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 Larry Finkbeiner, Manager
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Laundromat Hours – Open 24 Hours

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
 Jack Schmidt Park & Garden
 Jeff Hopkins..... Park Inspector
 Cathie Strevel..... Recreation Manager
 Paul Schaaf Security Services

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Finance..... Ginny Hager
 Golf Course Joe Zomerlei
 Grounds/Maintenance Kel Kronemeyer
 Long Range Planning Kevin Hager
 Policy Joel VanKolker
 Rules Drew Torres
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 Technology Bob Powers
 Lake Study..... Jim Buchanan
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 Ginny Hager, Treasurer (23)
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 Dennis King, Vice-Chairperson (22)
 Larry Munger (23)
 Paul Peppel (22)
 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

Merry Christmas and Welcome to August! It seems like just yesterday we were welcoming you back to the park. This summer continues to be a great one and continues to speed by us! This month is an important one for the membership. It's the time of year the membership gets to voice their positions on many important issues facing the park by voting in the August election.

Your Vote is needed Saturday August 20, 2022. There are five (5) total proposals being placed on the August Ballot. There are two (2) Bylaw changes and three (3) proposals for new projects impacting our park.

Resolution 052022A requests a change to Article IV of our Bylaws regarding the sale and/or purchase of personal property while NOT spending more than 2.5% of the current annual operating budget. While we have heard that this new proposed change to the bylaw will provide more spending power to the board, we can confirm this is NOT the case. It clarifies the board's limitations. Ultimately, this proposed amendment clearly spells out what is needed for Board only approval, Member approval through the voting process and Operations approval through its budget. The amendment addresses expenditure types and whether Sandy Pines may take on long term debt. It restricts projects being less than 2.5% of the budget if Sandy Pines does not have sufficient capital resources without taking on debt. Currently, there is no such restriction in this Bylaw. Lastly, the current Bylaw does not address any parameters for the sale of property. It only focuses on amount of spend and expenditures. The amendment addresses a specific sale amount of appraised value of \$25,000 or greater the board must approve. Previously, this may have been viewed as operational. However, this amendment allows for clear Board oversight and accountability.

Resolution 052022B requests a change to Article V for publication and posting of rule changes. It is updating our bylaw to include electronic posting while allowing clear timing when fines and violations can be enforced. It also acknowledges the change from Handbook to Rules, Regulations and Handbook.

Resolution 052022C requests the membership to approve an assessment of \$426.00 annually for new Internet and TV for the park and condos. This would replace the current cable assessment (\$136.00) and the current internet (\$192.00) of \$328.00. All members will receive upgraded Internet and TV through the Spectrum TV App as well as additional channel upgrade options currently not available to members today. You may also use your Spectrum TV App away from Sandy Pines at no additional cost. **A NO Vote** by the membership will result in a total loss of TV and Internet for the park as Spectrum has communicated, they will no longer support the outdated technology in our park.

Resolution 052022D requests the membership to approve an assessment of \$231.27 annually for 4-years to build a new FEMA South Shore Center replacing the current outdated Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion. We have been blessed with support from local township, county and state officials for grant funds on these projects. We started the process for FEMA approval in January 2022, but lessons learned from prior projects of this nature, we are requesting our membership to approve this project through a vote. This will fill a critical safety need for Phase 1 and 2 members by allowing them storm shelter access during severe weather. FEMA approval timing is targeted sometime during the offseason. Thus, the need to vote during our season prior to the membership leaving is critical to this park decision.

Resolution 052022E requests the membership to approve the transfer of funds from operations to capital over the 2.5% of our current operating budget to build a new pool in Phase 2. First and foremost, this project will NOT cost the membership any additional funds through assessments. A new pool in Phase 2 is already approved by the members through the Capital Reserve fund vote. However, the approved amount is \$500,000. Estimated costs are over \$1.0 million. Currently, the Article IV allows the board to approve 2.5% of our approximately \$7.0 million operating budget to transfer for this project. This is an additional \$175,000 (approximately) added to the \$500,000 already approved which still does not cover the estimated cost of the project. Thus, the need for our membership to

vote. The board and operations cannot do this without the membership approval or help.

As you can see from the above, there is much in front of us regarding voting to decide projects impacting our park. It is extremely important that our members vote on August 20, 2022. Information is available on all these projects in our Member Service area, Public Safety Office, Footprints and official Sandy Pines website. Please review all the information to make an informed decision. We continue to provide information at the Board of Directors meetings, Face to Phase meetings and Town Halls.

Before you vote, be reminded to know the issues and vote as you deem appropriate based on good research and accurate information. Unofficial Sandy Pines communications and other social media is not an accurate form of communication on these important topics. Your vote is important! Please use the informational handouts and other information presented for your decision-making process for the best interests of Sandy Pines.

Whether you agree with the direction of the park or not or whether you have agreed or disagreed with the Administration or the Board, we respectfully ask you to put personal agenda's aside and cast your vote in favor of what is best for the park, and no other reason.

We are blessed to have this awesome park which has been here long before this Administration and Board were in place. We believe the legacy of most members is to continue to have this park be here for their kids, grandkids and long after the Administration or Board are here. The importance of our upcoming election is not about an Administrator or Board Director, it's about supporting the vision and values for making Sandy Pines the best place to be for years to come.

We also have Board of Director Candidates on the ballot. These candidates have a passion to continue to make Sandy Pines the best place to make memories. Please cast your votes for them as well.

Our Annual Membership meeting will also take place on August 20, 2022. All of you are invited to attend at the Chapel to hear a summary of how

Continued on Page 4

Park President News / Continued From Page 3

2022 went as well as what might be on the horizon for 2023. Once again we want to thank Dennis King for his servant leadership for faithfully and diligently serving his two 3-year terms on the board. Dennis' terms end this season. We also wish to thank Jim Huck for his leadership as our Board Secretary over the last few years. Jim is embarking on another journey which may take him away from Sandy Pines. He will remain on the board, but not as our secretary. Our Board Secretary position will be filled for the remainder of the season by Paul Peppel. We thank Paul for stepping forward to volunteer to take on these responsibilities.

With the last month of summer upon us, we still have many fun things to do at Sandy Pines,

please check out our Rec Department schedule for activities this month with highlights being Christmas in August and Food Trucks and Tunes with concerts on Friday, August 12 and Saturday, August 13. We are blessed to have an excellent staff serving our members. Please extend a warm Thank You to all our Sandy Pines staff for their hard work this summer.

Finally, we want to continue to let our members know our operations budgeting of Sandy Pines and Lake Monterey are seeing another successful year. Please review Kimberly's article for the latest on our financials. Don't forget about our other department articles for more information about each area of Sandy Pines! We thank our members, associates and guests for providing

Sandy Pines the opportunity to serve you. We are blessed to be a part of such a great place to stay and enjoy our family, friends and neighbors. Thank you for making this our Happy Place!

