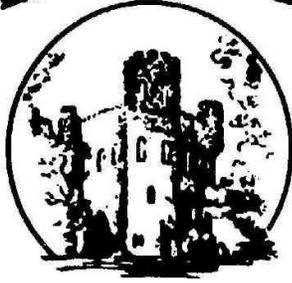


# CASTLE PARK



# The Banner

Spring 2021

Volume III History Book Releases over July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend!

Buy yours at [www.CastlePark.shop](http://www.CastlePark.shop) by May 21<sup>st</sup> before books are limited in supply!

Get ready Castle Parkers, the newest and largest history book is nearly 250 pages!

- The most comprehensive history of Castle Park over 125 years
- Glean historical milestones & see how the park has transformed
- See your cottage & all others for their own histories
- Enjoy spectacular photos of Castle Parkers in Playclass, at Tennis, on the Beach, and with Friends.

Mark your calendars and please come celebrate with us over July 4<sup>th</sup> Weekend for a Book Ceremony in the Amphitheatre followed by a Book Pick-Up Party at The Castle! Books will be available for pickup at the Castle starting July 3, 2021 and continuing until Labor Day. If you CANNOT pick up your book in the Park this summer, we can ship to you after July 3. Contact Margie Chism or Ted Parker for questions or other requests!

**Books will be limited so be sure to buy yours at [www.CastlePark.shop](http://www.CastlePark.shop) before May 21st!**

- Price is \$75 per book.
- Donations are also appreciated. Please see [www.CastlePark.shop](http://www.CastlePark.shop) for that option.
- All proceeds over costs go to CPA for preserving the Park's grounds & facilities.

Book orders received after May 21 will be honored pending book supplies which will be displayed on CastlePark.Shop throughout the summer.



## CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	vii	CHAPTER 7	HISTORIC BUILDINGS .....	103
INTRODUCTION .....	ix	CHAPTER 8	COTTAGES & FAMILIES .....	115
CHAPTER 1		CHAPTER 9	FOREVER CASTLE PARKERS .....	168
THE HISTORY OF CASTLE PARK		CHAPTER 10	FRIENDS & FELLOWSHIP.....	175
1896-2021 .....	1	CHAPTER 11	CASTLE PARK OFF SEASON .....	195
CHAPTER 2		CHAPTER 12		
SOCIAL EVENTS .....	15	IN MEMORIAM.....		215
CHAPTER 3				
THE BEACH & THE POOL.....	63			
CHAPTER 4				
TENNIS .....	73			
CHAPTER 5				
MORE FUN & GAMES .....	83			
CHAPTER 6				
PLAY CLASS.....	95			

## Castle Park Trivia

Did you know the Castle Hotel waiters had their own Birthday Song to sing on a guest's birthday?

*We're the Castle Parkers,  
Waiting on you.  
Best in the Country,  
Serving you food -- fresh  
From the garden to your table.*

*Now the meal is ready  
Waiting for you.  
Phras-s-s-se is,  
May I serve you?*



Thank You from the Book Committee!

Margie Chism

Katherine Gregg

Ernie Kelly

Ted Parker

Martha Dahlman

Jeanne Kane

Carey Lennox

# Castle Park Communications Review

The past couple years of decreased access to beaches, the inability to sit in a circle at the beach, and the COVID19 pandemic have had a negative effect on the ability of Castle Parkers to communicate. During these difficult times, it is especially important that Castle Parkers understand the ins and outs of the CPA website.

## In The Beginning: The CPA Website

The first step to greater knowledge is to access the Castle Park Association website.

[www.castlepark.org](http://www.castlepark.org)

You must log in to gain access to information applicable to members. For login help, contact Martha Laughna, [mlaughna@gmail.com](mailto:mlaughna@gmail.com).

## My family is having trouble following the rules. Where can I print a copy for them?

On the menu bar across the top, click on "The Association". You will find the following useful resources:

- Bylaws
- Rules & Best Practices
- Boards & Committees
- Memorial Fund information



## How do I get communications from CPA?

Several times during the year members will post something of interest to other members on the website; CPA financial information, meeting announcements, and requests for information are a few of the items typically posted. When someone posts news, it goes out via email to all people who have an account on the website. If you do not receive these news posts, please contact Martha Laughna.

