

Glenview Park District buys more land for The Grove

Will be used to build trail to the back of the nature conservancy

By ALEXANDRA KUKULKA
Pioneer Press

The Grove nature preserve in Glenview has expanded by 3.1 acres with the recent purchase of a parcel of land near West Lake Avenue, according to a Glenview Park District news release.

The additional land at 1500 Portage Run will make the southeast section of The Grove easier to get to, according to the release. An access trail is expected to be built at the to the back of the nature preserve, which will bypass a long wetlands bridge that is too narrow for most maintenance vehicles to use, according to the release.

The Grove was acquired by the Glenview Park District and became a national historic landmark in the 1970s.



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The Glenview Park District purchased land for the The Grove near West Lake Avenue that expands the nature conservancy by 3.1 acres.

With this recent purchase, The Grove has grown to over 150 acres, and more than 100,000 visitors came each year, according to the release. Officials said the sale closed in April.

The total cost of the parcel of land at 1500 Portage Run was

\$670,000, according to the release. Of that, the Grove Heritage Association donated \$380,000 and an additional \$280,000 came from an Illinois Department of Natural Resources grant called the Land and Water Conservation Fund, according to the release.

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-Lorin Ottlinger, director of The Grove

"As part of the original Kennicott Grove, this particular property is important for ecology, cultural history and for our operations. It will give the Park District easier access to that area of The Grove and provide the opportunity for new programming. So, we are thrilled to have it," said Lorin Ottlinger, The Grove director.

The last time Park District acquired land for the The Grove was in 2016 when 1.19 was purchased at 4111 Kennicott Lane, according to the release.

In addition to the land purchase, the Glenview Park District also garnered an accolade.

It was also recently named a finalist for the 2019 National Gold Medal Awards for Excellence in Park and Recreation Management through the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administration and the National Recreation and Park Association, according to a separate news release.

The Park District won the award in 1970, 1974 and was a finalist in 2009, according to the press release. This year's winners will be announced in September, according to the release.

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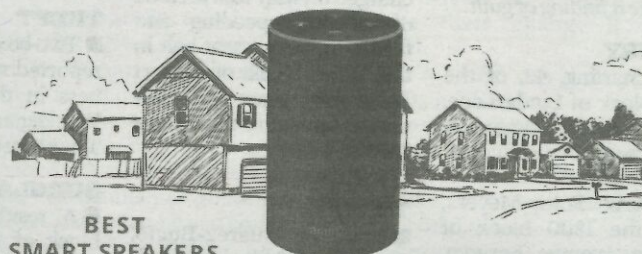
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