Please remember that all our blessings here throughout the park as well as away from the park at home and abroad are due to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All things are done through HIM! Please continue to be blessed.

Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

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PARK & GARDEN NEWS

BY JACK SCHMIDT Jack@SandyPines.com

It is hard to believe that we are approaching Christmas in August and soon Labor Day weekend. Do you have all the Christmas lights you need for decorating for Christmas in August? Stop by the store and see our selection to help with your decorations this year.

We have added many new products in the marine area. (Anchors, battery boxes, floating key chains, boat bumpers, etc.). If you have a boat on the lake, please check out the Marina for boat fuel. We have marine fuel at a cost lower than any of the other stations outside of the park. Our

cost is \$5.45 a gal. Stop by and see Tula, Barb or Kelly and fill up your boat.

Stop by the store and get your logo wear to show your pride in Sandy Pines. The sweatshirts will

Continued on Page 7

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

BY PAUL PEPPEL BoardOfDirectors@SandyPines.com

Arguably the Park's most valuable resource, Monterey Lake offers multiple recreational opportunities for just about everyone. Just like all water-related activities, there are strict rules and regulations designed to help keep us safe. As a private park and lake, we indeed set some of our own statutes though only if more stringent than State of Michigan laws which we follow unless otherwise modified. For example, a 35-mph speed limit, no alcohol on or in the lake, and an 830 pm-10 am no wake time are SP rules. Let's walk through some examples seen here on our lake that a few are not following, hopefully due to ignorance.

One of the scariest things I see is people riding outside the playpen on the front of pontoon boats while in motion. If you are moving at above wake speed, this is illegal. The only exception is if there is seating specifically designed for this purpose, e.g., fishing chairs. You also might see multiple people sitting on the transom while pulling wake or knee boarders to enhance their experience. Sorry to be a Gloomy Gus, but that's a no-no as well per state rules. Bottom line, stay inside the boat passenger perimeter or in a designated seat while traveling above no-wake speed.

The buoys around the lake give us a visual reference for shore clearance and the boaters are very good about respecting this. An unknown to many is the Michigan law which states that, not only are boats required to keep this buffer when above wake speed, but persons being towed must adhere to this as well. Yup, your skiers and tubers must also be at least 100' from shore, docks, and swimming areas.

You all are also doing a great job moving in a counterclockwise direction around the lake. What about when your skier/tuber/boarder wipes out? Though not a law, it might be wise to continue in that same direction to retrieve them. Many do not, causing confusion for trailing traffic. And the person/people that are now in the water? You should be waving your arms for two reasons. To let the spotter know you're OK and to be better seen by other boaters. And something else I just found out is that, in addition to a spotter, the tow boat must

be equipped with a 170-degree mirror, a state of Michigan law.

Who has the right-of-way on this 200-acre playground with no road signs? The law gives preference to the least maneuverable, such as paddle boards, pedal boats, kayaks, canoes, and sail boats. As a guideline (and not a law), it is recommended those paddling or pedaling stay on the perimeter of the lake between the buoys and the shore specifically during peak times. It is a hazard for these slow-moving watercraft and a challenge for the boaters (particularly those that are towing) when encountering one another in the middle of the lake.

Sandy Pines Marine One has been diligent this year patrolling our waters and we are sometimes aided by Allegan County to enhance boater safety and offer assistance when needed. Occasionally you might have spot checks by either to ensure compliance with Michigan law. A couple of reminders to help you avoid a fine. All children under 6 must wear a personal floatation device

while the boat is in motion. There must be a life jacket for each person on board. If your vessel is more than 16', a USCG-approved throwable device must be on board. And, if you have a permanently installed fuel tank, you also must have a fire extinguisher.

The month of August provides ample opportunities for you to enjoy the outdoors. In addition, there are five proposals on the 8/20 vote which will affect you individually and the park as a whole. It might be easier to vote using an absentee ballot, avoid the lines and fill out at your convenience. Don't cave to rumors and innuendos, get your facts straight so you can make an informed decision. The Sandy Pines website and Sandy Pines Recreational Community Facebook page are the two main sources you should use to gather information. As board members, we are also here to listen and help either face-to-face or via boardofdirectors@sandypines.com. Thanks for reading and happy August!

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS BIO – ELLEN CARPENTER



My name is Ellen Carpenter, and I am running for a second term on the Sandy Pines Board of Directors. I am currently the Chairperson of the Board, but also a member of the Safety and Security Committee,

as well as the liaison for the 50th Anniversary Committee. I was also on the North Shore FEMA Building committee, which was very exciting and educational. I am involved in fund raising and placement of playground equipment for inclusive play for special needs children and adults. I am

also working on establishing a Library Committee to assist our hardworking volunteers.

I became a member with my late husband in 2001, with our first site being in Phase 2. I was already an associate member, and later moved to my mother's old site in Phase 3. My kids spent many summers here with family and friends and my grandson loves to visit. The community and family flavor of Sandy Pines makes this my Happy Place.

I retired from the United States Postal Service in 2017 with 29 years of service. I was also a steward and officer with the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, where I learned conflict resolution, contract compliance, and financial procedures for a non-profit organization. These skills have helped me in my duties on the board at Sandy Pines.

As we celebrate 50 years at Sandy Pines, I believe it's important to keep traditions, but to also work towards a solid future that includes

financial stability and safe operating procedures. As a board member, I am charged with protecting the assets of the park, with the members themselves being the most valuable. The safety of the members and their associates and guests are very important to me.

If successful in the election, I will strive to continue to improve communication. I will also work towards developing more recreational opportunities. Safety will continue to be a top priority, but the financial security and the protection of the assets will be most important.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS BIO – PAUL PEPPEL



It has been a great honor and a privilege to serve on your Sandy Pines board of directors since 2019. We've accomplished and overcome a lot these past three years and there is plenty more to get excited about in the near

future. With your blessing, I would love the opportunity to continue in this capacity, to help provide servant leadership while focusing on overall park and member needs.

My qualifications for this position include an 11-year stint as Vice President of a West Michigan school board as well as serving as the school's band booster president. In addition, 20+ years' experience as an automotive service manager has reinforced my firm belief in the Golden Rule which I use as daily guidance both personally and professionally.

Our two grown children, their spouses, and our four grandchildren relish their time here, and it's my passion to help preserve our happy place while making necessary and sometimes difficult decisions as we adapt and embrace inevitable change. I truly thank you in advance for your support.

Paul Peppel

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS BIO – BOB DECKINGA



My name is Bob Deckinga and I am running for the Sandy Pines Board of Directors. My wife, Cheryl, and I have been members here for the past 11 years. We first lived in Phase 4 and made many good friends in that section near

the North Shore Building. Currently we live in Phase 6 and have been there since 2018.

Why Sandy Pines?

My wife and I have 4 children and 10 grandchildren.