## How do I update my personal information which appears in the directory?

After you log in, there are three places to "Edit My Profile".

1. Click on your name in the upper right hand corner after you log in.
  2. Click on "My Membership" then "Your Profile" on the right end of the row of options at the top.
  3. Click on Directory/Member Directory.
- You may update your password, address, phone number, email address, spouse, etc.

## I am planning my trip to Castle Park but want to know what will be going on when I get there so I can pack the right stuff.

The calendar can be accessed in different ways:

1. It appears on the left side of the Home page.
2. You can click on  on the upper right side of the home page.
3. You may choose the Calendar option under News and Info.

You can also **POST NEWS** in any of these locations. All news is vetted by the website administrators before it appears on the website. Everyone who has an account on the website will receive an email notice of your news post.

## Help! I am hosting cocktails and can't find my antiquated paper copy of the directory! Oh no! What to do?

All contact information which appears in the hard copy directory can also be found on the website by clicking on the DIRECTORY option on the top menu bar.

## I know the online calendar is more fluid and changes are posted there, but I like the nice one-page color calendar to leave on my refrigerator. Where can I find that?

Click on the  and page down.

Calendar

## How do I post my cottage for rent on the website? Also where can I see what other cottages are for rent in CP?

Click on News and Info on the top menu bar then on Renting Your Cottage. Page down to fill in your information or click on  to see what other cottages are for rent. Cottages available for rent can be viewed by visitors to our website without logging in.

## What else have I missed?

**Banner** ~ previous copies of the Banner (including some from the 1930's), plus some bonus articles from days of yore can be found under the "News and Info" option on the menu bar.

**Activities** ~ The Activities option contains details for Playclass, Social, Beach, Tennis, Library, Pool, Barnswallow, and Amphitheater.

**Castle Park map** ~ A map can be found in the dropdown menu of "Directory".

**Photos** ~ Many great photos of Castle Parkers can be found under the News and Info tab.

Please use this great resource for all your information needs in Castle Park. If you have trouble finding what you need, please do not hesitate to contact the Communication Committee listed on the website.

# Beach and Lake Report

The final report is in for the enormous beach revetment project completed during 2019-20. The Finance Committee did an excellent job of managing our funding of this project. In advance of construction, the Finance Committee evaluated the budget for the Castle Beach and North Beach projects and recommended an assessment of members in an amount that substantially funded the projects without assessing member more than necessary. It was anticipated that a small portion of the project would be funded using the Capital Fund. The committee was right on target! (See details on the right). The water levels over the past two years have certainly made us feel good about this investment.

**Thank you to all the CPA members  
for supporting this important project.**

## The good news is...

The level of the Great Lakes has decreased well below the record levels of last year!



## Castle Beach

DK Construction Expense	\$ 223,365.00
Castle Beach Stairs	\$ 17,222.00
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>\$ 240,587.00</b>
Permitting/Initial Engineering	\$ 10,842.00
Construction Support	\$ 19,463.00
<b>Total support, engineering, permitting</b>	<b>\$ 30,305.00</b>
<b>Total expense (Castle Beach)</b>	<b>\$ 270,892.00</b>

## North Beach

Construction Cost	\$ 42,500.90
Engineering, support, permitting	\$ 4,635.15
<b>Total expense (North Beach)</b>	<b>\$ 47,136.05</b>

<b>Total Revetment Expense</b>	<b>\$ 318,028.05</b>
Amount Funded by Assessment	\$ 306,900.00
Amount Funded by Capital Fund	\$ 11,128.05

## The History of Singapore, MI

If you think the high lake water has caused problems recently you should take a look at the history of our area. Anyone who has been on the Saugatuck Dune Rides has heard the story of Singapore and how it got buried in the sand. A Chicago Tribune article published on November 20, 2020 compares Singapore to Pompeii. To read the article and see some recent aerial shots of the new development, click [HERE](#).

## Long Range Planning Committee Continues Its Work

The LRPC continues to focus on strategies that will guide Castle Park Association into the future. Thank you to all members for participating in the LRPC survey earlier this year. A very supportive 95% of members participated in this important survey which will guide future boards and decision makers for years to come. To review a summary of the survey click [HERE](#).

