supervisor
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

Park & Garden

Dale Yoder..... 616.896.9334
parkgarden@sandypines.com

Recreation

Department..... 616.896.8315
Abby Greenfield..... Ext. 800
Recreation@SandyPines.com

Lake Monterey Golf 616.896.8118

Larry Finkbeiner, Manager
www.lakemontereygolf.com
Golf@golflmgc.com

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ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Jeff Sweitzer Park President
Kimberly Williams .. Finance & Accounting
Steve Deyarmond..... Emergency Services
Ben Fifelski Maintenance
Larry Finkbeiner 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
Grounds/Maintenance... Kel Kronemeyer
Long Range Planning..... Kevin Hager
Policy Joel VanKolker
Rules Drew Torres
Safety & Security..... Rod Burch
Technology Bob Powers
Lake Study.....Jim Buchanan
Library..... Brandyce Barber

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Just Your Style 616.669.6788
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Park & Garden
Rental Office 616.896.9888

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Rick Day (23)
Bob Deckinga (25)
Ginny Hager, Treasurer (23)
Kelly Johnson, Vice Chairperson.... (24)
Larry Munger (23)
Paul Peppel, Secretary..... (25)
Stephanie Saypanha (24)
Scot Wyman (24)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ~ MISSION STATEMENT ~

The Sandy Pines Board of Directors will
provide positive leadership and manage-
ment 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

May is a month when things start to blossom. Flowers, trees, activity in our park all are starting to blossom this Spring. We are seeing more and more members ride around on their golf carts, play golf at Lake Monterey Golf Course, fish at the dam, visit our Park and Garden and new store. A fresh start to the season. A new bloom.

May is also a time of remembrance. Remembrance has a few definitions. However, the one that most comes to mind is: "the action of remembering those who have died, especially in a ceremony." Remembering first and foremost, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ who died on the cross to save all of us. Remembering his resurrection conquering death. Remembering Jesus continued teaching for 40 days here on earth after his death. Did you know the middle of this month will mark the end of those 40 remarkable days? What else should we remember?

Our fallen soldiers! Memorial Day is the time to Thank and Remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice to protect us so we may live free, be blessed and prosper. Those who have laid their lives down for our country and allowing us to remain, "One Nation Under God, Indivisible with Liberty and Justice for All!" This Memorial Day 2023 weekend will be the 20th Anniversary of our Sandy Pines Veterans Memorial. Let's remember those who protected us by giving their lives for our nation. Let's remember this is what our great nation is founded on. This is why so many have paid a price for us to be blessed with what we have here in our country, at our Happy Place and elsewhere! Remember to continue to pray for our nation!

Remember the words of Douglas MacArthur, "The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war," and Winston Churchill, "Never was so much owed by so many to so few." We should remember to Thank God, our fallen soldiers and our soldiers' families for their sacrifices. We are truly blessed every day for what we have in this great nation, but especially this Memorial Day. Let us be Thankful and Remember.

SPECTRUM CHARTER

Overall feedback from members is that the transition to the new Spectrum Charter service and equipment is going well. Members have provided positive feedback on ordering the equipment from Spectrum, picking the equipment up at the Administration Office, Professional Installs taking place and connecting the equipment are all happening relatively smoothly. We are seeing some inconsistencies with the Spectrum Charter Customer Service Representatives when calling in to set up your accounts. We are working with Spectrum during our weekly calls to correct any issues that are brought to our attention. Equipment is taking 1-3 days to arrive at our administration building. *Please remember to follow the January 2023 instructions in our letter sent to members. Please order your equipment 1-2 weeks prior to your arrival. Please **do not** order your equipment in May if you do not plan to arrive until June or July.* We have limited space in our administration office to hold equipment and we are running out of it. Our staff and volunteers continue to receive, unload and check-in 1-2 FedEx truck loads daily of Spectrum Charter equipment. A huge Thank You to Karen Force, Peggy Finkbeiner, Tamara LaFond, Diane Ronda, Christy Wierenga and our entire staff. Everyone has stepped up to help get our members their equipment as quickly as possible! We continue to extend our hours to Saturday's and evenings to accommodate pick up of equipment. Please visit us to get your equipment to free up space! Remember, if you have any issues with your equipment or service, please contact Spectrum direct. They have been extremely responsive. Our Member Service team is no longer able to handle Spectrum requests.