Two of our children and five of our grandchildren live within 20 minutes of Sandy Pines. Our daughter and her husband also have a place here in Sandy Pines. We as a family enjoy value, the activities, and the positive atmosphere that Sandy Pines provides. Sandy Pines is a family oriented community that is unique, safe, friendly, and a “Happy Place” that one can relax or be as busy as they want to be.

Involvement

I was a member of the Sandy Pines Technology Committee several years ago and am currently on the Rules Committee and the Safety Committee. My wife and I were members of the Sandy Pines Chapel Committee for the past 3 years and served as part of the administration team.

Career

I am a retired educator from the Chicagoland area. I taught middle school students at Southwest Chicago Christian School for 17 years and then served as the school principal for 9 more years

for a total of 26 years in Christian education. I was then given the opportunity to join a team of educators in the Chicago Public Schools to improve the lowest performing schools in the city and became the Director of Critical School Support and retired after serving 18 years.

Why Board of Directors?

I believe my experience of working with adults, children, and parents equips me to serve this community that we have grown to love. I don't have all the answers, but I promise to have an open mind and listen to the concerns and questions of that may arise. I would encourage the board to see ways to provide additional recreational amenities for all the residents here at Sandy Pines. If elected I will continue to work for the good of all members and seek a sound financial foundation for Sandy Pines for years to come.

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Park & Garden News / Continued From Page 4

come in handy as the fall weather approaches. We have a lot of new designs. Plus, we now have a good supply of magnets and decals.

Need a key? We have many of the common key blacks that we can cut to give you an extra key for your trailer doors, boat keys, golf cart keys, etc. We can also cut the post office keys.

We still have stone and mulch for you lots as well as Patio blocks. We have indoor storage for our lumber to keep it in good shape. If you are looking for extra 2 x 4's, 2 x 6's, 2 x 8's, 4 x 4's, cedar fencing and deck boards stop and see our supply before you take a trip to a lumber yard.

The golf carts have been a great success as always. If you haven't reserved your golf cart for Labor Day now would be a good time to get it reserved. We usually fill up a month before the holiday weekends. Don't wait until they're booked.

The paddle boards and Kayaks have been going fast on the weekends. You can reserve them

for other times during the week by stopping by or calling Park and Garden at (616-896-9888). On the weekends you can just go to the Marina and use them if they are available. The Marina is open from 5 to 8 on Wednesday and Friday nights and from 12 to 5 on Saturday and Sunday. Rentals are \$10.00 for the first hour and \$5.00 for each additional hour. We have 2 Double Person Kayaks which rents for \$20 the first hour and \$10 each additional hour.

As we approach the end of the season it is time to provide us with information about the return of the water softeners. This year we have over 350 softeners to pick up at the end of the season. It is very helpful if you will contact us at the Park and Garden and let us know when we can pick up your softener. Also, if you do this before you leave the park for the season, we offer a discount if you order a softener for the 2023 season. If you have a question, please call the Park and Garden at (616-896-9334) or stop by to sign the contract. The contract is also available online at the Sandy Pines Member website. The order for softeners will now be added to your Membership bill that

comes out with all the card, pump out and other renewals next year.

Finally we are offering out bag mulch (Brown, Red and Black) at a 20% discount while supplies last. This discount is also offered on the bulk mulch delivery.

Remember that you can also get your Propane tanks (20 lb. and 30 lb.) refilled or exchanged at the Park and Garden. Make sure you have enough propane for your cooking on Labor Day weekend.

SPECIAL SOFTENER OFFER: If you have wanted to try a water softener on your camper or park model we are offering a special for the rest of the season. Get a softener tank for August through October 15th for a \$60 discount. This would be a way to see if you would want a tank for the full season next year. This offer is only good until our supply of softener tanks are available. Contact Jack at the Park and Garden at 616-896-9334.

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Resolution NO. 062422 – Resolution to amend Rulebook/Handbook

WHEREAS, the By-Laws of Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc. Article VIII, Section 6(e) gives the Board of Directors the power to “adopt, amend, rescind, and repeal rules and regulations relating to the use of Sandy Pines property and the conduct of its members and their guests.”

WHEREAS, Lake Monterey (“the Lake”) is part of Sandy Pines’ property, and a valuable natural resource that historically has been subject to rules and/or regulations promulgated by the Board of Directors (“the Board”) of Sandy Pines.

WHEREAS, the Board has appointed an official Lake Study Committee (“the Committee”) to review, present options and recommendations to preserve, protect and sustain Lake Monterey being the number one recreational asset at

Sandy Pines. The following temporary rule presented by the Committee was approved and effective June 2021 by Board of Directors vote (6 yays and 3 nays).

- A. Effective immediately temporarily suspend the ballast functions and usage of the ballast functions or any alterations to any boat trying to produce waves for wake surfing for the 2021 season.

The Committee continues to review research impacting lake(s) and monitor the Lake to determine next steps in preserving, protecting and sustaining Lake Monterey, as well as the positive and/or negative effects of this temporary suspension.

WHEREAS, The Lake Study Committee provided findings, results and information to the Board in May 2022 to determine the following Rule change and/or addition:

Article XIII. Watercraft Regulations, Section F. Watercraft Rules and Regulations, sub section 19. Water Skiing & Pulling Tubers:

Item h. Usage of the ballast function or any alteration to any boat for the purpose of producing waves for any activity is prohibited; All wake surfing is NOT permitted.

The above addition replaces the temporary ballast ban established during the 2021 season.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors, for the health, safety and welfare of Sandy Pines and its property including Lake Monterey, believes it is in the best interests of Sandy Pines, its members and its assets, to amend and clarify the Rules and Regulations to adopt in full the foregoing recommendations from the Lake Study Committee. Accordingly, the Lake Study Committee recommendations are adopted in full, incorporated herein and made part of the Rules and Regulations of Sandy Pines. The Park President is directed to make these Rules and Regulations part of the Sandy Pines Handbook, as amended.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc. does hereby approve the following amendment(s) and addition(s) to the Rules and Regulations relating to ballast boats AND wake surfing on Lake Monterey.

Be It Resolved, that the Board of Directors of Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails, Inc. does hereby approve the above Resolution

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SAMPLE BALLOT



MICHIGAN'S LARGEST RV PARK & CAMPGROUND

Sandy Pines August 20, 2022 Election Proposals to be Voted on by the Membership

Proposal A:

New Bylaw Language: Shall Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws, Sale and/or Purchase of Association Properties, be amended in its entirety as follows:

Section 2, SALE AND/OR PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY: The sale and/or purchase of personal property on behalf of Sandy Pines is subject to the following rules:

- A. **Board Approval Required.** The board is authorized to approve the sale and/or purchase of personal property in the following circumstances:
- Any expenditure that is funded by a Capitol Fund assessment that was previously approved by the members at a general or special election.
 - Any expenditure that is not in the approved budget of Sandy Pines and is less than 2.5% of the Sandy Pines then current annual operating budget, so long as Sandy Pines has sufficient capital resources to acquire the personal property without taking on debt or granting a security interest in the personal property to be acquired.
 - Any expenditure that is required by any act of or notice from any federal, state, local or other governmental agency.
 - Any expenditure that is deemed an emergency or of an emergency nature, in the discretion of the Board.
 - Any sale of personal property where the asset has an appraised value greater than \$25,000.00.
- B. **Member Approval Required.** Member approval for the purchase of personal property is required in the following circumstances:
- When the budgeted cost of a single construction project or asset is more than 2.5% of the Sandy Pines then current annual operating budget (unless approved by the Board per Section 2(A) above).
 - When the acquisition of the personal property would require Sandy Pines to take on debt or grant a security interest in the personal property to be acquired.