**Laura Rubin, Roberta's daughter, has been appointed to serve on the Great Lakes Protection Fund Board of Directors. See their announcement below.**

Laura Rubin of Ann Arbor, is the director of the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition at the National Wildlife Federation. She holds the Bachelor of Arts in Business and Economics from Colorado College and a Master of Business Administration and Master of Science in Natural Resources from the University of Michigan. Ms. Rubin is appointed to represent Michigan for a term commencing October 30, 2020 and expiring October 11, 2022. She succeeds Mark Meijer whose term expired October 11, 2020.

The Great Lakes Protection Fund is a private, nonprofit corporation formed in 1989 by the Governors of the Great Lakes States. It is a permanent environmental endowment that supports collaborative actions to improve the health of the Great Lakes ecosystem. The Fund's Board of Directors is comprised of two governor appointed representatives from each member state.



Way back at the beginning of November, this hardy crew said that this was the coldest day of the year....and winter was just beginning!

In case you can't recognize them ~ Sugie Young, Kathy Stebbins, Linda Brown, Mary Ford.  
Photo by Roberta Rubin

## Castle Park Word Search

```

FWVHC F I O K P Y K P X Y
S B A C B S G W H O W K S P A
T I C L J P A G Y O F Z Z S B
J J V A A V E N I L J Z C H A
S R J E S K K Q D T R K H J R
L D P X J T E T C Y W E X P N
A F L J N P L L E F F U D Q S
A A A O S T P E D R C E L R W
F M Y H T T T H F I R H E N A
P I C B E B U T D E X D Q T L
E L L R E L U J I N Y M B O L
F Y A B H A R D Z D Q N E G O
U D S R R I C U L S H O W C W
N K S D N V D H C D J W M Y F
Z D T M L G O W R R X B L V K
    
```

Barn Swallow

Play Class

Sandy Feet

Friends

Castle

Family

Beach

Lake

Pool

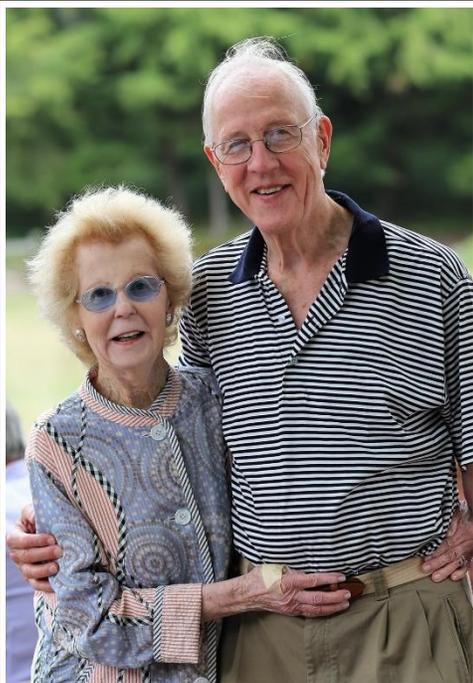
Fun

*Submitted by Caroline Deol, daughter of Kate Amburgey & Gary Deol*



**Garlic Mustard**

**The Land Conservancy of West Michigan** schedules workday activities at areas that they manage. Dune Pines Nature Preserve is located on the north side of the road coming into Castle Park. On Saturday, May 8, from 9 until 12, there will be an event which focuses on ecological restoration activities like identifying and pulling invasive garlic mustard. Preregister at <https://naturenearby.org/events/>



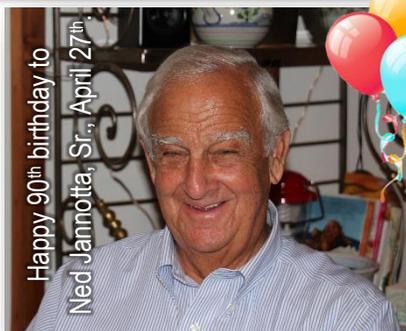
Ross & Nicole



Charlie & Kelsey



Mandy George tied the knot with Chiara Luxardo on March 18th in London - COVID restrictions meant only witnesses could be present at the wedding ceremony, so they are planning to celebrate properly once it is possible to, both COVID and baby permitting - Mandy has a baby on board, due in June!



Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday to Nec Jannotta, Sr., April 27<sup>th</sup>



### Upcoming Nuptials

Charlie Palmer and Kelsey Beaty will get married on August 7<sup>th</sup> with family all around. The ceremony will take place at the Mohonk Mountain House in Hudson Valley, NY.