Reminder, May 1st is the date old cable TV service throughout the park will stop working. Your new cable boxes (if ordered) will be able to use the new TV package on May 1st. If you do not have your new Spectrum Charter equipment connected, you will not be able to receive TV after May 1st. June 5th is the final cutoff date for all old equipment and services. Internet running on old Spectrum modems will no longer be able to provide internet to your sites. In order to receive internet and

Continued on Page 4



VACATIONLAND SALES

616-896-8371 | Sales@VacationlandSales.com

Monday - Friday: 9 AM - 5 PM & SATURDAY: 9 AM - 12 PM

RETIREMENT OPEN HOUSE

Join us in celebrating John Miedema's 35 years of leadership!

Saturday, May 27th from 10 AM - 12 PM



OVER 20 NEW UNITS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE!

TV services, you should have your new Spectrum Charter equipment connected by June 5th. Members have to call Spectrum Charter to order their equipment as communicated in our January and April letters. If members arrive at the Administration Building looking for their equipment without ordering, we will not have it.

BOARD MEETING

Our first board meeting will be held this month on May 19th. Please check out our park calendar on the website to see updated locations for both our board meetings and Face to Phase meetings. Our North Shore building is taking off with more bookings this season. Some of our board meetings and Face To Phases have been moved to the Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion and other locations to accommodate event bookings this season. The board will be voting on the swimming attire resolution originally posted in our April Footprints. We will also start our 2023 – 2024 budget process with a preliminary look at our upcoming budget. As a reminder, don't forget to submit your Board of Directors questions on our Sandy Pines website. These questions will again be read and answered at our Face to Phase meetings the Saturday following our board meetings.

STORE AND RESTAURANT

Our restoration of the park store and restaurant are progressing well. Product has been ordered and is arriving

this month in preparation for the opening of the store. We are targeting this month to have the store open for your camping and convenience needs. Our restaurant is still progressing, but cannot open until approval from the health department. Plans are still being submitted. Timing for the restaurant to open is yet to be determined.

MOTHER'S DAY

It is time again to celebrate all the wonderful mothers we have been blessed to have in our lives. Please take the time to pray, thank and express your gratitude to all the important mothers here at Sandy Pines and elsewhere. The most important job in the world is being a mother! We Thank God for you!

As the year begins, Member Service will again become a central place for many Members to conduct business. We want to remind each Member that Sandy Pines Administration will not conduct any Member or membership business with an Associate Member. The policies set forth by the Board make it abundantly clear that Associate Members are not permitted to conduct any type of business on behalf of the Member. In order to avoid the unpleasantness of leaving Member Service dissatisfied, please do not attempt to send in an Associate to the Member Service counter on behalf of your membership. We thank you in advance for your understanding.

“The man called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living.” – Genesis 3:20

“Let your father and mother be glad; let her who bore you rejoice.” – Proverbs 23:22-25

“Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: ‘Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all.’” – Proverbs 31:28-31

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MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY NICOLE KLINGE & NICHOLE MILBOCKER MemberService@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday – 8:00am – Noon starting May 13th
Sunday Closed

Contact Information

Phone: 616-896-8315 x 0
Fax: 616-896-7409
Email: MemberService@SandyPines.com

Important Dates

6/1 Boat Registration Deadline
6/10 Site Clean-Up Deadline
7/1 Quarterly Electric & State Tax Billed (Due 7/25)

Site Clean-Up

April showers bring May flowers. We are so excited the season is here. We are hoping and praying this will be another amazing season here at Sandy Pines! There are so many things to get ready for this season. Do not forget you can get your site clean-up checklist on the Sandy Pines website, pick up in the administration building or at the Park Inspector's office. Please keep up on your site clean-up list. We do not want to have any site violations issued. June 10th is the site clean-up deadline. Please see the Park Inspector's Footprints article this month for more information and details.