Any vote under this section shall be held at a special or annual election where such proposed action is disclosed in the notice of such election provided.

- C. **General Operations / Budget.** If the purchase of personal property is in the approved budget of Sandy Pines, then approval of the Board is NOT required, nor is approval of the membership required. If the sale of the personal property is in the normal course of business and the asset does not have an appraised value exceeding \$25,000.00, then approval of the Board is not required, nor is approval of the membership required.

_____ YES _____ NO

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

SANDY PINES RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY MICHIGAN'S LARGEST RV PARK & CAMPGROUND

Proposal B:
New Bylaw Language: Shall Article V Use of Sandy Pines Property, be amended as follows:

Section 3. Publication and Posting:
The Board shall be responsible for the distribution of a copy of the current Rules, Regulations and Bylaws Handbook at the point of sale to each new membership of Sandy Pines by providing a form with instructions on how to find the electronic version of the Rules, Regulations and Bylaws Handbook and if desired a form to request a hard copy of the Rules, Regulations and Bylaws Handbook. A fee may be applied to cover the cost of a hard copy.

Any rules or regulation changes adopted by the Board and any Bylaw changes adopted by the members shall be published in the official Sandy Pines newsletter, both electronic and hard copy, posted on the website and posted on the official bulletin boards in the Park. The effective date of the change(s) shall be immediately unless noted therein, but no fines or assessments shall be applied until after the posting of the electronic version in the Sandy Pines official newsletter or ten days whichever is the longest. Copies of the Rules, Regulations and Bylaws Handbook shall be available to all members on the official Sandy Pines Website and at the Administration Office for those without web access.

The change(s) to the electronic version of the Rules, Regulations and Bylaw Handbook shall be updated no later than one week from the earliest change(s) effected date.

_____ YES _____ NO

Proposal C:
Spectrum TV and Internet Capital Assessment

Shall the Membership approve an annual Spectrum Charter TV and Internet assessment of \$426.00 per membership, per year, for new year-round (12 month) TV and Internet services, including new infrastructure and equipment, replacing the current \$136.00 annual seasonal (6 month) cable assessment and the current \$192.00 seasonal (6 month) Internet fee, for a period of 5 years. Assessment shall not increase more than 6% annually to cover possible increased costs from Spectrum Charter during initial 5-year period.

After initial 5-year assessment, pricing and program to be reviewed with Spectrum Charter where either party may cancel with 6-month notification or automatically renew annually, every 12-months. Assessment to begin October 1, 2022.

_____ YES _____ NO

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SANDY PINES RECREATIONAL COMMUNITY MICHIGAN'S LARGEST RV PARK & CAMPGROUND

Proposal D:
New South Shore Building replacing Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion

Shall the Membership approve replacing current Phase 1 Indoor Pavilion and construction of a new South Shore Activity Center with funds approved through the FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) process resulting in FEMA approved funds to cover 75% of defined hardened costs, plus non-hardened costs defined as ancillary project costs, NOT to exceed a total Sandy Pines' contribution of \$2.0 million.

This project goes in front of the membership for approval of a 4-year capital assessment starting on October 1, 2022, in the amount of \$231.27 per year per membership.

_____ YES _____ NO

Proposal E:
Phase 2 Pool Transfer of funds from Operations to Capital above 2.5% requirement

Shall the Membership approve the transfer of up to \$1,500,000 in funds from operations (which is in excess of 2.5% of the Sandy Pines current annual operating budget) to fund additional construction costs over and above \$500,000 for a new Phase 2 outdoor pool previously approved and allocated by members during the 2017 Capital Reserve fund vote. Total cost, NOT to exceed \$2.0 million with estimated construction start date of 2024.

_____ YES _____ NO

Board of Directors

Vote for no more than three (3) candidates

Ellen Carpenter Site 1073 Bob Deckinga Site 6101 Paul Peppel Site 0491

I voted for (number of candidates) _____

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MEMBER SERVICE NEWS

BY ABBEY KOOIMAN & NICOLE KLINGE MemberService@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Monday – Friday: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday: 8 am to 12 pm
Sunday: Closed

Contact Information

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

Member Handbook & Sandy Pines Website

We always recommend Members and prospective Members read the Handbook and explore the website. We are happy to answer your questions, but what you need to know about your responsibilities as Members is in the Handbook; it's very important. Yes, there are some additional guidelines that are Administrative; that is the job of Park Leadership. When prospective buyers come into Member Service, one of the first things we explain is that this is a private park, a Membership, and that what they need to know before becoming a member is available in the

Handbook on the website. If you are self-selling your site, please let your Buyers know about the Handbook.

Annual Election

Absentee ballots are available at the Member Service Office 30 days before the election. Absentee ballots must be mailed or deposited in the ballot box at the Member Service Office no later than 4:00 pm on Friday, August 19, 2022. Photo ID is required for Member identification – i.e., Sandy Pines photo member ID card or driver's license. For voting purposes, each membership, whether owned individually or jointly, shall be entitled to only one vote. Members with account balances 30 (or more) days past due will not be able to vote until their account is up to date.

Winterizations

Everything you need to start your winterization is available on our website Sandypines.com/winterizations/ Trailer winterization is a service offered by Sandy Pines Maintenance. It includes

disconnecting the water hose at the Riser, the use of compressed air to blow out the water lines and a final pump out of the black tank. For an EXTRA fee, members can add winterization of sprinkler systems and ice makers. Only 500 winterizations per season are performed by the Sandy Pines Maintenance team. We are not able to winterize trailers that have hot water heaters located on their porch or trailers that share a water line. We start taking winterization orders on Monday, August 22nd. Forms can be obtained at member service. Remember: We'll need you to map five specific points on your form per the instructions. Maps don't have to be fancy – we simply need the designated points labeled. The discounted pricing is for DEPARTURES before Sept 30th, not for completion of the form before Sept 30th. Winterization forms cannot be processed without being filled out in their entirety and must be signed by the MEMBER. Keys need to be dropped off at the time the form is turned into Member Service.