Ross Palmer and Nicole Alison are engaged and are planning a 2022 wedding just outside of Boulder, CO.



## In Memoriam

Our thoughts and prayers are with the families who have recently lost loved ones.

Carol Hedblom Currie  
October 31, 2020

Jessie Palmer  
December 21, 2020

Patrick G. Fox  
April 4, 2021

### Playclass 2025

Pierce Alexander Fuller  
May 29, 2020  
Margaret & Stew Fuller

Connor Mitchell Burton  
October 12, 2020  
Rob Burton & Elizabeth McCracken

Charles Malin Nymark  
January 17, 2021  
Lizzy Malin & Hank Nymark

Alec Quincy Burton  
January 31, 2021  
Evan & Liz Burton

Faye Klara Blair Drabkin  
February 20, 2021  
Eliza & David Drabkin

Layla Ruth Griffin  
March 6, 2021  
Matt & Megan Griffin

Luca Sprague-Williams  
March 21, 2021  
Faye & Tristan Sprague-Williams

Eleanor and Mac Fuller enjoyed a beautiful wedding in Salida, CO on September 26, 2020. Mark Fuller officiated the wedding which was celebrated with family only.

# Sports & Activities



Bill & Suzi Steketeer went undefeated in eight matches to win the Holland 3.0/3.5 mixed doubles pickleball championship in April! Holland has a very active league and open play during the summer and, rumor has it, Laketown Township just approved construction of some outdoor pickleball courts.

## Golf

The ladies golf outing is all set to take place at the Ravines Golf Club on August 19<sup>th</sup>. Watch for more information or contact Gwen Hibbard (335-2028) for details.

Following the success of last year's "Golf Around the Park" event, the Ford brothers, led by Tom, are planning to organize the event again, most likely during Labor Day weekend.

In addition, they are also seeking input regarding any desired changes to the men's Labor Day weekend golf outing.

To offer your ideas for a renewed golf outing, contact:

**Randy (wrford40@icloud.com)**

**Tom (Tom.Ford@raymondjames.com)**

**Lew (lewford1@yahoo.com)**



## Playclass

We will be having PLAYCLASS in 2021! WOOHOO!

Playclass is scheduled to run June 28<sup>th</sup>- August 14<sup>th</sup>. We have a new director named Elise Holcomb. She is a teacher and is looking forward to being in Castle Park! We are excited to have her.

WE NEED COUNSELORS, especially those who can work the entire summer, June 27<sup>th</sup> through August 14<sup>th</sup>. Please email Ruthie Stebbins and me if you are interested or if you have any suggestions of teenage kids from the Holland area who might be interested. Looking for kids ages 15-20 who are responsible, fun, adventurous and who want to have a great summer. The hours are 9:15-12:15 Monday through Saturday. This is a paid position!

Katy Stebbins Yahr, 843-709-6553 [katy.yahr@gmail.com](mailto:katy.yahr@gmail.com)

Ruthie Stebbins, 773-551-6631 [ruthie@rhsid.com](mailto:ruthie@rhsid.com)

## Tennis

Tennis pros Aaron Boersma and Matt Leatherman will be returning for another season!

Tennis tournament schedule:

July 24 - 65+ tournament. Teams can be men, women or mixed, and each player must be 65 years of age or older

July 31 - Mixed doubles

August 7 - Men's doubles

## Pickleball Comes to Laketown Township!

For you pickleball fanatics, Laketown Township has approved the construction of a pickleball court at the park near the Townhall. Construction is slated to begin during the summer with a completion date of September.



Apparently, there was some fun in the sun to be had this winter! Nancy and Dick Shepard met up with Greg and Ann (Carey) Walla on St. Thomas.

## A Word from Our President

### Summer 2021

(as of Mid-April)

From Jim Carr, President, CPA Board of Trustees

The good news: Covid conditions have generally improved. We no longer have Michigan Executive Orders defining Covid shutdowns, but we do have CDC guidance. Many Castle Parkers have gotten vaccinations and the process continues.

The bad news: Covid cases have spiked in Michigan and new strains are entering the picture. Vaccinations are good but not perfect. We do not have the "All clear" yet and there is still a lot that remains unknown. Conditions could worsen with little warning and everything is subject to change.

