

# **WELCOME TO GRAND VUE PARK!**

Welcome to the Grand Vue Park newsletter! With this monthly newsletter we want to connect with you, our guests, and keep you updated on programs, events, and the people who make Grand Vue Park so special. We strive to make Grand Vue Park a clean and state-of-the-art recreational facility and provide guests with an opportunity to connect with nature through our different amenities. Grand Vue Park is a county park, owned and operated by the Marshall County Park and Recreation Board, which is made up of individuals appointed by the County Commission.

It is a pleasure to serve our guests every day. From mountain biking, paintball and disc golf to our adventure park, we want Grand Vue Park to be the place you can count on for your next adventure! Grab a pair of binoculars and take a peaceful stroll through our all-natural trail system and check out the different species of birds and other wildlife amongst us.

While at the park, stop by our scenic overlook to take in the City of Moundsville landscape. Be sure to check out other locations throughout the park for more breathtaking "views" of Grand VUE Park!

Please continue to stay connected with us with this newsletter, our website www.grandvuepark.com and by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram! Remember, Wild and Wonderful starts here!



Grand Vue Park is celebrating its 50th year of operation! As a token of appreciation, we are offering a 25% discount on all NEW reservations for Treetop Villas, Cabins, and RV sites for the entire 2024 season.

This sale will be applicable for any reservation made from 1/1/24 to 12/31/24.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to experience our beautiful park at a discounted rate!



# **JANUARY HOURS:**

- Mini Golf
  - **CLOSED FOR THE SEASON**
- Flurry's Ice Cream Shop & General Store
  - **CLOSED FOR THE SEASON**
- Water Park
  - CLOSED FOR THE SEASON
- Grand Vue Adventures
   CLOSED FOR THE SEASON
- The Vue Bar & Grill
   CLOSED FOR THE SEASON

\*Dining area available for meetings and parties - call to reserve! \*

Kara Hall @ 304-845-9810 x 401

- Administrative Office Mon-Sat 8am-8pm Sunday 9am-8pm
- The Administrative Office will be closed New Years Day! Normal hours will resume Jan. 2. \*





# **SPECIAL EVENTS:**

We want to Congratulate the Newlyweds who recently tied the knot at Grand Vue Park!

12/9- Mr. & Mrs. Tom McFarland

Looking for that unique wedding location? Look no further! Grand Vue Park has the perfect location for that customizable wedding. Call today to tour!

Grand Vue Park also welcomes special events of any kind! We offer onsite catering and Bar packages through The "Vue" Catering & Bar services.

Anyone booking 1/1/24-2/29/24 will receive 15% off the Venue & Courtvard.

For more information contact Bridal & Banquet Hall manager, Kara at khall@grandvuepark.com or call 304-845-9810 x 401

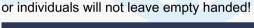
### GRAND VUE ADVENTURES AERIAL PARK

Grand Vue Adventures is now closed for its regular season operations. Thank you for a GREAT 2023! During the winter months, group bookings may be available by appointment if staffing and weather conditions allow. If interested in booking a winter group, or arranging adventures for next season, please reach out to Nick Cifaldi at nick@grandvueadventures.com. Plus be on the lookout for info and registration for our 2024 Polar Zip event, taking place on Saturday, January 27. Grand Vue Adventures will reopen for the regular season in April 2024.



## **GRAND VUE ADVENTURES POLAR ZIP**

Wild & Wonderful Starts Here! Zipline in January! We welcome and challenge you to attend Grand Vue Adventures 2nd Annual Polar Zip that benefits Appalachian Outreach Inc. All the action will take place on January 27th at 1pm at the Aerial Park. Participants will be zipping down the 2100ft Dueling Yahoos Zipline (DYZ). The DYZ is "support" friendly as 2 participants can zip at the same time. Groups will also be staying together during this event. All zippers in the group can ascend the tower together to cheer on others! We welcome zippers to "dress fancy" in your favorite costume or summer outfit! Endure the wonderful brisk January in the Ohio Valley. Best dressed groups