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FINANCE & ACCOUNTING NEWS

BY KIMBERLY WILLIAMS Kim@SandyPines.com

The most recent June 2022 financial statements for both Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails and Lake Monterey Golf Course have been approved and posted on the Finance page (hyperlink at the very bottom of the webpage) at www.sandypines.com.

SPWT

- Operation cash is up with the FEMA Reimbursement (which has been received by the State, and waiting for transfer from Salem Township). Days in cash reserve at June 30, 2022 is 196 days. With a potential restriction of transferred funds for a Phase 2 pool, if approved by the membership, the transfer would bring the days in cash reserve to 111 days. A healthy cash reserve for a not-for-profit organization is between 90 and 180 days.
 - o The projected September 2022 Cash budget is expected to be \$2.9M or 175.19 without the Schwab

investments and 276 with. After a potential cash transfer of funds for a Phase 2 pool, this would shift the days in cash reserve to 86 and 187, respectfully.

- o Sandy Pines trend is to recoup this amount of cash on a 3-4 year trend.
- Asset Replacement Cash has been trued up with the final F/S review entries as received from the accounting review and transfer of operations for the recent completion of capital projects.
- The Charles Schwab Account has experienced another decline in June 2022.
- Member Accounts Receivable reflects the current balances of members with the most recent statements sent with the 3rd quarter electric and internet billings.

- Other Accounts Receivable is holding the FEMA Reimbursement funds for the last month.
 - o Sandy Pines had the State of Michigan Police onsite last month, July 21, 2022 to walkthrough and review the construction of the North Shore building. The funds for this project have been received and the State is pleased with the results.
 - o In consideration of the South Shore Building, it is important to understand, FEMA covers 75% of the "Hardened" Construction cost. Sandy Pines Responsibility is the other 25% of the "Hardened" cost and 100% of the regular construction, unrelated to any of the hardening.

Continued on Page 12

- The term "Hardened" for an Armored Safe Room/Storm Shelter refers to specialized design and construction applied to a room or building to allow it to resist wind pressures and wind-borne debris impacts during a high-wind event and serve as a shelter.
- Net Income as of June 2022 is down \$107k from prior year, however is on track and above budget prospectively for final FYE projection and currently projecting a slight income.
- Administration gross income is aligned with prior year activity. Admin salaries are down from prior year and offset by restructuring/reclassing of positions between Sales and Admin.

- Maintenance gross income is up with holding tank income, but down with winterizations. The timing of winterizations in 2021 influences the difference between 2021 and 2022. Salaries and Repairs and Maintenance are in line with projections for the end of the fiscal year. Refuse is down from prior year and appears is off due to time delay in receiving invoices.
- Public Safety gross income is in alignment with budget and comparison to prior year. Uniform expense is up a little with the outfitting of new security personnel. Mag Card Expense is up with the transfer to Prox Disc and offset by the Mag Card Income. Auto Expense is up a little with needed repairs to a few vehicles.
- Recreation Taxable Income is down compared to last year with 50th sponsorships and activities coming in. Happy Shack Income however is significantly up from prior year. COGS for the Happy Shack is up with a projection to have this offset with sales through the end of the season. Salaries and Wages is up from prior year with staff restructuring, but in alignment with the budget projection for the year. Social Activities are up for the year, however this is being monitored for member interest in activities after a year celebrating the 50th anniversary and transitioning with new ideas with new staffing.
- Resort gross income is up with the Lake Development income, specifically with the income of boat stakes and boat sticker fees. Utilities is down from prior year and will true itself up with the final meter readings in the 4th quarter. Volunteers will be greatly appreciated for the reading and recording of meters in each phase. General Insurance is up and in alignment with the economic increases we are recognizing. Depreciation and Property tax is up with the development of new capital within the park, but still in line with budget.
- There are no current significant changes to Lease Operations.

- Park and Garden Income over all is up from prior year 6% in comparison to the increase in COGS.
- Golf Cart Income has leveled off a little from prior year and marina fuel is under prior year. Marina fuel expense is up from prior year and a result of timing with invoices and inventory on hand.
- Retail Gross income is in alignment with prior year and on track with budget projections. Gasoline Income however in comparison to expense is down. These sales are all internal sales as transfers between departments and relate to a lower rate than actual being used to offset the cost. This will be true up prior to the fiscal year close out.
- Sales gross income is up \$80k from prior year and well in line with budget projections. Salaries and Wages is up significantly from prior year, however in line with budget projections after the staff restructure/restaffing from the Admin department. Rental Expense is up from prior year with replenishing of supplies needed within the camping inventory.

LMGC

- Operation cash is up as of June 2022 compared to prior year with increases in Sales June YTD and a payoff of receivables from SPWT to LMGC.
- Net Income is up \$11k from prior year.
- All sales are up across the board, with the addition of the 19th hole bringing in much more revenue in food and drink sales.
- Golf Course repairs and maintenance is up slightly with necessary upkeep of the course, however is in line with the budget.

Please refer to the Finance section of the Sandy Pines webpage for the posting of the most currently approval financial reports. Thank you.

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RECREATION NEWS

BY CATHIE STREVEL Cathie@SandyPines.com

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 800

Email: Cathie@SandyPines.com

We are introducing a new event for the end of the season, The Sandy Pines Amazing Race. Based on the television show, 12 teams will partake in a series of tasks and challenges. The timed event will test teamwork, patience, aim, navigation, athleticism, and common sense.

Teams will consist of 5-7 people. All participants must be 12 years old or older. Everyone is

expected to drive from challenge to challenge and complete a physical and/or mental task.

Each team can pick their color from the choices provided (first come, first served). If you are interested in participating, please sign up in the Recreation Office. It is \$50 per team. This helps cover some of the materials and cost of prizes.

We need volunteers to make this event run smoothly. Volunteers will either be stationed at the different challenges or asked to follow a team to be an official score keeper. If you are

interested in volunteering, please email cathie@sandypines.com.

We are looking for sponsors for team t-shirts, bandanas, and individual challenges. If you are interested in sponsoring the event, please reach out to Cathie Strevel at (616)896-3818 or email cathie@sandypines.com.

•••

Mark your Calendar for Upcoming August Activities!