Everyone needs to be knowledgeable about Covid and use good judgement to protect themselves and others. At this time the Board is inclined to predict a near-normal CP summer with Covid caution throughout. Activities might be modified for safety and the Old Timers Room will likely remain closed.

We will have an informational meeting on Memorial Day Saturday, May 29, with a Zoom meeting as backup if a physical meeting is not possible. I expect the Annual Meeting in August will be at the Castle.

Headcount in CP is increasing each week. Lake Michigan is down 13 inches from this time last year and beaches are growing. Tennis courts are uncovered and getting prepped. Deer are eating the greening grass in the fields instead of the ornamentals by our cottages. More birds are arriving and waking us with their songs. Rock-the-Park and the age 70+1 birthday party, with live band, Hip Pocket, are on the schedule. Ernie Kelly's team will soon be taking orders for the 125-year history book and we should see it this summer.



### Reminders

1. Please review CP Rules and Regulations (in CP directory or click [HERE](#)) and *ask your guests and family to review as well.*
2. Beach access and courtesies are covered on the CP website under The Association > Rules & Best Practices or click [HERE](#).
  - a. Use the lower path to access the north beaches. The upper path, above and along north beach, is only for use by those visiting the Laughna/Redding, Palmer and Muzzy Sr. cottages.
  - b. Most of us are guests on north and south beaches so we need to be considerate. Thanks again to those owners for accommodating Castle Parkers on beaches during these difficult years.
  - c. South Beach ~ please see following page for use guidelines.
3. The path between north steps at Ridge Road and Indian Pipe Circle is for pedestrians and carts with low pressure tires.
4. For our mutual benefit, it is important that we limit dumpster trash to our regular weekly household trash, no large items or garage clean-out. Please, NO exceptions. Also, collapsing cardboard boxes will minimize wasted space.
5. Drivers, please obey rules-of-the-road with particular attention to blind corners and stop signs.
6. Golf cart drivers need to have a driver's license.
7. For privacy and safety please do not enter construction sites.
8. All construction activity ends June 18<sup>th</sup>. Until then, please follow guidelines for daily start and stop times.

## South Beach 2021

South Dune residents will again welcome Castle Parkers to South Beach in the summer of 2021. Please make note of the following updated guidelines for use:

**Access** ~ We encourage all to arrive by foot. Golf carts may be used on the Paddle Court access road should they be required. Note that this road provides emergency vehicle access and must be kept clear. There is room for a maximum of four parked carts; please park in a single row at the bottom, or southwestern end of the drive and leave your key in the cart. Please do not attempt to access South Beach via South Cherry St with your automobile; there is limited opportunity for turnaround, and absolutely no parking (car parking is available behind the castle if needed.)

**Beach Chairs** ~ South Dune will provide a rack and chairs at the beach entrance during the season. You are welcome to use these chairs during your visit to the beach; please return them to the rack after your

use. Please note that this rack is for South Dune provided chairs only.

**Pack in / Pack out** ~ To keep the beach areas in a natural state for all, please plan to pack in and out any personal items you wish to enjoy on the beach. This includes toys, individual beach chairs, umbrellas, boards and other equipment. Abandoned items will be disposed of.

### General Guidelines

- A sand ladder will be installed for beach access. Please protect the dune and enter the beach via the ladder only.
- Please clean up after your dog and keep leashed when others are present.
- No amplified music.
- Beach fires only with both Laketown Township permit and specific permission of South Dune. Please inquire with email [ben.b.watson@me.com](mailto:ben.b.watson@me.com)
- Please keep the beach and paddle areas clean; pack out your trash or use the trash cans near the warming hut.



**CASTLE PARK ASSOCIATION**  
6690 Edwards  
Holland, MI 49423

Phone: 616-335-2630  
E-mail: [castlepark@charter.net](mailto:castlepark@charter.net)

Changes to contact information may be made by accessing the website:  
[www.castlepark.org](http://www.castlepark.org)

The Banner is a Semi-Annual newsletter sent in the Fall and Spring  
The next Banner is due out October 2021

The Banner was published and edited by Martha Laughna  
If you have something for the next edition of the Banner, email me at [mllaughna@yahoo.com](mailto:mllaughna@yahoo.com)