2023 Stickers

Member Service continues to hand out 2023 Member Stickers as communicated in our April Footprints. Your stickers are once again in envelopes identified by MEMBER name and site. Members will be able to pick up and provide an acknowledging signature that you have received your stickers. As a reminder, only members will be able to pick up your stickers. Members must show their Sandy Pines member card or driver's license to confirm your site. Associates will not be permitted to pick up stickers. We will staff an additional Saturday this month (May 6th) prior to the return to regular May Saturday hours on May 13th to support member sticker pickup. Members may always pick up their stickers during regular office hours Monday – Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at Member Service. If you are not able to make it during the week our Saturday Member Service hours will start Saturday, May 13th from 8 am – 12 pm.

Member Portal

Remember, your Member Portal is an excellent tool to review your statement, pay your bill, review site activity and sign in your guests. You can reserve your flea market there as well. May kicks off Flea Market events! Don't forget to go to your portal and reserve your spaces. We also have mailboxes available to reserve for your needs. They run \$35 for each renewal. When you stop into our office you can pick up a Sandy Pines calendar for 2023 for \$12.00. Can't wait to see

everyone out and about and enjoying their time at Sandy Pines.

Spectrum Charter

Prior to calling Member Service, it may be a good idea to review our FAQs available for your cable/internet. Equipment sign up and hand out are going well for most members. If you do have questions about your account, please contact Member Service and we will direct you the best we can. Member Service, however, cannot set up your account, order your equipment or installation needs and set up technician appointments. All Member interactions must now go through Spectrum directly. Lastly, we are seeing some inconsistencies with Spectrum Representatives regarding charges, where to mail equipment and installation options. We meet with Spectrum regularly to try to correct any miss information. We Thank You for your patience as we go through this park wide transition. Let us know how we may help!

.....

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY PAUL PEPPEL BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com

Your Sandy Pines Board of Directors oversees numerous committees in the park, each providing us with valuable information regarding specific areas. Rules, Safety & Security, Finance, Long Range Planning, Policy, Technology, and the Golf Course all utilize board member liaisons to observe and furnish us with committee findings. We are grateful for all the volunteers who donate their time and energy to all that is Sandy Pines.

The most recent addition to this list is the Lake Committee. Formed just a couple of years ago, their task is perhaps the most complex...just advise on how to preserve our most valuable resource with as little disruption to members' daily lives and pocketbooks. Simple enough, right? Perimeter buoys, wake speed definition, and boat wake limitations are just examples of adopted suggestions proposed as lake protectors. Other needs remain, however, Big Brother is getting in the way.

Security of the dam is paramount to safeguarding Monterey Lake. Very recent independent studies have given us positive reports regarding structural integrity. That said, it's a fifty-plus-year-old, man-made, earthen levee that requires periodic maintenance. At the forefront is reinforcing the cement at the water's edge (on the east side by the overflow) with a rip-rap product similar to that on the west side. Several local authorities and field experts have assessed and agreed. We've endured the arduous process of applying for federal approval. And been delayed at numerous junctures due to either moving the target or general apathy.

Meanwhile, the proposed project costs continue to rise and we continue to wait. Grrr!

Also mired in quicksand is the proposed dredging where Pigeon Creek empties into the lake at the far eastern end in phase 3. Hard to believe this 10-foot-wide tributary is the source of all our fresh water, and it's value cannot be understated. Drawing from a giant watershed, Monterey Lake is at the mercy of anything upstream that flows our way through this narrow channel. This results in growing deposits of silt at the mouth that can inhibit water flow. Scooping or dredging this area would alleviate the issue. Again, local authorities and engineers agree that this area is critical and should be addressed. However, federal impediments and red tape regarding disposal and disruption have made our task near-impossible.

Rest assured, your Board is well aware of the vital need for lake protection for both current and future endeavors. We will continue to strive to meet your expectations despite unforeseen obstacles. Not only with our lake but in as many areas as humanly possible. Have an idea or comment? It's easy, just type BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com and voila! We're always here to help and guide you.

.....

Sincere Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

Marjorie Dicks, site 4300, on the passing of her husband **Lloyd Dicks** on September 29, 2022.

Marlene Hinken, site K319, on the passing of her husband **Wayne Hinken** on April 9, 2023.



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FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS Kim@SandyPines.com

The 2023 season is here and it has been great seeing each of you as you come in to settle into your summer happy place!