The Polar Zip is \$39.00/person and participants can register **here** or by calling 304-810-2785

Appalachian Outreach, Inc. (AOI) is a nonprofit poverty relief organization that assists people experiencing poverty and disaster in Ohio, Marshall, and Wetzel counties in West Virginia. AOI believes in the dignity of every person and has been working to ease the burden of poverty in the state for over 20 years by fulfilling unmet basic human needs.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- January 13- Smart Center Star Watch
- January 27- Polar Zip at Grand
   Vue Adventures
- January 27- Mystery Theater
   Dinner at The Vue
- January 28- Chunky Knit Blanket Workshop

Bingo is every Saturday at 6pm in Richmond Hall. Must be 18+ to play!

#### Fitness at the Park

 Tuesdays: Fun Fitness with Ashley Wear in the Banquet Hall Yoga will resume in Spring 2024stay tuned for dates!

All fitness classes start at 6pm. Only \$6.00!

For more information about our events and fitness classes, call or visit grandvuepark.com/events

# MARSHALL COUNTY POOR FARM AND GRAND VUE PARK

Grand Vue Park is a county park operated by the Marshall County Park and Recreation Board. The park was opened in 1974 and has gone through several stages of development. It was built on 125 acres that was formerly the Marshall County Poor Farm. Land from the former Darwish and Sibert farms was added as well as land from the Dobbs family. Today the park encompasses 650 acres and offers lodging, zip lining, an aerial adventure park, paintball, geocaching, outdoor amphitheater, banquet hall, picnic shelters, aquatic center, golf, playground, walking and biking trails as well as a calendar of events and day camps.



Before the U.S. welfare safety nets were put into place, local counties and townships across the country had to provide their own safety nets.

"Poorhouse," as a term, is not well-known in the 21st century but it wasn't that long ago that you might hear someone say "You're going to run me to the poorhouse" when their fortunes were taking a turn for the worse or their finances were dwindling.

In an article written by Tracey Tyler, the poorhouse is explained in this way: These "houses of industry and refuge," as they came to be known, were shelters of last resort for the destitute, homeless, "feeble-minded" and elderly. In exchange for their labour, they were provided with spartan accommodation, clothes and simple food, much of it grown themselves.





The need for such places basically disappeared once Social Security was in place. By the 1950s, "poorhouses" had become a thing of the past.



To read more about the Marshall County Poor Farm and Grand Vue Park history, click **here** 

JONES, SUSAN. "MARSHALL COUNTY POOR FARM AND GRAND VUE PARK."

CLIO: YOUR GUIDE TO HISTORY. JULY 19, 2018.
ACCESSED DECEMBER 23, 2023.
HTTPS://THECLIO.COM/ENTRY/63194

### **50 YEARS OF GRAND VUE PARK**

Grand Vue Park, which opened its doors to Marshall County in 1974, is now celebrating its 50th anniversary. As with other long-standing institutions, Grand Vue Park has a rich history, including the Steppenwolf concert, the slide at the pool, the numerous holes in one on the Par 3 golf course, and Life Camp, among other stories. Since 2008, the park has made significant strides in regaining its status as one of the top county parks in the Ohio Valley and the state of West Virginia.







Under the leadership of Don Mason and the Marshall County Commission, Grand Vue Park became a priority as a place where residents could play, and families could gather. The park added several new amenities in 2006, including the Banquet Hall/Park office building, a miniature golf course, and three Deluxe cabins. In 2010, phase 1 of a new pool was opened as part of a three-phase project. The oil and gas boom in Marshall County enabled the park to use its lease payments to fund its expansion, which began with the construction of the zipline canopy tour and low ropes course in 2012.



In 2015, we expanded the basecamp area by adding an adventure park. Concurrently, we constructed four luxurious treetop villas, which were unveiled in October 2016. In the following four years, we dedicated ourselves to enhancing the quality of our amenities by refurbishing the traditional cabins to make them more welcoming.