 **Saturday, August 6th**
Christmas in August
Christmas Cookie Bake Off
End of Season Rec Party



 **Saturday, August 13th**
Food Trucks & Tunes

 **Saturday, August 20th**
Annual Meeting
Annual Election

VOTE

 **Saturday, August 20th**
The Amazing Race

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CAMPING NEWS

BY JANELE TOMES Janele@SandyPines.com

Contact Information

Phone: 616.896.8315 x 103

Email: Janele@SandyPines.com

Hello! What a fabulous summer we are having at Sandy Pines! Campers are enjoying our amenities here at the park, and we are receiving great feedback at our rental trailers which have brand new kitchen essentials. New sleeper sofas have been replaced in three of the trailers, and we have all new mattresses in Phase 1, Phase 3, and Phase 5 cabins. We do still have campsites, trailers, and cabins available during the weekdays. We have brand new camping folders for our camping guests to pick up at Public Safety when they arrive. The folders

include a weekend flyer, rental information for golf carts, paddleboards, bikes, etc., a park map, camping rules and guest information, and a golf special. Our weekends are completely booked until September. Fall is a great time to camp! Our adult pool is open well into September until the weather turns colder, our beaches are open, and the Rec Center is open for mini golf and sport equipment rentals. We have our Fall Fest October 1 which will be a great day to enjoy the outdoors! Please tell your family and friends! Sandy Pines has 59 campsites throughout the park that we rent out, and we also have five park model trailers and ten rustic cabins. The trailers and cabins are not pet friendly, but we welcome furry friends on a leash at any of our rental campsites. 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 your card you used at 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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SECURITY NEWS

BY PAUL SCHAAF Paul@SandyPines.com

Office Hours

Emergency Security Staff is onsite 24 hours/day.

INCIDENT NUMBERS

June of 2022 was a busy month. The Public Safety Office responded to 225 incidents, which is up from 167 for the same month last year. An overview of the types of calls and numbers appear below:

Abuse of staff-1
Accident-2
Alarm-2
Animal complaints-6
Assists-24
Damage to property-8
Flee/Elude-1
Fire-4
Illegal dumping-2
Larceny-6
Lost/Found property-21
Medicals-12
Noise-6
Open doors-29

OWI-1
Parking-29
Rules violation-6
Suspicious situation-36
Traffic-15
Trespass-5

MARIJUANA

In 2018 Michigan legalized the recreational use of marijuana. The law specifies that the use of the cannabis must take place in private, such as the users residence.

Federally, marijuana is still illegal. Sandy Pines follows the federal law guides. The Sandy Pines Handbook states:

"Illegal Drugs Are Prohibited. Violators will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and will result in suspension or termination of membership."

Please be respectful of your neighbors and the park.

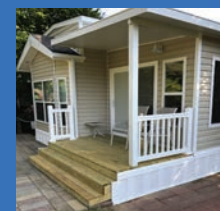
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SAFETY NEWS

BY STEVE DEYARMOND Steve@SandyPines.com

Sandy Pines has made it over the 50-year mark. Many years in the past were very trying for the Park's survival. Leadership, mistrust of leadership, financial mistrust, financial instability, lack of financial resources, organized negative groups, division among members, constant rumors and lack of support have all been factors that were overcome to make Sandy Pines what it is today.

Many Park Directors and now termed Park Presidents have in the past been subjected to criticism and turmoil. Various Board of Directors have been subjected to criticism. Some of the projects heavily debated and criticized at the time greatly improved the park's financial stability and increased the amenities of the park. Many of the projects that were debated and criticized are now a reality and an asset and/or amenity of the park. Many of the projects provided additional recreational opportunities, safety, and provided a more stable financial platform. The decisions made in the past has had a positive impact on the value of your membership. The decisions of the past have also provided the means to make Sandy Pines desirable and your membership marketable. August is the month to vote on future projects. Please vote. It is your opportunity as a member and park to determine what projects will move forward.

Activities on the Lake:

August is commonly very warm in Michigan. Boating is in high gear and numerous watercrafts utilize the lake.

- 1) It is the Park's expectation as a boater or watercraft user that you understand and are knowledgeable of the park rules and State boating laws and regulations while on the lake.
- 2) A flotation device is available for each rider on board and each person being towed. Michigan law requires anyone under 6 years of age to wear a personal flotation device when riding on the deck of any watercraft underway. The personal flotation device must be a US coast Guard approved type I, II, or III.

- 3) All vessels should have a Fire Extinguisher with a type "B" classification that is current and functional.
- 4) Passengers may not ride on the bow, the transom, or the gunwales while the watercraft is operated at a speed greater than "Slow, No Wake speed". Persons may not sit, stand, or walk on areas not designed for this purpose while the watercraft is traveling at a speed greater than "Slow, No Wake Speed"
- 5) Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on the lake. Consumption of alcohol is only permitted on the campsite.
- 6) Creating a wake that causes damage to the property of others is illegal in the State of Michigan. You may be held responsible for damages to the property of others.
- 7) Please ensure that your watercraft is presently registered with the park and has a current 2022 Sandy Pines Watercraft registration sticker affixed to your watercraft.

Please take the time to review the State of Michigan Boating laws and Sandy Pines boating regulations.

Golf cart License plates:

Placement of golf cart license plates:

If you are an owner of a golf cart, please review these license plate highlights from the rule's handbook.

- 1) a golf cart plate issued for a golf cart shall be attached to the center rear, and center front of the golf cart.
- 2) A golf cart plate shall always be securely fastened in a horizontal position to the golf cart for which the plate is issued to prevent the plate from swinging.
- 3) The plate shall be attached front center of the bumper, at a height of not less than 12

inches from the ground, measured from the bottom of the plate, in a place and position that is clearly visible.

- 4) The attachment of the plate to the rear of a golf cart; the plate shall be attached center of the bumper, at a height of not less than 12 inches from the ground, measured from the bottom of the plate; in a place and position that is clearly visible and not obstructed by a tow ball, removable hitch, or any other device designed to carry an object on the rear of a golf cart, including the object being carried.
- 5) The plate shall be maintained free from foreign materials that obscure or partially obscure the registration sticker and in a clearly legible condition.
- 6) All golf carts within Sandy Pines require a license plate and current registration tab/sticker.

If your license plate does not comply with the requirements above, please correct to be in compliance.

If you have not picked up and registered your golf carts, please pick up your plates and register your golfcart with Sandy Pines.

Park and Garden hardware still has license plate brackets for your golf cart if you need to install your license plates.

Pool Safety:

The safety of pools is based on layers of safety. The layer can be a physical item such as fences, gates, locks, depth, equipment, and design. The physical barriers prevent small children from wandering into a pool and drowning. Barriers can be made useless if gates are left open, persons climb over afterhours or adults bring youth inside the pool and then leave the pool with youth unsupervised.

Other factors of safety include human intervention and oversight. The first line of defense in

Continued on Page 17

keeping youth safe is parental or guardian direct supervision. The responsibility of supervision of persons at the beach or at the pool is that of the parent or guardian.

Leaving the responsibility to have older children watch over younger children lessens the safety as other youth are commonly themselves enjoying the water.

Lifeguard and pool monitors are a layer of safety but not the prime overseer of or replacement of a parent's or guardians' responsibility of safety.

Use of electronic devices can distract from observation of the youth. Please put away electronic devices and observe your youth.

Being under the influence of alcoholic beverages can decrease the safety, your swimming ability, and the ability to watch over youth while in the water. Please refrain from intake of alcoholic beverages if you plan to be near the water, beach, lake, or pool.

Pool Policy - Thunderstorms/Lightning:

In the event of severe weather or approaching storms Sandy Pines empowers its staff to close pool facilities to prevent injury to patrons and pool staff.