2023 Seasonal Renewals

Renewal statements were processed the first week of April, and your stickers are available for pick-up in the Administration office if you have not yet received them. The member must be the individual picking up with valid ID and provide a signature for receipt.

I would also like to personally thank each of our members for your patience and diligence in keeping up with your accounts and working with us on the distribution of stickers and also Spectrum Internet equipment this year. Your commitment to Sandy Pines and the support of our staff is greatly appreciated.

Refunds: Members are able to turn in for a refund, prior to June 1st, 2023, any current 2023 Golf Cart or Boat Stickers that have not been used or affixed to any member property. If you have an unused stickers please bring the sticker into Member Service prior to June 1 to receive your refund.

Retail Gas Pump

As you are settling back into your sites here at Sandy Pines you are more than likely noticing the gas pump at the Retail Center. We are very happy to once again provide fuel options to our members and guests onsite at this location. Members may purchase fuel from the new gas pump during the hours of Park and Garden and/or the Retail Center Store and Café. Purchases will be made self-service through credit cards at the pump or pre-paid inside with an attendant. The estimated expectation for the gas pump to open is mid-May. We will continue to keep you posted when it is fully operational and available for use.

Golf Course Assessment Valuation

The current Golf Course Assessment is in its 8th year out of 10, with the last season being 2024/2025. Sandy Pines Administration along with the Sandy Pines Finance Committee

and Board of Directors will be reviewing and analyzing the financial numbers for the golf course to start planning for next steps after the expiration of this assessment.

Currently the assessment brings in \$324,300 annually (\$270,250 to operations and \$54,050 to the golf courses capital fund). Annual expenses for the golf course for FY2022 was \$562k and other operating income aside from the assessment received was \$425k.

The assessment helped to cover the capital needs during the year on the course in addition to covering \$37k of the operation expenses and providing a positive net income cash flow of \$133k.



In summary, the net income flow would not be available and is essential for operational expense through the off-season to prepare before re-opening and history has shown that without the assessment the golf course operates at a loss each year.

This season the committees along with Administration will continue conversation regarding possible proposals in preparation for the expiration of the current assessment.

.....

COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL Ian@SandyPines.com

Weekend Flyer

The Sandy Pines Weekend Flyer is distributed between Memorial Day & Labor Day. It is the weekly guide to all events and important park information! Weekend Flyers are published every Thursday and posted on our website, sent to members through our Member E-News, shared on social media, and printed for distribution throughout the park, including at every entrance!

On The Scene

We introduced *On The Scene* last year in conjunction with the Weekend Flyer! On The Scene is a quick weekly video

segment hosted by Ian & Sydney from the Communications Department, with the goal of informing you of what is going on at Sandy Pines that upcoming weekend. These videos are short and easy to consume, and give you a great snapshot of what to expect at Sandy Pines the upcoming weekend. We often include guest spots featuring the Park President, Recreation Manager, and more! These videos are also released every Thursday between Memorial Day & Labor Day, and can be found on our Sandy Pines YouTube & Facebook pages!

.....

RECREATION NEWS

BY **ABBY GREENFIELD** Recreation@SandyPines.com

It's Almost Time

Welcome back to the park! I am so excited for this upcoming Recreation Season. We've been hard at work planning and prepping a lot of activities. While we finish hiring and training staff there is a few things you need to know. Below you will find some announcements.

Recreation Hours

The adult pool opens for the season Memorial Weekend. Although, pools that need lifeguards will not be open during the week until June 12th. So here is what that schedule looks like.

Memorial Weekend

Friday, May 26th:

- Waterpark: 4 – 9 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 4 – 8 pm
- Happy Shack: 4 – 7 pm
- Ropes Course CLOSED

Saturday, May 27th:

- Waterpark: 11 am – 9 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1 – 8 pm
- Happy Shack: 11 am – 7 pm
- Ropes Course: 1 – 4 pm

Sunday, May 28th:

- Waterpark: 11 am – 6 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1 – 5 pm
- Happy Shack: 11 am – 6 pm
- Ropes Course: 1 – 4 pm

Monday, May 29th

- Waterpark: 11 am – 6 pm
- Phase 3 Pool: 1 – 5 pm
- Happy Shack: 11 am – 6 pm
- Ropes Course: 1 – 4 pm

The weekend of Friday June 2nd will follow a similar schedule, except without the Monday. Regular hours will begin on June 12th.