We also added full baths and two queen beds to the basements of the deluxe cabins and the Eagle house underwent a complete renovation for a fresh look.

In 2020, we began building a 40-site RV park on the former par-3 golf course, which was a difficult decision for the board due to its historical significance. The RV Park opened in April 2021. Subsequently, we decided to expand the pool area. With the support of the Marshall County Commission, we were able to build a state-of-the-art water park that debuted in July 2023.





Over the years, we have added several other amenities, such as 3 disc golf courses, Flurry's Ice Cream and Sweets shop, a general store, the Vue Bar and Grill, a full-service restaurant, new shelters, updated restroom facilities, walking trails, geocaches, mountain bike trails, summer camp programs, and infrastructure such as fiber for internet connectivity and of course the scenic overlook which offers a breathtaking view of the City of Moundsville.





The realization of Grand Vue Park has been made possible by the collaborative efforts of various partners who share a profound love for the Ohio Valley and, more specifically, Marshall County. The park's remarkable amenities are the product of local contractors' hard work, who take great pride in contributing to the park's growth.







We express our gratitude to the Marshall County community who use the park for a range of activities, such as family reunions, fitness classes, educational experiences, weddings, and nature appreciation. As the park continues to expand, we have recruited a dedicated and passionate team to operate it, which we believe is the best assembled. From a mere three full-time employees with no computers in 2008, we now have a team of 15 full-time members, and our technology exceeds that of most in West Virginia.

Grand Vue Park is excited to announce a series of activities and special events in celebration of our upcoming 50th Anniversary. Stay connected to our event **calendar** for updates and details.

We want to express our gratitude to all those who have supported us over the past 50 years. To show our appreciation, we are offering a special promotion for 2024. New bookings will receive a 25% discount on all lodging and RV sites, with the exclusion of holidays. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to experience our park and celebrate our anniversary.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to the past and present County Commissioners, including Mike Ferro, Scott Varner, and John Gruzinskas, as well as Betsy Frohnapfel, our County Administrator, for their unwavering support and guidance.

## GRAND VUE PARK JOB OPPORTUNITY

Looking for a summer job opportunity? Look no further! Grand Vue Park is looking for a Pool Manager for the 2024 season! Join the Grand Vue Park team as a Pool Manager and help create a fun and safe environment for our pool patrons. This position will be responsible for customer success, managing day-to-day operations of the pool and supervising lifeguards.

The Pool Manager job description can be found **here** 

If you have any questions, please email bbolock@grandvuepark.com - Great opportunity for an educator during the summer months!



We want to thank everyone who made the 2023 season happen- from guests of the park, to Marshall County Commissioners, and of course all of our Grand Vue Park staff and employees! The success of the park is not possible without all of you! Thank you and we can't wait to see you in 2024!

**Happy New Year!** 



Dan Whipkey, Maintenance at Grand Vue Park

# Grand Vue Park STAFF SPOTLIGHT

We want to use this monthly newsletter to also showcase our team and give our guests the opportunity to get to know us!

Dan Whipkey has been an integral part of Grand Vue Park for a remarkable 16 years. Throughout his tenure, Dan took the architectural lead on the refurbishments of the Traditional, Deluxe, and Eagle cabins, as well as the Flurry's Ice Cream and Sweets shop. As a carpenter, Dan has been involved in the construction of the scenic overlook and deck at the Eagle House, along with the installation of disc golf baskets and fitness stations along the park's hiking trails. He even changed over 63 sprinklers while the Par-3 golf course was still present at the park, underscoring the depth and breadth of his contributions.

Even outside of work, Dan's industrious spirit never wanes. He consistently works on house projects and takes on various side jobs, showcasing his versatility and proficiency in a range of trades.

at Grand Dan is also considered one of the Ohio Valley's pool sharks on the billiards circuit!