The outdoor bathing facilities will be closed during a thunderstorm.

The Recreation Department will monitor storm activities and suspend swimming activities when:

1. Storm Warnings are issued for the area.
2. Weather Siren is activated by Allegan County – (seek Shelter)
3. Lightning is visualized or thunder is heard in the vicinity.
4. Staff will wait until 30 minutes after lightning has been observed or thunder is heard before resuming water activities.

- o A designated staff person/lifeguard will serve as the weather safety lookout. That person should keep an eye on the weather. Use a “weather radio” or the Weather Channel or

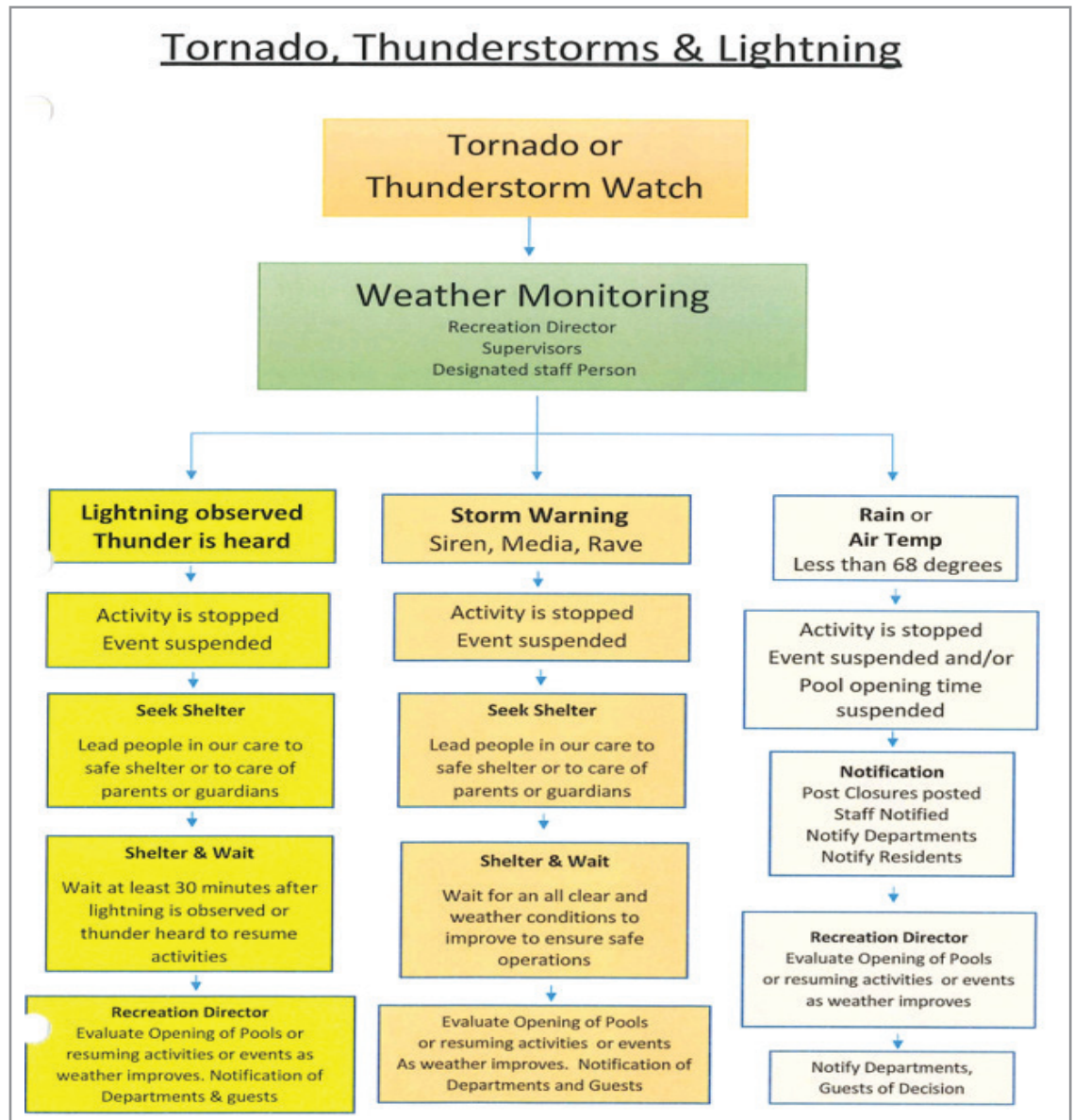
other media to obtain good localized advanced weather information. In the absence of the weather lookout the responsibility becomes that of the Recreation Director.

- o When thunder and/or lightning are first noticed, use the Flash-To-Bang (F-B) method to determine its rough distance and speed. This technique measures the time from seeing lightning to hearing associated thunder. For each five seconds from

F-B, lightning is one mile away. Thus, a F-B of 10 = 2 miles; 15 = 3 miles; 20 = 4 miles; etc. At a F-B count of thirty, the pool should be evacuated. People should be directed to safe shelter nearby.

- o Swimming activities should remain suspended until thirty minutes after thunder or lightning were last observed or when the storm warning has been cleared.

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COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

BY IAN MITCHELL Ian@SandyPines.com



On the Scene at Sandy Pines

Have you watched our all-new video series, **On The Scene** yet? Since the 4th of July weekend, we have released a video segment featuring various guests from the park discussing what is happening at Sandy Pines! This has been great for releasing new information and keeping members up to date! We release a new episode every Thursday around Noon on Facebook and YouTube!

Be sure to check it out!

The Little Red Express

Thank you to all of our members who submitted a name for our Name The Train Contest back in March! There were plenty of great names

to choose from! We had 245 votes total! The winning name of the train is **THE LITTLE RED EXPRESS**, with a whopping 103 votes! The other names considered were Big Red (71 votes), G & A Express (54 votes), Nellie (17 votes). Congratulations to Mike Terpstra & Jann McCullick for submitting the winning name! These two members are featured as our special cover image for the August 2022 Footprints Magazine!



Christmas In August Snowman

Every year when the snow falls, Kate Powers and her Grandchildren go out and make a snowman! One year they thought it would be a good idea to freeze the snowman to keep for Christmas In August. Now every year they freeze a snowman so the kids can swim with it in Lake Monterey and

watch it melt back into the lake so it can “return each winter as snow” at Sandy Pines!

We love hearing your awesome Christmas In August traditions!

••••



LAKE MONTEREY GOLF NEWS

BY LARRY FINKBEINER www.LakeMontereyGolf.com

As I start writing the August newsletter article, we just finished a very busy and successful Fourth of July week. Even though the golf course has been very busy, we have received many compliments on the condition of the course. Thank you, Britt Adamczyk, who is treating our greens and fairways and keeping them, in such great shape. Also, a big thank you to Dave and the maintenance crew for their work on the course and keeping it so well groomed. The events that we had in July were well received and we are looking forward to several events happening in August. Be sure to follow us on Facebook and our website at www.lakemontereygolf.com for the

latest up to date events.