Cinco De Mayo

We are so excited for Cinco de Mayo at Sandy Pines! Join us May 6th for food, games, fun and succulents from 1pm-5pm at Phase 1 Indoor/Outdoor Pavilion! Bring your own shallow planter and grab some succulents for \$1. There will also be

a bunch of games and activities for all to join in, including piñatas.

Game Room Hours

The game room will only be open when the Recreation Office is open (same hours as the pool). The room will be heavily monitored by Recreation Staff. Please make sure not to bring food or drinks into the Game Room. Additionally, wet swimsuits are not permitted.

Memorial Day Tournaments

The tournament schedule is available on the Sandy Pines Online Calendar. If anyone is interested in volunteering to help run the tournaments, please reach out to Abby@SandyPines.com.

Adult Activities

As previously mentioned in a Footprints article, the Recreation Department has taken over Senior Adult Activities. Now, it is known as Adult Activities. If anyone is interested in volunteering to run an event or set up a new event, such as card games or board games, please reach out to Abby@SandyPines.com.

Sports Rental Equipment

The Recreation Department rents out sports equipment. Such as, frisbee golf, basketball, fishing poles, baseball, shuffleboard and more. Public Safety will NOT have rental equipment this season. Instead, it will also be in the new store.

What do you need to rent the equipment? All you need is two things, a \$1 per sport and a Member/Associate Member card. You are required to leave the card with the Recreation Department for the extent of your rental.

.....



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MEMORIAL DAY
TOURNAMENTS

SCAN TO VIEW
TOURNAMENT
SCHEDULE



SALES NEWS

BY KENT LIVINGSTON Kent@SandyPines.com

Sales hours are Monday-Friday 8 am-4 pm, Saturday by appointments only.

Sales have taken off for the year and folks are out looking for their happy place. Listings are picking up and they're many great opportunities for purchasing. I look forward to working with buyers and sellers alike. I would love to work with you if you're thinking about listing your membership. See a testimony from a recent sale I completed. Thank you for the kind words Mandy!!!

Testimony

" We felt the experience was the best it could be. You were clear about the expectations when we listed, and you set clear expectations once we received an offer. Your communication was clear and the whole process was seamless for us. The only thing we had to do was bring keys to closing. Thank you for taking the stress out of the sale for us."

-Mandy

.....

SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF Paul@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

Call Stats for March 2023

Public Safety staff responded to 47 calls for service in March 2023. The types of calls and numbers are:

Alarm	2
Animal Complaint	1

Assist.....	8
Harassment	1
Illegal Dumping.....	1
Lost/Found Property	3
Open Door.....	16
Property Damage	4
Suspicious Situation	5
Traffic Complaint	6



Golf Cart Testing

Youth golf cart testing is available at the Public Safety office daily. Group testing is also scheduled on June 3rd, July 15th, and August 19th at 9 am at the Phase 1 pavilion. Proof of age (ie Birth certificate) is required for the test. The golf cart license fee is \$10.

Guest Entry

Make sure to register your guests before they arrive to the park. It is against the rules to use your card to swipe in a guest. Only the members can make guest passes. The penalty for having an illegal guest in the park is 10 points and a \$250 fine.

It is also a violation to park at the golf course and enter the park. If you pick people up at the golf course and bring them into the park without registering them, you could be in violation. Any vehicle left parked at the golf course could be towed.

Dump

Only materials from inside the park are allowed to be disposed of at the compactors. It is illegal to dump anything from outside the park. Dumping anything from outside of the park is 10 points and a \$250 fine.

.....



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Dorr, MI**

SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND Steve@SandyPines.com

Boaters Safety

A boaters safety class will be provided by Allegan County Sheriff's Dept on June 17th from 8 am to 2 pm at the North Shore Center within Sandy Pines. Persons interested must sign up online on the DNR's website in advance. Participants should bring a sack lunch.

Link to sign up: <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/boating/safety-certificate>

From the Michigan DNR's web page (<https://michigan.storefront.kalkomey.com/em/programs/9>):

The main purpose of the boater safety education course is to train knowledgeable, safe, and responsible boaters. Topics covered include general boating and water safety, navigational rules, causes and prevention of crashes, operation and fueling techniques, environmental concerns, and reporting responsibility.

Any motorized boat operator born after June 30, 1996, is required by law to pass an approved boater safety course and to carry a boater safety certificate. In addition, boater education is also required for all PWC operators born after December 31, 1978. Michigan's boater education course is taught by a dedicated core of certified volunteer instructors, sheriff's deputies, and Michigan conservation officers.

About the Class:

- In-person, traditional classroom setting.
- Written test (75% or better to pass)
- No minimum age requirement, however, students under 10 years of age shall be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or other adult approved by a parent or legal guardian.

The number of students is limited for this class. Sign up in advance to attend.

Membership Cards

Sandy Pines has transitioned to proximity cards. If you or your family members have not transitioned to a proximity card, please take the time to transition. The cards with the magnetic black stripe on the back of the cards will no longer work to provide park access. The magnetic stripe readers have been removed. To transition to the proximity card please bring your old magnetic stripe card to the Public Safety Office. To transition to a proximity card is \$10. If you do not have or have lost your magnetic stripe card the cost is \$20 for a new card.

Youth Golf Cart Testing

Testing will occur June 3rd, July 15th, and August 19th at the Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion starting at 9:00am. Please arrive at 9:00am. Persons must be at least 12 yrs. of age and bring proof of age. The golf cart youth study guide can be found online at SandyPines.com on the Public Safety

Website. Youth should study the golf cart study guide and parents should assist youth in knowing the rules and proper operation of your golf cart. If your child cannot attend the group testing, you may stop at the Main Gate Public Safety Office and arrange a time to take the golf cart test. The cost for a golf cart operation certificate is \$10.



Package Delivery to the Mail Room

If you have deliveries to the park, the items should fit in the mailroom. Large orders that block the sidewalk or access to the mailroom should be delivered to your home residence or

Continued on Page 12

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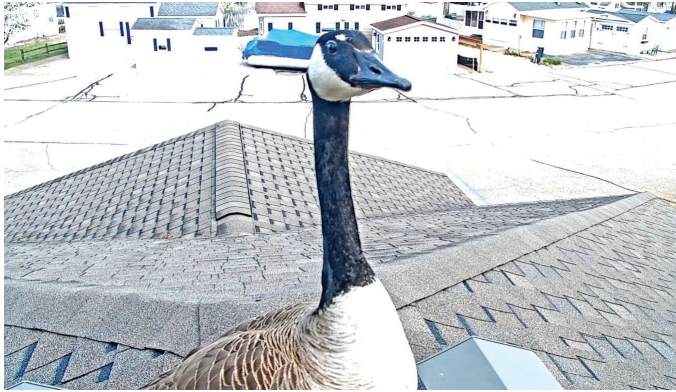


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a freight office for pickup. Large orders placed outside have the potential to be damaged by the weather or stolen. The mailroom is not intended for large items and pallets of items. Please be considerate of others by ordering appropriately sized items that do not interfere with other people's access or use of the mailroom.



Geese In Your Yard

If you live along the edge of the lake, it may be common for you to have some friendly visits from the local population of geese. It's great to see some wildlife and watch their interactions. The bad comes when they leave behind their droppings in your yard or on your patio for you to find later on the sole of your foot or shoe.

The park has had crews come to the park and remove the geese during their molting season. This is a regulated/ permitted activity by the State of Michigan. Last year because of the Avian Bird Flu, collection and movement of geese was not permitted. With the Avian Flu still present only time will tell as to the future possible actions. The State has allowed nest destruction and egg destruction of geese with the submission of an application. This year the Park has submitted and received an application.

A goose can leave a half a pound of excrement on your lawn. The excrement is commonly the most undesirable part of having geese on the lake. Harming the geese is not an option for reducing or deterring them. This includes the use of poison, throwing rocks, use of air guns, sling shots or other means. Geese are protected by the State and Federal laws.

So how do you reduce the number of visits to your lawn?

First, don't feed the geese. Feeding the geese will encourage the geese to return to your lawn and they really don't need your assistance. They are wild – don't make them reliant upon you.

Second, put up a string fence about a foot tall around the perimeter of your lakefront lawn.