Come join us for lunch at “**The 19th Hole Grill**” at **Lake Monterey Golf Course**.

Our daily lunch specials run from 11:30a.m. until 1:30p.m, Monday through Friday. Each week, we advertise the next week’s menu through the weekend flyer, e-blast news, Sandy Pines, and Lake Monterey Golf Course websites. You can also see the weekly menu on an advertising board at the clubhouse. Daily we feature either a sandwich basket or a main dish with sides. To top off your meal we have a dessert available if

you so choose. Even if you don’t golf, stop out and have lunch.

Special events coming up in August:

Golf Lessons with Jordan Evans through August 17th here at the club house. All lessons are free. Jordan is the 2018 Callaway Jr. Tour player of the year. He currently plays golf as an amateur at the collegiate level at Olivet Nazarene University in Kankakee, IL. He will be entering into his Junior year this Fall. Jordan has been an employee at LMGC since 2021 and looks forward to volunteering his time with you all this Summer!

Continued on Page 19

Schedule:

9:00am Adult beginners

10:00am Adults

11:00am Juniors 13 to 17

12:00pm Juniors 7 to 12

Adult Cornhole on Friday, August 5th and August 19th

1st and the 3rd Friday of each month. Food and Drink specials start at 5:30. Grilling Burgers to order with sides, chips, and cookies. Sign up and warm up begin at 6:00. Bags in the air at 6:30 sharp. Cost is \$5.00 per team. Can use your own bags or bags are supplied. All drinks must be purchased at the golf course, no outside alcohol or coolers are allowed to be brought down to the course. Violators will be asked to leave.

Karaoke, Saturday, August 13th starting at 7:00 sponsored by the Senior Adult Activities. Deluxe Burgers off the grill, baked beans, Macaroni salad, chips, and a cookie for \$8.95 starting at 6:00. Drinks specials available all evening. Please be sure to come out and enjoy the super talent that is in the park.

The Family Feud of Golf, Sunday, August 14th. Invite your family members to play in an 18hole,

4-person, shotgun, scramble. Challenge your neighbors to join the feud. All family members are invited to partake in the event. Cost is \$25.00 per person. Includes golf, prizes, and dinner afterwards. 1:00 shotgun start, check in by 12:30. Space is limited to the first 20 families that sign up. Sign up in the clubhouse.

Sunday, August 21st, The Putt Off at LMGC. Come join us for an 18hole, shotgun putt off. Putting only on each green with obstacles. Teams of 4 players. Each person will record their score and added together for one score. Paying for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Cost is \$20 per person. Includes golf, prizes and dinner afterwards. Check-in by 3:00, shotgun 3:30. No need to be a good golfer. Good at minigolf? This may be the outing for you.

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

- Absolutely no personal coolers or bringing alcohol or beer to the course.
- Always bring your Sandy Pines member or associate card to be scanned. Cards must be scanned once for each nine you are playing.
- 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 shirt 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 look forward to seeing you all at the course. Let's go golfing!!!

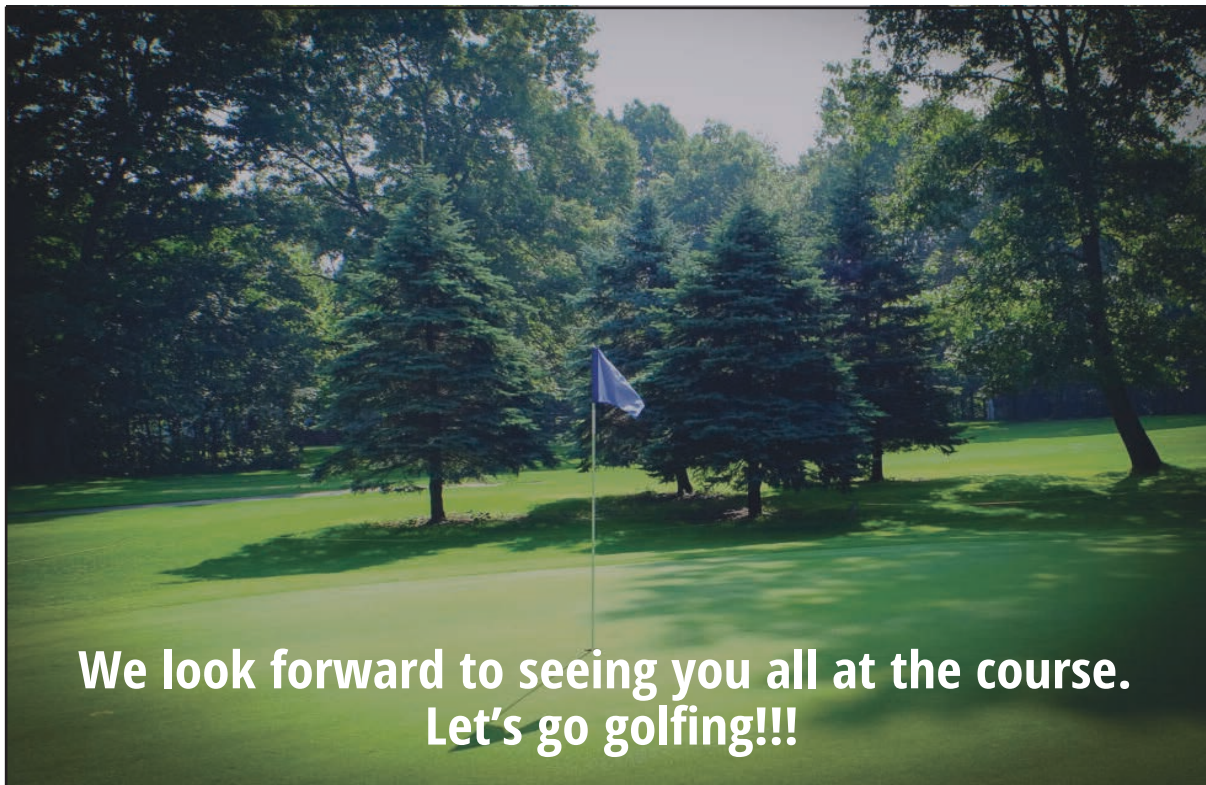
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Sincere Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to:

Tony and Kelli Spalding, sites N105/N245, on the passing of their son, **Justin Spalding**, on June 3rd, 2022, at the young age of 24.

Sympathy is also extended to **Kim and Sean Klynstra**, site N220. Justin was their nephew. He is survived by his siblings, Daniel, Lexi and Hope, niece Reagan, and his cousin, Faith Klynstra.



July at LMGC

- July 22nd Golf Lessons with Jordan Evans
- July 23rd Poker Run
- July 30th Red Tee Challenge
- August 14th Mother/Child Outing



Check our website or Facebook for weekly specials.



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