Third, the grape flavoring found in concord grapes (methyl anthranilate) is said to be a deterrent to geese. Repellants are found online or in homemade recipes with grape Kool-Aid. The concentration of your lawn with grape flavor concentrate may deter or give you purple feet.

Fourth, the use of mylar balloons, cutouts of predators, and even strobe lights are possible alternatives that can be purchased online.

Geese are part of the environment. Some are residents and some are passersby. It's part of living on a lake and interacting with nature.

The park has obtained a permit from the State for goose egg and nest destruction for 2023. This permit is from April 3, 2023, to May 11, 2023. If you have a goose nesting near your campsite, please contact Public Safety with the location. Several goose nests have been found this spring. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Golf Cart License Plates

If you have not picked up your Golf Cart License plates, please stop at the Public Safety Office to pick up your plates. Please bring your golf cart with you so Public Safety can apply a golf cart vehicle identification number to your golf cart at the time your license plates are issued. It is presently required that all golf carts in the park have license plates displayed on the front and rear.

The golf cart license plate should be in a position that is always clearly visible and unobstructed.

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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

CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES Janele@SandyPines.com

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: Janele@SandyPines.com

Welcome back Sandy Pines members! Camping is now open and we would love to have your friends and family book a rental with us! **We are offering a camping special of 50% off your stay any day of the week between the days of May 1-24.** Two night minimum. This applies to the campsites only. Please call the number below to make your reservation and receive the discount! Sandy Pines offers camping in two-week blocks with a week off in between for those campers looking to stay multiple times in a season. Our popular trailers for rent have newer dishes, pots and pans, coffee mugs, cups, and a little home décor has been added. All of our rustic cabins in Phase 4 have new mattresses, and the remaining cabin mattresses were replaced in 2022. Sandy Pines has 59 campsites throughout the park that we rent out, five park

model trailers, and ten rustic cabins. We welcome furry friends on a leash at any of our rental campsites only. We do offer an associate discount for our associate members, and we also offer a 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. 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!

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LAKE MONTEREY GOLF NEWS

BY LARRY FINKBEINER www.LakeMontereyGolf.com

It's go time. Another new season with lots of excitement. We have plenty of new things planned for the season and are looking forward to seeing everyone again. We will be celebrating Mother's Day on the 14th with free golf for all the moms. We will be remembering our veterans this month.

League and Outings

We have added a new page to our website. When you pull up our website, www.LakeMontereyGolf.com, near the bottom of our home page is a link that will take you to all leagues and groups that we have. Listed on this page is the contact person that is the coordinator for each with their contact information. Please feel free to contact them if you are interested in joining one of these leagues or weekly groups. You can also contact me by emailing me at Larry@GolfLMGC.com. Be sure to check out all our golf opportunities.

Karaoke

Back by popular demand, we will be starting to do Karaoke on May 13th. Food starts at around 5:00 o'clock and singing is from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm. Come and enjoy the night of great singing and laughter. The DJ for this night of fun is Jeff Woods.

Adult Cornhole

Beginning May 5th, our Friday night adult cornhole tournaments will begin. Different this year, we will be doing cornhole every Friday night. The entry fee is \$10.00 with larger prizes. Partners will be a blind draw. Sign-up starts at

6:00 pm with bags in the air promptly at 6:30 pm. Food and drink specials will be offered each Friday night throughout the season.

18-Hole Putt Off

New this year, on May 20th at 3:00 pm we will be holding an 18-hole putt-off played twice on the back nine. Warm up your putting skills for an outing of putting, prizes, and food. No need for your other clubs. You will be placed in groups of 6-8, where you will be put to the test with difficult putts and obstacles! Food is available before and/or after the outing hot off the grill. Come enjoy an afternoon of fun!

Junior Golf

Beginning the middle of June, we will be starting our Junior Golf League. Please watch for sign-up information on our website or on the Sandy Pines website.

Memberships

We have updated our pricing for golf memberships for 2023 on our website. Click on the pricing and specials tab, scroll down to the membership section.

"The 19th Hole Grill" at Lake Monterey Golf Course

Lunch specials are underway and can be found on our website and in the weekly Sandy Pines flyer.

Continued on Page 14

New Products

Be sure to stop by the clubhouse and see our new products and clothing. We have many items with the Lake Monterey Golf Course Logo on them.

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. But please check out our new selection of drinks that we are bringing in.

- 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 being able to say, "Let's go golfing!!!"

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INSPECTOR NEWS
BY JEFF HOPKINS Inspector@SandyPines.com

I hope this finds you happy and looking forward to another great season. We have many new things to look forward to this year with our new store, café, and therapeutic center to name a few.

Becky will be back with me in the office at the beginning of June so she will again be there to answer questions. Hope you all get settled in and a great start to the season!

Hopefully in your drives around the park you will see all the new and exciting things we have to look forward to this 2023 season.

God Bless.

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The spring clean-up deadline is June 10th again this year. The rules committee and I have discussed changes to the park's site cleaning process. First, we are discussing moving the date up to June 1st for upcoming seasons so stay tuned for updates on any potential changes. We have also discussed reducing the number of warnings and/or increasing the amount for fines or points. Since the park opens April 15th every year and many members start being active on their sites in May, there should be no reason for sites not being cleaned to park standards by June 1st. This year I will also be adding more emphasis to lakeside inspections and behind the inland units as well so let's make sure our park is looking its best.

If you need a list of the clean-up expectations, they are posted online or stop in my office for a copy and any questions. In my February and March footprints, I talked about fences in green space and using green space to access your garages. These are also to be addressed by June 10th thank you in advance.

There were several complaints last season about using your boat stake for more than what they are designed for. The rules say it is for your boat only. Kayaks, rafts, deck boxes etc. are not to be left at your boat stake, that leads to messy beach appearances and that is unacceptable.

Let's all try to keep our beaches clean and looking great.



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(616) 294-2513

PARK & GARDEN NEWS

BY DALE YODER ParkGarden@SandyPines.com

Park & Garden Store

Phone: 616.896.9334

Online: SandyPines.com/Park-Garden

Park & Garden Rental Office

Phone: 616.896.9888

Online: SandyPines.com/Park-Garden-Rental-Office

Wow summer is almost here! The Park & Garden store will officially open on May 20th. We are getting everything stocked up for another great year. The park is coming alive again and in a few short weeks, we will be open during regular hours. As a reminder to all members, we are currently installing water softeners and making deliveries by appointment only. If you need to contact the store, call 616-896-9334 and leave a voicemail, or email us at ParkGarden@SandyPines.com. Please be sure to include your phone number and site number so we may contact you.

We have several products available to help with lot clean-up and washing your trailer. 30 Seconds is a great product to ease the effort of cleaning off the trailer. We will continue to have all septic products that you will need for your holding tank. We have a pressure washer available to rent, as well as ladders and other equipment.

The birds are very hungry after a long winter and we will have suet cakes and bird seed available to feed them. Be sure to check out the bird feeders we have.

self-install, we will be at the store on weekdays from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm or call first.

Saturday will be by appointment only. Deliveries of bulk products can be made anytime. Please give us a call, leave a message and we will call you back.

The Marina will begin operation on Memorial Day weekend. We offer kayaks and paddleboards for rent on a first-come first served basis. The Marina hours are Wednesday and Friday 5 - 8 pm; Saturday and Sunday 12 - 5 pm. If you want to use a Kayak or paddle board outside of the marina hours, please stop by the rental office to make a reservation.

We are currently stocking the shelves for the season. If you do not find an item you need on our shelves, let us know and we will attempt to stock it for the membership.

We are currently working on the new store where Sandy Pines clothing, candy, and other merchandise for your camping needs.

Have a blessed spring.

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CHAPEL NEWS

BY DAVE VAN NOORD

Our Season of Praise is beginning. We invite all Sandy Piners to join us for our chapel events. Here is the May Schedule:

In the North Shore Building at 10:00 AM

May 7 Rev. Ron Sytsma - Emeritus
May 14 Kel Kronemeyer - Emeritus

At the Lakeside Chapel at 10:00 AM

May 21 Dave Van Noord
May 28 Dan Seaborn - Winning at Home

At the Lakeside Chapel at 6:00 PM

May 28 Phil Cross and Poet Voices

At the Flea Market

May 27 Pancake Breakfast serving from 8:00 AM until 11:00 AM

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